



## **Annual Report: 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024**

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Ltd

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## Foreword by Ruth Healey

### Chairman of the Board 2023-2025

Standing Up for Women and Girls is the strapline of Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI). Its local members across 250 clubs in the UK, Republic of Ireland, Malta, Asia, and the Caribbean pursue grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their individual and collective potential.

SIGBI focuses on empowering women and girls to achieve their full potential and works to eliminate barriers and discriminations that hinder women's progress. In addition, the organisation has consultancy status at the United Nations with members participating in UN meetings, submitting statements and collaborating on global projects which advance gender equality.

With a heritage that stretches back more than a century, SIGBI's members want to give something back to their communities, to make their voices

heard on issues that affect women, and to support women and girls who are vulnerable, disadvantaged or do not have a voice.

The year to March 2024 has proven to be no exception in the determination of members to make a difference as can be evidenced in the following pages. In an increasingly volatile world with women and girls suffering disproportionately, the work of our members and those other Soroptimists around the world has never been more important. I am very proud to call myself a Soroptimist and I am equally proud of all those that stand alongside me as Soroptimists.

I wish to extend an enormous message of thanks to all our members and staff that have worked tirelessly to make a difference.

### Our Key Achievements 2023-2024:

In addition to those outlined on the following pages:

- Increased engagement with members through the Hub with more projects being reported and seen by members and clubs.
- Engagement of a PR agency to ensure the name of Soroptimist, as well as the work undertaken, is well known.
- Chartering of 6 new clubs in the year to March 2024 with another 4 in the months after.
- Welcoming 10% new members during the year.

## SIGBI Ltd Trustees 2023-2024

Ruth Healey, President

Gillie O'Rourke, President Elect

Chris Corless, Finance Director

Giselle Davies, Governance Director

Lindsay Green, Programme Director

Dishi Attwood, Membership Director

Anne Rogers, PR, Marketing and Communications Director (Nov 2022 to March 2024)







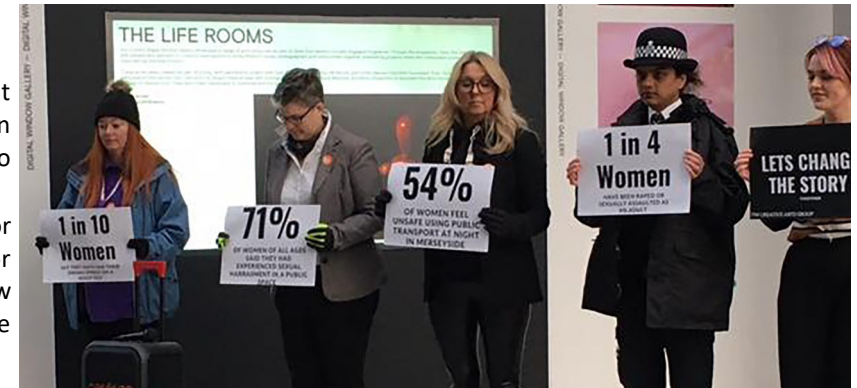
## Our achievements towards the UN Sustainable Developments Goals (SDGs)

### Partnerships SDG 17 and End Poverty SDG 1

#### Ayushi Kundu

Effective partnership amongst various stakeholders is key for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It is imperative to unite meaningfully to address the global challenges we face, especially poverty, which often leads up to other problems. I highlight below projects undertaken by clubs across the Federation in relation to partnership and poverty, to achieve the missions of our organisation.

- **Nurturing young years:** Moses baskets were provided to mothers of newborn babies, including toiletries for mother and baby, nappies and specific items of clothing and blankets and other important necessities for the first 3-6 months of a baby's life. This was done in partnership with organisations supporting new mothers at an important juncture in their lives needing extra help. Clothing for children up to 6 years were knitted and distributed to mothers in need.
- **Domestic abuse:** Clubs partnered with organisations to offer help to victims escaping domestic abuse by providing clothing items to refugees who ran out of stock and need more support. One-pot cookery classes were conducted for women suffering from domestic abuse in partnership with refuge centres. Training was organised for local communities to raise awareness on different aspects of abuse and harassment.
- **Food poverty:** Members have partnered with other organisations and supported campaigns to end food poverty. Events included walking a 5-mile route to raise awareness. Hampers including non-perishable food items have also been donated to needy families battling food poverty, especially around Christmas.
- **Health:** Clubs partnered with NHS to produce mastectomy/breast cancer surgery cushions. Awareness programmes including games and webinars for different health issues have been organised for school, colleges and the public to educate and empower them.



### Peace SDG 16 and Gender Equality SDG 5

#### Debra Joseph for Meenakshi Ray

- Members raised funds for Ukraine which were sent through SI clubs in Europe and other organisations engaged in relief work. Supplies sent included medical equipment, clothing, children's toys, food and sanitary items. There was also assistance from clubs for refugees who are starting a new life in UK in the form of clothing, toiletries, and starter kits.
- One notable event was their observance of the International Day of Living Together in Peace on May 16, 2024. To commemorate this Day, SIGBI emphasised the importance of understanding, tolerance, and respect among people from diverse backgrounds. They highlighted the need for inclusive spaces, non-violence, and the rejection of hatred and discrimination to foster peaceful coexistence.
- One Club planted a virtual peace pole in Haiti to bring awareness to the conflict and violence in that country. Additionally, a video on the topic of peace and how Soroptimists can assist to bring some semblance of peace in the world was circulated on social media platforms.
- Clubs across the Federation marked the 16 days of Activism in November/December 2023 by engaging in activities to fight gender-based violence, domestic abuse and modern-day slavery. The campaign included lighting up public buildings in orange, social media and posters, and workshops to educate girls/young women on the need to fight any kind of exploitation or abuse.
- Orange cafes events were organised by several clubs. Orange Day calls upon activists, to mobilize people and highlight issues relevant to preventing and ending violence against women and girls, not only once a year on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, but every month.
- Various clubs started petitions with local MPs and other authorities to advocate for a variety of humanitarian issues such.



## Planet SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 and Food Poverty SDG 2

Anitha Rajarajan

Climate change is a major threat to our planet, impacting ecosystems, economies & communities. SI is addressing this crisis through education, advocacy & sustainable projects. Our members across SIGBI show how grassroots efforts can create positive change and promote caring for the environment.

