

THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 212034

Details

Other names THE SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1964-02-20

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

Contact

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West Sussex
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Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF SEAMEN GENERALLY, THEIR WIVES, WIDOWS AND CHILDREN AND OTHERS DEPENDANT ON THEM.

Activities: The Shipwrecked Mariners' Society provides financial support to retired seafarers (Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleet) and their dependants and those unable to continue working at sea through accident, disability, illness or for compassionate reasons. The Charity operates through a nationwide network of volunteers. The Society makes annual awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,628,881	£2,230,895	£30,486,133	5
2024-03-31	£1,355,280	£2,220,592	£30,505,156	5
2023-03-31	£1,543,533	£2,089,367	£29,426,904	5
2022-03-31	£1,722,961	£1,996,507	£31,732,317	5
2021-03-31	£1,603,130	£2,100,837	£31,226,103	5

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Cdr Andrea Crook RN	Chair	2018-10-02
Alison Claire Harris		2022-04-01
Anthony Peter Delahunty		2024-10-01
CAPTAIN NIGEL PALMER OBE MNM		
CAPTAIN ROGER BARKER MNM FNI		
David Michael Foster		2025-12-19
MICHAEL SEYMOUR		
MRS LIZ PRICE		2013-07-23
Michael Andrew James Colyer		2025-10-07
Michael Peter Mansergh		2016-04-26
ROB JARDINE-BROWN		2012-05-15
Richard John Brooks		2026-01-09
Ruth Eleanor Charles		2022-04-01
TIM WEST		
Toby Justin Williamson		2019-07-09
William John Plant		2019-10-01

Linked charities

- MRS JANE SUTHERLAND FUND (212034-1)
- NORTHREPPS MARINERS FUND FOR THE SHIPWRECKED (212034-10)
- EMILE ROBIN (212034-11)
- JAMES WYLLIE FUND (212034-12)
- NATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF FUND (GENERAL FUND) (212034-2)
- THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS ENDOWMENT FUND (212034-27)
- THE FLEETWOOD FISHING INDUSTRY BENEVOLENT FUND (212034-28)
- MRS ELIZABETH HALL VINEY FUND (212034-3)
- CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS BENNETT (212034-4)
- S A OXTOBY FUND (212034-5)
- MRS M A OPPENHEIM FUND (212034-6)
- SIR JAMES DUNCAN FUND (212034-7)
- LOOE FUND (212034-8)
- ANN ELDER (212034-9)

Accounts



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

for

**Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'
Royal Benevolent Society**

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (known as the Council) present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2025. The Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron	Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal	
President	Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC ADC DL FRAeS	
Vice Presidents	The Rt Hon Lord Brabazon of Tara PC DL Mr W D Everard CBE Mr J A H West DL	
The Council	Cdr A Crook RN* Cdre M Mansergh CBE DL RN* (Deputy Chair) Mr W J Plant FCA* (Treasurer) Capt R Barker MNM FNI* Miss R Charles Mr A Delahunty Mrs A Harris* Mr R Jardine-Brown Capt N Palmer OBE MNM Capt G Pepper FNI* Mrs E Price Mr M Seymour Capt J Vercoe Mr T West Cdre T Williamson MVO RN* * Members of the Executive Committee	
Chief Executive	Capt J B Osmond RN	
Principal address	1 North Pallant Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1TL	
Registered Charity number	212034	
Auditors	Lewis Brownlee (Chichester) Limited Appledram Barns Birdham Rd, Chichester West Sussex PO20 7EQ	Investment Managers Sarasin & Partners Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland PLC Gogarburn 175 Glasgow Road Edinburgh EH12 1HQ
Solicitors	George Ide LLP 52 North Street Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1NQ	Blake Morgan LLP New King's Court Tollgate, Chandlers Ford Eastleigh, S053 3LG

OUR PRESIDENT

Admiral Sir George Zambellas has served as our President since October 2016.

ORIGINS AND OBJECTIVE

On Sunday 28th October 1838 eleven fishing vessels with a total of 26 men onboard sailed from Clovelly for the fishing grounds. Only 2 vessels returned after a sudden ferocious storm and 21 men were lost. Hearing of this, Mr Charles Gee Jones, a former Bristol pilot and landlord of the Pulteney Arms in Bath, suggested to Mr John Rye, a retired 'medical man' of the city, that something should be done to assist the widows, orphans and parents of fishermen and mariners who lost their lives at sea. As a direct result the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, better known as the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, was founded in 1839 with the object of:

"giving relief and assistance to the widows and orphans of fishermen; and of mariners, members of the Society, who lose their lives by storms and shipwreck on any part of the coasts of the United Kingdom, while engaged in their lawful occupations; and also to render necessary assistance to such mariners, soldiers, or other poor persons as suffer shipwreck upon the said coasts."

Her Majesty Queen Victoria was our first Patron and ever since the Society has been honoured by Royal Patronage. In 1850 the Society was incorporated by Act of Parliament, on which the Rules and Regulations are based. This was a farsighted document that, in addition to its principal original purpose, gave the Society the right to establish a range of services in support of the maritime sector, and

"... - also any other objects, designs, or purposes of a benevolent character, for the benefit and welfare of all and every or any of the classes of men for whose benefit the said Society was originally established or those dependant on them".

Shipwrecks still occur and we are called upon to help but our main activity today is to provide financial assistance to retired, incapacitated, unemployed and working fishermen and mariners and their dependants who are in need. It is one of the largest maritime charities in the UK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society operates for the public benefit under two charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act 2011: "The Prevention and Relief of Poverty" and "The Relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage" by providing a range of grants to fishermen, merchant seamen and their dependants who are retired or of working age but are unable to earn a living through disability, accident, ill-health, because of caring responsibilities, unemployment or who face financial difficulties while at work. The Society has, since 1851, also made awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Society is a registered charity, administered by a Council of Trustees consisting of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 members, who meet three times a year to determine policy. A smaller Executive Committee meets 4 times a year to monitor the implementation of policy and to deal with current business. There are separate Nomination, Investment, Grants Policy and Awards Committees and a Trustee sits on the weekly Grants meeting, which is the standard vehicle for considering all grant applications. The Officers of the Council; the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer are subject to annual re-election. The Governing body has the power to change the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

The recruitment of Trustees has normally been by recommendation and the Society seeks to have a balance of expertise if possible - maritime, financial, medical and legal - among Council members and with a background or strong personal or professional interest in maritime matters. The Society also has a clearly stated objective to make the Council representative of both the community it serves and wider society. To this end Trustees will take full account of the existing composition of Council when making new appointments.

Induction is given initially by the Chief Executive, and this is followed by more in-depth training on Trustee responsibilities as required. Trustees require re-election every 3 years. The Society is operated by the Chief Executive and a staff of five (two of whom are part time) within the policy guidelines set by the Trustees.

The Society is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB), which is the UK's 'National Seafarers Welfare Board' as defined in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO's) Maritime Labour Convention.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Society's Risk Assessment and Business Continuity documents are regularly reviewed by the Trustees. Key risks are assessed to be:

- Reputational – Management and Trustees are always conscious of this in their routine conduct and decision making and seek professional advice where appropriate.
- Compromise of supporter and beneficiary data – Robust data protection policy and procedures ensure that the risk of unauthorised access to data is minimised. The Society also maintains the government backed Cyber Essentials accreditation.
- Major reduction in investment income both directly from our own investments and indirectly from our main grant funders. Regular face-to-face performance reviews are conducted with our Investment Manager. A review of our investment manager is undertaken approximately every 5 years. We also maintain regular contact with our major grant funders to update them on the impact of their support.
- Safeguarding – we have a robust system in place to ensure all personnel are properly supported and protected.
- Loss of key member of staff – Detailed work procedures are laid down to aid smooth succession.
- Loss of funds through theft or fraud – the Society regularly reviews its governance arrangements and working procedures to ensure robust management of its funds.

DATA PROTECTION

The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. We have a robust data protection policy which has been rewritten to accommodate the requirements of the UK's General Data Protection Regulation. Of particular note, the personal data of applicants and beneficiaries is only passed to other organisations when we assess they may be able to provide additional support, and only once the applicant has provided specific permission to do so. The personal data of donors/supporters is only shared with third parties (e.g. our online Christmas Card supplier) to support essential operational activities. When shared, this data is only used to support work on our behalf; such third parties are contractually prohibited from using it for their own fundraising or marketing activity, or from passing it to other organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society is to provide help to mariners, fishermen and their dependants who are in financial need by:

- Paying an Immediate grant to the partner of a serving seafarer who dies (be that at sea or ashore).
- Making Regular grants to elderly or incapacitated seafarers and widows in need.
- Making Special or One-off grants to meet particular needs in urgent or crisis situations.
- Making Death Benefit Grant payments to the spouses / partners of former life members.
- Making Funeral Grant payments to eligible personnel who meet our criteria for one-off grants.
- Offering practical assistance to seafarers of any nationality shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles.

In addition:

- We aim to review our regular beneficiaries' circumstances every three years with a home visit.

Through these activities we aim to make a difference to the circumstances and quality of life of our beneficiaries. We also signpost people to other sources of help and advice, such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL).

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

To be considered for a one-off or crisis grant applicants must have a minimum of 5 years sea service; for regular grants a minimum of 10 years is required. This requirement is reviewed periodically to reflect changing employment patterns and the Society's resources. They must also be within net income and savings limits which are reviewed annually by Trustees in the light of changes to state benefits, inflation and estimates of minimum income standards provided by bodies such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payments and Disability Premiums are not taken into account in assessing income, but other benefits are. The criteria and restrictions are considered to meet the public benefit test of being legitimate, proportionate and rational given the objectives of the charity and our available resources.

AWARDS FOR SKILL & GALLANTRY

The Society has presented awards for outstanding acts of skill and gallantry at sea since 1851. Four major awards are available annually: the Emile Robin award for an outstanding rescue, The Lady Swaythling Trophy for an outstanding feat of seamanship, the Edward & Maisie Lewis award for an exceptional air/sea rescue and the Grace Darling Award for an exceptional act of heroism. The cost of the Edward & Maisie Lewis award is met from a restricted fund donated by Mr Richard Lewis, in memory of his parents, and he has also generously allowed this to be used to contribute to the costs of all our awards. Commendations are also given to individuals, crews and teams for exceptional acts of skill and gallantry. The Society strongly believes in recognizing and honouring those who risk their lives for others at sea.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Key to fulfilling our objectives and the work of the Society is our national network of over 100 Honorary Agents – including private individuals, harbour masters, local Councillors, retired policemen and solicitors among others - who conduct casework, distribute grants, look after our large collecting mines or fund raise on the Society's behalf. Of note, within this number the port staff of the Fishermen's Mission, caseworkers from Nautilus International, and representatives of the Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest also act as our agents: a sensible combined use of available expertise and we are especially grateful for their contribution. SSAFA caseworkers continue to generate many new cases, several from inland counties where the Society's existence is less well known and where merchant seamen are as likely to be found as on the coast. These charities are reimbursed for the casework they conduct on our behalf.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE GRANTS

This has been another busy year for the Society, with significant levels of demand coming from those struggling to deal with the cost-of-living crisis. Grants to those in need were made in 2019 cases, which represents a 3.5% increase on last year. Total expenditure on these grants amounted to £1.41 million, including those administered on behalf of Trinity House. During the year under review there were 885 new applications for assistance, of which 85% met our criteria. The majority of those rejected had incomes above our limits or lacked the necessary sea service.

Regular grants were made to 1,236 beneficiaries during the year, which represents a continued flattening of the previous (and long term) downward trajectory in beneficiary numbers. A significant contributor to this change comes from those who whilst eligible for a regular grant, had previously felt able to cope on their limited incomes. However, the cumulative impact of the cost-of-living crisis has left them struggling to meet their daily living costs and as such they have requested a regular grant. Our current take-on rate is 30% higher than the long-term average and it remains unclear whether this rate will return to longer term norms or plateau at a new level. However, Trustees keep such numbers under regular review (as part of our long-term financial planning activity) to ensure our future plans remain affordable.

Grants are generally paid biannually, with recipients receiving a total of £884 during FY 24/25. This is clearly a modest sum, but one that makes a significant difference to someone living on pension credit, with no savings or insurance. This level of grant is in the bottom range of such grants given by occupational benevolent charities and has historically been increased every 3 years to keep pace with underlying inflation. However, following 2 increases in the last 3 years, Trustees have once again agreed to increase the grant by a further £1 per week (to £932 p.a. from 1 Apr 25) which will go some way to helping those struggling with the cumulative impact of the cost-of-living crisis. These 3 increases represent an overall uplift of 19% since 31st March 2022.

Whilst the majority of our beneficiaries are retired, others are unable to work because of accident, ill health, disability, for compassionate reasons, or are unable to find employment ashore after working at sea. They range in age from 42 to 105.

Regular grants are important for the following reasons:

- Assists with budgeting.
- Establishes an on-going relationship with the beneficiary, through the local Honorary Agent, which is more than just financial – significant numbers of our regular beneficiaries say they suffer from loneliness.
- Provides regular contact, enabling our Honorary Agents (where possible) to see beneficiaries face-to-face and to discuss financial and other matters of concern.
- The associated three-yearly reviews provide an opportunity to find out if additional assistance is required, perhaps as a result of increased infirmity.

Approximately 56% of our beneficiaries are fishermen or ex-fishermen, 30% merchant service and the balance served in both categories. Their average age is 76. During the year, we took on 125 new regular beneficiaries with an average age of 71. Reviews of 349 regular beneficiaries were also completed this year.

One-off grants totalling over £327,000 were made in 783 cases. These included a new grant paid to regular beneficiaries who no longer receive the government's Winter Fuel Payment due to narrowly missing out on receiving Pension Credit. As reported in the media, this group or personnel were heavily reliant on government support to ensure they did not have to choose between heating and eating and Trustees therefore felt they should provide additional funds to those affected. More generally we continued to provide our standard range of one-off grants, including Funeral grants, Special Grants, Shipwreck Grants and Immediate Relief Grants (paid following the death of a serving seafarer).

IMPACT

The feedback we get from letters from beneficiaries, our Honorary Agents and our three-yearly review evaluations confirms that regular and one-off grants have a positive impact on the quality of life and standard of living of the recipients (many of whom have no financial reserves or insurance) by enabling them among other things to:

- Budget better by assisting with general living expenses.
- Purchase and replace defective 'white goods' and other essential items such as beds and carpets.
- Pay for essential household maintenance and repairs, for example, to replace rotten windows and doors.
- Remain mobile within their home, for example, by providing a stairlift when local authority funding isn't available.
- Make adaptations following occupational therapist advice to deal with infirmities and disabilities, for example, to replace a bath with a walk-in shower, provide a riser / recliner chair or a specialist bed.
- Leave their homes without assistance, for example by providing an electrically powered vehicle (EPV).
- Pay for heating – a concern of our older beneficiaries who spend most of their time at home.
- Pay off priority debts such as utility bills.
- Buy clothes and shoes.

- Pay a rent deposit to escape from homelessness.
- Take a rare holiday.
- Remain in their own home.

For those solely reliant on the state pension many of these items are simply unaffordable without outside assistance.

Below are some examples of the support we have provided over the course of the year, as well as some of the thank-you messages we have received following grant awards.

- Mr S, in his early 30s with 14 years sea service, was forced to flee home (with his daughter) having been targeted by criminal gangs. With no choice but to sofa surf, they were becoming increasingly desperate and approached one of our Honorary Agent's for support. Working with another charity we were able to provide the deposit and first month's rent for a flat, which enabled them to find a new home and start rebuilding their lives.
- "My wife and I would like to say a huge thank you for your help in providing us with a stairlift. It's made such a difference to our lives - I don't know how we'd have coped without your support."
- Mrs K, a widow in her late 90s, was living independently in her own home but needed significant repairs to her roof. Unfortunately, she was tricked by rogue traders, who walked away without completing the repairs. With no money remaining and with winter fast approaching we were able to provide funds to ensure the work was quickly rectified by a reputable builder.
- "I'm writing to thank you so very much for the grant which arrived today. As always seems to be the case, it's come at just the right time as I've needed a specialist mattress for my bed for some time and will now be able to get one sorted. Again, thank you. Your kindness and generosity is beyond appreciated."
- Mr R, in his early 60s with 37 years sea service, suffered an accident whilst at sea. The resulting injuries ended his career and left him with very significant mobility issues. The Council eventually awarded him a Disabled Facilities Grant to convert his home but asked him to contribute over £3,000 towards the costs. With no savings and a very low income, we worked with another charity to provide the required funds.
- "I want to thank you once again for my grant, especially as my wife is suffering from Alzheimer's and this has helped greatly in making her life a little better. You do an amazing job. God bless."
- Mr W, in his early 50s with 25 years sea service, developed severe breathing difficulties which left him unable to work. As a single parent with very limited income, he and his young daughter have lived for many years in a one-bedroom property, with him sleeping on the sofa. He was eventually offered a 2-bed property, but noting he had no savings, we were able to provide a setting up home grant to help him furnish the property.
- "Thank you so much for helping me with a grant to replace my winter fuel payment. I really don't know how I'd have kept my home warm without this extra help. Thank you once again for all that you do."

The Grants Team at Central Office has the task of processing the applications and a key part of their work is to ensure that the people concerned are receiving all the statutory benefits to which they are entitled. The team has developed considerable expertise in this area, which in parallel with advice provided by SAIL, delivers significant sums in statutory benefits for those who would otherwise have been unaware of their entitlement. Ironically, this sometimes means that the applicant no longer meets our income criteria, and we cannot support them, but the primary objective of improving their overall financial circumstances has been achieved. We refer an increasing number of cases, where complex benefit or debt issues are involved, to SAIL and frequently act on their recommendations to ensure the most appropriate form of financial support is provided. Our weekly Grants meeting enables us to make prompt decisions, with the results communicated to applicants as quickly as possible.

We work closely with other maritime charities, and refer applicants to them for various reasons, including those who do not fit our criteria, those who require a different type of support, and those involving major expenditure (e.g. bathroom adaptations) where we seek to share the costs. Where possible if we, or another maritime charity are unable to assist then we are often able to refer applicants to relevant non-maritime charities (connected with any alternative employment) as well as sources of advice or assistance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARY CHARITY

The Society operates a number of restricted funds, including The Royal Seamen's Pension Fund, which had 24 beneficiaries at the end of the year, and the Hull Fishermen's Trust Fund, which had 56 beneficiaries. The Society also has a subsidiary charity, the Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund, which is operated as a restricted fund; this had 1 beneficiary at the end of the year.

The Society continues to manage the payment of grants to the 25 annuitants of Trinity House, London, and has the capacity and expertise to take on more work of this kind.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2015 (FRS 102).

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME

Overview

Total Income (including investment income) for 2024/25 was £1.6 million with expenditure of £2.2 million, giving an operating deficit of £602,000. This compares to a deficit of £865,000 in the previous year. In the long term the Trustees budget for an operating deficit but plan for this to be partially offset by income from investments and gains on investment assets. Overall net expenditure (after investment gains) was £19,000 compared to a net income of £1.1 million last year. It should however be noted that Trustees expect this figure to be subject to large variations due to the nature of its investment holdings.

Investments

Investments generate income that is key to supporting our beneficiaries. This year the value of our investments has reduced by approx. £150,000 to £28.6 million. A total return (TR) policy is operated which requires the investment managers to fund our budgeted yearly operating deficit from a combination of income and capital: we drew down a total of 4.0% of our investments (income and capital) during 2024/25. This aligns with our actuarial model and represents a sustainable level of expenditure to meet beneficiary needs both now and in the future. Investment performance is reviewed bi-annually by the Investment Committee, which provides additional oversight alongside the separate bi-annual reviews undertaken by Council.

The Society's Investment strategy remains unchanged and involves maintaining a moderate level of short-term investments (cash or near-cash) alongside a long-term investment fund with a greater focus on equities. The cash portfolio exists to enable the Society to continue its operations following a major stock market crash, noting the nature of equity-based investing means these will inevitably occur and should be considered routine. The value of the cash holding is set at a level to ensure uninterrupted operations following a (worst case) 30% fall in stock market value. Such funds would enable the Society to maintain expenditure levels for (up to) 5 years without having to sell depreciated holdings, and whilst the market recovers to its original level. Trustees believe this will provide a better long-term return on its investments, whilst also enabling the Society to continue its operation during inevitable periods of stock market turbulence.

Legacies

Receipts this year were £587k, up from £268k last year and well above the long-term average of £275k. Of note, Trustees fully expect significant year-on year variation in such receipts and use the long-term average to aid financial planning. However, irrespective of the sum received we remain enormously grateful to those who chose to support us in this way; such gifts are put to good use helping the next generation of seafarers and their dependants. Legacies are a vital but inherently unpredictable source of income.

Donations / Fundraising

Public donations from appeals (see Trading below), direct to Central Office and through our Agencies, which includes our collecting mines, amounted to £208,000, which whilst down on the exceptional levels seen during both the COVID and cost-of-living crises, remains in line with our long-term expectations. We are most appreciative of the generosity of those who support us in this way.

Grants

We have a very close relationship with two key charities, namely Trinity House London and The Seafarers Charity, both of whom have a long history of generous support for our work. The annual grants we receive from them are essential to our work and we maintain a close dialogue with both organisations.

Trading

This has been another good year for our trading activity, which remains focused on selling Christmas, Birthday, and correspondence cards via mail order, online and through our supplier, Impress Publishing. Additional sales come via our seasonal shop at Central Office. Whilst turnover at £62,000 was very slightly down on last year, reflecting the general reduction in Christmas card sales across the UK, the number of supporters buying our cards remained at the same level (albeit the number of cards they bought was reduced). Of note our trading model does not seek to make significant profit from card sales, as we are incredibly fortunate that those who buy our cards tend to support us (throughout the year) with generous donations. This is reflected in the £116,000 worth of appeal related donations which we received over the last year. This once again demonstrates the value of our trading activity in generating funds for the Society's work, whilst also providing numerous opportunities to advertise our work to the wider public. Our card buyers are our greatest group of supporters and have remained as loyal and generous as ever. Some of these supporters have been buying our cards for over 50 years, which is an amazing testimony to their steadfast support of our work.

EXPENDITURE

Costs of Raising Funds

These relate largely to the cost of the annual Appeal and wider publicity throughout the year which is aimed at both potential donors and those who might refer potential beneficiaries to us for assistance.

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activities amounted to £1.96 million, which was 88% of all expenditure. Of this figure £1.41 million (63% of all expenditure) was on grants to individuals. The Society works extremely hard to minimise fundraising and support costs, thereby maximising the proportion of funds spent on charitable activities and delivering the maximum level of financial support directly to our beneficiaries.

RESERVES POLICY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds as investments in order to generate the income required to carry out the purpose of the Charity both now and in the longer term. Without this the Society would be unable to respond to need to the extent that it does or would have to increase its fundraising activities and associated expenditure, and in so doing be largely competing with other charities in the maritime sector. The Society conducts an annual review of its long-term finances using an actuarial model based on a range of future scenarios. In essence this enables Trustees to determine whether we will have sufficient financial resources to meet projected future demands, based on estimated returns from our investments alongside our annual fundraising activity. The results of this year's review confirmed that the Society's finances remain robust.

The Society's Unrestricted Funds are split into three components:

- General Fund
 - This holds sufficient resources in short term realizable investment assets and cash to support administrative overheads and regular grants for a period of at least twelve months.
- Investment Property Fund
 - This is equivalent to the value of the Head Office building.
- Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants
 - This is a designated fund which is specifically maintained to generate investment income to support future grant payments (both regular and one-off). The Society's Total Return policy recognises that the value of this fund (in real terms) will slowly reduce over time, albeit this will be managed in line with our actuarial review to ensure sufficient funds to meet longer term need.

