

MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Registered Charity No 261801

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31 December 2023

MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Malmesbury League of Friends is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners (Number 261801).

The Governing Instrument is the present Constitution, which complies with the requirements of the Charity Commissioners and was adopted on 17 May 2007.

The registered address is that of the Treasurer: Mrs Dawn Halsey, The Coach House, Foxley Road, Malmesbury SN16 0JQ.

The charity trustees during the year to 31 December 2023 were as follows:

Mr D Hide	Chairman	Re-elected 3 May 2022
Ms H Webb	Vice Chair	Elected 9 May 2023
Mr D Hide	Hon Secretary	Elected 3 May 2022
Mrs D Halsey	Hon Treasurer	Elected 9 May 2023
Mr D Rutherford	Hon Treasurer	Resigned 9 May 2023
Mrs S La Fontaine	Minutes Secretary	Re-elected 3 May 2022
Mr K Maslin	Applications Co-Ordinator	Re-elected 3 May 2022
Mrs P Jones	Trustee	Elected 12 July 2022
Mrs A Lewis	Trustee	Re-elected 9 May 2023
Mr H Walmsley	Trustee	Resigned 9 May 2023
Mr P Hewson	Trustee	Resigned 11 July 2023
Mrs Claire Jordan	Trustee	Elected 9 May 2023
Mr Charles Gould	Trustee	Elected 7 November 2023
Mrs Eve Miller	Trustee	Elected 9 May 2023

The object of the charity is to relieve patients and former patients of local hospitals, care homes, care centres, other welfare agencies, societies and other residents in the community who are sick, convalescent, disabled, infirm or in need of financial assistance. New trustees are appointed on a renewable term of three years.

The trustees' policy is generally to make grants to the NHS Trusts for the provision of extra comforts, initiatives and extra facilities for use in the local area by patients served by the above agencies. The charity's income is made up of members' subscriptions, donations, legacies and interest from investments. Major fundraising has only ever been undertaken, in the past, for large building projects.

Finances

Accounts for this year have been prepared in the usual format. Income, in the main, has been from investments. A list of donations is attached to this report.

MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT. JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

This has been a year of consolidation and steady progress for the Malmesbury League of Friends (MLOF). We were able to hold our six bi-monthly meetings in our usual meeting place, the top floor of the MPCC, for which we are very grateful. We made donations totalling over £67,000 during the year, a full list of which is in the Treasurer's report.

Investment Portfolio

The MLOF Investment Portfolio enables us to make donations to a range of organisations and needy individuals. It is absolutely key to achieving our objectives. Under David Rutherford's outstanding stewardship, it provided a steady and healthy return.

On his retirement at the AGM in May, Dawn Halsey was elected his successor. She and the chairman both felt that, with assets over £1.5 million, this should be under professional fund management. Indeed, it is a requirement of the Charities Commission. Accordingly, in July, we interviewed two highly regarded and successful fund management companies: Quilter Cheviot and Charles Stanley. After a very thorough review of their proposals, Charles Stanley was appointed.

Their Investment Manager, Shelley James, presented her proposals at our September meeting, which were unanimously accepted. For the remainder of the year, and into 2024, the MLOF portfolio has been steadily transferred into CS' care. We are confident that this will enable us to continue making much needed and valued donations.

Trustees

At the AGM in May, David Rutherford retired as our long standing treasurer after many years outstanding service and was succeeded by Dawn Halsey. I pay tribute to him and also to Dawn for her work in making the transition of the portfolio to Charles Stanley so seamless.

During the year, Paul Hewson resigned, and Claire Jordan, Eve Miller and Chas Gould were elected, all of whom are very welcome and are making a valued contribution to the team. Eve Miller was particularly welcome to represent the Tolsey Surgery in Sherston

MPCC/Athelstan House/Tolsey, Sherston

We continue to enjoy excellent relations with the Malmesbury Primary Care Centre (MPCC), Athelstan House (AH), and the Tolsey surgery in Sherston, all of which we have supported during the year. Donations for items of medical equipment to the MPCC totalled over £5,300, £4,300 to AH and £1,500 to the Tolsey surgery.

The MPCC Practice Manager, Charlotte Gorman, has been hugely helpful in enabling us to hold our meetings in their conference room. The new manager at AH, Dean Palfrey, approached us during the year for support in developing their Heart of the Home project, which is ongoing.

Plans for a new surgery in Sherston, which MLOF would support, continue, but progress is glacial.

Defibrillators

During the year, we funded, at £1,500 each, four more defibrillators:

- Milbourne
- Garsdon
- Malmesbury Tennis Club
- Hilditch – 50% funding: £750
- Alvan Blanch – 50% funding - £750

This brings the total number in the local area paid, or partly paid, by MLOF, to 25. Further installations are planned for four more in Malmesbury itself during 2024, working with local expert Ray Sanderson.

Dorothy House

We continue to enjoy close relations with Dorothy House Hospice Care (DH) in Winsley, near Bradford-on-Avon. DH launched a major £500,000 Always Here fund raising campaign in November 2023, which was hugely successful. MLOF contributed to this with a donation of £30,000. As a result, the chairman and vice chair were invited to a major event in September attended by the Princess Royal, to whom the chairman was presented.