- In the planet category, 397 reports were generated, with 83 specifically on SDG 13: Climate Action. Members have been actively seeking ways to reduce landfill waste by collaborating with local groups for beach clean ups, monthly litter picking, selling pre-loved clothes, and distributing reusable menstrual pads.
- Our clubs are dedicated to raising local awareness and participating in environmental issues, including the Big Plastic Count by Greenpeace. Clubs like Cockermouth & District in Northern England support food banks by fundraising to buy food vouchers and collecting food donations from the community.
- In St. Helens, members donate apples from their orchards to homeless centres, providing fresh fruit to those in need, preventing waste, and saving fuel. Across the Federation, clubs continued to plant trees.
- Soroptimist International San Fernando (SISF) educated school children on the negative effects of single-use plastics and promoted the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to raise environmental awareness.



## Prosperity SDGs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and Education SDG 4

Shukla Chattopadhyay

Prosperity aims to improve the quality of life for women and girls across the Federation, improving the prosperity quotient of communities by providing them with educational and upskilling opportunities.

Clubs have tried to enhance career opportunities for young girls/women by providing six girls with job interviews to get them started in their careers, and supporting restaurants run by differently abled women by holding regular coffee meetings and speaker sessions there. Clubs have organized a fundraising dinner to support a crab cultivation project in the coastal area, benefitting five women.

Clubs have collected about 691 books and distributed them to provide ease of learning through reading outside the text as well as distributed bookmarks showing the difference between healthy and toxic relationships to increase awareness of such delicate yet important issues. Vocational training has empowered eight women by upskilling their tailoring skills.



## People SDG 3 Health

Eleanor Evans

Clubs around the Federation have continued to work to improve the health and wellbeing of women and girls.

- Making items for premature babies, care homes, fistula clinics, dementia sufferers and those recovering from breast cancer.
- Awareness campaigns on breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, women's wellness and urinary incontinence.
- Organising events on menstrual hygiene and supplying period products to school girls.
- Volunteering within communities including in care homes and projects tackling loneliness.
- Fundraising for a range of causes including those relating to breast cancer, bereaved mothers, neo natal baby care, hospices, dementia, toilet twinning.
- Advocacy on topics such as access to dentistry services and local pharmacies in the UK, and on changes to FGM laws in Gambia.





## Benevolent Fund - Charity No: 211840

The Benevolent Fund works to assist current and recent past members who find themselves in financial difficulty.

The cost of living continues to be high, particularly food, fuel, and other necessities, having significant impact on members with fixed, limited incomes. Trustees are diligent in maintaining contact with beneficiaries and highlighting areas of concern. The Benevolent Fund depends on income from investment (which remains low) plus members' contributions via membership fees, donations from clubs, regions, individuals, and legacies. We are immensely grateful to those who remember the Fund in their bequests. This year we have received one legacy of £1,959 and a club that closed donated the balance in their account, £1143.86.

During this year we have paid grants to 10 members. In 2023 we diligently reviewed all applications and slightly reduced the number of beneficiaries; however; one beneficiary was reinstated (change of circumstance). In addition, we assisted a beneficiary with the purchase of a washing machine (to avoid debt).

Our Trustees work tirelessly to enhance the profile of the Benevolent Fund throughout the UK and Ireland. They endeavour to keep up to date with state benefits available and direct beneficiaries to the appropriate departments, and are an invaluable asset.



## Diamond Education Grant - Charity No: 1139668

The charity now has five trustees with four new Trustees joining the Board in 2023-24.

Income for the year was £10,577, which included donations, levies and legacies of £6,315 and investment income of £4,262.

Expenditure for the year was £40,170, which included grants of £38,642, investment management charges of £1,208, and Independent Examiner's fees of £320.

There were 37 grants awarded, from 270 applications received. The total amount allocated in grants was £38,642, and the average amount of each grant was £1,044.

One student told us "I was a hotel attendant being exploited and out of education for 30 years. I have just completed a Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Integrative Counselling. The NHS has recruited me to join their specialist team that deals with those suffering the greatest traumas. I am so grateful that the DEG supported me to do this with a grant and mentorship. I am fulfilling my dream, helping others to survive and thrive and now I am my true self."



## Emergency Relief Fund Charity No: 211231

The Emergency Relief Fund is used to help those people in immediate need of primary relief due to disasters throughout the world. Individual members may recommend that funds are provided for certain situations. The Trustees then consider the recommendations and where applicable, the size of the grant.

The operating protocol for the Fund details the approved charities to which funds will be forwarded; in exceptional circumstances, where there are no charities working in the affected area, funds may be channelled to a Soroptimist club.

### Income 2023/24

Levies £2,238

Gift Aid £259

Donations and legacies £2,086

Investment income £4,305

### Donations 2023/24

Donation of £2,000 was made to the British Red Cross (for the Morocco Earthquake Appeal)





## Company Details

**Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited**

**Company Number: 07058666**

**Headquarters**

2nd Floor  
Beckwith House  
1 Wellington Road North  
Stockport  
SK4 1AF

**Tel:** 0161 480 7686

**Email:** [hq@sigbi.org](mailto:hq@sigbi.org)

**Website:** [www.sigbi.org](http://www.sigbi.org)

**Twitter:** @sigbi1

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/soroptimistsigbi](https://facebook.com/soroptimistsigbi)

## About Us

Soroptimists educate, empower and enable women and girls to improve their lives.

Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) has over 5,000 Members in 250 Clubs operating across 18 countries in Asia, the Caribbean and Europe.

The word “Soroptimist” is a combination of the Latin words “soror” meaning Sister and “optima” meaning best - so we want the best for women.

Soroptimists implement projects across the world, advocate at local, national and international levels and enable women and girls to reach their full potential.

## Vision

Women and girls will achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide.

## Mission

Soroptimists transform the lives and status of women and girls through education, empowerment and enabling opportunities.



Founded in 1921, Soroptimist International is a worldwide service organisation for women. We are committed to a world where women and girls together achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide.



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI)  
LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b>Trustees</b>	Ruth Healey Dishi Attwood Christine Corless (appointed 5 November 2023) Giselle Davies Lindsay Green Gwynneth O'Rourke (appointed 4 November 2023) Catherine May Cottridge (resigned 4 November 2023) Anne Rogers (resigned 11 March 2024)
<b>Company registered number</b>	07058666
<b>Charity registered number</b>	1179433
<b>Registered office</b>	2nd Floor Beckwith House 1 Wellington Road North Stockport Cheshire SK4 1AF
<b>Accountants</b>	James Cowper Kreston Chartered Accountants 2 Communications Road Greenham Business Park Greenham Newbury Berkshire RG19 6AB
<b>Bankers</b>	NatWest Stockport Underbank Hall 10 Great Underbank Stockport Cheshire SK1 1LL

# **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and independent examiner's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital (company number 07058666) and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (charity number 1179433) on 2 August 2018. The governing document of the charity (Articles of Association) was last amended on 25 October 2019.

