

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales · Charity number 284923

Details

Other names	THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND, THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION BENEVOLENT FUND
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1982-06-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Rhq Royal Signals Griffin House Blandford Camp Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 8RH
Phone	01258482081
Email	RSIGNALSHQ-CorpsSec@mod.gov.uk
Website	www.royalsignals.org/rsbf

Activities

Objects: THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL EFFICIENCY AND MORALE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS; THE RELIEF OF POVERTY INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR (BUT NOT SO AS TO LIMIT THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING) FINANCIAL RELIEF IN CASES OF NEED BY THE GRANT LOAN OR EXPENDITURE OF SUMS OF MONEY TO OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF (I) SIGNALMEN, THEIR FAMILIES AND DEPENDANTS AND (II) THE FAMILIES AND DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED SIGNALMEN; THE PAYMENT OF DONATIONS OR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE EMPLOYMENT OR WELFARE OF SIGNALMEN AND THEIR DEPENDANTS.

Activities: To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity. To fund the activities of the serving, reserves and retired members of Royal Corps of Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Armed Forces/emergency Service Efficiency, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,515,171	£1,609,535	£12,042,230	8
2023-12-31	£1,488,714	£1,862,476	£11,311,927	8
2022-12-31	£1,456,595	£1,617,757	£11,512,341	8
2021-12-31	£1,307,801	£1,313,099	£12,947,166	7
2020-12-31	£1,249,848	£1,566,076	£11,821,607	7

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
THE ROYAL SIGNALS TRUSTEE LIMITED		2015-11-25

Linked charities

- THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION (284923-1)

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales - Charity number 284923

Accounts

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2024

Charity No : 284923

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 6
Independent Auditor's Report	7- 9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered name: The Royal Signals Charity

Charity registration number: 284923

Principal office: Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp
Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Trustees

Corporate Trustee:

The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL)

Acting as Directors of RSTL, acting as if Trustees:

Major General D McDowall CBE

Brigadier EM Flint

Brigadier TJP Watts OBE

Brigadier EA Mortimore

Colonel NC Bruce ADC

Lieutenant Colonel P Wright

Captain MC Fitton

Warrant Officer 1 D Roserie

appointed:

Major General RJB Spencer

from 28 March 2024

Lieutenant Colonel PB Brogan

from 10 January 2024

retired:

Major General TG Inshaw CB

to 28 March 2024

Colonel KJ Bruce-Smith TD

to 10 January 2024

Secretary

Colonel DA Craft

Independent Auditor

Moore (South) LLP

33 The Clarendon Centre, Salisbury Business Park

Dairy Meadow Lane, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2TJ

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Cox and Kings Branch

PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

CCLA Investment Management Limited

1 Angel Lane, London, EC4R 3AB

Solicitors

Wilsons Solicitors LLP

Alexandra House, St Johns Street

Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2SB

Investment Advisers

AITi Tiedemann Global

Level 5 Nova North, 11 Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5BY

previous name: Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited

10 Old Burlington Street, London, W1S 3AG

Investment Managers

Meridiam Investment Management Limited

Riverside House, 2A Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA

Troy Asset Management Limited

33 Davies Street, London, W1K 4BP

BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited

12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. 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 Trust Deed, 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Governance

The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) changed its name from The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) on 16 January 2020.

The Royal Signals Charity is a registered charity (number 284923). It was established in 1982 and is now governed by a Charity Commission Scheme dated 6 January 1997 as amended by resolutions dated 8 May 2012, 12 January 2016 and 16 January 2020. By the May 2012 resolution The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL), a non-charitable company limited by shares, became the Corporate Trustee of the charity replacing all the previous Trustees of the charity.

The Royal Signals Association (RSA) was a separate unregistered charity, whose objectives and activities were carried out by RSC. This arrangement was formalised during 2015 with the constitution of RSA being adopted on 14 March 2015 and RSA was registered with the Charity Commission with RSTL as its Corporate Trustee. The Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction in November 2015 linking RSA to RSC.

The Directors of RSTL effectively act as if they were the Trustees of the charity, and they are referred to as "The Trustees" in this report and the accompanying financial statements. They are appointed by the Master of Signals (Chair of the Corps Executive Board (CEB)).

The Trustees are familiar with the work of the charity through their service in the Royal Corps of Signals. Additionally an induction pack comprising the governing documents, statement of accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know" and other such documents are given to new Trustees, and they are encouraged to attend relevant seminars.

The Trustees aim to follow charity sector best practice and have familiarised themselves with the updated version of the Charity Governance Code (the "Code"). They consider that the charity's governance framework aligns with much of the Code. The Trustees have been briefed on the Confederation of British Services and Ex-Services Organisations (Cobseo) Aide Memoire approach and the charity participated in initial trials of their self-reporting tool. The board have adopted this approach and they fully comply with it.

Structure and Management

The Royal Signals Charity is the amalgamation of the Royal Signals Association Fund, the Royal Signals Officers Fund and the Royal Signals Corps Fund which were separate Charitable Trusts. Under the above mentioned Scheme they are managed as one organisation, with financial differentiation as restricted funds.

The Trustees are served by a number of committees that are governed by terms of reference and are charged with discrete objectives as follows:

- The RSA Central Committee considers branch and veteran matters.
- The Royal Signals Institution Council maintains strong, professional and social links between the Royal Corps of Signals, professional bodies and other relevant areas of defence, in order to foster the professional well being of the Corps and to contribute to the development of the delivery of Information and Communications Services and cyber and electromagnetic operations within Defence and Security.
- The Royal Signals Sports Club promotes sporting and adventurous activities.
- There are also management and finance committees for the Corps Officers' Messes, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Messes, Corps Music and Corps Heritage.

The Trustees agree the strategy for the Charity including grant making, investment, reserves, risk management and approval of budgets. Grant making within the approved budget is delegated to the chairs of the committees.

The Royal Signals Museum is an independent charity which is related as a result of complementary objectives and activities. The Trustees have agreed to support the Museum financially, see note 14 to the financial statements.

The Charity is a member of Cobseo and has close working relationships with other charities; the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and The Royal British Legion (TRBL). SSAFA-FH and TRBL undertake welfare casework on behalf of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Structure and Management (continued)

The day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to Colonel DA Craft (Corps Secretary) who can be contacted at Corps Headquarters Royal Signals, Griffin House, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH. He is assisted by the Senior Management Team: Lieutenant Colonel S Lockwood (Assistant Corps Secretary), Colonel J Cooper (RSI Director) and Mr MJ Fisher (Corps Accountant). The first two are Ministry of Defence civil servants and the last two are employees of the Charity, whose remuneration is set by reference to equivalent civil service grades and market rates of pay.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity set out in the governing scheme are:

- To promote and maintain the physical efficiency and morale of The Royal Corps of Signals.
- To relieve either generally or individually by way of donation, grant, or loan, the following who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress;
 - past and present Signallers and their families and dependants; and
 - the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.
- The payment of donations, subscriptions or grants to charitable organisations concerned with the employment or welfare of Signallers and their dependants.

The aims of the Charity are:

- To fund the activities of the serving and retired members of Royal Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.
- To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity.

