

BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1185148

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-09-03

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address PO Box 7153
Lichfield
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Phone 01452790178

Email admin@thebls.com

Website www.thebls.com

Activities

Objects: The object of the CIO is the preservation and protection of good health among people in the United Kingdom living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by: (1) advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphoedema and related subjects; (2) fostering interest in and co-ordinating strategies for influencing and supporting improvement in management and research related to chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema; (3) holding a register of specialist centres in the United Kingdom and Ireland; (4) improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of all health care professionals.

Activities: The object of the CIO is the preservation and protection of good health among people in the UK living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema - in particular by advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Other Charitable Purposes

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£222,653	£195,520	-	-
2024-03-31	£226,102	£218,046	-	-
2023-03-31	£219,443	£174,407	-	-
2022-03-31	£108,160	£94,375	-	-
2021-03-31	£145,225	£82,567	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Yolande Grace Borthwick	Chair	2021-11-08
Alexis Turner		2025-11-04
Karen Lee Doyle		2024-11-06
Katherine Riches		2019-10-08
Lorraine Brown		2019-10-08
Malgorzata Tatar-Grycuk		2024-11-06
Mark Pearson		2025-11-08
Nicole Faccio		2025-11-04
Peter Hooper-Smith		2022-05-11
Rachael Victoria Hutton		2020-11-09
Rebecca Hayley Elwell		2019-10-08
Tamara Kosevic		2022-11-08

BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1185148

Accounts

Registered charity number: 1185148

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

for British Lymphology Society CIO

British Lymphology Society CIO
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for the year ended 31 March 2025

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**British Lymphology Society CIO
Information Page
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Registered Charity Number

1185148

Trustees

Co Chairperson - Yolande Borthwick (from November 2024)

Co Chairperson - Lorraine Brown (from November 2024)

Vice Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon (from November 2024)

Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith

Trustees -

Rebecca Elwell

Rachael Hutton

Devina Dicarlo (resigned 04/03/25)

Tamara Kosevic

Katie Riches

Carla Zanichelli Vives

Co-opted Trustee & BLS editor

Cheryl White

BLS Scientific Committee chair & Co-opted trustee

Emma Underwood

Independent Examiner

J Bardolph ACA, FCCA, BFP

Accountably Ltd

1st Floor, Unit 12

Compass Point

Ensign Way

Hamble

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SO31 4RA

British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2019, under registration number 1185148 and is a charitable incorporated organisation - CIO.

Risk management

The BLS maintains a proactive approach to risk through regular assessments with key stakeholders and project leads, systematically mapping potential financial, operational, regulatory, and reputational risks. Risks are evaluated in line with the Charity Commission's Risk Management Framework (CC26), with strengthened financial controls and enhanced data and cyber security measures implemented over the past year. We are pleased to report that no incidents occurred during the year.

Policies and Procedures

The BLS has created and updated the following policies this year:

- Anti-Fraud, Bribery & Corruption Policy (approved board meeting 9th July 2025)
- IT Security & Clear Desk Policy (approved board meeting 7th May 2025)
- Gift and Hospitality Policy (approved board meeting 7th May 2025)
- Accepting, declining donation policy (approved board meeting 7th May 2025)
- Grant application and monitoring policy (approved board meeting 7th May 2025)
- Use of BLS Debit and Authentication Cards Policy and Procedure (approved 5th February 2025)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

Our mission is to raise the standard of lymphoedema care across the UK. Over the past year we have continued to strengthen our role as a professional voice, shaping best practice and expanding support for those living with lymphoedema, and those who treat the condition. This report showcases our achievements and sets the stage for an exciting year ahead.

Our Priorities for Delivery

In September 2024 we approved our new strategic plan:

- **Purpose:** We strive for better outcomes for people with lymphoedema, to enable them to live full and active lives.
- **Our Vision:** To be the most trusted and accessible source of expert knowledge on lymphoedema; a strong voice, advocating for the lymphoedema community.
- **Our Values:** We celebrate the experience and passion of our community and seek to build genuine relationships by empowering people to be actively involved in our mission.
- **Our Mission:** To produce the highest quality content, making it readily available through impartial and evidence-based resources. To campaign for equity of access to effective treatment and to support patients and practitioners.

At our annual conference in October 2024, delegates were invited to provide feedback on the future direction of BLS through Stop/Start/Continue discussions, ensuring that the charity's activities align with the needs and priorities of its members. Insights from this feedback contributed to helping us to finalise our strategic priorities for 2025-28:

- Producing high quality evidence-based resources and educational content
- Driving continuous improvement in treatment and equitable access to lymphoedema services through our campaigns and educational outputs
- Supporting and strengthening our campaigns by ensuring they are as data-driven as possible
- Strengthening our engagement and collaborations to achieve better outcomes for all
- Diversifying and growing our income

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

As Co-Chairs of the British Lymphology Society, we are delighted to welcome you to our Annual Report for 2024–25. This year marks a particularly exciting milestone for BLS, as we celebrate 40 years since the society was established, originally as the British Lymphoedema Interest Group (BLIG). Over four decades, BLS has grown into a vibrant professional community, driving awareness, education, research, and standards of care for lymphoedema across the UK.

This year marks a particularly exciting milestone for BLS, as we celebrate 40 years since the society was established, originally as the British Lymphoedema Interest Group (BLIG). Over four decades, BLS has grown into a vibrant professional community, driving awareness, education, research, and standards of care for lymphoedema across the UK.

The past year has been full of achievement. Our Conference 2024 brought together over 200 delegates to share knowledge, launch key clinical guidance, and celebrate innovation in lymphoedema care. We have extended our engagement through Lymphaletics and youth-focused initiatives and increased participation in Lymphoedema Awareness Week, with global reach through webinars and interactive sessions. We have also strengthened our advocacy and partnerships, working with organisations such as NICE, Macmillan Cancer Support, Cancer Alliances, and the Transforming Cancer Services Team (TCST), and engaging high-profile supporters to champion research and awareness.

Looking ahead, we are particularly excited about our upcoming free “Introduction to Lymphoedema” study day, designed to provide non-specialist healthcare professionals with essential knowledge and practical skills. This, along with plans to further expand youth and family outreach and celebrate our 40th anniversary, promises to make 2025–26 another landmark year for BLS.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated trustees, staff, corporate partners, members, and supporters. Your commitment continues to drive the society forward, enabling us to innovate, extend our reach, and provide meaningful support to patients and healthcare professionals alike.

Thank you, Lorraine and Yolande

Celebrating 40 Years of BLS

2025 marks an exciting milestone for BLS, as we celebrate 40 years since the organisation was established, originally as the British Lymphoedema Interest Group (BLIG). The early pioneers who founded BLIG laid the foundations for lymphoedema treatment in the UK, and through BLIG and its successor, BLS, they built a strong professional community dedicated to improving care. Over four decades, this community has driven awareness of lymphoedema, developed structured education programmes, supported research, and established standards of treatment.

Conference 2024: Racing to Success

The BLS Conference is our largest annual event and a true highlight in the calendar, bringing together professionals, researchers, and partners from across the UK and beyond. In October 2024, over 200 delegates gathered at Chester Racecourse for an inspiring programme of education, collaboration, and innovation. Kindly sponsored by Haddenham Healthcare Ltd, Essity, Medi UK, and Juzo Ltd, the event was a real achievement for BLS and the wider lymphoedema community.

The programme had a strong focus on Breast Cancer Related Lymphoedema (BCRL), featuring international expertise from Cheryl Brunelle (Massachusetts General Hospital) and Hildegard Reul-Hirche (Brisbane), alongside leading UK speakers including Professor Amit Goyal on axillary management and breast reconstruction, and Consultant Clinical Oncologist Daljit Gahir on advances in breast cancer treatments. Additional sessions covered research into genital lymphoedema, lymphatic dysfunctions, and head and neck care, complemented by a rich poster programme and three new BLS resource launches.

Beyond the scientific sessions, delegates valued the opportunity to engage with 31 corporate partners and several patient charities at the Meet the Exhibitors Buffet. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with one delegate commenting it was “by far the best conference”.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Plans are underway for Conference 2025, which will mark a special anniversary year for BLS, set to be our most memorable celebration yet.

Key Achievements and Highlights

New Guidance and Resources

A major achievement at the 2024 Conference was the launch of several important new resources for clinicians. In partnership with Omniamed/Wounds UK, BLS introduced updated guidance on compression, alongside a new document on Manual Lymphatic Drainage (MLD) and guidance relating to heart failure. These evidence-based resources will support best practice and ensure consistency in care across services.

In addition, BLS unveiled a curated list of free training opportunities for members, bringing together high-quality courses designed to strengthen knowledge and skills. This list is now available to all members as part of our commitment to widening access to professional development.

Lymphoedema Awareness Week 2025

Lymphoedema Awareness Week (3–7 March 2025) was one of our most visible campaigns to date. The week featured a programme of webinars, strong media presence, helping to raise awareness and broaden understanding of lymphoedema among both professionals and the public.

In addition to webinars addressing general lymphoedema information and treatment we focused part of the activity on different types of cancer associated with lymphoedema this year. Key webinars broadcast included those on lymphoedema as a consequence of breast, skin and pelvic and genital cancers.

We had great support in promoting these from related charities, such as Breast Cancer Now, Pelvic Radiation Disease Association and Melanoma UK. These were useful reminders that ongoing vigilance is needed because although advances in cancer treatment have greatly improved, enabling more people to live longer, many continue to develop lymphoedema post treatment.

We were also delighted to once again be supported by the Lymphatic Education and Research Network and featured in their video promoting global awareness on World Lymphoedema Day on 6th March. Some of the webinars are available to watch on our YouTube Channel for anyone who missed them!

In addition to the events organised centrally, a key part of the success of the awareness campaign is the work of our members and corporate partners who run educational events, set up information stands in public places and share information on social media. Getting the messages out to the community and through these networks depends on the commitment and passion of so many of our members and supporters. Thank you all!

National Representation and Outreach

BLS has maintained a strong presence at key national events throughout the year, engaging healthcare professionals and promoting membership. Highlights included the National Lymphoedema Conference in London, Wound Care Today in Telford, the Society of Tissue Viability event in Bradford the Leg Club Conference in Worcester, and the online Legs Matter Roadshows. These activities provide valuable opportunities to share expertise, raise awareness of lymphoedema, and support professional development across the healthcare community.

Launch of new resources and documents

In February 2025, BLS co-chaired and represented the society at the 12th National Lymphoedema Conference in London. The event was a great success, sparking lively discussion and providing the platform to launch several key BLS documents, including the Lower Limb Inflammatory Pathway (formerly the Red Leg Pathway) and the Heart Failure and Compression guidance. All were met with great enthusiasm from delegates.

Alongside these launches, we also released an updated version of the BLS Limbstat limb-volume tool, further enhancing accuracy and usability for clinicians. Together, these resources strengthen day-to-day practice and reinforce BLS's role in leading the development of evidence-based standards in lymphoedema care.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Lymphaletics 2024: A Family Celebration

In September 2024, the BLS Children & Young People's Lymphoedema Special Interest Group (BLSCLSIG) hosted Lymphaletics at Bracknell Leisure Centre—a fully funded, family-centred event that brought together children and young people living with lymphoedema, along with their families. The day combined fun activities such as soft play, sports, dance workshops, and entertainment with opportunities for families to engage with industry stands, public health initiatives, and specialist clinicians.

The educational programme was equally powerful, with young people sharing their personal experiences of living with lymphoedema, and a lively Q&A led by Professor Kristiana Gordon and Professor Mortimer. The afternoon culminated in the spirited Lymphaletics games, complete with medals, certificates, and healthy lifestyle goody bags.

Feedback was unanimously positive, with the event hailed as both a community success and a meaningful source of support for families. Thanks to the dedicated team of clinicians, volunteers, and partners, including JUZO, who kindly provided uniforms, the event had a profound impact on all who attended.

Launch of first free “Introduction to Lymphoedema” study day This year, BLS launches its first free “Introduction to Lymphoedema” study day, designed specifically for non-specialist healthcare staff. The event will give an accessible overview of lymphoedema, its impact, and the principles of management, equipping participants with the knowledge to better identify and support patients.

As the first initiative of its kind from BLS, the study day reflects our commitment to widening awareness, strengthening early recognition, and ensuring more patients receive timely, effective care. We are very excited about delivering this event and hope that it will be the first of many.

Growing our Income

We are pleased to report a notable increase in sponsorship from our valued corporate partners over the past year. This growth in income has directly enabled us to broaden our reach by offering additional delegate places at our annual conference, funding our first study day and funding the lymphoedema awareness webinars, thus extending access, sharing knowledge, and deepening engagement across our community. In line with our commitment to sustainability and good governance, we carefully reinvest the majority of our income into the charity's operations and outputs, while maintaining a prudent reserve to support long-term stability.