The Trustees are elected by the Clubs within SIGBI Limited who are the company members.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Objects of the charitable company are:

- to promote either directly or by the encouragement and support of others including Clubs:
  - the advancement of education;
  - the advancement of health and saving lives;
  - the relief and/or prevention of poverty;
  - the advancement of good citizenship and community development;
  - the advancement of human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequently United Nations and Declarations) throughout the world by all or any of the following means:
    - relieving need among victims of human rights abuse;
    - research into human rights redress, e.g. modern slavery;
    - educating the public about human rights abuse, raising awareness of human rights issues and promoting support for human rights;
  - the advancement of equality and diversity;
- to promote volunteering in furtherance of the objects amongst individual Soroptimist Members of Clubs, for the benefit of the public across the world and in particular for the benefit of women and girls to advance their status, position and role in society where currently unequal or disadvantaged.

### **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The work of SIGBI Limited in furthering its objects and promoting volunteering is evidenced by the records of member Club activities on the database for the year.

Soroptimists call their project work 'Programme Action' and choose projects that tackle our charitable objects and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They can be Local, Regional or International in nature, big or small. Programme Action activity has continued to rise over the last year with 2,030 reports submitted onto our Hub database; these reports are accessible to all members, and on average, they have been looked at 8 times by members, 17,455 views in total.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Work is grouped round the 5 Ps and 17 SDGs as explained in the Annual Report accompanying these accounts:

***Advancement of education (Prosperity SDGs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and Education SDG 4)***

Providing women and girls with educational and upskilling opportunities improves prosperity and an increased quality of life.

- Clubs have tried to enhance career opportunities for young girls/women by providing girls with job interviews to get them started in their careers
- Clubs have organised a fundraising dinner to support a crab cultivation project in a coastal area
- Clubs have collected books and distributed them to provide ease of learning through reading as well as distributed bookmarks showing the difference between healthy and toxic relationships to increase awareness of such delicate yet important issues
- Vocational training has empowered several women by upskilling their tailoring skills
- Clubs have supported restaurants run by women by holding regular coffee meetings and speaker sessions there.

In addition, SIGBI uses some of its reserves in microfinancing initiatives through Lendwithcare and Kiva. To date SIGBI has supported 312 women, investing approximately £14,000 to help the women with their businesses and care responsibilities. Many clubs are also using some of their reserves to microfinance in the same way.

***Advancement of health and saving lives (SDG 3)***

Clubs around the Federation have continued to work to improve the health and wellbeing of women and girls.

- Making items for premature babies, care homes, fistula clinics, dementia sufferers and those recovering from breast cancer
- Awareness campaigns on breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, women's wellness and urinary incontinence
- Organising events on menstrual hygiene and supplying period products to school girls
- Volunteering within communities including in care homes and projects tackling loneliness
- Fundraising for a range of causes including those relating to breast cancer, bereaved mothers, neonatal baby care, hospices, dementia, toilet twinning
- Advocacy on topics such as access to dentistry services and local pharmacies in the UK, and on changes to FGM laws in Gambia
- Clubs partnered with NHS to produce mastectomy/breast cancer surgery cushions.
- Awareness programmes including games and webinars for different health issues have been organised for schools, colleges and the public to educate and empower them.

***Relief and/or prevention of poverty (SDG 1, SDG2, SDG 17)***

Work in this area often involves Partnership with other agencies.

- Moses baskets were provided to mothers of newborn babies, including toiletries for mother and baby, nappies and specific items of clothing and blankets and other important necessities for the first 3-6 months of a baby's life. This was done in partnership with organisations supporting new mothers needing extra help at an important juncture in their lives
- Clothing for children up to 6 years were knitted and distributed to mothers in need
- Clubs partnered with organisations to offer help to victims escaping domestic abuse by providing clothing items to refugees who ran out of stock and needed more support
- Members have partnered with other organisations and supported campaigns to end food poverty. Events included walking a 5 mile route to raise awareness
- Hampers including non-perishable food items have also been donated to needy families battling food poverty, especially around Christmas
- Many Clubs support food banks by fundraising to buy food vouchers and collecting food donations from the community
- One-pot cookery classes were conducted for women in partnership with refuge centres



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- Members donate apples from their orchards to homeless centres, providing fresh fruit to those in need, preventing waste, and saving fuel.

***Advancement of good citizenship and community development***

Many members undertake Good Citizen projects and these often revolve around the Planet SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14, 15.

Climate change is a major threat to our planet, impacting ecosystems, economies & communities. Our members across SIGBI show how grassroots efforts can create positive change and promote caring for the environment.

- Members have been actively seeking ways to reduce landfill waste by collaborating with local groups for beach clean ups, monthly litter picking, selling pre-loved clothes, and distributing reusable menstrual pads
- Our clubs are dedicated to raising local awareness and participating in environmental issues, including the Big Plastic Count by Greenpeace
- Across the Federation, Clubs continued to plant trees
- A Club educated school children on the negative effects of single-use plastics and promoted the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to raise environmental awareness.

***Advancement of human rights***

Human Rights work involves members actively trying to prevent Violence against Women and Girls, Trafficking and Modern Slavery. This work ties in with Peace SDG 16 and Gender Equality SDG 5.

- Training was organised for local communities to raise awareness on different aspects of abuse and harassment
- Members raised funds for Ukraine which were sent through SI clubs in Europe and other organisations engaged in relief work. Supplies sent included medical equipment, clothing, children's toys, food and sanitary items
- Assistance from Clubs for refugees who are starting a new life in UK in the form of clothing, toiletries, and starter kits
- One Club planted a virtual peace pole in Haiti to bring awareness to the conflict and violence in that country. Additionally, a video on the topic of peace and how Soroptimists can assist to bring some semblance of peace in the world was circulated on social media platforms
- Clubs across the Federation marked the 16 days of Activism in November/December 2023 by engaging in activities to fight gender-based violence, domestic abuse and modern slavery. The campaign included lighting up public buildings in orange, social media and posters, and workshops to educate girls/young women on the need to fight any kind of exploitation or abuse
- Orange cafe events were organised by several clubs. Orange Day calls upon activists to mobilise people and highlight issues relevant to preventing and ending violence against women and girls, not only once a year on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, but on 25th of every month
- Various clubs started petitions with local MPs and other authorities to advocate for a variety of humanitarian issues.

