

Trustees' Annual Report

From 01/05/2020 to 31/05/21

Charity name: Elizabeth's Group

Charity registration number: 1181256

Objectives and Activities:

Elizabeth's Group was formed on International Women's Day 2018 and is a group of women who have joined together to raise public awareness of Elizabeth Wolstenholme Elmy, who lived in Congleton for over 50 years but is now largely unknown and unsung.

There are two strands to our Project, first, raising the profile of Elizabeth in Congleton and nationally through heritage/community work and the establishment of an archive and, secondly, raising money for a bronze statue.

Elizabeth is clearly an important figure in Congleton's heritage. She was described by Emmeline Pankhurst as 'the brains behind the suffrage movement'. She appears on the plinth of the Millicent Fawcett statue unveiled by Theresa May in Parliament Square in 2018 as one of the most influential women in the suffrage movement. Several statues of other influential suffragists/suffragettes have been erected, or are planned, across the country to establish a heritage trail of influential women. Congleton clearly should be part of that trail.

Elizabeth was a pioneer in so many fields and has relevance to several of the issues currently being addressed in our town. In addition to the vote and advances in the education of girls. Elizabeth fought successfully to enable legislation in number of other significant areas including married women's property rights, the guardianship of children and violence within marriage. We still have much to learn from her work.

In an edition of WSPU's Magazine 'Votes for Women' dated 9th September 1910 it says 'if the women of England ever realise what they owe to Mrs Elmy they will put up to her memory a national monument'. That is what we are intending to do here in Congleton. We are mindful that less than 3% of statues in this country are of women and wish to play our part in helping to redress that.

A statue of Elizabeth would keep women's rights firmly on the agenda within the town and inclusion on the proposed suffragette trail would be a feather in the cap for Congleton, it would raise its profile nationally and would increase

visitor footfall, particularly at a time when people are beginning to rediscover the joys of holidaying at home.

As Trustees we are very clear about the public benefit requirements of our charity and the prime purposes are focussed on enhancing the local community and protecting our important heritage. Trustees remind themselves of their responsibilities at every AGM and at other times as appropriate.

Volunteers are the prime, indeed only, drivers of Elizabeth's Group and are involved in activities across the board ranging from organising bids, presentations, writing blogs, running information stalls, producing media (including films) to get the word about Elizabeth out there, networking across the community, developing our website, undertaking research to expand our archive and so much more.

We have had a very successful year and have been very successful in raising the profile of Elizabeth through our activities, particularly:

- With the help of the Heritage Lottery (funding ended in May 2020), we have established a professional website to share archive materials, research activity, articles and other materials relating to Elizabeth. This work continues.
- Our social media presence has continued to grow. We have presence on Facebook and Twitter, have our own blog and a YouTube group. During lockdown we have produced around a dozen videos covering various aspects of Elizabeth's life and achievements and these are published on our sites and wider.
- In addition to these films we have produced high quality leaflets, booklets and other promotional materials.
- Sadly, Covid has curtailed much of our face-to-face promotional activity at our monthly stalls at local craft food and ethical fairs dressed as suffragettes.. These have been very successful in getting Elizabeth's name out there.
- The Congleton Chronicle, our local newspaper has run regular stories about the group over the year and we have had several features on local radio.
- We continue to contribute to several influential blogs and publications as required.
- We have established a Heritage Trail in Congleton, complete with plaques and maps.
- Our schools outreach program has continued to flourish with schools and other groups in the town and much more widely.

- Doing numerous Zoom presentations on Elizabeth and her achievements, highlighting the relevance of her work to many of the issues that are still with us today.
- Producing a booklet for young people about Elizabeth's life.
- Commissioning a statue of Elizabeth by the renowned artist Hazel Reeves for the town centre.
- Planning for the unveiling of the statue on International Women's Day 2022 with a big event.
- In April we celebrated the opening of Congleton's new link road which has been named Wolstenholme Elmy Way after representations from the Group.
- We continue to network with other groups across the country who are seeking to celebrate the achievements of other important but often forgotten women.

Our audited accounts are attached and raise no issues about our financial health. Covid19 has halted some of our fundraising activities, the main source of our income - but we have just launched a crowdfunding project and await signs of its efficacy in these strange times. Clearly the post-Covid19 era will bring uncertain times for us but we have confidence that our store of ideas will help to progress our aims.

Susan Munro
Chair.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Elizabeth's Group

1181056

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/05/2020

To

30/04/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations, legacies and Grants	20,456	-	-	20,456	14,238
Fundraising Events	169	-	-	169	2,137
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,625	-	-	20,625	16,375
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,625	-	-	20,625	16,375
A3 Payments					
Telephone, postage, stationery	-	260	-	260	515
Heritage Project work	-	1,154	-	1,154	6,830
Insurance	-	89	-	89	-
Training & Development	-	-	-	-	13
Statue Costs (Stage 1)	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,000	1,503	-	2,503	7,358
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,000	1,503	-	2,503	7,358
Net of receipts/(payments)	19,625	- 1,503	-	18,122	9,017
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,078	3,170	-	25,248	16,231
Cash funds this year end	41,703	1,667	-	43,370	25,248

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Statue Fund	41,703	-	-
	HLF	-	1,667	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	41,703	1,667	-

CCXX R1 accounts (SS)

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Date of approval

W. A.

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12/6/21



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Elizabeth's Group

On accounts for the year
ended

30/04/2021

Charity no
(if any)

1181256

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/04/2021

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

12/6/21

Name:

Jacqueline Potts

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FMAAT

Address:

25 Southlands Road

CW12 3JY

Disclosure

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.