The activities for the year result from demands within these aims to support the activities of the serving members of the Corps, to foster comradeship and to meet benevolence requirements.

Grant Making Policy

Applications for welfare grants are judged on their merits, with need being the most significant factor. There is no limit set on the amount spent on benevolence within any year. Grants up to £1,750 are considered electronically using Cobseo's Case Management System.

Grants in support of other activities that fall outside the delegated budgets are submitted by the relevant committee to the Corps Secretary or the Trustees for their consideration, depending on a range of factors which allow some delegation of authority. If the submission is particularly significant or would involve a major change in policy it could be referred to the Corps Executive Board.

Budgets are set for all expenditure other than welfare, they can be exceeded if suitable cases can be made.

Achievements and Performance

Activities

As mentioned below there was a campaign to increase the number of subscribers to the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. A Special Project (exercise Mercury Glacier Host) at the end of 2024 raised £42K which is to be used in 2025 for Sport and General Purposes.

There is a continuing requirement to fund adventurous training expeditions, sport, social and recreational events and professional development, all of which contribute to the efficiency, effectiveness and morale of the Corps. It is equally important to advertise the availability of financial assistance for those who are eligible and grant making to deserving welfare cases.

Adventure training, yacht club and sports activities were restricted by MoD budget constraints resulting in combined costs of £254K compared to the combined cost of £338K in 2023 and £382K in 2022. 2022 included postponed Centenary trips overseas.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) continued to promote professional development of the officers and soldiers of the Royal Corps of Signals, serving and retired. A full programme of events (lectures, workshops, etc) took place; significant cost savings arose with the use of low cost venues. The RSI continued to recognise the academic, professional, engineering and operational excellence of the Corps by presenting a significant number of awards in the year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Benevolence

The total cost of benevolent welfare was £387K (2023:£477K & 2022:£336K) including overheads directly attributable to welfare. Within that figure £44K (2023:£43K & 2022:£35K) was paid to other charities with similar objectives, for their support of signallers. The number of welfare grants (excluding Christmas grants) in 2024 was 404 (2023:433 & 2022:353).

Major grants of £801 up to the maximum of £1,750 from the Charity, assisted with the provision of electric scooters, level access showers, replacement household items such as carpets or white goods, carrying out urgent repairs to houses, help with priority debts such as rent and utilities, mobility aids such as riser chairs, stair lifts, assistance with re-training and towards removals and rental bonds.

The Trustees are most grateful to the honorary Welfare Officers in branches of the Royal Signals Association and the caseworkers of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association-Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and the Royal British Legion (RBL) for the enormous contribution that they make towards the welfare of serving and retired Signallers and their dependants.

Material Investments - Policy and Performance

AITi Global, independent investment advisers, (previously named Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited) help develop the overall strategy of the portfolio and advise on individual transactions and circumstances. The investment policy continues to be to maximise return at medium risk over the long term.

During 2024 the portfolio was reorganised to improve the potential total return on investments, without undue exposure to risk. To this end, the whole BlackRock holding and part of the Troy Trojan holding were realised and invested in a Meridiem accumulation fund.

At the end of 2024, 73% of the invested portfolio was held in the Meridiem Protea Fund (Veritas High Equity), 24% was held in Trojan 'S' shares fund of Troy Asset Management Limited and 3% was held in the BlackRock Sterling Liquidity Fund; both Meridiem and Troy are accumulation funds.

Total investment income amounted to £212K (2023:£306K), £50K (2023:£20K) arose from accumulations and so was automatically re-invested. Total investment gains of £825K (2023:£173K) arose in the year.

Financial Review

Total income amounted to £1,515K (2023:£1,489K). Subscription income increased to £848K in 2024 from £773K in 2023; of the 10% increase only 2.5% related to pay increases the remainder came from increased subscribers. Donations amounted to £58K (2023:£69K) and Legacies totalled £15K (2023:£27K). Investment income was reduced due to the change in emphasis of the portfolio as mentioned above. A special project raised £47K at the end of the year.

The principal funding source continued to be the voluntary subscriptions of 110% of a day's pay a year from the members of the serving Corps. Officers subscribe a further 80% of a day's pay which is used specifically for officers' activities, and warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers subscribe a further 30% of a day's pay which is used to fund improvements to Sergeants' Messes and their social activities.

Total expenditure amounted to £1,610K (2023:£1,862K).

The cost of Welfare grants was £387K compared to £477K in 2023. The total cost of Sporting activities was £220K (2023:£233K), of which £102K (2023:£106K) was funded by external Sponsorships and Grants. Adventure Training grants cost £34K (2023:£105K).

Messes, Heritage and History combined with Other Assistance to the serving Corps amounted to £271K (2023:£335K). In 2023 these included £38K for the cost of a burial party being flown to Fiji and £10K for Coronation events. In 2024 there was a reduction of £17K in Sergeants' Mess grants.

The 2024 RSI Dinner/Lecture in London cost £103K, whereas the costs in 2023 were £147K (the 2022 event was postponed to 2023, due to a rail strike).

The cost of Raising Funds in 2024 included the recruitment of consultants, to boost future funds.

Before the revaluation of investments the deficit for the year was £94K (2023:£374K). After the investment gains of £825K (2023:£173K) the total of the fund balances was £12,042K (2023:£11,312K). At the end of the year the unrestricted Corps Funds amounted to £4,020K (2023:£3,712K) and the total of restricted funds was £8,022K (2023:£7,600K).

The Charity benefits from staff costs and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as part of their contribution to esprit de corps. These cannot be meaningfully quantified or evaluated.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities for the charity are carried out by volunteers with assistance from charity staff. The charity does not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participators. The consultants mentioned above will advise on potential strategies and assist with some administration without getting directly involved with the finances of any efforts.

The Royal Signals Charity treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the utmost importance and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual they consider this might apply to.

No complaints relating to fundraising activities have been received by the charity during this financial period. However, the charity has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Corps Secretary. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the Trustees to determine what further action might be required.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should support or undertake. The Charity provides public benefit by enhancing the morale and efficiency of serving service personnel to more effectively perform their role within the Royal Corps of Signals, supporting comradeship within the wider Corps family (regular, reserves and retired), and providing benevolence to individuals and their families where there is need.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that the public benefit requirements have been met.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the operational and business risks and confirm that systems have been established to manage these risks. A risk management plan has been established and is reviewed regularly. There are measures in place to prevent fraud and theft, to ensure the physical security of data and buildings and to maintain business continuity. The management of risk on investments in relation to the market is carried out by RSTL and is explained in more detail previously in this report.

The Trustees have identified strategic risks that could have a severe impact on both income and/or expenditure, as follows:

- amalgamation of the serving Corps with another so that most of the income is lost,
- further reduction in the size of the Corps under future Strategic Defence and Security Reviews,
- reduction in support of the Charity by removal of the personnel, premises and infrastructure provided by the Ministry of Defence,
- and, permanent reduction in investment values and income earning capacity.

These risks can be mitigated by maintaining sufficient Reserves to enable the Charity's activities to continue (see Reserves Policy below).

The Trustees do not believe that there is a significant risk to the Charity as a Going Concern.