It should be noted that despite the significant size of the Designated Fund, our investments only provide 55-60% of the expenditure required each year to maintain our activities; the remaining 40-45% needing to be provided from other funding sources, including donations, legacies and external grants.

The above investments are managed by Sarasin LLP, mainly in a CAIF (Charity Approved Investment Fund) but also within a portfolio of cash or near cash instruments. The level of funds held in the above components are reviewed annually.

The breakdown of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet on page 13.

REMUNERATION POLICY

Staff salaries are set by the Trustees after relevant input from the Chief Executive. They are reviewed annually by the Executive Committee in December and after further deliberation formally approved by Council in January. The Society believes in trying to attract and retain good quality staff for the long term. Salaries are benchmarked against independent authoritative annual salary surveys of the charity sector and based around the median level for each role. There is no performance-related pay nor is there a bonus scheme.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our enduring task of helping fishermen and mariners and their dependants in need
- Maintaining the rolling programme of three-yearly reviews of beneficiaries' circumstances.
- Finding new avenues to spread the word about our work to those who may need our assistance and to those who might wish to support us.
- Increasing our knowledge of additional sources of help, advice and assistance to those in need

In summary, Trustees remain firmly focussed on the Society's remit to support seafaring beneficiaries in the short, medium, and long term; the Society remains in a strong position to continue with this important work. The Society's investments (which provide an essential income stream to underpin our long-term work) are carefully structured across a range of investment types, whilst also ensuring sufficient 'liquid' assets to meet on-going cashflow requirements. Based on the value of our investments, Trustees remain confident in the Society's ability to provide continued support for many generations to come.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Charities Act requires the Council Members of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council Members are required to:

- ensure compliance with the charity's governing document and current statutory requirements;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.

The Council Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Council Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors

On 16th December 2024 the Chichester office of Sheen Stickland merged with Lewis Brownlee (Chichester) Limited who have undertaken the audit for the current year, Lewis Brownlee (Chichester) Limited will be proposed for appointment as Auditors to the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

.....
Signed on behalf of the Trustees
Commander Andrea Crook Royal Navy - Chairperson

Approved by the Council on.....

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2025 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 Auditors' 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements ; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees 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

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence, where applicable; and;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we :

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charity's legal advisors, where applicable.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Lewis Brownlee (Chichester) Limited
Statutory Auditors
Birdham Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7EQ

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	805,640	227,567	1,033,207	717,000
Other trading activities	3	61,810	-	61,810	63,160
Other income		<u>810</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>810</u>	<u>930</u>
Total		<u>868,260</u>	<u>227,567</u>	<u>1,095,827</u>	<u>781,090</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	256,640	14,730	271,370	265,111
Charitable activities	5				
Grants and Other costs		<u>1,666,236</u>	<u>293,289</u>	<u>1,959,525</u>	<u>1,955,481</u>
Total		<u>1,922,876</u>	<u>308,019</u>	<u>2,230,895</u>	<u>2,220,592</u>
Investment income	8	473,301	59,753	533,054	574,190
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>511,648</u>	<u>71,343</u>	<u>582,991</u>	<u>1,943,565</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(69,667)	50,644	(19,023)	1,078,252
Transfer between funds		83,123	(83,123)	-	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>27,013,620</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>27,027,076</u>	<u>3,459,057</u>	<u>30,486,133</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	7,553	11,791
Investments			
Investments	12	28,640,592	28,795,516
Investment property	13	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>
		29,758,145	29,917,307
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		9,792	11,530
Debtors	14	525,981	457,476
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>228,206</u>	<u>141,429</u>
		763,979	610,435
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(35,991)	(22,586)
		<u>727,988</u>	<u>587,849</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>727,988</u>	<u>587,849</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		30,486,133	30,505,156
NET ASSETS	16	<u>30,486,133</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>
FUNDS	17		
General funds		2,463,844	2,192,777
Investment property fund		1,110,000	1,110,000
Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants		23,453,232	23,710,843
Restricted funds		<u>3,459,057</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>30,486,133</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

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

.....
Commander A S Crook RN, Chair

.....
W J Plant, FCA – Treasurer

.....
Capt J B Osmond RN – Chief Executive

The notes form part of these financial statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	(489,191)	(850,779)
Dividends, interest & rents received		<u>(533,054)</u>	<u>(574,190)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities		<u>(1,022,245)</u>	<u>(1,424,969)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(3,353,288)	(3,440,113)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	-
Sale of fixed asset investments		3,929,257	4,155,789
Dividends, interest & rents received	8	<u>533,053</u>	<u>574,190</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>1,109,022</u>	<u>1,289,866</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		86,777	(135,103)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	20	<u>141,429</u>	<u>276,532</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	20	<u><u>228,206</u></u>	<u><u>141,249</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as updated on 5th October 2018 and effective from 1st January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs, which include salaries and overheads, are apportioned to Raising Funds, Charitable Activities, Management and Governance according to the staff time involved.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 25% on reducing balance
Furniture and equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

Fixed assets are capitalised where the initial cost exceeds £1,000.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Investment property

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation (conducted independently) and no depreciation is charged in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to reserves.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

Grants received from The Seafarers Charity, Trinity House and MNWB are treated as restricted funds. The Royal Seaman's Pension Fund (RSPF) was transferred to the Society in December 2005 as a restricted fund. The Hull Fisherman's Trust (HFTF) became a restricted fund of the Society on 1st July 2007. The Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund (FFIBF) became a subsidiary charity of the Society on 1st November 2007 and under a Uniting Direction granted by the Charity Commission it is accounted as a restricted fund.

The Edward and Maisie Lewis Fund is a restricted fund used for the annual award for the most outstanding air/sea rescue of the year and contributes towards other awards.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society. The annual contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. In addition the Society makes pension payments to certain retired employees, which payments are expensed as incurred.

2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES AND GRANTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Central office donations	80,597	91,151
Agency donations	11,276	12,838
Appeals Office donations	116,493	132,876
Legacies	587,273	267,883
Grants	<u>237,568</u>	<u>212,252</u>
	<u>1,033,207</u>	<u>717,000</u>

At 31st March 2025, the Society had been notified of its entitlement to legacies estimated at £507,000 (2024: £434,418) and is provided for in their financial statements.

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
The Seafarers Charity - SMS	65,000	50,000
The Seafarers Charity - MN	10,000	15,000
Trinity House - SMS	115,500	110,000
Trinity House - TH Annuitants	23,868	20,332
MNWB – SMS	13,200	6,045
Fishmongers Hall - SMS	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,875</u>
	<u>237,568</u>	<u>212,252</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society has previously operated its own trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited) but decided to amalgamate this into the main charity with effect from 1 April 2020. This year's income (£61,810) is predominantly driven by Christmas Card sales but represents an 2% decrease on last year's receipts (£63,160).

4. RAISING FUNDS

	2025 £	2024 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Staff costs	33,072	30,695
Appeal costs	5,022	4,778
Publicity	36,586	37,006
Other costs	13,197	11,066
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>424</u>	<u>483</u>
	88,301	84,028
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	11,530	6,989
Trading purchases	59,148	70,302
Closing stock	<u>(9,792)</u>	<u>(11,530)</u>
	60,886	65,761
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management – net charge after rebate	<u>122,183</u>	<u>115,322</u>
	<u>271,370</u>	<u>265,111</u>

Publicity includes the costs of making the Society known to potential beneficiaries.

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	2025 Totals £	2024 Totals £
Grants to Individuals	1,409,691	-	1,409,691	1,426,998
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>549,834</u>	<u>549,834</u>	<u>528,483</u>
	<u>1,409,691</u>	<u>549,834</u>	<u>1,959,525</u>	<u>1,955,481</u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Number of grants 2025	Total Funds 2025 £	Number of grants 2024	Total Funds 2024 £
SMS grants:				
Biannual grants	1,120	982,298	1,120	971,664
Initial/Final grants	125	67,730	123	61,313
Special grants	369	179,689	349	211,569
Special grants (MN Fund)	9	5,600	8	11,309
Immediate grants	4	5,500	6	8,200
Death benefit grants	9	7,605	11	9,295
Shipwreck grants	-	-	-	-
Cost of Living Crisis	267	61,200	210	45,800
Total SMS grants	1,903	1,309,622	1,827	1,319,150
RSPF restricted fund grants	29	24,089	37	31,382
HFTF restricted fund grants	58	51,051	62	54,366
FFIBF restricted fund grants	2	1,061	2	1,768
Grants on behalf of Trinity House	27	23,868	24	20,332
	2,019	1,409,691	1,952	1,426,998

Within the total grants expenditure is a sum of £75,000 (2024: £50,000) provided by The Seafarers Charity and £139,368 (2024: £130,332) provided by Trinity House, which includes £23,868 repayment of expenditure on regular grants to their annuitants.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance costs	2025 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	184,572	56,174	240,746
Social security	16,959	5,161	22,120
Pensions	26,661	8,114	34,775
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	10,440	10,440
Professional /Legal fees	-	7,903	7,903
Other support costs	184,785	45,250	218,366
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,180	635	3,815
	416,157	133,677	549,834

Comparative support costs

	Management	Governance costs	2024 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	171,901	52,318	224,219
Social security	15,236	4,637	19,873
Pensions	24,661	7,505	32,166
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,684	9,684
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,549	12,549
Other support costs	181,102	44,545	225,647
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,621	724	4,345
	396,521	131,962	528,483

8. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Investment property	42,239	39,980
Common Investment Fund	486,075	530,810
Bank interest	<u>4,739</u>	<u>3,400</u>
	<u>533,053</u>	<u>574,190</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Council members receive no remuneration. Reimbursement of expenses to 2 (2024: 1) Council members totalled £431 (2024: £163).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries	267,496	249,132
Social security costs	24,578	22,081
Pension contributions	<u>38,639</u>	<u>35,740</u>
	<u>330,713</u>	<u>306,953</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
Administrative staff		

One employee received emoluments within the £90,000 - £100,000 band and £11,902 was contributed to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of this employee.

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in a fund administered independently by Standard Life and Royal London. The pension contributions represent amounts payable by the Society to the fund.

The Society is also committed to paying a pension out of its funds to certain former employees or their dependants. These amounts are included within salaries.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st April 2024 and 31 st March 2025	<u>38,139</u>	<u>31,589</u>	<u>20,066</u>	<u>89,794</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st April 2024	35,813	31,473	10,717	78,003
Charge for year	<u>581</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>3,628</u>	<u>4,238</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>36,394</u>	<u>31,502</u>	<u>14,345</u>	<u>82,241</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2025	<u>1,745</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>5,721</u>	<u>7,553</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>2,326</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>9,349</u>	<u>11,791</u>

Fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the Society's objects.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Common investment fund £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1st April 2024	4	28,637,267	158,245	28,795,516
Additions	-	3,353,288	-	3,353,288
Disposals	-	(3,889,300)	(39,957)	(3,929,257)
Revaluations	<u>-</u>	<u>421,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>421,045</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>4</u>	<u>28,522,300</u>	<u>118,288</u>	<u>28,640,592</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2025	<u>4</u>	<u>28,522,300</u>	<u>118,288</u>	<u>28,640,592</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>4</u>	<u>28,637,267</u>	<u>158,245</u>	<u>28,795,516</u>

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

£

MARKET VALUE

At 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025

1,110,000

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31st March 2024 and 31st March 2025

1,110,000

The freehold investment property was valued as at 1st April 2022 by M Le Seilleur of Flude Commercial on an open market value basis in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The original cost of the property was £64,761.

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	2,657	3,208
Gift aid tax recoverable	5,707	6,789
Legacies receivable	507,000	434,418
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>10,617</u>	<u>13,061</u>
	<u>525,981</u>	<u>457,476</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	21,517	10,627
Accruals and deferred income	10,767	9,722
VAT	3,703	2,233
Amounts owed to group undertakings (see Note 18)	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>35,991</u>	<u>22,586</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total Funds £
Fixed assets	7,553	-	7,553
Investments	26,248,347	3,502,245	29,750,592
Current assets	724,044	39,935	763,979
Current liabilities	(35,991)	-	(35,991)
	<u>26,943,953</u>	<u>3,542,180</u>	<u>30,486,133</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Fixed assets	11,791	-	11,791
Investments	26,550,915	3,354,601	29,905,516
Current assets	473,500	136,935	610,435
Current liabilities	(22,586)	-	(22,586)
	<u>27,013,620</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,192,777	(69,667)	340,734	2,463,844
Investment property fund	1,110,000	-	-	1,110,000
Designated fund - Income Generation to Support Grants	<u>23,710,843</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(257,611)</u>	<u>23,453,232</u>
	27,013,620	(69,667)	83,123	27,027,076
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	6,538	4,400	-	10,938
E & M Lewis Award Fund	77,830	(3,816)	-	74,014
RSPF	362,543	(8,712)	-	353,831
HFTF	2,727,714	38,441	-	2,766,155
FFIBF	246,988	7,131	-	254,119
MNWB for caseworking	<u>69,923</u>	<u>13,200</u>	<u>(83,123)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,491,536</u>	<u>50,644</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,459,057</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>30,505,156</u>	<u>(19,023)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,486,133</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,341,561	(1,922,876)	511,648	(69,667)
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK for regular grants	65,000	(65,000)	-	-
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	10,000	(5,600)	-	4,400
Trinity House for regular grants	115,500	(115,500)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	23,868	(23,868)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	1,105	(6,126)	1,205	(3,816)
RSPF	8,061	(26,414)	9,641	(8,712)
HFTF	46,332	(63,309)	55,418	38,441
FFIBF	4,254	(2,202)	5,079	7,131
MNWB for caseworking	13,200	-	-	13,200
	<u>287,320</u>	<u>(308,019)</u>	<u>71,343</u>	<u>50,644</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,628,881</u>	<u>(2,230,895)</u>	<u>582,991</u>	<u>(19,023)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,071,448	886,111	(764,782)	2,192,777
Investment property fund	1,110,000	-	-	1,110,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	22,946,061	-	764,782	23,710,843
	<u>26,127,509</u>	<u>886,111</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,013,620</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	2,847	3,691	-	6,538
E & M Lewis Award Fund	81,712	(3,882)	-	77,830
RSPF	356,612	5,931	-	362,543
HFTF	2,565,214	162,500	-	2,727,714
FFIBF	228,922	18,066	-	246,988
MNWB for case-working	64,088	5,835	-	69,923
	<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>192,141</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>1,078,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,090,577	(1,917,321)	1,712,855	886,111
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK for regular grants	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	15,000	(11,309)	-	3,691
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	20,332	(20,332)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	1,237	(9,279)	4,160	(3,882)
RSPF	8,502	(33,622)	31,051	5,931
HFTF	49,086	(65,674)	179,088	162,500
FFIBF	4,500	(2,845)	16,411	18,066
MNWB for caseworking	6,045	(210)	-	5,835
	<u>264,702</u>	<u>(303,271)</u>	<u>230,710</u>	<u>192,141</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,355,279</u>	<u>(2,220,592)</u>	<u>1,943,565</u>	<u>1,078,252</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited, which is maintained as a dormant company following transfer of trading activity to the main charity in April 2020.

At the year end the Charity owed Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited £4 in respect of share capital.

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(19,023)	1,078,252
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,239	4,827
Losses/(gain) on investments	(421,045)	(1,761,607)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(68,505)	(170,733)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	1,738	(4,541)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>13,405</u>	<u>3,023</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities	<u>(489,191)</u>	<u>(850,779)</u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand	2	14
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	<u>228,204</u>	<u>141,415</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>228,206</u>	<u>141,429</u>

Accounts



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

for

**Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'
Royal Benevolent Society**

Shipwrecked Fisherman and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (known as the Council) present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2024. The Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron	Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal	
President	Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC ADC DL FRAeS	
Vice Presidents	The Rt Hon Lord Brabazon of Tara PC DL Mr W D Everard CBE Mr J A H West DL	
The Council	Cdr A Crook RN* (Chair from Dec 23) Cdre M Mansergh CBE DL RN* (Deputy Chair) Mr W J Plant FCA* (Treasurer) Capt R Barker MNM FNI* Miss R Charles Mr R H Coleman FCA Mr E Delaney KSG Mrs A Harris* Mr R Jardine-Brown Capt N Palmer OBE MNM (Chair until Dec 23) Capt G Pepper FNI* Mrs E Price Mr M Seymour Capt J Vercoe Mr T West Cdre T Williamson MVO RN* * Members of the Executive Committee	
Chief Executive	Capt J B Osmond RN	
Principal address	1 North Pallant Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1TL	
Registered Charity number	212034	
Auditors	Sheen Stickland 7 East Pallant Chichester West Sussex PO19 1TR	Investment Managers Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland PLC Gogarburn 175 Glasgow Road Edinburgh EH12 1HQ
Solicitors	George Ide LLP 52 North Street Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1NQ	Blake Morgan LLP New King's Court Tollgate, Chandlers Ford Eastleigh, S053 3LG

OUR PRESIDENT

Admiral Sir George Zambellas has served as our President since October 2016.

ORIGINS AND OBJECTIVE

On Sunday 28th October 1838 eleven fishing vessels with a total of 26 men onboard sailed from Clovelly for the fishing grounds. Only 2 vessels returned after a sudden ferocious storm and 21 men were lost. Hearing of this, Mr Charles Gee Jones, a former Bristol pilot and landlord of the Pulteney Arms in Bath, suggested to Mr John Rye, a retired 'medical man' of the city, that something should be done to assist the widows, orphans and parents of fishermen and mariners who lost their lives at sea. As a direct result the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, better known as the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, was founded in 1839 with the object of:

"giving relief and assistance to the widows and orphans of fishermen; and of mariners, members of the Society, who lose their lives by storms and shipwreck on any part of the coasts of the United Kingdom, while engaged in their lawful occupations; and also to render necessary assistance to such mariners, soldiers, or other poor persons as suffer shipwreck upon the said coasts."

Her Majesty Queen Victoria was our first Patron and ever since the Society has been honoured by Royal Patronage. In 1850 the Society was incorporated by Act of Parliament, on which the Rules and Regulations are based. This was a farsighted document that, in addition to its principal original purpose, gave the Society the right to establish Asylums, a system of lifeboats, to build boats to demonstrate how much safer decked fishing boats could be, and

"... - also any other objects, designs, or purposes of a benevolent character, for the benefit and welfare of all and every or any of the classes of men for whose benefit the said Society was originally established or those dependant on them".

Shipwrecks still occur and we are called upon to help but our main activity today is to provide financial assistance to retired, incapacitated, unemployed and working fishermen and mariners and their dependants who are in need. It is one of the largest maritime charities in the UK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society operates for the public benefit under two charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act 2011: "The Prevention and Relief of Poverty" and "The Relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage" by providing a range of grants to fishermen, merchant seamen and their dependants who are retired or of working age but are unable to earn a living through disability, accident, ill-health, because of caring responsibilities, unemployment or who face financial difficulties while at work. The Society has, since 1851, also made awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Society is a registered charity, administered by a Council of Trustees consisting of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 members, who meet three times a year to determine policy. A smaller Executive Committee meets 4 times a year to monitor the implementation of policy and to deal with current business. There are separate Nomination, Investment, Grants Policy and Awards Committees and a Trustee sits on the weekly Grants meeting, which is the standard vehicle for considering all grant applications. The Officers of the Council; the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer are subject to annual re-election. The Governing body has the power to change the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

The recruitment of Trustees has normally been by recommendation and the Society seeks to have a balance of expertise if possible - maritime, financial, medical and legal - among Council members and with a background or strong personal or professional interest in maritime matters. The Society also has a clearly stated objective to make the Council representative of both the community it serves and wider society. To this end Trustees will take full account of the existing composition of Council when making new appointments.

Induction is given initially by the Chief Executive, and this is followed by more in-depth training on Trustee responsibilities as required. Trustees require re-election every 3 years. The Society is operated by the Chief Executive and a staff of five (two of whom are part time) within the policy guidelines set by the Trustees.

The Society is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB), which is the UK's 'National Seafarers Welfare Board' as defined in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO's) Maritime Labour Convention.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Society's Risk Assessment and Business Continuity documents are regularly reviewed by the Trustees. Key risks are assessed to be:

- Compromise of supporter and beneficiary data – Robust data protection policy and procedures ensure that the risk of unauthorised access to data is minimised. The Society also maintains the government backed Cyber Essentials accreditation.
- Reputational – Management and Trustees are always conscious of this in their routine conduct and decision making and seek professional advice where appropriate.
- Major reduction in investment income both directly from our own investments and indirectly from our main grant funders. Regular face-to-face performance reviews are conducted with our Investment Manager. A review of our investment manager is undertaken approximately every 5 years. We also maintain regular contact with our major grant funders to update them on the impact of their support.
- Loss of key member of staff – Detailed work procedures are laid down to aid smooth succession.
- Loss of funds through theft or fraud – the Society regularly reviews its governance arrangements and working procedures to ensure robust management of its funds.
- Safeguarding – we have a robust system in place to ensure all personnel are properly supported and protected.

DATA PROTECTION

The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. We have a robust data protection policy which has been rewritten to accommodate the requirements of the UK's General Data Protection Regulation. Of particular note, the personal data of applicants and beneficiaries is only passed to other organisations when we assess they may be able to provide additional support, and only once the applicant has provided specific permission to do so. The personal data of donors/supporters is only shared with third parties (e.g. our online Christmas Card supplier) to support essential operational activities. When shared, this data is only used to support work on our behalf; such third parties are contractually prohibited from using it for their own fundraising or marketing activity, or from passing it to other organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society is to provide help to mariners, fishermen and their dependants who are in financial need by:

- Paying an Immediate grant to the partner of a serving seafarer who dies (be that at sea or ashore).
- Making Regular grants to elderly or incapacitated seafarers and widows in need.
- Making Special or One-off grants to meet particular needs in urgent or crisis situations.
- Making Death Benefit Grant payments to the spouses / partners of former life members.
- Making Funeral Grant payments to eligible personnel who meet our criteria for one-off grants.
- Offering practical assistance to seafarers of any nationality shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles.

In addition:

- We aim to review our regular beneficiaries' circumstances every three years with a home visit.

Through these activities we aim to make a difference to the circumstances and quality of life of our beneficiaries. We also signpost people to other sources of help and advice, such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL).

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

To be considered for a one-off or crisis grant applicants must have a minimum of 5 years sea service; for regular grants a minimum of 10 years is required. This requirement is reviewed periodically to reflect changing employment patterns and the Society's resources. They must also be within net income and savings limits which are reviewed annually by Trustees in the light of changes to state benefits, inflation and estimates of minimum income standards provided by bodies such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payments and Disability Premiums are not taken into account in assessing income, but other benefits are. The criteria and restrictions are considered to meet the public benefit test of being legitimate, proportionate and rational given the objectives of the charity and our available resources.

