

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1187244

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-01-07

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

Contact

Address 161 Cheveral Avenue
Radford
Coventry
CV6 3HD

Phone 07429171736

Email help@braillists.org

Website <https://www.braillists.org>

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE BY CREATING AND SUPPORTING PROJECTS TO PROGRESS THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF BRAILLE AND OTHER TACTILE MEDIA THAT WILL INCREASE THEIR ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND REDUCE THEIR SOCIAL ISOLATION.

Activities: To advance the education of, and promote social inclusion and independence for, blind and visually impaired people by creating and supporting projects to progress the development and use of Braille and other tactile media, thereby improving literacy and broadening access to employment.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£3,842	£10,144	-	-
2024-03-31	£10,713	£7,651	-	-
2023-03-31	£9,100	£11,487	-	-
2022-03-31	£20,304	£12,843	-	-
2021-03-31	£10,359	£7,451	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Williams	Chair	2020-01-07
Ami Kim Turnbull		2025-03-28
Darren James Paskell		2024-09-06
Gabriel Roger Alain Laurent Cadet de Fontenay		2024-09-06
Matthew Frank Horspool		2023-11-10
Stephanie Mary Sergeant		2024-09-06

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187244

Accounts

Braillelists Foundation CIO

Annual Report for the Period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025

Trustees

The following people served as Trustees during the financial period:

- Dave Williams (Chair)
- Megan Hastings (Secretary)
- Matthew Horspool (Treasurer to 28/03/2025, Ordinary Trustee from 28/03/2025)
- Ami Turnbull (Treasurer from 28/03/2025)
- Laurent Cadet de Fontenay (from 06/09/2024)
- Stuart Lawler
- Darren Paskell (from 06/09/2024)
- Ed Rogers (to 06/09/2024)
- Stephanie Sergeant (from 06/09/2024)
- Ilka Staeglin (to 06/09/2024)

Staff and Contractors

There were no designated paid staff during the financial period.

The Foundation procured the services of a freelance text transcriber for which remuneration was arranged in line with industry best practice.

Income and Expenditure

The Foundation's income was obtained through:

- Sponsorship: 61%
- Interest and Donations: 39%

Expenditure was made against:

- Grant funding obtained in previous years: 65%
- Sponsorship: 21%
- Interest and donations: 14%

Decision-Making and Supervision

The Trustees met eight times during the financial period, with meetings lasting an hour on average. No meetings were declared inquorate and all business was ratified in meetings, although discussions took place by email outside meetings from time to time.

Two Trustees retired and four new Trustees were appointed within the financial period to help drive our mission, and to maintain adequate trustee oversight.

Operational meetings with regular volunteers were held on a weekly basis, except where holiday or conflicts with significant events prevented this, and at least one Trustee was present at all such meetings.

Management of contractors remained delegated to the Treasurer, with oversight from the Board of Trustees.

Activities and Achievements

The following activities and achievements occurred during the financial period:

- Hosting the UK's first face-to-face World Braille Day Conference, in celebration of 200 years of braille, at New College Worcester, with approximately 80 attendees, keynote speakers and workshops, a world class braille heritage exhibition and a braille technology showcase featuring ten exhibitors
- Presenting about our work at *Braille Matters*, a celebration of World Braille Day 2025 by the Braille Revival League, a special interest affiliate of the American Council of the Blind
- Generating income through corporate sponsorship for the first time
- Moving our Newsletter to a new platform, reducing costs and improving the accessibility of the Newsletter itself and the publication process
- Training additional volunteers to support with event moderation and facilitation
- Building and maintaining relationships with organisations in other countries through Braillelists Trustees being present at the eighth General Assembly of the International Council on English Braille in New Zealand and other international events
- Attending key conferences and exhibitions in the UK, including Sight Village Central and South East
- Continuing to deliver free Masterclasses to improve competency amongst braille users, with recordings, handouts and text and braille transcripts available afterwards
- Continuing to deliver a free "Braille Bar" drop-in service
- Continuing to deliver a free "Braille for Beginners On-Demand" course
- Continuing to offer the braille Book Club, allowing braille users to practice their reading in five breakout rooms based on their ability
- Continuing to support the Braillelists email forum for braille users to exchange advice and support, alongside dedicated groups for beneficiaries of "Braille for Beginners On-Demand" and Book Club
- Maintaining our presence and two-way interaction on social media
- Continuing to publish the Braillecast podcast and make text and braille transcripts of all episodes available
- Continuing to produce SD cards containing all of our audio and text content for distribution at exhibitions, and periodically updating the master copy of that card with new content
- Continuing to provide personalised and personable email support
- Continuing to offer face-to-face "Braille and Beer" social gatherings