Trustee Recognition

We are proud to share that several of our trustees have been recognised with awards for their outstanding contributions to lymphoedema care and service. These accolades reflect not only their dedication to their roles, but also their unwavering commitment to improving outcomes for patients. The awards acknowledge a range of achievements, including exceptional impact on patient care, innovative service development, and going above and beyond in advancing the management of lymphoedema. This recognition is a testament to the passion and leadership our trustees bring to the organisation and to the wider lymphoedema community.

Congratulations to Rachael Hutton for receiving the Queen's award, Lorraine Brown for receiving the Chronic Oedema Silver Nurse Award, and Nicole Faccio and the BLS Scientific Committee's Fran Campbell for their Legs Matter.

Changemaker awards: congratulations too, to Cheryl White who passed her Leadership for Allied Health Professionals qualification with a distinction.

Yolande Borthwick was honoured with an invitation to a reception at Buckingham Palace hosted by Their Majesties The King and Queen, recognising community-based initiatives that raise awareness about cancer.

News & Views: Sharing Knowledge and Driving Practice

BLS's quarterly publication, News & Views, continues to be a vital resource for healthcare professionals working in lymphoedema care. The newsletter supports members by sharing evidence-based guidance, updates on clinical practice, and insights into research and innovation in the field.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Key features include summaries of clinical enquiries, promotion of ongoing research studies, and the results of member surveys, helping to inform practice and support the development of new resources. News & Views also highlights updates to clinical pathways and best-practice guidance, as well as educational materials designed to strengthen professional development across the membership.

Through this publication, BLS fosters engagement and collaboration, ensuring that members' insights and feedback help shape the society's priorities and resources. It remains an essential tool in advancing knowledge, raising standards, and promoting excellence in lymphoedema care.

Voice, Advocacy & Partnerships

BLS continues to influence public policy and raise the profile of lymphoedema through strategic collaborations with organisations including NICE, Macmillan Cancer Support, the Pelvic Radiation Disease Association, Cancer Alliances, and TCST. These partnerships help shape standards of care, support research, and enhance awareness of lymphoedema across the healthcare system.

The charity continues to be recognised as a trusted source of expertise on lymphoedema, responding to press enquiries and contributing to national conversations about the condition. This year, we were pleased to provide accurate information to journalists and media outlets seeking specialist insight.

This year we also challenged misinformation, responding to inaccuracies on BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine Show. By setting the record straight, we strengthened our reputation as the leading authority on lymphoedema and reinforced our commitment to clear, evidence-based information.

The BLS was invited to attend an event in support of the St George's Lymphoedema Research Fund, which brought together a wide range of supporters, including high-profile figures such as Dame Judi Dench and Dame Joanna Lumley. Their presence helped shine a spotlight on lymphoedema research and the importance of continued investment.

The BLS maintains collaborative relationships with international lymphoedema associations and charities like ours, and shares best practice, new developments and information with our international colleagues.

Scientific Committee (BLSSC) Report 2024 - 25

Committee Members:

Emma Underwood (Chair) Fran Campbell (Vice Chair), Dr Ambreen Chohan, Prof Kristiana Gordon, Dr Garry Cooper, Dr Catherine O'Leary, Dr Catherine Mitchell, Patryk Gawrysiak, Preksha Vivekanandan (Honorary), Laura Henry (Honorary), Rebecca Elwell (Co-opted Conference Organiser).

During 2024/25 the Scientific Committee (SC) met online to continue to support the BLS Board with the overall aim of promoting research and service development in the field of lymphoedema in the UK.

Changes to membership:

In recognition of Rebecca Elwell's continued support of the SC and the valuable role she plays as conference organiser it was agreed that she should be co-opted to the SC allowing her to remain on the SC indefinitely, whilst she continues in her conference liaison role. This has allowed an additional member to be recruited to the SC and it was agreed that this could be offered as either a full or honorary member position. We are pleased to have two honorary members on the SC which furthers the SC's goal of nurturing early career researchers.

Key document updates:

The SC terms of reference have been reviewed and updated and the LDRG policy was reviewed and updated at the BLS Conference 2024.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

The SC managed the abstract submission process and anonymous peer review selection for the 2024 conference, attracting 26 submissions. The marking criteria for abstract submissions has been reviewed to further ensure that the scientific content of the BLS conference is robust. The marking criteria and process for both the poster and oral presentations has been reviewed and streamlined.

Face to face poster presentations were introduced and were well received, allowing delegates the opportunity to meet presenters and discuss their work in more detail. The SC was responsible for scoring of both the oral and poster presentations at the conference and awarding best novice and experienced presenter awards.

The SC stand attracted a lot of footfall allowing the SC to encourage novice researchers, answer questions and promote SC initiatives.

The Case Report Competition

The case report competition winner was Susan Witt who will be supported to publish the case report in the Chronic Oedema Supplement.

The Lymphoedema Research Development Grant (LRDG)

We are pleased to announce that a team led by Susan Witt and including Professor Vaughan Keeley, Professor Neil Piller and Associate Professor Raoul van Loon following commendations from the SC on the application, have been awarded the £10,000 grant for a feasibility study 'Measuring the direct impact of temperature on the lymphatic system and mechanical properties of skin': a feasibility study (pending ethical approval).

Other contributions

Requests for the BLS to promote external research studies: the SC advises the Board. News & Views - SC members continue to contribute articles to the newsletter on a range of research and clinical evidence publication topics.

Clinical Queries: SC members have regularly provided or signposted to, scientific or clinical advice which are submitted to BLS. To widen the reach of this advice to the membership the queries and responses are now published in News and Views.

Clinical advisors to external bodies: SC members represent the BLS as clinical experts and advisors to bodies such as NICE when clinical reviews relevant to Lymphoedema are being conducted or when national/international guidelines are being created.

Contributing to specific BLS workstreams: Members of the SC have been part of specific working subgroups of the Board.

International networking and support: The SC chair advised the research lead for LEARN on documents and processes on the LRDG to enable development of a similar program with LEARN.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

In 2025, the BLS generated £223k of income, broadly in line with 2024 (£226k). Our income streams comprised:

- Conference income £135k – £13k lower than 2024, reflecting slightly reduced ticket and exhibitor sales compared with the exceptionally popular October 2023 conference, which was the first in-person event post-COVID.
- Membership subscriptions £66k – £8k higher than 2024, driven by growth in Corporate Membership.
- Advertising income £11k – slightly below 2024 (£14k).
- Bank interest £10k – up from £6k in 2024, due to higher interest rates.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Expenditure in 2025 totalled £195k, which was £23k lower than 2024. The reduction was mainly due to the one-off £20k rebranding project in 2024, which was not repeated. Key points include:

- Administration costs £62k – £9k higher than 2024, reflecting the review of our constitution and strategy.
- Wages & expenses – £4k higher, to support the Charity’s expanding activity.
- Conference expenditure – £9k lower than 2024.
- Website and Newsletter costs – reduced by £3k, achieved through streamlined IT systems and reduced printing.

Careful cost management has ensured that despite investment in strategic initiatives, our overall spend remains lower than the previous year. This provides a stable financial platform to support the BLS’s charitable mission going forward.

The reserves policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use of twelve months’ expenditure. The policy ensures that reserves at this level will be sufficient so that in the event of a significant drop in funding, that the trustees will be able to continue the charity’s activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The twelve months’ expenditure level of reserves was achieved throughout the financial year.

2025-26

The BLS is entering an exciting year, building on recent achievements and marking 40 years since the society was established. Key priorities for 2025–26 include:

- Website and brand: Enhancing online presence and accessibility to better serve members and the wider lymphoedema community.
- Working closely with patient charities: Strengthening collaborations to raise awareness, improve patient support, and amplify advocacy efforts.
- Expanding the free Study Day series: Continuing to provide accessible education for non-specialist healthcare staff and extending professional development opportunities.
- 40th Birthday Celebrations: Commemorating four decades of BLS’s contributions to lymphoedema care, research, education, and professional community building.

Thank You

We are deeply grateful to our passionate trustees, staff, corporate members, partners, and supporters. Your dedication, expertise, and commitment have enabled BLS to grow from strength to strength, advancing lymphoedema care, education, and research across the UK.

The policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use of twelve months’ expenditure. The policy ensures that reserves at this level will be sufficient so that in the event of a significant drop in funding, that the trustees will be able to continue the charity’s activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The twelve months’ expenditure level of reserves was achieved throughout the financial year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Jonathan Bardolph ACA,FCCA & BFP has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the ensuing year.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on..... **17 Sep 2025**

and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Lorraine Brown

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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 charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.

J Bardolph

.....
J Bardolph ACA, FCCA, BFP
Independent Examiner

Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 4RA

18 Sep 2025.....

British Lymphology Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	66,311	-	66,311	58,283
Charitable activities	3	146,133	-	146,133	161,624
Investment income	4	9,649	560	10,209	6,195
Total incoming resources		222,093	560	222,653	226,102
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	190,758	-	190,758	212,271
Governance costs	6	4,762	-	4,762	5,775
Total resources expended		195,520	-	195,520	218,046
NET INCOMING RESOURCES and net income for the year		26,573	560	27,133	8,056
Net movement in funds		26,573	560	27,133	8,056
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	10	267,063	22,660	289,723	281,667
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	10	293,636	23,220	316,856	289,723

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible fixed assets	7	23,910	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	93,962	49,021
Cash at bank		<u>312,903</u>	<u>379,229</u>
		406,865	428,250
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(113,919)	(138,527)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		292,946	289,723
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET ASSETS		316,856	289,723
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
FUNDS			
	10		
Unrestricted funds:		293,636	267,063
Restricted funds		23,220	22,660
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS		316,856	289,723
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

17 Sep 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

Yolande Borthwick
.....

Chairperson - Yolande Borthwick

P Hooper-Smith
.....

Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Conference	135,082	-	135,082	147,588
Advertising and other services	11,051	-	11,051	14,036
	<u>146,133</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,133</u>	<u>161,624</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>9,649</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>10,209</u>	<u>6,195</u>
5 EXPENDITURE - Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Office and administration costs	62,405	-	62,405	52,871
Website, computer and internet costs	2,444	-	2,444	5,282
Newsletter	3,793	-	3,793	5,200
Conference	89,647	-	89,647	98,868
Promotional items and surveys	3,706	-	3,706	25,620
Wages and expenses	28,763	-	28,763	24,430
	<u>190,758</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>190,758</u>	<u>212,271</u>
6 EXPENDITURE - Governance costs	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Book-keeping	569	-	569	499
Independent examiner	1,800	-	1,800	1,740
Insurance	1,036	-	1,036	1,359
Committee meetings	1,321	-	1,321	2,025
Exchange differences	36	-	36	152
	<u>4,762</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,762</u>	<u>5,775</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

7 INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2025	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2024	-	-
Additions	23,910	23,910
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>23,910</u>	<u>23,910</u>
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2024	-	-
Charge for the year *	-	-
On disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	<u>23,910</u>	<u>23,910</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

* The trustees have decided not to amortise in this period as development costs are ongoing.

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	66,935	27,245
Other debtors	27,027	21,776
	<u>93,962</u>	<u>49,021</u>

9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	108	9,607
Deferred income	109,615	124,874
Accrued charges	4,196	4,046
	<u>113,919</u>	<u>138,527</u>

10 MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance at
	April	resources	resources	between	31 March
	2024	£	£	funds	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General fund	267,063	222,093	(195,520)	-	293,636
Restricted fund:					
Scientific research	22,660	560	-	-	23,220
	<u>289,723</u>	<u>222,653</u>	<u>(195,520)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>316,856</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

11 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Intangible fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted:			
General fund	23,910	269,726	293,636
Restricted:			
Scientific research	-	23,220	23,220
	<u>23,910</u>	<u>292,946</u>	<u>316,856</u>

12 OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY

We are grateful to our corporate members for their generosity and their support in the 2024 conference. In addition, thank you to all who sponsor us in formal and informal ways.

13 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The following trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year:

	£
K Riches	69
M Sneddon	599
R Hutton	404
R Elwell	223
L Brown	611
C White	2,105
Y Borthwick	760
P Hooper-Smith	535
E Underwood	608

No trustee nor anyone connected with them received any remuneration during the period in respect of their services as trustees.