Reserves Policy

At 2024 levels of activity the Charity needs an investment return (income plus gains) of about £360K (2023:£680K) to meet its costs. At an average rate of about 5% the investment portfolio of £11.37M would produce a return of about £570K, £680K at 6% or £455K at 4%. This suggests that investments of about £12M should be sufficient to allow for variations in demand.

As mentioned above, the Trustees have identified strategic risks that can only be mitigated by holding reserves. They have calculated that an amount of over £2M in addition to that mentioned above would be needed to cover these risks enabling ongoing commitments to be fulfilled.

The Free Reserves (unrestricted and undesignated) amounted to £4,020K (2023:£3,610K), which would be sufficient to meet the short term results of the identified risks. Designated Funds amounted to £102K in 2023 and all related to the Yacht Club; now that virtually all the yachts have been sold, the funds are no longer required. Restricted Funds totalled £8,022K (2023:£7,600K). See Notes 12 and 13.

The Reserves Policy is therefore, to allow funds to continue to accumulate, when surplus investment return arises. In the event that any strategic risks arise before sufficient reserves have been accumulated, it has been accepted that the charity would reduce the support it gives to Morale and Efficiency (but not Welfare).

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees plan to continue to support the activities outlined above in the coming years and look forward to being able to support future expenditure plans while continuing to monitor closely both the need for benevolence and the performance of investments.

In 2022 The Trustees conducted a strategic review into all aspects of the Charity, its activities and procedures and have implemented the recommendations in pursuit of greater efficiency and improved exposure of the Charity and its potential grant giving. The Trustees will work closely with the head of the serving Corps to maintain or improve the level of voluntary subscription income from officers and soldiers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (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 SORP;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions, 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. 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 on **26 March 2025** and signed on their behalf by:



Major General RJB Spencer
Chair of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: 26 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Signals Charity (the 'trust') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the accounts due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charity.

Our approach was as follows:

- The engagement partner selected staff for the audit, led by persons who it was deemed had sufficient experience and who had the required competence and skills to be able to identify or recognise non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charity and we considered the most significant to be the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, with laws and regulations.
- We obtained an understanding of how the charity is complying with these frameworks by making enquiries of those charged with governance. We enquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, and the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities by holding discussions with management and those charged with responsibility for ensuring legal and regulatory compliance is adhered to and considered the internal controls in place to mitigate identified risks. As a result, a fraud risk was identified relating to management override.

- In addition to the possibility of management override of controls, areas considered higher risk relating to the presentation of information in the financial statements included the recognition of revenue and the allocation of income and expenditure into the relevant fund.
- We assessed the control environment, documenting the systems, controls and processes adopted and undertook an assessment of risk identified in designing our audit approach which incorporates a combination of controls testing, where appropriate, analytical review and substantive procedures involving tests of transactions and balances. Any irregularities noted were discussed with management and those charged with governance and we obtained additional corroborative evidence as required.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

To address the risk of fraud through management override we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify any unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimated were indicative of potential bias;
- tested a sample of transactions that could be influenced by actions of management;
- reviewed the nature of the disclosures within the financial statements to ensure they meet the requirements of accounting standards and relevant legislation.

In response to the risk of irregularities with regards to completeness of income we:

- Reviewed the accounting policies adopted for consistency of application and compliance with acceptable accounting practices;
- completed analytical work to evaluate inconsistencies and significant variances in income streams;
- reviewed third party documentation to confirm that relevant entries were reflected in the accounting records;
- reviewed a sample of income sources to ensure the income is accounted for in the correct period with consideration to the charity's entitlement
- reviewed board minutes and correspondence for any evidence of any further unrecorded income.
- reviewed transactions before and after the year end to ensure they had been allocated to the correct period

To address the risk of material misstatement on classification of transactions in funds we:

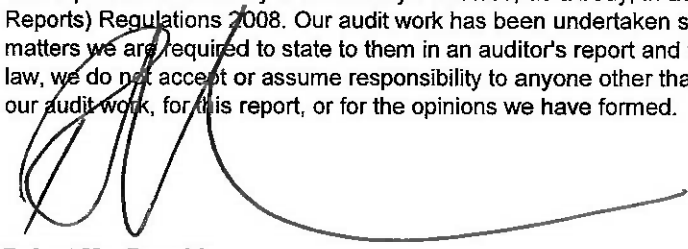
- Agreed a sample of income receipts from source documentation into the accounting records to ensure any restrictions to the income were correctly identified in revenue;
- Agreed a sample of expenses incurred to ensure they had been allocated to the correct fund; and
- Reviewed the analysis of funds for any misallocations of income or expenditure.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Robert MacDonald
For and on behalf of Moore (South) LLP, statutory auditor
Chartered Accountants

33 The Clarendon Centre
Salisbury Business Park
Dairy Meadow Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 2TJ

11th April 2025

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

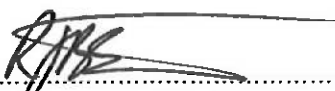
	Note	2024			2023		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	394,637	526,524	921,161	365,706	503,495	869,201
Other trading activities		1,220	-	1,220	1,471	-	1,471
Investments	3	77,642	135,887	213,529	106,932	200,025	306,957
Charitable activities	4	75,918	303,343	379,261	8,950	302,135	311,085
TOTAL INCOME		549,417	965,754	1,515,171	483,059	1,005,655	1,488,714
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising funds		8,159	12,239	20,398	1,220	1,830	3,050
Charitable activities	5	532,619	1,056,518	1,589,137	611,129	1,248,297	1,859,426
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		540,778	1,068,757	1,609,535	612,349	1,250,127	1,862,476
Operating surplus / (deficit)		8,639	(103,003)	(94,364)	(129,290)	(244,472)	(373,762)
Net gains / (losses) on investment assets	8	299,858	524,808	824,666	60,388	112,980	173,348
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		308,497	421,806	730,302	(68,902)	(131,512)	(200,414)
Fund balances at 1 January		3,711,923	7,600,004	11,311,928	3,780,825	7,731,516	11,512,341
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER		4,020,420	8,021,810	12,042,230	3,711,923	7,600,004	11,311,927
		Note 13	Note 12				

All activities in the year are continuing.
The Charity had no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	732,924	729,931
Listed Investments	8	11,372,952	10,812,843
		<u>12,105,876</u>	<u>11,542,774</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	234,995	116,419
Cash at Bank and in Hand		145,493	44,603
		<u>380,488</u>	<u>161,022</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	10	(315,091)	(282,618)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>65,397</u>	<u>(121,596)</u>
CREDITORS due after more than one year	11	(129,043)	(109,251)
NET ASSETS		<u>12,042,230</u>	<u>11,311,927</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
Designated Funds		-	102,226
General Funds		4,020,420	3,609,697
	13	<u>4,020,420</u>	<u>3,711,923</u>
Restricted Funds	12	8,021,810	7,600,004
		<u>12,042,230</u>	<u>11,311,927</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on **26 March 2025** and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Major General RJB Spencer
Chair of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

and


.....
Colonel DA Craft
Secretary of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: 26 March 2025