Audience and Reach

The reach of the Braillelists Foundation is comprised predominantly of blind and partially sighted people, but also includes teachers and other professionals supporting braille users. It can be summarised at the end of this financial period as follows:

Medium	Reach This Year	Reach Last Year
Newsletter	2103 subscribers	1858 subscribers
Braillecast	29 episodes, average 369 weekly downloads	12 episodes, average 373 weekly downloads
Masterclasses and Special Events	13 events, average 65 attendees	20 events, average 69 attendees
Braille for Beginners	118 new registrants	126 new registrants

Braille Bar	16 occurrences, average 34 attendees	17 occurrences, average 36 attendees
Book Club	42 occurrences, average 29 attendees	43 occurrences, average 27 attendees
Facebook	416 likes/497 followers	406 likes/467 followers
X (formerly Twitter)	933 followers	917 followers

Future Plans

In 2025-26, the Braillelists plans to build on the work undertaken in 2024-25. In particular, we hope to:

- Improve the functionality of the Braillelists' website and IT systems
- Improve the discoverability of Braillelists content on smart speakers
- Be present at key conferences and events
- Expand opportunities for braille groups to meet in person



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2024		31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	-	-	-	9,000
Donations	688	800	-	1,488	1
Sponsorship	2,334	-	-	2,334	1,639
Awards	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	19	-	-	19	17
Recruitment	-	-	-	-	56
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,042	800	-	3,842	10,713
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,042	800	-	3,842	10,713
A3 Payments					
Staff	-	-	-	-	3,160
Contractors	-	4,163	-	4,163	1,435
Donated equipment/resources	855	398	-	1,253	808
Equipment/resources for future donation	-	-	-	-	-
Postage	-	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure	-	423	-	423	545
Memberships	-	84	-	84	82
Presenters	99	1,500	-	1,599	900
Transport	563	-	-	563	263
Recruitment	-	-	-	-	56
Exhibitions	1,260	800	-	2,060	402
Sub total	2,777	7,367	-	10,144	7,651
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,777	7,367	-	10,144	7,651
Net of receipts/(payments)	265	- 6,567	-	- 6,302	3,062
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,477	8,567	-	11,044	7,982
Cash funds this year end	2,742	2,000	-	4,742	11,044

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Great Western Credit Union	- 175	1,340	-
	Lloyds	2,238	798	-
	PayPal	679	- 139	-
	Total cash funds	2,742	2,000	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Stock items for future donation	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Matthew Horspool			Matthew Horspool	10-Jan-25
Ami Turnbull				

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187244

Accounts

Braillists Foundation CIO

Annual Report for the Period 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Trustees

The following people served as Trustees during the financial period:

- Dave Williams (Chair)
- Megan Hastings (Secretary)
- Elaine Cheong (Treasurer to 05/05/2023)
- Matthew Horspool (Treasurer from 10/11/2023)
- Ed Rogers
- Ilka Staeglin
- Stuart Lawler

Staff and Contractors

The role of General Manager was the only designated paid role during the financial period, and came to an end in June 2023. This was filled on a self-employment basis, with the General Manager responsible for his own tax, national insurance, holiday and sick pay.

In addition, the Foundation procured the services of a freelance text transcriber and two freelance braille transcribers for which remuneration was arranged in line with industry best practice.