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Document fingerprint 7278fab069e2d558b5545bc6f22438e0

Parties involved with this document

Document processed	Party + Fingerprint
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Wed, 17th Sep 2025 16:13:08 BST	Mrs Lorraine Brown - Signer (a272e3b0a92a3521f3a96a136c921385)
Wed, 17th Sep 2025 20:24:42 BST	Mrs Yolande Borthwick - Signer (cc3ebb36a8722eca10098efe2b804e99)

Audit history log

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Parties involved with this document

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Thu, 18th Sep 2025 11:18:55 BST	Jonathan Bardolph - Signer (06f1d2141b79c190f86752bc606ec949)
Thu, 18th Sep 2025 11:18:55 BST	Kirsty Lovett - Copied In (d220247e0e014297174fb0b6b47f8dd7)

Audit history log

Date	Action
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BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1185148

Accounts

Registered charity number: 1185148

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

for British Lymphology Society CIO

British Lymphology Society CIO
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Report of the Trustees	2
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Statement of Financial Activities	8
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**British Lymphology Society CIO
Information Page
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Registered Charity Number

1185148

Trustees

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon
Co Vice Chairperson - Yolande Borthwick (from November 2023)
Co Vice Chairperson - Lorraine Brown (from November 2023)
Co Vice Chairperson - Katie Riches (resigned November 2023)
Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith

Trustees -

Rebecca Elwell
Rachael Hutton
Devina Dicarlo
Tamara Kosevic
Carla Zanichelli Vives (appointed November 2023)
Catriona O'Neill (resigned November 2023)
Jane Board (resigned November 2023)
Jenny Furniss (resigned December 2023)
Fran Campbell (resigned November 2023)
Rhian Noble Jones (resigned November 2023)

Co-opted Trustee

Cheryl White

BLS Scientific Committee chair

Emma Underwood (appointed November 2023)

Independent Examiner

J Bardolph FCCA
Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 4RA

British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2019, under registration number 1185148 and is a charitable incorporated organisation - CIO.

Risk management

Proactive risk identification through regular risk assessments with key stakeholders and project leads means that we systematically map potential risks across the Charity, including financial, operation, regulatory and reputational. Once risks are identified, we assess their potential impact and likelihood as per the Charity Commission's Risk Management Framework (CC26). This has included strengthening our financial controls, and data and cyber security. Our risk management procedure includes the methodical reporting of incidents that occur. During the last year, the BLS has experienced two incidents from different external sources. Our process of reporting has also enabled our testing and subsequent amendment of the BLS's investigation form to enhance the description of the event and clarity of the action(s) taken to mitigate risk.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The preservation and protection of good health among people in the United Kingdom living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

- Advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphoedema and related subjects.
- Fostering interest in and co-ordinating strategies for influencing and supporting improvement in the management and research related to chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema.
- Holding a register of specialist centres in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. Improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of all health care professionals.
- Delivering Public Benefit, the Society benefits the public by raising awareness of lymphoedema, how the risk of developing it, or complications arising from it, may be reduced.

We develop resources to inform, educate and guide clinical practice. We also seek to use our unique professional leadership position and expertise of our Members to advise government, NHS and other professional bodies and organisations and work with other stakeholders, to raise awareness.

Strategic Priorities

There is much that the Society wishes to achieve. Within the context of the pandemic, we agreed the following priorities for the Charity:

- Increase the profile of lymphoedema
- Improve accessibility to lymphoedema care
- Increase reach of the BLS Operational stability

To reach these aims, we have an annual delivery plan, which sets out key projects and work streams to deliver measurable outcomes for the Charity, and those we seek to support.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

As we reflect on another year of progress and growth, I am pleased to welcome you to our annual report. This report reflects the collective efforts of everyone involved, from our trustees and staff to our dedicated members and partners. Together, we've made great strides in tackling some big projects, and I hope you'll find this report both informative and inspiring as we look back on our achievements and ahead to the future. It has been an exceptionally busy year! We have begun our website and membership project, which will see a new BLS site that is easy to navigate and make managing your membership even easier. We have also started the rebrand project which is really exciting.

British Lymphology Society CIO Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

October 2023

The biggest event in our calendar is our annual conference held every October. It was a pleasure to welcome delegates of the BLS conference to a new venue this year, Chester Racecourse. The new venue gave us the opportunity to add more variation to the conference programme, which meant that delegates could build their own agenda and chose the education sessions most relevant to them. Well over 200 delegates and more than 100 exhibitors took part in a new conference format. Before the full day of scientific content, we held a day of workshops and concurrent education sessions, speed sessions with our coalition partners and other specialists, and events run by our corporate partners. The scientific programme was full of new guidance and emerging research.

A huge highlight was welcoming Professor Stanley Rockson from Stanford University, to speak on his research and take part in a live Q&A. It is a pleasure to welcome internationally recognised speakers to our conference and bring learning from other leading researchers around the world. Thanks to our strong relationship with the international Lymphedema Education & Research Network (LE&RN) based in the US, we were also joined by Hollywood stars! Actors Kathy Bates and Steve Guttenberg recorded personalised messages for the BLS delegates, talking about their own experiences of lymphoedema and the challenges they and their families have faced. Thank you to everyone who came, to our sponsors and everyone else who made it possible. We are looking forward to returning in 2024.

November 2023

We held our Annual General Meeting and updated our constitution.

February 2024

National Lymphoedema Conference, now a very successful annual event on which we work in partnership with the Mark Allen Publishing Group and Lipoedema UK to run and for which we develop the annual programme.

March 2024

We attended Wound Care Today, a huge annual 2-day event which enables us to engage with large numbers of community nursing staff, a healthy number of whom register to receive ongoing information from the BLS to extend their knowledge.

Lymphoedema Awareness Week and World Lymphoedema Day, we had a great start to 2024 with the excitement and run up to the annual Lymphoedema Awareness Week in March. This year, the BLS ran a series of free webinars with support from our partners and Members, focussing on lymphoedema in children and young people, and primary lymphoedema. We were joined by specialists in the UK and children and young people with lymphoedema, including the Tierney family who gave moving interviews with their children. We received free publicity and press enquiries thanks to our Patron Trisha Goddard, who had us join her radio show during the week, where she interviewed Team GB Para Olympian Didi Okoh. Plans are well under way for the 2025 Lymphoedema Awareness Week!

May 2024

The Primary Care Show, a huge, busy 3-day event attended by all Members of primary care teams, providing a unique opportunity to engage with general practitioners, physiotherapists, podiatrists and all other disciplines and their various branches.

We were honoured to attend a reception hosted by Gemma Levine in aid of the Lymphoedema Research Fund. Speakers and guests of honour included Dame Judi Dench, Simon Callow CBE and Dame Joanna Lumley.

The BLS part-funded a member to attend the Australian Lymphoedema Conference and we look forward to welcoming their members to BLS2024.

The BLS Board Strategy Day - This is an important day where the BLS trustees and staff come together to make plans for the following year. There are lots of exciting projects this year and we can't wait to tell you more about them as they progress.

We presented at the Scottish Leg Ulcer Forum, attended by 100 community-based nurses.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2024

June 2024

Legs Matter Week - We continue to champion this campaign, highlighting the harm experienced by patients when their lower limb problems are either not recognised, taken seriously or appropriately followed up. Looking ahead to September, we will be both presenting and exhibiting at the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation Conference, providing yet another opportunity to meet with another audience of health care practitioners.

New Resources

The BLS is constantly working on initiatives and resource to either raise awareness of lymphoedema, enhance healthcare professional knowledge or support good clinical practice. This year we were delighted to launch the Lower Limb inflammatory Pathway, which updates the Red Leg Pathway, covering all skin tones and includes the Charcot Foot. We have worked with patient organisations to produce resources for patients for the first time. Thank you to the Lymphoedema Support Network, Lymph-What-Oedema and Lymphoedema United for your continued hard work and support in this project.

Resources in Development

We are looking forward to the launch of new documents that we have been working hard to develop this year. Delegates attending the BLS conference will be the first to see the MLD Position Document, the updated Vascular Assessment document, the BLS Heart Failure document and a document on compression guidance that we have worked on with the publishers Omniamed.

The events, campaigns, and resources you see are the most visible aspects of our work at BLS, but there is so much more that happens behind the scenes. We are a learning organisation, unafraid to embrace change and constantly exploring more effective, efficient, and cost-conscious ways to fulfil our mission. The skills of our Board of Trustees have become more diverse, which has only strengthened our ability to govern with better insight. We have worked diligently to ensure that all our efforts continue to be underpinned by strong governance, financial security, and robust systems and processes. This foundation ensures that BLS is well-positioned for a strong future and continued success in achieving our charitable aims. The achievements we celebrate and the plans we set forth as a Society are made possible only through the passion, commitment, and teamwork of our trustees, contracted staff, dedicated members, and corporate partners. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributes to our successes as we work towards earlier recognition, prompt and appropriate intervention, and improved treatment outcomes. Please continue to support the work of the Charity, and together, we can make an even greater impact.

THE FUTURE

Lymphoedema Awareness Week 2025

Following the success of the last three year's awareness weeks, we plan to deliver more educational webinars and Q&A sessions online. This year, we will be continuing the theme of our 2024 conference by focussing some of our sessions on cancer related lymphoedema, speaking to specialists in the field and hearing from patients. We are very excited about the educational events already planned, and we will be live on air again with our patron Trisha Goddard. If you have any plans for Lymphoedema Awareness Week, be sure to let us know so that we can share them with our Members and Friends.

Conference 2025

We are already planning the 2025 conference, building on the successes and lessons of previous years. We'll see more international speakers as well as home-grown talent, and there will be more opportunities for interactive learning and networking. 40th Anniversary next year marks BLS's 40th anniversary and plans are afoot to celebrate this with as many members as we can. Keep an eye on News and Views and our regular member bulletins to find out more.

British Lymphology Society CIO Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Strategic Objectives

The Board have developed new strategic objectives for the next three years, and we are looking forward to delivering them with all of our members:

- Produce high quality evidence based resources and educational content.
- Drive continuous improvement in treatment and equitable access to lymphoedema services through our campaigns and educational outputs
- Support and strengthen our campaigns by ensuring they are as data-driven as possible.
- Strengthen our engagement and collaborations to achieve better outcomes for all.
- Diversify and grow our income.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (BLSSC) REPORT

During 2023/24 the Scientific Committee (SC) met online to continue to support the BLS Board with the overall aim of promoting research and service development in the field of lymphoedema in the UK.

BLS Conference 2023 - Scoring of both the oral and poster presentations at the annual BLS conference.

BLS Conference 2024 – The SC have reviewed the marking criteria for abstract submissions to further ensure that the scientific content of the BLS conference is robust. The SC continue to manage the abstract submission process and anonymous peer review selection process for the 2024 conference. This year attracting 26 submissions.

The Lymphoedema Research Development Grant (LRDG) has been renamed to reflect a broader range of research development opportunities that it can support. It offers awards of up to £10,000 to BLS members to develop their skills in research and evidence implementation and further research into lymphoedema in the UK. The aim was to widen the scope for applicants to include projects which may not need REC approval, but which use research methods (e.g. large service development projects and audits) as long as the outputs are agreed to align with the charity's objectives.

The LRDG was relaunched at BLS conference 2023 with applications open from January 2024. There was one application and the full £10,000 has been awarded to David Florentin for his study: A mixed methods study to determine the prevalence of lymphoedema and related conditions in Wales by ethnicity, and to understand how to deliver equitable lymphoedema services to meet these needs (on receipt of ethical approval).

The Case Report Competition continues to develop, with more submissions each year. We received 5 applications this year and awarded the prize to Jesús González Rubiño. Jesús will be supported to publish the case report in the Chronic Oedema Supplement.

News & Views - SC members continue to contribute articles for each newsletter on a range of research and clinical evidence publication topics. Clinical Queries - BLSSC members have regularly provided or signposted to, scientific or clinical advice when are submitted to BLS.

The numbers of clinical queries are increasing each year. These are managed anonymously, and a generic response is placed in the FAQ section of the BLS website for wider learning.

Clinical advisors to external bodies - BLSSC members also volunteer their time as clinical experts and advisors to bodies such as NICE when clinical reviews relevant to Lymphoedema are being conducted or when national/international guidelines are being created.

Contributing to specific BLS workstreams - Members of the SC have been part of specific working subgroups of the Board developing BLS Factsheets and developing a guidance document on MLD. BLSSC Membership - There were no vacancies in the current period for the BLSSC, in order to increase our membership, we co-opted Beccy Elwell in her position as conference organiser and will therefore be advertising three positions from October 2024 including an honorary position.

Administration and governance - The BLSSC has tried to streamline processes over the last year and agree annual dates for workstreams to make more efficient use of the admin teams time and also to be more consistent with dates allowing applicants to plan submissions. In relation to governance, the BLSSC is subject to the same procedures as the main Board and has been working with the Board to align GDPR and other legal requirements.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

The BLS continues to sustain its progress towards financial stability. The success of the BLS conference and careful control of expenditure means that we have maintained a solid financial position through diligent planning and prudent budget management. The BLS has added to its reserves in the financial year 2023/4, some of which will be invested in significant projects for the Charity in the coming year.

The relevant income, expenditure, cash and results for the year are shown under Unrestricted Funds. During the year the charity received income of £226,102, incurred costs of £218,046 resulting in a surplus of £8,056.

The policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use of twelve months' expenditure. The policy ensures that reserves at this level will be sufficient so that in the event of a significant drop in funding, that the trustees will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The twelve months' expenditure level of reserves was achieved throughout the financial year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Jonathan Bardolph FCCA has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the ensuing year.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on...30 Sep 2024.....
and signed on its behalf by:

M Sneddon

.....
Margaret Sneddon - Chairperson

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

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

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 charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.

Jonathan Bardolph

.....
J Bardolph FCCA
Independent Examiner

Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 4RA

01 Oct 2024
.....

British Lymphology Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	58,283	-	58,283	54,975
Charitable activities	3	161,624	-	161,624	162,967
Investment income	4	5,936	259	6,195	1,501
Total incoming resources		225,843	259	226,102	219,443
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	212,271	-	212,271	170,796
Governance costs	6	5,775	-	5,775	3,611
Total resources expended		218,046	-	218,046	174,407
NET INCOMING RESOURCES and net income for the year		7,797	259	8,056	45,036
Net movement in funds		7,797	259	8,056	45,036
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	9	259,266	22,402	281,668	236,632
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	9	267,063	22,661	289,724	281,668

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	49,021	32,364
Cash at bank		<u>379,230</u>	<u>405,433</u>
		428,251	437,797
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(138,527)	(156,129)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		289,724	281,668
NET ASSETS		<u>289,724</u>	<u>281,668</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:	9	267,063	259,266
Restricted funds		22,661	22,402
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>289,724</u>	<u>281,668</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

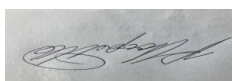
30 Sep 2024

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

M Sneddon

.....

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon



.....

Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) ***Basis of preparation of the accounts***

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective January 2019.

(b) ***Funds***

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for general purposes. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity are also unrestricted. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(c) ***Incoming resources***

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.

Trading income is shown net of related expenses as this better reflects the contribution of these activities to the charity.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

(d) ***Resources expended***

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Governance costs are those associated with the governance arrangements of the charity.

(e) ***Taxation***

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership subscriptions	58,283	-	58,283	54,975
	<u>58,283</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,283</u>	<u>54,975</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Conference	147,588	-	147,588	144,460
Advertising and other services	14,036	-	14,036	18,507
	<u>161,624</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,624</u>	<u>162,967</u>
	<u><u>161,624</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>161,624</u></u>	<u><u>162,967</u></u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	5,936	259	6,195	1,501
	<u>5,936</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>6,195</u>	<u>1,501</u>
	<u><u>5,936</u></u>	<u><u>259</u></u>	<u><u>6,195</u></u>	<u><u>1,501</u></u>
5 EXPENDITURE - Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Professional fees	-	-	-	718
Office and administration costs	52,871	-	52,871	51,345
Website, computer and internet costs	5,282	-	5,282	3,527
Newsletter	5,200	-	5,200	4,986
Conference	98,868	-	98,868	85,500
Promotional items and surveys	25,620	-	25,620	3,648
Wages and expenses	24,430	-	24,430	21,072
	<u>212,271</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>212,271</u>	<u>170,796</u>
	<u><u>212,271</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>212,271</u></u>	<u><u>170,796</u></u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

6 EXPENDITURE - Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Book-keeping	499	-	499	916
Independent examiner	1,740	-	1,740	1,650
Insurance	1,359	-	1,359	883
Committee meetings	2,025	-	2,025	162
Exchange differences	152	-	152	-
	<u>5,775</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,775</u>	<u>3,611</u>

7 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	27,245	4,096
Other debtors	21,776	28,268
	<u>49,021</u>	<u>32,364</u>

8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	9,607	7,604
Deferred income	124,874	145,118
Accrued charges	4,046	3,407
	<u>138,527</u>	<u>156,129</u>

9 MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted					
General fund	259,266	225,843	(218,046)	-	267,063
Restricted fund:					
Scientific research	22,402	259	-	-	22,661
	<u>281,668</u>	<u>226,102</u>	<u>(218,046)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>289,724</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted:			
General fund	-	267,063	267,063
Restricted:			
Scientific research	-	22,661	22,661
	<u>-</u>	<u>289,724</u>	<u>289,724</u>

11 OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY

We are grateful to our corporate members for their generosity and their support in the 2023 conference. In addition, thank you to all who sponsor us in formal and informal ways.

12 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The following trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year:

	£
K Riches	92.00
M Sneddon	455.00
R Noble-Jones	216.00
C O'Neill	109.00
R Elwell	185.00
L Brown	245.00
J Board	375.00
C White	1,837.00
Y Borthwick	60.00
P Hooper-Smith	968.00
F Campbell	176.00

No trustee nor anyone connected with them received any remuneration during the period in respect of their services as trustees.



Issuer Accountably Ltd

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Document fingerprint b09487c935939a0e1dd460e71b622df3

Parties involved with this document

Document processed	Party + Fingerprint
Fri, 27th Sep 2024 9:14:41 BST	Mr Peter Hooper-Smith - Signer (d3e93f60cef2643a26739b3e48896b04)
Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:15:25 BST	Mrs Margaret Sneddon - Signer (90c4b0ccbef061ac18ad444ee74b2d3)
Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:15:26 BST	Kirsty Lovett - Copied In (914ff97671fe15f37e0c396a4cb4335b)

Audit history log

Date	Action
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Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:15:26 BST	Document emailed to party email (18.133.225.106)
Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:15:26 BST	This envelope has been signed by all parties (82.33.15.35)
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Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:15:25 BST	Mrs Margaret Sneddon signed the envelope (82.33.15.35)
Mon, 30th Sep 2024 16:07:21 BST	Mrs Margaret Sneddon viewed the envelope (82.33.15.35)
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Fri, 27th Sep 2024 9:14:43 BST	Mr Peter Hooper-Smith viewed the envelope (90.210.196.42)
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Wed, 25th Sep 2024 12:37:16 BST

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(18.133.63.166)



Issuer Accountably Ltd

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Parties involved with this document

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Tue, 1st Oct 2024 12:38:53 BST	Jonathan Bardolph - Signer (51cfbfb4501caff04af29a8afc8965e4)
Tue, 1st Oct 2024 12:38:53 BST	Kirsty Lovett - Copied In (d9eb388ae695d535d60f2a38de067541)

Audit history log

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Tue, 1st Oct 2024 12:38:53 BST	Jonathan Bardolph signed the envelope (51.195.195.129)
Tue, 1st Oct 2024 12:37:56 BST	Jonathan Bardolph viewed the envelope (51.195.195.129)
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Tue, 1st Oct 2024 9:07:14 BST	Jonathan Bardolph has been assigned to this envelope. (35.176.231.177)
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BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1185148

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23

ANNUAL REPORT TO END OF AUGUST 2023
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7TH NOVEMBER 2023
REGISTERED CHARITY 1185148

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Welcome from Margaret Sneddon

BLS Chair



The past year has been another productive year for the BLS. We have been busier than ever, working hard to ensure we have had a presence at all those conferences and events that offer an opportunity to reach and educate more people who are in a position to recognise and respond to lymphoedema early and to improve the care provide to those with the condition.

While this additional activity makes demands on trustees and Members who support the events, it is a welcome commitment. It suggests there is a growing appetite for knowledge about lymphoedema and guidance to enhance the care provided. Busy clinicians tend to seek out information and education when they become aware of unmet patient needs and recognise there is potential and desire to make a difference to the quality of care provided. It is not so long ago that most healthcare professionals believed that lymphoedema was a rare condition that they were unlikely to encounter and therefore had little need to know much about it. Healthy attendance at the various lymphoedema events, and engagement with the BLS at events addressing wider, related topics seems to indicate not only greater awareness of lymphoedema and how prevalent it is, but also that they have a role to play in the care of people with, or at risk of, lymphoedema.

The BLS considers participation in key events a priority in achieving the Charity's purpose of benefitting those with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in the UK. Events in 2023 have included:

October 2022 – Of course the biggest event of the lymphoedema year for us is the BLS conference. The 2022 event introduced a fresh approach with a number of workshops and a very lively debate that have subsequently driven new workstreams and resource development.

February - National Lymphoedema Conference, now a very successful annual event on which we work in partnership with the Mark Allen Publishing Group and Lipoedema UK to run and for which we develop the annual programme.

March - Wound Care Today, a huge annual 2-day event which enables us to engage with large numbers of community nursing staff, a healthy number of whom register to receive ongoing information from the BLS to extend their knowledge.

March – this was once again Lymphoedema Awareness Week, during which we had a programme of free webinars that were well attended and also viewed many hundreds of times subsequent to the live airing. The topics generated a lot of interest and questions which were followed up on social media or in the quarterly publication 'News & Views'.

May – The Primary Care Show, a huge, busy 3-day event attended by all Members of primary care teams, providing a unique opportunity to engage with general practitioners, physiotherapists, podiatrists and all other disciplines and their various branches.

June - The International Lymphoedema Framework Conference in Nottingham was a rare opportunity to engage with local, national and international delegates, sharing ideas and information with many who visited our exhibition stand and through the programme, to which many of our Members contributed. We were delighted to support the hugely successful full-on event and collaborate in development of the programme. Our Patrons: Professor Mortimer, Professor Keeley, Dr Gordon and several trustees or Members of the BLS Scientific Committee who presented on various topics, all offered rare informal sessions at the BLS stand for questions from delegates.

Concurrent with the ILF conference, we were also involved in Legs Matter Week. There was a new focus this year on highlighting the harm experienced by patients when their lower limb problems are either not recognised, taken seriously or appropriately followed up. The Legs Matter website has been completely revamped in line with this, www.legsmatter.org with a range of new resources and supporting information on what constitutes harm, how it may be avoided and addressed.

Looking ahead to September, we will be both presenting and exhibiting at the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation Conference for the first time, providing yet another opportunity to meet with another different audience.

New resources in development

The BLS are constantly working on initiatives and resource to either raise awareness of lymphoedema, enhance healthcare professional knowledge or support good clinical practice. We were delighted to launch the new Guidance on the Management of Cellulitis in Lymphoedema at the October conference. This joint BLS and Lymphoedema Support Network initiative has become a 'Bible' on the topic across the UK. We have reviewed, revised and updated several existing documents, but have launched fewer new resources.

The main reason for this has been the complexity of the topics we are now addressing some of these, e.g. the BLS Position Document on Manual Lymphatic Drainage has been mooted for many years, but always left in the 'too difficult drawer'. This year we grasped the nettle and brought together a small working group of Members to whom we are extremely grateful for taking up that challenge. A revised clinical guidance document on arterial assessment prior to application of compression for lymphoedema has also been challenging but is now close to completion.

Events, campaigns and resources are the very visible aspects of BLS work. However, there is so much more goes on behind the scenes. We are a learning organisation, not afraid to change, always exploring better, more efficient and cost-effective ways of working. Our Board of Trustees has become diverse and all the stronger as a result. We have worked hard to ensure all our work is underpinned by sound governance, that we are financially secure and have systems and processes in place to ensure a strong future for BLS and continued success in achieving our charitable purposes.

Consequently, we are taking some bold steps over the coming year, planning to initiate work on a new website and ways of managing Membership and our external communications with Members and the general public.

Our achievements and plans as a Society are only possible thanks to the passion, commitment and teamwork of trustees, supported by our contracted staff, faithful Members and Corporate Partners. I extend heartfelt thanks to all who play a part in each of our successes as we strive towards earlier recognition, prompt, appropriate intervention and improved outcomes of treatment. Please continue to support the work of the Charity and together we can make an even bigger difference.

Margaret Sneddon

Chair, British Lymphology Society

Who we are

Chair: Margaret Sneddon (Term 2, Year 2)

Vice Chair: Katie Riches (Term 2, Year 1)

Treasurer: Peter Hooper-Smith (Term 1, Year 1)

Trustees:

- Caitriona O'Neill (Term 2, Year 1)
- Rebecca Elwell (Term 2, Year 2)
- Lorraine Brown (Term 2, Year 3)
- Jane Board (Term 1, Year 3)
- Rachael Hutton (Term 1, Year 3)
- Yolande Borthwick (Term 1, Year 2)
- Jenny Furniss (Term 1, Year 2)
- Fran Campbell (Term 1, Year 1)
- Devina DiCarlo (Term 1, Year 1)
- Tamara Kosevic (Term 1, Year 1)
- Amit Arora (Resigned)
- Debra Alcock (Resigned)

Trustee Vacancies: 0

Co-opted Trustees:

1. Cheryl White (BLS Editor)
2. Rhian Noble-Jones (BLS Scientific Com. Chair from 2020)

Other Key Personnel and Details

Patrons: Professor Peter Mortimer, Trisha Goddard, Professor Vaughan Keeley, Dr Kristiana Gordon

Charity Director: Kate Sinclair, contracted from 1st April 2022 (Project Manager from June 2019)

Administration: Effective Business Management, contracted from 2015, reviewed annually and renewable every two years. Gemini Print Ltd from July 2017 (Printing). ALT Agency from May 2017 (Web design and support). Accountably Ltd from August 2018 (Independent Examiner)

Official Address: British Lymphology Society (from 1st August 2016) P.O. Box 7153, 59 Birmingham Road, Lichfield, WS14 4JW

Banking: Virgin Money PLC, 30 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2HL and Lloyds Bank PLC, Blackheath, London.

