

BENLIAN TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED: 29 JUNE 2024
CHARITY NUMBER: 277253

THE BENLIAN TRUST
OFFICERS AND ADVISERS

Governing Document:	Trust Deed
Charity Registration No.:	277253
Principal Address:	PO Box 7340 London W1A 3XE
Trustees:	Ms. V Gulbenkian Ms. A Selian Matian Mrs. S Simons (Chairperson) Ms. R Vartoukian
Administrator:	Ms. M Ovanessoff
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Financial Advisor:	Westminster Wealth Management 167 Fleet Street London EC4A 2EA
Investment Manager:	JM Finn & Co. Ltd 25 Copthall Avenue London EC2R 7AH
Independent Examiner:	H Hampartsoumain BA,FCA Hovnan & Co Ltd Chartered Accountants 106 Ashurst Road Cockfosters Barnet EN4 9LG

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 29 June 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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

a. Objectives and Activities

The objects of The Benlian Trust are as follows:-

1. To apply the Income of 3/5ths of the Trust Fund towards the education costs in England of sons and daughters of Armenian fathers obtaining higher education.
2. To apply the income of 1/5th of the Trust Fund (1/4th as amended in item 3 below) for such educational or other charitable purposes connected with the cultural life of the London Community of Armenians including the maintenance and support of Armenian House.
3. To apply the income of 1/10th of the Trust Fund for the furtherance of medical research and the provision of amenities for nurses at the Westminster Hospital and Middlesex Hospital in equal shares. The Trustees have been advised by the Charity Commissioners that the charity's purposes in respect of the Westminster Hospital have failed due to the hospital having been incorporated into another group. Accordingly, the income of the Trust Fund normally allocated for this purpose is to be allocated for educational or other charitable purposes connected with the cultural life of the London Community of Armenians in accordance with the Trust Deed. Consequently, only 1/20th of the income of the Trust Fund is applied to Middlesex Hospital.
4. To apply the income of 1/10th of the Trust Fund to the Armenian Hospital in Istanbul and L'Ecole Mixte Armeniennes, Tebrotssasseres, in France in equal shares.

In furtherance of the Trust's objects the Trustees offer scholarship grants to Armenians studying in England, and grants to organisations and institutions to promote specific educational, cultural and charitable activities connected with the cultural life of the London Community of Armenians.

b. Public Benefit

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Achievements and Performance

Since 2023, all income is generated from professionally managed investments (having previously been largely from commercial rental income). The main Benlian portfolio generated income worth £138,165 (2023: £29,930). £115,569 of this consisted of deposit interest, most of which was generated from the proceeds of the sale of the property. Acting on financial advice, the proceeds of the sale had been

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held in a short-term UK Treasury Bond and then as cash, in anticipation of a less volatile market before buying securities to reflect the risk profile set out in the Trust's new Investment Policy. The Trustees granted £4,000 (2023: £8,500) towards the tuition fees or living expenses of 2 (2023: 3) students studying at various universities in England, and a further £20,900 (2023: £15,500) towards the cost of 7 (2023: 4) Armenian cultural and educational activities in London.

With the uncertainty surrounding the wholesale change in the source of income generation, at the start of the year, the Trustees took a prudent stance with regard to the grants destined for the regular beneficiaries specified in Mr. Benlian's Will, namely: The Middlesex Hospital (now UCH Charities), Surp Pirgic Armenian Hospital in Istanbul and L'Ecole Mixte Armenienne Tebrotzassere, in Paris. These beneficiaries were each awarded grants of £2,500 (2023: nil). Finally, four grants amounting to £400 in total (2023: £400 total) were made to various charities as detailed in note 5.4.

A second asset portfolio was set up to receive an advance of £1 million from the Estate of the late Mrs. Nora Diratzouian, to be known as the Nora Diratzouian Family Fund (or NDF Fund). Beneficiaries of this Fund must be Armenians studying in England, who were born in the UK. The country of birth criterion requires the funds from this legacy to be maintained as a separate asset portfolio. Once the full bequest has been received and the Trustees have gained experience of the new approach to investments described below, they may re-assess whether it remains necessary to maintain the funds in a distinct portfolio. The advance was received on 18th January 2024 and generated income worth £12,552. A portion of this income was transferred to the main Benlian Trust as a pro rata reimbursement for operating costs. Scholarship grants from the NDF Fund will be awarded to eligible beneficiaries from the academic year 2024-25 onwards.

