

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

**ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
5 APRIL 2025**

**The MGroup Partnership
Chartered Certified Accountants
C9 Gylme Court, Oxford Office Village
Langford Lane
Kidlington, Oxford
OX5 1LQ**

Charity Number: 259638

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

**ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

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THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

CHARITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

TRUSTEES

Mrs J E Warnick
Mrs K Willis
J S S Bosley

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

20 Mill Street
Shipston-on-Stour
Warwickshire
CV36 4AW

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

259638

ACCOUNTANTS

The MGroup Partnership
Chartered Certified Accountants
C9 Glyme Court
Oxford Office Village
Langford Lane
Kidlington
Oxford
OX5 1LQ

BANKERS

HSBC
13 Chapel Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6ET

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Harris Allday
33 Great Charles Street
Birmingham
B3 3JN

LGT Wealth Management Limited
14 Cornhill
London
EC3V 3NR

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 8 to 10 and comply with the charity's trust deed and applicable law.

CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTS

The Charity of Stella Symons is constituted under a Trust Deed dated 1 February 1968 and is a registered charity (number 259638). The Trust Deed gives the trustees the power to apply the annual income of the trust upon such charitable trusts and for such charitable purposes as they shall in their uncontrolled discretion determine.

The objects of the charity continued to be that of providing financial support to a wide range of charitable organisations providing benefits for the public in the United Kingdom and overseas. The support may take the form of a loan but more usually is made as a donation.

The trustees have a policy of only making contributions where they believe that a public benefit will be derived from the use of the funds made available.

The trustees currently have a policy of supporting organisations in a wide geographic area including those active in the United Kingdom and overseas and cover a wide range of activities including those living in poverty.

We have referred to the guidance contained on the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ORGANISATION

The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 1.

All decisions are made by the trustees.

New trustees are appointed by agreement between the existing trustees.

TRUSTEE INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Trustees are given information regarding the financial state of the trust including expected income and expenditure for the forthcoming year. Trustees have access to financial information at all times.

The charity is a member of the West Midlands Charitable Trust Group and copies of the Charity Commission Newsletter are made available for trustees. New trustees, when appointed, will undergo an induction process to make them aware of their duties and responsibilities as trustees and of the specific objects and operating procedures of this trust.

GRANT MAKING POLICY

The trustees respond to applications for grants where a grant is to be made and in the main will only support organisations registered as charities with the Charity Commission. If this is not the case the trustees will only offer support where they are confident that the funds are to be used for public benefit.

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The charity has distributed the income arising from its investments in each year and a record of distributions is kept and included in the annual accounts for the charity. The trustees believe that the charity provides a valuable and much needed and appreciated source of funding for the organisations it supports.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND INVESTMENT POLICY

The activities of the trust included receiving income during the year from both investments and bank interest receivable of £78,926 (2024 - £83,507), which were the only sources of income. The charitable distributions during the year amounted to £66,614 (2024 - £77,050), which were to various charities upon receipt of applications as set out in the objectives.

The total funds of the trust decreased to an aggregate of £2,044,139 as at 5 April 2025 (2024 - £2,094,528), due to a decrease in the market value of investments held.

The investment strategy is set by the trustees.

Investment performance is monitored by the trustees through monthly valuations and annual investment reports provided by the fund managers, Harris Allday and LGT Wealth Management. (Day-to-day management is carried out by Harris Allday and LGT Wealth Management). The Trustees operate an investment policy which is updated periodically.

FUTURE PLANS

The future plans for the trust are to distribute income realised during each year in excess of costs in accordance with the distribution policies which are reviewed periodically.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity.