About the BLS

Our Purpose

The preservation and protection of good health among people in the United Kingdom living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

1. Advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects.
2. Fostering interest in and co-ordinating a strategy for improving the management of chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema.
3. Producing and maintaining a register of specialist centres in the United Kingdom and Ireland.
4. Improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of health care professionals who treat patients.

Delivering Public Benefit

The Society benefits the public by raising awareness of lymphoedema, how the risk of developing it, or complications arising from it, may be reduced. We develop resources to inform, educate and guide clinical practice. We also seek to use our unique professional leadership position and expertise of our Members to advise government, NHS and other professional bodies and organisations and work with other stakeholders, to raise awareness.

Strategic Priorities

There is much that the Society wishes to achieve. Within the context of the pandemic, we agreed the following priorities for the Charity

1. Increase the profile of lymphoedema
2. Improve accessibility to lymphoedema care
3. Increase reach of the BLS
4. Operational stability

To reach these aims, we have an annual delivery plan, which sets out key projects and work streams to deliver measurable outcomes for the Charity, and those we seek to support.

Our Activities

BLS 2022 Conference

It was a pleasure to return to a face to face conference in 2022 after two years of holding digital conferences. Our Members were glad to be back at our educational event, catching up with old colleagues and networking with our industry partners.

Over 200 delegates and more than 100 exhibitors took part in a new conference format. We opened the conference with a debate on the use of Manual Lymphatic Drainage (MLD) in the treatment of lymphoedema and we welcomed Professor Neil Piller who took part in the debate and gave a presentation. On day one we held a number of workshops where delegates could engage in upcoming projects for the BLS. We are really excited about the outputs of those workshops and it's fantastic to see so many Members taking part in the work of the BLS. The second day was a full day of scientific content, including presentations from invited speakers and many high quality abstract presentations.

We are excited to bring the BLS conference to a new venue in 2023 and look forward to making it even more engaging for our delegates and partners.

Lymphoedema Awareness Week 2023

We had a great start to 2023 with the excitement and run up to the annual Lymphoedema Awareness Week in March. This year, the BLS ran a series of webinars with support from our partners and Members, followed by live Q&A for all those in attendance. We continued with our popular EverybodyCan campaign and received free publicity and press enquiries thanks to our Patron Trisha Goddard, who had us join her radio show during the week.

We followed a similar format to 2022, but this time increased the promotion across all of our social media accounts. This resulted in hundreds of registrants for the webinars, who subsequently received more information about lymphoedema, becoming a Member and the BLS conference.

Plans are well under way for the 2024 Lymphoedema Awareness Week!

Scientific Committee (BLSSC)

During 2022/23 the Scientific Committee combined online meetings and one face to face meeting to continue to support the BLS Board and its mission, in the following ways:

- Running 5 consecutive workshops of how to write Case Studies at the BLS 2022 conference
- Management of the abstract submission process, anonymous peer review selection process for the 2023 conference. This year attracting 26 submission; 15 of which will become oral presentations and 23 poster presentations.
- Scoring of both the oral and poster presentations at the annual BLS conference
- With the overall aim of promoting research and service development in the field of lymphoedema in the UK

The **Lymphoedema Research Development Grant (LRDG)** has been renamed to reflect a broader range of research development opportunities that it can support. It offers awards of up to £10,000 to BLS Members to develop their skills in research and evidence implementation and further research into lymphoedema in the UK. The new criteria will be announced at conference Oct 2023, widening the scope for applicants to include projects which may not need REC approval but which use research methods (e.g. large service development projects and audits) as long as the outputs are agreed to align with the Charity's objectives.

Scientific Committee Members continue to contribute up to 3 articles for each News & Views newsletter on a range of research and clinical evidence publication topics and have received excellent feedback on the usefulness of these articles.

Clinical Queries - BLSSC Members have regularly provided or signposted to, scientific or clinical advice when are submitted to BLS. The numbers of clinical queries are increasing each year. These are managed anonymously and a generic response is placed in the FAQ section of the BLS website for wider learning.

BLSSC Members also volunteer their time as clinical experts and advisors to bodies such as NICE when **clinical reviews** relevant to Lymphoedema are being conducted or when **national/international guidelines** are being created.

The BLSSC expertise was also sought in this period by other charities such as Macmillan Cancer Support and the Pelvic Radiation Disease Association.

Members of the BLSSC have been part of specific working subgroups of the Board **developing BLS Factsheets** and developing a guidance document on MLD.

There were no vacancies in the current period for the BLSSC but we are encouraged that interest has been shown in the upcoming places.

In relation to **governance**, the BLSSC is subject to the same procedures as the main Board and has been working with the Board to align GDPR and other legal requirements.

Dr Rhian Noble-Jones (BLSSC Chair)
Emma Underwood (BLSSC Vice-chair)

For more information about the BLS Scientific Committee, its Membership and getting involved, see the BLSSC page on the BLS website.

The Future

Lymphoedema Awareness Week begins 6th March 2024

Following the success of the last two year's awareness weeks, we plan to deliver more educational webinars and Q&A sessions online. We are very excited about the educational events already planned, and we will be live on air again with our patron Trisha Goddard.

If you have any plans for Lymphoedema Awareness Week, be sure to let us know so that we can share them with our Members and Friends.

Conference 2024

We are already planning the 2024 conference, building on the successes and lessons of previous years. We'll see more international speakers as well as home-grown talent, and there will be more opportunities for interactive learning and networking.

Big Changes!

Behind the scenes, we are busy working away on bringing you a new website and a refreshed BLS brand. Look out for updates and how you can have your say in these plans.

The Board and management met to make plans for the future, including reviewing the Charity's objects to ensure we remain relevant, and that we are focusing our resources in the right place. Our new branding and values will reflect our aspiration to improve the knowledge understanding and practice of all health care professionals, not only lymphoedema practitioners.

Document Launches

The BLS has been working on some large projects recently, and we will soon be launching the MLD position document, following our popular and engaging debate at conference 2022.

Finance and Governance

Risk Management

Proactive risk identification through regular risk assessments with key stakeholders and project leads means that we systematically map potential risks across the Charity, including financial, operation, regulatory and reputational.

Once risks are identified, we assess their potential impact and likelihood as per the Charity Commission's Risk Management Framework (CC26). This has included strengthening our financial controls, and data and cyber security,

Our risk management procedure includes the methodical reporting of incidents that occur. During the last year, the BLS has experienced two incidents from different external sources. Our process of reporting has also enabled our testing and subsequent amendment of the BLS's investigation form to enhance the description of the event and clarity of the action(s) taken to mitigate risk.

Financial Summary

The BLS has made great progress towards financial stability over the past year. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, we have maintained a solid financial position through diligent planning and prudent budget management.

The BLS has added to its reserves in the financial year 2022/3, some of which will be invested in significant projects for the Charity in the coming year.

See Annual Accounts for the full report.



BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT TO END OF AUGUST 2023
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7TH NOVEMBER 2023
REGISTERED CHARITY 1185148

Registered charity number: 1185148

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

for British Lymphology Society CIO

British Lymphology Society CIO
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

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**British Lymphology Society CIO
Information Page
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

Registered Charity Number
1145148

Trustees

Chairperson - Margaret Swidden
Vice Chairperson - Katie Radley
Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith (appointed 11/05/22)
Trustee - Dawn Neal (resigned 11/05/22)

Trustees -

Rebecca Ellwell
Cathrina O'Neill
Lorraine Brown
Jane Board
Richard Denton
Yolande Boethwick
Amy Furniss
Devina Dierks (appointed 07/09/22)
Tamara Kowicz (appointed 08/11/22)
Fran Campbell (appointed 08/11/22)
Debra Allcock (resigned 01/10/22)
Amit Arora (resigned 01/11/22)
Helen Massey (resigned 01/11/22)

Co-opted Trustee

Cheryl White

BLS Scientific Committee chair

Dr Rhian Nettle-Jones

Independent Examiner

J Basaloph (ICCA)
Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Froggn Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 0BA

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2019, under registration number 1185148 and is a charitable incorporated organisation - CIO.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees have assessed the risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The object of the CIO is the preservation and promotion of good health among people in the UK living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

- Advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects
- Fostering interest in and co-ordinating a strategy for improving the management of chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema
- Producing and maintaining a register of specialist centres in the UK and Ireland
- Improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of healthcare professional who treat patients

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We are pleased to provide an update on the progress and financial stability of the BLS over the past year. Despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, we have maintained a solid financial position through diligent planning and prudent budget management.

Throughout the year, we prioritised the core work of supporting HCPs in treating their patients, and raising awareness of lymphoedema in the UK. We delivered a successful and highly rated Lymphoedema Awareness Week and closely monitored our spending and investment in new systems to help us to grow this campaign year on year.

Our face-to-face Conference returned after two years online, and it exceeded all expectations. We saw remarkable increases in both delegate attendance and sponsorship, and a new format refreshed the learning options for our membership. The event served as a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and professional development. We extend our gratitude to all partners and members for their support and engagement.

We will continue to adapt to changing circumstances and seize opportunities to make savings so that more of our funds can be invested in the aims of the BLS.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

The relevant income, expenditure, cash and results for the year are shown under Unrestricted Funds. During the year the charity received income of £219,443, incurred costs of £174,407 resulting in a surplus of £45,036.

As at 31 March 2023 the charity had £405,433 of cash, which includes £22,402 of restricted funds for scientific research. The level of cash held at the year end is higher than expected as it includes £121,601 of sponsorship for the 2023 Conference. The remainder of cash held comprises funds required for updating the charity's website that is planned for in the next financial year and funds required in line with our reserves policy.

The policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use was extended from six month's expenditure to twelve months' expenditure was approved by the board of trustees on 7 September 2022. The amendment to the policy ensures that reserves at this increased level will be sufficient so that in the event of a significant drop in funding, that the trustees will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The twelve months' expenditure level of reserves was achieved throughout the financial year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Jonathan Darbysh FCA has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the coming year.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/09/2023
and signed on its behalf by:


Margaret Dodkin - Chairperson

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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 charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 110 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.



J Badley FCCA
Independent Examiner

Accountability Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Emagin Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO11 4RA

18/09/2023

British Lymphology Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	54,975	-	54,975	38,911
Charitable activities	3	162,967	-	162,967	69,329
Investment income	4	1,459	42	1,501	239
Total incoming resources		219,401	42	219,443	108,479
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	170,796	-	170,796	89,328
Governance costs	6	3,611	-	3,611	5,045
Total resources expended		174,407	-	174,407	94,373
NET INCOMING RESOURCES and net income for the year					
		44,994	42	45,036	14,107
Net movement in funds					
		44,994	42	45,036	14,107
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	9	214,772	22,560	236,632	222,845
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	9	259,766	22,602	282,668	236,952

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2023

		2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	33,364	75,174
Cash at bank		415,652	239,826
		<u>449,016</u>	<u>315,000</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(156,126)	(98,448)
		<u>292,890</u>	<u>216,552</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>156,126</u>	<u>98,448</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>156,126</u>	<u>98,448</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	9	156,126	114,272
Restricted funds		22,802	22,340
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>178,928</u>	<u>136,612</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 18 September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

M. S. Smith

Chairperson - Margaret Smith

P. Hanger-Daith

Treasurer - Peter Hanger-Daith

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) *Basis of preparation of the accounts*

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective January 2019.

(b) *Funds*

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for general purposes. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity are also unrestricted. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(c) *Incoming resources*

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.

Trading income is shown net of related expenses as this better reflects the contribution of these activities to the charity.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

(d) *Resources expended*

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Governance costs are those associated with the governance arrangements of the charity.

