



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2023 To 31 March 2024

Charity name: Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind

Charity registration number: 202573

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The charity acts for the general benefit of blind and partially sighted persons
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind has provided support to the Huntingdonshire community since 1922 offering a lifetime of support for people who are blind or partially sighted, The Society provides a wide range of services to c600 members and their carers to meet a variety of needs including free information, advice, and support. Services include <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home visit Outreach service to assess needs and provide information and support• Identification of and assistance with benefit entitlement applications• Visual and mobility aid equipment centre in Huntingdon• An opportunity to talk through the effects of sight loss• Everyday living skills advice• Regular social groups, activities and member outings• Volunteer home visiting scheme• Emotional support• Technology support and information• Society newsletter• Signposting you to other support organisations• Equipment
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The charity acts for the public benefit of blind and partially sighted persons

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>At 31st March 2024, 586 visually impaired people were registered with Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind. 72% of our members are over the age of 70.</p> <p>Over the year we visit approx. 38 people a month in their homes, and approx. 140 members attend the social groups each month.</p> <p>Also, regular trips and activities are organised throughout the year, encouraging our members to keep active and independent.</p>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Whilst a trading loss of £23k was reported for the period this was largely due to one off expenditure and the net movement of funds overall was +£148k
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity maintains funds invested to generate returns which are used for the purpose of its charitable activities
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2565k as at 31/1/2024
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution and Charity Commission Scheme sealed 10 September 1979
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Potential trustees are invited to submit applications to the Board for consideration. There are no constitutional provisions for election to post of for any body to appoint one or more trustees. Trustees are appointed by the Board following interview and receipt of satisfactory references and DBS check.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind
Other name the charity uses	Hunts Blind & Vision Impaired
Registered charity number	202573
Charity's principal address	8 St Mary's Street Huntingdon PE29 3PE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	B Yare	President	Appointed President 18 Sept 2023	
2	N Ruston	Chair		
4	F Tarpey	Vice Chair		
5	F Newton	Treasurer	Resigned as Treasurer Jan 2024	
6	A Richardson	Treasurer	Appointed Trustee 18 Sept 2023 Appointed Treasurer January 2024 Resigned July 2024	
7	A M White-Horan		Resigned 16 Sept 2024	
8	H Murphy		Appointed Jan 2023	
9	D Fletcher			
10	N Morgan		Appointed June 2023	
11	F Mizuro		Appointed April 2024	
12	The Venerable H McCurdy	President	Resigned 18 Sept 2023	
13	J King		Resigned 23 Sept 2023	
14				
15				


Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Declarations

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Fiona Tarpey
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Vice Chair
Date	13 September 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2024

	2023/24		2022/23	
	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	Funds	Funds	£
Income Resources				
Donations, Legacies and Similar Income	24,935.95	56,668.32		56,668.32
Operating Activities Outreach Grants	33,000.00	33,000.00		33,000.00
Other Grants/Income	3,686.21	925.66		925.66
Other trading activities Charity Shop	15,167.31	14,999.18		14,999.18
Sale of Blind Aids	5,999.03	5,093.36		5,093.36
Fund Raising	11,623.27	10,989.84		10,989.84
Property Rental Net	3,564.08	7,036.13		7,036.13
Club Income +Member contribution	16,400.39			
Income from investments	55,984.04	53,903.30	880.02	54,783.32
	<u>170,360.28</u>	<u>182,615.79</u>	<u>880.02</u>	<u>183,495.81</u>
Resources Expenditure				
Expenditure on raising funds				
Charity Shop	39,900.76	30,233.12		30,233.12
Blind Aids	6,163.73	5,229.61		5,229.61
Fund Raising Expenses	1,041.53	2,985.04		2,985.04
Club expenses	8,082.84			
	<u>55,188.86</u>	<u>38,447.77</u>		<u>38,447.77</u>
Net Income Available for Charitable Application	<u>115,171.42</u>	<u>144,168.02</u>	<u>880.02</u>	<u>145,048.04</u>
Expenditure on Charitable activities				
Large/Special Dons. Exp.	0.00	12,834.45		12,834.45
Payroll	118,264.08	112,247.25		112,247.25
Support Costs	19,683.72	17,316.06	880.02	18,196.08
	<u>137,947.80</u>	<u>142,397.76</u>	<u>880.02</u>	<u>143,277.78</u>
Net Income/(Expenditure)	-22,776.38	1,770.26		1,770.26
Net Gains/Losses on Revaluation of Investments	170,544.30	-72,909.96	-1,190.33	-74,100.29
Property Revaluation	0.00	15,000.00		15,000.00
Net Movement in Funds	147,767.92	-56,139.70	-1,190.33	-57,330.03
Funds Brought Forward	2,417,874.30	2,443,748.20	31,456.13	2,475,204.33
Funds Carried Forward	<u>2,565,642.22</u>	<u>2,387,608.50</u>	<u>30,265.80</u>	<u>2,417,874.30</u>