Financial Review

a. Investment Policy and Performance

The Trustees have wide powers to invest the monies of the Charity as they think fit. As at 29 June 2024, the assets consisted of 2 portfolios of securities professionally managed by JM Finn & Co.

During the period, the Trustees appointed an independent financial adviser: Howard Sheard of Westminster Wealth Management. The financial adviser has been working with the investment managers, JM Finn & Co. to provide the Trustees with ongoing guidance on how best to invest the Charity's funds to produce the desired level of income and capital growth. The Trust now has a formal Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and a set of Unapplied Total Return (UTR) Policy & Spending Rules. Both documents were drafted as part of the formal adoption of a Total Return Investment Policy. They will be reviewed regularly and updated whenever necessary.

A separate IPS and UTR Spending Rules were also drafted for the NDF Fund.

Following the Trust's Resolution of 15.12.23, the investment strategy is a total return approach to the investment of the permanent endowment sub-Funds collectively held under the Benlian Trust. The subsequent Resolution of 07.02.24 extends this decision to encompass the new NDF Fund, also a permanent endowment. In accordance with these Resolutions, the Trustees confirm that:

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- i. in identifying the value of the portion of the permanent endowment that represented unapplied total return, the Trustees first identified the value of the initial founding gift in 1974. The subsequent gift representing the NDF Fund was received during the year (on 18.01.24) and therefore had zero UTR at the start of the period;
 - ii. when determining the amount of UTR to transfer to income, the Trustees have considered the amount of income required to maintain the current level of charitable activity, the likely benefits to, and needs of, future generations of beneficiaries; and
 - iii. when reaching their decision as to the UTR to transfer to income, the Trustees have taken professional advice from their financial advisors regarding the market outlook, investment trends and yield and the prospect for future capital growth.
- The Trust's investment managers (JM Finn & Co.) are instructed to invest to maximise the total return on permanent endowment funds within the constraints of a medium risk investment portfolio. The expendable endowment (part of the initial founding gift) is treated in the same way as the permanent endowment.

Investments are included at market value at the Balance Sheet date.
Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

b. Reserves Policy

As per Section 4.3 of the Benlian IPS, to allow for volatility of capital values, the Trustees will hold reserves of roughly the equivalent of 1 year's usual payments (2025) plus £20,000 for running costs. An initial reserve amount of £120,000 will be held on deposit, with no longer than 60 days' notice. Reserves should be adjusted where +/- 25% or according to Trustees' discretion.

A key point taken into consideration when determining the Reserves Policy is that, when awarding grants from the Scholarship Fund, the award is usually renewed for each year of the degree course. The Trustees feel that it is important to follow through on the entire degree course for each beneficiary because if a student were not able to graduate due to the discontinuation of the Charity's grant, all previous grants awarded to the beneficiary would be wasted. However, the Trustees retain the right to withdraw funding at any time from any beneficiary found to be in breach of their signed declaration at the end of their application or renewal forms.

c. Risk Review

The Trustees have identified and assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular, those related to the operations and finances of the Charity.

At the start of the financial period, the Trustees confirmed their intention not to award any new scholarship grants for the academic year 2023-24. This was due to the switch to a new source of income generation (from mainly commercial rental income to income generated entirely by investments) combined with the uncertainty of continued market volatility.

Investment risks were mitigated by engaging a financial advisor to work with the Trustees and the investment management firm to ensure an optimal outcome for the Trust's finances.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

Going Concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Future Plans

The Trust intends to continue its central policy of distributing income received, where appropriate, income realised from capital growth, to eligible beneficiaries in the form of grants in accordance with the Trust Deed. The amount of funds distributed in any given year will be governed by the Investment Policy Statements and Spending Rules, which will be kept under review.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a Trust Deed created by the will of the late Mr. Edward Ezepe Benlian. The Trust is an unincorporated association administered by four Trustees and one administrator, named on the Officers and Advisers page.

Responsibilities of Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and 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 applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

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.

Connected Charities

The Trustees consider The Mihran & Azniv Essefian Charitable Trust (registration no. 275074) as a connected charity in that it has the same Trustees and administrator. There were no reimbursement transactions with the M&A Essefian Trust during the period.