Income and Expenditure

The Foundation's income was obtained through:

- Grant funding: 84%
- Sponsorship: 15%
- Interest and Donations: 1%

All expenditure was made against grant funding.

Decision-Making and Supervision

The Trustees met 8 times during the financial period, with meetings lasting an hour on average. No meetings were declared inquorate and all business was ratified in meetings, although discussions took place by email outside meetings from time to time.

Staff and volunteers met on a weekly basis, except where holiday or conflicts with significant events prevented this, and there was usually at least one Trustee present at all such meetings.

Management of contractors was delegated to the General Manager, with Trustee supervision as appropriate, until the role came to an end. The General Manager subsequently continued on a voluntary basis until November 2023, at which point he was appointed Treasurer, and he has continued to manage contractors as part of these roles.

Activities and Achievements

The following activities and achievements occurred during the financial period:

- Partnering with VIEW (Vision Impairment Education Workforce) to present *Multi-Line Braille in the Classroom* in November 2023, reaching over 200 Qualified Teachers of the Visually Impaired and featuring six industry stakeholders

- Presenting about our work at *Braille Matters*, a celebration of World Braille Day 2024 by the Braille Revival League, a special interest affiliate of the American Council of the Blind
- Building relationships with similar organisations in other countries, most notably the Tactile and Technology Literacy Centre in New Zealand
- Attending key conferences and exhibitions, in particularly Sight Village Central and South East, in our own right for the first time
- Expanding the braille Book Club into five breakout rooms to allow braillelists to practice their reading based on their ability
- Developing and expanding our presence on social media, increasing two-way interaction
- Continuing to deliver free Masterclasses to improve competency amongst braille users, with recordings, handouts and text and braille transcripts available afterwards
- Continuing to deliver a free “Braille Bar” drop-in service
- Continuing to deliver a free “Braille for Beginners On-Demand” course
- Continuing to support the Braillelists email forum for braille users to exchange advice and support, alongside dedicated groups for beneficiaries of “Braille for Beginners On-Demand” and Book Club
- Continuing to publish the Braillecast podcast and make text and braille transcripts of all episodes available
- Continuing to produce SD cards containing all of our audio and text content for distribution at exhibitions, and periodically updating the master copy of that card with new content
- Continuing to provide personalised and personable email support
- Continuing to offer face-to-face “Braille and Beer” social gatherings

Audience and Reach

The reach of the Braillelists Foundation is comprised predominantly of blind and partially sighted people, but also includes teachers and other professionals supporting braille users. It can be summarised at the end of this financial period as follows:

Medium	Reach This Year	Reach Last Year
Newsletter	1858 subscribers	1585 subscribers
Braillecast	12 episodes, average 373 weekly downloads	27 episodes, average 929 weekly downloads
Masterclasses and Special Events	20 events, average 69 attendees	14 events, average 58 attendees
Braille for Beginners	126 new registrants	109 new registrants
Braille Bar	17 occurrences, average 36 attendees	15 occurrences, average 22 attendees
Book Club	43 occurrences, average 27 attendees	43 occurrences, average 21 attendees
Facebook	406 likes/467 followers	376 likes/420 followers
Twitter	917 followers	862 followers

N.B. we have improved how we record and interrogate our statistics during this financial period. Where figures for last year in this report differ from the figures reported in 2022-23, the figures in this report are more accurate.

Future Plans

In 2024-25, the Braillelists plans to build on the work undertaken in 2023-24. In particular, we hope to:

- Celebrate World Braille Day in-person

- Improve the functionality of the Braillists' website and IT systems
- Improve the discoverability of Braillists content on smart speakers
- Be present at key conferences and events
- Expand opportunities for braille groups to meet in person



Receipt

For the period
from

Section A Receipts and payments

Unrestricted
funds

to the nearest £

A1 Receipts

Grants	-
Donations	1
Sponsorship	1,639
Awards	-
Interest	17
Recruitment	56
	-
	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,713