AWARDS FOR SKILL & GALLANTRY

The Society has presented awards for outstanding acts of skill and gallantry at sea since 1851. Four major awards are available annually: the Emile Robin award for an outstanding rescue, The Lady Swaythling Trophy for an outstanding feat of seamanship, the Edward & Maisie Lewis award for an exceptional air/sea rescue and the Grace Darling Award for an exceptional act of heroism. The cost of the Edward & Maisie Lewis award is met from a restricted fund donated by Mr Richard Lewis, in memory of his parents, and he has also generously allowed this to be used to contribute to the costs of all our awards. Commendations are also given to individuals, crews and teams for exceptional acts of skill and gallantry. The Society strongly believes in recognizing and honouring those who risk their lives for others at sea.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Key to fulfilling our objectives and the work of the Society is our national network of over 140 Honorary Agents - private individuals, harbour masters, post mistresses, retired policemen and solicitors among others - who conduct casework, distribute grants, look after our large collecting mines or fundraise on the Society's behalf. Of note, within this number the port staff of the Fishermen's Mission, caseworkers from Nautilus International, the Chaplains of the Mission to Seafarers, the Mersey Mission and Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest also act as our agents: a sensible combined use of available expertise and we are especially grateful for their contribution. SSAFA caseworkers continue to generate many new cases, several from inland counties where the Society's existence is less well known and where merchant seamen are as likely to be found as on the coast. These charities are reimbursed for the casework they conduct on our behalf.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

GRANTS

This has been another busy year for the Society, with significant levels of demand coming from those struggling to deal with the cost-of-living crisis. Grants to those in need were made in 1952 cases, which represents a 5% increase on last year. Total expenditure on these grants amounted to £1.42 million, including those administered on behalf of Trinity House. During the year under review there were 798 new applications for assistance, of which 85% met our criteria. The majority of those rejected had incomes above our limits or lacked the necessary sea service.

Regular grants were made to 1,245 beneficiaries during the year, which represents a significant flattening of the previous (and long term) downward trajectory in beneficiary numbers. A significant contributor to this change comes from those who whilst eligible for a regular grant, had previously felt able to cope on their limited incomes. However, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis has left them struggling to meet their daily living costs and as such they have requested a regular grant. This has contributed to a take-on rate for the year which is 30% higher than the long-term average, albeit down from last year's peak (60% higher). It is unclear whether this rate will return to longer term norms or plateau at a new level, but Trustees keep such numbers under regular review (as part of our long-term financial planning activity) to ensure our future plans remain affordable.

Grants are generally paid biannually, with recipients receiving a total of £884. This is clearly a modest sum, but one that makes a significant difference to someone living on pension credit, with no savings or insurance. This level of grant is in the bottom range of such grants given by occupational benevolent charities and has historically been increased every 3 years to keep pace with underlying inflation. However, in response to the recent high levels of inflation Trustees had already increased the grant on 2 consecutive years, representing a 13% increase in the associated costs. As such, and noting our finite funding, Trustees felt it was more important to use available resources to focus on specific cost-of-living pressures, by providing extra funding for a second round of specific cost-of-living grants. These grants are focussed on supporting individuals (and families) who narrowly missed out on the enhanced levels of financial support provided to those on qualifying benefits. We do however hope to be able to raise our regular grant by a further £1 per week in 2025/26.

Whilst the majority of our beneficiaries are retired, others are unable to work because of accident, ill health, disability, for compassionate reasons, or are unable to find employment ashore after working at sea. They range in age from 41 to 105.

Regular grants are important for the following reasons:

- Assists with budgeting.
- Establishes an on-going relationship with the beneficiary, through the local Honorary Agent, which is more than just financial – 27% of our regular beneficiaries say they suffer from loneliness.
- Provides regular contact, enabling our Honorary Agents (where possible) to see beneficiaries face-to-face and to discuss financial and other matters of concern.
- The associated three-yearly reviews provide an opportunity to find out if additional assistance is required, perhaps as a result of increased infirmity.

Approximately 55% of our beneficiaries are fishermen or ex-fishermen, 29% merchant service and the balance served in both categories. Their average age is 76. During the year, we took on 125 new regular beneficiaries with an average age of 71. Reviews of 187 regular beneficiaries were also completed this year.

One-off grants totalling over £347,000 were made in 707 cases. These included those associated with the cost-of-living crisis as well as our standard range of one-off grants, including Funeral grants, Special Grants, Shipwreck Grants and Immediate Relief Grants (paid following the death of a serving seafarer).

IMPACT

The feedback we get from letters from beneficiaries, our Honorary Agents and our three-yearly review evaluations confirms that regular and one-off grants have a positive impact on the quality of life and standard of living of the recipients (many of whom have no financial reserves or insurance) by enabling them among other things to:

- Budget better by assisting with general living expenses.
- Purchase and replace defective 'white goods' and other essential items such as beds and carpets.
- Pay for essential household maintenance and repairs, for example, to replace rotten windows and doors.
- Remain mobile within their home, for example, by providing a stairlift when local authority funding isn't available.
- Make adaptations following occupational therapist advice to deal with infirmities and disabilities, for example, to replace a bath with a walk-in shower, provide a riser / recliner chair or a specialist bed.
- Leave their homes without assistance, for example by providing an electrically powered vehicle (EPV).

Shipwrecked Fisherman and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society

- Pay for heating – a concern of our older beneficiaries who spend most of their time at home.
- Pay off priority debts such as utility bills.
- Buy clothes and shoes.
- Pay a rent deposit to escape from homelessness.
- Take a rare holiday.
- Remain in their own home.

For those solely reliant on the state pension many of these items are simply unaffordable without outside assistance.

Below are some examples of the support we have provided over the course of the year, as well as some of the thank-you messages we have received following grant awards.

- Mrs G, a widow in her early 80's living in a remote part of Scotland, was without heating for several winter months after her boiler broke down. Not really knowing where to turn she was eventually directed to us by a distant neighbour. We were able to swiftly fund a replacement boiler, whilst also taking her on as a regular beneficiary to assist her in dealing with her day-to-day living costs.
- "I would like to thank all the people and organisations who've gone above and beyond to help me during a time of crisis. The service I've received from all of you working together is absolutely priceless and second to none. Many thanks to everyone who's helped me."
- Since losing her husband at sea Mrs K has struggled to raise her 3 young children. Whilst receiving regular support from another charity, she was unable to avoid building up significant arrears. Working with the Sailor's Advice and Information Line we helped her to apply for additional benefits, whilst also clearing her arrears, which placed her in a more stable financial position going forward.
- Thank you so much for the recent cost-of-living grant, it was very much appreciated and a welcome surprise. Thank you again for your support through the years.
- Mr T, in his late 30's with 15 years sea service, was facing eviction from his family home when the landlord decided to sell the property. After a very stressful period in temporary accommodation with his wife and disabled son, the Council eventually found them a property, but it did not have any floor coverings. We were able to provide a grant for carpeting, whilst working with other charities to provide for additional needs.
- "I would like to thank you for the invaluable support I have received. I could hardly sleep last night thinking of what it means to me and that this may be the last weekend of no food or heating. Thank you once again for your help."
- Mr A, in his late 20s with 11 years sea service, was unable to work as his boat (and many others) had been damaged during an extreme weather event. Unable to meet the regular costs of supporting his wife and young family, we were able to provide a grant to tide them over until the boat could be repaired and he could return to work.
- "After an horrendous 9 months we have finally had a ray of hope - that being the support you have provided. Many, many thanks."
- Mr F, in his early 80's with 30 years sea service, was increasingly struggling with his breathing and was virtually housebound due to difficulty walking any distance. This was significantly affecting his mental health. In conjunction with the Sailors Hospital Society, we were able to provide a mobility scooter which he subsequently reported using almost every day and has had a transformational impact on his health and wellbeing.

The Grants Team at Central Office has the task of processing the applications and a key part of their work is to ensure that the people concerned are receiving all the statutory benefits to which they are entitled. The team has developed considerable expertise in this area, which in parallel with advice provided by SAIL, delivers significant sums in statutory benefits for those who would otherwise have been unaware of their entitlement. Ironically, this sometimes means that the applicant no longer meets our income criteria, and we cannot support them, but the primary objective of improving their overall financial circumstances has been achieved. We refer an increasing number of cases, where complex benefit or debt issues are involved, to SAIL and frequently act on their recommendations to ensure the most appropriate form of financial support is provided. Our weekly

Grants meeting enables us to make prompt decisions, with the results communicated to applicants as quickly as possible.

We work closely with other maritime charities, and refer applicants to them for various reasons, including those who do not fit our criteria, those who require a different type of support, and those involving major expenditure (e.g. bathroom adaptations) where we seek to share the costs. Where possible if we, or another maritime charity are unable to assist then we are often able to refer applicants to relevant non-maritime charities (connected with any alternative employment) as well as sources of advice or assistance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARY CHARITY

The Society operates a number of restricted funds, including The Royal Seamen's Pension Fund, which had 32 beneficiaries at the end of the year, and the Hull Fishermen's Trust Fund, which had 59 beneficiaries. The Society also has a subsidiary charity, the Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund, which is operated as a restricted fund; this had 2 beneficiaries at the end of the year.

The Society continues to manage the payment of grants to the 27 annuitants of Trinity House, London, and has the capacity and expertise to take on more work of this kind.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2015 (FRS 102).

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME

Overview

Total Income (including investment income) for 2023/24 was £1.35 million with expenditure of £2.2 million, giving an operating deficit of £865,000. This compares to a deficit of £545,000 in the previous year. In the long term the Trustees budget for an operating deficit but plan for this to be partially offset by income from investments and gains on investment assets. Overall net income (after investment gains) was £1.08 million compared to a net expenditure of £2.3 million last year. It should however be noted that Trustees expect this figure to be subject to large variations due to the nature of its investment holdings.

Investments

Investments generate income that is key to supporting our beneficiaries. This year the value of our investments has increased by approx. £1.0 million to £28.8 million. A total return (TR) policy is operated which requires the investment managers to fund our budgeted yearly operating deficit from a combination of income and capital: we drew down a total of 4.9% of our investments (income and capital) during 2023/24. This aligns with our actuarial model and represents a sustainable level of expenditure to meet beneficiary needs both now and in the future. Investment performance is reviewed bi-annually by the Investment Committee, which provides additional oversight alongside the separate bi-annual reviews undertaken by Council.

The Society's Investment strategy remains unchanged and involves maintaining a moderate level of short-term investments (cash or near-cash) alongside a long-term investment fund with a greater focus on equities. The cash portfolio exists to enable the Society to continue its operations following a major stock market crash, noting the nature of equity-based investing means these will inevitably occur. The value of the cash holding is set at a level to ensure uninterrupted operations following a (worst case) 30% fall in stock market value. Such funds would enable the Society to maintain expenditure levels for (up to) 5 years without having to sell depreciated holdings, and whilst the market recovers to its original level. Trustees believe this will provide a better long-term return on its investments, whilst also enabling the Society to continue its operation during inevitable periods of stock market turbulence.

Legacies

Receipts this year were £267k, down from £312k last year and slightly below the long-term average of £275k. Of note, Trustees fully expect significant year-on year variation in such receipts and use the long-term average to aid financial planning. However, irrespective of the sum received we remain enormously grateful to those who chose to support us in this way; such gifts are put to good use helping the next generation of seafarers and their dependants. Legacies are a vital but inherently unpredictable source of income.

Donations / Fundraising

Public donations from appeals (see Trading below), direct to Central Office and through our Agencies, which includes our collecting mines, amounted to £237,000 which is slightly up on last year's total of £228,000. We remain delighted that the underlying level of donations continues to show a year-on-year rise. We are most appreciative of the generosity of those who support us in this way.

Grants

We have a very close relationship with two key charities, namely Trinity House London and The Seafarers Charity, both of whom have a long history of generous support for our work. The annual grants we receive from them are essential to our work and we maintain a close dialogue with both organisations.

Trading

This has been a good year for our trading activity, which remains focussed on selling Christmas, Birthday, and correspondence cards (via mail order) through our supplier, Impress Publishing. Additional sales come via our seasonal shop at Central Office. Whilst turnover at £63,000 was down on last year, reflecting the general reduction in Christmas card sales across the UK, the number of supporters buying our cards remained at the same level (albeit the number of cards they bought was reduced). Of note our trading model does not seek to make significant profit from card sales, as we are incredibly fortunate that those who buy our cards tend to support us (throughout the year) with generous donations. This is reflected in the £133,000 worth of appeal related donations which we received over the last year. This once again demonstrates the value of our trading activity in generating funds for the Society's work, whilst also providing numerous opportunities to advertise our work to the wider public. Our card buyers are our greatest group of supporters and have remained as loyal and generous as ever. Some of these supporters have been buying our cards for over 50 years, which is an amazing testimony to their steadfast support of our work.

EXPENDITURE

Costs of Raising Funds

These relate largely to the cost of the annual Appeal and wider publicity throughout the year which is aimed at both potential donors and those who might refer potential beneficiaries to us for assistance.

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activities amounted to £1.96 million, which was 88% of all expenditure. Of this figure £1.43 million (64% of all expenditure) was on grants to individuals. The Society works extremely hard to minimise fundraising and support costs, thereby maximising the proportion of funds spent on charitable activities and delivering the maximum level of financial support directly to our beneficiaries.

RESERVES POLICY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds as investments in order to generate the income required to carry out the purpose of the Charity both now and in the longer term. Without this the Society would be unable to respond to need to the extent that it does or would have to increase its fundraising activities and associated expenditure, and in so doing be largely competing with other charities in the maritime sector. The Society conducts an annual review of its long-term finances using an actuarial model based on a range of future scenarios. In essence this enables Trustees to determine whether we will have sufficient financial resources to meet projected future demands, based on estimated returns from our investments alongside our annual fundraising activity. The results of this year's review confirmed that the Society's finances remain robust.

The Society's Unrestricted Funds are split into three components:

- General Fund
 - This holds sufficient resources in short term realizable investment assets and cash to support administrative overheads and regular grants for a period of at least twelve months.
- Investment Property Fund
 - This is equivalent to the value of the Head Office building;
- Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants
 - This is a designated fund which is specifically maintained to generate investment income to support future grant payments (both regular and one-off). The Society's Total Return policy recognises that the value of this fund (in real terms) will slowly reduce over time, albeit this will be managed in line with our actuarial review to ensure sufficient funds to meet longer term need.

It should be noted that despite the significant size of the Designated Fund, our investments only provide approximately 55% of the expenditure required each year to maintain our activities; the remainder needing to be provided from other funding sources, including donations, legacies and external grants.

The above investments are managed by Sarasin LLP, mainly in a CAIF (Charity Approved Investment Fund) but also within a portfolio of cash or near cash instruments. The level of funds held in the above components are reviewed annually.

The breakdown of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet on page 13.

REMUNERATION POLICY

Staff salaries are set by the Trustees after relevant input from the Chief Executive. They are reviewed annually by the Executive Committee in December and after further deliberation formally approved by Council in January. The Society believes in trying to attract and retain good quality staff for the long term. Salaries are benchmarked against independent authoritative annual salary surveys of the charity sector and based around the median level for each role. There is no performance-related pay nor is there a bonus scheme.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our enduring task of helping fishermen and mariners and their dependants in need
- Maintaining the rolling programme of three-yearly reviews of beneficiaries' circumstances.
- Finding new avenues to spread the word about our work to those who may need our assistance and to those who might wish to support us.
- Increasing our knowledge of additional sources of help, advice and assistance to those in need

In summary, Trustees remain firmly focussed on the Society's remit to support seafaring beneficiaries in the short, medium, and long term; the Society remains in a strong position to continue with this important work. The Society's investments (which provide an essential income stream to underpin our long-term work) are carefully structured across a range of investment types, whilst also ensuring sufficient 'liquid' assets to meet on-going cashflow requirements. Based on the value of our investments, Trustees remain confident in the Society's ability to provide continued support for many generations to come.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Charities Act requires the Council Members of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council Members are required to:

- ensure compliance with the charity's governing document and current statutory requirements;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.

The Council Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Council Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

.....
Signed on behalf of the Trustees
Commander Andrea Crook Royal Navy - Chairperson

Approved by the Council on.....

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st 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 Auditors' 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements ; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees 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

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors (or in-house legal team) around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- enquiry of entity's staff to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	515,623	201,377	717,000	772,797
Other trading activities	3	63,160	-	63,160	73,348
Other income		<u>930</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>930</u>	<u>1,080</u>
Total		<u>579,713</u>	<u>201,377</u>	<u>781,090</u>	<u>847,225</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	251,640	13,471	265,111	267,013
Charitable activities	5				
Grants and Other costs		<u>1,665,681</u>	<u>289,800</u>	<u>1,955,481</u>	<u>1,822,354</u>
Total		<u>1,917,321</u>	<u>303,271</u>	<u>2,220,592</u>	<u>2,089,367</u>
Investment income	8	510,864	63,326	574,190	696,308
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>1,712,855</u>	<u>230,710</u>	<u>1,943,565</u>	<u>(1,759,579)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>886,111</u>	<u>192,141</u>	<u>1,078,252</u>	<u>(2,305,413)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>26,127,509</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>27,013,620</u></u>	<u><u>3,491,536</u></u>	<u><u>30,505,156</u></u>	<u><u>29,426,904</u></u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	11,791	16,618
Investments			
Investments	12	28,795,516	27,749,586
Investment property	13	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>
		29,917,307	28,876,204
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		11,530	6,989
Debtors	14	457,476	286,743
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>141,429</u>	<u>276,532</u>
		610,435	570,264
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(22,586)	(19,564)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>587,849</u>	<u>550,700</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>30,505,156</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>
NET ASSETS	16	<u><u>30,505,156</u></u>	<u><u>29,426,904</u></u>
FUNDS	17		
General funds		2,192,777	2,071,448
Investment property fund		1,110,000	1,110,000
Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants		23,710,843	22,946,061
Restricted funds		<u>3,491,536</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>30,505,156</u></u>	<u><u>29,426,904</u></u>

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

.....
Commander A S Crook RN, Chair

.....
W J Plant, FCA – Treasurer

.....
Capt J B Osmond RN – Chief Executive

The notes form part of these financial statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	(850,779)	(2,796,978)
Dividends, interest & rents received		<u>(574,190)</u>	<u>(696,308)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities		<u>(1,424,969)</u>	<u>(3,493,286)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(3,440,113)	(26,417,411)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	3,289
Sale of fixed asset investments		4,155,789	29,020,654
Dividends, interest & rents received	8	<u>574,190</u>	<u>696,308</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>1,289,866</u>	<u>3,302,840</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(135,103)	(190,446)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	20	<u>276,532</u>	<u>466,978</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	20	<u><u>141,429</u></u>	<u><u>276,532</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as updated on 5th October 2018 and effective from 1st January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs, which include salaries and overheads, are apportioned to Raising Funds, Charitable Activities, Management and Governance according to the staff time involved.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 25% on reducing balance
Furniture and equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

Fixed assets are capitalised where the initial cost exceeds £1,000.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Investment property

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation (conducted independently) and no depreciation is charged in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to reserves.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

Grants received from The Seafarers Charity, Trinity House and MNWB are treated as restricted funds. The Royal Seaman's Pension Fund (RSPF) was transferred to the Society in December 2005 as a restricted fund. The Hull Fisherman's Trust (HFTF) became a restricted fund of the Society on 1st July 2007. The Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund (FFIBF) became a subsidiary charity of the Society on 1st November 2007 and under a Uniting Direction granted by the Charity Commission it is accounted as a restricted fund.

The Edward and Maisie Lewis Fund is a restricted fund used for the annual award for the most outstanding air/sea rescue of the year and contributes towards other awards.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society. The annual contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. In addition the Society makes pension payments to certain retired employees, which payments are expensed as incurred.

2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES AND GRANTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Central office donations	91,151	69,346
Agency donations	12,838	16,402
Appeals Office donations	132,876	142,736
Legacies	267,883	311,684
Grants	<u>212,252</u>	<u>232,629</u>
	<u>717,000</u>	<u>772,797</u>

At 31st March 2024, the Society had been notified of its entitlement to legacies estimated at £434,418 (2023: £267,529).

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
The Seafarers Charity - SMS	50,000	75,000
The Seafarers Charity - MN	15,000	-
Trinity House - SMS	110,000	112,400
Trinity House - TH Annuitants	20,332	20,969
MNWB – SMS	6,045	14,610
Fishmongers Hall - SMS	<u>10,875</u>	<u>9,650</u>
	<u>212,252</u>	<u>232,629</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society has previously operated its own trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited) but decided to amalgamate this into the main charity with effect from 1 April 2020. This year's income (£63,160) is predominantly driven by Christmas Card sales but represents an 14% decrease on last year's receipts (£73,348).

4. RAISING FUNDS

	2024 £	2023 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Staff costs	30,695	26,840
Appeal costs	4,778	5,165
Publicity	37,006	36,518
Other costs	11,066	10,825
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>483</u>	<u>509</u>
	84,028	79,857
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	6,989	5,274
Trading purchases	70,302	66,687
Closing stock	<u>(11,530)</u>	<u>(6,989)</u>
	65,761	64,972
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management – net charge after rebate	<u>115,322</u>	<u>122,184</u>
	<u>265,111</u>	<u>267,013</u>

Publicity includes the costs of making the Society known to potential beneficiaries.

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	2024 Totals £	2023 Totals £
Grants to Individuals	1,426,998	-	1,426,998	1,352,122
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>528,483</u>	<u>528,483</u>	<u>470,232</u>
	<u>1,426,998</u>	<u>528,483</u>	<u>1,955,481</u>	<u>1,822,354</u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Number of grants 2024	Total Funds 2024 £	Number of grants 2023	Total Funds 2023 £
SMS grants:				
Biannual grants	1,120	971,664	1,103	894,490
Initial/Final grants	123	61,313	151	66,441
Special grants	349	211,569	309	189,464
Special grants (MN Fund)	8	11,309	11	5,395
Immediate grants	6	8,200	2	3,200
Death benefit grants	11	9,295	19	16,055
Shipwreck grants	-	-	3	764
Cost of Living Crisis	210	45,800	116	54,800
Total SMS grants	1,827	1,319,150	1,714	1,230,609
RSPF restricted fund grants	37	31,382	49	40,144
HFTF restricted fund grants	62	54,366	70	56,160
FFIBF restricted fund grants	2	1,768	6	4,825
Grants on behalf of Trinity House	24	20,332	25	20,384
	1,952	1,426,998	1,864	1,352,122

Special Grants includes £2,671 paid out in support of applications relating to the COVID19 pandemic.

Within the total grants expenditure is a sum of £50,000 (2023: £75,000) provided by The Seafarers Charity and £130,332 (2023: £130,369) provided by Trinity House, which includes £20,332 repayment of expenditure on regular grants to their annuitants.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance costs	2024 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	171,901	52,318	224,219
Social security	15,236	4,637	19,873
Pensions	24,661	7,505	32,166
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,684	9,684
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,549	12,549
Other support costs	181,102	44,545	225,647
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,621	724	4,345
	396,521	131,962	528,483

Comparative support costs

	Management	Governance costs	2023 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	150,607	45,836	196,443
Social security	13,165	4,007	17,172
Pensions	21,429	6,522	27,951
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,042	9,042
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,848	12,848
Other support costs	160,557	41,629	202,186
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,825	765	4,590
	349,582	120,650	470,232

8. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment property	39,980	44,660
Common Investment Fund	530,810	650,090
Bank interest	<u>3,400</u>	<u>1,558</u>
	<u>574,190</u>	<u>696,308</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024 nor for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

Council members receive no remuneration. Reimbursement of expenses to 1 (2023: 3) Council members totalled £163 (2023: £687).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	249,132	218,629
Social security costs	22,081	19,080
Pension contributions	<u>35,740</u>	<u>31,057</u>
	<u>306,953</u>	<u>268,406</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Administrative staff	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

One employee received emoluments within the £90,000 - £100,000 band and £11,021 was contributed to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of this employee.

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in a fund administered independently by Standard Life and Royal London. The pension contributions represent amounts payable by the Society to the fund.

