

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Hilary Sabine
Paul Sabine
Bianca Smith
Paul Smith
Rev Andrew Thomas Burns

Charity number

272318

Independent examiner

Andrew Nicholson FFA FIPA ATT(Fellow) FFTA
Alexander James & Co Limited
Upper Deck
Admiral Quarters
Thames Ditton
Surrey
KT7 0XA

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

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WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document which is a declaration of trust dated 01/10/1976 as finally amended by deed dated 17/03/2012, the Charities Act 2011 and "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

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity provides public benefit by organising education, advice, guidance and discussions for married couples and couples preparing for marriage. This is in order that they may have a proper understanding of the rights, duties and responsibilities of a Christian married life in accordance with the Roman Catholic tradition as laid down by Canon Law. The Charity also provides the aforementioned for priests and members of religious orders who wish to increase their knowledge and development of their relational skills with their parishioners or in their community.

Trustees Review

This financial year has continued to suffer from the impact of the lockdowns, although to a lesser extent. Some of the community still seems hesitant to participate in in-person gatherings.

We have changed to Eventbrite for our booking system. The PayPal system that was integrated with our websites was proving to be unreliable and time-consuming.

The year did not start well for Marriage Encounter as we had to cancel our July Non-Residential and September Online experiences. However, they have been successful since October 2022 with two Residential weekends, one Online and one Non-Residential going ahead. We had twenty-four couples attending the various experiences. This is an improvement on last year.

Engaged Encounter saw all its experiences going ahead – there were four Non-Residential and three Online experiences – with seventy-one couples attending. Again, this is an improvement on last year. The Online format continues to be the preferred option with forty-nine of the couples attending those.

We held the "Believing" Formation weekend in November 2022 which was offered and open to the community. Eighteen couples and one priest attended.

We held a Team Weekend in January 2023 with thirteen couples and three priests attending. Various Team couples have stepped down or stepped back from presenting so our Team is not as robust as we would want.

The Trustees continue to monitor all policies that affect the charity, and these are updated as necessary.

The charity continues to benefit from the generosity of ongoing regular donors by way of monthly standing orders and this represents the core funding. Apart from one National Board being Residential the other six were held via Zoom. This reflects our continued commitment to keep our overhead costs to a minimum.

The charity is planning a convention for the community to be held in May/June 2024 as a belated 50th anniversary celebration. This celebration is alongside the European Council that is being held in England & Wales in May 2024.

Financial review and 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.

The Trustees have reviewed all the protocols covering a range of risks, including General Data Protection Regulation, fund raising methods, and Child Protection Policy (covering those few situations when children are present at events organised by the Charity) and consider them adequate.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The Trustees believe the Charity continues to be financially sound to meet the foreseeable commitments in offering the experiences.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Hilary Sabine

Paul Sabine

Susan Stubbings

(Resigned 10 August 2023)

Mark Stubbings

(Resigned 10 August 2023)

Bianca Smith

Paul Smith

Rev Andrew Thomas Burns

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Other Officers

NATIONAL RESOURCE GROUP

Database Couple

Mark & Sue Stubbings

Communication Couple

Russ & Deirdre Fairman

Joint Community Co-ordinating Couple

Russ & Deirdre Fairman

Paul & Marie Kennedy

Finance Couple

Paul & Hilary Sabine

ME Team Co-ordinating Couple

Phil & Rita Jackson

EE Team Co-ordinating Couple

Gregory & Fabienne Fauvarque

Weekend Team Scheduling Couple

Neill & Nuala Dutton

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Bianca Smith

Trustee

20 April 2024

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Worldwide Marriage Encounter England and Wales (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable 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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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 financial statements to be reached.

Andrew Nicholson FFA FIPA ATT(Fellow) FFTA

Alexander James & Co Limited
Upper Deck
Admiral Quarters
Thames Ditton
Surrey
KT7 0XA

Dated: 20 April 2024

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	2	33,509	31,070
Other trading activities	3	4,965	3,288
Investments	4	333	9
Total income		<u>38,807</u>	<u>34,367</u>
Charitable activities	5	34,080	24,768
Net income and movement in funds		<u>4,727</u>	<u>9,599</u>
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 July 2022		98,339	88,740
Fund balances at 30 June 2023		<u><u>103,066</u></u>	<u><u>98,339</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Current assets					
Debtors	11	4,964		3,288	
Cash at bank and in hand		101,007		99,057	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		105,971		102,345	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	2,905		4,006	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net current assets			103,066		98,339
			<hr/>		<hr/>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			103,066		98,339
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			103,066		98,339
			<hr/>		<hr/>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20 April 2024

Hilary Sabine
Trustee

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations			1,617		3,668
Investing activities					
Investment income received		333		9	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net cash generated from investing activities			333		9
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			1,950		3,677
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			99,057		95,380
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			101,007		99,057
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document which is a declaration of trust dated 01/10/1976 as finally amended by deed dated 17/03/2012, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going concern

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.5 Expenditure

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.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets in the year of purchase.

1.7 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1.8 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.

1.9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Donations and gifts	33,509	31,070

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Tax recovered	4,965	3,288

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Deposit account interest	333	9

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Encounter Weekends 2023 £	European Council 2023 £	National Board Meetings 2023 £	Team training 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs					
Charitable expenditure	18,064	3,957	1,710	4,614	28,345
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)					
Governance	5,735	-	-	-	5,735
	23,799	3,957	1,710	4,614	34,080
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds	23,799	3,957	1,710	4,614	34,080

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

5 Expenditure on charitable activities (Continued)

Previous year:	Encounter Weekends	European Council	National Board Meetings	Team training	Total
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs					
Charitable expenditure	8,681	1,597	3,908	5,041	19,227
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)					
Governance	5,541	-	-	-	5,541
	14,222	1,597	3,908	5,041	24,768
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds	14,222	1,597	3,908	5,041	24,768

6 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Governance costs	5,735	5,541
Analysed between:		
Encounter Weekends	5,735	5,541

The Trustees believe that the governance costs predominantly underpin the running of the weekends and therefore should be allocated wholly to that category of charitable expenditure.

7 Net movement in funds	2023	2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	1,300	700

8 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	£
Cost	
At 1 July 2022	6,021
At 30 June 2023	6,021
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 July 2022	6,021
At 30 June 2023	6,021
Carrying amount	

11 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	4,964	3,288

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	340	2,875
Other creditors	2,565	1,131
	2,905	4,006

13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 July 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 30 June 2023 £
General funds	98,339	38,807	(34,080)	103,066
Previous year:	At 1 July 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 30 June 2022 £
General funds	88,740	34,367	(24,768)	98,339