

The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society' Report for 2023

Dear Members of the Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society,

2023 was another busy and challenging year for our society. Thanks to guidance from the Patrons, help from our Trustees and volunteers, and continued support from our members and partner organisations, we were able to carry on our charitable work and deliver impactful results of which we can be proud.

In 2023 we organised **18 cultural and social** events for the members of our community in different formats (in-person, hybrid and online), **attended by over 900** visitors.

We launched a series of four talks by prominent speakers on The **Geography** of Russia, addressing important topics such as Climate change, Arctic Cities, and Economics (many thanks to Olga Tutubalina), **talks by scholars and authors of books** related to Russian history, arts and diplomacy (many thanks to Ksenia Afonina) and had a very emotional **Anti-War poetry evening** (thanks to Yelena Karl). We were lucky to have four moving **performances and concerts** by Ukrainian, British, Russian and Australian performers, all profits from most of them being directed to helping Ukraine and other charitable causes (many thanks to Ekaterina Onatskaia, Yelena Karl and Andrei Bejan). We were also pleased to support *Vot Takoi Teatr* whose **play by Eugene Schwarts "Тень"** was successfully performed three times in 2023 and 2024. £1,500 of the ticket collections were donated to humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

Our **social events** such as the *May Day BBQ* in Wandlebury Park (attended by over 80), *White Nights* (over 40), and the *Treasure Hunt* (about 60), *BBQ/Mushroom walk in Thetford Forest* (over 60) were very popular and brought together members of our community of diverse nationalities. We were especially pleased to see many Ukrainians joining us at these events. We are very grateful to our volunteers Dima Mevzos, Alexey Komarov, Tatiana Yurasova and Olga Tutubalina for their help in organising them.

Thanks to the kind contributions of our events' participants and the generosity of the performers, we raised close to **£2,000 towards the CamRuSS Hardship Fund** which is used for Support for the Ukrainian projects and over **£1,300 was donated to other charities** providing humanitarian aid to refugees in Ukraine, the Turkey/Syria earthquake, and [Ohmatdyt, Ukraine's National Specialised Children's Hospital](#). The key fundraising events were the *Piano Recital* by Vitaly Pisarenko, the *'Three Russian Composers, Two pianos'* concert by Peter Hewitt and Jill Morton, *'Acoustic Land'* a Harp Guitar Recital by Alexander Samodum and a talk by Dr Louise Hardiman *"From Furs to Fabergé: Gifts, Diplomacy and British-Russian Artistic Relations"*.

We are grateful to Tanya Yurasova and all the teachers who continued to deliver the Residential Russian and Ukrainian Language Summer School in August 2023. This year it brought together over 70 students from across the UK and overseas, learning Ukrainian and Russian.

CamRuSS for the Ukrainians 2023

Our team continued supporting Ukrainian refugees in Cambridgeshire by running ESOL classes over three trimesters; the last one (September-December) accommodated 169 learners. The teaching process was supported by the conversation group sessions after classes.

This wouldn't be possible without the support of our partners: St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire Community Foundation and Cambridgeshire Skills.

We raised **£77,553.60** in external grants, where 94% was spent on provision of language courses and the rest for the information/cultural/social events. There were 15 events held in the period, including a bus trip to Norfolk with a visit to Houghton Hall, guided tours of the Scott Polar Museum, social gatherings in Thetford Forest and Wandlebury Park, and graduation ceremonies for the ESOL students. Among the information sessions, the most popular were events addressing topics of Higher Education in the UK, visas and immigration, and grants opportunities in Cambridgeshire.

CamRuSS is most grateful to its volunteers (15 volunteers), ESOL teachers (12 teachers), conversation group leaders (4 leaders), course administrators (Alla Viktorova and Tanya Yurasova) and the group of helpers for making this happen.

Governance

Our Board of Trustees was represented by *Sayara Thompson (Acting Chair and GDPR)*, *Ksenia Afonina (Vice-Chair and external/Support for the Ukrainians projects)*, *Alona Gunko (Treasurer)*, *Katia Onatskaia (Events and Membership Officer)*, *Olga Tutubalina (Events and Technical Support)*, *Alla Viktorova (Events and ESOL classes)*, *Alexandra Argunova (Safeguarding Lead)*, *Sayana Namsaraeva (Projects)* and *Oxana Gerasimova (Secretary)*.

Honorary Advisers: *Janar Davletov*, *Yelena Karl*, *Tanya Yurasova*

There were monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees and the strategic brainstorming session with the group of our charity's distinguished Patrons: *Sir Tony Brenton*, *Libby Howie*, *Prof Anthony Cross*, *Dr Rachel Polonsky*.

We used the Trustees' WhatsApp group for ad-hoc communication and consultation and created an events WhatsApp group for communication related to events.

Finance and Membership

Our main streams of revenue came from Membership fees and ticket sales from events and donations. We are pleased to report that our financial position remains secure with a small surplus of £160 despite multiple donations from CamRuss in 2023.

Our revenue from entrance fees was £5,784, of which £3,300 were donated to the CamRuSS Hardship Fund, other Charitable purposes and Humanitarian Aid. Over £1,000 covered expenses and honoraria for the performers.

The revenue from the membership and the number of members has remained consistent compared to last year. We currently have 148 members (37 of them new members) who brought us a revenue of £1,736. We are grateful to all our members who continued staying with us and we are delighted to welcome the new supporters who joined in 2023.

We are very grateful for all donations (total £1,305) received this year which ranged from £5 to up to over £700 from an individual donor.

Our turnover increased significantly, mostly because of the grants that we received in 2023, some part of which is allocated to cover designated costs in early 2024.

The corporate costs for running the Charity (Administrator, IT, Web hosting, Zoom Licence, Insurance, Fees and Subscription and other expenses) comprised about £7,000 in the period.

Operations and Communications

Communications were delivered by website, regular newsletters (predominantly fortnightly), Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Our website showed an average of 1,000 visits monthly and our Newsletter has 2,712 subscribers to the newsletter. By the end of 2023 the CamRuSS social media accounts grew the number of followers as below: Facebook - 1,900 (1,801 in 2022) and Instagram 392 (318 in 2022).

Our operational activities were supported by the valuable help of the part-time Administrative Assistants: Elena Shampanova - until April 2023 - and Mariia Kashina stepped into this role in May 2023. Elvira Churyumova continued assisting with preparing event recordings and occasional administrative duties.

We are very grateful to our administrators for their hard work, and to Beverley Lott for her help with proofreading.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Members, Patrons, Trustees, Honorary Advisers, team of administrators and volunteers for their amazing work this year. We are also grateful to our partners and collaborators for their support.

We are looking forward to working together in 2024!

Sayara Thompson
Acting Chair

The Board of Trustees
The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society (CamRuSS)

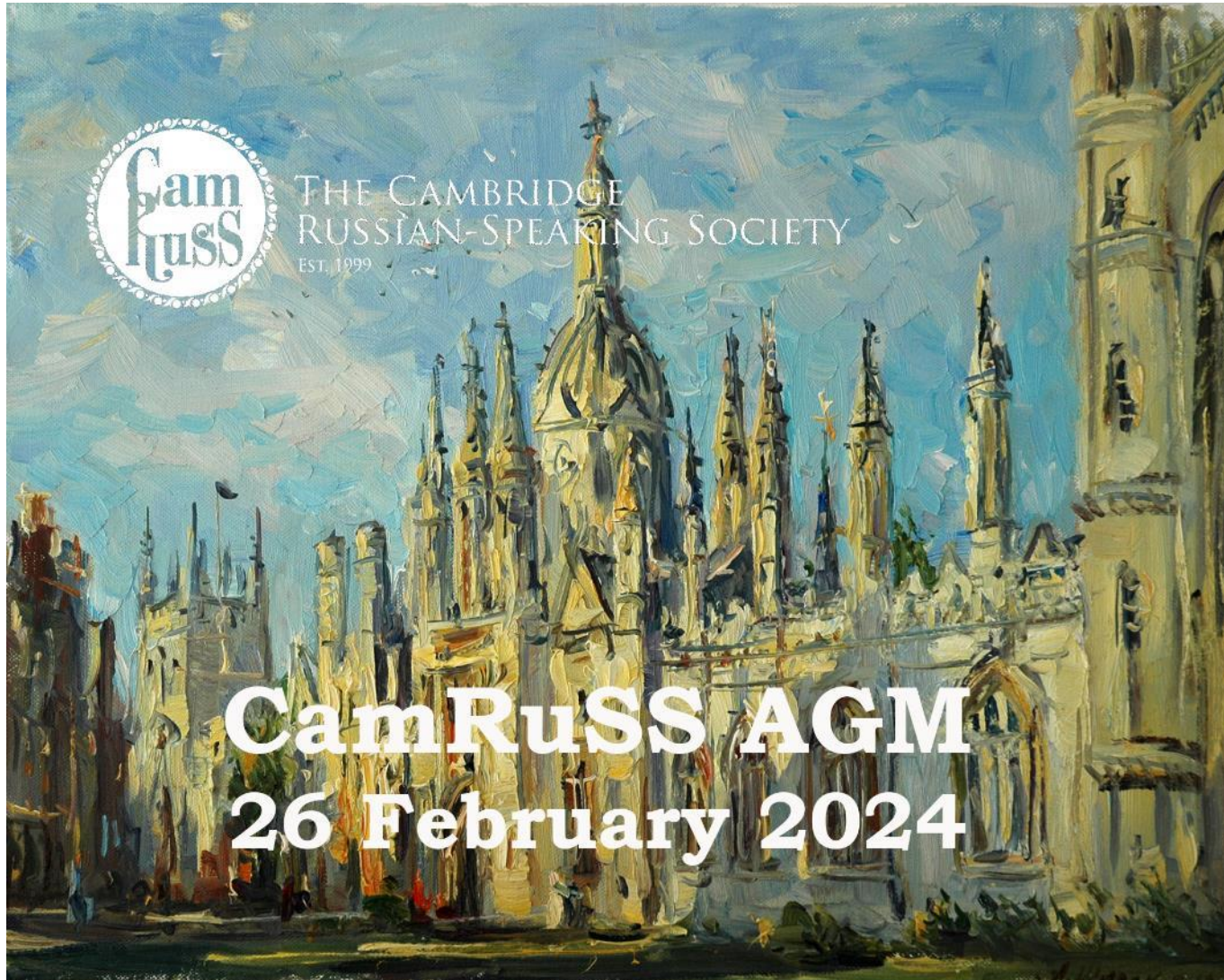
Website: www.camruss.com

Follow us: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024
26 February 2024, Trinity Hall, Cambridge