Summary Profit & Loss Account for year ending 31 March 2024

	2023/24	2022/23
Income		
Donations	24,935.95	56,668.32
Other Income	3,686.21	1,491.36
Property Income (net)	3,564.08	7,036.13
Grant Income	33,000.00	33,000.00
Investment and Dividend Income	55,984.04	54,783.32
Shop Income (Net)	14,374.75	12,900.73
Blind Aid Sales	5,999.03	5,454.49
Fund Raising Income	11,623.27	10,989.84
Club Income	13,381.39	
Total Charitable Activities	45,378.44	29,345.06
Total Income	166,548.72	182,324.19
Direct Costs		
Blind Aid Purchases	6,163.73	5,444.04
Club Expenses	8,082.84	6,399.80
Fund Raising Expenditure	1,041.53	2,587.67
Cost of Sales	15,288.10	14,431.51
Operating Income	151,260.62	167,892.68
Expenditures		
Payroll costs	118,264.08	112,247.25
Transport, Mileage, Parking etc	9,893.76	5,047.05
Print, Post & Stationery (incl Stamps)	5,491.46	3,787.63
Equipment purchase	1,429.13	2,360.33
Insurances - Property & Employers	4,761.09	3,451.24
Legal and professional fees	2,824.78	1,730.00
Training and Development	459.70	580.00
Staff and Volunteer Recruitment	986.56	488.56
Office/General Admin	5,583.81	1,076.60
Telephone/Internet	5,634.69	4,496.53
Repair and maintenance	8,853.98	4,844.09
Utilities, Water & Rates	2,454.73	1,220.33
Other Expenditure	7,399.23	4,836.81
Total Expenditure	174,037.00	153,381.60
Net Income/(Expenditure)	-22,776.38	14,511.08

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

2023/24

2022/2023

FIXED ASSETS**Land & Buildings (as at October 2022)**

Office, Shop premise's

390,000.00

390,000.00

Investments

Bonham Trust Fund £851.22 (41.66 units @ £20.4326)

851.22

780.57

Elliott Bequest Fund £32154.17 (1.573.67 units @ £20.4326)

32,154.17

29,485.23

Holiday Fund £155,566.05 (7,613.62 units @ £20.4326)

155,566.05

142,653.35

Woodward Bequest £486645.07 (23,817.09 units @ £20.4326)

486,645.07

446,251.29

General Stock £1379420.15 (67,510.75 units @ £20.4326@ £20.4326)

1,379,420.15

1,264,921.92

2,444,636.66

2,274,092.36

CURRENT ASSETS

Stock

5,041.84

4,938.39

Debtors - General

10,890.00

8,750.41

Cash

National Savings Account

31,591.12

31,591.12

Barclays Current Account

31,746.85

14,353.14

CAF Current Account

15,822.03

14,222.48

CAF Gold Account

27,776.80

71,626.05

CAF Business Card Account

500.00

480.74

Petty Cash

740.00

108,176.80

967.23

133,240.76

NET CURRENT ASSETS

124,108.64

146,929.56

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

Cash - Current Account

Creditors

Audit Fee

General

1,830.00

1,700.00

1,273.08

3,103.08

1,447.62

-31,147.62

121,005.56

143,781.94

2,565,642.22

2,417,874.30

Represented BY - ACCUMULATED FUND

General Balance as at 1 April 2023

1,713,800.77

1,790,084.43

surplus/(Loss) for the Year

-22,776.38

14,511.08

1,691,024.39

1,804,595.51

Increase/(Reduction) in Share Valuations

170,544.30

-49,748.67

Increase/(Reduction) in Property Valuations

0.00

1,861,568.69

15,000.00

1,769,846.84

Elliott Bequest Trust Fund

32,154.17

29,485.23

Bonham Trust Fund

851.22

780.57

Woodward Bequest

486,645.07

446,251.29

Holiday Fund Account

155,566.05

142,653.35

Special Donations Account

28,857.02

28,857.02

2,565,642.22

2,417,874.30

Signed



Date

13 September 2024

F Tarpey

Vice Chair Board of Trustees

Notes to the Accounts

1) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these 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) issued on 16 July 2014

2) The Finance Report for the AGM contains an analysis of the Annual Accounts and therefore forms part of these accounts

3) The introduction of accounting software QuickBooks has necessitated a slightly amended layout to the accounts this year and certain income and expenditure items are now itemised eg club income and expenditure as in previous years club balances were included within the overall general balance.

4) All funds are considered unrestricted as per the Charity Commission's definition of restricted and unrestricted funds.

5) No trustee have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits for the reporting period

5) No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000



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PE27 5BH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

We have audited the financial statements of Huntingdon Society for the Blind for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

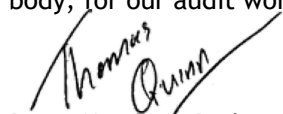
Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144* of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Peter Matthew Barlow (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Thomas Quinn Statutory Auditors

Dated: 13 September 2024