Approved by the Trustees on 5.4.25

and signed on behalf of the Board.



S L Simons
Chairperson

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Benlian Trust for the year ended 29 June 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 seeking explanations from the 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 accounts to be reached.



H Hampartsoumian BA, FCA
Hovnan & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
106 Ashurst Road, Cockfosters, Barnet, Herts. EN4 9LG

Date: 5 April 2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

	Notes	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income:							
Legacy income	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income	2	34,541	116,176	150,717	29,930	1,000,000	1,000,000
Other income		-	-	-	13,219	-	29,930
Total income		34,541	116,176	150,717	43,149	1,000,000	1,043,149
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	-	42,187	42,187	46,608	-	46,608
Charitable activities	4, 5	54,283	-	54,283	45,312	-	45,312
Total expenditure		54,283	42,187	96,470	91,920	-	91,920
Net incoming/(expenditure) before investment gains & losses		(19,742)	73,989	54,247	(48,771)	1,000,000	951,229
Net gains and losses on investments							
Realised gain/(loss) on investment property	6	-	-	-	-	694,116	694,116
Realised gain/(loss) on investments		-	6,941	6,941	-	767	767
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	7	-	197,817	197,817	-	25,567	25,567
Net income/(expenditure)		(19,742)	278,747	259,005	(48,771)	1,720,450	1,671,679
Transfers between Funds	8	18,128	(18,128)	-	21,387	(21,387)	-
Net Movement in Funds		(1,614)	260,619	259,005	(27,384)	1,699,063	1,671,679
Reconciliation of Funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 29 June 2023		41,701	5,162,929	5,204,630	69,085	3,463,866	3,532,951
Total funds carried forward at 29 June 2024		40,087	5,423,548	5,463,635	41,701	5,162,929	5,204,630

Notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these accounts
All the above amounts relate to continuing activities

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024**

	NOTES	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Freehold property	6	-	-
Investments	7	4,362,573	4,183,918
		<u>4,362,573</u>	<u>4,183,918</u>
Current Assets			
Cash at bank		997,406	10,032
Debtors	9	117,134	1,024,088
		<u>1,114,540</u>	<u>1,034,120</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	10	13,478	13,408
		<u>13,478</u>	<u>13,408</u>
Net Current Assets		1,101,062	1,020,712
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>5,463,635</u>	<u>5,204,630</u>
Represented by:-			
Endowment Funds	11, 12	5,423,548	5,162,929
Restricted Funds	11, 12	40,087	41,701
		<u>5,463,635</u>	<u>5,204,630</u>

Approved by Trustees on

5.4.25



**S L Simons
Chairperson**

Notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these accounts

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

1. Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b) Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

c) Investment income

Income from investments is included in the statement of financial activities in the year in which it is receivable.

d) Resources expended

Resources expended are charged in the statement of financial activities on accruals basis including VAT.

The cost of generating funds consists of investment management costs and certain legal and professional fees.

The expenditure on charitable activities includes grants made, governance costs and support costs. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and includes Independent Examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

e) Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

f) Investment properties

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at the reporting date as per Note 7. The property was last valued in June 2022 at £3,100,000 by external consultants for the purpose of putting it up for sale. The property was subsequently sold for £3,850,000 in November 2022.

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are shown in the heading 'net gains/(losses) on investments' in the SoFA.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

g) Funds

The charity consists of a series of permanent endowment funds including the Scholarship Fund, the Middlesex Hospital Fund, the Armenian Hospital Istanbul Fund and the L'Ecole Tbrozasserre Paris Fund which from this year are managed on at total return basis. The Trustees at their discretion may allocate any part of the unapplied total return to the relevant restricted income fund. There is also an expendable endowment fund, the London Armenian Cultural Fund. Together, these funds make up the Capital Fund. The income from this fund and any allocated unapplied total return forms the restricted income funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the Trust Deed.

An additional permanent endowment was established last year, being the Nora Diratzouian Family Fund from the late Mrs Diratzouian. Income from this fund is restricted to be spent on beneficiaries who must be born in the UK. This set of accounts and comparatives have been presented in accordance with all the above to better represent the Charity's funds.

h) Cash Flow

The charity has taken advantage of the disclosure exemption of 'Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows' in preparing these financial statements as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

i) Taxation Policy

The Charity is a registered charity and is exempt from income tax, corporation tax and capital gains tax where the income and gains are used for charitable purposes.

