

Combined Military Services Collection

Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st March 2024

Registered Charity No. 1196112

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Legal and administrative information

Trustees: Dr RJ Wooldridge (Chairman)
Dr DA Bleay
Mr Richard Larman

Principal Office: Ravenscroft
St Josephs Abbey
Storrington
West Sussex
RH20 4GJ

Bankers: Barclays

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024

Management

The trustees that served during the year and since are as follows:

Dr RJ Wooldridge (Chairman)

Dr DA Bleay

Mr R Larman

Objectives and activities

The charities objective is:

‘To advance the education of the public by increasing access to and appreciation of The CMSM Collections of UK military artefacts and documents across the UK, and for their conservation, preservation and restoration.’

The charity will co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the objective and to exchange information and advice with them.

Achievements and performance

The Covid Pandemic meant the closure of the Combined Military Services Museum. During this period, the Museums Governance was reviewed and it was decided to add an additional CIO Charity that holds, cares for and administers the collection itself. This new charity is now set up and operational. Working alongside the original charity no 1058595. That continues to run the museum itself operationally.

Public Benefit

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance as published by the Commission.

The charities objective is ‘To advance the education of the public by increasing access to and appreciation of The CMSM Collections of UK military artefacts’

In order to comply with this objective, the trustees will operate the CMSC Charity and ensure it is available to the public for educational purposes.

Volunteers

The charity will encourage new volunteers to join and assisting in the Charities objectives.

Financial review and reserves

The financial results for the year are shown on page 4.

During this first financial year there have not been any purchases of tangible fixed assets or property.

Plans for future periods

During the coming financial year the trustee’s plan is review its collections, and plan for the future in order to fulfil all of its duties in both caring for its collections and educating the general public.

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales/Northern Ireland requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
2. Observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP.
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
4. State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
5. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts Reports) Regulations 2008 and trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



Dr R J Wooldridge
Chairman
14th April 2024

Statement of financial activities (Continued)

The financial statements on page 4 were approved by the trustees on 14th April 2024

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

.....
Dr R J Wooldridge

On behalf of the board of Trustees

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at the market value.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' published in 2005 and applicable accounting standards.

(b) Charity Status

The charity is constituted by a Governing Document (CIO)

(c) Funds

All the funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

(e) Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the statement of financial activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

(f) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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 the resources.

(g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

There are no tangible assets in this year's account; however, it is the charity's policy to depreciate its assets at rates calculated to write off the costs over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Freehold land and buildings (see note 2.1)	Not depreciated
Artefacts (see note 3)	Not depreciated
Plant	10% reducing balance basis
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10%, 20% and 25% reducing balance basis

(h) Trustees remuneration

The trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year under review.

(i) Stock

The charity does not currently hold any stock. However, for future years it is planned to hold a stock of merchandise and refreshments for sale to the general public. It is the charities policy that these will be valued at the lower cost and the net realisable value.

(j) Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the statement of financial activities.

(k) Voluntary assistance

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts.

(l) Tax claims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims will be included in the statement of financial activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

(m) Investment income

This is included in the accounts when received.

2. Tangible Assets

There are no tangible assets owned by the charity for this financial year.

2.1 Depreciation of freehold property

The trustees are of the opinion that the value of property over the long term will in general increase. Therefore, the realisable value of any property owned will always be in excess of cost, and as such no depreciation need be provided.

3. Historic assets

Some exhibits on display at the Combined Military Services Collection are on permanent loan or on lease to the charity. Therefore, these do not form part of the charities assets.

All artefacts owned by the charity will be valued at cost. The trustees are of the opinion that the value of historic artefacts over the long term will in general increase. Therefore, the realisable value of any artefacts owned will always be in excess of cost, and as such no depreciation need be provided.

4. Unrestricted funds

The trustees are of the opinion that all fees received to date are unrestricted in nature.

5. Tour income / Merchandise etc

These are shown net of related expenses.

5. Taxation

The Combined Military Services Museum is a registered charity. As such its source of income and gains are exempt from taxation to the extent that they are applied exclusively to its charitable objectives. No tax charge has arisen in the charity during the year.