***Advancement of equality and diversity***

- One notable event was the observance of the International Day of Living Together in Peace. To commemorate this day, SIGBI emphasised the importance of understanding, tolerance, and respect among people from diverse backgrounds. They highlighted the need for inclusive spaces, non-violence and the rejection of hatred and discrimination to foster peaceful coexistence.
- Soroptimists regularly write Blogs and letters which advocate for women and girls, whatever their circumstances, often sharing situations when a diverse range of society are being treated in inequality or disparity.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

***To promote volunteering***

- All clubs volunteer their time, whether it is to do hands on service or in their project work
- When collecting items to gift to women's organisations such as the refuges, sourcing and gathering items packing them into nice gift bags and then delivering them can all take a considerable amount of time
- Clubs also work with Partnership organisations and encourage them to volunteer alongside our members.

**Financial Review**

A summary of the results for the year is given in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 9. At the year end the surplus was £94,933, a considerable increase on the 2023 surplus of £2,707 mainly due to the receipt of legacies and high interest rates resulting in an increase in interest received on term deposits.

Membership decline in 2023-24 was approximately 4% though, once again, the reduction in income for the charity was mitigated by an increase in membership fees. The balance of funds at the end of March 2024 was £657,411 (2023: £562,478).

The Board have decided to transfer the surplus for the year to designated funds as follows:

- PR and Communication Fund £50,000 - to be used to promote SIGBI Limited's profile outside of the organisation
- Reorganisation Fund £25,000 – to be used for the review and reorganisation of SIGBI to ensure future viability
- Development Fund £25,000 – to be used to fund Microfinance loans in future years.

**Reserves Policy**

The trustees have examined the requirement to maintain free reserves and concluded that a reserve of approximately £300,000 should be maintained which equates to a year's worth of operating costs

In addition, approximately £210,000 is currently reserved in designated reserves used to further the charity's objectives as outlined in the accounts. The Trustees will from time to time review the designated reserves to ensure the charity continues to invest in its future.

As at 31st March 2024 the total funds of the Charity were £657,411 (2023: £562,478) which are all unrestricted. After deducting fixed assets and intangible assets of £32,283 (2023: £43,345), the free reserves of the charity totalled £625,128 (2023: £519,133).

**Investment Policy**

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate investment policy for the Charity and only hold investments in a dormant subsidiary, an investment in Number 63 (Soroptimist) Limited and an investment portfolio with Flagstone.

**Plans for Future Period**

SIGBI Limited aims to encourage member Clubs to impact positively on the lives of women and girls through our programme and partnership work. Our vision is to educate, empower and enable women and children, through awareness, advocacy and action.

The Board will continue to work to improve communications, both internal and external, to capitalise on use of The Hub for informing and engaging members and to support its membership to retain and recruit members going forward.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime under the Companies Act 2006.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI) Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....

**Christine Corless**

(Trustee)

Date: 11/09/2024



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited ('the Company')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

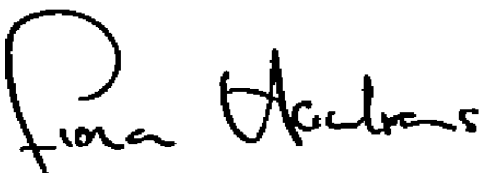
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: 19/09/2024

Fiona Hawkins

BSc (Hons) MSc FCA

James Cowper Kreston  
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RG19 6AB

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	3	67,949	67,949	15,422
Charitable activities	4	320,819	320,819	246,443
Investments	5	29,243	29,243	9,557
Other income	6	-	-	19,665
<b>Total income</b>		<b>418,011</b>	<b>418,011</b>	<b>291,087</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	7	323,078	323,078	288,380
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>323,078</b>	<b>323,078</b>	<b>288,380</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>94,933</b>	<b>94,933</b>	<b>2,707</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>94,933</b>	<b>94,933</b>	<b>2,707</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward		562,478	562,478	559,771
Net movement in funds		94,933	94,933	2,707
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>657,411</b>	<b>657,411</b>	<b>562,478</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 07058666**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	30,071	41,682
Tangible assets	11	2,212	1,663
Investments	13	758,844	510,100
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		791,127	553,445
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	14	1,492	-
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	15	87,599	46,696
Cash at bank and in hand		68,772	121,717
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		157,863	168,413
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(291,579)	(159,380)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net current liabilities / assets</b>		(133,716)	9,033
<b>Total net assets</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		657,411	562,478
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	17	657,411	562,478
<b>Total funds</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		657,411	562,478
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....

**Christine Corless**

(Trustee)

Date: 11/09/2024

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. General information**

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the member clubs is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation. The address of its registered office is 2nd Floor Beckwith House, 1 Wellington Road North, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 1AF.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Income**

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**2.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.3 Expenditure (continued)**

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**2.4 Intangible assets and amortisation**

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

Computer software - website	-	20 % straight line
-----------------------------	---	--------------------

**2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures & equipment	-	25% straight line
Computer equipment	-	20% straight line

**2.6 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Other investments include amounts that are held in fixed term deposit bank accounts with a maturity date being longer than 12 months. These are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.7 Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

**2.8 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**2.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**2.10 Liabilities**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

**2.11 Financial instruments**

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**2.12 Pensions**

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

**2.13 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Legacies	50,121	50,121	500
Donations and Gift Aid	17,828	17,828	14,922
	<u>67,949</u>	<u>67,949</u>	<u>15,422</u>

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership	235,733	235,733	238,603
Club website	7,400	7,400	7,840
Online shop sales	8,116	8,116	-
Conference income	69,570	69,570	-
	<u>320,819</u>	<u>320,819</u>	<u>246,443</u>

**5. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest received	29,243	29,243	9,557

**6. Other incoming resources**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Recharges to SIGBI Trading Ltd	-	-	19,665

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**6. Other incoming resources (continued)**

**7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Membership	69,364	69,364	80,887
Head office costs	38,828	38,828	45,235
Depreciation and amortisation	15,236	15,236	11,204
Finance costs	2,958	2,958	2,564
Other expenses	13,142	13,142	15,092
Governance costs	7,801	7,801	8,863
Staff costs	106,291	106,291	123,535
Donations	-	-	1,000
Online shop costs	10,088	10,088	-
Conference expenses	59,370	59,370	-
	<u>323,078</u>	<u>323,078</u>	<u>288,380</u>

**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner/auditor for the independent examination/audit of the Company's annual accounts	<u>3,300</u>	<u>3,000</u>

**9. Staff costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	99,144	115,651
Social security costs	4,945	5,517
Pension costs	2,202	2,367
	<u>106,291</u>	<u>123,535</u>



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**9. Staff costs (continued)**

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Staff	3	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

**10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2024, expenses totalling £18,923 were reimbursed or paid directly to 8 Trustees (2023 - £12,945 to 11 Trustees). The reimbursed costs related to travel and accomodation.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**11. Tangible fixed assets**