Agenda item	Speaker	Position	Mins	
Introduction	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	1	
Welcome address	Libby Howie	Patron	10	
Part 1: Reports for 2023				11
Summary of results	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	8	
CamRuSS for Ukrainians projects	Ksenia Afonina	Vice Chair	5	
Veterans	Yelena Karl	Adviser	2	
Membership	Katia Onatskaia	Membership Officer/Events	2	
Communications	Ksenia Afonina	Vice Chair	3	
Finances	Varya Veselova	Volunteer (Treasurer)	3	
Website project update	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	1	
Trustees' activities	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	1	
Questions/comments			5	
Voting for reports approval 2023			2	
Vote of thanks	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair		32
Part 2: Plans for 2024				
Strategic considerations	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	2	
Objectives	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	2	
Finances and membership fee	Katia Onatskaia	Membership Officer/Events	2	
Voting: strategic objectives and membership fee			2	
Governance: BoT, Advisers update	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	2	
Voting (Board of Trustees, Advisers)			2	
Events for 2024	Sayara Thompson	Acting Chair	3	
CamRuSS for Ukrainians	Ksenia Afonina		2	
Questions/Suggestions/AOB			5	
Voting: approval of plans for 2024			2	
AOB and discussion			10	
Closure of the meeting			1	38
			Total	81



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PART 1: Reports for 2023

- Summary of results for 2023 - S. Thompson
- CamRuSS for Ukrainians - K. Afonina
- Veterans - Y. Karl
- Membership 2023 - E. Onatskaia
- Communications 2023 - K. Afonina
- Finances 2023 - V. Veselova
- Trustees' activities - S. Thompson
- Questions/comments
- Voting
- Vote of thanks



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CamRuSS Report 2023



Members: 132 members (28 Family/ 104 Individual)

£1,737 vs £1,774 in 2022

Events: 18 events (6 online), 1000 participants

Income: **£88,908** vs £32,800 (2022)

Grants: **£77,553** vs £20,253 (2022)

Donations for CamRuSS Hardship Fund and other Charities
£3,300

Surplus: 12,050 from which most of the money have been allocated for grants expenses and to the theatre for tickets collections early in 2024 with **Net Surplus left £160**



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Organisation structure 2023

- Patrons:** Sir Tony Brenton, Libby Howie, Dr Rachel Polonsky, Prof Anthony Cross,
Prof Emma Widdis
- Board of Trustees:** Sayara Thompson (Acting Chair, GDPR)
Ksenia Afonina (Vice Chair and external/Support for the Ukrainians projects)
Alona Gunko (Treasurer)
Ekaterina Onatskaia (Membership and Events)
Olga Tutubalina (Events and Technical Support)
Alla Viktorova (Events)
Alexandra Argunova (Safeguarding Lead)
Oksana Gerasimova (Secretary) - **will be leaving in March 2024**
Sayana Namsaraeva (Projects)
- Honorary Advisers:** John Barber, Janar Davletov, Yelena Karl, Tanya Yurasova
- Organising Committee (active volunteers):**
- Beverly Lott (proofreading), Natasha Bacon (communications)
 - Dima Mevzos (outdoor BBQ events)
- Part-Time Administrator:** E. Champanova (till Apr), Mariia Kashina (from May), Elvira Churymova



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CamRuSS Events 2023



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Annual General Meeting 2021-2022

Opening address: Tony Brenton



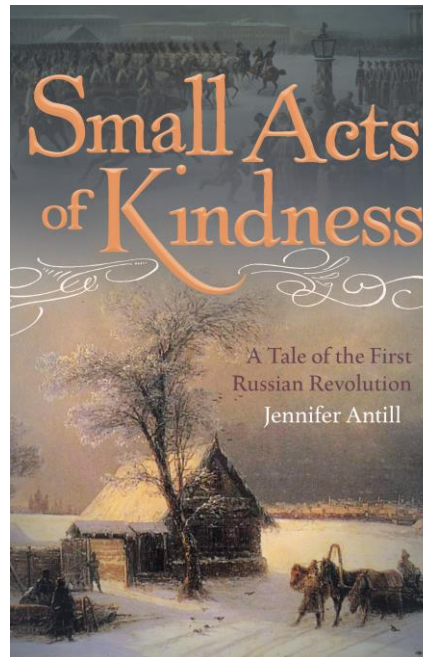
Date: 16 January 2023 | **Key organisers:** Ksenia Afonina | **Participants:** 30 | **Format:** Hybrid



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Speaker: Jenny Antill

**“Inconvenient Truths” Talk about her book "Small Acts of Kindness"
about Russia in 1825 and the Decembrists**



Date: 16 February 2023 | **Key organisers:** T.Yurasova, S.Thompson | **Participants:** 30 | **Format:** In person



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Julia Nemirovskaya with 14 poets
“Disbelief”, the anthology of Russophone anti-war poetry -
Russian Speakers Against War



Date: 24 February 2023 | **Key organisers:** Yelena Karl | **Participants:** 73 | **Format:** Online



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Vitaly Pisarenko Piano Recital

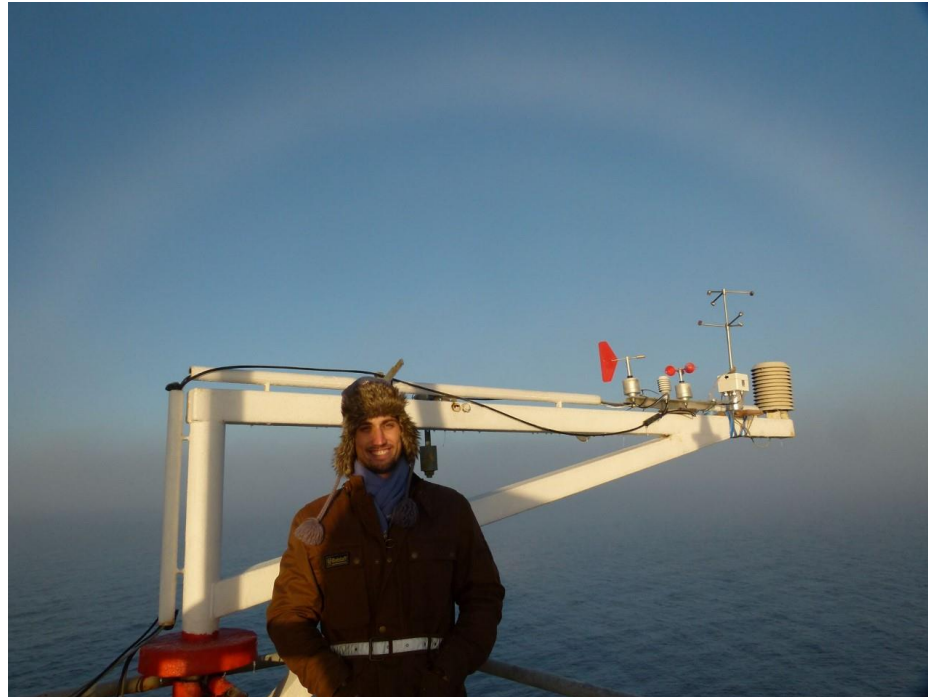


Date: 10 March 2023 | **Key organisers:** Katia Onatskaia | **Participants:** 66 | **Format:** In person



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Geographies of Russia: Lecture 1 Alexander Chernokulsky “Climate Change in Russia”



Date: 24 March 2023 | **Key organisers:** Olga Tutubalina | **Participants:** 41 | **Format:** online

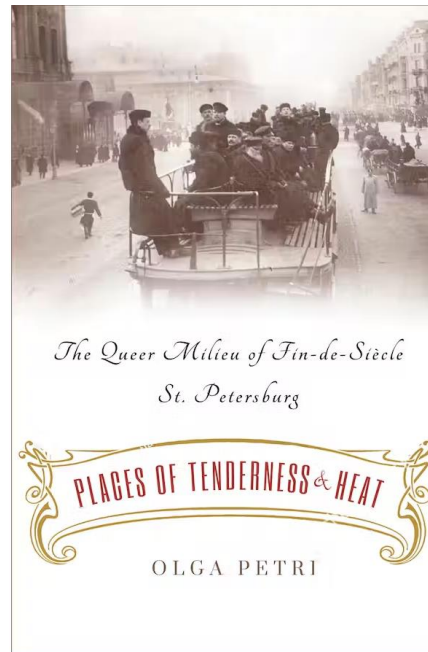


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Geographies of Russia: Lecture 2

Olga Petri

“Places of Tenderness and Heat: The Queer Milieu of Fin-de-Siècle St. Petersburg”



Date: 28 Apr 2023 | **Key organisers:** Olga Tutubalina | **Participants:** 41 | **Format:** Hybrid



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Traditional May Day BBQ Wandlebury Country Park



Date: 1 May 2023 | **Key organisers:** D.Mevzos, O.Tutubalina | **Participants:** 80 | **Format:** In person



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Geographies of Russia: Lecture 3

Dr Nadezhda Zamyatina

“Arctic cities of Russia: a feat, a mistake, a conditionality?”