Date: 26 March 2025

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Operating activities		
Net income / (deficit) for the reporting period	730,302	(200,414)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,024	6,822
(Gain) / Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(14,804)	-
Dividends and interest from investments	(213,529)	(306,957)
(Gains) / Losses on investments	(824,666)	(173,348)
Decrease in stock of goods for resale	-	-
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	(118,576)	37,002
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors and provisions	52,265	(58,660)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(382,984)</u>	<u>(695,555)</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	213,529	306,957
Accumulating dividends	(50,198)	(19,565)
Cash from investment income	<u>163,331</u>	<u>287,392</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	(11,712)	(10,445)
Proceeds of disposal of fixed assets	17,500	-
Purchase of investments	(8,000,000)	(550,000)
Proceeds from sale of investments	8,314,755	699,685
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>483,874</u>	<u>426,632</u>
 Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	100,890	(268,923)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	<u>44,603</u>	<u>313,526</u>
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u>145,493</u></u>	<u><u>44,603</u></u>

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and Charities Act 2011. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The Royal Signals Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements (see Risk Management in the Trustees' Report, page 6).

b. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Headquarters Officers Mess assets were revalued at 1 January 2015; this was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward. All other assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. As explained in note 7, historic assets owned prior to 1 January 1994 have not been capitalised.

Depreciation is applied on a straight line basis calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life and potential impairments are kept under review. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Headquarters Officers Mess	1%
Most of these assets are of high quality and could last for 100 years or more	
Bands	15%
Regimental Headquarters fixtures and fittings	33%
Yacht Club - small boats and dinghies	15%

Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as the residual value is considered to be higher than the carrying value and they have a virtually indefinite life. Assets are continuously reviewed for potential impairment.

c. Investments, Investment Income and Gains

Investments are valued at the bid price prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. Investment historic cost is the average cost per unit purchased or the market value when donated or transferred.

Dividends, other investment income and income from cash deposits are accounted for when the Charity is entitled to them. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

d. Taxation

The entity is a registered Charity and, as such, claims tax exemptions from all its United Kingdom income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Income tax recoverable represents tax which is recoverable in respect of tax credits from dividends receivable during the year and from gift aid subscriptions on which tax has been paid by the subscriber during the year.

e. Funds

Restricted funds are amounts which have been earmarked by the donors for specific purposes. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes, but they remain at their discretion (see notes 12 and 13).

f. Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Those funds provided for a specific purpose are taken to a restricted fund.

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Subscriptions represent voluntary contributions received monthly from serving members and annually from retired officers of the Corps and are accounted for when they are receivable.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

g. Grants Payable and Direct Charitable Expenditure

Grants paid and direct expenditure are accounted for when paid or when the liability is established with the third party. They are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity and in accordance with the objectives of the Charity.

h. Support and Shared Costs

Support and Shared Costs comprise expenditure incurred directly in support of charitable objectives and are attributable to the Charity's activities. Governance costs represent professional and statutory fees and other costs incurred in running the Charity. They are allocated to activities in proportion to their utilisation.

i. Debtors

Legacies receivable, subscriptions, loans and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

j. Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Provisions are not discounted to net present value as the difference would be immaterial to the financial statements.

k. Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Investments are included at fair value.

l. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to consider making any significant judgements and estimates where necessary. Apart from depreciation (note 1.b above), there are no items in the financial statements where significant judgements and estimations have been made.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Donations	29,085	34,725
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	360,122	326,070
Legacies	5,430	4,911
	<u>394,637</u>	<u>365,706</u>
Restricted Funds		
Donations	29,084	34,721
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	483,517	441,998
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	4,785	4,958
Legacies	9,138	21,818
	<u>526,524</u>	<u>503,495</u>
Total Funds		
Donations	58,169	69,446
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	843,639	768,068
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	4,785	4,958
Legacies	14,568	26,729
	<u>921,161</u>	<u>869,201</u>

Subscriptions from serving members of the Corps are collected under the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. These are donated entirely voluntarily by the serving members of the Corps. Under King's Regulations (KR 5.613) the first 50% must be applied to Welfare purposes.

Soldiers' subscriptions are 110%. Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) subscribe at 140% of a days basic pay per annum of which 30% is used specifically for Sergeants' Messes. Officers' subscriptions are 190% of a days basic pay per annum of which 80% is used specifically in support of Officers' activities.

Retired Officers' subscriptions are voluntary and currently at a minimum of £10 a year.

Legacies are accrued for if they were notified as being receivable before the end of the year, either at the value actually received or estimated from the details of the estate provided by the executors.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	76,979	106,504
Interest on Deposit Accounts	663	428
	77,642	106,932
Restricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	134,727	199,272
Interest on Deposit Accounts	1,160	753
	135,887	200,025
Total Funds		
Gross Dividends	211,706	305,776
Interest on Deposit Accounts	1,823	1,181
	213,529	306,957
 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
RSI Events and Advertisements	11,150	8,950
Special Project	47,268	-
RSYC Profit on Disposals	17,500	-
	75,918	8,950
Restricted		
Grants from Other Organisations	105,356	110,299
Disposal of Redundant Corps Silverware	4,800	551
RSI Events and Advertisements	185,316	183,022
Wire Magazine subscriptions	7,871	8,263
	303,343	302,135
Total Funds	379,261	311,085
 5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Sporting	118,858	126,899
Adventure Training	34,108	104,699
Messes, Heritage and History	135,151	131,000
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	37,903	33,263
Bands	12,073	15,533
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	16,807	17,540
RSI events, awards and publishing	33,373	41,053
Wire Magazine	56,777	56,599
Support and Shared costs		
Corps Activities	70,487	68,199
Governance	17,082	16,344
	532,619	611,129

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)	2024	2023
	£	£
Restricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	387,489	476,712
Sporting	101,516	106,299
Messes, Heritage and History	74,940	98,254
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	22,582	72,151
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	27,359	20,067
RSI events, awards and publishing	177,404	220,061
Officers' Dinner & Social	15,353	17,187
Wire Magazine	7,871	8,263
Reunions and other costs	113,039	104,330
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	25,836	25,115
Veterans	34,448	33,486
Officer Activities	43,060	41,858
Governance	25,621	24,514
	1,056,518	1,248,297
Total Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	387,489	476,712
Sporting	220,374	233,198
Adventure Training	34,108	104,699
Messes, Heritage and History	210,091	229,254
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	60,485	105,414
Bands	12,073	15,533
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	44,166	37,607
RSI events, awards and publishing	210,777	261,114
Officers' Dinner & Social	15,353	17,187
Wire Magazine	64,648	64,862
Reunions and other costs	113,039	104,330
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	25,836	25,115
Veterans	34,448	33,486
Corps and Officer Activities	113,547	110,057
Governance	42,703	40,858
	1,589,137	1,859,426

All welfare grants are to third party organisations and made for the benefit of both serving and retired members of the Corps (Regulars and Reserves) and their families.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) fosters professional development amongst the serving Corps, the retired Corps and their close colleagues in Defence and Industry.