The Society is also committed to paying a pension out of its funds to certain former employees or their dependants. These amounts are included within salaries.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st April 2023 and 31 st March 2024	<u>38,139</u>	<u>31,589</u>	<u>20,066</u>	<u>89,794</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st April 2023	35,037	31,435	6,704	73,176
Charge for year	<u>776</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>4,827</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>35,813</u>	<u>31,473</u>	<u>10,717</u>	<u>78,003</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2024	<u>2,326</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>9,349</u>	<u>11,791</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>3,102</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>13,362</u>	<u>16,618</u>

Fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the Society's objects.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Common investment fund £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1st April 2023	4	27,215,247	534,335	27,749,586
Additions	-	3,816,204	-	3,816,204
Disposals	-	(4,153,416)	(376,090)	(4,529,506)
Revaluations	<u>-</u>	<u>1,759,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,759,232</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>4</u>	<u>28,637,267</u>	<u>158,245</u>	<u>28,795,516</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2024	<u>4</u>	<u>28,637,267</u>	<u>158,245</u>	<u>28,795,516</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>4</u>	<u>27,215,247</u>	<u>534,335</u>	<u>27,749,586</u>

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

£

MARKET VALUE

At 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2024

1,110,000

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31st March 2023 and 31st March 2024

1,110,000

The freehold investment property was valued as at 1st April 2022 by M Le Seelleur of Flude Commercial on an open market value basis in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The original cost of the property was £64,761.

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	3,208	2,607
Gift aid tax recoverable	6,789	6,859
Legacies receivable	434,418	267,529
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>13,061</u>	<u>9,748</u>
	<u>457,476</u>	<u>286,743</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	10,627	5,487
Accruals and deferred income	9,722	9,300
VAT	2,233	4,773
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>22,586</u>	<u>19,564</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Fixed assets	11,791	-	11,791
Investments	26,550,915	3,354,601	29,905,516
Current assets	473,500	136,935	610,435
Current liabilities	(22,586)	-	(22,586)
	<u>27,013,620</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	16,618	-	16,618
Investments	25,612,390	3,247,196	28,859,586
Current assets	518,065	52,199	570,264
Current liabilities	(19,564)	-	(19,564)
	<u>26,127,509</u>	<u>3,229,395</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,071,448	886,111	(764,782)	2,192,777
Investment property fund	1,110,000	-	-	1,110,000
Designated fund - Income Generation to Support Grants	<u>22,946,061</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>764,782</u>	<u>23,710,843</u>
	26,127,509	886,111	-	27,013,620
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	2,847	3,691	-	6,538
E & M Lewis Award Fund	81,712	(3,882)	-	77,830
RSPF	356,612	5,931	-	362,543
HFTF	2,565,214	162,500	-	2,727,714
FFIBF	228,922	18,066	-	246,988
MNWB for caseworking	<u>64,088</u>	<u>5,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,923</u>
	<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>192,141</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,491,536</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>1,078,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,505,156</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,090,577	(1,917,321)	1,712,855	886,111
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK for regular grants	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	15,000	(11,309)	-	3,691
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	20,332	(20,332)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	1,237	(9,279)	4,160	(3,882)
RSPF	8,502	(33,622)	31,051	5,931
HFTF	49,086	(65,674)	179,088	162,500
FFIBF	4,500	(2,845)	16,411	18,066
MNWB for caseworking	6,045	(210)	-	5,835
	<u>264,702</u>	<u>(303,271)</u>	<u>230,710</u>	<u>192,141</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,355,279</u>	<u>(2,220,592)</u>	<u>1,943,565</u>	<u>1,078,252</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,208,161	(2,071,663)	1,934,950	2,071,448
Investment property fund	1,110,000	-	-	1,110,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	24,881,011	-	(1,934,950)	22,946,061
	<u>28,199,172</u>	<u>(2,071,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,127,509</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	8,242	(5,395)	-	2,847
Trinity House for TH annuitants	(585)	585	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	79,705	2,007	-	81,712
RSPF	416,634	(60,022)	-	356,612
HFTF	2,735,319	(170,105)	-	2,565,214
FFIBF	244,172	(15,250)	-	228,922
MNWB for case-working	49,658	14,430	-	64,088
	<u>3,533,145</u>	<u>(233,750)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>(2,305,413)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,245,852	(1,760,135)	(1,557,380)	(2,071,663)
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	-	(5,395)	-	(5,395)
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	20,969	(20,384)	-	585
E & M Lewis Award Fund	1,673	(1,671)	2,005	2,007
RSPF	10,226	(42,547)	(27,701)	(60,022)
HFTF	59,767	(68,084)	(161,788)	(170,105)
FFIBF	5,436	(5,971)	(14,715)	(15,250)
MNWB for caseworking	14,610	(180)	-	14,430
	<u>297,681</u>	<u>(329,232)</u>	<u>(202,199)</u>	<u>(233,750)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,543,533</u>	<u>(2,089,367)</u>	<u>(1,759,579)</u>	<u>(2,305,413)</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited, which is maintained as a dormant company following transfer of trading activity to the main charity in April 2020.

At the year end the Charity owed Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited £4 in respect of share capital.

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	1,078,252	(2,305,413)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,827	5,099
Losses/(gain) on investments	(1,761,607)	(487,610)
Losses/(gain) on revaluation of fixed asset investment	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(170,733)	21,757
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(4,541)	(1,715)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>3,023</u>	<u>(29,096)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities	<u>(850,779)</u>	<u>(2,796,978)</u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	14	-
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	<u>141,415</u>	<u>276,532</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>141,429</u>	<u>276,532</u>

Accounts



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023
for**

**Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'
Royal Benevolent Society**

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (known as the Council) present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2023. The Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron	Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal	
President	Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC DL FRAeS	
Vice Presidents	The Rt Hon Lord Brabazon of Tara PC DL Mr W D Everard CBE Mr J A H West DL	
The Council	Capt N Palmer OBE MNM* (Chair) Cdr A Crook RN* (Deputy Chair) Mr W J Plant FCA* (Treasurer) Capt R Barker MNM FNI* Miss R Charles Mr R H Coleman FCA Mr E Delaney KSG Mrs A Harris Mr R Jardine-Brown Cdre M Mansergh CBE RN* Mrs N Miller Capt G Pepper FNI* Mrs E Price Mr M Seymour* Capt J Vercoe Mr T West Cdre T Williamson MVO RN* * Members of the Executive Committee	
Chief Executive	Capt J B Osmond RN	
Principal address	1 North Pallant Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1TL	
Registered Charity number	212034	
Auditors	Sheen Stickland 7 East Pallant Chichester West Sussex PO19 1TR	Investment Managers Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland PLC Gogarburn 175 Glasgow Road Edinburgh EH12 1HQ
Solicitors	George Ide LLP 52 North Street Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1NQ	Blake Morgan LLP Harbour Court Portsmouth Hampshire, PO6 4ST

OUR PRESIDENT

Admiral Sir George Zambellas has served as our President since October 2016.

ORIGINS AND OBJECTIVE

On Sunday 28th October 1838 eleven fishing vessels with a total of 26 men onboard sailed from Clovelly for the fishing grounds. Only 2 vessels returned after a sudden ferocious storm and 21 men were lost. Hearing of this, Mr Charles Gee Jones, a former Bristol pilot and landlord of the Pulteney Arms in Bath, suggested to Mr John Rye, a retired 'medical man' of the city, that something should be done to assist the widows, orphans and parents of fishermen and mariners who lost their lives at sea. As a direct result the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, better known as the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, was founded in 1839 with the object of:

"giving relief and assistance to the widows and orphans of fishermen; and of mariners, members of the Society, who lose their lives by storms and shipwreck on any part of the coasts of the United Kingdom, while engaged in their lawful occupations; and also to render necessary assistance to such mariners, soldiers, or other poor persons as suffer shipwreck upon the said coasts."

Her Majesty Queen Victoria was our first Patron and ever since the Society has been honoured by Royal Patronage. In 1850 the Society was incorporated by Act of Parliament, on which the Rules and Regulations are based. This was a farsighted document that, in addition to its principal original purpose, gave the Society the right to establish Asylums, a system of lifeboats, to build boats to demonstrate how much safer decked fishing boats could be, and

"... - also any other objects, designs, or purposes of a benevolent character, for the benefit and welfare of all and every or any of the classes of men for whose benefit the said Society was originally established or those dependant on them".

Shipwrecks still occur and we are called upon to help but our main activity today is to provide financial assistance to retired, incapacitated, unemployed and working fishermen and mariners and their dependants who are in need. It is one of the largest maritime charities in the UK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society operates for the public benefit under two charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act 2011: "The Prevention and Relief of Poverty" and "The Relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage" by providing a range of grants to fishermen, merchant seamen and their dependants who are retired or of working age but are unable to earn a living through disability, accident, ill-health, because of caring responsibilities, unemployment or who face financial difficulties while at work. The Society has, since 1851, also made awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Society is a registered charity, administered by a Council of Trustees consisting of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 members, who meet three times a year to determine policy. A smaller Executive Committee meets 4 times a year to monitor the implementation of policy and to deal with current business. There are separate Nomination, Investment, Grants Policy and Awards Committees and a Trustee sits on the weekly Grants meeting. The Officers of the Council; the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer are subject to annual re-election. The Governing body has the power to change the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

The recruitment of Trustees has normally been by recommendation and the Society seeks to have a balance of expertise if possible - maritime, financial, medical and legal - among Council members and with a background or strong personal or professional interest in maritime matters. The Society also has a clearly stated objective to make the Council representative of both the community it serves and wider society. To this end Trustees will take full account of the existing composition of Council when making new appointments.

Induction is given initially by the Chief Executive, and this is followed by more in-depth training on Trustee responsibilities as required. Trustees require re-election every 3 years. The Society is operated by the Chief Executive and a staff of five (two of whom are part time) within the policy guidelines set by the Trustees.

The Society is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB), which is the UK's 'National Seafarers Welfare Board' as defined in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO's) Maritime Labour Convention.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Society's Risk Assessment and Business Continuity documents are regularly reviewed by the Trustees. Key risks are assessed to be:

- Compromise of supporter and beneficiary data – Robust data protection policy and procedures ensure that the risk of unauthorised access to data is minimised. The Society also maintains the government backed Cyber Essentials accreditation.
- Reputational – Management and Trustees are always conscious of this in their routine conduct and decision making and seek professional advice where appropriate.
- Major reduction in investment income both directly from our own investments and indirectly from our main grant funders. Regular face-to-face performance reviews are conducted with our Investment Manager. A review of our investment manager is undertaken approximately every 5 years. We also maintain regular contact with our major grant funders to update them on the impact of their support.
- Loss of key member of staff – Detailed work procedures are laid down to aid smooth succession.
- Loss of funds through theft or fraud – the Society regularly reviews its governance arrangements and working procedures to ensure robust management of its funds.
- Safeguarding – we have a robust system in place to ensure all personnel are properly supported and protected.

DATA PROTECTION

The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. We have a robust data protection policy which has been rewritten to accommodate the requirements of the UK's General Data Protection Regulation. Of particular note, the personal data of applicants and beneficiaries is only passed to other organisations when we assess they may be able to provide additional support, and only once the applicant has provided specific permission to do so. The personal data of donors/supporters is only shared with third parties (e.g. our online Christmas Card supplier) to support essential operational activities. When shared, this data is only used to support work on our behalf; such third parties are contractually prohibited from using it for their own fundraising or marketing activity, or from passing it to other organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society is to provide help to mariners, fishermen and their dependants who are in financial need by:

- Paying an Immediate grant to the partner of a serving seafarer who dies (be that at sea or ashore).
- Making Regular grants to elderly or incapacitated seafarers and widows in need.
- Making Special or One-off grants to meet particular needs in urgent or crisis situations.
- Making Death Benefit Grant payments to the spouses / partners of former life members.
- Making Funeral Grant payments to eligible personnel who meet our criteria for one-off grants.
- Offering practical assistance to seafarers of any nationality shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles.

In addition:

- We aim to review our regular beneficiaries' circumstances every three years with a home visit.

Through these activities we aim to make a difference to the circumstances and quality of life of our beneficiaries. We also signpost people to other sources of help and advice, such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL).

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

To be considered for a one-off or crisis grant applicants must have a minimum of 5 years sea service; for regular grants a minimum of 10 years is required. This requirement is reviewed periodically to reflect changing employment patterns and the Society's resources. They must also be within net income and savings limits which are reviewed annually by Trustees in the light of changes to state benefits, inflation and estimates of minimum income standards provided by such bodies as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payments and Disability Premiums are not taken into account in assessing income, but other benefits are. The criteria and restrictions are considered to meet the public benefit test of being legitimate, proportionate and rational given the objectives of the charity and our available resources.

AWARDS FOR SKILL & GALLANTRY

The Society has presented awards for outstanding acts of skill and gallantry at sea since 1851. Three major awards are made annually: the Emile Robin award for an outstanding rescue, The Lady Swaythling Trophy for an outstanding feat of seamanship and the Edward & Maisie Lewis award for an exceptional air/sea rescue. The cost of the Edward & Maisie Lewis award is met from a restricted fund donated by Mr Richard Lewis, in memory of his parents, and he has also generously allowed this to be used to contribute to the costs of all our awards. Commendations are also given to individuals, crews and teams for exceptional acts of skill and gallantry. The Society strongly believes in recognizing and honouring those who risk their lives for others at sea.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Key to fulfilling our objectives and the work of the Society is our national network of over 140 Honorary Agents - private individuals, harbour masters, post mistresses, retired policemen and solicitors among others - who conduct casework, distribute grants, look after our large collecting mines or fundraise on the Society's behalf. Of note, within this number the Port Staff of the Fishermen's Mission, caseworkers from Nautilus International, the Chaplains of the Mission to Seafarers, the Mersey Mission and Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest also act as our agents: a sensible combined use of available expertise and we are especially grateful for their contribution. SSAFA caseworkers continue to generate many new cases, several from inland counties where the Society's existence is less well known and where merchant seamen are as likely to be found as on the coast. These charities are reimbursed for the casework they conduct on our behalf.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE GRANTS

This has been another busy year for the Society, with significant levels of demand coming from those struggling to deal with the cost-of-living crisis. Grants to those in need were made in 1864 cases, which represents a 5% increase on last year. Total expenditure on these grants amounted to £1.35 million, including those administered on behalf of Trinity House. During the year under review there were 770 new applications for assistance, of which 86% met our criteria. The majority of those rejected had incomes above our limits or lacked the necessary sea service.

Regular grants were made to 1,253 beneficiaries during the year, which represents a significant flattening of the previous (and long term) downward trajectory in beneficiary numbers. A significant contributor to this change came from those who whilst eligible for a regular grant, had previously felt able to cope on their limited incomes. However, the impact of the current crisis had left them struggling to meet their daily living costs and as such they have requested a regular grant. This combined with more general demand led to a take-on rate for the year which was over 60% higher than the long-term average; it is unclear whether this pattern will be maintained into the future, but Trustees keep such numbers under regular review (as part of our long-term financial planning activity) to ensure our future plans remain affordable.

Grants are generally paid biannually, with recipients receiving a total of £832. This is clearly a modest sum, but one that makes a significant difference to someone living on pension credit, with no savings or insurance. This level of grant is in the bottom range of such grants given by occupational benevolent charities and has historically been increased every 3 years to keep pace with underlying inflation. However, following the routine increase last year, Trustees felt it appropriate to increase the grant by a further £1 per week for the second year running (to £884 p.a. from 1 Apr 23) which will provide much needed help with the cost-of-living crisis.

Whilst the majority of our beneficiaries are retired, others are unable to work because of accident, ill health, disability, for compassionate reasons, or are unable to find employment ashore after working at sea. They range in age from 43 to 104.

Regular grants are important for the following reasons:

- Assists with budgeting.
- Establishes an on-going relationship with the beneficiary, through the local Honorary Agent, which is more than just financial – 27% of our regular beneficiaries say they suffer from loneliness.
- Provides regular contact, enabling our Honorary Agents (where possible) to see beneficiaries face-to-face and to discuss financial and other matters of concern.
- The associated three-yearly reviews provide an opportunity to find out if additional assistance is required, perhaps as a result of increased infirmity.

Approximately 52% of our beneficiaries are fishermen or ex-fishermen, 29% merchant service and the balance served in both categories. Their average age is 76. During the year, we took on 149 new regular beneficiaries with an average age of 70. Reviews of 187 regular beneficiaries were also completed this year.

One-off grants totalling over £336,000 were made in 611 cases. This included a range of new grants specifically introduced to address the cost-of-living crisis. These focussed on supporting individuals (and families) who narrowly missed out on the enhanced levels of financial support provided to those on qualifying benefits. More generally we continued with our standard range of one-off grants, including Funeral grants, Special Grants, Shipwreck Grants and Immediate Relief Grants (paid following the death of a serving seafarer).

IMPACT

The feedback we get from letters from beneficiaries, our Honorary Agents and our three-yearly review evaluations confirms that regular and one-off grants have a positive impact on the quality of life and standard of living of the recipients (many of whom have no financial reserves or insurance) by enabling them among other things to:

- Budget better by assisting with general living expenses.
- Purchase and replace defective 'white goods' and other essential items such as beds and carpets.
- Pay for essential household maintenance and repairs, for example, to replace rotten windows and doors.
- Remain mobile within their home, for example, by providing a stairlift when local authority funding isn't available.
- Make adaptations following occupational therapist advice to deal with infirmities and disabilities, for example, to replace a bath with a walk-in shower, provide a riser / recliner chair or a specialist bed.
- Leave their homes without assistance, for example by providing an electrically powered vehicle (EPV).
- Pay for heating – a concern of our older beneficiaries who spend most of their time at home.

- Pay off priority debts such as utility bills.
- Buy clothes and shoes.
- Pay a rent deposit to escape from homelessness.
- Take a rare holiday.
- Remain in their own home.

For those solely reliant on the state pension many of these items are simply unaffordable without outside assistance.

Below are some examples of the support we have provided over the course of the year, as well as some of the thank-you messages we have received following grant awards.

- Mrs T, a widow in her early 90's, had lived a fiercely independent life and was still living in the same house where she had raised her 7 children. Battling severe arthritis and dementia, her family were keen to ensure she was still able to have trips out and enjoy social activities. We were able to provide an electric wheelchair, whilst also providing a regular grant to supplement her very low income.
- "Many thanks for the money which has recently been paid into my account. This is a much-appreciated gift and a great help when work needs to be done around the house. I am waiting for the tiler to fix some slates on the roof and just last month had to get the plumber to fix a leak so your grant will be very helpful."
- Mr B, in his early 60s with 20 years sea service, was suffering from PTSD as a result of service in a number of war zones. This and other disabilities had left him close to housebound, with taxis to the hospital taking up a significant percentage of his income. Both he and his wife were retired, and she was acting as his full-time carer. We were able to award a regular grant to help them steer clear of debts during a very difficult period.
- "I would just like to say a huge 'THANK YOU' for the grant to decorate my living room, hall and staircase. What a difference it has made. The place looks a lot brighter and cheerier now. Also to say thank you for my regular grant, which enables me to keep on top of the ever rising costs."
- Mr H, in his late 40s with nearly 30 years sea service, had been suffering from cancer for a number of years, meaning he and his family were struggling to meet their day-to-day living costs. This was exacerbated by the need to keep his house warm at all times as a result of his cancer. Having built up debts and in need of replacement white goods we were able to help in both cases, which significantly improved both their financial and mental health.
- Mr N, in his late 20s with over 10 years sea service, was suffering from a serious back injury. Unable to work he had built up rent and council tax arrears and was being threatened with eviction. Working with the Sailor's Advice and Information Line (SAIL) we were able to clear the arrears, ensure he was on the maximum benefits, and establish a plan to maintain a stable financial position until he returned to work.
- "On behalf of myself and my husband we just wanted to say thank-you for your cost-of-living grant. It was a really big worry off our minds to know this would help toward the rising costs. Since my husband's stroke he feels the cold so much and cannot move around due to his poor mobility. Thank you again."
- Mr G, in his early 30s with 15 years sea service was already struggling with low income when his wife was diagnosed with a life-threatening disease. The additional time required to care for his young children left him feeling he was facing financial ruin. Working with SAIL we were able to make sure he had applied for all the correct benefits and provide a grant of £1,300 to tide him over until his first payment arrived.

The Grants Team at Central Office has the task of processing the applications and a key part of their work is to ensure that the people concerned are receiving all the statutory benefits to which they are entitled. The team has developed considerable expertise in this area, which in parallel with advice provided by SAIL, delivers significant sums in statutory benefits for those who would otherwise have been unaware of their entitlement. Ironically, this sometimes means that the applicant no longer meets our income criteria, and we cannot support them, but the primary objective of improving their overall financial circumstances has been achieved. We refer an increasing number of cases, where complex benefit or debt issues are involved, to SAIL and frequently act on their recommendations to ensure the most appropriate form of financial support is provided. Our weekly Grants meeting enables us to make prompt decisions, with the results communicated to applicants as quickly as possible.

We work closely with other maritime charities, and refer applicants to them for various reasons, including those who do not fit our criteria, those who require a different type of support, and those involving major expenditure (e.g. bathroom adaptations) where we seek to share the costs. Where possible if we, or another maritime charity are unable to assist then we are often able to refer applicants to relevant non-maritime charities (connected with any alternative employment) as well as sources of advice or assistance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARY CHARITY

The Society operates a number of restricted funds, including The Royal Seamen's Pension Fund, which had 41 beneficiaries at the end of the year, and the Hull Fishermen's Trust Fund, which had 63 beneficiaries. The Society also has a subsidiary charity, the Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund, which is operated as a restricted fund; this had 4 beneficiaries at the end of the year.

The Society continues to manage the payment of grants to the 22 annuitants of Trinity House, London, and has the capacity and expertise to take on more work of this kind.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2015 (FRS 102).

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME

Overview

Total Income (including investment income) for 2022/23 was £1.5 million with expenditure of £2.1 million, giving an operating deficit of £545,000. This compares to a deficit of £273,000 in the previous year. In the long term the Trustees budget for an operating deficit but plan for this to be partially offset by income from investments and gains on investment assets. Overall net expenditure (after returns on investments) was £2.3 million compared to a net income of £0.5 million last year, noting Trustees expect this figure to be subject to large variations due to the nature of its investment holdings.

Investments

Investments generate income that is key to supporting our beneficiaries. This year the value of our investments has fallen by approx. £2.1 million to £27.7million. A total return (TR) policy is operated which requires the investment managers to fund our budgeted yearly operating deficit from a combination of income and capital: we drew down a total of 4.5% of our investments (income and capital) during 2022/23. This aligns with our actuarial model and represents a sustainable level of expenditure to meet beneficiary needs both now and in the future. Investment performance is reviewed bi-annually by the Investment Committee, which provides additional oversight alongside the separate bi-annual reviews undertaken by Council. Of note, during the course of the year Trustees conducted a routine review of our investment advisors and chose to re-appoint Sarasin & Partners in this role.

In conjunction with this review, Trustees also approved a change to the Society's Investment strategy, which in essence now maintains an increased level of short-term investments (cash or near-cash) alongside a long-term investment fund with a greater focus on equities. The cash portfolio exists to enable the Society to continue its operations following a major stock market crash, noting the nature of equity-based investing means these will inevitably occur. The value of the cash holding is set at a level to ensure uninterrupted operations following a (worst case) 30% fall in stock market value. Such funds would enable the Society to maintain expenditure levels for (up to) 5 years without having to sell depreciated holdings, and whilst the market recovers to its original level. Trustees believe this will provide a better long-term return on its investments, whilst also enabling the Society to continue its operation during inevitable periods of stock market turbulence.