(e) *Taxation*

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total funds
	funds	funds	funds	
	£	£	2023	2022
			£	£
Membership subscriptions	54,975	-	54,975	38,911
	<u>54,975</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,975</u>	<u>38,911</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Conference	144,460	-	144,460	61,669
Advertising and other services	18,507	-	18,507	7,360
	<u>162,967</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162,967</u>	<u>69,029</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	1,459	42	1,501	220
5 EXPENDITURE - Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Professional fees	718	-	718	1,162
Office and administration costs	51,345	-	51,345	59,198
Website, computer and internet costs	3,527	-	3,527	1,318
Newsletter	4,986	-	4,986	2,965
Conference	85,500	-	85,500	947
Promotional items and surveys	3,648	-	3,648	3,470
Wages and expenses	21,072	-	21,072	20,268
	<u>170,796</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,796</u>	<u>89,328</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

6 EXPENDITURE - Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Book-keeping	916	-	916	2,232
Independent examiner	1,650	-	1,650	1,800
Insurance	883	-	883	790
Committee meetings	162	-	162	223
	3,611	-	3,611	5,045

7 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,096	70,461
Other debtors	28,268	4,693
	32,364	75,154

8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,604	11,248
Deferred income	145,118	83,710
Accrued charges	3,407	3,490
	156,129	98,448

9 MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General fund	214,272	219,491	(174,407)	-	259,356
Restricted fund:					
Scientific research	22,360	42	-	-	22,402
	236,632	219,443	(174,407)	-	281,651

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted: General fund	-	259,266	259,266
Restricted: Scientific research	-	22,402	22,402
	-	281,668	281,668

11 OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY

We are grateful to our corporate members for their generosity and their support in the 2022 conference. In addition, thank you to all who sponsor us in formal and informal ways.

12 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The following trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year:

	£
K. Richey	92.00
M. Snedden	455.00
R. Noble-Jones	216.00
C. O'Neill	109.00
R. Ellwell	185.00
L. Brown	245.00
J. Board	375.00
C. White	1,817.00
V. Borthwick	60.00
P. Hooper-Smith	968.00
F. Campbell	176.00

No trustee nor anyone connected with them received any remuneration during the period in respect of their services as trustees.

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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 charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 110 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.



J Badley FCCA
Independent Examiner

Accountability Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
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Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO11 4RA

18/09/2023

BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1185148

Accounts

Registered charity number: 1185148

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

for British Lymphology Society CIO

British Lymphology Society CIO
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

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Information page	1
Report of the Trustees	2
Independent Examiner's Report	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Information Page
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Registered Charity Number

1185148

Trustees

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon

Vice Chairperson - Katie Riches

Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith (appointed 11/05/22)

Treasurer - Dawn Heal (resigned 11/05/22)

Trustees -

Rebecca Elwell

Catriona O'Neill

Lorraine Brown

Amit Arora

Jane Board

Rachael Hutton

Debra Allcock (appointed 08/11/21)

Yolande Borthwick (appointed 08/11/21)

Jenny Furniss (appointed 08/11/21)

Helen Masey (appointed 08/11/21)

Lucie Casserley (resigned 09/02/22)

Jill Hewitt (resigned 08/11/21)

Co-opted Trustee

Cheryl White

BLS Scientific Committee chair

Dr Rhian Noble-Jones

Independent Examiner

J Bardolph FCCA

Accountably Ltd

1st Floor, Unit 12

Compass Point

Ensign Way

Hamble

Southampton

Hampshire

SO31 4RA

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2019, under registration number 1185148 and is a charitable incorporated organisation - CIO.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees have assessed the risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The object of the CIO is the preservation and protection of good health among people in the UK living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

- Advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects
- Fostering interest in and co-ordinating a strategy for improving the management of chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema
- Producing and maintaining a register of specialist centres in the UK and Ireland
- Improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of healthcare professional who treat patients

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

It has been another challenging year for the charity due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19 but I am pleased to say we remain financially stable. We have built on the foundation of last year's cost optimisation and continued our drive to control our expenditure whilst delivering another a successful and profitable Virtual Conference. Travel and meeting room expenses remained minimal as all our Committee Meetings were held virtually. We have realised that this is an effective way of meeting up and will continue this way in the future. We continue to tightly monitor our finances to ensure we have adequate reserves. We held our yearly Conference on-line for the second year in a row and this was very well received. As the Covid-19 related restrictions have been relinquished we are looking forward to holding our first face-to-face Conference in October 2022. We continue to have generous financial support from our sponsors and members.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

The relevant income, expenditure, cash and results for the year are shown under Unrestricted Funds, During the year the charity received income of £108,160.

It is currently the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a minimum level equivalent to six months' expenditure. It will be proposed to the board of trustees on 7 September 2022 that the policy extended to a period of 12 months' expenditure. The amendment to the policy will ensure that reserves at this increased level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, that the trustees will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The six months' expenditure level of reserves was achieved throughout the period under review.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

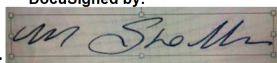
Jonathan Bardolph FCCA has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the ensuing year.

9/9/2022

Approved by order of the board of trustees on.....

and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:



Margaret Smeddoff - Chairperson

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

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").

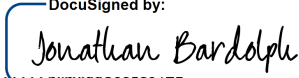
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.

DocuSigned by:

.....649A96C835894EB...
J Bardolph FCCA
Independent Examiner

Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 4RA
9/9/2022
.....

British Lymphology Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	38,911	-	38,911	32,683
Charitable activities	3	69,029	-	69,029	111,894
Investment income	4	218	2	220	648
Total incoming resources		108,158	2	108,160	145,225
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	89,330	-	89,330	77,652
Governance costs	6	5,045	-	5,045	4,915
Total resources expended		94,375	-	94,375	82,567
NET INCOMING RESOURCES and net income for the year		13,783	2	13,785	62,658
Net movement in funds		13,783	2	13,785	62,658
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	9	200,489	22,358	222,847	160,189
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	9	214,272	22,360	236,632	222,847

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

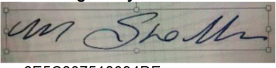
The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2022

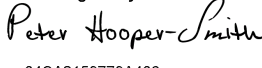
	Notes	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	75,154	1,348
Cash at bank		259,926	271,511
		335,080	272,859
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(98,448)	(50,012)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		236,632	222,847
NET ASSETS		236,632	222,847
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:	9	214,272	200,489
Restricted funds		22,360	22,358
TOTAL FUNDS		236,632	222,847

9/9/2022

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 0E5C807618094DE.....

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon

DocuSigned by:

 04CA2159779A406.....

Treasurer - Peter Hooper-Smith

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) ***Basis of preparation of the accounts***

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective January 2019.

(b) ***Funds***

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for general purposes. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity are also unrestricted. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(c) ***Incoming resources***

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.

Trading income is shown net of related expenses as this better reflects the contribution of these activities to the charity.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

(d) ***Resources expended***

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Governance costs are those associated with the governance arrangements of the charity.

(e) ***Taxation***

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Membership subscriptions	38,911	-	38,911	32,683
	<u>38,911</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,911</u>	<u>32,683</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Conference	61,669	-	61,669	77,033
Advertising and other services	7,360	-	7,360	34,861
	<u>69,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,029</u>	<u>111,894</u>
	<u>69,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,029</u>	<u>111,894</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Interest receivable	218	2	220	648
	<u>218</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>648</u>
	<u>218</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>648</u>
5 EXPENDITURE - Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Professional fees	1,162	-	1,162	40
Office and administration costs	59,200	-	59,200	58,858
Website, computer and internet costs	1,318	-	1,318	875
Newsletter	2,965	-	2,965	4,489
Conference	947	-	947	2,814
Promotional items and surveys	3,470	-	3,470	2,027
Wages and expenses	20,268	-	20,268	20,269
2020 campaign	-	-	-	7,488
Written off previous years' supplier balances	-	-	-	(19,208)
	<u>89,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,330</u>	<u>77,652</u>
	<u>89,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,330</u>	<u>77,652</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

6 EXPENDITURE - Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Book-keeping	2,232	-	2,232	2,418
Independent examiner	1,800	-	1,800	1,572
Insurance	790	-	790	635
Committee meetings	223	-	223	110
Other meetings	-	-	-	180
	5,045	-	5,045	4,915
	5,045	-	5,045	4,915

7 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	70,461	574
Other debtors	4,693	774
	75,154	1,348
	75,154	1,348

8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	11,248	-
Deferred income	83,710	42,723
Accrued charges	3,490	7,289
	98,448	50,012
	98,448	50,012

9 MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted					
General fund	200,489	108,158	(94,375)	-	214,272
Restricted fund:					
Scientific research	22,358	2	-	-	22,360
	222,847	108,160	(94,375)	-	236,632
	222,847	108,160	(94,375)	-	236,632

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted:			
General fund	-	214,272	214,272
Restricted:			
Scientific research	-	22,360	22,360
	<u>-</u>	<u>236,632</u>	<u>236,632</u>

11 OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY

We are grateful to our corporate members for their generosity and their support in the 2021 conference. In addition, thank you to all who sponsor us in formal and informal ways.

12 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The following trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year:

	£
M Sneddon	96
R Noble-Jones	60

No trustee nor anyone connected with them received any remuneration during the period in respect of their services as trustees.

BRITISH LYMPHOLOGY SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1185148

Accounts

Annual Report to end August 2021

Annual General Meeting, 8th November 2021

Registered Charity 1185148

**P.O. Box 7153
59 Birmingham Road
Lichfield
WS14 4JW**

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Foreword

This annual report, covering September 2020-end of August 2021, reflects an emerging sense of cautious optimism generally and pride in how successfully the British Lymphology Society (BLS) is weathering the storm! The ongoing pandemic has undoubtedly had a profound impact on the health and well-being of most people including those we seek to help and those we rely on for support. As we enter a fragile stage of recovery, many of us are weary, but hopeful, and keen to move forward and use what we have learned for a better future.

In a year that has been like no other, the Society has achieved considerable success and been very productive. Early decisions by trustees to work differently, diligent financial management, priority setting, hard work, determination and teamwork is steering us safely through. Unable to engage face to face, we adapted our communication strategies, responding to a need for more digital information, education, resources and campaigning. We became more nimble in our decision-making. As a result, we are ending the year in a stronger and more stable position.

We have also kept up the pace up in campaigning for those living with lymphoedema. We could not do this without our members and partners, who have volunteered their time and expertise to support the BLS. To improve understanding and knowledge of lymphoedema, we increased our outputs of information, guidance, presentations, publications and other media outputs. To promote better treatment and support effective clinical decision making and practice, additional resources have been produced. More collaborations have been initiated to disseminate information even more widely. All of this has served to raise the profile of lymphoedema, the standing of the Society and the voice of its members.

The achievements are impressive in the context of the pandemic, reflecting the commitment and passion they have for better lymphoedema care. Most of our members and trustees are clinical specialists who have had to prioritise their clinical role. Many have been limited in the time or energy they were able to give to the BLS. However, everyone did what they could. Those who were able, continued to make valuable contributions and the board of trustees pulled together, some taking on additional activities. We also had outstanding support from our Project Manager, Kate Sinclair and the Effective Business Management (EBM) team who provide our administrative functions. I am indebted to each and every one of them.



Margaret Sneddon
Chair BLS

About BLS

There are over 430,000 people living with lymphoedema in the UK of all ages. Many more are unrecognised and receiving little or no treatment. Even amongst those who are, the services available to them are variable. The BLS, its members and supporters are determined to better that situation. The main object of the BLS is to the preservation and protection of good health among people in the United Kingdom living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

1. advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects.
2. fostering interest in and co-ordinating a strategy for improving the management of chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema.
3. producing and maintaining a register of specialist centres in the United Kingdom and Ireland.
4. improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of health care professionals who treat patients.

As a registered charity it is essential to demonstrate public benefit. By focusing on the above, the Society benefits the public by raising awareness of lymphoedema, how the risk of developing it, or complications arising from it, may be reduced. By promoting early detection of the condition and treatment that is prompt, appropriate and equitable, we seek to reduce prevalence, severity and impact of lymphoedema. We also seek to use our unique professional leadership position and expertise of our members to advise government, NHS and other professional bodies and organisations and work with other stakeholders, to raise awareness. Trustees ensure the work of the Society is underpinned by a stable business foundation. Members are encouraged to be actively involved in shaping the agenda and objectives of the charity by becoming a trustee or contributing to key activities.

Who we are

The BLS community are those who support the charity through their individual, collective or corporate membership and donors. All members are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the principles and values underpinning the Society. Individual and collective members are mostly health care professionals and others with an interest in lymphoedema and its treatment. Corporate Partners are commercial bodies that contribute to the advancement of the Society. Friends of BLS are mainly non-specialist healthcare professionals or others with an interest in improving lymphoedema care.