Welfare Grants includes payments to other charities for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives:	2024	2023
	£	£
Army Benevolent Fund	35,000	35,000
various nursing homes with ex Royal Signals residents	8,500	7,750
	43,500	42,750

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Shared Support Costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	59,427	55,641
IT Support and Equipment Costs	8,216	6,353
Postage	440	432
Bank Charges	813	835
Depreciation	-	362
Total Shared Support Costs	68,896	63,623
Direct Corps Administration	1,591	1,226
	<u>70,487</u>	<u>64,849</u>
Restricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	89,141	90,783
IT Support and Equipment Costs	12,325	10,366
Postage	659	706
Bank Charges	1,220	1,363
Depreciation	-	590
	<u>103,345</u>	<u>103,808</u>
Total Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	148,568	146,424
IT Support and Equipment Costs	20,541	16,719
Postage	1,099	1,138
Bank Charges	2,033	2,198
Depreciation	-	952
Total Shared Support Costs	172,241	167,431
Direct Corps Administration	1,591	1,226
	<u>173,832</u>	<u>168,657</u>
Attributed to:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Corps Fund	70,487	64,849
Restricted Funds		
Officers Fund	51,672	50,229
Welfare	10,334	10,045
Veterans	41,339	43,534
	<u>173,832</u>	<u>168,657</u>
Total Expenditure included the following costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	93,254	92,598
Social Security Costs	10,836	10,829
Pension Scheme Costs	2,862	3,111
	<u>106,952</u>	<u>106,538</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	2,424	2,651
Restricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	245,292	243,977
Social Security Costs	23,808	23,850
Pension Scheme Costs	6,290	7,553
	<u>275,390</u>	<u>275,381</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	3,600	4,171
Total Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	338,546	336,576
Social Security Costs	34,644	34,679
Pension Scheme Costs	9,152	10,664
	<u>382,342</u>	<u>381,919</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	6,024	6,822

Pension Scheme - Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution ('money purchase') scheme. The charity contribution is restricted to 4% of the gross salary.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES (continued)

One employee earned £60,000 - £70,000 (2023: one employee).

The average number of employees in the year was 5 full time (2023: 5) and 3 part time = 2 full-time equivalents (2023: 3 = 2 full-time equivalents).

The Charity benefits from staff costs, administration and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, contributing to esprit de corps. It is not practical to quantify such costs with any certainty.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Governance Costs included the following		
Unrestricted Funds		
Audit	6,557	7,156
Legal Fees	454	-
Investment Advice	8,054	7,684
Trustee Expenses	1,164	715
Trustee Meetings	227	195
Trustee Liability Insurance	626	594
	<u>17,082</u>	<u>16,344</u>
Restricted Funds		
Audit	9,835	10,734
Legal Fees	680	-
Investment Advice	12,081	11,525
Trustee Expenses	1,747	1,072
Trustee Meetings	340	293
Trustee Liability Insurance	938	890
	<u>25,621</u>	<u>24,514</u>
Total Funds		
Audit	16,392	17,890
Legal Fees	1,134	-
Investment Advice	20,135	19,209
Trustee Expenses	2,911	1,787
Trustee Meetings	567	488
Trustee Liability Insurance	1,564	1,484
	<u>42,703</u>	<u>40,858</u>

5 Trustees (2023: 3) received the above reimbursements of expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation) none of which were paid to third parties.

Key Personnel

No Trustee (2023: None) received any remuneration or benefit from the Fund or any Related Parties.

The Corps Secretary and the Assistant Corps Secretary are employees of the Ministry of Defence and honorariums were paid to them at a total cost to the Charity of £21,185 (2023: £22,323).

The Corps Accountant and RSI Director are employees of the Charity at a total cost of £147,466 (2023: £148,140).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	HQ Officers Mess	Historic Assets	Regimental HQ	Yacht Club	Bands	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2024						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2024	360,000	389,561	7,718	35,267	24,342	816,888
Additions	3,300	-	-	-	8,412	11,712
Cost of Disposals	(2,994)	-	-	(31,904)	-	(34,898)
At 31 December 2024	<u>360,306</u>	<u>389,561</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>32,754</u>	<u>793,702</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2024	31,516	-	7,718	35,267	12,456	86,957
Charge for Year	3,600	-	-	-	2,424	6,024
Eliminated on Disposals	(299)	-	-	(31,904)	-	(32,203)
At 31 December 2024	<u>34,817</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>14,880</u>	<u>60,778</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2024	325,489	389,561	-	-	17,874	732,924
At 31 December 2023	328,484	389,561	-	-	11,886	729,931

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2023						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2023	360,000	381,111	7,718	35,267	22,347	806,443
Additions	-	8,450	-	-	1,995	10,445
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>360,000</u>	<u>389,561</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>24,342</u>	<u>816,888</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2023	27,916	-	6,766	35,267	10,186	80,135
Charge for Year	3,600	-	952	-	2,270	6,822
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>31,516</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>12,456</u>	<u>86,957</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2023	<u>328,484</u>	<u>389,561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,886</u>	<u>729,931</u>

The assets above relate directly to charitable purposes.

The assets are kept continuously under review for potential impairment.

Headquarters Officers Mess

A professional valuation in 2014 of the furniture in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled £360,000, all of which are assets for which the risks and rewards belong to the Charity. This was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward.

Historic Assets

Reliable cost information is not available for historic assets acquired prior to 1 January 1994 which have not been capitalised. Recent valuations for insurance purposes (not market values) of silverware and paintings in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled over £1.25 million and other locations were assessed in the year.

Since 1 January 1994 historic assets have been acquired for the Blandford Garrison Church £22,365, the National Arboretum Memorial £22,185 and Silver and Artworks £345,011 (2023: £345,011). Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value.

8. INVESTMENTS - LISTED

	2024 £	2023 £
Market Value at 1 January	10,812,843	10,769,615
Additions	8,050,198	569,565
Disposal Proceeds	(8,314,755)	(699,685)
(Losses) / Gains in year	824,666	173,348
Market Value at 31 December	<u>11,372,952</u>	<u>10,812,843</u>
Historic Cost	<u>10,190,456</u>	<u>9,413,426</u>
Held in:-		
Meridiem Protea Fund - Veritas High Equity	8,333,464	-
BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund	-	7,022,550
Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares Accumulation Units	2,689,488	3,340,293
BlackRock Sterling Liquidity Fund shares	350,000	450,000
	<u>11,372,952</u>	<u>10,812,843</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Subscriptions	72,296	64,589
Other Debtors	95,398	15,239
Prepayments	67,301	36,591
	<u>234,995</u>	<u>116,419</u>

Debtors do not include any amounts due in more than one year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10. CREDITORS falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance with Related Entities	82,790	107,805
Social Security and Other Taxes	11,059	9,377
Balances held as Agent (see note 15)	79,210	68,701
Other Creditors	34,254	42,489
Accruals	35,000	22,478
Deferred Income and Provisions		
Brought forward from prior year	31,768	115,107
Used or repaid in year	(31,768)	(115,107)
Arising in the year	72,778	31,768
Carried forward	72,778	31,768
	<u>315,091</u>	<u>282,618</u>

Deferred Income arises when receipts relate to activities planned for the future.