Wiltshire Air Ambulance (WAA)

In 2023, we donated a further £10,000 to WAA, which will be formally handed over early in 2024.

Brighter Futures – GWH, Swindon

We continue to maintain close contact with Brighter Futures, the fund-raising arm of Great Western Hospital (GWH) in Swindon. During the year, we donated £10,000 towards a mobile X-Ray machine for use in their new Emergency Department. Our long-standing contact there, Jane Leighton, departed and has been succeeded by Tina Outlaw.

Local organisations

We continue to support local organisations in need and, during the year, we have helped the following, among others (see full list of donations):

- Cartmell Minibus - £6,000
- Town Hall Cinema Projector - £5,000
- Doorway, Chippenham - £3,240
- HEALS – Summer Activity - £1,000 & Christmas Appeal £1,000
- Jackdaw community magazine- £750
- Stay Safe Initiative - £ 365

Needy Individuals

We remain committed to helping needy individuals and, during the year we helped:

- A Malmesbury resident – repairs to her car to enable her to start work at GWH as a mental health nurse

Malmesbury Area Community Trust (MACT)

MACT is another, well endowed, local charity with whom we continue to work closely. During the year, we shared requests from the Stay Safe Initiative & the Digital Empowment Programme for Malmesbury Senior & Primary Schools.

Publicity/Communications

I continue to believe that we should maintain a strong local profile. We always publicise our donations, subject to individual circumstances, on social media, local press and radio. Through the excellent work by Keith Maslin, we have ensured that the local community, via social media, are aware of the important work we undertake.

Conclusion

All the donations made during the year have only been possible from the income derived from a substantial investment portfolio. This is largely due to the magnificent efforts of our long standing treasurer, David Rutherford who, as I have already mentioned, retired at the AGM. I pay tribute to him for his tireless work over very many years. His successor, Dawn Halsey, has already undertaken a huge workload with the transfer of the fund to Charles Stanley & is doing a fantastic job.

Finally, I thank all our trustees for their support, advice and time, which is much appreciated.

David Hide, Chairman – May 2024

MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS NO 261801

Statement of Account for the Year Ending 31 December 2023

<u>Receipts</u>	£	£	<u>Payments</u>	£	£
Subscriptions	225.00		ATTEND Subs	690.00	
Sale of units	50,000.00		Examiner	142.58	
Donations	500.00		Stationery	44.69	
Legacy	69.00		Retirement Gift	53.98	
Interest	<u>48,669.01</u>	99,463.01	AGM Buffet	200.00	
			Malmesbury TC	27.00	
			Trustee Expenses	269.46	
			Website Maint.	<u>16.78</u>	1,444.49
			<u>Donations</u>		
			See Attached List		67,397.53
Add Lloyds Bank as at			Add Lloyds Bank as at		
31 December 2022		23,107.64	31 December 2023		53,728.63
Total		<u>122,570.65</u>			<u>122,570.65</u>

Asset Valuation as at 31 December 2023

COIF Investment Fund	1,196,848.40
Schroders Multi Asset Fund	227,022.85
M&G Optimal Income Fund	<u>62,902.10</u>
	<u>1,486,773.35</u>

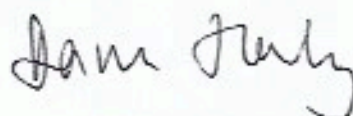
Total Assets as at 31 December 2023

Lloyds Bank	53,728.63
Investments	1,486,773.35
	<u>1,540,501.98</u>

Examined and found correct with books and vouchers produced



T Brown
Independent Examiner
Date 01/05/2024



D Halsey
Hon Treasurer
Date 1/5/24

Malmesbury League of Friends No 261801

Purchases and Donations 2023

Athelstan House

Healthcare Equipment	<u>4,320.00</u>	4,320.00
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Malmesbury Primary Care Centre

Malmesbury Medical	1,512.06	
Malmesbury Medical	1,551.60	
Malmesbury Medical (vaccine fridge)	<u>2,299.18</u>	5,362.84

Tolsey Surgery

Medical Equipment	<u>1,525.50</u>	1,525.50
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Donations

Auto Diagnostics	554.69	
Jackdaw Club	750.00	
Carer Support Wiltshire	1,500.00	
Stay Safe Initiative	365.00	
Alvan Blanch (Defib)	750.00	
Wiltshire Mind	5,000.00	
So4Bed	417.00	
Young Carers	5,000.00	
Malmesbury Tennis Club (Defib)	1,500.00	
Julia's House Hospice	10,000.00	
HEALS	1,000.00	
Projector Appeal	5,000.00	
HEALS	1,000.00	
Hilditch (Defib)	750.00	
Cartmell Minibus	6,000.00	
St Paul's (Defib)	1,500.00	
Lea & Garsdon (Defib)	1,500.00	
Wiltshire Air Ambulance	10,000.00	
Stay Safe Initiative (2)	362.50	
Doorway Wiltshire	<u>3,240.00</u>	<u>56,189.19</u>

<u>Total</u>		<u>67,397.53</u>
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Report on the Accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 4 and 5.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts: You consider that the Audit requirement of Section 43 (2) of the Charity Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply.

It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General directions by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43 (7) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissions. Examination includes a review of 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 seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

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 41 of the Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act, have not been met.
2. Which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn, in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.