2. Investment Income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Quoted Investments		
UK Income received	134,134	25,924
Overseas Income received	15,091	3,183
UK Property Income distributions	1,492	823
Investment Income	150,717	29,930

3. Cost of Raising Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment management fees	22,648	12,828
Financial advisor fees	19,538	-
3-4 New St professional, fire and security costs	-	7,144
3-4 New St business rates	-	22,020
3-4 New St utilities	-	871
Insurance premiums connected with 3-4 New St and Trustees liability	-	3,745
	42,186	46,608

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

4. Expenditure on Charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants (see note 5)	32,800	24,400
Administrative and accountancy fees	12,705	14,149
Bank charges	260	198
Software subscription and PO Box hire	544	1,539
Office expense	128	40
Benlian family grave maintenance	120	120
Legal advice	3,000	1,794
Independent examiner fee	2,944	3,072
Trustees liability insurance	1,782	-
	<u>54,283</u>	<u>45,312</u>

5. Grants

5.1 Scholarship Fund

	2024	2023
	£	£
Scholarships to students attending university in England	<u>4,000</u>	<u>8,500</u>

5.2 London Armenian Cultural Fund

	2024	2023
	£	£
Armenian House	5,000	5,000
Armenian Language Saturday Studies	8,000	5,000
K Tahta Sunday School	5,000	5,000
CAIA Playgroup	500	500
LAO Anoush	2,000	-
Klingen Choir concert	300	-
St Yeghiche Church Carol Service	100	-
	<u>20,900</u>	<u>15,500</u>

5.3 Other Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Middlesex Hospital in London (UCH Charities)	2,500	-
Armenian Hospital in Istanbul (Surp Pirgic)	2,500	-
Armenian School in Paris (Tebrotzaserre)	2,500	-
	<u>7,500</u>	<u>-</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

5.4 Beneficiaries' Fund - Charitable Organisations

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cancer Research Campaign	100	100
Horder Centre for Arthritis	100	100
Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability	100	100
Salvation Army	100	100
	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

Freehold land and buildings - investment properties

3-4 New Street, London EC2	2024	2023
	£	£
Probate value	-	312,000
Gain on revaluation at 30 June 2008	-	1,788,000
Fair value gain on revaluation at 29 June 2016	-	600,000
Fair value gain on revaluation at 29 June 2017	-	300,000
Fair value loss on revaluation at 29 June 2021	-	(100,000)
Fair value gain on revaluation at 29 June 2022	-	200,000
Disposal	-	(3,100,000)
Fair Value at 29 June 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The property was sold on the open market for £3,850,000 less disbursements of £55,884 on 21 November 2022.

7. Investments

Quoted Investments	2024	2023
	£	£
Market Value 30 June 2023	4,183,918	421,761
Additions	4,003,750	3,812,946
Disposals at opening market value	(4,022,912)	(76,356)
Net unrealised Gain/(Loss) in the year	197,817	25,567
Market Value 29 June 2024	<u>4,362,573</u>	<u>4,183,918</u>
Historical cost at 29 June 2024	<u>4,135,421</u>	<u>4,110,204</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

Investments at market value

	UK £	Overseas £	2024 Total £
UK Gilts	440,154	-	440,154
Index Linked Gilts	193,564	-	193,564
Bonds Funds	146,178	-	146,178
Investment Funds	828,243	2,419,451	3,247,694
Infrastructure	71,169	51,249	122,418
Commodities	149,048	-	149,048
Property	63,517	-	63,517
Total	1,891,873	2,470,700	4,362,573

	2024 £
Material investments	
Vanguard Funds FTSE All World ETF Inc	524,352
iShares Core S&P500 UCITS ETF USD Inc	463,711
Vanguard Investments UK FTSE All Share Index Inc	443,617
JP Morgan ETFS (Ireland) ICAV Gbl Research Idx Eqty ES	220,905
Vanguard Funds FTSE Developed Eurp exUK UCITS ETF Inc	217,056

8. Funds Transfers

On 15 December 2023, the Trustees made a resolution under section 104A(2) of the Charities Act 2011 to adopt a total return on investment approach to the permanent endowment sub-funds of the Benlian Trust, including the Scholarship Fund, the Middlesex Hospital Fund, the Armenian Hospital Istanbul Fund and the L'Ecole Tbrozasserre Paris Fund. On 15 December 2023, the Trustees identified the value of the gifts of permanent endowment received since the fund was established to 29 June 2023. This set the baseline value of the gift component of the endowments to which any subsequent gifts of endowment are added. The difference between the total of endowment funds as at 30 June 2023 and the value of the gift component represented the opening balance of unapplied total return.