The trustees oversee the level of income reserves held and consider whether they are sufficient in order that the charity meets its needs effectively.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

J S S Bosley
Trustee

Date:- 30 August 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 5 April 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



CHRIS DENTON
THE MGROUPE PARTNERSHIP
CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS
C9 GLYME COURT, OXFORD OFFICE VILLAGE
LANGFORD LANE, KIDLINGTON
OXFORD, OX5 1LQ

Date:- 30 August 2025

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
INCOME			
Investment income	3	78,926	83,507
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities:			
Grants payable	4	66,614	77,050
Governance costs	5	19,294	18,503
Total expenditure		85,908	95,553
Net loss on sale of investments		(167,573)	(11,383)
NET DEFICIT		(174,555)	(23,429)
Gain on revaluation of investments	6	124,166	21,280
Net movement in funds		(50,389)	(2,149)
Total funds brought forward	10	2,094,528	2,096,677
Total funds carried forward	10	2,044,139	2,094,528

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5 APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	6	1,931,952	1,951,070
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	40,002	84,289
Cash at bank and in hand		75,702	62,289
		<u>115,704</u>	<u>146,578</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	3,517	3,120
		<u>112,187</u>	<u>143,458</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>2,044,139</u>	<u>2,094,528</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>2,044,139</u>	<u>2,094,528</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds	10	<u>2,044,139</u>	<u>2,094,528</u>

J S S Bosley
Trustee

Dated:- 30 August 2025

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Charity of Stella Symons is a registered charity and is a public benefit entity. Its principal office is:

20 Mill Street
Shipston-on-Stour
Warwickshire
CV36 4AW

The financial statements are presented in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The accounts have been prepared under the receipts and payments principles. The items have been recognised at their cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Investment income

Dividends are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are declared at an amount excluding the tax recoverable from HM Revenue and Customs.

Bank interest is included within investment income when the charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure

Expenditure is included on a receipts and payments basis.

Grants payable are recognised upon date of payment.

Management and administration comprises costs for the running of the charity itself as an organisation.

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued...)

Financial Instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in non-puttable ordinary shares.

Financial assets are measured at cost and are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. Where objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the profit and loss account.

The impairment loss for financial assets measured at cost is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the best estimate, which is an approximation, of the amount that the company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is an enforceable right to set off the recognised amount and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date non-financial assets not carried at fair value, like goodwill and plant, property and equipment, are reviewed to determine whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any asset or group of related assets (which is the higher of value in use and the fair value less cost to sell) is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If the recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

If an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset, or group of related assets, is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not to exceed the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset, or group of related assets, in prior periods. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

Fixed asset investments

Stocks and shares quoted on the London Stock Exchange have been revalued in the balance sheet at market value. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities. No unquoted investments are held.

All investments are held primarily to provide an investment return for the charity.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued...)

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

Creditors

Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and subsequently at amortised cost.

VAT

As the charity is not registered for Value Added Tax, all costs are VAT inclusive.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the company has a legal or constructive obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the company will be required to settle the obligation and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated.

Provisions are recognised at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Fund accounting

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

3 INVESTMENT INCOME	2025	2024
	£	£
Dividends and interest on listed investments	35,845	35,430
Overseas unit trust income	37,869	47,040
Interest on cash deposits	1,297	1,037
Sundry income	3,915	-
Total investment income (unrestricted)	78,926	83,507

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

4 GRANTS PAYABLE	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants payable	66,614	77,050
The charity provides donations to a wide range of institutions, shown on pages 13 to 14.		
5 GOVERNANCE COSTS	2025	2024
	£	£
Accountancy fees - examining the accounts	500	500
Accountancy fees - other	3,400	3,280
Management fees	14,811	14,239
Bank charges	393	181
Printing, postage and stationery	-	113
Subscriptions	190	190
	19,294	18,503
6 INVESTMENTS	2025	2024
	£	£
Market value at 6 April 2024	1,951,070	2,005,587
Additions to investments at cost	612,689	270,322
Disposals at carrying value	(755,973)	(346,119)
Net gain in the year on revaluation	124,166	21,280
Market value at 5 April 2025	1,931,952	1,951,070
Investments at market value comprised:		
UK equities	1,207,983	1,385,006
Non UK equities	359,493	331,728
UK fixed interest securities	364,476	288,853
	1,931,952	2,005,587
Historical cost	1,977,363	2,120,647

All investments are listed securities and are shown at market value.