Date: 19 May 2023 | **Key organisers:** Olga Tutubalina | **Participants:** 56 | **Format:** online



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Peter Hewitt and Jill Morton Piano Recital “Three Russian Composers, Two pianos”



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Perse Upper School,
Hills Rd, Cambridge CB2 8QF

9 JUNE 2023 19:00

CamRuSS &
Perse Music Keyboard
Department

www.camruss.com/en/events
Tickets: £15/£10

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

**Peter Hewitt
Jill Morton**

**2 PIANOS
3 COMPOSERS**

TCHAIKOVSKY The Nutcracker suite

SHOSTAKOVICH Concertino Op. 94

STRAVINSKY The Rite of Spring

ALL PROFITS GO TO CAMRUSS FOR UKRAINIANS HARDSHIP FUND



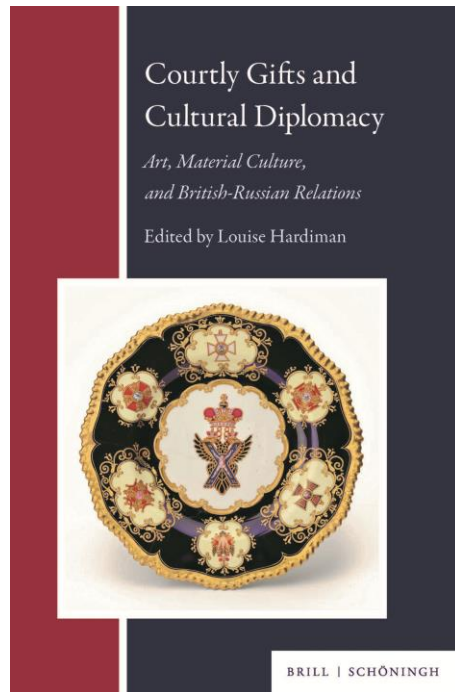
Date: 09 June 2023 | **Key organisers:** Katia Onatskaia | **Participants:** 90 | **Format:** In person



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Dr Louise Hardiman

Talk : “From Furs to Fabergé: Gifts, Diplomacy and British-Russian Artistic Relations”



Date: 22 June 2023 | **Key organisers:** Ksenia Afonina | **Participants:** 54 | **Format:** Hybrid



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White Nights Social gathering with singing



Date: 1 July 2023 | **Key organisers:** CamRuSS/Mariia Kashina | **Participants:** 66 | **Format:** In person



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Geographies of Russia: Lecture 4

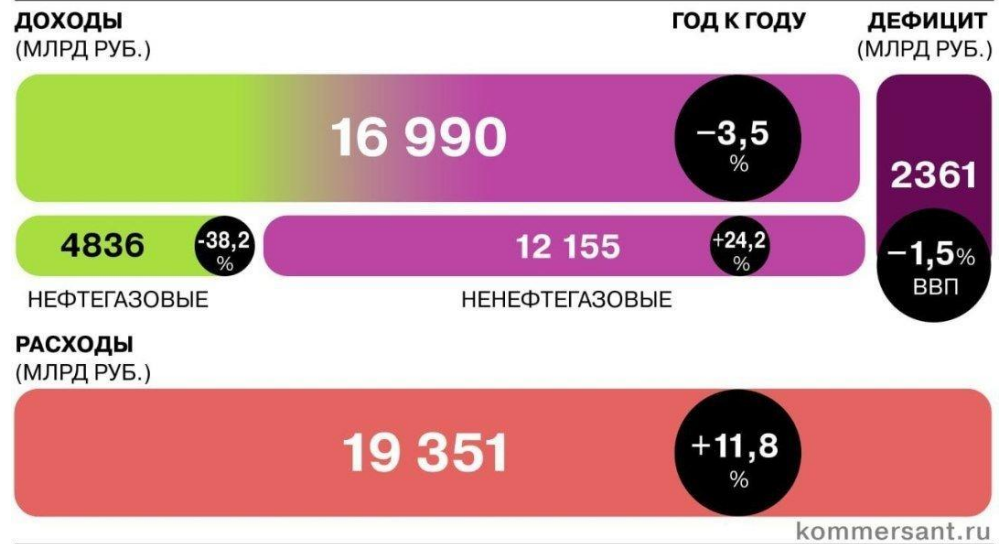
Dr Natalia Zubarevich

“Russian regions in a new economic reality: economy, social sphere and budgets.”



ИСПОЛНЕНИЕ ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОГО БЮДЖЕТА ЗА ЯНВАРЬ - АВГУСТ 2023 ГОДА

ИСТОЧНИК: МИНФИН РФ.



Date: 15 Sep 2023 | Key organisers: Olga Tutubalina | Participants: 78 | Format: online



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Treasure Hunt Social gathering and walking



Date: 17 Sep 2023 | **Key organisers:** T.Yurasova/S.Thompson | **Participants:** 66 | **Format:** In person



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Alexander Karpeev and Tama Matheson Concert drama “Prokofiev: The Wandering Tower”



Date: 13 Oct 2023 | **Key organisers:** Katia Onatskaia | **Participants:** 64 | **Format:** In person



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Traditional Mushroom Walk & BBQ in Thetford Forest Social gathering



Date: 15 Oct 2023 | **Key organisers:** D.Mevzos/O.Tutubalina | **Participants:** 62 | **Format:** In person



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Alexander Samodum “Acoustic Land” a Harp Guitar Recital

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

ALEXANDER SAMODUM
HARP GUITAR RECITAL

Spiritually-inspired and folk music exhibiting a diverse range of influences, including Irish, Greek, Balkan, Sephardic, Tibetan overtone and throat-singing, as well as traditional Ukrainian songs.

All funds raised will be donated to **OHMATDYT** - Ukraine's National Specialised Children's Hospital.

SUN
26 NOV
2023
17:30

IN SUPPORT OF
OHMATDYT
UKRAINE'S NATIONAL SPECIALISED CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

TICKETS
£10 (ADULTS)
£5 (UNDER 16)
www.camruss.com/events
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!

ST ANDREWS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
40-43 ST ANDREW'S ST, CAMBRIDGE CB2 3AR

CO-ORGANISED BY
CAM RUSS
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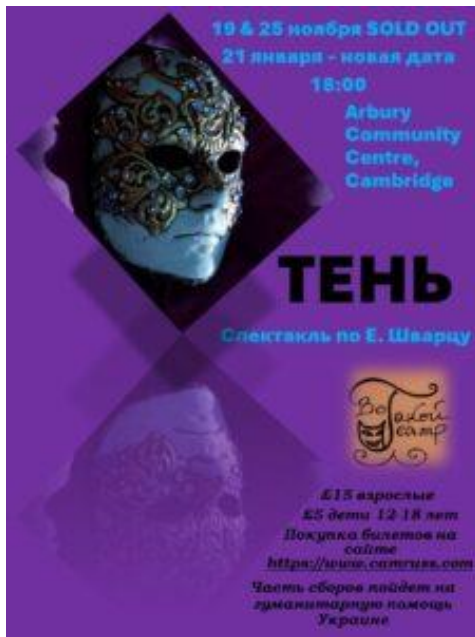


Date: 26 Nov 2023 | **Key organisers:** A.Bejan/Y.Karl | **Participants:** 90 | **Format:** In person



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CamRuSS supported a play “The Shadow” by *Vot Takoi Teatr*



Date: 9,15 Nov 2023, 21 Jan 24 | **Key organisers:** Vot Takoi Teatr | **Participants:** 210 | **Format:** In person



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Christmas gathering



Date: 17 Dec 2023 | **Key organisers:** M.Barrell, M.Kashina | **Participants:** 30 | **Format:** In person



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CamRuSS for Ukrainians



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CamRuSS for the Ukrainians 2023

Overview

- We delivered **3 ESOL courses** (January-April, May-July, September-December) accommodating **159, 156, 169 learners** respectively.
- We held **16 information/cultural/social events** for the Ukrainians, where **8 information events** were held at **St Andrew's Street Baptist Church**, online and at **Scott Polar Museum**.
- We raised **£77,553.60** from **10 grants awarded by 5 different funders**.
- HelpLine
- Cambridge4UA chat
- Supported by over **30 volunteers**

THANK YOU!