11. CREDITORS due after more than one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Employee Gratuities	<u>129,043</u>	<u>109,251</u>

Liability for the amounts due to employees upon leaving, in accordance with their employment contract, valued as at the end of the year. Any discounting of this liability would be offset by wage inflation.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January	Income	Expenditure	Investment	31 December
	£	£	£	Gains	£
2024					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	4,954,181	429,247	(566,393)	377,842	5,194,878
Officers' Activities Fund	2,205,612	363,627	(298,657)	113,392	2,383,974
Sergeants' Messes Fund	100,351	56,782	(56,134)	7,653	108,652
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	228,953	4,521	(38,184)	17,462	212,752
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	81,369	1,607	-	6,206	89,182
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	29,536	583	-	2,253	32,372
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	109,387	(109,387)	-	-
	<u>7,600,002</u>	<u>965,754</u>	<u>(1,068,755)</u>	<u>524,808</u>	<u>8,021,810</u>
2023					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,048,781	466,290	(642,148)	81,258	4,954,181
Officers' Activities Fund	2,157,847	360,089	(335,577)	23,253	2,205,612
Sergeants' Messes Fund	118,622	53,135	(73,315)	1,909	100,351
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	299,417	8,986	(84,525)	5,075	228,953
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	78,383	1,908	-	1,078	81,369
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	28,464	685	-	387	29,536
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	114,562	(114,562)	-	-
	<u>7,731,514</u>	<u>1,005,655</u>	<u>(1,250,127)</u>	<u>112,960</u>	<u>7,600,002</u>

Restricted Funds arise from income received for specified purposes and are held separately until expended.

Welfare & Veterans Fund - This Restricted Fund serves members of the Corps, fostering comradeship and providing welfare support to those in need. It receives donations, legacies, and other voluntary income that have been canvassed for welfare purposes. Welfare grants and costs are initially funded by "One Day's Pay" Subscriptions as described in Note 2.

Officers' Activities Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Officers' purposes, such as dinners, Officers' Messes and other costs specifically for the benefit of Officers.

Sergeants' Messes Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Sergeants' Messes' improvements and other costs specifically for the benefit of Warrant Officers and SNCOs.

Disbanded Units Funds - These Funds arise from disbanded units and are held to assist with the formation of new units and for morale and efficiency purposes similar to the main objects of the Charity. They may not however be used for welfare.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January £	Transfers £	Transactions £	31 December £
2024				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	(101,597)	-	-
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	629	(629)	-	-
Total Designated Funds	102,226	(102,226)	-	-
Corps - General Fund	3,609,697	102,226	308,497	4,020,420
	<u>3,711,923</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>308,497</u>	<u>4,020,420</u>
2023				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	629	-	-	629
Total Designated Funds	102,226	-	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	3,678,599	-	(68,902)	3,609,697
	<u>3,780,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(68,902)</u>	<u>3,711,923</u>

Designated Funds are Unrestricted Funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees.

Following the merger of the Yacht Club into the Sports administration and the disposal of its vessels, its funds have been returned to the Corps - General Fund.

The transactions of the "Corps - General Fund" are as shown on page 10, Statement of Financial Activities, Unrestricted Funds.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity is related to The Royal Signals Museum (an incorporated charity) and its subsidiary The Royal Signals Museum Trading Company Limited due to their related objectives and activities. They also report and answer to the Corps Executive Board and the Trustees are appointed by the Master of Signals, like the Charity.

In the year grants were made to The Royal Signals Museum of £131,000 for its general purposes and £4,151 for redundant uniform shop stock (2023: £131,000 total).

At the end of the year the debts with The Royal Signals Museum and its subsidiary company amounted to £82,790 payable (2023: £107,804 payable).

15. AGENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity acts as agent for activities related to its Morale and Efficiency Objectives; the larger funds being:-

The **Royal Signals Officers Domestic Fund** purchases wines, etc for the HQ Officers' Mess and maintains the wine cellar, its income arises from the consumption of wines at special events. It also operates a second hand uniform sales and rental facility. At 31 December 2024 the balance held amounted to £46,627 (2023: £35,906).

The **Royal Signals Rugby Club** used to sell tickets for national rugby matches and has accumulated funds to boost rugby activities. At 31 December 2024 the balance held amounted to £77,353 (2023: £63,912), of which £47,004 was held in a specific bank account.

16. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
2024			
Tangible Fixed Assets	62,424	670,500	732,924
Investments	4,021,642	7,351,310	11,372,952
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	(63,646)	-	(63,646)
	<u>4,020,420</u>	<u>8,021,810</u>	<u>12,042,230</u>
2023			
Tangible Fixed Assets	56,436	673,495	729,931
Investments	3,886,334	6,926,509	10,812,843
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	(230,847)	-	(230,847)
	<u>3,711,923</u>	<u>7,600,004</u>	<u>11,311,927</u>

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales - Charity number 284923

Accounts

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2023

Charity No : 284923

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 7
Independent Auditor's Report	8 - 9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered name: The Royal Signals Charity

Charity registration number: 284923

Principal office: Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp
Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Trustees Corporate Trustee:
The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL)

Acting as Directors of RSTL, as if Trustees:

Major General D McDowall CBE

Brigadier EM Flint

Brigadier TJP Watts OBE

Colonel EA Mortimore

Captain MC Fitton

appointed:

Major General RJB Spencer

from 28 March 2024

Colonel NC Bruce ADC

from 22 March 2023

Lieutenant Colonel P Wright

from 11 January 2023

Lieutenant Colonel PB Brogan

from 10 January 2024

Warrant Officer 2 D Roserie

from 11 January 2023

retired:

Major General TG Inshaw CB

to 28 March 2024

Major General J Stokoe CB CBE

to 11 January 2023

Colonel MC Brookes ADC

to 22 March 2023

Colonel KJ Bruce-Smith TD

to 10 January 2024

Staff Sergeant JM Fatiaki

to 11 January 2023

Secretary Colonel DA Craft

Independent Auditor Crowe U.K. LLP
St James House, St James Square
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3PR

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc, Cox and Kings Branch
PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

CCLA Investment Management Limited
1 Angel Lane, London, EC4R 3AB

Solicitors Wilsons Solicitors LLP
Alexandra House, St Johns Street
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2SB

Investment Advisers AITi Tiedemann Global
Level 5 Nova North, 11 Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5BY

previous name: Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited
10 Old Burlington Street, London, W1S 3AG

Investment Managers BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL

Troy Asset Management Limited
33 Davies Street, London, W1K 4BP

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 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 Trust Deed, 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Governance

The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) changed its name from The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) on 16 January 2020.

The Royal Signals Charity is a registered charity constituted under a Trust Deed; registration number 284923 dated 13 May 1982. The Charity Commission scheme was amended on 8 May 2012 and The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL), a non-charitable company limited by shares, became the Corporate Trustee of the Charity replacing all the previous Trustees of the Charity.

The Royal Signals Association (RSA) was a separate unregistered charity, whose objectives and activities were carried out by RSC (formerly RSBF). This arrangement was formalised during 2015 with the constitution of RSA being adopted on 14 March 2015 and RSA was registered with the Charity Commission with RSTL as its Corporate Trustee. The Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction in November 2015 linking RSA to RSC (formerly RSBF).

The Directors of RSTL effectively act as if they were the Trustees of the Charity, and they are referred to as "The Trustees" in this report and the accompanying financial statements. They are appointed by the Master of Signals (Chair of the Corps Executive Board (CEB)).