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

	-
	-
Sub total	-

Total receipts **1,713**

A3 Payments

Staff	-
Contractors	-
Donated XRP in accounts (£S) 1	24/01/2025 -

Equipment/resources for future donation	-
Postage	-
Infrastructure	-
Memberships	-
Presenters	-
Transport	-
Recruitment	-
Exhibitions	-
Sub total	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	
	-
	-
Sub total	-

Total payments -

Net of receipts/(payments)	1,713
A5 Transfers between funds	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	764
Cash funds this year end	2,477

Section B Statement of assets and

Categories

Details

B1 Cash funds

Great Western Credit U

Tc

(agree balances with

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

Stock items for future di

B3 Investment assets

Details

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

B5 Liabilities

Details

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

Signa

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ots and payments accounts

Period start date 01/04/2023	To	Period end date 31/03/2024
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Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
9,000	-	9,000
-	-	1
-	-	1,639
-	-	-
-	-	17
-	-	56
-	-	-
-	-	-
9,000	-	10,713

-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

9,000	-	10,713
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3,160	-	3,160
1,435	-	1,435
CCXX R 308 accounts (SS)5	-	24/01/2025 808

-	-	-
-	-	-
545	-	545
82	-	82
900	-	900
263	-	263
56	-	56
402	-	402
7,651	-	7,651

-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

7,651	-	7,651
--------------	---	--------------

1,349	-	3,062
-	-	-
7,218	-	7,982
8,567	-	11,044



	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
Union	2,477	8,567
	-	-
	-	-
Total cash funds	2,477	8,567

receipts and payments account(s)

OK

OK

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
Donation	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

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Last year

to the nearest £

9,100
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
9,100

-
-

9,100

7,780
2,026
498

-
-
570
75
350
188
-
-
11,487

-

11,487

-	2,387
	-
	10,369
	7,982



**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

**Date of
approval**

10-Jan-25

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187244

Accounts

Braillelists Foundation CIO

Annual Report for the Period 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023

Trustees

The following people served as Trustees during the financial period:

- Dave Williams (Chair)
- Megan Hastings (née Paul) (Secretary)
- Elaine Cheong (Treasurer from 11/11/2022)
- Ed Rogers
- Ilka Staeglin
- Ben Mustill-Rose (to 22/01/2023)
- Stuart Lawler (from 06/01/2023)

Staff and Contractors

The role of General Manager was the only designated paid role during the financial period. This was filled on a self-employment basis, with the General Manager responsible for his own tax, national insurance, holiday and sick pay.

In addition, the Foundation procured the services of a freelance text transcriber and two freelance braille transcribers for which remuneration was arranged in line with industry best practice. The Foundation also procured the services of a freelance logistics executive during the previous financial period, a final invoice from whom was paid at the start of this period.

Income and Expenditure

The Foundation's income was obtained entirely through grant funding.

All expenditure was made against grant funding.

Decision-Making and Supervision

The Trustees met 8 times during the financial period, with meetings lasting an hour on average. No meetings were declared inquorate and all business was ratified in meetings, although discussions took place by email outside meetings from time to time.

Staff and volunteers met on a weekly basis, except where holiday or conflicts with significant events prevented this, and there was usually at least one Trustee present at all such meetings.

Management of contractors was delegated to the General Manager, with Trustee supervision as appropriate.

Activities and Achievements

The following activities and achievements occurred during the financial period:

- Establishing and delivering a free "Braille for Beginners On-Demand" course
- Collaborating with Sight and Sound Technology Ltd to present the UK's first World Braille Day conference, Six Dots to Success
- Helping to deliver three Hable Challenges in collaboration with Hable and Sight and Sound Technology Ltd
- Supporting Bristol Braille Technology CIC's "Canute for Computer Science" project

The Braillelists Foundation is a registered charity in England and Wales, no. 1187244