	Fixtures and fittings £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	58,869
Additions	1,325
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	60,194
	<hr/>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	57,206
Charge for the year	776
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	57,982
	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2024	2,212
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2023	1,663
	<hr/> <hr/>

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**12. Intangible assets**

	Computer software £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023	70,380
Additions	2,850
At 31 March 2024	<u>73,230</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	28,698
Charge for the year	14,461
At 31 March 2024	<u>43,159</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<u>30,071</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>41,682</u>

**13. Fixed asset investments**

	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Other investments £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	1	510,099	510,100
Additions	-	1,356,098	1,356,098
Disposals	-	(1,107,354)	(1,107,354)
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>758,843</u>	<u>758,844</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>758,843</u>	<u>758,844</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1</u>	<u>510,099</u>	<u>510,100</u>

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND**  
**(SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**13. Fixed asset investments (continued)**

**Principal subsidiaries**

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company number</b>	<b>Registered office or principal place of business</b>	<b>Principal activity</b>
SIGBI Trading Ltd	11019781	Beckwith House Second Floor, 1 Wellington Road North, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 1AF	Activities of conference organisers

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Profit/(Loss)/ Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £</b>	<b>Net assets £</b>
<b>SIGBI Trading Ltd</b>	1,482	(1,957)	(475)	260,110

The principal activity of the subsidiary was activities of conference organisers until it ceased trading in the year ended 31 March 2024, and has since been dormant.



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**14. Stocks**

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,492	-
	<u>1,492</u>	<u>-</u>

**15. Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	934	1,077
Other debtors	14,255	8,978
Prepayments and accrued income	72,410	36,641
	<u>87,599</u>	<u>46,696</u>

**16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,337	20,552
Amounts owed to group undertakings	260,110	116,685
Other taxation and social security	8,864	4,219
Other creditors	5,984	4,075
Accruals and deferred income	15,284	13,849
	<u>291,579</u>	<u>159,380</u>

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**17. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Development fund	18,838	-	-	15,549	34,387
Reorganisation fund	30,000	-	(3,432)	25,000	51,568
Sculpture fund	4,591	-	(1,377)	-	3,214
Membership fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
PR Fund	10,000	-	-	50,000	60,000
Programme fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
IT upgrade fund	40,500	-	-	-	40,500
	<u>123,929</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,809)</u>	<u>90,549</u>	<u>209,669</u>
<b>General funds</b>					
General funds	<u>438,549</u>	<u>418,011</u>	<u>(318,269)</u>	<u>(90,549)</u>	<u>447,742</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u><u>562,478</u></u>	<u><u>418,011</u></u>	<u><u>(323,078)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>657,411</u></u>

**Development fund**

The fund is to support the charitable objectives of SIGBI with grants and donations.

**Reorganisation fund**

The fund is to support any review and reorganisations of SIGBI to ensure viability of the Federation moving forward.

**Sculpture fund**

The fund is to support the ongoing maintenance of the SIGBI plot at the National Memorial Arboretum.

**Membership fund**

The fund is to support the opening of new clubs and recruitment of members.

**PR fund**

The fund is to support the development of SIGBI Ltd's profile.

**Programme fund**

The fund is to support project works across the Federation.

**IT Upgrade fund**

The fund is for the upgrade of systems in the office including accounts, database and network connectivity. It will support the creation of SIGBI's new website.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Development fund	18,838	-	-	-	18,838
Centennial fund	1,745	-	-	(1,745)	-
Reorganisation fund	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Sculpture fund	5,399	-	(808)	-	4,591
Membership fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
PR Fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Programme fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
IT upgrade fund	40,500	-	-	-	40,500
	<u>126,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(808)</u>	<u>(1,745)</u>	<u>123,929</u>
<b>General funds</b>					
General funds	<u>433,289</u>	<u>291,087</u>	<u>(287,572)</u>	<u>1,745</u>	<u>438,549</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u><u>559,771</u></u>	<u><u>291,087</u></u>	<u><u>(288,380)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>562,478</u></u>

**18. Summary of funds**

**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	123,929	-	(4,809)	90,549	209,669
General funds	438,549	418,011	(318,269)	(90,549)	447,742
	<u>562,478</u>	<u>418,011</u>	<u>(323,078)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>657,411</u>

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**18. Summary of funds (continued)**

**Summary of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March As restated £
Designated funds	126,482	-	(808)	(1,745)	123,929
General funds	433,289	291,087	(287,572)	1,745	438,549
	<u>559,771</u>	<u>291,087</u>	<u>(288,380)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>562,478</u>

**19. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,212	2,212
Intangible fixed assets	30,071	30,071
Fixed asset investments	758,844	758,844
Current assets	157,863	157,863
Creditors due within one year	(291,579)	(291,579)
<b>Total</b>	<u>657,411</u>	<u>657,411</u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,663	1,663
Intangible fixed assets	41,682	41,682
Fixed asset investments	510,100	510,100
Current assets	168,413	168,413
Creditors due within one year	(159,380)	(159,380)
<b>Total</b>	<u>562,478</u>	<u>562,478</u>



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**20. Pension commitments**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and in the year amounted to £2,202 (2023: £2,367). £331 (2023: £337) was payable to the fund at the balance sheet date.

**21. Related party transactions**

The charitable company owns 100% of SIGBI Trading Limited. During the year salary and management charges were made of £Nil (2023: £18,465) and £Nil (2023: £1,200) respectively.

At the year end the balance owed to SIGBI Trading Limited is £260,110 (2023: £116,685) and is included in creditors at the year end.

Each member of Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited pays a membership fee which includes a levy on behalf of three charities detailed below.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland Benevolent fund (Charity No: 211840) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £10,453 (2023: £11,672). At the year end £1,113 (2023: £1,730) was still to be paid over.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Diamond Education Grant (Charity No: 1139668) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £4,572 (2023: £5,310). At the year end £1,184 (2023: £844) was still to be paid over.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland Emergency Relief Fund (Charity No: 211231) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £4,336 (2023: £6,554). At the year end £628 (2023: £1,164) was still to be paid over.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI)  
LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b>Trustees</b>	Ruth Healey Dishi Attwood Christine Corless (appointed 5 November 2023) Giselle Davies Lindsay Green Gwynneth O'Rourke (appointed 4 November 2023) Catherine May Cottridge (resigned 4 November 2023) Anne Rogers (resigned 11 March 2024)
<b>Company registered number</b>	07058666
<b>Charity registered number</b>	1179433
<b>Registered office</b>	2nd Floor Beckwith House 1 Wellington Road North Stockport Cheshire SK4 1AF
<b>Accountants</b>	James Cowper Kreston Chartered Accountants 2 Communications Road Greenham Business Park Greenham Newbury Berkshire RG19 6AB
<b>Bankers</b>	NatWest Stockport Underbank Hall 10 Great Underbank Stockport Cheshire SK1 1LL

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and independent examiner's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital (company number 07058666) and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (charity number 1179433) on 2 August 2018. The governing document of the charity (Articles of Association) was last amended on 25 October 2019.