The Trustees are familiar with the work of the Charity through their service in the Royal Corps of Signals. Additionally an induction pack comprising the governing documents, statement of accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know" and other such documents are given to new Trustees, and they are encouraged to attend relevant seminars.

The Trustees aim to follow charity sector best practice and have familiarised themselves with the updated version of the Charity Governance Code (the "Code"). They consider that the Charity's governance framework aligns with much of the Code. The Trustees have been briefed on the Confederation of British Services and Ex-Services Organisations (Cobseo) Aide Memoire approach and the charity participated in initial trials of their self-reporting tool. The board have adopted this approach and they fully comply with it.

Structure and Management

The Royal Signals Charity is the amalgamation of the Royal Signals Association Fund, the Royal Signals Officers Fund and the Royal Signals Corps Fund which were separate Charitable Trusts. Under the above mentioned Trust Deed they are managed as one organisation, with financial differentiation as restricted funds.

The Trustees are served by a number of committees that are governed by terms of reference and are charged with discrete objectives as follows:

- The RSA Central Committee considers branch and veteran matters.
- The Royal Signals Institution Council maintains strong, professional and social links between the Royal Corps of Signals, professional bodies and other relevant areas of defence, in order to foster the professional well being of the Corps and to contribute to the development of the delivery of Information and Communications Services and cyber and electromagnetic operations within Defence and Security.
- The Royal Signals Sports Club promotes sporting and adventurous activities.
- There are also management and finance committees for the Corps Officers' Messes, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Messes, Corps Music and Corps Heritage.

The Trustees agree the strategy for the Charity including grant making, investment, reserves, risk management and approval of budgets. Grant making within the approved budget is delegated to the chairs of the committees.

The Royal Signals Museum is an independent charity which is related as a result of complementary objectives and activities. The Trustees have agreed to support the Museum financially, see note 14 to the financial statements.

The Charity is a member of Cobseo and has close working relationships with other charities; the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and The Royal British Legion (TRBL). SSAFA-FH and TRBL undertake welfare casework on behalf of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Structure and Management (continued)

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to Colonel DA Craft (Corps Secretary) who can be contacted at Corps Headquarters Royal Signals, Griffin House, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH. He is assisted by the Senior Management Team: Lieutenant Colonel S Lockwood (Assistant Corps Secretary), Colonel J Cooper (replacing AE Percival) (RSI Director) and Mr MJ Fisher (Corps Accountant). The first two are Ministry of Defence Civil Servants and the last two are employees of the Charity, whose remuneration is set by reference to equivalent Civil Service Grades and market rates of pay.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity set out in the governing scheme are:

- To promote and maintain the physical efficiency and morale of The Royal Corps of Signals.
- To relieve either generally or individually by way of donation, grant, or loan, the following who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress;
 - past and present Signallers and their families and dependants; and
 - the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.
- The payment of donations, subscriptions or grants to charitable organisations concerned with the employment or welfare of Signallers and their dependants.

The aims of the Charity are:

- To fund the activities of the serving and retired members of Royal Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.
- To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity.

The activities for the year result from demands within these aims to support the activities of the serving members of the Corps, to foster comradeship and to meet benevolence requirements.

Grant Making Policy

Applications for welfare grants are judged on their merits, with need being the most significant factor. There is no limit set on the amount spent on benevolence within any year. Grants up to £1,750 (formerly £1,500) are considered electronically using Cobseo's Case Management System.

Grants in support of other activities that fall outside the delegated budgets are submitted by the relevant committee to the Corps Secretary or the Trustees for their consideration, depending on a range of factors which allow some delegation of authority. If the submission is particularly significant or would involve a major change in policy it could be referred to the Corps Executive Board.

Budgets are set for all expenditure other than welfare, no specific targets are set beyond these budgets, they can be exceeded if suitable cases can be made.

Achievements and Performance

Activities

There is a continuing requirement to fund adventurous training expeditions, sport, social and recreational events and professional development, all of which contribute to the efficiency, effectiveness and morale of the Corps. It is equally important to advertise the availability of financial assistance for those who are eligible and grant making to deserving welfare cases.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Activities (continued)

Adventure training, yacht club and sports activities have returned to "pre-Covid-19" levels resulting in combined costs of £338K compared to the combined cost of £382K in 2022 and £229K in 2021. 2022 included postponed Centenary trips overseas.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) continued to promote professional development of the Officers and Soldiers of the Royal Signals, serving and retired. A full programme of events (lectures, workshops, etc) took place. The 2022 annual seminar and London lecture/dinner was postponed till 2023, due to a rail strike, so that these were held in the year as well as the 2023 equivalents. The RSI continued to recognise the academic, professional, engineering and operational excellence of the Corps by presenting a significant number of awards in the year.

Benevolence

The total cost of benevolent welfare was £476K (2022:£336K & 2021:£285K) including overheads directly attributable to welfare. Within that figure £43K (2022:£35K & 2021:£42K) was paid to other charities with similar objectives, for their support of signallers. The number of welfare grants (excluding Christmas grants) in 2023 was 433 (2022:353 & 2021:299). The earlier figures were relatively low, mainly due to the Covid-19 "lockdown" when caseworkers were making fewer visits in support of applications.

Major grants of £801 up to the maximum of £1,750 (this was increased from £1,500 during 2023) from the Charity, assisted with the provision of electric scooters, level access showers, replacement household items such as carpets or white goods, carrying out urgent repairs to houses, help with priority debts such as rent and utilities, mobility aids such as riser chairs, stair lifts, assistance with re-training and towards removals and rental bonds.

The Trustees are most grateful to the honorary Welfare Officers in branches of the Royal Signals Association and the caseworkers of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association-Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and the Royal British Legion (RBL) for the enormous contribution that they make towards the welfare of serving and retired Signallers and their dependants.

Material Investments - Policy and Performance

AITi Global, independent investment advisers, (previously named Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited) help develop the overall strategy of the portfolio and advise on individual transactions and circumstances. The investment policy continues to be to maximise return at medium risk over the long term.

65% of the invested portfolio remained within the Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund managed by BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited, 31% was held in Trojan 'S' shares fund of Troy Asset Management Limited and 4% was held in the BlackRock Sterling Liquidity Fund.

Total dividend income amounted to £307K (2022:£270K), £20K (2022:£8K) arose from accumulating units and so was automatically re-invested, and from the income units £287K (2022:£262K) arose in cash. Total gains of £173K (2022:£1,274K losses) arose from the investments in the year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial Review

Total income amounted to £1,489K (2022:£1,457K). Subscription income increased to £773K in 2023 from £744K in 2022. Donations amounted to £69K (2022:£75K) and Legacies totalled £27K (2022:less than £1K).

The principal funding source continued to be the voluntary subscriptions of 110% of a day's pay a year from the members of the serving Corps. Officers subscribe a further 80% of a day's pay which is used specifically for officer's activities, and Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers subscribe a further 30% of a day's pay which is used to fund improvements to Sergeants' Messes and their social activities. The Trustees are most grateful to the serving Corps for their continued support.

Total expenditure amounted to £1,862K (2022:£1,618K).