On 7 February 2024, the Trustees made a resolution under section 104A(2) of the Charities Act 2011 to adopt a total return on investment approach to the Nora Diratzouian Family Fund permanent endowment. The gift was valued at the date of receipt of 18 January 2024 which set the baseline value of the gift component of the endowment to which any subsequent gifts of endowment are added.

The power of total return permits the Trustee to invest permanently endowed funds to maximise total return and to apply an appropriate portion of the unapplied total return to income each year. Until the power is exercised to transfer a portion of unapplied total return to income, the unapplied total return remains invested as part of the permanent endowment. The power allows the Trustee to decide in each year how much of the unapplied total return is transferred to income funds and so available for expenditure.

Having considered the investment climate, the return on investments for the year and the obligations of the Trust, the Trustees made a transfer from the unapplied total

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

return of £7,951 from the Scholarship Fund to the Scholarship Income Fund and £10,177 from the Nora Diratzouian Family Fund (NDF) to the NDF Income Fund. In 2023 the Trustees exercised their power to convert £21,387 from the London Armenian Cultural Expendable Endowment Fund to the London Armenian Cultural Income Fund to be spent on the furtherance of the charity's purposes.

The investment funds and application of total return to permanent endowment funds:

	Scholarship Fund	Middlesex Hospital Fund	Armenian Hospital Istanbul Fund	L'Ecole Tbrozasserre Paris Fund	Nora Diratzouian Family Fund	TOTAL
Opening value of permanent endowment	2,510,589	209,215	209,215	209,215	1,000,000	4,138,234
Less: Gift component of permanent endowment	(2,225,942)	(185,494)	(185,494)	(185,494)	(1,000,000)	(3,782,426)
Opening value of unapplied total return	284,647	23,721	23,721	23,721	0	355,808
Add: Investment return: dividends and interest	82,899	6,908	6,908	6,908	12,552	116,176
Investment return: gains/(losses)	99,128	8,261	8,261	8,261	39,544	163,454
Less: Investment management costs	(23,052)	(1,921)	(1,921)	(1,921)	(3,767)	(32,582)
Unapplied total return before transfer to income	443,623	36,969	36,969	36,969	48,329	602,857
Less: Unapplied total return applied	(7,951)	0	0	0	(10,177)	(18,128)
Subtotal: unapplied total return as at 29 June 2024	435,672	36,969	36,969	36,969	38,151	584,729
Add: Gift component of permanent endowment	2,225,942	185,494	185,494	185,494	1,000,000	3,782,426
Permanent endowment including unapplied total return as at 29 June 2024, constituting the investment fund	2,661,614	222,463	222,463	222,463	1,038,151	4,367,155

9. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	8,252	11,348
Accrued income	108,882	1,012,740
	<u>117,134</u>	<u>1,024,088</u>

Accrued income included £nil (2023: £1,000,000) donation from Diratzouian legacy to be treated as a permanent endowment.

THE BENLIAN TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

10. Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Financial advisor fees	4,093	-
Professional fees	6,441	5,022
Independent Examiner fees	2,944	3,072
Legal fees	-	744
Admin and accountancy fees	-	3,175
Office expenses	-	40
June 23 capital payment	-	1,355
	<u>13,478</u>	<u>13,408</u>