- Holding a local face-to-face Braillelists group meeting in Bristol
- Expanding the braille Book Club into four breakout rooms to allow braillelists to practice their reading based on their ability
- Procuring text and braille transcripts for all Braillelists recordings, including Masterclasses, special events and the Braillecast podcast
- Producing an SD card containing all audio and text content for distribution at exhibitions and by post to people who do not have access to the internet
- Delivering a free “Braille Improvers” drop-in service in Q1, to introduce users of grade 1 braille to grade 2
- Continuing to deliver free Masterclasses to improve competency amongst braille users, with recordings available afterwards
- Continuing to deliver a free “Braille Bar” drop-in service
- Continuing to support the Braillelists email forum for braille users to exchange advice and support, alongside dedicated groups for beneficiaries of “Braille for Beginners On-Demand” and Book Club
- Continuing to publish the Braillecast podcast
- Continuing to provide personalised and personable email support
- Continuing to offer face-to-face “Braille and Beer” social gatherings

The Chairman was honoured to have received a Point of Light award from the Prime Minister in recognition of his services to braille through the Braillelists Foundation, which he dedicated to all of the Trustees, staff and volunteers who make the Braillelists Foundation possible.

The reach of the Braillelists Foundation is comprised predominantly of blind and partially sighted people, but also includes teachers and other professionals supporting braille users. It can be summarised at the end of this financial period as follows:

Medium	Reach This Year	Reach Last Year
Newsletter	1596 subscribers	1272 subscribers
Braillecast	c.616 weekly downloads	c.410 weekly downloads
Masterclasses	582 registrants	417 registrants
Braille for Beginners	123 registrants	137 registrants
Braille Bar	c.30 attendees	c.30 attendees
Book Club	c.25 attendees	c.20 attendees
Facebook	376 likes/420 followers	359 likes
Twitter	862 followers	636 followers

Future Plans

In 2023-24, the Braillelists plans to build on the work undertaken in 2022-23. In particular, we hope to:

- Develop and expand our social media output to increase two-way interaction
- Improve the functionality of the Braillelists' website and IT systems
- Improve the discoverability of Braillelists content on smart speakers
- Be present at key conferences and events as they arise
- Expand opportunities for braille groups to meet in person

A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	
A6 Cash funds last year end	763	9,606	-	10,369	
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	763	7,219		- 7,982	1

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest	£ to nearest	£ to nearest
B1 Cash funds	Great Western Credit	763	7,219	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash	763	7,219	-
	(agree balances with accounts)			
		OK Unrestricted funds	OK Restricted funds	OK Endowment funds
		to nearest	£ to nearest	£ to nearest
B2 Other monetary assets	Stock items for future	-	284	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to value asset	Cost (optional)	Current (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for charity's own use		Fund to value asset	Cost (optional)	Current (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to value liability	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Signed by one or two
behalf of all the tr

Signature

Print Name

Date of
approval

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187244

Accounts

Braillelists Foundation CIO

Annual Report for the Period 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

Trustees

The following people served as Trustees during the financial period:

- Dave Williams (Chair)
- Matthew Horspool (Secretary and Treasurer to 24/09/2021)
- Megan Paul (Secretary from 05/11/2021)
- Ed Rogers
- Ilka Staeglin
- Ben Mustill-Rose

Staff and Contractors

The role of General Manager was the only designated paid role during the financial period. This was filled on a self-employment basis, with the General Manager responsible for his own tax, national insurance, holiday and sick pay.

There were three designated paid roles during the previous financial period, for which final invoices were paid at the start of this period: Community Campaigner, Course Manager and Equipment Manager.

In addition, the Foundation procured the services of a freelance text transcriber, two freelance braille transcribers and a freelance logistics executive for which remuneration was arranged in line with industry best practice.

Income and Expenditure

The Foundation's income was obtained through the following sources:

Source	Percentage
Grant funding	83.23%
Donations (restricted)	14.78%
Awards	1.61%
Donations (unrestricted)	0.31%
Interest	0.07%

All expenditure was made against grant funding, restricted donations and restricted funds remaining from the previous financial period.

Two Trustees received remuneration from the Foundation during the financial period for presenting Masterclasses. The remaining Trustees believe that the specialist nature of these Masterclasses renders the activity outside the scope of a Trustee's regular duties, and thus the remuneration is legal and appropriate. The level of remuneration received by the Trustees was equal to the remuneration offered to other specialists presenting Masterclasses who were not Trustees.