Legacies

Receipts this year were £312k, slightly down from £325k last year, although still representing an above average year. However, irrespective of the sum received we remain enormously grateful to those who chose to remember us in this way; their gifts are put to good use in helping the next generation of seafarers and their dependants. Legacies are a vital but inherently unpredictable source of income.

Donations / Fundraising

Public donations from appeals (see Trading below), direct to Central Office and through our Agencies, which includes our collecting mines, amounted to £228,000 which is somewhat down on last year's total of £261,000, although last year's figures included some large one-off donations which were unlikely to be repeated. In essence we are delighted that the underlying level of donations continues to show a year-on-year rise. We are

most appreciative of the generosity of those who support us in this way.

Grants

We have a very close relationship with two key charities, namely Trinity House London and The Seafarers Charity, both of whom have a long history of generous support for our work. The annual grants we receive from them are essential to our work and we maintain a close dialogue with both organisations.

Trading

This has been another good year for our trading activity, which remains focussed on selling Christmas, Birthday, and correspondence cards (via mail order) through our supplier, Impress Publishing. Additional sales come via our seasonal shop at Central Office. Turnover at £73,000 was down on last year, but is in line with longer term trends, noting the highly competitive nature of this market and the general reduction in Christmas card sales. In conjunction with these sales, the Society also received over £143,000 worth of appeal related Donations. This once again demonstrates the value of our trading activity in generating funds for the Society's work, whilst also providing numerous opportunities to advertise our work to the wider public. Our card buyers are our greatest group of supporters and have remained as loyal and generous as ever. Some of these supporters have been buying our cards for over 50 years, which is an amazing testimony to their steadfast support of our work.

EXPENDITURE

Costs of Raising Funds

These relate largely to the cost of the annual Appeal and wider publicity throughout the year which is aimed at both potential donors and those who might refer potential beneficiaries to us for assistance.

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activities amounted to £1.82 million, which was 87% of all expenditure. Of this figure £1.35 million (65% of all expenditure) was on grants to individuals. The Society works extremely hard to minimise fundraising and support costs, thereby maximising the proportion of funds spent on charitable activities and delivering the maximum level of financial support directly to our beneficiaries.

RESERVES POLICY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds as investments in order to generate the income required to carry out the purpose of the Charity both now and in the longer term. Without this the Society would be unable to respond to need to the extent that it does or would have to increase its fundraising activities and associated expenditure, and in so doing be largely competing with other charities in the maritime sector. The Society conducts an annual review of its long-term finances using an actuarial model based on a range of future scenarios. In essence this enables Trustees to determine whether we will have sufficient financial resources to meet projected future demands, based on estimated returns from our investments alongside our annual fundraising activity. The results of this year's review confirmed that the Society's finances remain robust. Of note this included the additional costs of uplifting our regular grant for a second year running, whilst also introducing a new range of cost-of-living grants to help those most affected by the ongoing crisis.

The Society's Unrestricted Funds are split into three components:

- General Fund
 - This holds sufficient resources in short term realizable investment assets and cash to support administrative overheads and regular grants for a period of at least twelve months.
- Investment Property Fund
 - This is equivalent to the value of the Head Office building;
- Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants
 - This is a designated fund which is specifically maintained to generate investment income to support future grant payments (both regular and one-off). The Society's Total Return policy recognises that the value of this fund (in real terms) will slowly reduce over time, albeit this will be managed in line with our actuarial review to ensure sufficient funds to meet longer term need.

It should be noted that despite the significant size of the Designated Fund, the investment return only provides approximately 50% of the expenditure required for charitable activities; the remainder needing to be provided from other funding sources, including donations, legacies and external grants.

The above investments are managed by Sarasin LLP, mainly in a CAIF (Charity Approved Investment Fund) but also within a portfolio of cash or near cash instruments. The level of funds held in the above components are reviewed annually.

The breakdown of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet on page 13.

REMUNERATION POLICY

Staff salaries are set by the Trustees after relevant input from the Chief Executive. They are reviewed annually by the Executive Committee in December and after further deliberation formally approved by Council in January. The Society believes in trying to attract and retain good quality staff for the long term. Salaries are benchmarked against independent authoritative annual salary surveys of the charity sector and based around the median level for each role. There is no performance-related pay nor is there a bonus scheme.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our enduring task of helping fishermen and mariners and their dependants in need
- Maintaining the rolling programme of three-yearly reviews of beneficiaries' circumstances.
- Finding new avenues to spread the word about our work to those who may need our assistance and to those who might wish to support us.
- Increasing our knowledge of additional sources of help, advice and assistance to those in need

In summary, Trustees remain firmly focussed on the Society's remit to support seafaring beneficiaries in the short, medium, and long term; the Society remains in a strong position to continue with this important work. The Society's investments (which provide an essential income stream to underpin our long-term work) are carefully structured across a range of investment types, whilst also ensuring sufficient 'liquid' assets to meet on-going cashflow requirements. Based on the value of our investments, Trustees remain confident in the Society's ability to provide continued support for many generations to come.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Charities Act requires the Council Members of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council Members are required to:

- ensure compliance with the charity's governing document and current statutory requirements;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.

The Council Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Council Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

.....
Signed on behalf of the Trustees
Captain Nigel Palmer OBE MNM Chairman

Approved by the Council on.....

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2023 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 Auditors' 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements ; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees 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

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors (or in-house legal team) around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- enquiry of entity's staff to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	552,218	220,579	772,797	812,597
Other trading activities	3	73,348	-	73,348	89,745
Other income		<u>1,080</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,340</u>
Total		<u>626,646</u>	<u>220,579</u>	<u>847,225</u>	<u>903,682</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	252,849	14,164	267,013	276,502
Charitable activities	5				
Grants and Other costs		<u>1,507,286</u>	<u>315,068</u>	<u>1,822,354</u>	<u>1,720,005</u>
Total		<u>1,760,135</u>	<u>329,232</u>	<u>2,089,367</u>	<u>1,996,507</u>
Investment income	8	619,206	77,102	696,308	819,279
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>(1,557,380)</u>	<u>(202,199)</u>	<u>(1,759,579)</u>	<u>819,760</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(2,071,663)	(233,750)	(2,305,413)	546,214
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>
Net movement in funds		(2,071,663)	(233,750)	(2,305,413)	506,214
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>28,199,172</u>	<u>3,533,145</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>26,127,509</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	16,618	25,006
Investments			
Investments	12	27,749,586	29,865,219
Investment property	13	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>
		28,876,204	31,000,225
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		6,989	5,274
Debtors	14	286,743	308,500
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>276,532</u>	<u>466,978</u>
		570,264	780,752
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(19,564)	(48,660)
		<u>550,700</u>	<u>732,092</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>550,700</u>	<u>732,092</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		29,426,904	31,732,317
NET ASSETS	16	<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>
FUNDS	17		
General funds		2,071,448	2,208,161
Investment property fund		1,110,000	1,110,000
Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants		22,946,061	24,881,011
Restricted funds		<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>3,533,145</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>29,426,904</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

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

.....
Captain N Palmer OBE MNM Chairman

.....
W J Plant, FCA – Treasurer

.....
Capt J B Osmond RN – Chief Executive

The notes form part of these financial statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	(2,796,978)	(226,638)
Dividends, interest & rents received		<u>(696,308)</u>	<u>(819,279)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities		<u>(3,493,286)</u>	<u>(1,045,917)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(17,589)
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(26,417,411)	(45,000)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		3,289	-
Sale of fixed asset investments		29,020,654	260,000
Dividends, interest & rents received	8	<u>696,308</u>	<u>819,279</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>3,302,840</u>	<u>1,016,690</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(190,446)	(29,227)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	20	<u>466,978</u>	<u>496,205</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	20	<u><u>276,532</u></u>	<u><u>466,978</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as updated on 5th October 2018 and effective from 1st January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs, which include salaries and overheads, are apportioned to Raising Funds, Charitable Activities, Management and Governance according to the staff time involved.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 25% on reducing balance
Furniture and equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

Fixed assets are capitalised where the initial cost exceeds £1,000.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Investment property

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation (conducted independently) and no depreciation is charged in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to reserves.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

Grants received from The Seafarers Charity, Trinity House and MNWB are treated as restricted funds. The Royal Seaman's Pension Fund (RSPF) was transferred to the Society in December 2005 as a restricted fund. The Hull Fisherman's Trust (HFTF) became a restricted fund of the Society on 1st July 2007. The Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund (FFIBF) became a subsidiary charity of the Society on 1st November 2007 and under a Uniting Direction granted by the Charity Commission it is accounted as a restricted fund.

The Edward and Maisie Lewis Fund is a restricted fund used for the annual award for the most outstanding air/sea rescue of the year and contributes towards other awards.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society. The annual contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. In addition the Society makes pension payments to certain retired employees, which payments are expensed as incurred.

2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES AND GRANTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Central office donations	69,346	107,352
Agency donations	16,402	9,362
Appeals Office donations	142,736	143,851
Legacies	311,684	325,052
Grants	<u>232,629</u>	<u>226,980</u>
	<u>772,797</u>	<u>812,597</u>

At 31st March 2023, the Society had been notified of its entitlement to legacies estimated at £267,529 (2022: £291,677).

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
The Seafarers Charity - SMS	75,000	75,000
The Seafarers Charity - MN	-	15,000
Trinity House - SMS	112,400	101,095
Trinity House - TH Annuitants	20,969	19,910
MNWB – SMS	14,610	6,105
Fishmongers Hall - SMS	<u>9,650</u>	<u>9,870</u>
	<u>232,629</u>	<u>226,980</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society has previously operated its own trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited) but decided to amalgamate this into the main charity with effect from 1 April 2020. This year's income (£73,348) is predominantly driven by Christmas Card sales but represents an 18% decrease on last year's receipts (£89,745).

4. RAISING FUNDS

	2023 £	2022 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Staff costs	26,840	24,252
Appeal costs	5,165	19,442
Publicity	36,518	35,900
Other costs	10,825	11,278
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>509</u>	<u>260</u>
	79,857	91,132
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	5,274	4,355
Trading purchases	66,687	56,778
Closing stock	<u>(6,989)</u>	<u>(5,274)</u>
	64,972	55,859
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management – net charge after rebate	<u>122,184</u>	<u>129,511</u>
	<u><u>267,013</u></u>	<u><u>276,502</u></u>

Publicity includes the costs of making the Society known to potential beneficiaries.

Combined expenditure on trading activities and raising donations (including legacies) was £144,829 (2022: £146,991). This generated a total income (excluding grants from other organisations) of £564,596 (2022: £676,702), which in essence represents £3.90 income for every £1 spent on such activities (2022: £4.60 income for every £1 spent).

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	2023 Totals £	2022 Totals £
Grants to Individuals	1,352,122	-	1,352,122	1,262,603
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>470,232</u>	<u>470,232</u>	<u>457,402</u>
	<u><u>1,352,122</u></u>	<u><u>470,232</u></u>	<u><u>1,822,354</u></u>	<u><u>1,720,005</u></u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Number of grants 2023	Total Funds 2023 £	Number of grants 2022	Total Funds 2022 £
SMS grants:				
Biannual grants	1,103	894,490	1,102	845,262
Initial/Final grants	151	66,441	86	39,448
Special grants	309	189,464	390	223,417
Special grants (MN Fund)	11	5,395	9	6,505
Immediate grants	2	3,200	4	2,000
Death benefit grants	19	16,055	19	14,365
Shipwreck grants	3	764	0	0
Cost of Living Crisis	116	54,800	0	0
Total SMS grants	1,714	1,230,609	1,610	1,130,997
RSPF restricted fund grants	49	40,144	60	45,045
HFTF restricted fund grants	70	56,160	79	60,450
FFIBF restricted fund grants	6	4,825	8	5,616
Grants on behalf of Trinity House	25	20,384	26	20,495
	<u>1,864</u>	<u>1,352,122</u>	<u>1,783</u>	<u>1,262,603</u>

Special Grants includes £1,042 paid out in support of applications relating to the COVID19 pandemic.

Within the total grants expenditure is a sum of £75,000 (2022: £90,000) provided by The Seafarers Charity and £130,369 (2022: £121,005) provided by Trinity House, which includes £20,969 repayment of expenditure on regular grants to their annuitants.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance costs	2023 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	150,607	45,836	196,443
Social security	13,165	4,007	17,172
Pensions	21,429	6,522	27,951
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,042	9,042
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,848	12,848
Other support costs	160,557	41,629	202,186
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,825	765	4,590
	<u>349,582</u>	<u>120,650</u>	<u>470,232</u>

Comparative support costs

	Management	Governance costs	2022 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	136,158	51,578	187,736
Social security	11,746	3,575	15,321
Pensions	19,434	5,915	25,349
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,364	9,364
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,215	12,215
Other support costs	163,639	41,482	205,077
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,950	390	2,340
	<u>340,437</u>	<u>116,965</u>	<u>457,402</u>

8. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investment property	44,660	46,147
Common Investment Fund	650,090	773,081
Bank interest	<u>1,558</u>	<u>51</u>
	<u>696,308</u>	<u>819,279</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

Council members receive no remuneration. Reimbursement of expenses to 3 (2022: 1) Council members totalled £687 (2022: £33).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries	218,269	207,470
Social security costs	19,080	17,023
Pension contributions	<u>31,057</u>	<u>28,165</u>
	<u>268,406</u>	<u>252,658</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
Administrative staff		

One employee received emoluments within the £70,000 - £80,000 band and £9,340 was contributed to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of this employee.

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in a fund administered independently by Standard Life and Royal London. The pension contributions represent amounts payable by the Society to the fund.

The Society is also committed to paying a pension out of its funds to certain former employees or their dependants. These amounts are included within salaries.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st April 2022	38,139	31,589	23,355	93,083
Disposals	-	-	(3,289)	(3,289)
At 31st March 2023	<u>38,139</u>	<u>31,589</u>	<u>20,066</u>	<u>89,794</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st April 2022	34,003	31,383	2,691	68,077
Charge for year	<u>1,034</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>5,099</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>35,037</u>	<u>31,435</u>	<u>6,704</u>	<u>73,176</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2023	<u>3,102</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>13,362</u>	<u>16,618</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>4,136</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>20,664</u>	<u>25,006</u>

Fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the Society's objects.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Common investment fund £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1st April 2022	4	29,668,533	196,682	29,865,219
Additions	-	26,079,758	337,653	26,417,411
Disposals	-	(29,020,654)	-	(29,020,654)
Revaluations	-	<u>487,610</u>	-	<u>487,610</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>4</u>	<u>27,215,247</u>	<u>534,335</u>	<u>27,749,586</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2023	<u>4</u>	<u>27,215,247</u>	<u>534,335</u>	<u>29,865,219</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>4</u>	<u>29,668,533</u>	<u>196,682</u>	<u>29,865,219</u>

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

£

MARKET VALUE

At 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023

1,110,000

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31st March 2022 and 31st March 2023

1,110,000

The freehold investment property was valued as at 1st April 2022 by M Le Seilleur of Flude Commercial on an open market value basis in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The original cost of the property was £64,761.

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	2,607	3,845
Gift aid tax recoverable	6,859	1,620
Legacies receivable	267,529	291,677
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>9,748</u>	<u>11,358</u>
	<u>286,743</u>	<u>308,500</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	5,487	29,199
Accruals and deferred income	9,300	13,146
VAT	4,773	6,311
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>19,564</u>	<u>48,660</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	16,618	-	16,618
Investments	25,612,390	3,247,196	28,859,586
Current assets	518,065	52,199	570,264
Current liabilities	(19,564)	-	(19,564)
	<u>26,127,509</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Fixed assets	25,006	-	25,006
Investments	27,608,799	3,366,420	31,015,219
Current assets	417,437	363,315	780,752
Current liabilities	(48,660)	-	(48,660)
	<u>28,002,582</u>	<u>3,729,735</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,208,161	(2,071,663)	1,934,950	2,071,448
Investment property fund	1,110,000	-	-	1,110,000
Designated fund - Income Generation to Support Grants	<u>24,881,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,934,950)</u>	<u>22,946,061</u>
	28,199,172	(2,071,663)	-	26,127,509
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	8,242	(5,395)	-	2,847
Trinity House for TH annuitants	(585)	585	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	79,705	2,007	-	81,712
RSPF	416,634	(60,022)	-	356,612
HFTF	2,735,319	(170,105)	-	2,565,214
FFIBF	244,172	(15,250)	-	228,922
MNWB for caseworking	<u>49,658</u>	<u>14,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,088</u>
	<u>3,533,145</u>	<u>(233,750)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,299,395</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>(2,305,413)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,426,904</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,245,852	(1,760,135)	(1,557,380)	(2,071,663)
Restricted funds				
Seafarers UK for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
Seafarers UK (MN Fund) for special grants	-	(5,395)	-	(5,395)
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	20,969	(20,384)	-	585
E & M Lewis Award Fund	1,673	(1,671)	2,005	2,007
RSPF	10,226	(42,547)	(27,701)	(60,022)
HFTF	59,767	(68,084)	(161,788)	(170,105)
FFIBF	5,436	(5,971)	(14,715)	(15,250)
MNWB for caseworking	14,610	(180)	-	14,430
	<u>297,681</u>	<u>(329,232)</u>	<u>(202,199)</u>	<u>(233,750)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,543,533</u>	<u>(2,089,367)</u>	<u>(1,759,579)</u>	<u>(2,305,413)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,327,749	472,217	(591,805)	2,208,161
Investment property fund	1,150,000	(40,000)	-	1,110,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	24,289,206	-	591,805	24,881,011
	<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>432,217</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,199,172</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	(253)	8,495	-	8,242
Trinity House for TH annuitants	-	(585)	-	(585)
E & M Lewis Award Fund	74,581	5,124	-	79,705
RSPF	438,463	(21,829)	-	416,634
HFTF	2,664,507	70,812	-	2,735,319
FFIBF	237,967	6,205	-	244,172
MNWB for case-working	43,883	5,775	-	49,658
	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>73,997</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,533,145</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>506,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,413,404	(1,661,748)	680,561	432,217
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	15,000	(6,505)	-	8,495
Trinity House for regular grants	101,095	(101,095)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	19,910	(20,495)	-	585
E & M Lewis Award Fund	3,582	(3,581)	5,123	5,124
RSPF	12,631	(47,831)	13,371	(21,829)
HFTF	69,877	(73,041)	73,976	70,812
FFIBF	6,357	(6,881)	6,729	6,205
MNWB for case-working	6,105	(330)	-	5,775
	<u>309,557</u>	<u>(334,759)</u>	<u>99,199</u>	<u>73,997</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,722,961</u>	<u>(1,996,507)</u>	<u>779,760</u>	<u>506,214</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited, which is maintained as a dormant company following transfer of trading activity to the main charity in April 2020.

At the year end the Charity owed Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited £4 in respect of share capital.

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(2,305,413)	506,214
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,099	2,602
Losses/(gain) on investments	(487,610)	(581,133)
Losses/(gain) on revaluation of fixed asset investment	-	40,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	21,757	(120,840)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(1,715)	(919)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>(29,096)</u>	<u>(72,562)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities	<u><u>(2,796,978)</u></u>	<u><u>(226,638)</u></u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	-	46
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	<u>276,532</u>	<u>466,932</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u><u>276,532</u></u>	<u><u>466,978</u></u>

Accounts



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2022
for**

**Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'
Royal Benevolent Society**

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (known as the Council) present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2022. The Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron	Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal	
President	Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC DL FRAeS	
Vice Presidents	The Rt Hon Lord Brabazon of Tara PC DL Mr W D Everard CBE Mr J A H West DL	
The Council	Capt N Palmer OBE MNM* (Chairman) Mr A C F Fawcett FCA* (Deputy Chairman) Mr W J Plant FCA* (Treasurer) Capt R Barker MNM FNI Mr R H Coleman FCA Cdr A Crook RN* Mr E Delaney KSG* Mr R Jardine-Brown Cdre M Mansergh CBE RN Mrs N Miller Capt G Pepper FNI* Mrs E Price Mr M Seymour* Capt J Vercoe* Mr T West Cdre T Williamson MVO RN * Members of the Executive Committee	
Chief Executive	Capt J B Osmond RN	
Principal address	1 North Pallant Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1TL	
Registered Charity number	212034	
Auditors	Sheen Stickland 7 East Pallant Chichester West Sussex PO19 1TR	Investment Managers Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland PLC Gogarburn 175 Glasgow Road Edinburgh EH12 1HQ
Solicitors	George Ide LLP 52 North Street Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1NQ	Blake Morgan LLP Harbour Court Portsmouth Hampshire, PO6 4ST

OUR PRESIDENT

Admiral Sir George Zambellas has served as our President since October 2016.

ORIGINS AND OBJECTIVE

On Sunday 28th October 1838 eleven fishing vessels with a total of 26 men onboard sailed from Clovelly for the fishing grounds. Only 2 vessels returned after a sudden ferocious storm and 21 men were lost. Hearing of this, Mr Charles Gee Jones, a former Bristol pilot and landlord of the Pulteney Arms in Bath, suggested to Mr John Rye, a retired 'medical man' of the city, that something should be done to assist the widows, orphans and parents of fishermen and mariners who lost their lives at sea. As a direct result the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, better known as the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, was founded in 1839 with the object of:

"giving relief and assistance to the widows and orphans of fishermen; and of mariners, members of the Society, who lose their lives by storms and shipwreck on any part of the coasts of the United Kingdom, while engaged in their lawful occupations; and also to render necessary assistance to such mariners, soldiers, or other poor persons as suffer shipwreck upon the said coasts."

Her Majesty Queen Victoria was our first Patron and ever since the Society has been honoured by Royal Patronage. In 1850 the Society was incorporated by Act of Parliament, on which the Rules and Regulations are based. This was a farsighted document that, in addition to its principal original purpose, gave the Society the right to establish Asylums, a system of lifeboats, to build boats to demonstrate how much safer decked fishing boats could be, and

"... - also any other objects, designs, or purposes of a benevolent character, for the benefit and welfare of all and every or any of the classes of men for whose benefit the said Society was originally established or those dependant on them".

Shipwrecks still occur and we are called upon to help but our main activity today is to provide financial assistance to retired, incapacitated, unemployed and working fishermen and mariners and their dependants who are in need. It is one of the largest maritime charities in the UK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society operates for the public benefit under two charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act 2011: "The Prevention and Relief of Poverty" and "The Relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage" by providing a range of grants to fishermen, merchant seamen and their dependants who are retired or of working age but are unable to earn a living through disability, accident, ill-health, because of caring responsibilities, unemployment or who face financial difficulties while at work. The Society has, since 1851, also made awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Society is a registered charity, administered by a Council of Trustees consisting of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 members, who meet three times a year to determine policy. A smaller Executive Committee meets 4 times a year to monitor the implementation of policy and to deal with current business. There are separate Nomination, Investment, Grants Policy and Awards Committees and a Trustee sits on the weekly Grants meeting. The Officers of the Council; the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer are subject to annual re-election. The Governing body has the power to change the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

The recruitment of Trustees has normally been by recommendation and the Society seeks to have a balance of expertise if possible - maritime, financial, medical and legal - among Council members and with a background or strong personal or professional interest in maritime matters. The Society also has a clearly stated objective to make the Council representative of both the community it serves and wider society. To this end Trustees will take full account of the existing composition of Council when making new appointments.