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Funds	Balance at 30.06.23 £	Income £	Grants Paid £	Expenses £	Transfers £	Gains/ Losses £	Balance at 29.06.24 £
Permanent Endowments:							
<u>Benlian:</u>							
Scholarship Fund	2,510,589	82,900	-	(23,052)	(7,951)	99,128	2,661,614
Middlesex Hospital Fund	209,215	6,908	-	(1,921)	-	8,261	222,463
Armenian Hospital Istanbul Fund	209,215	6,908	-	(1,921)	-	8,261	222,463
L'Ecole Tbrozasserre Paris Fund	209,215	6,908	-	(1,921)	-	8,261	222,463
<u>Diratzouian:</u>							
Nora Diratzouian Family Fund	1,000,000	12,552	-	(3,767)	(10,177)	39,544	1,038,152
<u>Expendable Endowment:</u>							
London Armenian Cultural Fund	1,024,695	-	-	(9,605)	-	41,303	1,056,393
Total Endowment Funds	5,162,929	116,176	-	(42,187)	(18,128)	204,758	5,423,548
<u>Restricted Income:</u>							
Scholarship Income Fund	3,073	-	(4,000)	(10,560)	11,487	-	-
London Armenian Cultural Income Fund	-	34,541	(20,900)	(4,400)	1,473	-	10,714
Middlesex Hospital Income Fund	12,876	-	(2,500)	(880)	295	-	9,791
Armenian Hospital Istanbul Income Fund	12,876	-	(2,500)	(880)	295	-	9,791
L'Ecole Tbrozasserre Paris Income Fund	12,876	-	(2,500)	(880)	295	-	9,791
Nora Diratzouian Family Income Fund	-	-	-	(4,283)	4,283	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	41,701	34,541	(32,400)	(21,883)	18,128	-	40,087
Total Funds	5,204,630	150,717	(32,400)	(64,070)	-	204,758	5,463,635

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

The Benlian endowment funds were established by the bequest from the late Mr Benlian's Will creating the capital fund of the Benlian Trust. The permanent endowment funds are made up of 3/4 of the capital fund from which the income is apportioned to the four restricted income funds - Scholarship Fund applied towards the education costs of sons and daughters of Armenian fathers obtaining higher education in England, Middlesex Hospital Fund, Armenian Hospital Istanbul Fund and L'Ecole Brotzasserre Paris Fund as per the Trust deed.

The Nora Diratzouian Family Fund was established by the bequest from the late Mrs Diratzouian creating a permanent endowment for which the income is restricted to be spent on beneficiaries who must be born in the UK.

The expendable endowment fund is made up of 1/4 of the capital fund where the Trustees have the power to spend the capital. Both the capital and income are restricted to spending on the London Armenian Cultural Fund.

The restricted income funds were set up to receive the restricted income from the above permanent endowments and expendable endowment as apportioned by the Trust Deed.

12. Analysis of funds by assets

	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Restricted Funds 2023	Endowment Funds 2023	Total 2023
Fixed asset investments	-	4,362,573	4,362,573	20,989	4,162,929	4,183,918
Net current assets	40,087	1,060,975	1,101,062	20,712	1,000,000	1,020,712
Total	40,087	5,423,548	5,463,635	41,701	5,162,929	5,204,630

13. Transactions with Trustees and connected persons

The Trustees serve on a voluntary basis and receive no expenses. The charity does not have any employees. The administrator is paid quarterly and is self-employed. The Trustees consider Mihran & Azniv Essefian Charitable Trust (registration no. 275074) as a connected charity in that it has the same Trustees and administrator. There were no transactions with the M&A Essefian Trust during the period.

14. Post Balance Sheet Events

Having taken advice from the Trust's financial advisor, the investment managers, the independent examiner and the Charity Commission, the Trustees decided to bring forward the year end date of the Trust from 29 June to 30 April. The timing of the Trustees' grant-making decisions is tied in with the academic year and therefore cannot be changed. The current financial year end date of 29 June is too late to allow concrete figures from the prior year to be used in the budget forecast for the subsequent year. The new financial year end date will enable the Trustees to use the new UTR Spending Rules with a much greater degree of confidence by eliminating a significant degree of uncertainty when implementing the Rules and setting the budget for the subsequent year.

THE BENLIAN TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 JUNE 2024

The legacy representing the sale of the proceeds of the Estate of the late Mrs. Nora Diratzouian was expected to be paid to the Trust in early 2022 but the business of the Estate has still not been finalised due to complications relating to the deceased having been defrauded during the final years of her life. The Trust has received £1m within the financial period, however, the value and timing of the additional balance is uncertain and will depend on the when the Estate is finalised.