Decision-Making and Supervision

The Trustees met 11 times during the financial period, with meetings lasting an hour on average. No meetings were declared inquorate and all business was ratified in meetings, although discussions took place by email outside meetings from time to time.

At least two trustees met with staff and volunteers on a weekly basis, except where sickness absence or holiday prevented this.

Management of contractors was delegated to the General Manager, with Trustee supervision as appropriate.

Activities and Achievements

The following activities and achievements occurred during the financial period:

- Continuation of free Masterclasses to improve competency amongst braille users, with recordings available afterwards and text transcripts available for all recordings
- Delivery of a third free "Braille for Beginners" course
- Introduction of a "Braille Bar" drop-in service
- Provision of opportunities for braille users to talk with producers and experts in the field
- Expansion of the braille Book Club into three breakout rooms to allow braillelits to practice their reading based on their ability
- Continued upkeep of the Braillelits email forum for braille users to exchange advice and support, alongside dedicated groups for beneficiaries of "Braille for Beginners" and Book Club
- Distribution of all low cost braille equipment remaining from the previous financial period
- Continued publication of the Braillecast podcast
- Continued provision of personalised and personable email support
- External promotion of the Braillelits through presentations at leading national conferences for professionals in the blindness field and appearances on podcasts and radio programmes heard by blind and partially sighted people
- Re-introduction of face-to-face "Braille and Beer" social gatherings

We were particularly honoured to have been shortlisted for the Partner of the Year award from Visionary, and to have received an honorary mention from the judging panel of the Touch of Genius prize from National Braille Press.

The weekly community support Zoom calls in response to the Coronavirus pandemic were phased out during the first quarter of this financial period, but signposting to other sources of support was offered to ensure that beneficiaries were not left isolated.

The reach of the Braillelits Foundation is comprised predominantly of blind and partially sighted people, but also includes teachers and other professionals supporting braille users. It can be summarised at the end of this financial period as follows:

Medium	Reach
Newsletter	1272 subscribers
Braillecast	c.410 weekly downloads
Masterclasses	417 registrants
Braille for Beginners	137 registrants
Braille Bar	c.30 attendees
Book Club	c.20 attendees
Facebook	359 likes
Twitter	636 followers

Future Plans

In 2022-23, the Braillelits plans to build on the work undertaken in 2021-22. In particular, we hope to:

- Continue to expand the Book Club into additional breakout rooms
- Introduce a "Braille Improvers" drop-in service
- Develop and expand our social media output to increase two-way interaction
- Make text transcripts of Braillecaster available, and offer braille versions of all text transcripts
- Create an SD card containing all audio and text content for distribution at exhibitions and by post to people who do not have access to the internet
- Improve the functionality of the Braillelists website
- Improve the discoverability of Braillelists content on smart speakers
- Offer a self-service version of "Braille for Beginners"
- Be present at key conferences and events as they arise
- Re-introduce formal face-to-face Braillelists gatherings



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2021	To	Period end date 31/03/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	16,900	-	16,900	10,000
Donations	62	3,000	-	3,062	353
Awards	327	-	-	327	-
Interest	14	-	-	14	6
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	404	19,900	-	20,304	10,359
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	404	19,900	-	20,304	10,359
A3 Payments					
Staff	-	4,900	-	4,900	4,960
Contractors	-	6,055	-	6,055	116
Donated Equipment	-	213	-	213	1,646
Stock items for future donation	-	354	-	354	500
Postage	-	239	-	239	35
Infrastructure	-	389	-	389	144
Memberships	-	-	-	-	50
Presenters	-	660	-	660	-
Transport	-	34	-	34	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	12,843	-	12,843	7,451
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	12,843	-	12,843	7,451
Net of receipts/(payments)	404	7,057	-	7,461	2,908
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	359	2,549	-	2,908	-
Cash funds this year end	763	9,606	-	10,369	2,908

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bristol Credit Union	763	9,605	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	763	9,606	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Stock items for future donation	-	354	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