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CamRuSS for the Ukrainians 2023

Information/cultural/social events

Information events:

1. Grants for Ukrainians (16.02.23) -51
2. Visas and Immigration advice (16.03.23) - 80
3. Housing information (19.04.23) - 39
4. Guided tour of Scott Polar Museum (25.04.23) -25
5. Higher Education in the UK (23.05.23) - 84
6. Guided tour of Scott Polar Museum (30.05.23) -25
7. Affordable travel in the UK (12.07.23) -22
8. Volunteering opportunities - together with CVS (20.11.23) – 14

Social events (4 joint with CamRuSS programme):

1. Graduation event for the students of ESOL classes (01.04.23) at St Andrew's Street Baptist Church - 80
2. BBQ in Wandlebury Park (01.05.23) -100 (joint with CamRuSS)
3. Trip to Norfolk with the visit to Houghton Hall and picnic (30.06.23) - 47
4. Graduation event for the students of ESOL classes (15.07.23) at St Andrew's Street Baptist Church by groups - 80
5. Cambridge Treasure Hunt (17.09.23) – 25 (joint with CamRuSS)
6. Trip to Thetford Forest (15.10.23) - 61 (joint with CamRuSS)
7. Graduation event for the students of ESOL classes (16.12.23) St Andrew's Street Baptist Church – 70
8. Christmas gathering – 25 (5) (joint with CamRuSS)



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CamRuSS for the Ukrainians 2023



Trip to Norfolk and visit to Houghton Hall (30-06-23)



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ESOL classes graduation events April, July, December 2023



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CamRuSS ESOL classes at St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, 2023



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CamRuSS for the Ukrainians 2023

Collaborations

- St Andrew's Street Baptist Church
- South Cambridgeshire District Council
- Cambridge City Council
- Cambridgeshire Skills
- Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum
- The Scott Polar Research Institute
- UCL



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Arctic Convoy Veterans project

Yelena Karl



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Veterans. Donations to charities in the memory of the deceased

Timeline:

2015 – Ksenia attended a meeting of the Kennington Arctic convoy club in London.

2012-2024 – Special events to honour Veterans of Russian Arctic convoys

2015-2019 – The annual wreath laying ceremonies at the Soviet War Memorial (SWM) in May and November, in London.

2020-2023 – Cancelled due to COVID and the war in Ukraine.

Greeting cards to veterans every year (from 20+ grew up to 30 people).

- May: VE day cards with a bar of Russian chocolate
- November: Remembrance day (also, to the families of deceased veterans)
- December: Christmas cards with a bar of Russian chocolate
- Birthday cards, sometimes with flowers or chocolate



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In 2023 six veterans 'crossed the bar':

Baden Hall, Vic Bashford, Sid Tiffin, Ted Cross, Ernie Kennedy, and Tony Snelling

In 2024 we lost one more: **Ned Ruffle.**

We donated £100 in 2023:

£50 to the Bedford branch of **Royal British Legion** in the memory of **Baden Hall**

£50 to the Soviet War Memorial Trust (SWMT), London/ in lieu of a wreath

There are five veterans who are still with us:

Eleonora Ivanovna Bulatova, Mr John Wass, Capt Rolfe Montieth, Mr Thomas Ward, and Mr David Kennedy (in a care home; we are staying in touch with his daughters).

Looking ahead:

May 2024 – **5** VE day cards

Nov 2024 – **25** Remembrance day cards(est

Dec 2024 – **5** Christmas cards



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Membership Report

Ekaterina Onatskaia



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Membership report 2023

Family Status	2022	2022	2023	2023
Qtr1	£342.00	19 members: 5 new, 14 renewed	£306.00	17 members: 1 new, 16 renewed
Qtr2	£84.00	7 mbrs: 3 new/4 returned	£54.00	3 mbrs: 1 new/2 returned
Qtr3		1 member: vip invitation	£18.00	1 member: 1 new
Qtr4	£96.00	8 members - 1 new/7 returned	£126.00	7 members - 1 new/6 returned
Family total	£522.00	35 members: 10 new/25 renewed. 1-VIP	£504.00	28 members: 4 new/24 renewed.
Individual Status				
Qtr1	£372.00	32 members: 5 new/27 returned. 1VIP	£372.00	34 members: 11 new/23 returned. 3VIP
Qtr2	£300.00	25 members: 4 new/21 returned	£420.00	35 members: 15 new/20 returned
Qtr3	£84.00	12 members: 8 new/4 returned. 5 VIP	£120.00	10 members: 6 new/4 returned.
Qtr4	£288.00	30 members: 11 new/19 returned. 6 VIP	£300.00	25 members: 1 new/24 returned.
Individual total	£1,044.00	99 individual memebrs: 28 new/71 renewed. 12VIP	£1,212.00	104 individual memebrs: 33 new/71 renewed. 3 VIP
Grand Total	£1,566.00	134 members. 38 new/96 renewed. 13 -VIP	£1,716.00	148 members (132 paying members).
				37 new/95 renewed. 16 VIP members (3 - new)



Membership report 2023

Events, that generated most of the membership renewals and new memberships.

Date	Event name	Membership
16 Jan 2023	AGM2022	£143.18
19 May 2023	Geographies of Russia Lecture 3. Lecture by Dr Nadezhda Zamyatina	£116.80
15 Sep 2023	Geographies of Russia: Lecture 4 by Prof Natalia Zubarevich	£87.33



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Communications Report

Ksenia Afonina



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Communications 2023

Website www.camruss.com

Number of users:

2022 - 12,000

2023 - 14,000

Country	Users	% Users
1.  United Kingdom	4,230	 61.75%
2.  United States	776	 11.33%
3.  Russia	367	 5.36%
4.  Canada	122	 1.78%
5.  Ireland	115	 1.68%
6.  Germany	113	 1.65%
7.  Finland	97	 1.42%
8.  Ukraine	92	 1.34%
9.  Netherlands	77	 1.12%
10.  France	71	 1.04%



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Communications 2023






Newsletters

	Number		Number of Newsletters	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Subscribers	2,625	2,595	42	35
Opening rate	38%-66%	41%-70%		



Social Media

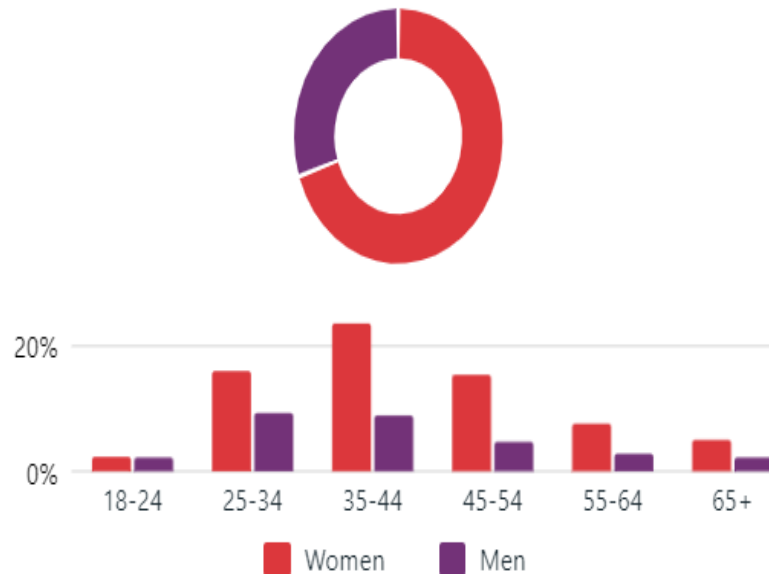
	Number of Followers	Content reach		Profile visits	
		2022	2023	2022	2023
	1,902	25,639	10,332	2,400	3,584
	393	1,877	1,664	561	572
	175				



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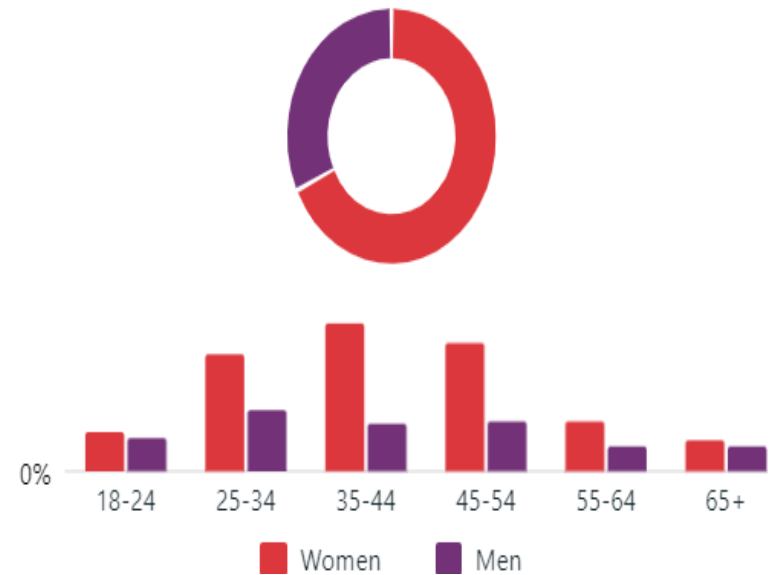
1,902