The Trustees are elected by the Clubs within SIGBI Limited who are the company members.

**Objectives and Activities**

The Objects of the charitable company are:

- to promote either directly or by the encouragement and support of others including Clubs:
  - the advancement of education;
  - the advancement of health and saving lives;
  - the relief and/or prevention of poverty;
  - the advancement of good citizenship and community development;
  - the advancement of human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequently United Nations and Declarations) throughout the world by all or any of the following means:
    - relieving need among victims of human rights abuse;
    - research into human rights redress, e.g. modern slavery;
    - educating the public about human rights abuse, raising awareness of human rights issues and promoting support for human rights;
  - the advancement of equality and diversity;
- to promote volunteering in furtherance of the objects amongst individual Soroptimist Members of Clubs, for the benefit of the public across the world and in particular for the benefit of women and girls to advance their status, position and role in society where currently unequal or disadvantaged.

**Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**Achievements and Performance**

The work of SIGBI Limited in furthering its objects and promoting volunteering is evidenced by the records of member Club activities on the database for the year.

Soroptimists call their project work 'Programme Action' and choose projects that tackle our charitable objects and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They can be Local, Regional or International in nature, big or small. Programme Action activity has continued to rise over the last year with 2,030 reports submitted onto our Hub database; these reports are accessible to all members, and on average, they have been looked at 8 times by members, 17,455 views in total.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Work is grouped round the 5 Ps and 17 SDGs as explained in the Annual Report accompanying these accounts:

***Advancement of education (Prosperity SDGs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and Education SDG 4)***

Providing women and girls with educational and upskilling opportunities improves prosperity and an increased quality of life.

- Clubs have tried to enhance career opportunities for young girls/women by providing girls with job interviews to get them started in their careers
- Clubs have organised a fundraising dinner to support a crab cultivation project in a coastal area
- Clubs have collected books and distributed them to provide ease of learning through reading as well as distributed bookmarks showing the difference between healthy and toxic relationships to increase awareness of such delicate yet important issues
- Vocational training has empowered several women by upskilling their tailoring skills
- Clubs have supported restaurants run by women by holding regular coffee meetings and speaker sessions there.

In addition, SIGBI uses some of its reserves in microfinancing initiatives through Lendwithcare and Kiva. To date SIGBI has supported 312 women, investing approximately £14,000 to help the women with their businesses and care responsibilities. Many clubs are also using some of their reserves to microfinance in the same way.

***Advancement of health and saving lives (SDG 3)***

Clubs around the Federation have continued to work to improve the health and wellbeing of women and girls.

- Making items for premature babies, care homes, fistula clinics, dementia sufferers and those recovering from breast cancer
- Awareness campaigns on breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, women's wellness and urinary incontinence
- Organising events on menstrual hygiene and supplying period products to school girls
- Volunteering within communities including in care homes and projects tackling loneliness
- Fundraising for a range of causes including those relating to breast cancer, bereaved mothers, neonatal baby care, hospices, dementia, toilet twinning
- Advocacy on topics such as access to dentistry services and local pharmacies in the UK, and on changes to FGM laws in Gambia
- Clubs partnered with NHS to produce mastectomy/breast cancer surgery cushions.
- Awareness programmes including games and webinars for different health issues have been organised for schools, colleges and the public to educate and empower them.

***Relief and/or prevention of poverty (SDG 1, SDG2, SDG 17)***

Work in this area often involves Partnership with other agencies.

- Moses baskets were provided to mothers of newborn babies, including toiletries for mother and baby, nappies and specific items of clothing and blankets and other important necessities for the first 3-6 months of a baby's life. This was done in partnership with organisations supporting new mothers needing extra help at an important juncture in their lives
- Clothing for children up to 6 years were knitted and distributed to mothers in need
- Clubs partnered with organisations to offer help to victims escaping domestic abuse by providing clothing items to refugees who ran out of stock and needed more support
- Members have partnered with other organisations and supported campaigns to end food poverty. Events included walking a 5 mile route to raise awareness
- Hampers including non-perishable food items have also been donated to needy families battling food poverty, especially around Christmas
- Many Clubs support food banks by fundraising to buy food vouchers and collecting food donations from the community
- One-pot cookery classes were conducted for women in partnership with refuge centres

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- Members donate apples from their orchards to homeless centres, providing fresh fruit to those in need, preventing waste, and saving fuel.

***Advancement of good citizenship and community development***

Many members undertake Good Citizen projects and these often revolve around the Planet SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14, 15.

Climate change is a major threat to our planet, impacting ecosystems, economies & communities. Our members across SIGBI show how grassroots efforts can create positive change and promote caring for the environment.

- Members have been actively seeking ways to reduce landfill waste by collaborating with local groups for beach clean ups, monthly litter picking, selling pre-loved clothes, and distributing reusable menstrual pads
- Our clubs are dedicated to raising local awareness and participating in environmental issues, including the Big Plastic Count by Greenpeace
- Across the Federation, Clubs continued to plant trees
- A Club educated school children on the negative effects of single-use plastics and promoted the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to raise environmental awareness.

***Advancement of human rights***

Human Rights work involves members actively trying to prevent Violence against Women and Girls, Trafficking and Modern Slavery. This work ties in with Peace SDG 16 and Gender Equality SDG 5.

- Training was organised for local communities to raise awareness on different aspects of abuse and harassment
- Members raised funds for Ukraine which were sent through SI clubs in Europe and other organisations engaged in relief work. Supplies sent included medical equipment, clothing, children's toys, food and sanitary items
- Assistance from Clubs for refugees who are starting a new life in UK in the form of clothing, toiletries, and starter kits
- One Club planted a virtual peace pole in Haiti to bring awareness to the conflict and violence in that country. Additionally, a video on the topic of peace and how Soroptimists can assist to bring some semblance of peace in the world was circulated on social media platforms
- Clubs across the Federation marked the 16 days of Activism in November/December 2023 by engaging in activities to fight gender-based violence, domestic abuse and modern slavery. The campaign included lighting up public buildings in orange, social media and posters, and workshops to educate girls/young women on the need to fight any kind of exploitation or abuse
- Orange cafe events were organised by several clubs. Orange Day calls upon activists to mobilise people and highlight issues relevant to preventing and ending violence against women and girls, not only once a year on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, but on 25th of every month
- Various clubs started petitions with local MPs and other authorities to advocate for a variety of humanitarian issues.