Trustees manage the business of the charity, ensure resources are used well and further the objects of the charity. They are committed volunteers, elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with Section 12 of the Constitution adopted on 9 November 2020 <https://www.thebls.com/documents-library/constitution-of-the-british-lymphology-society-as-a-charitable-incorporated-organisation-9th-november-2020>

Current Trustees and terms/years served

Chair: Margaret Sneddon (Term 1, Year 2)
Vice Chair (Interim): Katie Riches (Term 1, Year 2)
Treasurer: Dawn Heal (Term 1 Year 2)
Trustees: Caitriona O'Neill (Term 1, Year 2)
Rebecca Elwell (Term 1, Year 2)
Anna Rich (Term 2, Year 1)
Lorraine Brown (Term 2, Year 1)
Lucie Casserley (Term 1, Year 2)
Jane Board (Term 1, Year 1)
Rachael Hutton (Term 1, Year 1)
Amit Arora (Term 1, Year 1)
Jill Hewitt (Term 1, Year 1)

Trustee Vacancies: 4

Co-opted Advisors: 1. Cheryl White (BLS Editor)
2. Rhian Noble-Jones (BLS Scientific Com. Chair from 2020)
3. Debra Allcock

Key Groups: Children's Specialist Lymphoedema Interest Group (Marie Todd, Chair)

Other Key Personnel and Details

Patron: Professor Peter Mortimer
Trisha Goddard

Project Manager: Mrs Kate Sinclair, contracted from 1st June 2019

Administration: Effective Business Management, contract from November 2015, reviewed annually on 1st March and renewable every two years.
Bookkeeper: Mr Robert Kirk: from Nov 2015
Printers: Gemini Print Ltd: from July 2017
Web design and Support: ALT Agency from May 2017
Independent Examiner: Mr Jonathan Bardolph from August 2018

Official Address: British Lymphology Society (*from 1st August 2016*)
P.O. Box 7153, 59 Birmingham Road, Lichfield, WS14 4JW
admin@thebls.com; www.thebls.com

Bank: Clydesdale Bank PLC, 30 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2HL
Lloyd's Bank PLC, Blackheath, London

Chair's Report for 2020/2021: Margaret Sneddon

I confirm BLS has complied with our duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance, when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Strategic Priorities

There is much that the Society wishes to achieve. Within the context of the pandemic, we agreed the following priorities. Although some activities contributed to more than one outcome, progress with each is reported separately.

1. Increase the profile of lymphoedema
2. Improve accessibility to lymphoedema care
3. Increase reach of BLS
4. Operational stability

1. Increase the profile of lymphoedema

Requests for contributions of content in publications, guidelines, organisational blogs and the media have increased. We contribute editorials and articles to 5 publications on a regular basis.

We have been invited to collaborate or partner with more organisations, to share best practice in raising awareness of lymphoedema, review or endorse documents.

There has also been a substantial growth in requests to make presentations to conferences, educational events and meetings of other organisations about lymphoedema.

Our EveryBodyCan activity campaign was relaunched and refreshed, with an increase in engagement across social media platforms for Lymphoedema Awareness Week 2021, which stimulated an increase in Friend registrations. We also had an EveryBodyCan focus during July when people were beginning to get out and about again. No additional resources were required following generous support for the campaign by three of our Corporate Partners. However, Corporate Partners, other organisations and both of our patrons also contributed to extending the media resources available for the campaign.

The campaign is aimed at healthcare professionals (HCPs) who are not necessarily lymphoedema professionals, and resources were created that their patients with lymphoedema could use. The aim is to reach as many HCPs as possible, encouraging them to register as a Friend to receive regular updates and information. As a Friend of the BLS, HCPs are now provided with advice and regular updates, either through our website or direct communications.

Resources to support the campaign included posters, factsheets, guides, leaflets, banners and digital assets were expanded greatly, partly thanks to the support of, and collaboration with other organisations. Most of these are available on the website. While the Lymphoedema Awareness Week was running, social media engagement increased threefold, hits to the website tenfold, and a tenfold increase in the number of Friends of the BLS signing up in a single month. We are therefore confident that the methods of communicating the campaign are effective.

The Legs Matter Campaign, of which the BLS is a very active Coalition Member, continues to be very successful in reaching a wide audience of healthcare professionals and the public. As a consequence of this collaboration, lymphoedema and its relevance to many other lower limb problems is better understood. A key annual event is the awareness week. Considerable effort is expended to ensure this makes an impact with press releases, media reports, patient and professional videos, interviews and events. Last year's awareness week in October had a greatly expanded digital element. Over the week 27 virtual events were delivered with contributions from 5 BLS trustees. The experience of a patient of a BLS member now features on the website. We have also contributed to the authorship of a document challenging failures in practice and calling for change, endorsed by the Queen's Nursing Institute and the Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland.

We took part in a radio show and contributed to a report at the request of a national newspaper.

The Children's Specialist Lymphoedema Interest Group (CSLIG). We welcome CSLIG as a recognised part of BLS. They have representatives from all 4 UK countries. Their work to improve and standardise care of children with lymphoedema is key to the overall aims of BLS. They are currently working on developing guidelines and agreeing a minimum data set for comparison of data across different locations.

For the future:

- Strengthening existing partnerships and collaborations will continue
- Promotion and dissemination of the new Legs Matter Consensus document
- A joint virtual seminar with the British Dermatology Association, supported by the British Dermatology Nursing Group is planned for the conference with the intention of initiating collaboration thereafter.
- New collaborations are in the early stages of development, e.g. with a new organisation Lymphoedema United
- Identify priorities for the development of new resources and updating of existing resources
- Supporting the CSLIG in planning Lymphaletics 2021 event for children, young people and their families.
- CSLIG – publishing a guide on footcare for children in collaboration with podiatrists.
- CSLIG - Production of a standardised assessment form for children with lymphoedema

2. Improve accessibility of lymphoedema care

This has been challenging as some services were closed or reduced during the pandemic. However, we have significantly extended our support to non-specialist healthcare professionals by developing high quality information and resources to increase knowledge and support safe clinical decision-making. These also serve as teaching resources for lymphoedema specialists. Alongside that we have campaigned to increase knowledge of health care professionals, who are not lymphoedema specialists, but who make a key contribution to prevention, early detection, treatment and support of people with lymphoedema. Enabling easy and free access to current knowledge and clinical guidance with regular updates to support effective care is a vital part of the work of the Society.

Within the year we have produced four new fact sheets, guidance on COVID vaccination, an interactive clinical pathway as an assessment and treatment tool, an advisory document on managing children with lymphoedema (Children's Specialist Lymphoedema Interest Group), activity campaign leaflets and online resources and several educational videos.

Our Quarterly publication, News & Views, is delivered electronically to members. News & Views and regular e-bulletins are also sent free of charge to a growing number of individuals who register as a Friend of BLS to keep up to date. Over the year, News & Views has been developed by our Editor, Cheryl White, and enhanced to ensure a balance between sharing of news and more factual and scientific content, providing sources of learning for a wider audience. Cheryl has worked with the Scientific Committee and our organisational partners overseas to include relevant and interesting copy. Also working with the Scientific Committee, she has helped to promote development opportunities for novice writers.

For the future:

- We had undertaken a survey to help us understand the impact of the pandemic on services early on. This year we have developed a follow-up survey to explore the impact longer term on services and patient outcomes. This will be disseminated later in the year.
- Together with the survey work, our service need identification guidance and service cost calculator aim to help safeguard lymphoedema services that may be put at more risk as a result of the pandemic. A revised cost calculating tool is under development to reflect the forthcoming changes in how services are managed in NHS England.
- A new clinical measurement tool (Limbstat) is ready to launch to support quick and accurate assessment of the severity of an individual's lymphoedema and to help monitor treatment effectiveness. This will be available free.

3. Increase reach of BLS

Despite a number of members deployed away from their lymphoedema service, we maintained member numbers at over 500. However, registrations as free 'Friends' of BLS (mostly general healthcare professionals) has doubled to almost 1000.

The conference is a key event in the year for the Society. It enables member engagement, sharing of good practice, initiatives, research discussing new product information. Many non-members also attend as delegates, acquiring new knowledge and understanding on the management of lymphoedema. Having been compelled to run the annual conference virtually in 2020, we were able to increase the number of delegates by around 100. It was particularly encouraging that a very high proportion of delegates joined the conference 'live' and many of the presentations were rewatched several times. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and delegates said they would like a virtual element in all future conferences.

For the first time a joint seminar with another key organisation was incorporated into the conference programme. The event, run jointly with the Royal College of Podiatry, has fostered an enhanced understanding of the work of each discipline and specialism, meaningful collaboration and extended opportunities for disseminating information more widely. We had a number of delegates who are podiatrists; many of these have now registered as Friends of BLS to keep up to date with news and best practice in lymphoedema care.

Our presence on social media continues to grow. We have a 48% increase in followers on Instagram, a 33% increase on Facebook, and a 17% increase on Twitter

Partnerships with organisations at home and internationally enable the sharing of best practice, resources and improve recognition of the work that we do. This includes the Australasian Lymphology Society, and the Canadian Lymphoedema Framework. We have been approached by two new organisations and are in the process of developing those partnerships.

The Society has maintained and strengthened relationships with other key stakeholders to increase the impact and influence on policy, practice and understanding on lymphoedema and the needs of those with the condition. BLS are represented in many groups including the National Lymphoedema Partnership, National Wound Care Strategy Programme, NICE guidelines, Cellulitis Consensus group, Legs Matter Coalition.

Working with Corporate Partners

BLS are extremely fortunate to have excellent support from our Corporate Partners. These partnerships are immensely important to the Society, and we greatly value the professional relationship. They provide essential financial, practical and professional support for our conference, campaigns and other initiatives. Staff within these companies have skills and expertise that is valuable to the Society. One new initiative this year was to formally contract with one of our partners to release a member of staff to work independently with BLS under a non-disclosure agreement to ensure no conflict of interest. This has already been a very productive relationship, helping us to help a much wider group of health care professionals with service development challenges.

We currently have 15 Corporate Partners who support the aims and work of the BLS. Kate Sinclair has been working with the Corporate Partners to understand more about the relationships we have and how we can develop these further. Our Corporate Partners continue to support our activities and campaigns, such as the EBC campaign and our annual conference.

For the future:

- Delivering our second virtual conference in October 2021 with more opportunities for interaction in response to delegate feedback
- Planning for a face-face conference in 2022 is a key goal
- Initiation of plans for much needed website work. This is dependent on income; the savings achieved this year will help to support this work
- Developing our relationships with Corporate Partners

4. Operational stability

In addition to limitations the contributions that many of our trustees were able to make, the pandemic posed a risk to our income streams and those who would normally support the charity. Therefore, strengthening key aspects of governance, safeguarding core work of the charity and maximising savings has been our main focus to protect the future of the Society.

Delivering on priorities: To safeguard the operations of the charity a strategy with key priorities was agreed and funds directed to support achievement of these. We developed an annual delivery plan, of which we have completed the first six months. Each of our strategic objectives have been broken down into specific projects, most of which are carried out by BLS trustees and members. The BLS is reliant upon the time volunteered by members to deliver these projects and we are very grateful for their support and efforts.

Governance: The BLS Board of Trustees encompass governance in all matters of its operation and development. However, the following summarises specific work undertaken by Trustee, Jane Board, Data Protection Officer who leads on processes in relation to Data Protection and monitoring and managing risk.

Data Protection

- Systems and processes to uphold compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2018) is a key area of governance to ensure BLS`s security of members personal data. The BLS remains a member of the Information Commissioner`s Office (ICO), the UK`s independent body and national regulator, established to uphold the information rights of the public (data subjects). Access to ICO`s information continues to provide practical guidance for the BLS with data protection compliance.
- As the `data controller`, the BLS works closely with Effective Business Management (EBM) who continue as the `processor` of our personal data. EBM`s contract of service(s) with the BLS for the administration and day to day operation of our organisation includes the receipt, handling, storage and disposal of paper documentation and electronic information.
- All processes of our data flow have been established to comply with the 6 data principles of the GDPR: Lawfulness, fairness and transparency Purpose limitation Data minimisation Accuracy Storage limitation Integrity and confidentiality (security)

For the future:

- This coming year the BLS is to focus on data accountability. Often referred to as the 7th data principle, the BLS is developing an `Accountability Framework` to demonstrate and monitor our compliance with the obligations of data law. The obligations include data protection policies, ensuring data subjects rights and the management of all records and security.

Risk mapping

At the height of the coronavirus pandemic, our risk mapping was centred on the continuity of the BLS. Focus was given to maintaining our obligation to our members in conjunction with financial savings and upholding UK government guidelines to mitigate the spread of coronavirus. As a result, our annual conference (2020) was transferred to a (successful) online event that upheld social distancing guidelines and generated a financial saving from the cost of conference set up, running and rental space.

Whilst the core risks to the BLS`s continuity identified last year remain, they are now significantly reduced, with the Trustees confident of more certain times ahead.

Jane Board, BLS Trustee and Data Protection Officer, September 2021

Finance

Dawn Heal, Treasurer, has reviewed and streamlined various processes in our accounting processes to make them more efficient. Generosity of our corporate members and sponsors over the last year has meant that the BLS virtual conference and EveryBodyCan campaign were of the highest quality, with excellent feedback and impact. These relationships in turn allow industry partners to promote their services to our members and Friends at a time when face-to-face engagements have not been possible.

Summary Report from Treasurer, Dawn Heal

It has been another difficult year due to impact of Covid-19. We worked very hard to reduce our expenditure. Governance costs will always exist to run any charity and these are unseen costs such as insurance, book keeping, accounting etc.

Governance costs 2020 - £9,001
2021 - £4,915

This reduction was mainly achieved by holding all our meeting on-line hence reducing travel and meeting room expenses. Going forward we will continue to do this wherever possible to maintain this saving.

We are watching finance closely and keeping monies in reserve to support the Charity. The Trustees have a duty to identify and review risks to which the Charity is exposed and ensure appropriate controls are in place. I am satisfied those systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

We had another very successful Virtual Conference and continue to have generous financial support from our Sponsors.

Accounts

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021 showed the following results.

Total income for the year	£145,225
Total Expenditure	£ 82,567

Although our income for the year reduced, also have our expenses. The savings we have made gives us the means to support the projects we have planned to go forward.

Banking

We continue to hold our main funds in Lloyds Bank. Our new bank account as required by change in Charitable status is nearing completion and we should be compliant very soon.

We hold our Research Fund in Lloyds and the current total is £ 22,358

Our reserve savings are held in a Clydesdale account and total to date: £86,302

**British Lymphology Society Scientific Committee (BLSSC)
Annual Report 2020/2021: Dr Rhian Noble-Jones, Chair**BLSSC Membership:

Dr Rhian Noble-Jones (Chair), Emma Underwood (Vice-Chair), Eunice Jeffs, Rebecca Elwell (Conference Organiser), Ambreen Chohan, Kristiana Gordon, Dr Malou van Zanten, Justine Whitaker, Dr Beverley de Valois (immediate past-chair), Cara Cole (Honorary).

BLSSC activity 2020/2021

The committee has continued in its role to support BLS as described in the terms of reference available at <https://thebls.com/documents-library/bls-scientific-committee-terms-of-reference-2018> .

Summary of achievements for 2020/2021

Lymphoedema Research Grant (LRG) have been administered although no awards have been made over this year. Considerable work has gone into updating the application process, supporting documents and promotion to members.

Communications: News & Views has had more than 3 articles of educational material per issue from SC members in its aim to provide resources which can improve the scientific writing of BLS members. In addition, several SC members have taken part in numerous webinars on relevant subjects to different organisation both nationally and internationally.

Conference activities: The Oxford Abstract blind review process continues to be used for Conference submissions. This year we received 36 submissions, ultimately 14 oral and 14 posters will be presented and judged for the Awards; with submissions on minimum data sets being grouped into a separate special section in the conference. This represents a strong service development emphasis in this years' submissions.

SC membership: The SC continued with full membership capacity of nine full members and one honorary member. This has been a challenging year for the SC as per all our members and flexibility had to be given to many members of their role fulfilment over the period, but the Chair wishes all SC members to note her gratitude for continuing and being patient with each other through these challenges.

Clinical & scientific enquiries: The SC now shares with the BLS BOARD the responsibilities for answering members' questions that are submitted asking for advice and evidence on different topics. This system has worked well with members getting responses in a timely and appropriate way, and the generation of a generic response being shared with our wider membership vis the FAQ section of the website.

Communications within the SC continue with the periodic BLS SC Update Report. This report is also useful for communicating the work of the SC to the BLS Committee and BLS Admin.

This report was prepared by Dr Rhian Noble-Jones, Chair of the BLS Scientific Committee, 6th September 2021.

Acknowledgements:

To all our members, trustees and Corporate Partners who have continued to support the BLS in so many ways during such a difficult year, I extend my heartfelt thanks. There will continue to be challenges as a consequence of the pandemic but thanks to everyone's support we are achieving our aims and have so many successes to celebrate. So many members have come forward and offered help or whatever contributions they could to our campaign, including Tripudio Flow and Lymph-What-Oedema, to name just two.

This year has been a difficult time for the charity sector. Trustees have worked incredibly hard to implement changes, which have improved the security of the BLS. Much of this is behind the scenes but so necessary to ensure effective management; their tremendous support and flexibility has been very much appreciated. I would particularly like to thank Dawn Heal, our treasurer, who has improved our financial controls and streamlined our banking systems; Jane Board, who continued her work on GDPR, ensuring we meet all our legal and charitable requirements; Cheryl White, Editor, who produces News & Views, but also manages several other aspects of production of other documents; Rhian Noble-Jones, who took on the role of Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) in October 2020 and was key to more integrated working of the Board and the SC, particularly in relation to ensuring we responded to clinical enquiries from a sound evidence base.

Rebecca Elwell does a fantastic job of leading the conference team, comprising Anna Rich, the Scientific Committee, Kate Sinclair and the EBM team. They willingly took on the challenge of changing the planned conference of 2020 to an extremely successful virtual event and are well on the way to delivering an even bigger and better virtual conference for 2021. Sadly, Anna Rich is standing down as a trustee this year. Anna has played a key role in conference planning, supporting Rebecca for many years and will be greatly missed.

A special thanks goes to Rebecca Elwell for the volume and quantity of her contributions in producing resources, delivering lectures, writing for publications and contributing to other media outputs – all on behalf of, or as a representative of BLS.

Throughout the year, we have had tremendous support from Kate Sinclair, Project Manager. Without her skills and calm, confident approach, we may not have been able to drive the necessary changes or deliver the outcomes we have. EBM, who support us administratively have also excelled in their role. They have worked with Kate and trustees constructively to find all possible way of reducing administrative costs and being more efficient.

Finally, I want to thank our Corporate Partners. They provide such necessary financial support, but they do so much more in the practical and professional support they provide, especially our key conference and campaign sponsors. They amplify our voice by promoting the BLS, our key messages and our resources.

Thank you so much everyone.

Margaret Sneddon
BLS Chair
08.10.2021

AGM - Financial Report

It has been another difficult year due to impact of Covid-19. We worked very hard to reduce our expenditure. Governance costs will always exist to run any Charity and these are unseen costs such as insurance, book keeping, accounting etc.

Governance costs 2020 - £9,001

2021 - £4,915

This reduction was mainly achieved by holding all our meeting on-line hence reducing travel and meeting room expenses. Going forward we will continue to do this wherever possible to maintain this saving.

We are watching finance closely and keeping monies in reserve to support the Charity. The Trustees have a duty to identify and review risks to which the Charity is exposed and ensure appropriate controls are in place. I am satisfied those systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

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We hold our Research Fund in Lloyds and the current total is £ 22,358

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Registered charity number: 1185148

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

for British Lymphology Society CIO

British Lymphology Society CIO
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for the year ended 31 March 2021

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**British Lymphology Society CIO
Information Page
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

Registered Charity Number

1185148

Trustees

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon

Vice Chairperson - Katie Riches

Treasurer - Dawn Heal

Trustees - Rebecca Elwell, Anna Rich, Lorraine Brown, Jane Board, Lucie Casserley, Jill Hewitt, Amit Arora,
Rachel Hutton

Co-opted Trustee

Cheryl White

BLS Scientific Committee chair

Dr Rhian Noble-Jones

Independent Examiner

J Bardolph FCCA

Accountably Ltd

1st Floor, Unit 12

Compass Point

Ensign Way

Hamble

Southampton

Hampshire

SO31 4RA

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2019, under registration number 1185148 and is a charitable incorporated organisation - CIO.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees have assessed the risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The object of the CIO is the preservation and protection of good health among people in the UK living with lymphoedema/chronic oedema in particular by:

- Advancing education and knowledge in the field of lymphology and related subjects
- Fostering interest in and co-ordinating a strategy for improving the management of chronic oedema, particularly lymphoedema
- Producing and maintaining a register of specialist centres in the UK and Ireland
- Improving the knowledge, expertise and skills of healthcare professional who treat patients

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

It has been a difficult year for the Charity due to the impact of Covid-19 but I am pleased to say we remain financially stable. We managed to reduce our expenditure considerably whilst still having a successful and profitable Virtual Conference.

Travel and meeting room expenses are now minimal by holding all our Committee Meetings virtually. We have realised that this is an effective way of meeting up and will continue this way in the future. We are watching the finances closely and keep monies in reserve.

We held our yearly Conference on-line which was very well received hence, with the uncertainty of this year 2021 we will do the same. We continue to have generous financial support from our sponsors.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

The relevant income, expenditure, cash and results for the year are shown under Unrestricted Funds, During the year the charity received income of £145,225.

We hold our main funds in Lloyds Bank and savings in Clydesdale Bank.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a minimum level equivalent to two months' expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves was achieved throughout the period under review.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Jonathan Bardolph FCCA has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the ensuing year.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on.....
and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Margaret Sneddon - Chairperson

**British Lymphology Society CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 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 charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.

.....
J Bardolph FCCA
Independent examiner

Accountably Ltd
1st Floor, Unit 12
Compass Point
Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton
Hampshire
SO31 4RA

.....

British Lymphology Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Voluntary income	2	32,683	-	32,683	31,839
Charitable activities	3	111,894	-	111,894	130,446
Investment income	4	642	6	648	780
Total incoming resources		145,219	6	145,225	163,065
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	77,652	-	77,652	156,939
Governance costs	6	4,915	-	4,915	9,001
Total resources expended		82,567	-	82,567	165,940
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES and net (deficit)/income for the year					
		62,652	6	62,658	(2,875)
Capital transfer from BLS charity	7	-	-	-	163,064
Net movement in funds		62,652	6	62,658	160,189
Total funds brought forward	10	137,837	22,352	160,189	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	10	200,489	22,358	222,847	160,189

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	1,348	19,760
Cash at bank		<u>271,511</u>	<u>235,849</u>
		272,859	255,609
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(50,012)	(95,420)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		222,847	160,189
NET ASSETS		<u>222,847</u>	<u>160,189</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
FUNDS			
	10		
Unrestricted funds:		200,489	137,837
Restricted funds		22,358	22,352
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>222,847</u>	<u>160,189</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....

Chairperson - Margaret Sneddon

.....

Treasurer - Dawn Heal

The notes form part of these financial statements.

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) ***Basis of preparation of the accounts***

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective January 2019.

(b) ***Funds***

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for general purposes. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity are also unrestricted. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(c) ***Incoming resources***

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.

Trading income is shown net of related expenses as this better reflects the contribution of these activities to the charity.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

(d) ***Resources expended***

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Governance costs are those associated with the governance arrangements of the charity.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Membership subscriptions	32,683	-	32,683	31,839
	<u>32,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,683</u>	<u>31,839</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Conference	77,033	-	77,033	102,477
Advertising and other services	34,861	-	34,861	27,969
	<u>111,894</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,894</u>	<u>130,446</u>
	<u>111,894</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,894</u>	<u>130,446</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Interest receivable	642	6	648	780
	<u>642</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>780</u>
	<u>642</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>780</u>
5 EXPENDITURE - Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Professional fees	40	-	40	771
Office and administration costs	58,858	-	58,858	52,075
Website, computer and internet costs	875	-	875	3,284
Newsletter	4,489	-	4,489	2,299
Conference	2,814	-	2,814	72,902
Promotional items and surveys	2,027	-	2,027	498
Wages and expenses	20,269	-	20,269	10,849
2020 campaign	7,488	-	7,488	14,261
Written off previous years' supplier balances	(19,208)	-	(19,208)	-
	<u>77,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,652</u>	<u>156,939</u>
	<u>77,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,652</u>	<u>156,939</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

6 EXPENDITURE - Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Book-keeping	2,418	-	2,418	1,218
Independent examiner	1,572	-	1,572	1,308
Insurance	635	-	635	-
Committee meetings	110	-	110	4,369
Other meetings	180	-	180	2,106
	<u>4,915</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,915</u>	<u>9,001</u>

7 CAPITAL TRANSFER

The British Lymphology Society CIO (registered charity number 1185148) was registered on 3 September 2019 and on that date, all assets, liabilities and charitable activities were transferred from British Lymphology Society (registered charity number 1042561).

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	574	18,363
Other debtors	774	1,397
	<u>1,348</u>	<u>19,760</u>

9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	-	19,309
Deferred income	42,723	66,601
Accrued charges	7,289	9,510
	<u>50,012</u>	<u>95,420</u>

10 MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
General fund	137,837	145,219	(82,567)	-	200,489
Restricted fund: Scientific research	22,352	6	-	-	22,358
	<u>160,189</u>	<u>145,225</u>	<u>(82,567)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,847</u>

British Lymphology Society CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

11 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted:			
General fund	-	200,489	200,489
Restricted:			
Scientific research	-	22,358	22,358
	<u>-</u>	<u>222,847</u>	<u>222,847</u>

12 OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY

We are grateful to our corporate members for their generosity and their support in the 2020 conference. In addition, thank you to all who sponsor us in formal and informal ways.

13 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The following trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year:

	£
K Riches	134

No trustee nor anyone connected with them received any remuneration during the period in respect of their services as trustees.