Age & gender ⓘ



393

Age & gender ⓘ



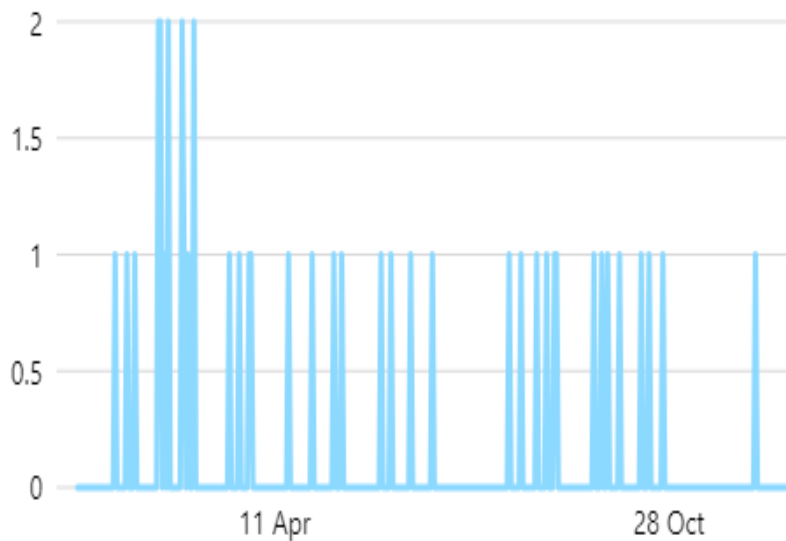


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New likes and follows

Facebook Page new likes ⓘ

42 ↓ 20.8%



New Instagram followers ⓘ

55

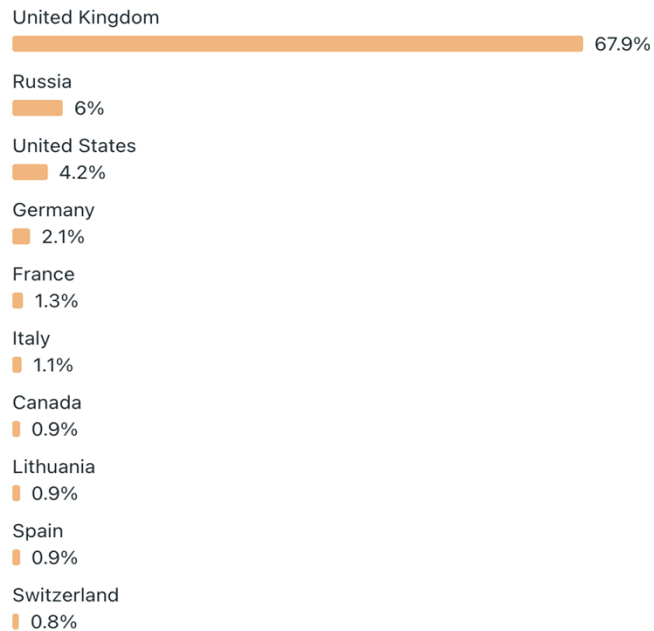




Followers by countries



Top countries



Top countries





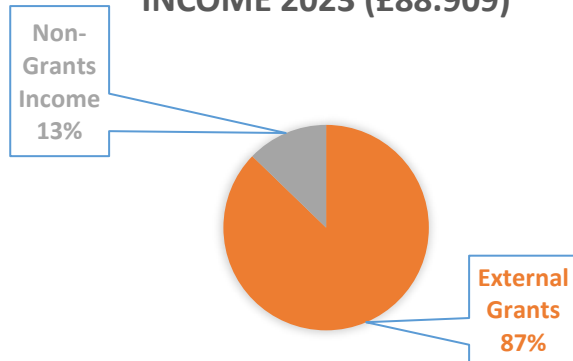
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Financial Report 2023

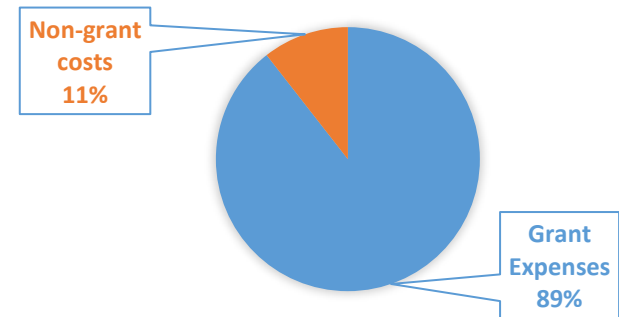
Varya Veselova (on behalf of Alona Gunko)



INCOME 2023 (£88.909)

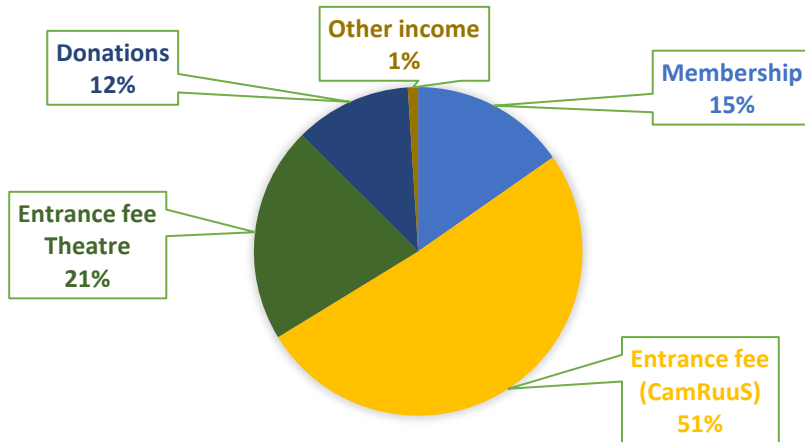


EXPENDITURE 2023 (£76,858)

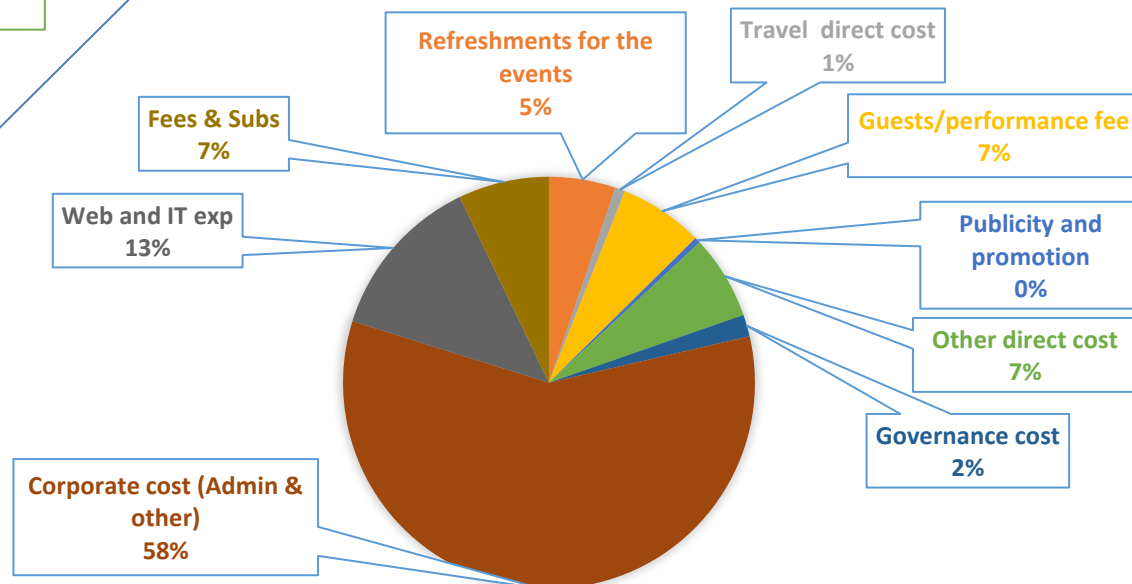


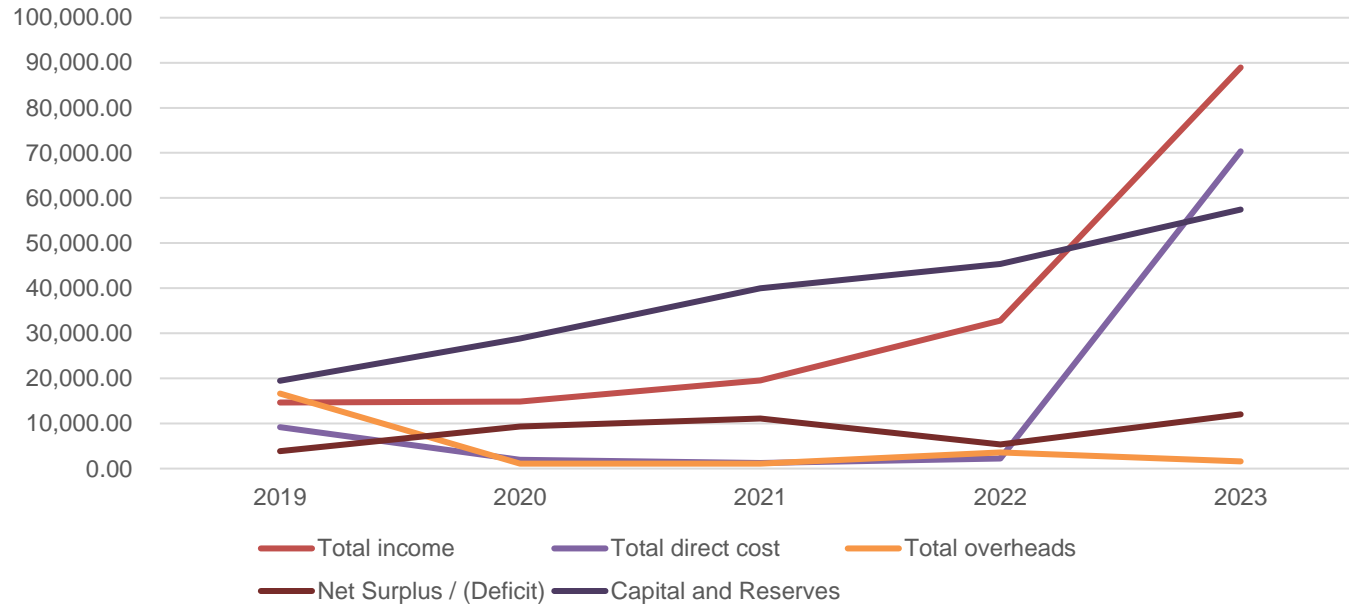


NON-GRANT INCOME 2023 (£11,350)



NON-GRANT EXPENDITURE (£8,110)





	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total income	14,645.05	14,907.98	19,558.36	32,799.59	88,908.79
Total direct cost	9185.95	1,973.68	1257.41	2,244.27	70,342.70
Total overheads	16,664.05	1,119.28	1130.4	3,585.63	1,636.16
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	3,869.27	9,381.33	11,136.86	5,365.81	12,050.54
Capital and Reserves	19,510.91	28,892.24	40,029.10	45,396.30	57,446.84



Income and Expenditure						
<i>For the year ending 31/12/2023</i>	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Income						
Membership	1,736.56	1,773.53	2,298.46	1,229.00	1,250.45	1,768.00
Entrance fee	8,193.66	5,231.19	580.94	1,472.60	4,324.65	5,384.82
Ruffle tickets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	271.21	457.16
Donations	1,304.97	2,152.48	13,405.18	10,900.02	3,540.00	1,924.00
Sponsorship/External Grants	77,553.60	20,252.80	0.00	500.00	3,990.00	3,160.00
E. Marttila Exhibition grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other income	115.00	3,389.59	3,273.78	805.00	1,085.00	405.00
Merchandise sale	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	183.50	101.20
Bank interest received	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.36	0.24	0.18
Total income	88,908.79	32,799.59	19,558.36	14,907.98	14,645.05	13,200.36
				13%	9%	#DIV/0!
Direct Cost				0.00		
Rent for the events	0.00	233.78	0.00	0.00	3,272.58	1,160.95
Grant Expenses	68,747.90					
Refreshments for the events	423.80	150.49	100.92	198.19	691.66	848.34
Flowers and souvenirs	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.60	510.03	217.43
Travel direct cost	63.00	0.00	0.00	134.24	1,214.71	1,653.80
Guests/performance fee	536.00	0.00	0.00	782.50	1,186.00	785.33
Publicity and promotion	37.00	0.00	0.00	104.00	1,825.89	923.62
Other direct cost	535.00	1,860.00	1,054.10	726.15	485.08	1,804.80
E. Marttila Exhibition costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Previous years direct cost	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total direct cost	70,342.70	2,244.27	1,257.41	1,973.68	9,185.95	7,394.27
				-73%	24%	#DIV/0!
Gross Surplus / (Deficit)	18,566.09	30,555.32	18,300.95	12,934.30	5,459.10	5,806.09
	-39%	67%	41%	123%	-9%	#DIV/0!
Governance cost	139.19	159.75	374.22	122.20	309.50	396.79
Corporate cost	4,740.20	21,444.13	5,659.47	2,311.49	897.13	242.03
Overheads						
Web and IT exp	1,058.16	3,191.42	919.80	969.18	104.05	189.20
Stationery & Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50	132.67	169.15
Fees & Subs	578.00	394.21	210.60	145.60	146.48	277.36
Total overheads	1,636.16	3,585.63	1130.4	1,119.28	383.20	635.71
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	12,050.54	5,365.81	11,136.86	9,381.33	3,869.27	4,531.56



Balance Sheet

<i>as at</i>	31/12/2023	31/12/2022	31/12/2021	31/12/2020	31/12/2019	31/12/2018
Current Assets						
Bank Current account	1,389.25	474.56	17,293.15	21,145.00	16,834.35	14,974.97
Bank Deposit account	3342.84	3342.84	3342.84	3,342.45	341.33	341.09
Bank NEW Current account	41,389.34	34,041.24	16,110.34	1,913.00		
Bank NEW Deposit account				0.00		
PayPal	11,081.15	7,460.40	3,202.28	2,307.52	2,016.40	214.67
Cash	244.26	77.26	81.88	184.27	318.83	110.91
	<u>57,446.84</u>	<u>45,396.30</u>	<u>40,030.49</u>	<u>28,892.24</u>	<u>19,510.91</u>	<u>15,641.64</u>

Prepaid Income

Current Liabilities

Prepaid Expenses

Current assets less liabilities	57,446.84	45,396.30	40,030.49	28,892.24	19,510.91	15,641.64
--	------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

Capital & Reserves

Reserves	45,396.30	40,030.49	28,892.24	19,510.91	15,641.64	11,110.08
Surplus or deficit	12,050.54	5,365.81	11,136.86	9,381.33	3,869.27	4,531.56
	<u>57,446.84</u>	<u>45,396.30</u>	<u>40,029.10</u>	<u>28,892.24</u>	<u>19,510.91</u>	<u>15,641.64</u>



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CamRuSS Website project update

- Original specification was too complex with a lot of expected functionality which delayed this projects
- Due to the lack of resources and some problems from developers, it was put on hold for 8 months in 2023
- Resumed in December 2023
- A scope was reviewed and simplified, and currently testing
- Planning to release a new web site by April 2024.
- In addition to fresh look and feel and a user interface, it will enable CamRuSS members to manage their personal accounts (i.e. update membership and access recordings of past events, etc.).



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Trustees' report 2023

Trustees' report 2023



Trustees are active volunteers

- Board meetings (2-3 hrs per month)*
- Board composition (9 people)
- Specific roles
- Organised events
- Hired administrative assistant
- Recruited more volunteers and trustees
- Responded to world events
- Special projects (i.e. new website, CamRuSS for Ukrainians)
- Prepared and run AGM

*The Board met 9 times in 2023, minutes of the meetings are available



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Q&As and voting

Reports approval for 2023



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Vote of thanks



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Communications

Please follow, like, comment, and share:



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CamRuSS1999



@Cam_RuSS



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society		Charity No	1183636
Annual accounts for the period			
Period start date	01/01/2023	To	Period end date
			31/12/2023

as per detailed transactions summary

Recommended categories by activity	Restricted			Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	Unrestricted funds	income funds	Endowment funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3,042	77,554	-	80,595	24,179
Charitable activities	8,314	-	-	8,314	8,621
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11,355	77,554	-	88,909	32,800
Resources expended					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	37	-	-	37	-
Charitable activities	8,073	68,748	-	76,821	27,434
Separate material item of expense	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8,110	68,748	-	76,858	27,434
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	3,245	8,806	-	12,051	5,366
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	3,245	8,806	-	12,051	5,366
Extraordinary items	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	3,245	8,806	-	12,051	5,366
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	3,245	8,806	-	12,051	5,366

For the year ending 31/12/2023

Income

Membership	1,737
Entrance fee	8,194
Raffle tickets	-
Donations	1,304.97
Sponsorship/External Grants	77,553.60
E. Marttila Exhibition grants	0
Other income	115
Merchandise sale	5
Bank interest received	0
Total income	88,909

Direct Cost

Publicity and promotion	37
Rent for the events	-
Refreshments for the events	424
Flowers and souvenirs	-
Travel direct cost	63
Guests/performance fee	536
Other direct cost	535
Grant Expense	68,748
Previous years direct cost	-
Governance cost	139
Corporate cost	4,740
Web and IT exp	1,058
Stationery & Postage	-
Fees & Subs	578
Total expenditure	76,858

12,051

Section B **Balance sheet as at 31/12/2023**
The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total fixed assets</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Stocks	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	44,442	13,005	-	57,447	45,396
<i>Total current assets</i>	44,442	13,005	-	57,447	45,396
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Net current assets/(liabilities)</i>	44,442	13,005	-	57,447	45,396
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>	44,442	13,005	-	57,447	45,396
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total net assets or liabilities</i>	44,442	13,005	-	57,447	45,396
Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	13,005	-	-	13,005	45,396
Unrestricted funds	-	44,442	-	44,442	-
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total funds</i>	13,005	44,442	-	57,447	45,396
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all	Name		Position		Date of
	O Starobinskaya		Trustee & Treasurer		10/04/2024
	K Afonina		Trustee		10/04/2024

Notes to the accounts

Note 1

Analysis of income

For the year ending 31 December 2023

for the ye
31/12/2022
Total funds
£

as per detailed transactions summary

For the year ending 31/12/2023

Income
Membership 1,737
Entrance fee 8,194
Raffle tickets -
Donations 1,305
Sponsorship/External Grants 77,554
E. Marttila Exhibition grants -
Other income 115
Merchandise sale 5
Bank interest received -
Total income 88,909