BRAILLISTS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187244

Accounts

Braillelists Foundation CIO

Annual Report for the Period 07/01/2020 to 31/03/2021

Trustees

The following people served as Trustees during the financial period:

- Dave Williams (Chair)
- Matthew Horspool (Secretary, and Treasurer from 22/01/2021)
- Ed Rogers (Treasurer to 22/01/2021)
- Ilka Staeglin (appointed 14/01/2020)
- Ben Mustill-Rose (appointed 06/05/2020)

Staff and Contractors

There were three designated paid roles during the financial period: Community Campaigner, Course Manager and Equipment Manager. All three roles were filled on a self-employment basis, with staff responsible for their own tax, national insurance, holiday and sick pay.

The role of Community Campaigner was held by two people during its lifetime, but the first person resigned within the first four weeks of employment and no remuneration was provided.

In addition, the Foundation procured the services of a freelance transcriber for which remuneration was arranged in line with industry practices.

Income and Expenditure

The vast majority of the Foundation's income was obtained through grant funding and all expenditure was made against these grants.

Less than 3% of the Foundation's income was obtained through individual donations and less than 1% through Credit Union interest.

No trustees received any remuneration from the Foundation during the financial period.

Decision-Making and Supervision

The Trustees met 17 times during the financial period, settling into a pattern of one meeting per month, with meetings lasting an hour on average. No meetings were declared inquorate and all business was ratified in meetings, although discussions took place by email outside meetings from time to time.

At least two trustees met with staff and volunteers on a weekly basis, except where sickness absence or holiday prevented this.

Activities and Achievements

The following activities and achievements occurred during the financial period:

- Launch of free Masterclasses to improve competency amongst braille users
- Delivery of two free "Braille for Beginners" courses
- Provision of opportunities for braille users to talk with producers and experts in the field
- Formation of a braille Book Club to allow braille users to practice their reading
- Continued upkeep of the Braillelists email forum for braille users to exchange advice and support

The Braillelists Foundation is a registered charity in England and Wales, no. 1187244

- Creation of additional email groups for beneficiaries of "Braille for Beginners" and Book Club
- Distribution of low cost braille equipment
- Increased frequency in publication of the Braillecast podcast
- Provision of personalised and personable email support
- Increased use of social media to promote Braillelists activities and engage with braille users, especially Facebook and Twitter
- Training, technical support and signposting to enable the Tactile Times newspaper to begin hard copy production
- Weekly community support Zoom calls in response to the Coronavirus pandemic
- Weekly mindfulness Zoom calls in response to the Coronavirus pandemic

The estimated reach of the Braillelists Foundation is currently 1500, comprised predominantly of blind and partially sighted people, but also including teachers and other professionals supporting braille users.

Future Plans

In 2021-22, the Braillelists plans to build on the work undertaken in 2020-21. In particular, we hope to:

- Continue with Masterclasses, the Book Club, the email forum and the Braillecast podcast
- Introduce a "Braille Bar" drop-in service
- Extend our support services to encompass social media
- Complete text transcripts for all recorded media to facilitate access for people who are deafblind
- Offer our content to people who cannot access the internet
- Improve the discoverability of our content for people who can access the internet
- Improve "Braille for Beginners"
- Be present at key face-to-face conferences and events as they arise



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 07/01/2020	To	Period end date 31/03/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Donations	353	-	-	353	-
Interest	6	-	-	6	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	359	10,000	-	10,359	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	359	10,000	-	10,359	-
A3 Payments					
Staff	-	4,960	-	4,960	-
Contractors	-	116	-	116	-
Donated Equipment	-	1,646	-	1,646	-
Stock items for future donation	-	500	-	500	-
Postage	-	35	-	35	-
Infrastructure	-	144	-	144	-
Memberships	-	50	-	50	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	7,451	-	7,451	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	7,451	-	7,451	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	359	2,549	-	2,907	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	359	2,549	-	2,907	-

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bristol Credit Union	359	2,549	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	359	2,549	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Stock items for future donation	-	500	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval