

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales · Charity number 258545

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Company number [RC000696](#)

Registered 1969-07-07

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

Contact

Address c/o The Remembrance Trust
Lord Warden House
Lord Warden Square
Dover
Kent
CT17 9EQ

Phone 01304 448900

Email enquiries@westindiacommittee.org

Website www.westindiacommittee.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE INTEREST OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AND TRADE OF THE WEST INDIES, GUYANA AND BRITISH HONDURAS AND THUS TO INCREASE THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THOSE TERRITORIES.

Activities: The West India Committee exists as a venerable UK charity whose object is to promote the interests of agriculture, manufacturing industries and trade of the West Indies, Belize and Guyana and thus increase the general welfare of those territories [and their people globally] [delivering] through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE WEST INDIES GUYANA AND BRITISH HONDURAS

- Anguilla
- Antigua And Barbuda
- Aruba
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- Martinique
- Montserrat
- Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie And Oeno Islands
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Vincent
- Sint Maarten
- St Kitts And Nevis
- St Lucia
- Suriname
- The Bahamas
- Trinidad And Tobago
- Turks And Caicos Islands
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£34,613	£48,798	-	-
2024-03-31	£60,840	£122,723	-	-
2023-03-31	£216,033	£199,429	-	-
2022-03-31	£149,828	£253,303	-	-
2021-03-31	£228,350	£222,251	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Martin Forde KC		2024-10-31
PETER JULIAN ODLE		
Peter Beckingham		2018-03-07
Sir Rodney Williams		2020-07-01
Victor Franklin Banks		2021-11-01

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales - Charity number 258545

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 258545

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
West India Committee

West India Committee

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Object of the West India Committee is to promote the interests of:

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing Industries
- Trade

of the West Indies, Guyana and Belize to increase the general welfare of the people of those territories and their global diaspora through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation in order to achieve their sustainable prosperity..

Our vision

Our vision is to utilise the West India Committee in its capacity as a nongovernmental organisation, and charity to develop new, bespoke strategies to improve the general welfare and prosperity of West Indians both in the Caribbean and the societies in which they live, work and study globally.

WIC values

The West India Committee seeks to develop sustainable prosperity amongst the West Indian community both in the Caribbean and within the societies in which they live, work and study globally, providing a means whereby West Indians may themselves resolve the issues that have hindered their progress for generations. The West India Committee believes in the values of a combination of good governance, economic diversification and Smart Aid coupled with local innovation and entrepreneurialism informed by an in-depth comprehension of the culture and heritage of the region and its peoples.

Achievements and activities

The West India Committee has continued to address the ongoing major challenges that Caribbean communities have faced during the course of this year.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The West India Committee's flexibility and far-reaching charitable objects has allowed scope for a wide range of assistance to be provided to Caribbean communities in need both directly and through collaboration with others, including fellow charities, institutions, NGOs, companies, and government departments, overcoming the many and various hurdles that continue to hinder the attainment of sustainable prosperity by many West Indians today. We endeavour to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean through the auspices of education, training, advocacy, advice and where necessary acting as an umbrella organisation. As a globally recognised and respected source of invaluable information on the Caribbean region and its peoples spanning over 1,500 years, the West India Committee empowers the community and those that seek to work with it to address its challenges, equipped with a more comprehensive insight into the networks and relationships that underpin Caribbean identity. In so doing, the charity recognises the need to achieve sustainable prosperity for all and as such endeavours to promote agriculture manufacturing trade and industry wherever practicable as a means of providing an economic framework in which it may be delivered..

Like so many small charities, the West India Committee, its beneficiaries and benefactors, continue to feel the negative effects of the current economic climate and the cost-of-living crisis as the world recovers from the devastating pandemic. As shown throughout its 290-year history in which similar events have occurred, the charity has sought to turn a problem into a solution, using this period of global uncertainty to build its resilience and preparedness for the future. This includes refreshing its Royal Charter, redefining its accommodation needs and identifying new, refreshing its membership, together with identifying sustainable sources of income that will allow the charity more freedom to focus on delivery of its charitable objectives that centre upon social cohesion and social mobility. The charity is building on the lessons we have all learnt from the pandemic whilst acknowledging the ever-increasing tensions that are mounting due to the contagion of race and migration that adversely affect an already marginalised and therefore vulnerable community that is a long-established contributor to the development of societies such as that of the UK. Whilst continuing to support the resolution of the Windrush Scandal and other related matters, work progresses on developing the new strategic plan, partnerships and networks needed to ensure that the Committee remains fit for purpose for the next generation and is capable of generating tangible support for a significant number of beneficiaries beyond its disaster relief, government advice and economic development work.

Much of the charity's work during the year focused on the UK, particularly the completion of our two-year project *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*, generously supported by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Lottery players. The Committee continued to run sessions designed to help people of Caribbean and other origins explore their ancestry, heritage and links to the Caribbean, using the charity's library, archive and collection. These 'Who Do You Think You Are?'-style sessions have demonstrated the extremely diverse nature of Caribbean heritage that embraces communities as far reaching as China, the Jewish community, India and Pakistan, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and the oft-times forgotten indigenous Caribbean tribes demonstrating little known links between West Indians a myriad of other communities in a manner that facilitates social cohesion. They continue as a permanent part of our work following the completion of the project.

The West India Committee's collection contains unique material that the charity seeks to make accessible to a wide audience, allowing scope for use ranging from specialist research to community-led projects. A digitisation programme has commenced and will be augmented by opportunities for training in. digitisation and innovative ways of disseminating digitised material.

Work continued on refreshing our Royal Charter to enable it to be used more effectively to embrace and support the next generation in education, training and employability. Legal advice as well as guidance has been received from a number of leading experts and interested parties, including the Privy Council and the Charity Commission.

The West India Committee's library, archive and collection that together are inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, ranking second only to a World Heritage Site, remains one of a few globally recognised and respected knowledge banks on the Caribbean region and its peoples, and continues to attract visitors from across the world. Visitors have included High Commissioners, Governors-General, Ministers of State, students, academic researchers and general members of the public from a wide range of communities across the world. As our period of transition continues, the charity has remained dedicated to facilitating access to our primary source materials through its digitisation programme, utilising the digitisation machine purchased during our last heritage project. This has allowed us to react to enquiries from all over the world on a variety of topics, digitising unique and rare works that are then made accessible through our heritage portal thereby reducing our carbon footprint and that of our users. Free online access will be maintained to digitised elements of the charity's library and collection, films, e-books and educational material and to date this material has been accessed by thousands, both in the UK, Caribbean and North America, with new material from the Committee's collection being added regularly. The digitisation programme will be augmented by opportunities for training in digitisation and innovative ways of disseminating digitised material.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Since the end of the pandemic, the West India Committee's outreach programmes have increased substantially through the delivery of talks, round tables, lectures and heritage events across the country. The charity also continues to collaborate with The Remembrance Trust in their work on the Caribbean, that entails the restoration of monuments and graves of military personnel worldwide, dated prior to 1914, and after 1945. The two charities continue to collaborate on work in Shirley Heights, Antigua, formerly one of the oldest British military bases in the region.

Over the past years, many of the young members of staff that have joined the West India Committee have come from long-term unemployment and other challenging circumstances such as homelessness. By providing them with education, training and employment tailored to their personal interests and potential, together with a steady income, our organisation has sought to realise their professional aspirations, launching many on pathways to success. The charity supports the development of their skills, confidence and employability by providing them with professional experiences and bespoke roadmaps and support for personal development. This not only makes a fundamental difference to the lives and future prospects of these young individuals, but also their family, friends and wider community. It should be noted that our work is not limited to the people of the Caribbean alone, but encompasses all communities, as we believe there is much to learn from the Caribbean and the diverse range of people that have merged together over time to form its people. Through sharing this heritage and knowledge we continue to instil respect for and appreciation of the region and its peoples. This work is not confined to third parties but is much-needed within the community itself that continues to face major challenges in the outcomes of health, education, employment and the justice system in the UK, whilst combatting the ever increasing impact of climate change in the region that has regular and unavoidable consequences that often prove fatal.

The West India Committee seeks the best possible outcomes for its beneficiaries and volunteers, almost all of whom continue to work with us to this day, whilst others have moved on to bright futures elsewhere, having attained qualifications, including Masters degrees and professional qualifications due the support the West India Committee provides. The charity recognises the extensive untapped potential of the Caribbean community, wherever possible propelling them into professional employment and much-valued further education, in so doing disproving the negative stereotypes that have hindered the Caribbean community for generations, particularly in the UK.

This year we have continued to work towards identifying diverse sources of funding with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to external shocks such as the pandemic. This has necessitated the forging of new networks for fundraising, and we have several fundraising events supported by our new networks planned in the future once the new Royal Charter is launched. We are also hoping to revitalise our membership in the coming months. We would like to thank Garfield Weston and our private donors for their support during this year, at what remains a very difficult time for small and medium-sized charities due to the wider global economic situation, and those of our staff that have continued to volunteer their services.

Planning began during this year for a Thanksgiving Service for Caribbean Service Personnel, both current and former, that was held at the Church of All-Hallows on the Wall in the City of London, which was successfully held on 11th June 2025. Developed and led by the West India Committee, it featured a parade of serving Caribbean Service Personnel, and cadets from various units within London. We were honoured with permission from the Royal Household to use the flags of the Caribbean Realms from His Majesty's coronation, which the West India Committee had raised funds for, during the parade. It was intended that this becomes an annual event, and the Charity has begun taking steps to ensure that this is so.

Social responsibility

The West India Committee is dedicated to ensuring our outlook in business and diplomacy is tied in with our philosophy of always being socially responsible. Ensuring people in the Caribbean and West Indians globally prosper is centrally important to the Committee, we aim to promote social cohesion in all ventures undertaken. We believe this prosperity is only achievable through education and training and we ensure that those two essential aspects of human development are incorporated into all our projects and work in a manner that protects our planet.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The West India Committee carries out a wide range of activities in furtherance of its charitable objectives, as explained above. Where possible we have attempted to quantify the number of direct beneficiaries, and we also believe the community-building aspects of these activities provide benefit to the wider public both in the areas where we work and beyond.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Financial review

The charity's income decreased by 43% to £34,613 for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 (2024: £60,804). There was a net decrease in funds of £14,185 for the year (2024: net decrease of £61,883). Expenditure on charitable activities had decreased to £122,723 (2024: £122,723).

The WIC's financial strategy continues to be to seek operational efficiencies to further drive down overhead costs and to increase income from existing charitable activities, as well as seeking new sources of income to support the delivery of its core objectives.

Reserve

The trustees' policy is that the balance of reserves held by WIC should be equal to between one and three months of the organization's running costs, which in monetary terms means approximately £1,500 to £4,500 based on the figures in these accounts. The trustees believe this level of reserves will provide short term financial stability and allow time to secure alternative sources of funding, in the event of a significant drop in income.

During the period reserves, which are shown as unrestricted funds in the balance sheet, showed a net increase from £3,877 to £20,251 and at the end of the period they were equivalent to approximately 13 months of expenditure, thus falling within the target range.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The West India Committee (WIC) was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1904 and registered as a UK charity in 1969. The Royal Charter as amended by Supplemental Charters dated 12th December 1972 and 26th August 1977 and rules adopted on the 29th November 1948, together with the conventions and practices thereunder governs WIC. Under the terms of the said Royal Charter, WIC is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Directors of the Charity are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Directors of the Charity are referred to in this report as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees may also appoint any member of the Charity to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy, or to increase their number.

Organisational structure

WIC has a Board of Trustees, who meets a minimum of twice a year. Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds and share the core objective of promoting the general welfare of the peoples of the West Indies and the societies in which they live, study and work. Each Trustee is a Director of WIC and provides their services on a voluntary basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving the Strategic Plan of WIC, as recommended by the Chief Executive. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that WIC's resources are correctly expended in pursuit of its charitable objective. The Board of Trustees has delegated daily management of WIC to the Chief Executive.

One standing committee, namely the Finance Sub-Committee of WIC, supports the Board of Trustees. Its membership comprises the President, a Trustee and the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees have an informal induction with the Chief Executive, during which their role and legal responsibilities are explained.

All members of the Board of Trustees are experienced in the role of Trustee of a small charity and familiar with the Caribbean, its peoples and their needs.

Risk assessment

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

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

258545

Registered office

c/o The Remembrance Trust,
Rooms M22-24
Lord Warden House,
Lord Warden Square,
Dover,
Kent
CT17 9EQ

Trustees

The Most Honourable Mr. P.J. Odle FB
Mr. P. Beckingham
Sir R. Williams GCMG, KGN, KStJ
Mr. V. F. Banks
Mr. M. Forde KC

Independent Examiner

Issa Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suite 116, Cumberland House
80 Scrubs Lane
London, NW10 6RF

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of West India Committee for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
West India Committee**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West India Committee ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Issa Associates

.....
Issa Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suite 116, Cumberland House
80 Scrubs Lane
London, NW10 6RF

Date: 16/01/2026

West India Committee**Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	27,161	6,229	33,390	58,573
Other income sources	3	1,224	-	1,224	668
Total		<u>28,385</u>	<u>6,229</u>	<u>34,614</u>	<u>59,241</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Governance costs		720	-	720	1,920
Other		12,011	<u>36,067</u>	<u>48,078</u>	<u>120,803</u>
Total		<u>12,731</u>	<u>36,067</u>	<u>48,798</u>	<u>122,723</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		15,654	(29,838)	<u>(14,184)</u>	<u>(61,883)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		3,877	29,970	33,847	95,730
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>19,663</u>	<u>33,847</u>

These notes form part of the financial statements

West India Committee

Balance Sheet 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank		<u>20,251</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>20,383</u>	<u>34,706</u>
		20,251	132	20,383	34,706
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(720)	0	0	(859)
		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>20,383</u>	<u>33,847</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>20,383</u>	<u>33,847</u>
		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>19,663</u>	<u>33,847</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>19,663</u>	<u>33,847</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>19,531</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>19,663</u>	<u>33,847</u>
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				<u>19,531</u>	<u>3,877</u>
Restricted funds				<u>132</u>	<u>29,970</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>19,663</u>	<u>33,847</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

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

.....
Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gifts	-	938
Donations	3,620	22,204
Grants received	<u>29,929</u>	<u>37,029</u>
	<u>33,549</u>	<u>60,171</u>

During the year the Charity was in receipt of the grants and donations in support of the following activities from the following donors:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Assorted donations	3,460	14,372
Membership subscriptions	160	-
CAF - Staff donation	-	7,173
Garfield Weston Foundation	20,000	-
Restricted		
National Lottery Heritage Fund	<u>9,929</u>	<u>37,029</u>
	<u>33,549</u>	<u>58,573</u>

This year the charity has continued to work towards diversifying its funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks.

The Charity was in receipt of the grant, *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*, from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The charity received £0 Gifts-In-Kind (2024: £938).

3. OTHER INCOME SOURCES

	2025	2024	
	£	£	
Trading Activities			
Educational Book sales	352	0	
Image license	200	100	
Other income			
Refunds & Reimbursements	512	568	
	<u>1,064</u>	<u>668</u>	Direct Costs £

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

Governance costs	720
Other	<u>48,078</u>
	<u>48,798</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	-
Other operating leases	<u>8,939</u>	<u>22,886</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2025.

7. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	22,500	70,026
Social security costs	0	2,454
Other pension costs	<u>535</u>	<u>2,125</u>
	<u>23,035</u>	<u>74,605</u>

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

	2025	2024
Management	0	0
Operations	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025	2024
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	21,544	37,029	58,573
Other Income Sources	668	-	668
Total	<u>22,212</u>	<u>37,029</u>	<u>59,241</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Governance costs	1,920	-	1,920
Other	85,650	<u>35,153</u>	<u>120,803</u>
Total	<u>87,570</u>	<u>35,153</u>	<u>122,723</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(63,759)	1,876	<u>(61,883)</u>
Transfers between funds	=	=	=
Net movement in funds	(63,759)	1,876	<u>(61,883)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	67,636	28,094	95,730
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	=	=	=
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	=	=	=
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rent deposit	=	=

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	-	-
Pension creditor	0	139
Accrued expenses	<u>720</u>	<u>720</u>
	<u>720</u>	<u>859</u>

12. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£ 0	£ 0
Within one year		
Between one and five years	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31.3.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	<u>3,877</u>	15,654	<u>19,531</u>
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	29,970	(29,838)	132
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>33,847</u>	<u>(14,184)</u>	<u>19,663</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	30,503	14,711	15,654
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	4,110	34,087	(29,838)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>34,613</u>	48,798	<u>(14,184)</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	67,636	(63,759)	-	3,877
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	28,094	1,876	-	29,970
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>95,730</u>	<u>(61,883)</u>	=	<u>33,847</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,811	87,570	(63,759)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	37,029	35,153	1,876
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>60,840</u>	122,723	(61,883)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	67,636	(48,105)	-	<u>19,531</u>
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	28,094	(27,962)	-	132
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>95,730</u>	<u>(76,067)</u>	=	<u>19,663</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,715	(102,281)	(49,566)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	41,139	(69,240)	(28,101)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>93,854</u>	<u>(171,521)</u>	<u>(77,667)</u>

Transfers between funds

No transfers between the funds were made in the year.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party disclosures for this year.

15. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REMUNERATION

The independent examiner's remuneration for the year was £720 (2024: £720).

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The trustees consider the board of trustees together with Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE, DL its key management personnel. Salaries for the key management personnel in the year was £0 (2024: £22,333).

West India Committee**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts	-	938
Donations	3,460	22,205
Grants received	<u>29,929</u>	<u>37,029</u>
	<u>33,389</u>	<u>60,171</u>
Other income sources		
Educational Book sales	352	0
Image licenses	200	100
Membership	160	-
Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>512</u>	<u>568</u>
	<u>1,224</u>	<u>668</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>34,613</u>	<u>60,840</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	22,500	70,026
Social security	-	2,431
Pensions	535	2,125
Other operating leases	8,939	22,886
Insurance	316	784
Light and heat	-	422
Telephone and internet	-	897
Postage and stationery	-	14
Business rates	-	866
Office expenses	12,257	780
Accountancy and legal	-930	1,440
Subscription	-	766
Computer services	3,229	2,829
Professional expenses	-	14,538
Printing and advertising	-	1,510
Travel and subsistence	-	260
Books & Research	-	-
Bank Charges	<u>94</u>	<u>148</u>
	<u>48,798</u>	<u>122,723</u>
Total resources expended	<u>48,798</u>	<u>122,723</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(14,185)</u>	<u>(61,883)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales - Charity number 258545

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 258545

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
West India Committee

West India Committee

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Object of the West India Committee is to promote the interests of:

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing Industries
- Trade

of the West Indies, Guyana and Belize to increase the general welfare of the people of those territories and their global diaspora through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation.

Our vision

Our vision is to utilise the West India Committee in its capacity as a nongovernmental organisation, charity and trading vehicle to develop new, bespoke strategies to improve the general welfare and prosperity of West Indians both in the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally.

WIC values

The West India Committee seeks to develop sustainable prosperity amongst the West Indian community both in the Caribbean and within the societies in which they live and work globally, providing a means whereby West Indians may themselves resolve the issues that had hindered their progress for generations. The West India Committee believes in the values of a combination of good governance, economic diversification and Smart Aid coupled with local innovation and entrepreneurialism informed by an in depth comprehension of the culture and heritage of the region and its peoples.

Achievements and activities

The West India Committee has continued to address the ongoing major challenges that Caribbean communities have faced during the course of this year.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The West India Committee's flexibility and far-reaching charitable objects has allowed scope for a wide range of assistance to be provided to Caribbean communities in need both directly and through collaboration with others, including companies, fellow charities, institutions, NGOs, and government departments, overcoming the many and various hurdles that continue to hinder the attainment of sustainable prosperity by many West Indians today. We endeavour to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean through the auspices of education, training, advocacy, advice and where necessary acting as an umbrella organisation. As a globally recognised and respected source of invaluable information on the Caribbean region and its peoples spanning over 1,500 years, the West India Committee empowers the community and those that seek to work with it to address its challenges, equipped with a more comprehensive insight into and understanding of Caribbean identity. In so doing, the charity recognises the need to achieve sustainable prosperity and as such endeavours to promote agriculture manufacturing trade and industry wherever practicable.

Like so many small charities, the West India Committee, its beneficiaries and benefactors, continue to feel the negative effects of the current economic climate and the cost of living crisis as the world recovers from the devastating pandemic. As shown throughout its 290 year history in which similar events have occurred, the charity has sought to turn a problem into a solution, using this period of global uncertainty to build its resilience and preparedness for the future. This includes refreshing its Royal Charter, redefining its accommodation needs and identifying new, sustainable sources of income that will allow the charity more freedom to focus on delivery of its charitable objectives that centre upon social cohesion and social mobility. The charity is building on the lessons we have all learnt from the pandemic whilst acknowledging the ever-increasing, divisive tensions that adversely affect an already marginalised and therefore vulnerable community that is a long-established element and contributor to the development of societies such as that of the UK. Whilst continuing to support the resolution of the Windrush Scandal and other related matters, work progresses on developing the new strategic plan, partnerships and networks needed to ensure that the Committee remains fit for purpose for the next generation and is capable of generating tangible support for a significant numbers of beneficiaries beyond its disaster relief, government advice and economic development work.

Much of the charity's work during the year has focused on the UK, particularly our two-year project *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*, generously supported by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Lottery players. As planned, the Committee began sessions designed to help people of Caribbean and other origins explore their ancestry, heritage and links to the Caribbean, using the charity's library, archive and collection. These 'Who Do You Think You Are?'-style sessions have demonstrated the extremely diverse nature of Caribbean heritage that embraces communities as far reaching as China, the Jewish community, India, Pakistan, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and the oft-times forgotten indigenous Caribbean tribes demonstrating little known links between West Indians a myriad of other communities in a manner that facilitates social cohesion. As such they have been well received and impactful and therefore now form a permanent element of our work.

The West India Committee's collection continues to grow and contains unique material that the charity seeks to make accessible to a wide audience, allowing scope for uses ranging from specialist research to community-led projects. During the year work has been undertaken in respect of an artefact in the Committee collection, a punch ladle that is said to have belonged to Joseph Chatoyer, the national hero of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and a chief of the Garinagu tribe of St Vincent. The West India Committee has now worked with Garinagu community groups from seven countries, to which the Garinagu tribe migrated from the 18th century, including the UK, producing educational materials on the ladle itself, as well as on this little-known West Indian tribe, whose language and culture is deemed endangered by UNESCO. The research and development of educational materials that began in the previous year was completed and made freely available to the public via the West India Committee's dedicated heritage portal. The ladle itself was scanned, and a 3D model is now available to examine on-line through the Committee's heritage portal. Physical models of the ladle have also been created for distribution to Garifuna, Vincentian and other interested community groups and institutions whilst education packs and posters for Key Stage 2 are free to download. Lectures on the topic have also been delivered to audiences throughout England and Wales. As such this project has been a case study on how the West India Committee may best utilise its collection digitally to widen access to and awareness of tangible and intangible Caribbean heritage at risk and is informing our strategic planning further.

Work began on refreshing our Royal Charter to enable it to be used more effectively to embrace and support the next generation in education, training and employability. Legal advice as well as guidance has been received from a number of leading experts and interested parties, including the Privy Council that has also informed or strategic planning.

The West India Committee's library, archive and collection that together are inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, ranking second only to a World Heritage Site, remains one of a few globally recognised and respected knowledge banks on the Caribbean region and its peoples, and continues to attract visitors from across the world. Visitors have

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

included High Commissioners, Governors-General, Ministers of State, students, academic researchers and general members of the public from a wide range of communities. Having come to the end of our lease at Whitehall Court, and faced with unfavourable terms for renewal, the charity has used this situation as an opportunity to review its method of working and related accommodation requirements in response to its new strategic plan that entails the establishment of a permanent home for the West India Committee and its UNESCO asset for the first time in its history. Time has been taken to determine the impact of the pandemic on resilience building and working patterns. Whilst we transition in readiness for the next chapter of the West India Committee's centuries old story, the charity has continued to facilitate access to our primary source materials through the introduction of a new digitisation programme. This has allowed us to react to enquiries from all over the world on a variety of topics, digitising unique and rare works that are then made accessible through our heritage portal, thereby reducing our carbon footprint and that of our users. During the course of the year the charity secured funding for a digitalisation machine that will be used to continue this work and to develop skills amongst volunteers in digitalisation techniques and use. Free online access will be maintained to digitalised elements of the charity's library and collection, films, e-books and educational material and to date this material has been accessed by thousands, both in the UK and Caribbean with material currently in preparation being of interest to Central America.

Since the end of the pandemic, the West India Committee's outreach programmes have increased substantially through the delivery of talks, round tables, lectures and heritage events across the country. The charity also continues to collaborate with The Remembrance Trust in their work on the Caribbean, that entails the restoration of monuments and graves of military personnel worldwide, dated prior to 1914, and after 1945. Currently, the two charities are collaborating on work in Shirley Heights, Antigua, formerly one of the major British military bases in the region, where numerous British regiments were stationed for centuries.

As the West India Committee has witnessed first-hand during the past three centuries, the world is prone to seismic social shifts that can profoundly alter it for the better, and, armed with lessons learnt from the past, we are committed to playing our part in this latest shift in the sincere hope that the lives of the West Indian and related communities are genuinely and sustainably improved. It is with this in mind that our scoping work on developing Windrush Scholarships continued during the year, with the object of creating a generation of scholarships targeting those otherwise prevented from gaining tertiary education or professional training.

Over the past years, many of the young members of staff that have joined the West India Committee have come from long-term unemployment and other challenging circumstances such as homelessness. By providing them with supported volunteering, education, training and employment tailored to their personal interests and potential, our organisation has sought to realise their professional aspirations, launching many on pathways to success. The charity supports the development of their skills, confidence and employability by providing them with professional experiences together with bespoke roadmaps and support for personal development. This not only makes a fundamental difference to the lives and future prospects of these young individuals, but also their family, friends and wider community. It should be noted that our work is not limited to the people of the Caribbean alone, but encompasses all communities, as we believe there is much to learn from the Caribbean and the diverse range of people that have merged together over time to form its people. Through sharing this heritage and knowledge we continue to instil respect for and appreciation of the region and its peoples. This work is not confined to third parties but is much-needed within the community itself that continues to face major challenges in the outcomes of health, education, employment and the justice system in the UK, whilst combatting the ever increasing impact of climate change in the region that has regular and unavoidable consequences that often prove fatal.

The West India Committee seeks the best possible outcomes for its staff, beneficiaries, and volunteers, almost all of whom continue to work with us to this day, whilst others have moved on to bright futures elsewhere, having attained qualifications, including Masters' degrees and professional qualifications due the support the West India Committee provides. The charity recognises the extensive, untapped potential of the Caribbean community, wherever possible propelling them into professional employment and much-valued further education, in so doing disproving the negative stereotypes that have hindered the Caribbean community for generations, particularly in the UK.

This year we have continued to work towards diversifying our funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to external shocks such as the pandemic and cost of living crisis. This has necessitated the forging of new networks for fundraising, that we hope will bear fruit in the next financial year. We would like to thank the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Lund Trust, Garfield Weston and our private donors for their support during this year, at a time when so many charities are experiencing severe financial difficulties in light of the wider economic situation around the world, and those of our staff that have now volunteered their services. We would also like to thank our partners at the Crown Agents, who kindly provided a home for the Committee Library during much of the year and our staff and volunteers who also continue to drive the West India Committee forward.

It was an immense honour to have been invited by the Royal Household to participate in the Coronation of His Majesty

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

King Charles III, and we thank those West India Committee members and donors who made that historic participation possible. This marked the 11th monarch that the West India Committee has supported with much pride. Efforts are being made to create a legacy from that participation that will raise awareness of the family of nations that have and continue to share the monarch as a means of strengthening ties between over thirty five nations that encircle the globe and that are home to peoples of a multitude of races colours and creed who are custodians of every climate known to man that we may all learn to protect

Social responsibility

The West India Committee is dedicated to ensuring our outlook in business and diplomacy is tied in with our philosophy of always being socially responsible. Ensuring West Indians prosper globally is centrally important to the Committee, and as such we aim to promote social cohesion in all ventures undertaken. We believe prosperity is only achievable through education and training and we ensure that those two essential aspects of human development are incorporated into all our projects and work in a manner that protects our planet.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The West India Committee carries out a wide range of activities in furtherance of its charitable objectives, as explained above. Where possible we have attempted to quantify the number of direct beneficiaries, and we also believe the community-building aspects of these activities provide benefit to the wider public both in the areas where we work and beyond.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Financial review

The charity's income decreased by 72% to £60,804 for the financial year ending 31st March 2024 (2023: £216,033). There was a net decrease in funds of £61,883 for the year (2023: net increase of £16,604). Expenditure on charitable activities had decreased to £122,723 (2023: £199,429).

The WIC's financial strategy continues to be to seek operational efficiencies to further drive down overhead costs and to increase income from existing charitable activities, as well as seeking new sources of income to support the delivery of its core objectives.

Reserve

The trustees' policy is that the balance of reserves held by WIC should be equal to between one and three months of the organization's running costs, which in monetary terms means approximately £1500 to £4500 based on the figures in these accounts. The trustees believe this level of reserves will provide short term financial stability and allow time to secure alternative sources of funding, in the event of a significant drop in income.

During the period reserves, which are shown as unrestricted funds in the balance sheet, showed a net decrease from £67,636 to £3,877 and at the end of the period they were equivalent to approximately 2 months of expenditure, thus falling within the target range.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The West India Committee (WIC) was registered as a UK charity in 1969 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1904. The Royal Charter as amended by Supplemental Charters dated 12th December 1972 and 26th August 1977 and rules adopted on the 29th November 1948, together with the conventions and practices thereunder governs WIC. Under the terms of the said Royal Charter, WIC is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Directors of the Charity are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Directors of the Charity are referred to in this report as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees may also appoint any member of the Charity to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy, or to increase their number.

Organisational structure

WIC has a Board of Trustees, who meets a minimum of twice a year. Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds and share the core objective of promoting the general welfare of the peoples of the West Indies and the societies in which they live and work. Each Trustee is a Director of WIC and provides their services on a voluntary basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving the Strategic Plan of WIC, as recommended by the Chief Executive. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that WIC's resources are correctly expended in pursuit of its charitable objective. The Board of Trustees has delegated daily management of WIC to the Chief Executive.

One standing committee, namely the Finance Sub-Committee of WIC, supports the Board of Trustees. Its membership comprises the President, a Trustee and the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees have an informal induction with the Chief Executive, during which their role and legal responsibilities are explained.

All members of the Board of Trustees are experienced in the role of Trustee of a small charity and familiar with the Caribbean, its peoples and their needs.

Risk assessment

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

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

258545

Registered office

c/o The Remembrance Trust,

Lord Warden House,

Lord Warden Square,

Dover,

Kent

CT17 9EQ

Trustees

Mr. P Odle

Mr. P Beckingham

Sir R Williams

Mr. V F Banks

Mr. M Forde

Independent Examiner

Issa Associates

Chartered Certified Accountants

Suite 116, Cumberland House

80 Scrubs Lane

London, NW10 6RF

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of West India Committee for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24/01/2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
West India Committee**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West India Committee ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Issa Associates

Issa Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suite 116, Cumberland House
80 Scrubs Lane
London, NW10 6RF

Date: 24/01/2025

West India Committee**Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	21,544	37,029	58,573	207,854
Other income sources	3	668	-	668	8,179
Total		<u>22,212</u>	<u>37,029</u>	<u>59,241</u>	<u>216,033</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Governance costs		1,920	-	1,920	2,700
Other		85,650	<u>35,153</u>	<u>120,803</u>	<u>196,729</u>
Total		<u>87,570</u>	<u>35,153</u>	<u>122,723</u>	<u>199,429</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(63,759)	1,876	<u>(61,883)</u>	16,604
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		67,636	28,094	95,730	79,126
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>	<u>95,730</u>

These notes form part of the financial statements

West India Committee

Balance Sheet 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	-	-	-	24,000
Cash at bank		<u>4,597</u>	<u>30,109</u>	<u>34,706</u>	<u>78,919</u>
		4,597	30,109	34,706	102,919
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(720)	(139)	(859)	(7,189)
		<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>	<u>95,730</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>	<u>95,730</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>	
					<u>95,730</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>3,877</u>	<u>29,970</u>	<u>33,847</u>	<u>95,730</u>
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				<u>3,877</u>	67,636
Restricted funds				<u>29,970</u>	<u>28,094</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>33,847</u>	<u>95,730</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24/01/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Gifts	938	-
Donations	22,204	107,854
Grants received	<u>37,029</u>	<u>100,000</u>
	<u>60,171</u>	<u>207,854</u>

During the year the Charity was in receipt of the grants and donations in support of the following activities from the following donors:

	2024 £	2023 £
Unrestricted		
CAF America – Mill Reef Club	-	84,874
Lund Trust	-	50,000
Assorted donations	14,372	1450
Membership subscriptions	-	50
CAF - Staff donation	7,173	21,480
Restricted		
National Lottery Heritage Fund	<u>37,029</u>	<u>50,000</u>
	<u>58,573</u>	<u>207,854</u>

This year the charity has continued to work towards diversifying its funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks.

The Charity was in receipt of the grant, *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*, from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The charity received £938 Gifts-In-Kind in respects of Accountancy and Light and Heating costs (2023: £0).

3. OTHER INCOME SOURCES

	2024 £	2023 £
Trading Activities		
Educational Book sales	0	3,214
Image license	100	59
Other income		
Refunds & Reimbursements	568	4,906
	<u>668</u>	<u>8,179</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Governance costs	1,920
Other	<u>120,803</u>
	<u>122,723</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	-
Other operating leases	<u>22,886</u>	<u>36,000</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

7. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	70,026	130,724
Social security costs	2,454	10,188
Other pension costs	<u>2,125</u>	<u>2,899</u>
	<u>74,605</u>	<u>143,811</u>

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

	2024	2023
Management	0	1
Operations	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024	2023
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>166,033</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>216,033</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Governance costs	2,700	-	2,700
Other	<u>172,831</u>	<u>23,898</u>	<u>196,729</u>
Total	<u>175,531</u>	<u>23,898</u>	<u>196,729</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(9,498)	26,102	16,604
Transfers between funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(9,498)	26,102	16,604
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>77,134</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>79,126</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>67,636</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>95,730</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	=	=	=
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	=	=	=
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rent deposit	<u>-</u>	<u>24,000</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	-	4,460
Pension creditor	139	651
Accrued expenses	<u>720</u>	<u>2,078</u>
	<u>859</u>	<u>7,189</u>

12. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£ 0	£ 36,000
Within one year		
Between one and five years	<u>0</u>	<u>12,000</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>48,000</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31.3.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	67,636	(63,759)	<u>3,877</u>
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	28,094	1,876	29,970
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>95,730</u>	<u>(61,883)</u>	<u>33,847</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,811	87,570	(63,759)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	37,029	35,153	1,876
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>60,840</u>	122,723	(61,883)

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	77,134	(9,498)	-	67,636
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	1,992	26,102	-	28,094
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,126</u>	<u>16,604</u>	=	<u>95,730</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	166,033	(175,531)	(9,498)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	50,000	(23,898)	26,102
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>216,033</u>	<u>(199,429)</u>	<u>16,604</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	77,134	(73,257)	-	<u>3,877</u>
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	1,992	27,978	-	<u>29,970</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,126</u>	<u>(45,279)</u>	=	<u>33,847</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	189,844	(263,101)	(73,257)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	87,029	(59,051)	27,978
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>276,873</u>	<u>(322,152)</u>	<u>(45,279)</u>

Transfers between funds

No transfers between the funds were made in the year.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party disclosures for this year.

15. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REMUNERATION

The independent examiner's remuneration for the year was £720 (2023: £1,500).

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The trustees consider the board of trustees together with Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE its key management personnel.

Salaries for the key management personnel in the year was £22,333 (2023: £67,000).

West India Committee**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts	938	-
Donations	22,205	107,854
Grants received	<u>37,029</u>	<u>100,000</u>
	<u>60,171</u>	<u>207,854</u>
Other income sources		
Educational Book sales	0	3,214
Image licenses	100	59
Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>568</u>	<u>4,906</u>
	<u>668</u>	<u>8,179</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>60,840</u>	<u>216,033</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	70,026	130,724
Social security	2,431	10,188
Pensions	2,125	2,899
Other operating leases	22,886	36,000
Insurance	784	404
Light and heat	422	890
Telephone and internet	897	2,595
Postage and stationery	14	301
Business rates	866	2,509
Office expenses	780	2,984
Accountancy and legal	1,440	3,582
Subscription	766	728
Computer services	2,829	3,026
Professional expenses	14,538	600
Printing and advertising	1,510	204
Travel and subsistence	260	1,455
Books & Research	-	132
Bank Charges	<u>148</u>	<u>208</u>
	<u>122,723</u>	<u>199,429</u>
Total resources expended	<u>122,723</u>	<u>199,429</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(61,883)</u>	<u>16,604</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales - Charity number 258545

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 258545

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
for
West India Committee

West India Committee

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Object of the West India Committee is to promote the interests of:

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing Industries
- Trade

of the West Indies, Guyana and Belize to increase the general welfare of the people of those territories and their global diaspora through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation.

Our vision

Our vision is to utilise the West India Committee in its capacity as a nongovernmental organisation, charity and trading vehicle to develop new, bespoke strategies to improve the general welfare and prosperity of West Indians both in the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally.

WIC values

The West India Committee seeks to develop sustainable prosperity amongst the West Indian community both in the Caribbean and within the societies in which they live and work globally, providing a means whereby West Indians may themselves resolve the issues that had hindered their progress for generations. The West India Committee believes in the values of a combination of good governance, economic diversification and Smart Aid coupled with local innovation and entrepreneurialism informed by an in-depth comprehension of the culture and heritage of the region and its peoples.

Achievements and activities

The West India Committee (WIC) has continued to address the ongoing major challenges that various Caribbean nations and communities have faced across the world during the course of this year. The easing of the Covid-19 Pandemic allowed more in-person work to take place as the financial year progressed and we were once again able to welcome visitors to the West India Committee Rooms.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The West India Committee's flexibility and far-reaching charitable objects has allowed scope for a wide range of assistance to be provided to Caribbean communities in need both directly and through collaboration with fellow charities, institutions, NGOs, and government departments. With the inevitable loss of institutional knowledge within the UK Government, the tried and tested apolitical work of the West India Committee has filled a void, overcoming the many and various hurdles that continue to hinder the attainment of sustainable prosperity by many West Indians today.

During its 288-year history, the West India Committee has encountered numerous epidemics and pandemics, but none so impactful as the recent Coronavirus pandemic that caused the global economy to pause and decline. Notwithstanding the opportunity to furlough, the demands on the charity were such that full services continued uninterrupted throughout the crisis, thanks to support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Nonetheless, the negative economic impact could not be avoided by the charity, its beneficiaries and benefactors. This reality, coupled with a rent review resulting in our landlord at our old home in a proposed rent increase of 25% meant the charity, armed with the fresh experience of virtual interaction with beneficiaries, prepared to leave its old home where its links date back to 1886 when the site was first developed. The motto of the West India Committee has long been: 'turn a problem into a solution' hence the forthcoming step change necessitated by the impacts of the pandemic has been approached as a period of positive transformation. Analysis therefore commenced in readiness for the adoption of a new strategic plan for the West India Committee to ensure that it remains fit for purpose in a world that has changed significantly, by virtue of the pandemic. The need to continue to facilitate public access to the West India Committee's library that is jointly owned with the Crown Agents, together with the charity's archive and remains of paramount consideration, and as such the charity prepared to mount a programme of digitalisation of rare and endangered material that will play a significant role in achieving this fundamental goal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Much of the charity's work during the year has focused on the UK where the legacy of the death of George Floyd has resulted in mixed, albeit enthusiastic responses, causing individuals and institutions to reflect upon their own links with the unjust causes of the tragedy and to the Slave Trade. This process was undertaken by the West India Committee centuries ago, accompanied by generations of hard graft to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean through the auspices of education, training, advocacy, advice and where necessary acting as an umbrella organisation. Unlike many others we have never financially gained from untoward conduct, but have acted as a source of invaluable information on the Caribbean region and its peoples, providing a much-needed meeting place in which opposing arguments had rationalised their approach to this central object in which the promotion of agriculture manufacturing trade and industry has been pursued as a platform for the sustainable prosperity of all.

The West India Committee's library, archive and collection that together are inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, ranking second only to a World Heritage Site, have been rendered more accessible to the public due to its return to the West India Committee Rooms and curation by the charity. This has been well received by the public globally, with the facility now being regularly used well beyond the confines of academia, attracting visitors from as far afield as New South Wales. Visitors to the library have included High Commissioners, Governors-General, Ministers of State, students and general members of the public from around the world. Similarly, our National Lottery Heritage Fund projects, The Caribbean's Great War, and West Indians: Forefather of the Metropolitan Police have generated global interest in the heritage of both the region and the West India Committee, supported by free online access to digitalised elements of the charity's library and collection, films, e- books and educational material that has been accessed by thousands, both in the UK and Caribbean to date. These provide vivid examples of how the legacies of these projects may continue, boosted by a digital platform. WIC also continues to support The Remembrance Trust in their work on the Caribbean, that entails the restoration of monuments and graves of military personnel worldwide, dated prior to 1914.

With the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic alleviating, visits to the West India Committee Collection became possible, and we have been pleased to once again welcome researchers from all over the world, whilst continuing to answer enquiries from those who are unable to visit the charity in person. We have been please during this period to welcome groups from the University of London, the High Commission of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, together with community groups of Garifuna heritage based in Belize, Guyana, the USA and the UK. The charity also continues to publish the West India Committee Circular that was first published in 1886 every quarter, adopting a digital format that ensures global access.

The West India Committee has received a Grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a two-year project, *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*. This project is designed to increase public engagement with the West India Committee collection. To that end, we are looking at digitising yet more of the Collection, to make it available online. The Committee will also run sessions designed to help people of Caribbean origin explore their ancestry and heritage, using genealogical records held within the collection, supplemented by information from other sources. These 'Who Do You Think You Are?'-style sessions have been introduced by popular demand and have demonstrated the extremely diverse nature of Caribbean heritage.

The project also entails work relating to an artefact in the Committee collection, a punch ladle that is said to have belonged to Joseph Chatoyer, the national hero of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This aspect involves producing educational materials on the ladle itself, as well as on the history and culture of the little-known Garinagu people whose language is deemed endangered by UNESCO. Despite facing extinction as a result of the First and second Carib Wars the tribe now boasts over 400,000 members that can be found in Central America, the USA and the UK. The research and writing of the materials has already begun, as has the 3D scanning of the ladle itself. The latter will allow copies of the unique artefact that is believed to be the only example of the art of the tribe to be produced, as well as a 3D model to be placed on the West India Committee's heritage portal so that it can be viewed virtually. A series of lectures on the ladle and its history will also be delivered.

This pivotal project will commence the reform of the Committee itself, examining the prospect of amending our Royal Charter and alterations to our membership model to enable us to accommodate a more varied range of members, underpinned by our Royal Charter.

The Committee's previous heritage project, *the West Indian Soldier*, continued to reach people across the country, with a travelling exhibition going on display at the Chiltern Open Air Museum (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1527212888024391680/photo/1), the Staffordshire Regiment Museum and the Cardiff Castle Museum. Another copy of the travelling exhibition has been on display in Antigua, and will thereafter travel around the Caribbean.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The West India Committee were pleased to nominated various persons to be awarded Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal, for work on race disparity; Fiona Ramdeen and Sharon Bhola-Harris for their work on developing and implementing a culturally sensitive food bank in Birmingham; and Dr Carver Anderson and Robin Thompson for their work with disaffected youth at risk in the Midlands, together with Professor Geoffrey Thompson for his work as Deputy Chair of the Commonwealth Games, and on the Youth Charter that seeks to use sport as a means of addressing the challenges faced by disaffected youths. The work of each recipient highlighted the advantages of evidence-led initiatives grounded on fact and implemented with integrity, enhanced by learning from the past. As such their work served to illustrate the philosophy that guides the work of the charity.

As the West India Committee has witnessed first-hand during the past three centuries, the world is prone to seismic social shifts that can profoundly alter it for the better, and, armed with lessons learnt from the past, we are committed to playing our part in this latest shift in the sincere hope that the lot in the lives of the West Indian and related communities are genuinely and sustainably improved. It is with this in mind that our work on developing Windrush Scholarships continued during the year, with the object of creating a generation of scholarships targeting those otherwise prevented from gaining tertiary education of this standard.

Over the past years, many of the young members of staff that have joined the West India Committee have come from long-term unemployment and other challenging circumstances such as homelessness. By providing them with education, training and employment tailored to their personal interests and potential, together with a steady income, our organisation has sought to realise their professional aspirations, launching many on a pathway to success. The charity supports the development of their skills, confidence and employability by providing them with professional experiences. This not only makes a fundamental difference to the lives and future prospects of these young individuals, but also their family and friends. It should be noted that our work is not limited to the people of the Caribbean alone, but encompasses a wide range of communities with links to the Caribbean and others that have benefited from learning more about the region who form part of our diverse society, thus instilling respect for and appreciation of the region and its peoples. Some continue to work with us to this day, whilst others have moved on to bright futures elsewhere, having attained qualifications, including Masters degrees and professional qualifications due the support the charity provides. To this end, the charity is unique in focusing on this often-overlooked cohort of untapped potential, propelling them into professional employment and much-valued further education.

This year we have continued to work towards diversifying our funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks such as the pandemic. We would like to thank the Lund Trust, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Mill Reef Club for their support during this year, at a time when so many charities are experiencing severe financial difficulties during one of the most challenging periods the world has ever known.

Social responsibility

The West India Committee is dedicated to ensuring our outlook in business and diplomacy is tied in with our philosophy of always being socially responsible. Ensuring people in the Caribbean and West Indians globally prosper is centrally important to the Committee, we aim to promote social cohesion in all ventures undertaken. We believe this prosperity is only achievable through education and training and we ensure that those two essential aspects of human development are incorporated into all our projects and work.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The West India Committee carries out a wide range of activities in furtherance of its charitable objectives, as explained above. Where possible we have attempted to quantify the number of direct beneficiaries, and we also believe the community-building aspects of these activities provide benefit to the wider public both in the areas where we work and beyond.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Financial review

The charity's income increased by 44.19% to £216,033 for the financial year ending 31st March 2023 (2022: £ 149,828). There was a net increase in funds of £16,604 for the year (2022: net decrease of £103,475). Expenditure on charitable activities had decreased to £199,429 (2022: £253,303).

The WIC's financial strategy continues to be to seek operational efficiencies to further drive down overhead costs and to increase income from existing charitable activities, as well as seeking new sources of income e.g. to support the delivery of its core objectives.

Reserve

The trustees' policy is that the balance of reserves held by WIC should be equal to between one and three months of the organization's running costs, which in monetary terms means approximately £20k to £60k based on the figures in these accounts. The trustees believe this level of reserves will provide short term financial stability and allow time to secure alternative sources of funding, in the event of a significant drop in income.

During the period reserves, which are shown as unrestricted funds in the balance sheet, showed a net decrease from £77,134 to £67,636 and at the end of the period they were equivalent to approximately 4 months of expenditure. This is within the 1-3 month target range.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The West India Committee (WIC) was registered as a UK charity in 1969 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1904. The Royal Charter as amended by Supplemental Charters dated 12th December 1972 and 26th August 1977 and rules adopted on the 29th November 1948, together with the conventions and practices thereunder governs WIC. Under the terms of the said Royal Charter, WIC is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Directors of the Charity are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Directors of the Charity are referred to in this report as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees may also appoint any member of the Charity to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy, or to increase their number.

Organisational structure

WIC has a Board of Trustees, who meets a minimum of twice a year. Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds and share the core objective of promoting the general welfare of the peoples of the West Indies and the societies in which they live and work. Each Trustee is a Director of WIC and provides their services on a voluntary basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving the Strategic Plan of WIC, as recommended by the Chief Executive. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that WIC's resources are correctly expended in pursuit of its charitable objective. The Board of Trustees has delegated daily management of WIC to the Chief Executive.

One standing committee, namely the Finance Sub-Committee of WIC, supports the Board of Trustees. Its membership comprises the President, a Trustee and the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees have an informal induction with the Chief Executive, during which their role and legal responsibilities are explained.

All members of the Board of Trustees are experienced in the role of Trustee of a small charity and familiar with the Caribbean, its peoples and their needs.

Risk assessment

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

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

258545

Registered office

c/o The Remembrance Trust,
1-3 Waterloo Crescent,
Dover,
Kent
CT16 1LA

Trustees

Mr P Odle
Maj. D Rankin-Hunt
Mr P Beckingham
Sir R Williams
Mr V F Banks

Independent Examiner

Narges Cyroos BSc FCA
Chartered Accountant
Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of West India Committee for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26/01/2024, and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
West India Committee**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West India Committee ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Date: 26 January 2024.....

West India Committee**Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	157,854	50,000	207,854	<u>149,828</u>
Other income sources	3	8,179	-	8,179	-
Total		<u>166,033</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>216,033</u>	<u>149,828</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Governance costs		2,700	-	2,700	4,020
Other		<u>172,831</u>	<u>23,898</u>	<u>196,729</u>	<u>249,283</u>
Total		<u>175,531</u>	23,898	<u>199,429</u>	<u>253,303</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(9,498)	26,102	16,604	(103,475)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		77,134	1,992	79,126	182,601
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>67,636</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>95,730</u>	<u>79,126</u>

These notes form part of the financial statements

West India Committee

Balance Sheet 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
Cash at bank		<u>50,825</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>78,919</u>	<u>65,015</u>
		74,825	28,094	102,919	89,015
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,189)	-	(7,189)	(9,889)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>67,636</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>95,730</u>	<u>79,126</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>67,636</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>95,730</u>	<u>79,126</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>67,636</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>95,730</u>	<u>79,126</u>
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				67,636	77,134
Restricted funds				<u>28,094</u>	<u>1,992</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>95,730</u>	<u>79,126</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26/01/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Gifts	-	5,000
Donations	107,854	2,026
Grants received	<u>100,000</u>	<u>142,802</u>
	<u>207,854</u>	<u>149,828</u>

During the year the Charity was in receipt of the grants and donations in support of the following activities from the following donors:

	2023 £	2022 £
Unrestricted		
Culture Recovery Fund	-	44,580
CAF America – Mill Reef Club	84,874	-
Lund Trust	50,000	50,000
Assorted donations via Paypal and cheque	1450	-
Membership subscriptions	50	
CAF - Staff donation	21,480	6,689
Restricted		
National Lottery Heritage Fund	<u>50,000</u>	<u>41,533</u>
	<u>207,854</u>	<u>142,802</u>

This year the charity has continued to work towards diversifying its funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks.

The Charity was in receipt of the grant, *Your West India Committee Collection and Library: The Next Chapter*, from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The charity was in receipt of no Gifts-In-Kind during the year (2022: £5,000).

3. OTHER INCOME SOURCES

	2023 £	2022 £
Trading Activities		
Educational Book sales	3,214	-
Image license	59	-
Other income		
Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>4,906</u>	-
	<u>8,179</u>	-

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Governance costs	2,700
Other	<u>196,729</u>
	<u>199,429</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	-
Other operating leases	<u>36,000</u>	<u>48,000</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	130,724	141,207
Social security costs	10,188	11,825
Other pension costs	<u>2,899</u>	<u>3,173</u>
	<u>143,811</u>	<u>156,205</u>

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

	2023	2022
Management	1	1
Operations	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023	2022
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>101,606</u>	<u>48,222</u>	<u>149,828</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Governance costs	4,020	-	4,020
Other	<u>192,210</u>	<u>57,073</u>	<u>249,283</u>
Total	<u>196,230</u>	<u>57,073</u>	<u>253,303</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(94,624)	(8,851)	(103,475)
Transfers between funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(94,624)	(8,851)	(103,475)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>171,758</u>	<u>10,843</u>	<u>182,601</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>77,134</u></u>	<u><u>1,992</u></u>	<u><u>79,126</u></u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	=	=	=
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	=	=	=
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rent deposit	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	4,460	4,336
Pension creditor	651	933
Accrued expenses	<u>2,078</u>	<u>4,620</u>
	<u>7,189</u>	<u>9,889</u>

12. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	12,000	48,000
Between one and five years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>48,000</u>

The Charity's existing lease came to an end in June 2023 and there were no new lease commitments.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,134	(9,498)	67,636
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	1,992	26,102	28,094
	<u>79,126</u>	<u>16,604</u>	<u>95,730</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	166,033	175,531	(9,498)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	50,000	23,898	26,102
	<u>216,033</u>	<u>199,429</u>	<u>16,604</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	171,758	(94,624)	-	77,134
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	10,843	(8,851)	-	1,992
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>182,601</u>	<u>(103,475)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,126</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	101,606	(196,230)	(94,624)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	48,222	(57,073)	(8,851)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>149,828</u>	<u>(253,303)</u>	<u>(103,475)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	171,758	(104,122)	-	67,636
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	10,843	17,251	-	28,094
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>182,601</u>	<u>(86,871)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,730</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	267,639	(371,761)	(104,122)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	98,222	(80,971)	17,251
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>365,861</u>	<u>(452,732)</u>	<u>(86,871)</u>

Transfers between funds

No transfers between the funds were made in the year. In 2022 an amount of £15,559 was transferred from the general fund to restricted to cover some of the staff costs.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party disclosures for this year.

15. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REMUNERATION

The independent examiner remuneration for the year was £1,500 (2022: £4,000).

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The trustees consider the board of trustees together with Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE its key management personnel.

Salaries for the key management personnel in the year was £67,000 (2022: £67,000).

West India Committee**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts	-	5,000
Donations	107,854	2,026
Grants received	<u>100,000</u>	<u>142,802</u>
	<u>207,854</u>	<u>149,828</u>
Other income sources		
Educational Book sales	3,214	
Image licenses	59	
Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>4,906</u>	
	<u>8,179</u>	-
Total incoming resources	<u>216,033</u>	<u>149,828</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	130,724	141,207
Social security	10,188	11,825
Pensions	2,899	3,173
Other operating leases	36,000	48,000
Insurance	404	341
Light and heat	890	312
Telephone and internet	2,595	2,498
Postage and stationery	301	562
Business rates	2,509	2,509
Office expenses	2,984	3,091
Accountancy and legal	3,582	6,743
Subscription	728	977
Computer services	3,026	3,580
Professional expenses	600	21,917
Printing and advertising	204	345
Travel and subsistence	1,455	5,798
Books & Research	132	189
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Bank Charges	<u>208</u>	<u>236</u>
	<u>199,429</u>	<u>253,303</u>
Total resources expended	<u>199,429</u>	<u>253,303</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>16,604</u>	<u>(103,475)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales - Charity number 258545

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
West India Committee

Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

West India Committee

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Object of the West India Committee is to promote the interests of:

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing Industries
- Trade

of the West Indies, Guyana and Belize to increase the general welfare of the people of those territories and their global diaspora through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation.

Our vision

Our vision is to utilise the West India Committee in its capacity as a nongovernmental organisation, charity and trading vehicle to develop new, bespoke strategies to improve the general welfare and prosperity of West Indians both in the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally.

WIC values

The West India Committee seeks to develop sustainable prosperity amongst the West Indian community both in the Caribbean and within the societies in which they live and work globally, providing a means whereby West Indians may themselves resolve the issues that had hindered their progress for generations. The West India Committee believes in the values of a combination of good governance, economic diversification and Smart Aid coupled with local innovation and entrepreneurialism informed by an in depth comprehension of the culture and heritage of the region and its peoples.

Achievements and activities

The West India Committee (WIC) has continued to address the ongoing major challenges that various Caribbean nations and communities have faced across the world during the course of this year. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the charity resorted to its staff working from home at times in the 2021/2022 financial year, with safe and socially distanced work and meetings taking place at the West India Committee Rooms when necessary and permitted by the UK government rules and regulations. The charity did not furlough any members of staff due to the extremely high demand for its work, which has been met without interruption, despite the challenging conditions and financial pressures arising from the global pandemic. The government's vaccine programme and lifting of restrictions began to allow more in-person work to take place as the financial year progressed.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The West India Committee's flexibility and far-reaching charitable objects has allowed scope for a wide range of assistance to be provided to Caribbean communities in need both directly and through collaboration with fellow charities, institutions, NGOs, government departments and the UK parliament in general, including through the valuable auspices of select committees. With the inevitable loss of institutional knowledge due to the high turnover of staff within the UK Government, the tried and tested work of the West India Committee has filled a void, overcoming the many and various hurdles that continue to hinder access to sustainable prosperity for West Indians throughout the world. For example, The West India Committee's work through advocacy, advice, and acting as an umbrella organisation has proved effective for the British Overseas Territory of Anguilla, providing an alternative model for its representation both in the UK, EU, UN and overseas. The West India Committee has enjoyed extremely good relations with the current UK Government and its cabinet members that have proved mutually beneficial for the Caribbean region and its community. The West India Committee continued to monitor and support the UK Government funded recovery and rebuilding of Anguilla's key infrastructure, following the devastation of Hurricane Irma, and built Anguilla's only maternity ward, and extended the island's only operating theatre, having successfully raised funds in the UK. (<https://twitter.com/BlondelCluff/status/1197464912848719874>). Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE, Chief Executive of the West India Committee, stood down from her role as the Government of Anguilla's Overseas Representative in July 2020 following a change of government in June 2020. As such, the Government of Anguilla Overseas Office moved to a different office with new personnel, with WIC no longer being the host or providing employees as secondees. WIC manages the former Government of Anguilla Overseas Office Twitter page, which will remain unused as it is retained as an archival record of its work between 2016 and 2020. In 2021, Former Premier of Anguilla, Victor F. Banks, was appointed as a Trustee of WIC, which continues to be a community- led organisation through the leadership of our Chief Executive and Board of Trustees several of whom are based in the Caribbean.

The West India Committee's library and collection, that is inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, second only to a World Heritage Site, has been rendered more accessible to the public due to its return to the West India Committee Rooms and curation by the charity. This has been well received by the public globally, with the facility now being regularly used well beyond the confines of academia, attracting visitors from as far afield as California. Visitors to the library have included High Commissioners, Governors-General, Ministers of State and students from around the world. Similarly, our National Lottery Heritage Fund projects, The Caribbean's Great War, and West Indians: Forefather of the Metropolitan Police have generated global interest in the heritage of both the region and the West India Committee, supported by free online access to digitalised elements of the charity's library and collection, films, e-books and educational material that has been accessed by thousands, both in the UK and Caribbean to date, which is an example of how the legacies of these projects may continue, boosted by a digital platform. WIC also continues to support The Remembrance Trust on their work in the Caribbean, in their mission to find and restore monuments and graves of military personnel worldwide, dated prior to 1914.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

WIC continued to work on a heritage project, The West Indian Soldier, tracking the relationship between the Caribbean and the British Army throughout history in a joint initiative with the National Army Museum (<https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/west-indian-soldier>). This includes the significant contributions that Caribbean Servicemen and Women have made to the British Army over the past four centuries. The project showcased the charity's collection and library, which includes important, rare primary source material on the military history of the Caribbean, examples including Oliver Cromwell's conquest of Jamaica in 1655, first-hand accounts of the lives of soldiers in the Caribbean, and the founding of the British West Indies Regiment for which WIC acted as an administrative body throughout the First World War. This project centred upon a temporary exhibition at the National Army Museum, which was visited by the Secretary of State for DCMS, Oliver Dowden MP (<https://twitter.com/BlondelCluff/status/1408005561740824576>), and received widespread plaudits, including from Colonel Karl Harris, Chair and Founder of the British Army's BAME Network (https://twitter.com/Karl_R_Harris/status/1436391169097883655). The project also encompassed a series of conferences (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1401820367790948355), film (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1479379604678885379) and educational material (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1453297169285402640) made freely available to secondary schools in England and Wales as a means of enriching and diversifying the national curriculum, to better reflect the diverse communities that now comprise the UK. Meanwhile, WIC was able to consolidate its online heritage materials into one single heritage portal (<https://westindiacommittee.org/historyheritageculture>), featuring materials from all our heritage projects to date, including virtual exhibitions, maps, images, documentary films, e-books (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1384799722045677568), downloadable educational material and archival documents such as minutes, books and war diaries. The West Indian Soldier exhibition at the National Army Museum from 19 May to 31 October 2021 welcomed 13,449 people and proved to be very successful, receiving significant positive feedback. In addition, it encouraged more people to visit the National Army Museum, including a notable number of people of Caribbean origin visiting the Museum for the first time, thus meeting one of our wider goals for the project. This is relevant as the Race Disparity Unit of the Cabinet Office has highlighted poor attendance of the Caribbean community at such venues. 53% of people who visited the exhibition were visiting the Museum for the first time, 50% had come specifically to see the exhibition and over 25% were of Caribbean origin. Before visiting the exhibition, 45% said they had little to no knowledge of the West India Regiments, which dropped to just 6% after visiting the exhibition, with on average 58% of visitors saying they had improved their knowledge on key topics throughout the exhibition. 23% had accessed related material through the Museum's website and visiting the exhibition resulted in a further 28% planning to do so in the future. 89% of respondents said they would recommend the exhibition to others. Some feedback included that the exhibition could have benefited from a bigger space, or that more material from the exhibition could possibly have been included in the Museum's main displays. One copy of the travelling exhibition, over 9 roller banners, has been given to the National Museum of Antigua and Barbuda, and it will travel on to other islands. This presentation was filmed when staff from the West India Committee delivered the exhibition to the National Museum of Antigua and Barbuda in March 2022: <https://youtu.be/BZw3D9guYog>. During this time, WIC also presented a lecture at the Mill Reef Club resulting in a significant donation.

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic sometimes inhibiting in-person visits to the archive and library, WIC has continued to deliver its critical work, demand for which rose exponentially during lockdown, in so doing working effectively as an organisation in sharing the knowledge and material held in the WIC's archive and library through our rejuvenated heritage portal website and our regular social media posts (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1375023337882128388) (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1385161636663775235) (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1386611503109967873) (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1386975642047102980). We also continue to publish the West India Committee Circular every quarter that was first published in 1886 (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1433711856569495571).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As part of Black History Month 2020, as well as publicising our own relevant material on social media, WIC worked closely with The Royal Mint, launching the new 'Diversity Built Britain' 50 pence coin with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Prime Minister, whereby the charity produced an education pack, endorsed by the Secretary of State for Education, that helped showcase black British history from pre-history to the Windrush era. These education packs together with the Diversity coin were sent to all primary schools in England and Wales, amounting to 18,099 schools (<https://www.royalmint.com/our-coins/events/diversity-coin/>). WIC also wrote the entries for an online interactive map of inspirational black Britons who have contributed significantly to the UK, that was produced by our partners, The Royal Mint (<https://westindiacommittee.org/historyheritageculture/projects/diversity-built-britain/>). This material was used again for Black History Month 2021, and we also continued to support our Chief Executive, Mrs Cluff, in her role as member of The Royal Mint Advisory Committee, whereby the first ever Black Britannia coin was produced (<https://twitter.com/BlondelCluff/status/1372613446848630796>). Until now, Britannia had always been portrayed as a caucasian woman, however this step change in reflecting the everchanging face of Britain is a hugely symbolic and powerful message for all of the diverse communities of the UK that are easily reached through the auspices of the millions of coins circulated by The Royal Mint that provide a unique, invaluable avenue for education.

We began a partnership with 'Thru Life', who work with young people and their families in underprivileged boroughs of North London, offering a range of activities and support including bespoke leadership programmes that support young people to develop the necessary skills that enable them to make better life choices. WIC's partnership with Thru Life sees groups of young people attend the West India Committee Rooms in Whitehall. The charity's archive and library is often a revelation to many, providing a unique and rare means of learning more about Caribbean heritage, as well as providing an accessible source of professional development, advice and support from the charity's staff, each of whom has lived-experience of the region and its peoples. A recent visit saw a group of young men of Caribbean and African heritage (approximately 13 to 16 years old) from Tottenham attend the office to discuss their career aspirations and the Caribbean's contributions to British society, whilst learning more about their individual family histories (<https://twitter.com/ThruLife2/status/1454141500321902595>). The aim of the partnership with Thru Life is that regular visits such as these will help embolden young people through a confidence derived from self-awareness, bolstered by an unbiased understanding of their heritage. The rich and varied heritage of the Caribbean reflects a wealth of achievement by the peoples of the Caribbean, much of which is not generally known or appreciated in the UK, which is capable of raising aspirations and attainment amongst Caribbean youth in the UK.

The West India Committee continued to support its Chief Executive, Mrs Cluff, in her roles: Co-opted Member of the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities specialising in education (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities-16-july-2020>) and Chair of the corresponding sub-group of the Windrush Cross-Government Working Group. These are two important initiatives designed to provide community input into government to address issues such as health, education, employment, and justice that hinder the attainment and prosperity of the Caribbean community in Britain, together with those issues specifically derived from the Windrush scandal. Through the auspices of Mrs Cluff's work, WIC has proposed and led on the introduction of interim compensation payments for Windrush victims that has seen over £35 million remitted in compensation from December 2020 to June 2021, eclipsing the Home Office track record of £3 million paid in compensation during the preceding two years of the scheme.

After five years of technical lobbying of government and the Home Office by WIC, legislation was passed in UK Parliament that enables hundreds of illegitimate people born to fathers from a British Overseas Territory to obtain British citizenship, thereby equalising their legal rights (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1451181661136191495). The legislation, announced by the Home Secretary in an immigration policy statement to UK Parliament in March 2021, affects people born outside of Britain and its territories to parents who were British Overseas Territories Citizens. Specifically, it contained clauses enabling those born before 1 January 1983 to mothers, and those born before 1 July 2006 to unmarried fathers, to acquire British Overseas Territory and British citizenship. Prior to this legislation they were unable to do so. This is an example of a longstanding inequality issue, that predominantly affected Caribbean communities, which has now been rectified with the help of WIC's consistent, evidence-based, collaborative work with the community and the Home Office.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Over the past years, many of the young members of staff that have joined the West India Committee have come from long-term unemployment and other challenging circumstances such as homelessness. By providing them with support, experience, education, training and employment tailored to their interests and strengths, together with a steady income, our organisation has sought to realise their professional aspirations, launching many on a successful pathway. The charity supports the development of their skills, confidence and employability by providing them with professional experiences. This has proved to be a rare approach that few of their peers, of a similar age, are experiencing elsewhere. This makes a fundamental difference to the lives and future prospects of these young individuals who include people from a wide range of communities, whilst at the same time teaching them about the Caribbean and instilling respect for and appreciation of the region and its peoples. Some remain working with us to this day, whilst others have moved on to bright futures elsewhere, having attained qualifications, including Masters degrees and professional qualifications due to the support the charity provides. To this end, the charity is unique in focusing on this often-overlooked cohort of untapped potential, propelling them into professional employment and further education that will lead them into the professions and sustainable prosperity. Former employee and WIC Masters grant recipient, Daniel Wilson, was awarded the 2021 Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Professional Insurance Awards for Planning Excellence (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1390226879614005249). Daniel is an example of how WIC beneficiaries and former employees/interns are given bespoke support that prepares them well for future careers (<https://twitter.com/danwilLDN/status/1390240005520515073>). Testimonials: <https://westindiacommittee.org/about-us/wic-today>.

This year we have continued to work towards diversifying our funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks such as the pandemic. We would like to thank the Lund Trust, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Culture Recovery Fund for their support during this challenging financial year.

To conclude, the work of the West India Committee during the 2021/2022 financial year continued to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally, through the auspices of education, training, advice, advocacy and where necessary, acting as an umbrella organisation during one of the most demanding periods the world has known for generations.

Social responsibility

The West India Committee is dedicated to ensuring our outlook in business and diplomacy is tied in with our philosophy of always being socially responsible. Ensuring people in the Caribbean and West Indians globally prosper is centrally important to the Committee, we aim to promote social cohesion in all ventures undertaken. We believe this prosperity is only achievable through education and training and we ensure that those two essential aspects of human development are incorporated into all our projects and work.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The West India Committee carries out a wide range of activities in furtherance of its charitable objectives, as explained above. Where possible we have attempted to quantify the number of direct beneficiaries, and we also believe the community-building aspects of these activities provide benefit to the wider public both in the areas where we work and beyond.

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Financial review

The charity's income decreased by 34.39% to £149,828 for the financial year ending 31st March 2022 (2021: £228,350). There was a net decrease in funds of £103,475 for the year (2021: increase of £6,099). Expenditure on charitable activities had increased to £253,303 (2021: £222,251).

The WIC's financial strategy continues to be to seek operational efficiencies to further drive down overhead costs and to increase income from existing charitable activities, as well as seeking new sources of income e.g. to support the delivery of its core objectives.

Reserve

The trustees' policy is that the balance of reserves held by WIC should be equal to between one and three months of the organization's running costs, which in monetary terms means approximately £20k to £60k based on the figures in these accounts. The trustees believe this level of reserves will provide short term financial stability and allow time to secure alternative sources of funding, in the event of a significant drop in income.

During the period reserves, which are shown as unrestricted funds in the balance sheet, decreased from £171,758 to £77,134 and at the end of the period they were equivalent to approximately 4.4 months of expenditure. This shows a stable development over the last few years and is within the 1-3 month target range.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The West India Committee (WIC) was registered as a UK charity in 1969 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1904. The Royal Charter as amended by Supplemental Charters dated 12th December 1972 and 26th August 1977 and rules adopted on the 29th November 1948, together with the conventions and practices thereunder governs WIC. Under the terms of the said Royal Charter, WIC is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Directors of the Charity are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Directors of the Charity are referred to in this report as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees may also appoint any member of the Charity to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy, or to increase their number.

Organisational structure

WIC has a Board of Trustees, who meets a minimum of twice a year. Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds and share the core objective of promoting the general welfare of the peoples of the West Indies and the societies in which they live and work. Each Trustee is a Director of WIC and provides their services on a voluntary basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving the Strategic Plan of WIC, as recommended by the Chief Executive. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that WIC's resources are correctly expended in pursuit of its charitable objective. The Board of Trustees has delegated daily management of WIC to the Chief Executive.

One standing committee, namely the Finance Sub-Committee of WIC, supports the Board of Trustees. Its membership comprises the President, a Trustee and the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees have an informal induction with the Chief Executive, during which their role and legal responsibilities are explained.

All members of the Board of Trustees are experienced in the role of Trustee of a small charity and familiar with the Caribbean, its peoples and their needs.

Risk assessment

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

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
258545

Registered office
Suite 53
3 Whitehall Court
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2EL

Trustees
Mr P Odle
Maj. D Rankin-Hunt
Mr P Beckingham
Sir R Williams
Mr V F Banks (appointed 1.10.2021)

Independent Examiner
Narges Cyroos BSc FCA
Chartered Accountant
Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

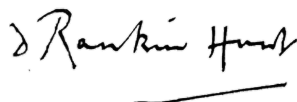
The trustees (who are also the directors of West India Committee for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on **27 January 2023** and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
West India Committee**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West India Committee ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Narges Cyroos BSc FCA
Chartered Accountant
Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

Date: 27 January 2023

West India Committee**Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	<u>101,606</u>	<u>48,222</u>	<u>149,828</u>	<u>228,350</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Governance costs		4,020	-	4,020	3,600
Other		<u>192,210</u>	<u>57,073</u>	<u>249,283</u>	<u>218,651</u>
Total		<u>196,230</u>	<u>57,073</u>	<u>253,303</u>	<u>222,251</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(94,624)	(8,851)	(103,475)	6,099
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>171,758</u>	<u>10,843</u>	<u>182,601</u>	<u>176,502</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>77,134</u></u>	<u><u>1,992</u></u>	<u><u>79,126</u></u>	<u><u>182,601</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

West India Committee**Balance Sheet**
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
Cash at bank		<u>63,023</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>65,015</u>	<u>167,907</u>
		87,023	1,992	89,015	191,907
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(9,889)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,889)</u>	<u>(9,306)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>77,134</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>79,126</u>	<u>182,601</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>77,134</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>79,126</u>	<u>182,601</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>77,134</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>79,126</u>	<u>182,601</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				77,134	171,758
Restricted funds				<u>1,992</u>	<u>10,843</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>79,126</u>	<u>182,601</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 January 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

West India Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued **for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gifts	5,000	-
Donations	2,026	-
Grants received	<u>142,802</u>	<u>228,350</u>
	<u>149,828</u>	<u>228,350</u>

During the year the Charity was in receipt of the grants and donations in support of the following activities from the following donors:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Culture Recovery Fund	44,580	106,020
Government of Anguilla	-	24,500
Lund Trust	50,000	50,000
Restricted		
CAF - Staff donation	6,689	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	<u>41,533</u>	<u>47,830</u>
	<u>142,802</u>	<u>228,350</u>

This year the charity has continued to work towards diversifying its funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks.

The Charity was in receipt of the grant, the West Indian Soldier, from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The charity was in receipt of £5,000 Gifts-In-Kind during the year in respect of the conference trip costs (2021: £NIL).

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Governance costs	4,020
Other	<u>249,283</u>
	<u>253,303</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	1,270
Other operating leases	<u>48,000</u>	<u>48,000</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

6. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	141,207	133,750
Social security costs	11,825	10,821
Other pension costs	<u>3,173</u>	<u>3,046</u>
	<u>156,205</u>	<u>147,617</u>

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

	2022	2021
Management	1	1
Operations	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022	2021
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022****7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>228,350</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>228,350</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Governance costs	3,600	-	3,600
Other	<u>180,745</u>	<u>37,906</u>	<u>218,651</u>
Total	<u>184,345</u>	<u>37,906</u>	<u>222,251</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	44,005	(37,906)	6,099
Transfers between funds	<u>(2,865)</u>	<u>2,865</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	41,140	(35,041)	6,099
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>130,618</u>	<u>45,884</u>	<u>176,502</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>171,758</u>	<u>10,843</u>	<u>182,601</u>

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>5,975</u>	<u>16,846</u>	<u>22,821</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>5,975</u>	<u>16,846</u>	<u>22,821</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

West India Committee**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Rent deposit	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	4,336	4,495
Pension creditor	933	611
Accrued expenses	<u>4,620</u>	<u>4,200</u>
	<u>9,889</u>	<u>9,306</u>

11. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Within one year	48,000	48,000
Between one and five years	<u>12,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
	<u>60,000</u>	<u>108,000</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	171,758	(94,624)	77,134
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	10,843	(8,851)	1,992
	<u>182,601</u>	<u>(103,475)</u>	<u>79,126</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	101,606	(196,230)	(94,624)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	48,222	(57,073)	(8,851)
	<u>149,828</u>	<u>(253,303)</u>	<u>(103,475)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	130,618	44,005	(2,865)	171,758
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	45,884	(37,906)	2,865	10,843
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,502</u>	<u>6,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,601</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	228,350	(184,345)	44,005
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	-	(37,906)	(37,906)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>228,350</u>	<u>(222,251)</u>	<u>6,099</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	130,618	(50,619)	(2,865)	77,134
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	45,884	(46,757)	2,865	1,992
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,502</u>	<u>(97,376)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,126</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	329,956	(380,575)	(50,619)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	48,222	(94,979)	(46,757)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>378,178</u>	<u>(475,554)</u>	<u>(97,376)</u>

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Charity did not receive any contributions from the Government of Anguilla during the year (2021: £24,500). Blondel Cluff was the representative to Government of Anguilla for UK and EU to summer 2020.

14. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REMUNERATION

The independent examiner remuneration for the year was £4,000 (2021: £3,600).

15. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The trustees consider the board of trustees together with Mrs Blondel Cluff its key management personnel.

Salaries for the key management personnel in the year was £67,000 (2021: £63,500).

West India Committee**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts	5,000	-
Donations	2,026	-
Grants received	<u>142,802</u>	<u>228,350</u>
	<u>149,828</u>	<u>228,350</u>
Total incoming resources	149,828	228,350
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	141,207	133,750
Social security	11,825	10,821
Pensions	3,173	3,046
Other operating leases	48,000	48,000
Insurance	341	307
Light and heat	312	561
Telephone	2,498	2,829
Postage and stationery	562	6
Business rates	2,509	2,509
Office expenses	3,091	1,022
Accountancy and legal	6,743	5,568
Subscription	977	844
Computer services	3,580	7,520
Professional expenses	21,917	3,042
Printing and advertising	345	740
Travel and subsistence	5,798	228
Books & Research	189	40
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	1,270
Bank Charges	<u>236</u>	<u>148</u>
	<u>253,303</u>	<u>222,251</u>
Total resources expended	<u>253,303</u>	<u>222,251</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(103,475)</u>	<u>6,099</u>

WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

England & Wales - Charity number 258545

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021
for
West India Committee

Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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West India Committee

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Object of the West India Committee is to promote the interests of:

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing Industries
- Trade

of the West Indies, Guyana and Belize to increase the general welfare of the people of those territories and their global diaspora through education, training, acting as an advocate, adviser and where necessary, as an umbrella organisation.

Our vision

Our vision is to utilise the West India Committee in its capacity as a nongovernmental organisation, charity and trading vehicle to develop new, bespoke strategies to improve the general welfare and prosperity of West Indians both in the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally.

WIC values

The West India Committee seeks to develop sustainable prosperity amongst the West Indian community both in the Caribbean and within the societies in which they live and work globally, providing a means whereby West Indians may themselves resolve the issues that had hindered their progress for generations. The West India Committee believes in the values of a combination of good governance, economic diversification and Smart Aid coupled with local innovation and entrepreneurialism informed by an in depth comprehension of the culture and heritage of the region and its peoples.

Achievements and activities

The West India Committee (WIC) has continued to address the ongoing major challenges that various Caribbean nations and communities have faced across the world during the course of this year. This included the COVID-19 pandemic, and work in assisting Anguilla, a British Overseas Territory in the Caribbean, in its resilience building and recovery from the worst hurricane on record, Hurricane Irma. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the charity resorted to its staff working from home for much of the 2020/2021 financial year, with safe and socially distanced work and meetings taking place at the West India Committee Rooms when necessary and permitted by the UK government rules and regulations. The charity did not furlough any members of staff due to the extremely high demand for its work, which has been met without interruption, despite the challenging conditions and financial pressures arising from the global pandemic.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The West India Committee's flexibility and far-reaching charitable objects has allowed scope for a wide range of assistance to be provided to Caribbean communities in need both directly and through collaboration with fellow charities, institutions, NGOs, government departments and the UK parliament in general, including through the valuable auspices of select committees. With the inevitable loss of institutional knowledge due to the high turnover of staff within the UK Government, the tried and tested work of the West India Committee has filled a void, overcoming the many and various hurdles that continue to hinder access to sustainable prosperity for West Indians throughout the world. The West India Committee's work on behalf of the Government of Anguilla Overseas Office in London through advocacy, advice, and acting as an umbrella organisation, has proved effective for the British Overseas Territory, providing an alternative model for its representation both in the UK, EU, UN and overseas. The West India Committee has enjoyed extremely good relations with the current UK Government and its cabinet members that have proved mutually beneficial for the Caribbean region and its community.

The West India Committee continued to monitor and support the UK Government funded recovery and rebuilding of Anguilla's key infrastructure, following the devastation of Hurricane Irma, and built Anguilla's only maternity ward, and extended the island's only operating theatre, having successfully raised funds in the UK. (<https://twitter.com/BlondelCluff/status/1197464912848719874>). The West India Committee has also dealt with numerous immigration and visa cases for Anguillians and other UK nationals, some of which experienced contagion with the Windrush Scandal.

When the coronavirus pandemic took hold in early 2020, WIC worked quickly to coordinate and relay the Government of Anguilla messaging around health, safety and travel restrictions to the general public. Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE, Chief Executive of the West India Committee, stood down from her role as the Government of Anguilla's Overseas Representative in July 2020 following a change of government in June 2020. As such, the Government of Anguilla Overseas Office moved to a different office with new personnel, with WIC no longer being the host or providing employees as secondees. WIC manages the former Government of Anguilla Overseas Office Twitter page, which will remain unused as it is retained as an archival record of its work between 2016 and 2020.

The West India Committee's library and collection, that is inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, second only to a World Heritage Site, has been rendered more accessible to the public due to its return to the West India Committee Rooms and curation by the charity. This has been well received by the public globally, with the facility now being regularly used well beyond the confines of academia, attracting visitors from as far afield as California. Visitors to the library have included High Commissioners, Governors-General, Ministers of State and students from around the world. Similarly, our National Lottery Heritage Fund projects, The Caribbean's Great War and West Indians: Forefather of the Metropolitan Police, have generated global interest in the heritage of both the region and the West India Committee, supported by free online access to digitalised elements of the charity's library and collection, films, e-books and educational material that has been accessed by thousands, both in the UK and Caribbean to date, which is an example of how the legacies of these projects may continue, boosted by a digital platform. WIC also continues to support The Remembrance Trust on their work in the Caribbean, in their mission to find and restore monuments and graves of military personnel worldwide, dated prior to 1914.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

WIC continued to work on a heritage project, The West Indian Soldier, tracking the relationship between the Caribbean and the British Army throughout history in a joint initiative with the National Army Museum. This includes the significant contributions that Caribbean Servicemen and Women have made to the Army over the past four centuries. The project showcased the charity's UNESCO inscribed collection and library, which includes important primary source material on the military history of the Caribbean, examples including Oliver Cromwell's conquest of Jamaica in 1655, first-hand accounts of the lives of soldiers in the Caribbean, the founding of the British West Indies Regiment for which WIC acted as an administrative body throughout the First World War, together with numerous other important, little known aspects of West Indian military heritage. The National Lottery Heritage Fund funded this project, which centred upon a temporary exhibition at the National Army Museum, that also contributed financially to the project. Lottery funding allowed the Committee to consolidate its online heritage materials into one single heritage portal (<https://westindiacommittee.org/historyheritageculture>). The heritage portal features materials from all our heritage projects to date, including virtual exhibitions, maps, images, documentary films, downloadable educational material and archival documents such as minutes, books and war diaries. The charity's future heritage outputs will also be made available through the portal. The project also encompassed a series of conferences, films and educational material made freely available to secondary schools in England and Wales as a means of enriching and diversifying the national curriculum, from a globally recognised and inscribed source, to better reflect the diverse communities that now comprise the UK.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, WIC has been predominantly working from home, meaning less people have had a chance to experience the WIC's collection in 2020/2021. Despite this, the charity continued to work effectively as an organisation in sharing the knowledge and material held in the WIC's archive and library through the new heritage portal, staff members' own expertise and our regular social media posts: (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1244911892000374784) (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1247441078887866369) (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1245278059827265538).

The charity also continued to publish the West India Committee Circular, first published in 1886, every quarter to keep the public up to date on the work of WIC and news of the Caribbean and its UK based diaspora, together with numerous topical articles (https://twitter.com/WI_Committee/status/1362014549516386304).

As part of Black History Month 2020, as well as publicising our own relevant material on social media, WIC worked closely with The Royal Mint, launching the new 'Diversity Built Britain' 50 pence coin with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Prime Minister, whereby the charity produced an education pack, endorsed by the Secretary of State for Education, that helped showcase black British history from pre-history to the Windrush era. These education packs together with the Diversity coin were sent to all primary schools in England and Wales, amounting to 18,099 schools (<https://www.royalmint.com/our-coins/events/diversity-coin/>). WIC also wrote the entries for an online interactive map of inspirational black Britons who have contributed significantly to the UK, that was produced by our partners, The Royal Mint (<https://westindiacommittee.org/historyheritageculture/projects/diversity-built-britain/>).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The West India Committee continued to support its Chief Executive, Mrs Cluff, in her roles: Co-opted Member of the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities specialising in education (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities-16-july-2020>) and Chair of the corresponding sub-group of the Windrush Cross-Government Working Group. These are two important initiatives set up by government to address the issues facing black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities in the UK, including those affected by the Windrush scandal. Through the auspices of Mrs Cluff's work, WIC has led on the following initiatives: the enrichment of the National Curriculum to reflect Britain's diverse communities; support for military veterans originating in the Commonwealth in their bid to remain in the UK; securing the right of the illegitimate children of fathers from the British Overseas Territories to British citizenship; the implementation of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission Report on the Windrush Scandal (2020), WIC having successfully lobbied for and advised government on a new automatic compensation payment for Windrush victims of up to £100,000 that has now seen over £35 million remitted by the Home Office to victims of the Windrush Scandal, thereby securing a positive step change in the government compensation scheme (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-55300494>); in accordance with the Windrush Lessons Learnt Review, WIC produced a booklet and gave a brief lecture to the civil service entitled: An Introduction to West Indian Identity; and undertook a feasibility study for the creation of a permanent, policy literate representative body for the UK's Caribbean community: The Caribbean Chamber of Britain. As a legacy of this work undertaken in support of the community's relations with government WIC will adopt the role of a permanent, policy literate representative body, to address issues that adversely affect the Caribbean community in the UK, which will reside under the umbrella of the West India Committee as the only Royal Charter institution whose objects address the needs of the Caribbean community supported by its world renowned primary source data, collection and library, a role the West India Committee has undertaken over many generations, generating records and other material that is key to the solutions sought today. Below is an extract from page 187 of the report written by the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities:

Case study: The Royal Mint and West India Committee - 'Diversity Built Britain'

The Royal Mint collaborated with the West India Committee in their 'Diversity Built Britain' campaign to raise awareness of the nation's diversity. Alongside the launch of a new 50p diversity coin that placed 10 million coins in circulation, The Royal Mint worked with the West India Committee to create education material for schools. The education resource packs that have now been circulated to all 18,099 primary schools in England and Wales are aimed at illuminating fascinating stories and accounts of important and inspirational Black people that have lived, worked and studied in the UK. They not only illustrate that our society has been diverse throughout our long history, but seek to create rich materials that raise educational attainment and aspirations for all. <https://www.royalmint.com/globalassets/kids/activitypacks/diversity-built-britain---black-british-history.pdf>

This year we have continued to work towards diversifying our funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks. We would like to thank the Lund Trust, the National Lottery Community Fund, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Culture Recovery Fund for their support during this challenging financial year when demand for our work has been extreme. Ultimately, the time to secure a permanent home for the charity, permitting permanent, easy public access to its services and resources that have been inscribed by UNESCO as a Memory of the World, second only to a World Heritage Site, must continue to be a goal to be pursued in the short to medium term, adding stability to the only Royal Charter institution of its kind in the UK at a time when its work on equality, inclusion and diversity together with levelling up the life chances of West Indians is in huge demand throughout the UK. The West India Committee continues to work to identify suitable locations and explore the potential to remain in its present location that once housed the West Indian Club which the charity administered from the mid-1800s. The current office in Whitehall Court is therefore not only of historic relevance to the charity, but is located in a neutral postcode that does not present barriers for vulnerable young West Indians. Moreover, it has the added advantage of being in close proximity to the government departments with which we work, enhancing our interaction with government due to the convenient logistics. As such, a permanent home in this setting and location would be preferable.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Over the past years, many of the young members of staff that have joined the West India Committee have come from long term unemployment and other challenging circumstances such as homelessness. By providing them with support, experience, education, training and employment tailored to their interests and strengths, together with a steady income, our organisation has sought to realise their professional aspirations, launching many on a successful pathway. The charity supports the development of their skills, confidence and employability by providing them with professional experiences. This has proved to be a rare approach that few of their peers, of a similar age, are experiencing elsewhere. This makes a fundamental difference to the lives and future prospects of these young individuals who include people from a wide range of communities, whilst at the same time teaching them about the Caribbean and instilling respect for and appreciation of the region and its peoples. Some remain working with us to this day, whilst others have moved on to bright futures elsewhere, having attained qualifications, including Masters degrees and professional qualifications due to the support the charity provides. To this end, the charity is unique in focusing on this often-overlooked cohort of untapped potential, propelling them into professional employment and further education that will lead them into the professions and sustainable prosperity.

To conclude, the work of the West India Committee during the 2020/2021 financial year continued to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean and the societies in which they live and work globally, through the auspices of education, training, advice, advocacy and where necessary, acting as an umbrella organisation during one of the most demanding periods the world has known for generations.

Social responsibility

The West India Committee is dedicated to ensuring our outlook in business and diplomacy is tied in with our philosophy of always being socially responsible. Ensuring people in the Caribbean and West Indians globally prosper is centrally important to the Committee, we aim to promote social cohesion in all ventures undertaken. We believe this prosperity is only achievable through education and training and we ensure that those two essential aspects of human development are incorporated into all our projects and work.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The West India Committee carries out a wide range of activities in furtherance of its charitable objectives, as explained above. Where possible we have attempted to quantify the number of direct beneficiaries, and we also believe the community-building aspects of these activities provide benefit to the wider public both in the areas where we work and beyond.

Financial review

The charity's income decreased by 30.26% to £228,350 for the financial year ending 31st March 2021 (2020: £328,076). There was a net increase in funds of £6,099 for the year (2020: increase of £99,900).

Expenditure on charitable activities had decreased to £222,251 (2020: £228,176).

The WIC's financial strategy continues to be to seek operational efficiencies to further drive down overhead costs and to increase income from existing charitable activities, as well as seeking to exploit new sources of income e.g. to support the delivery of its core objectives.

Reserve

The trustees' policy is that the balance of reserves held by WIC should be equal to between one and three months of the organization's running costs, which in monetary terms means approximately £20k to £60k based on the figures in these accounts. The trustees believe this level of reserves will provide short term financial stability and allow time to secure alternative sources of funding, in the event of a significant drop in income.

During the period reserves, which are shown as unrestricted funds in the balance sheet, rose from £130,618 to £171,758 and at the end of the period they were equivalent to approximately 8.5 months of expenditure. This shows a stable development over the last few years and is within the 1-3 month target range.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The West India Committee (WIC) was registered as a UK charity in 1969 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1904. The Royal Charter as amended by Supplemental Charters dated 12th December 1972 and 26th August 1977 and rules adopted on the 29th November 1948, together with the conventions and practices thereunder governs WIC. Under the terms of the said Royal Charter, WIC is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Directors of the Charity are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Directors of the Charity are referred to in this report as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees may also appoint any member of the Charity to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy, or to increase their number.

Organisational structure

WIC has a Board of Trustees, who meets a minimum of twice a year. Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds and share the core objective of promoting the general welfare of the peoples of the West Indies and the societies in which they live and work. Each Trustee is a Director of WIC and provides their services on a voluntary basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving the Strategic Plan of WIC, as recommended by the Chief Executive. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that WIC's resources are correctly expended in pursuit of its charitable objective. The Board of Trustees has delegated daily management of WIC to the Chief Executive.

One standing committee, namely the Finance Sub-Committee of WIC, supports the Board of Trustees. Its membership comprises the President, a Trustee and the Chief Executive.

Induction and training of new trustees

New Trustees have an informal induction with the Chief Executive, during which their role and legal responsibilities are explained.

All members of the Board of Trustees are experienced in the role of Trustee of a small charity and familiar with the Caribbean, its peoples and their needs.

Risk assessment

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

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

258545

Registered office

Suite 53
3 Whitehall Court
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2EL

Trustees

Mr P Odle
Maj. D Rankin-Hunt
Mr P Beckingham
Sir R Williams (appointed 1.7.2020)
V F Banks (appointed 1.10.2021)

West India Committee

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Narges Cyroos BSc FCA
Chartered Accountant
Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
West India Committee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West India Committee ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Narges Cyroos BSc FCA
Chartered Accountant
Sterling Partners Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisors
2nd Floor, Grove House
774-780 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M20 2DR

Date: 27 January 2022

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	228,350	-	228,350	327,428
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	648
Total		228,350	-	228,350	328,076
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Governance costs		3,600	-	3,600	3,600
Other		180,745	37,906	218,651	224,576
Total		184,345	37,906	222,251	228,176
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		44,005	(37,906)	6,099	99,900
 Transfers between funds	13	(2,865)	2,865	-	-
Net movement in funds		41,140	(35,041)	6,099	99,900
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		130,618	45,884	176,502	76,602
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		171,758	10,843	182,601	176,502

West India Committee

Balance Sheet

31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	-	-	-	1,270
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
Cash at bank		157,064	10,843	167,907	159,948
		181,064	10,843	191,907	183,948
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(9,306)	-	(9,306)	(8,716)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		171,758	10,843	182,601	175,232
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		171,758	10,843	182,601	176,502
NET ASSETS		171,758	10,843	182,601	176,502
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				171,758	130,618
Restricted funds				10,843	45,884
TOTAL FUNDS				182,601	176,502

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 January 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	180,520	279,028
Grants received	47,830	48,400
	<u>228,350</u>	<u>327,428</u>

During the year the Charity was in receipt of the grants and donations in support of the following activities:

	Core
Government of Anguilla	24,500
Lund Trust	50,000
Culture Recovery Fund	106,020
National Lottery Community Fund	47,830
	<u>228,350</u>

This year the charity has continued to work towards diversifying its funding sources, with the aim of ensuring the charity is more resilient to unforeseen or external shocks.

The Charity was in receipt of the grant, the West Indian Soldier, from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Book sales	-	648
	<u>-</u>	<u>648</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs
	£
Governance costs	3,600
Other	218,651
	<u>222,251</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,270	1,762
Other operating leases	48,000	48,000
	<u>49,270</u>	<u>49,762</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

7. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	133,750	127,000
Social security costs	10,821	10,954
Other pension costs	3,046	2,957
	<u>147,617</u>	<u>140,911</u>

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

	2021	2020
Management	1	1
Operations	2	2
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021	2020
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	279,028	48,400	327,428
Other trading activities	<u>648</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>648</u>
Total	<u>279,676</u>	<u>48,400</u>	<u>328,076</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Governance costs	3,600	-	3,600
Other	<u>195,655</u>	<u>28,921</u>	<u>224,576</u>
Total	<u>199,255</u>	<u>28,921</u>	<u>228,176</u>
NET INCOME	<u>80,421</u>	<u>19,479</u>	<u>99,900</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	50,197	26,405	76,602
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>130,618</u>	<u>45,884</u>	<u>176,502</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>5,975</u>	<u>16,846</u>	<u>22,821</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	5,132	16,419	21,551
Charge for year	<u>843</u>	<u>427</u>	<u>1,270</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>5,975</u>	<u>16,846</u>	<u>22,821</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>843</u>	<u>427</u>	<u>1,270</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Rent deposit	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Social security and other taxes	4,495	3,941
Pension creditor	611	575
Accrued expenses	<u>4,200</u>	<u>4,200</u>
	<u>9,306</u>	<u>8,716</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	48,000	48,000
Between one and five years	60,000	108,000
	<u>108,000</u>	<u>156,000</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	130,618	44,005	(2,865)	171,758
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	45,884	(37,906)	2,865	10,843
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,502</u>	<u>6,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,601</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	228,350	(184,345)	44,005
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	-	(37,906)	(37,906)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>228,350</u>	<u>(222,251)</u>	<u>6,099</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	50,197	80,421	130,618
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	26,405	19,479	45,884
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>76,602</u>	<u>99,900</u>	<u>176,502</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	279,676	(199,255)	80,421
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	48,400	(28,921)	19,479
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>328,076</u>	<u>(228,176)</u>	<u>99,900</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	50,197	124,426	(2,865)	171,758
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	26,405	(18,427)	2,865	10,843
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>76,602</u>	<u>105,999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,601</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	508,026	(383,600)	124,426
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	48,400	(66,827)	(18,427)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>556,426</u>	<u>(450,427)</u>	<u>105,999</u>

Transfers between funds

An amount of £2,865 was transferred from the general fund to restricted to cover some of the staff cost.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Charity received contributions from the Government of Anguilla during the year as stated in Note 2 (2020: £50,326). Blondell Cluff was also the representative to Government of Anguilla for UK and EU to summer 2020.

15. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REMUNERATION

The independent examiner remuneration for the year was £3,600 (2020: £3,600).

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The trustees consider the board of trustees together with Mrs Blondel Cluff its key management personnel.

Salaries for the key management personnel in the year was £63,500 (2020: £60,000).

West India Committee

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	180,520	279,028
Grants received	47,830	48,400
	228,350	327,428
Other trading activities		
Book sales	-	648
Total incoming resources	228,350	328,076
 EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	133,750	127,000
Social security	10,821	10,954
Pensions	3,046	2,957
Other operating leases	48,000	48,000
Insurance	307	304
Light and heat	561	791
Telephone	2,829	6,558
Postage and stationery	6	1,472
Business rates	2,509	2,470
Office expenses	1,022	3,833
Accountancy and legal	5,568	6,908
Subscription	844	3,624
Computer services	7,520	4,461
Professional expenses	3,042	-
Printing and advertising	740	3,819
Travel and subsistence	228	2,501
Books & Research	40	427
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,270	1,762
Bank Charges	148	335
	222,251	228,176
 Total resources expended		
	222,251	228,176
 Net income		
	6,099	99,900