Analysis		funds	income	funds	Total funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	1,305	-	-	1,305	2,152
	Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other	-	77,554	-	77,554	20,253
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships	1,737	-	-	1,737	1,774
	Other	5	-	-	5	-
Total		3,047	77,554	-	80,600	24,179
Charitable activities:		-	-	-	-	-
	Entrance fee	8,194	-	-	8,194	5,231
	Raffle tickets	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	115	-	-	115	3,390
	Total	8,309	-	-	8,309	8,621
Other trading activities:		-	-	-	-	-
	Merchandise sale	-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Income from investments:	Interest income	-	-	-	-	-
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income:		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		11,355	77,554	-	88,909	32,800

Notes to the accounts

Note 2

Analysis of expenditure

For the year ending 31 December 2023

for the ye
31/12/2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Total funds £
Analysis					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants					
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries					
Staging fundraising events					
Fundraising agents					
Merchandise cost				-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity				-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	37		-	37	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-				
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	37	-	-	37	-
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Rent for the events	-		-	-	234
Grant Expenses	-	68,748	-	68,748	-
Refreshments for the events	424		-	424	150
Flowers and souvenirs	-			-	56
Travel Direct cost	63			63	
Guest/performance fee	536			536	
Stationery & Postage	-			-	-
Web and IT expenses	1,058			1,058	3,191
Fees & Subscriptions	578			578	394
Other direct cost	535	-	-	535	23,248
Total expenditure on charitable activities	3,194	68,748	-	71,942	27,274
Separate material item of expense					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Other					
Governance cost	139	-	-	139	160
Corporate Cost	4,740	-	-	4,740	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	4,879	-	-	4,879	160
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	8,110	68,748	-	76,858	27,434



Sayara Thompson <sayarauzb@gmail.com>

Re: Request to act as an independent examiner for CamRuSS

1 message

Elizaveta Davletova <lizzza@hotmail.co.uk>

Thu, Jul 4, 2024 at 8:18 AM

To: Olga <oxstarob@yahoo.co.uk>

Cc: Sayara Thompson <sayarauzb@gmail.com>, CamRuSS-google <camruss1999@gmail.com>, Ksenia Afonina <kseniaafonina@yahoo.com>, Varya Veselova <varina_v@hotmail.com>

Dear Trustees,

Thank you for your prompt replies and additional information. I have now conducted my checks, please find attached dated and signed report based on my examination to be filed with the Commission as part of your annual return.

I am also attaching my working notes file and the checklist of examination activities. Please could you add these two files, signed report and the email correspondence to the google link drive? These files will be a part of working papers required to be retained for the next 6 years in case Charity Commission requests copies of reports.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if have any questions

Kind regards

Liza

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society (CamRus)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society (CamRus) for the year ended 31 December 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Charity 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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:

Name: Elizaveta Davletova

CGMA

Address: 98 Duxford road, Whittlesford, Cambridge, CB22 4NH

Date: 02.07.24

Independent examination of charity accounts checklist (CC32a)

A recommended checklist for examiners

This checklist is not suitable for the examination of voluntary group accounts.

1. Self-assessment checklist

The questions in this checklist are designed to help the examiner to undertake their independent examination in accordance with the legal requirements and good practice recommendations set out in the Commission's guidance on Independent examination of charity accounts: Directions and guidance for examiners (CC32).

The examiner is recommended to use the checklist alongside the Directions for independent examination. Not all the checks listed will apply in the case of every independent examination and so the checklist is not a substitute to the examiner using their own judgment as to what is necessary.

The prompt 'step done' may prompt a 'yes' or 'no'. A 'no' answer does not always indicate a problem because it may simply be that the step was either not applicable or found not to be necessary to the examination undertaken in which case the words 'not applicable' or 'not necessary' might be entered in place of a working paper reference.

Some answers may be 'no' because the evidence or information that was needed could not be obtained and this will need to be considered when the examiner makes their report. It is recommended that all the steps for each Direction are completed with a working paper reference added.

It may be that the examiner completes the checklist as they go through the examination or as a completeness check at the end as they bring their examination to a conclusion and prepare their report. There is no legal requirement to use this checklist and examiners may substitute their own checklist or take an alternative approach.

If the checklist is completed it is recommended that this forms part of the formal record of their independent examination undertaken and is kept in the file of examiner's working papers.

2. Checklist

The Directions and documentation	Step done?	Working paper reference
Direction 1: Check whether the charity is eligible to have an independent examination		
Checked the charity audit threshold applying to the accounts to be reviewed	YES	Google Drive – accounts & bank statement
Checked an audit is not required for any other reason	YES	Google drive – constitution
Confirmed the charity is eligible for independent examination		
Confirmed the amount of the charity's income to figure shown the accounts (including any branches) and confirmed that income and assets are below the audit threshold or, if applicable, obtained a copy of the letter from the Commission approving an audit dispensation	YES	Google Drive – accounts & bank statement
If the charity has one or more subsidiaries confirmed that group accounts are not required by law	N/A	
If a charitable company checked that the audit exemption statement has been made	N/A	
If applicable, rechecked the threshold calculation during the examination	N/A	
If the charity's income is more than £250,000 confirmed that the examiner is a member of one of the listed bodies	N/A	
If applicable, informed the trustees that the charity is not eligible for an independent examination	N/A	
If receipts and payments accounts have been prepared, checked that the charity's gross income is less than £250,000 and that it is not a company	YES	Google Drive – accounts & bank statement, constitution, AGM
If receipts and payments accounts have been prepared, check that there is no requirement to prepare accruals accounts in the charity's governing document or for any other reason	YES	Google Drive – accounts & bank statement, constitution, AGM
If applicable, informed the trustees that the charity is not eligible to prepare receipts and payments accounts	N/A	
Direction 2: Check for any conflict of interest that prevents the examiner from carrying out their independent examination		
Confirmed that there are no close personal relationships with the trustees that compromise independence	YES	
Confirmed as having no the day to day involvement in the administration of the charity	YES	
If providing other services to the charity then confirmed that all the criteria in Direction 2 necessary for independence are met	N/A	
Identified that there are no circumstances in the examiner's judgment that would reasonably lead to the perception that the examiner is not independent	YES	

The Directions and documentation	Step don	Working paper reference
Considered whether sufficiently skilled to carry out the examination and, where required, confirmed membership of a listed body	YES	
If applicable, informed the trustees that you are not eligible to carry out the independent examination	N/A	
Direction 3: Record your independent examination		
File of working papers prepared to document the work undertaken (see the Direction for guidance on key working papers)	YES	Google drive
Evidence of appointment on file	YES	Email from trustees
If issued, letter of engagement signed by the trustees on file	YES	Email from trustees
Documentation of steps required by Direction 1 are all done	YES	Google drive
Documentation that steps required by Direction 2 are all done	YES	Google drive
Analytical review documented	YES	G drive Directions summary doc
Areas of concern identified and noted whether these were resolved or if unresolved and significant have included them in the examiner's report	YES	No concerns, additional information was provided on request, sample back up provided, see sample checklist
Verification and vouching procedures undertaken and any checks made are on file	YES	Google drive
Copy of approved accounts on file	YES	Google drive – excel accounts
Copy of trustees' annual report on file	YES	AGM report
Copies of information relied upon as part of the examination are on file	YES	Google drive
If applicable, copies of written assurances given	N/A	
Recorded the conclusions drawn as an outcome of the independent examination that support the examiner's report are on file	YES	G drive Directions summary doc
Recorded any matters of material significance about which a report must be made direct to the Commission	N/A	
Recorded whether to exercise discretion and report on relevant matters direct to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 4: Plan your independent examination		
Obtained an understanding of the charity's constitution, objectives, organisational structure, the funds managed, its activities and accounting records and systems	YES	Google drive
Planned specific examination procedures appropriate to the circumstances of the charity	YES	Google drive
Reviewed whether any areas for improvement were advised to the trustees in the previous year's independent examiner's report (or audit report and management letter) and looked to see if any action taken	N/A	First year eligible for independent examination due to income thresholds
Considered the financial risks identified and, where accruals accounts prepared, considered whether the trustees have evidence that shows that the charity is a going concern	N/A	Although checked for sufficient funds
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	

The Directions and documentation	Step done?	Working paper reference
Direction 5: Check that accounting records are kept to the required standard		
Checked that accounting records have been kept are complete and considered if they have been kept to the required standard	YES	Google drive
Asked the trustees about how they ensure the accounting records are complete	YES	Google drive. Detailed transactions & recs
If corrections made or records created during the examination, the trustee approval for these has been sought and obtained	N/A	
Asked the trustees if they carried out a review of the charity's internal financial controls in the year reported	YES	email
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	YES	
Direction 6: Check that the accounts are consistent with the accounting records		
Compared the accounts with the underlying accounting records	YES	Google Drive – accounts &
Checked some entries from the listing of transactions of income and expenditure to vouchers such as invoices, bank statements, and receipts.	YES	Google Drive – samples check file
If applicable, confirmed that the trustees have taken the necessary steps to ensure that restricted or endowed funds are correctly reported in the accounts	N/A	
If additional checks were necessary, the evidence was found that showed the accounting record was complete, voucher present, and both supported the entry in the accounts	N/A	
Direction 7: If the accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and one or more related party transactions took place the examiner must check if these were properly disclosed in the notes to the accounts		
Checked that the disclosures required by the SORP have been made and are complete	N/A	
Considered whether there are any implications for the examiner's report and reporting to the Commission	N/A	
If receipts and payments accounts prepared and a related party transaction note was provided, then checked the note for any implications for the examiner's report	N/A	
Direction 8: Check the reasonableness of the significant estimates and judgments and accounting policies used in accounting for the types of fund held and in the preparation of the accounts		
Checked with the trustees that the separate funds of the charity have been correctly accounted for and reported correctly in the accounts	YES	Google Drive, accounts, extra summary on restricted and unrestricted funds
Checked the reasonableness of any significant estimates or judgments that have been made in preparing the accounts	YES	