***Advancement of equality and diversity***

- One notable event was the observance of the International Day of Living Together in Peace. To commemorate this day, SIGBI emphasised the importance of understanding, tolerance, and respect among people from diverse backgrounds. They highlighted the need for inclusive spaces, non-violence and the rejection of hatred and discrimination to foster peaceful coexistence.
- Soroptimists regularly write Blogs and letters which advocate for women and girls, whatever their circumstances, often sharing situations when a diverse range of society are being treated in inequality or disparity.



# **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

### ***To promote volunteering***

- All clubs volunteer their time, whether it is to do hands on service or in their project work
- When collecting items to gift to women's organisations such as the refuges, sourcing and gathering items packing them into nice gift bags and then delivering them can all take a considerable amount of time
- Clubs also work with Partnership organisations and encourage them to volunteer alongside our members.

### **Financial Review**

A summary of the results for the year is given in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 9. At the year end the surplus was £94,933, a considerable increase on the 2023 surplus of £2,707 mainly due to the receipt of legacies and high interest rates resulting in an increase in interest received on term deposits.

Membership decline in 2023-24 was approximately 4% though, once again, the reduction in income for the charity was mitigated by an increase in membership fees. The balance of funds at the end of March 2024 was £657,411 (2023: £562,478).

The Board have decided to transfer the surplus for the year to designated funds as follows:

- PR and Communication Fund £50,000 - to be used to promote SIGBI Limited's profile outside of the organisation
- Reorganisation Fund £25,000 – to be used for the review and reorganisation of SIGBI to ensure future viability
- Development Fund £25,000 – to be used to fund Microfinance loans in future years.

### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees have examined the requirement to maintain free reserves and concluded that a reserve of approximately £300,000 should be maintained which equates to a year's worth of operating costs

In addition, approximately £210,000 is currently reserved in designated reserves used to further the charity's objectives as outlined in the accounts. The Trustees will from time to time review the designated reserves to ensure the charity continues to invest in its future.

As at 31st March 2024 the total funds of the Charity were £657,411 (2023: £562,478) which are all unrestricted. After deducting fixed assets and intangible assets of £32,283 (2023: £43,345), the free reserves of the charity totalled £625,128 (2023: £519,133).

### **Investment Policy**

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate investment policy for the Charity and only hold investments in a dormant subsidiary, an investment in Number 63 (Soroptimist) Limited and an investment portfolio with Flagstone.

### **Plans for Future Period**

SIGBI Limited aims to encourage member Clubs to impact positively on the lives of women and girls through our programme and partnership work. Our vision is to educate, empower and enable women and children, through awareness, advocacy and action.

The Board will continue to work to improve communications, both internal and external, to capitalise on use of The Hub for informing and engaging members and to support its membership to retain and recruit members going forward.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime under the Companies Act 2006.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI) Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....

**Christine Corless**

(Trustee)

Date: 11/09/2024

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited ('the Company')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

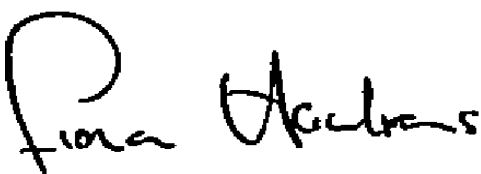
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: 19/09/2024

Fiona Hawkins

BSc (Hons) MSc FCA

James Cowper Kreston  
Chartered Accountants  
2 Communications Road  
Greenham Business Park  
Greenham  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG19 6AB

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	3	67,949	67,949	15,422
Charitable activities	4	320,819	320,819	246,443
Investments	5	29,243	29,243	9,557
Other income	6	-	-	19,665
<b>Total income</b>		<b>418,011</b>	<b>418,011</b>	<b>291,087</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	7	323,078	323,078	288,380
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>323,078</b>	<b>323,078</b>	<b>288,380</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>94,933</b>	<b>94,933</b>	<b>2,707</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>94,933</b>	<b>94,933</b>	<b>2,707</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward		562,478	562,478	559,771
Net movement in funds		94,933	94,933	2,707
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>657,411</b>	<b>657,411</b>	<b>562,478</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**

**(A company limited by guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07058666**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	30,071	41,682
Tangible assets	11	2,212	1,663
Investments	13	758,844	510,100
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		791,127	553,445
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	14	1,492	-
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	15	87,599	46,696
Cash at bank and in hand		68,772	121,717
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		157,863	168,413
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(291,579)	(159,380)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net current liabilities / assets</b>		(133,716)	9,033
<b>Total net assets</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		657,411	562,478
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	17	657,411	562,478
<b>Total funds</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		657,411	562,478
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....

**Christine Corless**

(Trustee)

Date: 11/09/2024

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. General information**

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the member clubs is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation. The address of its registered office is 2nd Floor Beckwith House, 1 Wellington Road North, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 1AF.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Income**

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**2.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.3 Expenditure (continued)**

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**2.4 Intangible assets and amortisation**

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

Computer software - website	-	20 % straight line
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**2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures & equipment	-	25% straight line
Computer equipment	-	20% straight line

**2.6 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Other investments include amounts that are held in fixed term deposit bank accounts with a maturity date being longer than 12 months. These are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.7 Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

**2.8 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**2.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**2.10 Liabilities**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

**2.11 Financial instruments**

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**2.12 Pensions**

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

**2.13 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Legacies	50,121	50,121	500
Donations and Gift Aid	17,828	17,828	14,922
	<u>67,949</u>	<u>67,949</u>	<u>15,422</u>

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership	235,733	235,733	238,603
Club website	7,400	7,400	7,840
Online shop sales	8,116	8,116	-
Conference income	69,570	69,570	-
	<u>320,819</u>	<u>320,819</u>	<u>246,443</u>

**5. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest received	29,243	29,243	9,557

**6. Other incoming resources**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Recharges to SIGBI Trading Ltd	-	-	19,665

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (SIGBI) LIMITED**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**6. Other incoming resources (continued)**

**7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Membership	69,364	69,364	80,887
Head office costs	38,828	38,828	45,235
Depreciation and amortisation	15,236	15,236	11,204
Finance costs	2,958	2,958	2,564
Other expenses	13,142	13,142	15,092
Governance costs	7,801	7,801	8,863
Staff costs	106,291	106,291	123,535
Donations	-	-	1,000
Online shop costs	10,088	10,088	-
Conference expenses	59,370	59,370	-
	<u>323,078</u>	<u>323,078</u>	<u>288,380</u>

**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner/auditor for the independent examination/audit of the Company's annual accounts	<u>3,300</u>	<u>3,000</u>

**9. Staff costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	99,144	115,651
Social security costs	4,945	5,517
Pension costs	2,202	2,367
	<u>106,291</u>	<u>123,535</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**9. Staff costs (continued)**

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Staff	3	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

**10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2024, expenses totalling £18,923 were reimbursed or paid directly to 8 Trustees (2023 - £12,945 to 11 Trustees). The reimbursed costs related to travel and accomodation.