Induction is given initially by the Chief Executive, and this is followed by more in-depth training on Trustee responsibilities as required. Trustees require re-election every 3 years. The Society is operated by the Chief Executive and a staff of five (two of whom are part time) within the policy guidelines set by the Trustees.

The Society is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB), which is the UK's 'National Seafarers Welfare Board' as defined in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO's) Maritime Labour Convention.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Society's Risk Assessment and Business Continuity documents are regularly reviewed by the Trustees. Key risks are assessed to be:

- Reputational – Management and Trustees are always conscious of this in their routine conduct and decision making and seek professional advice where appropriate.
- Major reduction in investment income both directly from our own investments and indirectly from our main grant funders. Regular face-to-face performance reviews are conducted with our Investment Manager. A review of our investment manager is undertaken approximately every 5 years. We also maintain regular contact with our major grant funders to update them on the impact of their support.
- Loss of key member of staff – Detailed work procedures are laid down to aid smooth succession.
- Safeguarding – we have a robust system in place to ensure all personnel are properly supported and protected.
- Compromise of supporter data – Robust data protection policy and procedures ensure that the risk of unauthorised access to data is minimised.

DATA PROTECTION

The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. We have a robust data protection policy which has been rewritten to accommodate the requirements of the UK's General Data Protection Regulation. Of particular note, the personal data of applicants and beneficiaries is only passed to other organisations when we assess they may be able to provide additional support, and only once the applicant has provided specific permission to do so. The personal data of donors/supporters is only shared with third parties (e.g. our online Christmas Card supplier) to directly support essential operational activities. When shared, this data is only used to support work on our behalf; such third parties are contractually prohibited from using it for their own fundraising or marketing activity, or from passing it to other organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society is to provide help to mariners, fishermen and their dependants who are in financial need by:

- Paying an Immediate grant to the partner of a serving seafarer who dies (be that at sea or ashore).
- Making Regular grants to elderly or incapacitated seafarers and widows in need.
- Making Special or One-off grants to meet particular needs in urgent or crisis situations.
- Making Death Benefit Grant payments to the spouses / partners of former life members.
- Making Funeral Grant payments to eligible personnel who meet our criteria for one-off grants.
- Offering practical assistance to seafarers of any nationality shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles.

In addition:

- We aim to review our regular beneficiaries' circumstances every three years with a home visit.

Through these activities we aim to make a difference to the circumstances and quality of life of our beneficiaries. We also signpost people to other sources of help and advice, such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL).

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

To be considered for a one-off or crisis grant applicants must have a minimum of 5 years sea service; for regular grants a minimum of 10 years is required. This requirement is reviewed periodically to reflect changing employment patterns and the Society's resources. They must also be within net income and savings limits which are reviewed annually by Trustees in the light of changes to state benefits, inflation and estimates of minimum income standards provided by such bodies as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payments and Disability Premiums are not taken into account in assessing income, but other benefits are. The criteria and restrictions are considered to meet the public benefit test of being legitimate, proportionate and rational given the objectives of the charity and our available resources.

AWARDS FOR SKILL & GALLANTRY

The Society has presented awards for outstanding acts of skill and gallantry at sea since 1851. Three major awards are made annually: the Emile Robin award for an outstanding rescue, The Lady Swaythling Trophy for an outstanding feat of seamanship and the Edward & Maisie Lewis award for an exceptional air/sea rescue. The cost of the Edward & Maisie Lewis award is met from a restricted fund donated by Mr Richard Lewis, in memory of his parents, and he has also generously allowed this to be used to contribute to the costs of all our awards. Commendations are also given to individuals, crews and teams for exceptional acts of skill and gallantry. The Society strongly believes in recognizing and honouring those who risk their lives for others at sea.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Key to fulfilling our objectives and the work of the Society is our national network of over 150 Honorary Agents - private individuals, harbour masters, post mistresses, retired policemen and solicitors among others - who conduct casework, distribute grants, look after our large collecting mines or fundraise on the Society's behalf. The Superintendents of the Fishermen's Mission, caseworkers from Nautilus International, the Chaplains of the Mission to Seafarers, the Mersey Mission and Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest also act as our agents: a sensible combined use of available expertise and we are especially grateful for their contribution. SSAFA caseworkers continue to generate many new cases, several from inland counties where the Society's existence is less well known and where merchant seamen are as likely to be found as on the coast. These charities are reimbursed for the casework they conduct on our behalf.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

GRANTS

This has been another busy year for the Society, due to both the ongoing impact of COVID19 and the significant inflationary pressures affecting all those living in the UK, especially those on low incomes. Grants to those in need were made in 1783 cases, amounting to £1.26 million, including those administered on behalf of Trinity House. During the year under review there were 629 new applications for assistance, of which 78% met our criteria. The majority of those rejected had incomes in excess of our limits, others lacked the necessary sea service. Of note total grant numbers were 24% lower than those seen last year, noting the current figure represents a return to more normal (pre-COVID) levels.

Regular grants were made to 1,275 beneficiaries during the year; grants are generally paid biannually, with recipients receiving a total of £780 per year. This is clearly a modest sum, but one that makes a significant difference to someone living on pension credit, with no savings or insurance. This level of grant is in the bottom range of such grants given by occupational benevolent charities but following a detailed review of our underlying finances, will increase to £832 (£16 per week) with effect from May 2022. Whilst the majority of our beneficiaries are retired others are unable to work because of accident, illness, disability, for compassionate reasons or are unable to find employment ashore after working at sea. They range in age from 44 to 103.

Regular grants are important for the following reasons:

- Assists with budgeting.
- Establishes an on-going relationship, through the local Honorary Agent, with the beneficiary, which is more than just financial and which can be particularly important to those who live alone – 28% of our regular beneficiaries say they suffer from loneliness.
- Provides regular contact, enabling our Honorary Agents (where possible) to see beneficiaries face-to-face and to discuss financial and other matters of concern.
- The associated three-yearly reviews provide an opportunity to find out if additional assistance is required, perhaps as a result of increased infirmity.
- It is the recipient's decision on how the grant is spent.

Approximately 52% of our beneficiaries are fishermen or ex-fishermen, 30% merchant service and the balance were both. Their average age is 76. During the year, we took on 92 new regular beneficiaries with an average age of 70. Reviews of 322 regular beneficiaries were completed this year.

One-off grants totalling nearly £286,000 were made in 508 cases. This included continued support for COVID related issues, including both general living expenses and accrued debt. However the majority of grants reflected more routine demand across a range of different grant types, including Funeral grants, Special Grants, Shipwreck Grants and Immediate Relief Grants (following the death of a serving seafarer, either at sea or ashore). Some of these grants help people to remain in their own home.

IMPACT

The feedback we get from letters from beneficiaries, our Honorary Agents and our three-yearly review evaluations confirms that regular and one-off grants have a positive impact on the quality of life and standard of living of the recipients (many of whom have no financial reserves or insurance) by enabling them among other things to:

- Budget better by assisting with general living expenses (34% of our beneficiaries report that they struggle to pay their bills and 16% are constantly concerned about going into debt).
- Purchase and replace defective 'white goods' and other essential items such as beds and carpets.
- Pay for essential household maintenance and repairs, for example, to replace rotten windows and doors.
- Remain mobile within their home, for example, by purchasing a stairlift when no local authority funding is available.
- Make adaptations following occupational therapist advice to deal with infirmities and disabilities, for example, to replace a bath with a walk-in shower, provide a riser / recliner chair or a specialist bed.
- Leave their homes without assistance, for example by providing an electrically powered vehicle (EPV).
- Pay for heating – a concern of our older beneficiaries who spend most of their time at home.
- Pay off priority debts such as utility bills.
- Buy clothes and shoes.
- Pay a rent deposit to escape from homelessness.
- Take a rare holiday
- Remain in their own home.

For those solely reliant on the state pension many of these items are simply unaffordable without outside assistance. The top five specific uses of the regular grant after general living expenses are for utility bills, house repairs, clothing, household equipment and council tax.

Below are some examples of the support we have provided and associated responses from beneficiaries:

- Mr. P, in his early 40's with 17 years sea service, was unable to work due to the impact of COVID. He and his wife were claiming Universal Credit but had fallen behind on some bills. We were able to provide a cash grant to stabilise their situation and following debt advice from the Sailor's Information and Advice Line (SAIL), we were also able to clear £800 of rent arrears which, going forward, would enable them to cope with their routine bills.
- "Both the grant and the new television have gone a long way to solving my financial quandaries and have greatly relieved my anxiety. A very big 'Thank You' to you and all your team for helping me so much."
- Mr T, in his early 70's with over 40 years sea service, was battling serious health issues and had undergone drastic surgery. He was struggling physically, emotionally and financially and we were pleased to be able to award a regular grant to ease some of his financial worries.
- "Thank you so very much for the regular grant payment which has just arrived in my account. With the cost of everyday items going up and the huge jump in the price gas & electric, we've had to look long and hard about where our money goes. Thanks to your generosity the grant has enabled us to pay bills and still leave us 'a cushion' for the next few months."
- Mr. G in his late 20's with 10 years sea service, was wheelchair bound following a serious road traffic accident. His doctors were suggesting it could take up to 2 years before he could return to work. We were able to provide a cash grant of £700 to support him and his young family whilst he waited for disability benefits to be awarded.
- Mr L, in his early 50's with 35 years sea service, was struggling with mental health issues and found himself homeless. He was eventually offered an unfurnished flat by the local authority, and we were able to provide £1,200 to help him set up his new home. This action, in combination with mental health support, has enabled him to re-establish himself in society.
- "I just wanted to say a very big thank you for all the help we've received, including through the annual grant. Having been without a boiler since the start of winter the house is now beautifully warm and cozy, and we have hot water at last! Thank you for all that you do".
- Mr K, in his mid-20's with 7 years sea service, was struggling to support his young family due to an unfortunate series of unexpected (but essential) bills. Noting the ongoing impact of the pandemic, as well as several months of poor fishing, we were able to provide £900 to help stabilise the situation for him and his family.

The Grants Team at Central Office has the task of processing the applications and a key part of their work is to ensure that the people concerned are receiving all the statutory benefits to which they are entitled. The team has developed considerable expertise in this area, which in parallel with advice provided by SAIL, delivers significant sums in statutory benefits for those who would otherwise have been unaware of their entitlement. Ironically, this sometimes means that the applicant no longer meets our income criteria, and we cannot support them, but the primary objective of improving their overall financial circumstances has been achieved. We refer an increasing number of cases, where complex benefit or debt issues are involved, to SAIL and frequently act on their recommendations to ensure the most appropriate form of financial support is provided. Our weekly Grants meeting enables us to make prompt decisions, with the results communicated to applicants as quickly as possible.

We work closely with other maritime charities, and refer applicants to them for various reasons, including those who do not fit our criteria, those who require a different type of support, and those involving major expenditure (e.g. bathroom adaptations) where we seek to share the costs. Where possible if we, or another maritime charity are unable to assist then we are often able to refer applicants to relevant non-maritime charities (connected with any alternative employment) as well as sources of advice or assistance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARY CHARITY

The Society operates a number of restricted funds, including The Royal Seamen's Pension Fund, which had 55 beneficiaries at the end of the year, and the Hull Fishermen's Trust Fund, which had 71 beneficiaries. The Society also has a subsidiary charity, the Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund, which is operated as a restricted fund; this had 7 beneficiaries at the end of the year.

The Society continues to manage the payment of grants to the 26 annuitants of Trinity House, London, and has the capacity and expertise to take on more work of this kind.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2015 (FRS 102).

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME

Overview

Total Income (including investment income) for 2021/22 was £1.7 million with expenditure of £2.0 million, giving an operating deficit of £274,000. This compares to a deficit of £498,000 in the previous year. In the long term the Trustees budget for an operating deficit but plan for this to be largely offset by income from investments and gains on investment assets. Overall Net Income (after returns on investments) was £546,000 compared to £4.7 million last year, which was driven by a small but still positive growth in our investments, despite the impact of COVID19.

Investments

Investments generate income that is key to supporting our beneficiaries. This year the value of our investments has risen by approx. £370k to £29.9 million. A total return (TR) policy is operated which requires the investment managers to fund our budgeted yearly operating deficit from a combination of income and capital: we drew down a total of 3.7% of our investments (income and capital) during 2021/22. This aligns with our actuarial model and represents a sustainable level of expenditure to meet beneficiary needs both now and in the future. Investment performance is reviewed bi-annually by the Investment Committee, which provides additional oversight alongside the separate bi-annual reviews undertaken by Council.

Legacies

Receipts this year were £325k, up from £166k last year, which represents an above average year. However, irrespective of the sum received we remain enormously grateful to those who chose to remember us in this way; their gifts are put to good use in helping the next generation of seafarers and their dependants. Legacies are a vital but inherently unpredictable source of income.

Donations / Fundraising

Public donations from Appeals (see Trading below), direct to Central Office and through our Agencies, which includes our collecting mines, amounted to £261,000 which is significantly up on last year's total of £216,000. We are most appreciative of the generosity of those who support us in this way.

Grants

We have a very close relationship with two key charities, namely Trinity House London and The Seafarers Charity, both of whom have been extremely generous over many years in supporting our work. The annual grants we receive from them are essential to our work and we maintain a close dialogue with both organisations.

Trading

This has been another good year for our trading activity, which remains focussed on selling Christmas, birthday and correspondence cards (via mail order) through our supplier, Impress Publishing. Additional sales come via our seasonal shop at Central Office, our Honorary Agents and the Chichester Cards for Good Causes outlet. Turnover at £90,000 was down by 4% on last year, which remains a very strong result given the exceptional response we received during the first year of the pandemic, and noting the highly competitive nature of this market and the general reduction in Christmas card sales. In conjunction with these sales, the Society also received over £144,000 worth of appeal related donations. This once again demonstrates the value of our trading activity in generating funds for the Society's work, whilst also providing numerous opportunities to advertise our work to the wider public. Our card buyers are our greatest group of supporters and have remained as loyal and generous as ever, in particular in recognising the continued hardship faced by so many mariners (and their families) due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic. Some of these supporters have been buying our cards for over 50 years, which is an amazing testimony to their steadfast support of our work.

EXPENDITURE

Costs of Raising Funds

These relate largely to the cost of the annual Appeal and wider publicity throughout the year which is aimed at both potential donors and those who might refer potential beneficiaries to us for assistance.

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activities amounted to £1.72 million, which was 86% of all expenditure. Of this figure £1.26 million, 63% of all expenditure, was on grants to individuals. The Society works extremely hard to minimise fundraising and support costs, thereby maximising the proportion of funds spent on charitable activities and delivering the maximum level of financial support directly to our beneficiaries.

RESERVES POLICY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds as investments in order to generate the income required to carry out the purpose of the Charity. Without this the Society would be unable to respond to need to the extent that it does or would have to increase its fundraising activities and associated expenditure, and in so doing be largely competing with other charities in the maritime sector. Every five to six years the Society conducts a full actuarial review against various scenarios to determine whether we will have sufficient financial resources to meet projected future demands. This was completed in 2021 and provided confirmation that the Society's finances remain robust. Based on the results of this review the Society was able to approve a significant uplift to its regular grant (to £16 per week) whilst also committing to meet the steadily increasing demands for one-off grants from working age seafarers.

The Society's Unrestricted Funds are split into three components:

- General Fund
 - This holds sufficient resources in short term realizable investment assets and cash to support administrative overheads and regular grants for a period of at least twelve months.
- Investment Property Fund
 - This is equivalent to the value of the Head Office building;
- Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants
 - This is a designated fund which is specifically maintained to generate investment income to support future grant payments (both regular and one-off). The Society's Total Return policy recognises that the value of this fund (in real terms) will slowly reduce over time, albeit this will be managed in line with our actuarial review to ensure sufficient funds to meet longer term need.

It should be noted that despite the significant size of the Designated Fund, the investment return only provides approximately 50% of the expenditure required for charitable activities; the remainder needing to be provided from other funding sources, including donations, legacies and external grants.

The above investments are managed by Sarasin LLP, mainly in a CAIF (Charity Approved Investment Fund) but there is also a small portfolio in cash or near cash instruments, which is kept topped up, to avoid the need to sell stocks and shares when the market is unfavourable. The level of funds held in the 3 different components of unrestricted funds is reviewed annually.

The breakdown of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet on page 13.

REMUNERATION POLICY

Staff salaries are set by the Trustees after relevant input from the Chief Executive. They are reviewed annually by the Executive Committee in December and after further deliberation formally approved by Council in January. The Society believes in trying to attract and retain good quality staff for the long term. Salaries are benchmarked against independent authoritative annual salary surveys of the charity sector. The salary range between the lower quartile and the median for each job level is normally used. There is no performance-related pay nor is there a bonus scheme.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our enduring task of helping fishermen and mariners and their dependants in need
- Maintaining the rolling programme of three-yearly reviews of beneficiaries' circumstances.
- Finding new avenues to spread the word about our work to those who may need our assistance and to those who might wish to support us.
- Increasing our knowledge of additional sources of help, advice and assistance to those in need

In summary, Trustees remain firmly focussed on the Society's remit to support seafaring beneficiaries in the short, medium, and long term; the Society remains in a strong position to continue with this important work. The Society's investments (which provide an essential income stream to underpin our long-term work) are carefully structured across a range of investment types, whilst also ensuring sufficient 'liquid' assets to meet on-going cashflow requirements. Based on the value of our investments, Trustees remain confident in the Society's ability to provide continued support for many generations to come.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Charities Act requires the Council Members of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council Members are required to:

- ensure compliance with the charity's governing document and current statutory requirements;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.

The Council Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Council Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



.....
Signed on behalf of the Trustees
Captain Nigel Palmer OBE MNM Chairman

Approved by the Council on...12 Jul 22...

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2022 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 Auditors' 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements ; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees 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

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors (or in-house legal team) around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- enquiry of entity's staff to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations, legacies and grants	2	595,485	217,112	812,597	624,501
Other trading activities	3	89,745	-	89,745	93,692
Other income		<u>1,340</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,340</u>	<u>1,650</u>
Total		<u>686,570</u>	<u>217,112</u>	<u>903,682</u>	<u>719,843</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	261,545	14,957	276,502	265,862
Charitable activities					
Grants and Other costs	5	<u>1,400,203</u>	<u>319,802</u>	<u>1,720,005</u>	<u>1,834,975</u>
Total		<u>1,661,748</u>	<u>334,759</u>	<u>1,996,507</u>	<u>2,100,837</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(975,178)	(117,647)	(1,092,825)	(1,380,994)
Income from investments	8	726,834	92,445	819,279	883,287
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>720,561</u>	<u>99,199</u>	<u>819,760</u>	<u>5,153,917</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		472,217	73,997	546,214	4,656,210
Transferred from Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited	18	-	-	-	9,905
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		432,217	73,997	506,214	4,666,115
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>28,199,172</u></u>	<u><u>3,533,145</u></u>	<u><u>31,732,317</u></u>	<u><u>31,226,103</u></u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

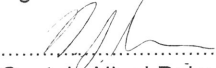
The notes form part of these financial statements

Shipwrecked Fisherman and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	25,006	10,019
Investments			
Investments	12	29,865,219	29,499,086
Investment property	13	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,150,000</u>
		31,000,225	30,659,105
 CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		5,274	4,355
Debtors	14	308,500	187,660
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>466,978</u>	<u>496,205</u>
		780,752	688,220
 CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(48,660)	(121,222)
 NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>732,092</u>	<u>566,998</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>
 NET ASSETS	16	<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>
 FUNDS	17		
General funds		2,208,161	2,327,749
Investment property fund		1,110,000	1,150,000
Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants		24,881,011	24,289,206
Restricted funds		<u>3,533,145</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS		<u>31,732,317</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 Jul 22 and were signed on its behalf by:


 Captain Nigel Palmer OBE MNM Chairman


 W Plant, FCA – Treasurer


 Capt J B Osmond RN – Chief Executive

The notes form part of these financial statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	(226,638)	1,483
Dividends, interest & rents received		<u>(819,279)</u>	<u>(883,287)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities		<u>(1,045,917)</u>	<u>(881,804)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(17,589)	-
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(45,000)	(1,220,448)
Sale of fixed asset investments		260,000	1,415,000
Dividends, interest & rents received	8	<u>819,279</u>	<u>883,287</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>1,016,690</u>	<u>1,077,839</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(29,227)	196,035
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	20	<u>496,205</u>	<u>300,170</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	20	<u><u>466,978</u></u>	<u><u>496,205</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as updated on 5th October 2018 and effective from 1st January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs, which include salaries and overheads, are apportioned to Raising Funds, Charitable Activities, Management and Governance according to the staff time involved.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 25% on reducing balance
Furniture and equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

Fixed assets are capitalised where the initial cost exceeds £1,000.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Investment property

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation (conducted independently) and no depreciation is charged in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to reserves.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

Grants received from The Seafarers Charity, Trinity House and MNWB are treated as restricted funds. The Royal Seaman's Pension Fund (RSPF) was transferred to the Society in December 2005 as a restricted fund. The Hull Fisherman's Trust (HFTF) became a restricted fund of the Society on 1st July 2007. The Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund (FFIBF) became a subsidiary charity of the Society on 1st November 2007 and under a Uniting Direction granted by the Charity Commission it is accounted as a restricted fund.

The Edward and Maisie Lewis Fund is a restricted fund used for the annual award for the most outstanding air/sea rescue of the year and contributes towards other awards.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society. The annual contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. In addition the Society makes pension payments to certain retired employees, which payments are expensed as incurred.

2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES AND GRANTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Central office donations	107,352	52,470
Agency donations	9,362	13,471
Appeals Office donations	143,851	150,551
Legacies	325,052	165,814
Grants	<u>226,980</u>	<u>242,195</u>
	<u>812,597</u>	<u>624,501</u>

At 31st March 2022, the Society had been notified of its entitlement to legacies estimated at £291,677 (2021: £155,268).

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
The Seafarers Charity - SMS	75,000	75,000
The Seafarers Charity - MN	15,000	10,000
Trinity House - SMS	101,095	111,920
Trinity House - TH Annuitants	19,910	22,250
MNWB – SMS	6,105	11,025
Fishmongers Hall - SMS	9,870	2,000
Marine Society and Sea Cadets - SMS	-	10,000
	<u>226,980</u>	<u>242,195</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society has previously operated its own trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited) but decided to amalgamate this into the main charity with effect from 1 April 2020. This year's income (£89,745) is predominantly driven by Christmas Card sales but represents an 4% decrease on last year's receipts (£93,692).

4. RAISING FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Staff costs	24,252	23,367
Appeal costs	19,442	17,799
Publicity	35,900	34,916
Other costs	11,278	12,230
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>260</u>	<u>308</u>
	91,132	88,620
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	4,355	4,299
Trading purchases	56,778	56,529
Closing stock	<u>(5,274)</u>	<u>(4,355)</u>
	55,859	56,473
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management – net charge after rebate	<u>129,511</u>	<u>120,769</u>
	<u><u>276,502</u></u>	<u><u>265,862</u></u>

Publicity includes the costs of making the Society known to potential beneficiaries.

Combined expenditure on trading activities and raising donations (including legacies) was £146,991 (2021: £145,093). This generated a total income (excluding grants from other organisations) of £676,702 (2021: £477,648), which in essence represents £4.60 income for every £1 spent on such activities (2021: £3.31 income for every £1 spent).