The Directions and documentation	Step done?	Working paper reference
Where accruals accounts are prepared, checked that the accounting policies adopted are consistent with the SORP and are appropriate to the activities of the charity	N/A	
Where accruals accounts are prepared, checked that the accounts were prepared on a going concern basis	N/A	
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 9: The examiner must check whether the trustees have considered the financial circumstances of the charity at the end of the reporting period and, if the accounts are prepared on an accruals basis, check whether the trustees have made an assessment of the charity's position as a going concern when approving the accounts		
Asked the trustees whether they expect the charity to be able to settle outstanding invoices, bills and commitments as and when they fall due	YES	Google drive -reserves summary
Asked the trustees about the reserves policy and the adequacy of the level of reserves held	YES	
Where accruals accounts are prepared, checked that the trustees' have made an assessment of going concern and that their assessment is reasonable given the information available	N/A	
Where accruals accounts are prepared, checked that the SORP's disclosures about going concern have been made	N/A	
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 10: Check the form and content of the accounts		
Where receipts and payments accounts have been prepared, checked that the charity can lawfully prepare such accounts, that all the accounting statements are present and that the funds of the charity are correctly identified	YES	Google Drive – accounts & bank statement
Where accruals accounts are prepared, checked that they comply with the SORP and applicable accounting standard	N/A	
If the charity is a company, checked that the accounts also comply with the applicable company law requirements	N/A	
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 11: Identify items from the analytical review of the accounts that need to be followed up for further explanation or evidence		
Carried out an analytical review	YES	G drive Directions

The Directions and documentation	Step done?	Working paper reference
Following the analytical review, selected material items in the accounts for further explanation or supporting evidence	YES	G drive Directions summary doc, samples summary
If the accounts could be materially misstated, additional checks were undertaken and the examiner is satisfied that the item(s) identified were satisfactorily explained and correctly included in the accounts	N/A	checked
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 12: Compare the trustees' annual report with the accounts		
Checked that any figure for reserves quoted in the trustees' annual report is not materially inconsistent with the accounts	YES	Google drive- AGM&general report, accounts&bank cross check
Compared the trustees' annual report with the accounts for any material inconsistency	YES	Google drive- AGM&general report, accounts&bank cross check
Noted any implications for the examiner's report and for separate reporting to the Commission	N/A	
Direction 13: Write and sign the independent examination report		
Reviewed the conclusions from the independent examination	YES	Summary CC32 directions
Considered whether the examination has identified a matter of concern that should be reported in the examiner's report	YES	none
Checked that the examiner's report covers all of the matters required	YES	Check list and directions
If relying on the work of others in undertaking the independent examination, the examiner is fully satisfied with their work and that work has been fully documented	N/A	
Signed and dated the examiner's report	YES	Signed report in two copies
Reported matters of material significance direct to the Commission	N/A	
Exercised discretion and reported relevant matters direct to the Commission	N/A	

Independent examination of CamRuss (The Charity) Accounts FY23, workings notes

Author: Elizaveta Davletova, CGMA

Date: 02.07.24

These records along with all back up documentation review to be retained for 6 years from the end of the financial year they relate to.

Working papers should normally be retained by the examiner for six years from the end of the financial year to which they relate, and should provide a sufficient record of what the examiner has done. If the examiner ceases to act and is requested to transfer their records to the new examiner, the new examiner should provide a written assurance that they will retain these records for the requisite 6 years before any records are transferred. This is necessary because in the event the Commission requires copies of the examiner's records or needs the examiner to answer questions about the examination the Commission will look to the examiner who signed the independent examination report to provide them.

all back up reports including Examiners checklist saved in Google drives, on the below link

Direction 1

Audit is not required, as the charity income does not exceed threshold as per annual accounts £88.9m
Accounts are prepared on cash basis (no accrual accounting is required)

Direction 2

No connections to Cam Rus charity, appointment by trustees is confirmed in the email communication

Direction 3

All necessary information has been provided by the chair in a shared drive

CamRuSS Google drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WnUsud1huWlU2xu6WyAly3YAAwz8PSyG?usp=sharing>

1. Constitution
2. Finance Policy
3. AGM Report for 2023 (slides)
4. General report for 2023 (text)
4. Extract from AGM Report - Finance (slides)
5. Accounts Excel file
6. Link to BoT meetings' minutes:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1M_DbkqJks-D_74WNSJhIJHKumLL34GjY?usp=sharing
7. Organisational Chart for 2023 and 2024 (I wasn't sure which one would be relevant to you, probably 2023)
8. NatWest statements summary

Additional information files was requested

- Bank statements with closing balances as per the finance report and records
- breakdown of reserves (restricted/unrestricted funds)

The examination is conducted free of charge

Direction 4

the following documentation has been reviewed and cross checked:

- the charity's constitution
- the way the organisation is controlled and managed - org chat, website, general report
- whether action has been taken on any previous recommendations for improvement - FY23 is the first year after incorporation where an independent examination is required due to exceed £25k income threshold

- the accounting records and systems - the accounts are performed without an accounting system, at detailed transactional level on cash/receipts bases. All records are clear and available for review
- the charity's structure, its funds and how fund balances changed in the year - finance report and annual accounts
- the charity's activities in the year and spending and the financial risks the charity faces- detailed records are kept, bank accounts are positive at the year end

Direction 5

The accounting records kept by the charity were:

up to date at the time the accounts are prepared

readily available

included transactional information from which the charity's financial position can be understood on any selected date and at the end of the reporting period (financial year FY23)

Receipts, invoices and contracts were available on request. Random samples were chosen (see next Direction)

Direction 6

A comparison of accounts with the underlying accounting records to consider whether the accounts that have been prepared properly, show what income the charity has received and how it has spent its charitable funds, has been performed

The accounting records samples are detailed and fully reconcile to bank statements. All requested details were available

Random samples of transactions have been asked to be provided with extra back up, contracts/ invoices/ receipts and proof of bank transfers to make sure all the funds are spent for the purpose stated in the constitution of the charity

Please see document called 'Samples Request'

Cambridgeshire council sample of Grant was reviewed and checked against receipt and Grantor conditions.

Some grants were not enough to cover related expenditure, the funds in these cases were taken from unrestricted funds or other similar grants where there was an underspend. Communication with permission from Grantors to do so was communicated via an email (part of back up)

Direction 7

Not applicable as accounts are not prepared on accruals basis

Trustees preparing receipts and payment accounts are not legally required to include in the accounts a note disclosing related party transactions.

Direction 8

Checks were done to see if separate funds of the charity have been correctly accounted for and reported correctly in the accounts

The accounts clearly state type of income and expenditure and receipts are grouped accordingly

Restricted and Unrestricted income records are identified in the accounts (i.e. grants income is separated)

Direction 9

The trustees appear to have assessed what invoices, bills and commitments remain outstanding at the end of the reporting period and whether the trustees have identified if they can settle these as and when they fall due the reserves have sufficient unrestricted funds (77% of the total reserves amount of £57.4k) as per additional back up split of reserves funds.

Matching bank statements have been provided (main account statement is on doc back up called Transactions--601130-25395637--01-01-2023-31-12-2023) £41.2k

Direction 10

The charity can lawfully prepare accounts, all the accounting statements are present and that the funds of the charity are correctly identified

Opening and closing bank statement amounts matching accounts

payments and receipts records checked against bank statements on sample basis

Direction 11

Analytical review involving comparing the analysis of the cash received and the cash spent in the current year with the previous year to identify any significant changes from year to year has been performed

sample material items, like large grants and salary payments were asked to be provided with more details.

The accounts in FY23 had significant increase in income due to receipt of several grants. All the checks appear to confirm they were spent in accordance with primary objective of the charity and grantor conditions

Other activities (i.e. membership fees appear to be in line with prior years)

Increase in Entrance fees income correspond with the amount of organised event in the year

checked history for consistency. Crossed checked closing and opening balances. Receipts and transactions descriptions. Checked constitution is in line with expenditure type.

Direction 12

The narrative information and finance section in the trustees' annual report appear to be in line with the accounts. No material inconsistency between the trustees' annual report and the accounts has been identified income and expenditure reported in the accounts is cross checked for consistency with the nature and scale of activities described in the trustees' annual report

The level of reserves stated in the trustees' annual report is consistent with the accounts (see Direction 9 notes).

Direction 13

Accounts provided are as per point 13.16 Direction 13 signed and approved by the Trustees, confirmation is in *The examiner must not sign their report before the trustees have approved and signed the trustees' annual report and the accounts. Until the trustees have approved and signed the accounts, the accounts are draft and not final*

The signed report is attached in the records

4.2: examiner's unqualified report (for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts) with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year