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**11. Tangible fixed assets**

	Fixtures and fittings £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	58,869
Additions	1,325
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	60,194
	<hr/>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	57,206
Charge for the year	776
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	57,982
	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2024	2,212
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2023	1,663
	<hr/> <hr/>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**12. Intangible assets**

	Computer software £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023	70,380
Additions	2,850
At 31 March 2024	<u>73,230</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	28,698
Charge for the year	14,461
At 31 March 2024	<u>43,159</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<u>30,071</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>41,682</u>

**13. Fixed asset investments**

	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Other investments £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	1	510,099	510,100
Additions	-	1,356,098	1,356,098
Disposals	-	(1,107,354)	(1,107,354)
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>758,843</u>	<u>758,844</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>758,843</u>	<u>758,844</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1</u>	<u>510,099</u>	<u>510,100</u>



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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**13. Fixed asset investments (continued)**

**Principal subsidiaries**

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company number</b>	<b>Registered office or principal place of business</b>	<b>Principal activity</b>
SIGBI Trading Ltd	11019781	Beckwith House Second Floor, 1 Wellington Road North, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 1AF	Activities of conference organisers

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Profit/(Loss)/ Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £</b>	<b>Net assets £</b>
<b>SIGBI Trading Ltd</b>	1,482	(1,957)	(475)	260,110

The principal activity of the subsidiary was activities of conference organisers until it ceased trading in the year ended 31 March 2024, and has since been dormant.

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**14. Stocks**

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,492	-
	<u>1,492</u>	<u>-</u>

**15. Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	934	1,077
Other debtors	14,255	8,978
Prepayments and accrued income	72,410	36,641
	<u>87,599</u>	<u>46,696</u>

**16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,337	20,552
Amounts owed to group undertakings	260,110	116,685
Other taxation and social security	8,864	4,219
Other creditors	5,984	4,075
Accruals and deferred income	15,284	13,849
	<u>291,579</u>	<u>159,380</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**17. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Development fund	18,838	-	-	15,549	34,387
Reorganisation fund	30,000	-	(3,432)	25,000	51,568
Sculpture fund	4,591	-	(1,377)	-	3,214
Membership fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
PR Fund	10,000	-	-	50,000	60,000
Programme fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
IT upgrade fund	40,500	-	-	-	40,500
	<u>123,929</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,809)</u>	<u>90,549</u>	<u>209,669</u>
<b>General funds</b>					
General funds	<u>438,549</u>	<u>418,011</u>	<u>(318,269)</u>	<u>(90,549)</u>	<u>447,742</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u><u>562,478</u></u>	<u><u>418,011</u></u>	<u><u>(323,078)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>657,411</u></u>

**Development fund**

The fund is to support the charitable objectives of SIGBI with grants and donations.

**Reorganisation fund**

The fund is to support any review and reorganisations of SIGBI to ensure viability of the Federation moving forward.

**Sculpture fund**

The fund is to support the ongoing maintenance of the SIGBI plot at the National Memorial Arboretum.

**Membership fund**

The fund is to support the opening of new clubs and recruitment of members.

**PR fund**

The fund is to support the development of SIGBI Ltd's profile.

**Programme fund**

The fund is to support project works across the Federation.

**IT Upgrade fund**

The fund is for the upgrade of systems in the office including accounts, database and network connectivity. It will support the creation of SIGBI's new website.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Development fund	18,838	-	-	-	18,838
Centennial fund	1,745	-	-	(1,745)	-
Reorganisation fund	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Sculpture fund	5,399	-	(808)	-	4,591
Membership fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
PR Fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Programme fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
IT upgrade fund	40,500	-	-	-	40,500
	<u>126,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(808)</u>	<u>(1,745)</u>	<u>123,929</u>
<b>General funds</b>					
General funds	<u>433,289</u>	<u>291,087</u>	<u>(287,572)</u>	<u>1,745</u>	<u>438,549</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u><u>559,771</u></u>	<u><u>291,087</u></u>	<u><u>(288,380)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>562,478</u></u>

**18. Summary of funds**

**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	123,929	-	(4,809)	90,549	209,669
General funds	438,549	418,011	(318,269)	(90,549)	447,742
	<u>562,478</u>	<u>418,011</u>	<u>(323,078)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>657,411</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**18. Summary of funds (continued)**

**Summary of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March As restated £
Designated funds	126,482	-	(808)	(1,745)	123,929
General funds	433,289	291,087	(287,572)	1,745	438,549
	<u>559,771</u>	<u>291,087</u>	<u>(288,380)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>562,478</u>

**19. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,212	2,212
Intangible fixed assets	30,071	30,071
Fixed asset investments	758,844	758,844
Current assets	157,863	157,863
Creditors due within one year	(291,579)	(291,579)
<b>Total</b>	<u>657,411</u>	<u>657,411</u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,663	1,663
Intangible fixed assets	41,682	41,682
Fixed asset investments	510,100	510,100
Current assets	168,413	168,413
Creditors due within one year	(159,380)	(159,380)
<b>Total</b>	<u>562,478</u>	<u>562,478</u>

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**20. Pension commitments**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and in the year amounted to £2,202 (2023: £2,367). £331 (2023: £337) was payable to the fund at the balance sheet date.

**21. Related party transactions**

The charitable company owns 100% of SIGBI Trading Limited. During the year salary and management charges were made of £Nil (2023: £18,465) and £Nil (2023: £1,200) respectively.

At the year end the balance owed to SIGBI Trading Limited is £260,110 (2023: £116,685) and is included in creditors at the year end.

Each member of Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited pays a membership fee which includes a levy on behalf of three charities detailed below.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland Benevolent fund (Charity No: 211840) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £10,453 (2023: £11,672). At the year end £1,113 (2023: £1,730) was still to be paid over.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Diamond Education Grant (Charity No: 1139668) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £4,572 (2023: £5,310). At the year end £1,184 (2023: £844) was still to be paid over.

The charitable company collects levies, payable by the members, on behalf of Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland Emergency Relief Fund (Charity No: 211231) and these amounts are paid directly to that charity. During the year the amounts received totalled £4,336 (2023: £6,554). At the year end £628 (2023: £1,164) was still to be paid over.