Investments in individual entities held at 5 April 2025 which are over 5% of the portfolio by value are:

VOLARE (Offshore) Income Fund - market value £672,108 (2024 - £700,123)

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

7 STAFF COSTS

During the year the charity had no employment related expenditure and the trustees were not reimbursed for any expenses.

8 DEBTORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	40,002	84,289

Included within 'Other debtors' are loans to Shipston Sports Clubs totalling £12,500 (2024: £17,500). All loans have been measured initially at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost. 'Other debtors' also includes the cash held in accounts managed by the investment managers totalling £27,502 (2024: £66,789).

9 CREDITORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,517	3,120

10 SUMMARY OF FUNDS MOVEMENTS

	Fund balance brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other recognised losses £	Fund balance carried forward £
Unrestricted funds	2,094,528	78,926	(85,908)	(43,407)	2,044,139

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	£
St. Edmunds Church	300
Abbotshall Healthy Lifestyle Centre	300
Big Give Bees for Monmouth	550
Big Give Fareshare London	550
Big Give Surfers Against Sewage	550
Big Give Tusk Trust	550
Big Give LEWA Wild	550
Big Give The Turing Trust	550
Big Give Chipembebe Trust	550
Big Give TEMWA UK	550
Big Give Renewable Brighton	550
Big Give Sophia AK	479
MOVE Charity	300
St.Edmonds Church	300
Halford Village Hall	500
Shipston Town Council re Sensory Garden	500
Enthuse/RABI	248
Global Giving/ Spanish Red Cross	250
Givewheel London	275
Trussell Trust	1,000
St Wilfrid's Hospice	500
The Felix Trust	1,075
City Harvest	538
Surfers Against Sewage	538
The Brain Tumour Charity	538
Fareshare Bristol	538
The Tusk Trust	538
The Ghurka Trust	538
Sumatran Orangutan Organisation	538
The Africa Trust	538
AMREF	538
Dreams Come True	538
Village Water	538
Children on the Edge	538
Toynbee Hall	538
Dementia Support Chichester	1,075
Children on the Edge	538
The Theatre Chipping Norton	538
Friends of the Earth	538
Smile Train	500
Freedom from Torture	538
Tall Ships Youth Trust	1,075
Prison Ad	538
Build It International	538
Katharine House Hospice	538
MSUK	538
Changing Faces	538
David Shepherd Wildlife Trust	538
Global Care	538
Care International	538
Kids Club Kampala	538
Project Luangwa	538

THE CHARITY OF STELLA SYMONS

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	£
EMMAUS UK	538
Maggies Centre	538
Refugee Council	538
River Action	538
North Cotswold Community	500
Tall Ships Youth Trust	10,000
Humpris re Beds4Badger Group	1,000
Shelter UK	250
Hearing Dogs for the Deaf	250
Stop the Traffik	250
Mary's Meals	506
BBC Charity Appeal	250
Fareshare UK	250
Support TCT	500
Just Giving British Eventing	281
Enthuse	538
Enthuse	281
Cobnor Activity Centre	1,000
Home Start South Warwickshire	3,000
Give as you Live	800
Just Giving British Eventing	731
Steps Charity worldwide	800
Twins Trust	800
Coventry & Warwickshire	800
Lowlands Farm Trust RDA	1,000
Refuge	900
Farming Community Network	800
Hearing Dogs for the Deaf	550
St Mungo's	550
Chipping Norton Theatre	365
Myron Hospice	800
David Shepherd Wildlife Trust	500
GD MND Association	500
Army benevolent Fund	500
Dementia Trust	500
Institute for Cancer Research	1,000
Freshfields Rescue Liverpool	250
RBLI	500
Caring for Life	250
Sight Research UK	523
RNID	500
Water Harvest	500
AR UK	500
Bowel Cancer UK	500
Donation via CAF 03000123000	500
Hopefull	500
War Child	250
The Isla	550
Bristol Chil	250
TOTAL	66,614