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	2022 Totals £	2021 Totals £
Grants to Individuals	1,262,603	-	1,262,603	1,407,209
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>457,402</u>	<u>457,402</u>	<u>427,766</u>
	<u><u>1,262,603</u></u>	<u><u>457,402</u></u>	<u><u>1,720,005</u></u>	<u><u>1,834,975</u></u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Number of grants 2022	Total Funds 2022 £	Number of grants 2021	Total Funds 2021 £
SMS grants:				
Biannual grants	1,102	845,262	1,111	868,752
Initial/Final grants	86	39,448	103	47,115
Special grants	390	223,417	568	298,378
Special grants (MN Fund)	9	6,505	20	14,260
Immediate grants	4	2,000	9	12,200
Death benefit grants	19	14,365	19	16,055
Shipwreck grants	0	0	4	903
Total SMS grants	1,610	1,130,997	1,834	1,257,663
RSPF restricted fund grants	60	45,045	66	51,675
HFTF restricted fund grants	79	60,450	88	68,835
FFIBF restricted fund grants	8	5,616	9	7,176
Grants on behalf of Trinity House	26	20,495	28	21,860
	<u>1,783</u>	<u>1,262,603</u>	<u>2,025</u>	<u>1,407,209</u>

Special Grants includes £23,687 paid out in support of applications relating to the COVID19 pandemic.

Within the total grants expenditure is a sum of £90,000 (2021: £85,000) provided by The Seafarers Charity and £121,005 (2021: £132,250) provided by Trinity House, which includes £19,910 repayment of expenditure on regular grants to their annuitants.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance costs	2022 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	136,158	51,578	187,736
Social security	11,746	3,575	15,321
Pensions	19,434	5,915	25,349
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	9,364	9,364
Professional /Legal fees	-	12,215	12,215
Other support costs	163,639	41,482	205,077
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,950	390	2,340
	<u>340,437</u>	<u>116,965</u>	<u>457,402</u>

Comparative support costs

	Management	Governance costs	2021 Totals
	£	£	£
Salaries	133,520	50,181	183,701
Social security	10,203	3,105	13,308
Pensions	17,509	9,263	26,772
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	10,197	10,197
Professional /Legal fees	-	2,813	2,813
Other support costs	160,083	28,116	188,199
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,313	463	2,776
	<u>323,628</u>	<u>104,138</u>	<u>427,766</u>

8. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Investment property	46,147	45,902
Common Investment Fund	773,081	837,262
Bank interest	<u>51</u>	<u>123</u>
	<u>819,279</u>	<u>883,287</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

Council members receive no remuneration. Reimbursement of expenses to 1 (2021: 1) Council members totalled £33 (2021: £36).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries	207,470	203,052
Social security costs	17,023	14,786
Pension contributions	<u>28,165</u>	<u>29,310</u>
	<u>252,658</u>	<u>225,926</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
Administrative staff		

One employee received emoluments within the £70,000 - £80,000 band and £8,729 was contributed to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of this employee.

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in a fund administered independently by Standard Life and Royal London. The pension contributions represent amounts payable by the Society to the fund.

The Society is also committed to paying a pension out of its funds to certain former employees or their dependants. These amounts are included within salaries.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st April 2021	38,139	31,589	27,336	97,064
Additions	-	-	17,589	17,589
Disposals	-	-	(21,570)	(21,570)
At 31st March 2022	<u>38,139</u>	<u>31,589</u>	<u>23,355</u>	<u>93,083</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st April 2021	32,624	31,314	23,107	87,045
Charge for year	1,379	69	1,154	2,602
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(21,570)	(21,570)
At 31st March 2022	<u>34,003</u>	<u>31,383</u>	<u>2,691</u>	<u>68,077</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2022	<u>4,136</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>20,664</u>	<u>25,006</u>
At 31st March 2021	5,515,	275	4,229	10,019

Fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the Society's objects.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Common investment fund £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1st April 2021	4	29,278,469	220,613	29,499,086
Additions	-	45,000	-	45,000
Disposals	-	(259,998)	(23,931)	(283,929)
Revaluations	-	605,062	-	605,062
At 31st March 2022	<u>4</u>	<u>29,668,533</u>	<u>196,682</u>	<u>29,865,219</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2022	<u>4</u>	<u>29,668,533</u>	<u>196,682</u>	<u>29,865,219</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>4</u>	<u>29,278,469</u>	<u>220,613</u>	<u>29,499,086</u>

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY**MARKET VALUE**

£

At 1st April 2021 and 31st March 2022
Revaluation1,150,000
(40,000)
1,110,000**NET BOOK VALUE**At 31st March 2021

1,150,000

At 31st March 20221,110,000

The freehold investment property was valued as at 1st April 2022 by M Le Seilleur of Flude Commercial on an open market value basis in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The original cost of the property was £64,761.

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other debtors	3,845	2,266
Gift aid tax recoverable	1,620	1,460
Legacies receivable	291,677	155,268
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>11,358</u>	<u>28,666</u>
	<u>308,500</u>	<u>187,660</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	29,199	104,240
Accruals and deferred income	13,146	9,480
VAT	6,311	7,498
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>48,660</u>	<u>121,222</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Fixed assets	25,006	-	25,006
Investments	27,608,799	3,366,420	31,015,219
Current assets	417,437	363,315	780,752
Current liabilities	(48,660)	-	(48,660)
	<u>28,002,582</u>	<u>3,729,735</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	10,019	-	10,019
Investments	27,323,937	3,325,149	30,649,086
Current assets	554,221	133,999	688,220
Current liabilities	(121,222)	-	(121,222)
	<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,327,749	472,217	(591,805)	2,208,161
Investment property fund	1,150,000	(40,000)	-	1,110,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	24,289,206	-	591,805	24,881,011
	<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>432,217</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,199,172</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	(253)	8,495	-	8,242
Trinity House for TH annuitants	-	(585)	-	(585)
E & M Lewis Award Fund	74,581	5,124	-	79,705
RSPF	438,463	(21,829)	-	416,634
HFTF	2,664,507	70,812	-	2,735,319
FFIBF	237,967	6,205	-	244,172
MNWB for case-working	43,883	5,775	-	49,658
	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>73,997</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,533,145</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>506,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,732,317</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,413,404	(1,661,748)	680,561	432,217
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	15,000	(6,505)	-	8,495
Trinity House for regular grants	101,095	(101,095)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	19,910	(20,495)	-	585
E & M Lewis Award Fund	3,582	(3,581)	5,123	5,124
RSPF	12,631	(47,831)	13,371	(21,829)
HFTF	69,877	(73,041)	73,976	70,812
FFIBF	6,357	(6,881)	6,729	6,205
MNWB for case-working	6,105	(330)	-	5,775
	<u>309,557</u>	<u>(334,759)</u>	<u>99,199</u>	<u>73,997</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,722,961</u>	<u>(1,996,507)</u>	<u>779,760</u>	<u>506,214</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,191,000	4,105,270	(3,968,521)	2,327,749
Investment property fund	1,150,000	-	-	1,150,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	20,310,780	-	3,978,426	24,289,206
	<u>23,651,780</u>	<u>4,105,270</u>	<u>9,905</u>	<u>27,766,955</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	4,007	(4,260)	-	(253)
E & M Lewis Award Fund	59,958	14,623	-	74,581
RSPF	398,313	40,150	-	438,463
HFTF	2,213,932	450,575	-	2,664,507
FFIBF	198,360	39,607	-	237,967
MNWB for case-working	33,638	10,245	-	43,883
	<u>2,908,208</u>	<u>550,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>26,559,988</u>	<u>4,656,210</u>	<u>9,905</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,277,740	(1,733,663)	4,561,193	4,105,270
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	10,000	(14,260)	-	(4,260)
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	22,250	(22,250)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	3,080	(1,681)	13,224	14,623
RSPF	13,192	(54,338)	81,296	40,150
HFTF	74,150	(80,533)	456,958	450,575
FFIBF	6,693	(8,332)	41,246	39,607
MNWB for case-working	11,028	(780)	-	10,245
	<u>325,390</u>	<u>(367,174)</u>	<u>592,724</u>	<u>550,940</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,603,130</u>	<u>(2,100,837)</u>	<u>5,153,917</u>	<u>4,656,210</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited, which is maintained as a dormant company following transfer of trading activity to the main charity in April 2020.

At the year end the Charity owed Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited £4 in respect of share capital.

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM ACTIVITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	506,214	4,666,115
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	2,602	3,083
Losses/(gain) on investments	(581,133)	(4,718,992)
Losses/(gain) on revaluation of fixed asset investment	40,000	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(120,840)	24,720
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(919)	(4,355)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>(72,562)</u>	<u>30,912</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) activities	<u>(226,638)</u>	<u>1,483</u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand	46	45
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	<u>466,932</u>	<u>496,160</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>466,978</u>	<u>496,205</u>

Accounts



**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2021
for**

**Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'
Royal Benevolent Society**

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (known as the Council) present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2021. The Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron	Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal	
President	Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC DL FRAeS	
Vice Presidents	The Rt Hon Lord Brabazon of Tara PC DL Mr W D Everard CBE Mr J A H West DL	
The Council	Capt N Palmer OBE MNM* (Chairman) Mr A C F Fawcett FCA* (Deputy Chairman) Mr W Plant FCA* (Treasurer) Capt R Barker MNM FNI Mr R H Coleman FCA Cdr A Crook RN* Mr E Delaney KSG* Mr R Greenwood Mr R Jardine-Brown Cdre M Mansergh CBE RN Mrs N Miller Capt G Pepper FNI* Mrs L Price Mr M Seymour* Capt J Vercoe* Mr T West Cdre T Williamson MVO RN * Members of the Executive Committee	
Chief Executive	Capt J B Osmond RN	
Principal address	1 North Pallant Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1TL	
Registered Charity number	212034	
Auditors	Sheen Stickland 7 East Pallant Chichester West Sussex PO19 1TR	Investment Managers Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland PLC Gogarburn 175 Glasgow Road Edinburgh EH12 1HQ
Solicitors	George Ide LLP 52 North Street Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1NQ	Blake Morgan LLP Harbour Court Portsmouth Hampshire, PO6 4ST

OUR PRESIDENT

Admiral Sir George Zambellas has served as our President since October 2016.

ORIGINS AND OBJECTIVE

On Sunday 28th October 1838 eleven fishing vessels with a total of 26 men onboard sailed from Clovelly for the fishing grounds. Only 2 vessels returned after a sudden ferocious storm and 21 men were lost. Hearing of this, Mr Charles Gee Jones, a former Bristol pilot and landlord of the Pulteney Arms in Bath, suggested to Mr John Rye, a retired 'medical man' of the city, that something should be done to assist the widows, orphans and parents of fishermen and mariners who lost their lives at sea. As a direct result the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, better known as the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, was founded in 1839 with the object of:

"giving relief and assistance to the widows and orphans of fishermen; and of mariners, members of the Society, who lose their lives by storms and shipwreck on any part of the coasts of the United Kingdom, while engaged in their lawful occupations; and also to render necessary assistance to such mariners, soldiers, or other poor persons as suffer shipwreck upon the said coasts."

Her Majesty Queen Victoria was our first Patron and ever since the Society has been honoured by Royal Patronage. In 1850 the Society was incorporated by Act of Parliament, on which the Rules and Regulations are based. This was a farsighted document that, in addition to its principal original purpose, gave the Society the right to establish Asylums, a system of lifeboats, to build boats to demonstrate how much safer decked fishing boats could be, and

"... - also any other objects, designs, or purposes of a benevolent character, for the benefit and welfare of all and every or any of the classes of men for whose benefit the said Society was originally established or those dependant on them".

Shipwrecks still occur and we are called upon to help but our main activity today is to provide financial assistance to retired, incapacitated, unemployed and working fishermen and mariners and their dependants who are in need. It is one of the largest maritime charities in the UK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society operates for the public benefit under two charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act 2011: "The Prevention and Relief of Poverty" and "The Relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage" by providing a range of grants to fishermen, merchant seamen and their dependants who are retired or of working age but are unable to earn a living through disability, accident, ill-health, because of caring responsibilities, unemployment or who face financial difficulties while at work. The Society has, since 1851, also made awards for acts of skill and gallantry at sea.

Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Society is a registered charity, administered by a Council of Trustees consisting of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 members, who meet three times a year to determine policy. A smaller Executive Committee meets 4 times a year to monitor the implementation of policy and to deal with current business. There are separate Nomination, Investment, Grants Policy and Awards Committees and a Trustee sits on the weekly Grants meeting. The Officers of the Council; the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer are subject to annual re-election. The Governing body has the power to change the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

The recruitment of Trustees has normally been by recommendation and the Society seeks to have a balance of expertise if possible - maritime, financial, medical and legal - among Council members and with a background or strong personal or professional interest in maritime matters. The Society also has a clearly stated objective to make the Council representative of both the community it serves and wider society. To this end Trustees will take full account of the existing composition of Council when making new appointments.

Induction is given initially by the Chief Executive and this is followed by more in-depth training on Trustee responsibilities through lectures and seminars as required. Trustees require re-election every 3 years. The Society is operated by the Chief Executive and a staff of five (three of whom are part time) within the policy guidelines set by the Trustees.

The Society is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB), which is the UK's 'National Seafarers Welfare Board' as defined in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO's) Maritime Labour Convention.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Society's Risk Assessment and Business Continuity documents are regularly reviewed by the Trustees. Key risks are assessed to be:

- Reputational – Management and Trustees are always conscious of this in their routine conduct and decision making and seek professional advice where appropriate.
- Major reduction in investment income both directly from our own investments and indirectly from our main grant funders – Regular face-to-face meetings take place with the Investment Manager to review performance. Independent investment management reviews are undertaken approximately every 5 years and grant funders are kept aware of our position.
- Loss of key member of staff – Detailed work procedures are laid down to aid smooth succession.
- Compromise of supporter data – Robust data protection policy and procedures ensure that the risk of unauthorised access to data is minimised.

DATA PROTECTION

The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. We have a robust data protection policy which has been rewritten to accommodate the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation, which came into force in 2018. Of particular note, the personal data of applicants and beneficiaries is only passed to other organisations when we assess they may be able to provide additional support, and only once the applicant has provided specific permission to do so. The personal data of donors/supporters is only shared with third parties (e.g. our online Christmas Card supplier) to directly support essential operational activities. When shared, this data is only used to support work on our behalf; such third parties are contractually prohibited from using it for their own fundraising or marketing activity, or from passing it to other organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society is to provide help to mariners, fishermen and their dependants who are in financial need by:

- Paying an Immediate grant to the widow of a serving seafarer who dies (be that at sea or ashore)
- Making Regular grants to elderly or incapacitated seafarers and widows in need.
- Making Special or One-off grants to meet particular needs in urgent or crisis situations.
- Making Death Benefit Grant payments to the spouses / partners of former life members.
- Making Funeral Grant payments to eligible personnel who meet our criteria for one-off grants.
- Offering practical assistance to seafarers of any nationality shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles.

In addition:

- We aim to review our regular beneficiaries' circumstances every three years with a home visit.

Through these activities we aim to make a difference to the circumstances and quality of life of our beneficiaries. We also signpost people to other sources of help and advice, such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL).

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

To be considered for a one-off or crisis grant applicants must have a minimum of 5 years sea service; for regular grants a minimum of 10 years is required. This requirement is reviewed periodically to reflect changing employment patterns and the Society's resources. They must also be within net income and savings limits which are reviewed annually by Trustees in the light of changes to state benefits, inflation and estimates of minimum income standards provided by such bodies as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Personal Independence Payments are not taken into account in assessing income, but other benefits are. The criteria and restrictions are considered to meet the public benefit test of being legitimate, proportionate and rational given the objectives of the charity and our available resources.

AWARDS FOR SKILL & GALLANTRY

The Society has presented awards for outstanding acts of skill and gallantry at sea since 1851. Three major awards are made annually: the Emile Robin award for an outstanding rescue, The Lady Swaythling Trophy for an outstanding feat of seamanship and the Edward & Maisie Lewis award for an exceptional air/sea rescue. The cost of the Edward & Maisie Lewis award is met from a restricted fund donated by Mr Richard Lewis, in memory of his parents, and he has also generously allowed this to be used to contribute to the costs of all our awards. Commendations are also given to individuals, crews and teams for exceptional acts of skill and gallantry. The Society strongly believes in recognizing and honouring those who risk their lives for others at sea.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Key to fulfilling our objectives and the work of the Society is our national network of over 170 Honorary Agents - private individuals, harbour masters, post mistresses, retired policemen and solicitors among others - who conduct casework, distribute grants, look after our large collecting mines or fundraise on the Society's behalf. The Superintendents of the Fishermen's Mission, the Chaplains of the Mission to Seafarers, the Mersey Mission and Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest also act as our agents: a sensible combined use of available expertise and we are especially grateful for their contribution. SSAFA caseworkers continue to generate many new cases, several from inland counties where the Society's existence is less well known and where merchant seamen are as likely to be found as on the coast. These charities are reimbursed for the casework they conduct on our behalf.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

GRANTS

This has been a demanding year for the Society, which has seen significantly increased demand for its services as a result of the COVID19 pandemic. Grants to those in need were made in over 2,000 cases, amounting to £1.41 million, including those administered on behalf of Trinity House. During the year under review there were 832 new applications for assistance, compared with 650 last year, of which 78% met our criteria. The majority of those rejected had incomes in excess of our limits, others lacked the necessary sea service.

Regular grants were made to 1,302 beneficiaries during the year; grants are generally paid biannually, with recipients receiving a total of £780 per year. This is clearly a modest sum, but one that makes a significant difference to someone living on pension credit, with no savings or insurance. This level of grant is in the bottom range of such grants given by occupational benevolent charities but is periodically reviewed, based on actuarial principles, to ensure the Society can maintain this long-term commitment. While the majority of our beneficiaries are retired others are unable to work because of accident, illness, disability, for compassionate reasons or are unable to find employment ashore after working at sea. They range in age from 43 to 102.

Regular grants are important for the following reasons:

- Assists with budgeting.
- Establishes an on-going relationship, through the local Honorary Agent, with the beneficiary, which is more than just financial and which can be particularly important to those who live alone – 26% of our regular beneficiaries say they suffer from loneliness.
- Provides regular contact, enabling our Honorary Agent to see beneficiaries face-to-face and to discuss financial and other matters of concern.
- The associated three-yearly reviews provide an opportunity to find out if additional assistance is required, perhaps as a result of increased infirmity.
- It is the recipient's decision on how the grant is spent.

Approximately 51% of our beneficiaries are fishermen or ex-fishermen, 31% merchant service and the balance were both. Their average age is 76. During the year, we took on 102 new regular beneficiaries with an average age of 68. Reviews of 267 regular beneficiaries were completed this year.

One-off grants totalling nearly £389,000 were made in 723 cases, noting the overall number of such grants has risen by 50% compared to last year, almost exclusively driven by the impact of COVID19. In addition to COVID related support, which has been provided for both general living expenses and accrued debts, our standard grant types include the following; Funeral grants, Special Grants for the purchase of 'white goods', other domestic items (e.g. furniture and carpets), household repairs, rent deposits, utility bill arrears, bankruptcy charges, mobility aids (e.g. stairlifts or electrically powered vehicles), bathroom conversions and replacement boilers, as well as Shipwreck grants and immediate grants to the dependants of serving seafarers who died at sea and from accidents ashore. Some of these grants help people to remain in their own home.

IMPACT

The feedback we get from letters from beneficiaries, our Honorary Agents and our three-yearly review evaluations confirms that regular and one-off grants have a positive impact on the quality of life and standard of living of the recipients (many of whom have no financial reserves or insurance) by enabling them among other things to:

- Budget better by assisting with general living expenses (32% of our beneficiaries report that they struggle to pay their bills and 15% are constantly concerned about going into debt). This has been particularly relevant over the last year, where many of our grants have simply helped to put food on the table.
- Purchase and replace defective 'white goods' and other essential items such as beds and carpets.
- Pay for essential household maintenance and repairs, for example, to replace rotten windows and doors.
- Remain mobile within their home, for example, by purchasing a stairlift when no local authority funding is available.
- Make adaptations following occupational therapist advice to deal with infirmities and disabilities, for example, to replace a bath with a walk-in shower, provide a riser / recliner chair or a specialist bed.
- Leave their homes without assistance, for example by providing an electrically powered vehicle (EPV).
- Pay for heating – a concern of our older beneficiaries who spend most of their time at home.
- Pay off priority debts such as utility bills.
- Buy clothes and shoes.
- Pay a rent deposit to escape from homelessness.
- Take a rare holiday.
- Remain in their own home.

For those solely reliant on the state pension many of these items are simply unaffordable without outside assistance. The top five specific uses of the regular grant after general living expenses are for, utility bills, house repairs, clothing, household equipment and council tax.

Below are some examples of the support we have provided and associated responses from beneficiaries:

- Mr J, in his late 30's, with nearly 20 years sea service, approached us as he had lost all his earnings due to the coronavirus pandemic. His boiler had recently broken down and his family, which included four young children, were living without heating or hot water. We were able to provide over £3,000 to replace their boiler; we also referred them to our partner charities who provided additional help with general living costs, as well as with laptops to enable the children to keep up with their schooling.
- "I don't know how I can thank you all enough for what you have done for me. It's going to make a really change to my situation right now and allow me to get back to work. I will be reminded of you all and everything you have done every time I go out to sea. Thank you so much"
- Mrs G, a widow in her late 70's, approached us to request a regular grant. In reviewing her situation, we were able to talk to her about additional benefits, as well as rebates on certain bills; these subsequently provided her with over £80 per week in extra funds. Whilst this meant that her income was above the qualifying level for a regular grant, she was nonetheless over £4,000 p.a. better off.
- Mr T, in his early 60s with over 30 years sea service, had been re-housed by the local authority having been recognised as a vulnerable adult following a brain injury. He had previously been targeted by criminals who took over his home and kept him locked in a bedroom. Having been moved closer to his family his situation was much improved, but he was in need of a few domestic items. We took him on as regular beneficiary, with the initial grant more than covering his immediate needs.
- "Thank you all for the amazing effort in December to get as much help as possible to our fishing families. Please don't think that it goes unnoticed - so many fishermen have got back to us to say that your support made all the difference to them and to their families".
- Ms G had previously lost her partner in tragic circumstances. In her late 20s with 3 young children, she was struggling to make ends meet. She had been offered a new property which would significantly improve her situation but needed multiple items to furnish the house. In conjunction with another charity, we provided £1,500 to help her establish a suitable home for her young family.
- Mrs E, a widow in her early 80's, was already in receipt of a regular grant but was struggling to keep up payments on her rented washing machine. She also needed to replace her threadbare carpets, which were a significant trip hazard. We were happy to pay for both items.
- "Thank you so much for the grant which was received into my bank this week. With ever higher heating bills and Christmas on the horizon, it's come at a time when it's most needed. Thanks again. We're very grateful to you".
- Mr F, in his mid 40s with 25 years sea service, was battling cancer and had been off work for many months. His wife was struggling to work and take care him and the children, so we decided to make an award equivalent to the value of a regular annual grant (£780) to help with day to day living costs.

The Grants Team at Central Office has the task of processing the applications and a key part of their work is to ensure that the people concerned are receiving all the statutory benefits to which they are entitled. The team has developed considerable expertise in this area, which in parallel with advice provided by SAIL, delivers significant sums in statutory benefits for those who would otherwise have been unaware of their entitlement. Ironically, this sometimes means that the applicant no longer meets our income criteria, and we cannot support them, but the primary objective of improving their overall financial circumstances has been achieved. We refer an increasing number of cases, where complex benefit or debt issues are involved, to SAIL and will often act on their advice to provide the optimum form of financial support. Our weekly Grants meeting enables us to make prompt decisions, with the results communicated to applicants as quickly as possible.

We work closely with other maritime charities, and refer applicants to them for various reasons, including those who do not fit our criteria, those who require a different type of support, and those involving major expenditure (e.g. bathroom adaptations) where we seek to share the costs. Where possible if we, or another maritime charity are unable to assist then we are often able to refer applicants to relevant non-maritime charities (connected with any alternative employment) as well as sources of advice or assistance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARY CHARITY

The Royal Seamen's Pension Fund restricted fund had 62 beneficiaries at the end of the year, the Hull Fishermen's Trust Fund restricted fund 80 beneficiaries and the Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund, a subsidiary charity, had 9 beneficiaries.

The Society continues to manage the payment of grants to the 24 annuitants of Trinity House, London, and has the capacity and expertise to take on more work of this kind.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2015 (FRS 102).

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME

Overview

Total Income (including investment income) for 2020/21 was £1.6 million with expenditure of £2.1 million, giving an operating deficit of £498,000. This compares to a deficit of £371,000 in the previous year. In the long term the Trustees budget for an operating deficit but plan for this to be largely offset by income from investments and gains on investment assets. Overall Net Income (after returns on investments) was £4.7 million compared to Net Expenditure the previous year of £1.4 million, which in the main reflects an extraordinary year for the stock market, despite the impact of COVID19.

Investments

Investments generate income that is key to supporting our beneficiaries. This year the value of our investments has risen from £25.0 million to £29.5 million. A total return (TR) policy is operated which requires the investment managers to fund our budgeted yearly operating deficit from a combination of income and capital: we drew down a total of 5.0% of our investments (income and capital) during 2020/21. This aligns with our actuarial model and represents a sustainable level of expenditure to meet beneficiary needs both now and in the future. Investment performance is reviewed bi-annually by the Investment Committee, which provides additional oversight beyond the bi-annual review undertaken by the full Council.

Legacies

Receipts this year were £165,814, down from £225,215 last year, which represents a below average year. However, irrespective of the sum received we remain enormously grateful to those who chose to remember us in this way; their gifts are put to good use in helping the next generation of seafarers and their dependants. Legacies are a vital but inherently unpredictable source of income.

Donations / Fundraising

Public donations through our Agencies, which includes our collecting mines, and direct to Central Office and from Appeals (see Trading below) amounted to £216,000 which is significantly up on last year's total of £193,000. We are most appreciative of the generosity of those who support us in this way.

Grants

We have a very close relationship with two key charities, namely The Seafarers Charity and Trinity House London, who have been extremely generous over many years in supporting our work. The annual grants we receive from them are essential to our work and we maintain a close dialogue with both organisations so that they are aware of our needs.

Trading

This has been a very good year for our trading activity, which remains focussed on selling Christmas, birthday and correspondence cards (via mail order) through our supplier, Impress Publishing. Additional sales come via our seasonal shop at Central Office, our Honorary Agents and the Chichester Cards for Good Causes outlet. Turnover at £93,000 was up by 18% on last year, representing a very strong result given the highly competitive nature of this market, the general reduction in Christmas card sales and the potential difficulties associated with the COVID19 pandemic. In conjunction with these sales, the Society also received over £150,000 worth of Appeal related donations. This once again demonstrates the value of our trading activity in generating funds for the Society's work, whilst also providing numerous opportunities to advertise our work to the wider public. Our card buyers are our greatest group of supporters and have remained as loyal and generous as ever, in particular in recognising the severe hardship faced by so many mariners (and their families) over the last year. Some of these supporters have been buying our cards for over 50 years, which is an amazing testimony to their steadfast support of our work.

EXPENDITURE

Costs of Raising Funds

These relate largely to the cost of the annual Appeal and wider publicity throughout the year which is aimed at both potential donors and those who might refer potential beneficiaries to us for assistance.

Charitable Activities

Charitable Activities amounted to £1.83 million, which was 87% of all expenditure. Of this figure £1.41 million, 67% of all expenditure, was on grants to individuals. The Society works extremely hard to minimise fundraising and support costs, thereby maximising the proportion of funds spent on charitable activities and delivering the maximum level of financial support directly to our beneficiaries.

RESERVES POLICY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds as reserves in order to generate the income required to carry out the purpose of the Charity. Without this the Society would be unable to respond to need to the extent that it does or would have to increase its fundraising activities and associated expenditure, and in so doing be largely competing with other charities in the maritime sector. Every five to six years the Society conducts a full actuarial review against various scenarios to determine whether we will have sufficient financial resources to meet projected future demands. A full review is planned for 2021.

The Society's Unrestricted Funds are split into three components:

- General Fund
 - This holds sufficient resources in short term realizable investment assets and cash to support administrative overheads and regular grants for a period of at least twelve months.
- Investment Property Fund
 - This is equivalent to the value of the Head Office building;
- Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants
 - This is a designated fund which is specifically maintained to generate investment income to support future grant payments (both regular and one-off). The Society's Total Return policy recognises that the value of this fund (in real terms) will slowly reduce over time, albeit this will be managed in line with our actuarial review to ensure sufficient funds to meet longer term need.

It should be noted despite the significant size the Designated Fund, the investment return only provides approximately 50% of the expenditure required for charitable activities; the remainder needing to be provided from other funding sources, including donations, legacies and external grants.

The above investments are managed by Sarasin LLP, mainly in a CAIF (Charity Approved Investment Fund) but there is also a small portfolio in cash or near cash instruments, which is kept topped up, to avoid the need to sell stocks and shares when the market is unfavourable. The level of funds held in the 3 different components of unrestricted funds is reviewed annually.

The breakdown of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet on page 13.

REMUNERATION POLICY

Staff salaries are set by the Trustees after relevant input from the Chief Executive. They are reviewed annually by the Executive Committee in December and after further deliberation formally approved by Council in January. The Society believes in trying to attract and retain good quality staff for the long term. Salaries are benchmarked against independent authoritative annual salary surveys of the charity sector. The salary range between the lower quartile and the median for each job level is normally used. There is no performance-related pay nor is there a bonus scheme.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our enduring task of helping fishermen and mariners and their dependants in need, including providing enhanced support to those affected by the COVID19 pandemic.
- Maintaining the rolling programme of three-yearly reviews of beneficiaries' circumstances.
- Finding new avenues to spread the word about our work to those who may need our assistance and to those who might wish to support us.
- Increasing our knowledge of additional sources of help, advice and assistance to those in need.

At the time of writing of this report (June 2021) the COVID19 crisis is still having a marked impact on UK society in general, but the maritime sector in particular. Despite positive signs of improvement, the worst of the crisis is not over for large numbers of our beneficiaries. The last year has been an extremely difficult time for many mariners (and their families), some of whom have been disproportionately affected by a perfect storm of the pandemic and more latterly, BREXIT related trade difficulties. The Society acted early in the crisis to ensure it could respond to the emerging need, in particular in supporting large numbers of families who were struggling to keep the lights on, or food on the table. To date the Society has spent over £150,000 in COVID related grants, predominantly in providing financial breathing space whilst beneficiaries adjust to a life on government support, be that specific COVID19 related support schemes or more frequently basic state benefits. The level of demand for this support has generally ebbed and flowed in line with the severity of lockdown restrictions, with the 3 periods of national lockdown driving the majority of cases. However, the Society remains keenly aware that the true impact of such a long period of reduced income is, for many, yet to be fully revealed. As such we are reviewing our approach to debt related support to ensure we do all we can to avoid our beneficiaries suffering the negative effects of COVID for many years to come.

Thankfully we remain in a strong financial position to do this; Trustees continue to monitor the evolving situation very closely, both in terms of its potential impact on beneficiaries, as well on the Society's ability to meet emerging needs. Based on the current value of our investments, which have risen significantly over the course of the last year, Trustees remain confident that the Society's underlying financial position, including its investment holdings and in-year income projections (across investment income, major funders and individual supporters) remains robust. The Society's investment strategy has always recognised the potential for temporary (but significant) downturns in the value of our investment holdings. This is an unavoidable feature of equity-based investing but, we believe, will enable us to continue providing support for many generations to come. The Society's investments (which provide an essential income stream to underpin our long-term work) are carefully structured across a broad range of investment types, thereby reducing potential volatility, whilst also ensuring sufficient 'liquid' assets to meet on-going cashflow requirements. Trustees maintain regular dialogue with our investment managers and based on the latest advice they remain confident that we are in strong financial position to preserve existing levels of expenditure for the foreseeable future.

Overall, Trustees remain firmly focussed on ensuring the Society's remit to support seafaring beneficiaries remains sustainable in the short, medium, and long term.

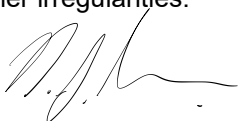
STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

The Charities Act requires the Council Members of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council Members are required to:

- ensure compliance with the charity's governing document and current statutory requirements;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.

The Council Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Council Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



.....
Signed on behalf of the Trustees
Captain Nigel Palmer OBE MNM Chairman

Approved by the Council on....13 July 2021

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and 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 auditors' 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 and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2021 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 Auditors 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 Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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, 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

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements ; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors (or in-house legal team) around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations, legacies and grants	2	396,227	228,274	624,501	688,478
Other trading activities	3	93,692	-	93,692	-
Other income		<u>1,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,800</u>
Total		491,569	228,274	719,843	690,278
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	252,248	13,614	265,862	183,470
Charitable activities					
Grants and Other costs	5	<u>1,481,415</u>	<u>353,560</u>	<u>1,834,975</u>	<u>1,789,281</u>
Total		<u>1,733,663</u>	<u>367,174</u>	<u>2,100,837</u>	<u>1,972,751</u>
OPERATING DEFICIT		(1,242,094)	(138,900)	(1,380,994)	(1,282,473)
Income from investments	8	786,171	97,116	883,287	911,028
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>4,561,193</u>	<u>592,724</u>	<u>5,153,917</u>	<u>(1,038,958)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		4,105,270	550,940	4,656,210	(1,410,403)
Transferred from Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited	18	<u>9,905</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,905</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		4,115,175	550,940	4,666,115	(1,410,403)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		23,651,780	2,908,208	26,559,988	27,970,391
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Shipwrecked Fisherman and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	10,019	13,102
Investments			
Investments	12	29,499,086	24,974,646
Investment property	13	<u>1,150,000</u>	<u>1,150,000</u>
		30,659,105	26,137,748
 CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		4,355	-
Debtors	14	187,660	212,380
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>496,205</u>	<u>300,170</u>
		688,220	512,550
 CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(121,222)	(90,310)
 NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>566,998</u>	<u>422,240</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>
 NET ASSETS	16	<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>
 FUNDS	17		
General funds		2,327,749	2,191,000
Investment property fund		1,150,000	1,150,000
Designated Fund – Income Generation to Support Grants		24,289,206	20,310,780
Restricted funds		<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>2,908,208</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS		<u>31,226,103</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 13 July 2021..... and were signed on its behalf by:



 Captain Nigel Palmer OBE MNM Chairman



 W Plant, FCA – Treasurer



 Capt J B Osmond RN – Chief Executive

The notes form part of these financial statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	1,483	(452,108)
Dividends, interest & rents received		(883,287)	(905,394)
Deed of covenant income		<u>-</u>	<u>(5,634)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u>(881,804)</u>	<u>(1,363,136)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(5,766)
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(1,220,448)	(907,722)
Sale of fixed asset investments		1,415,000	822,720
Dividends, interest & rents received	8	883,287	905,394
Deed of covenant income		<u>-</u>	<u>5,634</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>1,077,839</u>	<u>820,260</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		196,035	(542,876)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	20	<u>300,170</u>	<u>843,046</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	20	<u><u>496,205</u></u>	<u><u>300,170</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as updated on 5th October 2018 and effective from 1st January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs, which include salaries and overheads, are apportioned to Raising Funds, Charitable Activities, Management and Governance according to the staff time involved.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 25% on reducing balance
Furniture and equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

Fixed assets are capitalised where the initial cost exceeds £1,000.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Investment property

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation (conducted independently) and no depreciation is charged in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to reserves.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

Grants received from The Seafarers Charity, Trinity House and MNWB are treated as restricted funds. The Royal Seaman's Pension Fund (RSPF) was transferred to the Society in December 2005 as a restricted fund. The Hull Fisherman's Trust (HFTF) became a restricted fund of the Society on 1st July 2007. The Fleetwood Fishing Industry Benevolent Fund (FFIBF) became a subsidiary charity of the Society on 1st November 2007 and under a Uniting Direction granted by the Charity Commission it is accounted as a restricted fund.

The Edward and Maisie Lewis Fund is a restricted fund used for the annual award for the most outstanding air/sea rescue of the year and contributes towards other awards.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society. The annual contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. In addition the Society makes pension payments to certain retired employees, which payments are expensed as incurred.

2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES AND GRANTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Central office donations	52,470	56,097
Agency donations	13,471	18,644
Appeals Office donations	150,551	117,673
Legacies	165,814	225,215
Grants	<u>242,195</u>	<u>270,849</u>
	<u>624,501</u>	<u>688,478</u>

At 31st March 2021, the Society had been notified of its entitlement to legacies estimated at £155,268 (2020: £193,629).

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
The Seafarers Charity - SMS	75,000	110,000
The Seafarers Charity - MN	10,000	-
Trinity House - SMS	111,920	112,880
Trinity House - TH Annuitants	22,250	25,703
MNWB – SMS	11,025	9,945
Fishmongers Hall - SMS	2,000	12,321
Marine Society and Sea Cadets - SMS	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>242,195</u>	<u>270,849</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society has previously operated its own trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited), but decided to amalgamate this into the main charity with effect from 1 April 2020. This income is predominantly driven by Christmas Card sales, but represents an 18% increase on last year's receipts (£79,164).

4. RAISING FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Staff costs	23,367	21,260
Appeal costs	17,799	22,573
Publicity	34,916	39,802
Other costs	12,230	10,839
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>308</u>	<u>295</u>
	88,620	94,769
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	4,299	-
Trading purchases	56,529	-
Closing stock	<u>(4,355)</u>	<u>-</u>
	56,473	-
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management – net charge after rebate	<u>120,769</u>	<u>88,701</u>
	<u><u>265,862</u></u>	<u><u>183,470</u></u>

Publicity includes the costs of making the Society known to potential beneficiaries.

Only one year's figures are included for 'Other trading activities'. This reflected the recent amalgamation of our former trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited) into the main charity. Combined expenditure on trading activities and raising donations (including legacies) was £145,093. This generated a total income (excluding grants from other organisations) of £477,648, which in essence represents £3.31 income for every £1 spent on such activities.

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (See note 6) £	Support costs (See note 7) £	2021 Totals £	2020 Totals £
Grants to Individuals	1,407,209	-	1,407,209	1,375,898
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>427,766</u>	<u>427,766</u>	<u>413,383</u>
	<u><u>1,407,209</u></u>	<u><u>427,766</u></u>	<u><u>1,834,975</u></u>	<u><u>1,823,356</u></u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Number of grants 2021	Total Funds 2021 £	Number of grants 2020	Total Funds 2020 £
SMS grants:				
Biannual grants	1,111	868,752	1,162	907,996
Initial/Final grants	103	47,115	82	36,511
Special grants	568	298,378	359	227,501
Special grants (MN Fund)	20	14,260	17	8,663
Immediate grants	9	12,200	11	13,900
Death benefit grants	19	16,055	12	10,140
Shipwreck grants	4	903	-	-
Total SMS grants	1,834	1,257,663	1,643	1,204,711
RSPF restricted fund grants	66	51,675	77	60,060
HFTF restricted fund grants	88	68,835	99	78,000
FFIBF restricted fund grants	9	7,176	13	10,140
Grants on behalf of Trinity House	28	21,860	30	22,987
	2,025	1,407,209	1,862	1,375,898

Special Grants includes over £150,000 paid out in support of applications relating to the COVID19 pandemic.

Within the total grants expenditure is a sum of £85,000 (2020: £110,000) provided by The Seafarers Charity and £132,250 (2020: £135,703) provided by Trinity House, which includes £22,250 repayment of expenditure on regular grants to their annuitants.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Governance costs £	2021 Totals £
Salaries	133,520	50,181	183,701
Social security	10,203	3,105	13,308
Pensions	17,509	9,263	26,772
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	10,197	10,197
Professional /Legal fees	-	2,813	2,813
Other support costs	160,083	28,116	188,199
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,313	463	2,776
	323,628	104,138	427,766

Comparative support costs

	Management £	Governance costs £	2020 Totals £
Salaries	119,784	36,456	156,240
Social security	10,413	3,169	13,582
Pensions	16,496	18,348	34,844
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	-	8,760	8,760
Professional /Legal fees	-	3,182	3,182
Other support costs	151,121	42,992	194,113
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,218	444	2,662
	293,498	113,351	413,383

8. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investment property	45,902	46,147
Group undertaking	-	5,634
Common Investment Fund	837,262	858,952
Bank interest	<u>123</u>	<u>295</u>
	<u>883,287</u>	<u>911,028</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

Council members receive no remuneration. Reimbursement of expenses to 1 (2020: 4) Council members totalled £36 (2020: £1,729).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries	203,052	186,928
Social security costs	14,786	15,091
Pension contributions	<u>29,310</u>	<u>23,907</u>
	<u>247,147</u>	<u>225,926</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Administrative staff	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

Overall staff costs now include costs previously paid for by our trading subsidiary (Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited).

One employee received emoluments within the £70,000 - £80,000 band and £14,897 was contributed to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of this employee.

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in a fund administered independently by Standard Life and Royal London. The pension contributions represent amounts payable by the Society to the fund.

The Society is also committed to paying a pension out of its funds to certain former employees or their dependants. These amounts are included within salaries.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st April 2020	38,139	31,589	27,336	97,064
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31st March 2021	<u>38,139</u>	<u>31,589</u>	<u>27,336</u>	<u>97,064</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st April 2020	30,785	31,223	21,954	83,962
Charge for year	<u>1,839</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>1,153</u>	<u>3,083</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>32,624</u>	<u>31,314</u>	<u>23,107</u>	<u>87,045</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2021	<u>5,515</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>4,229</u>	<u>10,019</u>
At 31st March 2020	<u>7,354</u>	<u>366</u>	<u>5,382</u>	<u>13,102</u>

Fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the Society's objects.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Common investment fund £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1st April 2020	4	24,514,440	460,202	24,974,646
Additions	-	1,220,448	-	1,220,448
Disposals	-	(1,311,874)	(239,589)	(1,551,463)
Revaluations	-	<u>4,855,455</u>	-	<u>4,855,455</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>4</u>	<u>29,278,469</u>	<u>220,613</u>	<u>29,499,086</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2021	<u>4</u>	<u>29,278,469</u>	<u>220,613</u>	<u>29,499,086</u>
At 31st March 2020	<u>4</u>	<u>24,514,440</u>	<u>460,202</u>	<u>24,974,646</u>

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

£

MARKET VALUE

At 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021

1,150,000

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31st March 2020 and 31st March 2021

1,150,000

The freehold investment property was valued as at 31st March 2016 by M Le Seelleur of Flude Commercial on an open market value basis in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The historic cost of the property was £64,761 (2020: £64,761).

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other debtors	2,266	1,774
Gift aid tax recoverable	1,460	5,258
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	8,093
Legacies receivable	155,268	193,629
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>28,666</u>	<u>3,626</u>
	<u>187,660</u>	<u>212,380</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other creditors	104,240	81,910
Accruals and deferred income	9,480	8,400
VAT	7,498	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>121,222</u>	<u>90,310</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	10,019	-	10,019
Investments	27,323,937	3,325,149	30,649,086
Current assets	554,221	133,999	688,220
Current liabilities	(121,222)	-	(121,222)
	<u>27,766,955</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	2020 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
Fixed assets	13,102	-	13,102
Investments	23,293,884	2,830,763	26,124,647
Current assets	435,104	77,445	512,549
Current liabilities	(90,310)	-	(90,310)
	<u>23,651,780</u>	<u>2,908,208</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,191,000	4,105,270	(3,968,521)	2,327,749
Investment property fund	1,150,000	-	-	1,150,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	20,310,780	-	3,978,426	24,289,206
	<u>23,651,780</u>	<u>4,105,270</u>	<u>9,905</u>	<u>27,766,955</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	4,007	(4,260)	-	(253)
E & M Lewis Award Fund	59,958	14,623	-	74,581
RSPF	398,313	40,150	-	438,463
HFTF	2,213,932	450,575	-	2,664,507
FFIBF	198,360	39,607	-	237,967
MNWB for case-working	33,638	10,245	-	43,883
	<u>2,908,208</u>	<u>550,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,459,148</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>26,559,988</u>	<u>4,656,210</u>	<u>9,905</u>	<u>31,226,103</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,277,740	(1,733,663)	4,561,193	4,105,270
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity for regular grants	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	10,000	(14,260)	-	(4,260)
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	22,250	(22,250)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	3,080	(1,681)	13,224	14,623
RSPF	13,192	(54,338)	81,296	40,150
HFTF	74,150	(80,533)	456,958	450,575
FFIBF	6,693	(8,332)	41,246	39,607
MNWB for case-working	11,028	(780)	-	10,245
	<u>325,390</u>	<u>(367,174)</u>	<u>592,724</u>	<u>550,940</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,603,130</u>	<u>(2,100,837)</u>	<u>5,153,917</u>	<u>4,656,210</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,128,000	(1,214,820)	1,277,820	2,191,000
Investment property fund	1,150,000	-	-	1,150,000
Designated fund – Income Generation to Support Grants	21,588,600	-	(1,277,820)	20,310,780
	<u>24,866,600</u>	<u>(1,214,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,651,780</u>
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	12,670	(8,663)	-	4,007
E & M Lewis Award Fund	76,362	(16,404)	-	59,958
RSPF	463,330	(65,017)	-	398,313
HFTF	2,315,220	(101,288)	-	2,213,932
FFIBF	210,746	(12,386)	-	198,360
MNWB for case-working	25,463	8,175	-	33,638
	<u>3,103,791</u>	<u>(195,583)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,908,208</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,970,391</u>	<u>(1,410,403)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,559,988</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,244,363	(1,552,396)	(906,787)	(1,214,820)
Restricted funds				
The Seafarers Charity for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
The Seafarers Charity (MN Fund) for special grants	-	(8,663)	-	(8,663)
Trinity House for regular grants	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Trinity House for TH annuitants	25,703	(25,703)	-	-
E & M Lewis Award Fund	3,986	(3,987)	(16,403)	(16,404)
RSPF	14,475	(62,349)	(17,143)	(65,017)
HFTF	75,916	(86,845)	(90,359)	(101,288)
FFIBF	6,918	(11,038)	(8,266)	(12,386)
MNWB for case-working	9,945	(1,770)	-	8,175
	<u>356,943</u>	<u>(420,355)</u>	<u>(132,171)</u>	<u>(195,583)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,601,306</u>	<u>(1,972,751)</u>	<u>(1,038,958)</u>	<u>(1,410,403)</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited.

At 1st April 2020 the assets and operations of Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited were transferred to the Charity, the total value of this transfer was £9,905.

At the year end the Charity owed Shipwrecked Mariners Trading Limited £4 in respect of share capital.

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	4,666,115	(1,410,403)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,083	2,957
Losses/(gain) on investments	(4,718,992)	1,024,477
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	24,720	(59,933)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(4,355)	-
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>30,912</u>	<u>(9,206)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>1,483</u>	<u>(452,108)</u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	45	24
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	<u>496,160</u>	<u>300,146</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>496,205</u>	<u>300,170</u>