The cost of Welfare grants increased by £141K from £336K in 2022 to £477K in 2023. The total cost of Sporting activities, including Sailing, was £233K in 2023 (2022:£304K), of which £106K (2022:£137K) was funded by external Sponsorships and Grants. Adventure Training grants cost £105K (2022:£78K), in 2022 £7K was funded by external grants (nil in 2023).

Messes, Heritage and History combined with Other Assistance to the serving Corps amounted to £335K (2022:£331K). In 2023 these included £38K for the cost of a burial party being flown to Fiji, an extra £6K grant to the Museum (2023:£131K, 2022:£125K), and £10K improvements to Junior Ranks messing facilities, conversely there was a saving of £36K supporting Recruiting activities.

The 2022 RSI Dinner/Lecture in London was postponed to early 2023, due to railway industrial action. There were therefore two such events held in 2023, their costs were £57K (ex 2022) and £89K (2023).

The cost of Raising Funds in 2022 included £37K for the write-off of the stock of unsold 2020 Centenary memorabilia (Nil in 2023).

Before the revaluation of investments the deficit for the year was £374K (2022:£161K deficit). After the investment gains of £173K (2022:£1,274K losses) the total of the fund balances was £11,312K (2022:£11,512K). At the end of the year the unrestricted Corps Funds amounted to £3,712K (2022:£3,781K) and the total of restricted funds was £7,600K (2022:£7,732K).

The Charity benefits from staff costs and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as part of their contribution to esprit de corps. These cannot be meaningfully quantified or evaluated.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities for the charity are carried out by volunteers with assistance from charity staff. The charity does not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participators.

The Royal Signals Charity treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the utmost importance and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual they consider this might apply to.

No complaints relating to fundraising activities have been received by the charity during this financial period. However, the charity has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Corps Secretary. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the Trustees to determine what further action might be required.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should support or undertake. The Charity provides public benefit by enhancing the morale and efficiency of serving service personnel to more effectively perform their role within the Royal Corps of Signals, supporting comradeship within the wider Corps family (regular, reserves and retired), and providing benevolence to individuals and their families where there is need.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that the public benefit requirements have been met.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the operational and business risks and confirm that systems have been established to manage these risks. A risk management plan has been established and is reviewed regularly. There are measures in place to prevent fraud and theft, to ensure the physical security of data and buildings and to maintain business continuity. The management of risk on investments in relation to the market is carried out by RSTL and is explained in more detail previously in this report.

The Trustees have identified strategic risks that could have a severe impact on both income and/or expenditure, as follows:

- amalgamation of the serving Corps with another so that most of the income is lost,
- further reduction in the size of the Corps under future Strategic Defence and Security Reviews,
- reduction in support of the Charity by removal of the personnel, premises and infrastructure provided by the Ministry of Defence,
- and, permanent reduction in investment values and income earning capacity.

These risks can be mitigated by maintaining sufficient Reserves to enable the Charity's activities to continue (see Reserves Policy below).

The Trustees do not believe that there is a significant risk to the Charity as a Going Concern.

Reserves Policy

At current levels of activity the Charity needs an investment return (income plus gains) of about £680K to meet its costs. At an average rate of return of about 5% this suggests the need for an investment portfolio of around £13.6M (4% = £17M and 6% = £11.3M).

As mentioned above, the Trustees have identified strategic risks that can only be mitigated by holding reserves. They have calculated that an amount of over £2M in addition to that mentioned above would be needed to cover these risks enabling ongoing commitments to be fulfilled. This gives an investment target of between £14M and £17M. At 31 December 2023 the market value of the investment portfolio was £10.8M.

The Free Reserves (unrestricted and undesignated) amounted to £3,610K (2022:£3,679K), which would be sufficient to meet the short term results of the identified risks. The Designated Funds amounted to £102K (2022:£102K), and the Restricted Funds totalled £7,600K (2022:£7,732K), see Notes 12 and 13.

The Reserves Policy is therefore, to allow funds to continue to accumulate, when surplus investment return arises. In the event that any strategic risks arise before sufficient reserves have been accumulated, it has been accepted that the charity would reduce the support it gives to Morale and Efficiency (but not Welfare).

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees plan to continue support for the activities outlined above in the coming years and look forward to being able to support future expenditure plans while continuing to monitor closely both the need for benevolence and the performance of investments.

The Trustees have conducted a strategic review into all aspects of the Charity, its activities and procedures and have implemented the recommendations in pursuit of greater efficiency and improved exposure of the Charity and its potential grant giving. The Trustees will work closely with the head of the serving Corps to maintain or improve the level of voluntary subscription income from officers and soldiers.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (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 SORP;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions, 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. 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 on 28 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Major General RJB Spencer
Chair of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: 22 Aug 24

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Signals Charity ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept by the Charity; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011, together with the Charities SORP (FRS102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.


We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence including that with the Charity Commission and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP, Statutory Auditor

St James House, St James Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR

Date: 24 September 2024

Crowe U.K. LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023			2022		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	365,706	503,495	869,201	351,045	468,560	819,605
Other trading activities		1,471	-	1,471	547	-	547
Investments	3	106,932	200,025	306,957	91,838	178,047	269,885
Charitable activities	4	8,950	302,135	311,085	135,340	231,218	366,558
TOTAL INCOME		483,059	1,005,655	1,488,714	578,770	877,825	1,456,595
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising funds		1,220	1,830	3,050	40,536	4,498	45,034
Charitable activities	5	611,129	1,248,297	1,859,426	624,342	948,381	1,572,723
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		612,349	1,250,127	1,862,476	664,878	952,879	1,617,757
Operating surplus / (deficit)		(129,290)	(244,472)	(373,762)	(86,108)	(75,054)	(161,162)
Net gains / (losses) on investment assets	8	60,388	112,960	173,348	(433,392)	(840,271)	(1,273,663)
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(68,902)	(131,512)	(200,414)	(519,500)	(915,325)	(1,434,825)
Fund balances at 1 January		3,780,825	7,731,516	11,512,341	4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER		3,711,923	7,600,004	11,311,927	3,780,825	7,731,516	11,512,341
		Note 13	Note 12				

All activities in the year are continuing.
The Charity had no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	729,931	726,308
Listed Investments	8	10,812,843	10,769,615
		<u>11,542,774</u>	<u>11,495,923</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	116,419	153,421
Cash at Bank and in Hand		44,603	313,526
		<u>161,022</u>	<u>466,947</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	10	(282,618)	(355,733)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(121,596)</u>	<u>111,214</u>
Provision for Liabilities and Charges	11	(109,251)	(94,796)
NET ASSETS		<u>11,311,927</u>	<u>11,512,341</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
Designated Funds		102,226	102,226
General Funds		3,609,697	3,678,599
		<u>3,711,923</u>	<u>3,780,825</u>
Restricted Funds			
	12	7,600,004	7,731,516
		<u>11,311,927</u>	<u>11,512,341</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 28 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Major General RJB Spencer
Chair of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

and


.....
Colonel DA Craft
Secretary of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: 22 Aug 24

Date: 22/8/24

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Operating activities		
Net income / (deficit) for the reporting period	(200,414)	(1,434,825)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,822	5,771
Dividends and interest from investments	(306,957)	(269,885)
(Gains) / Losses on investments	(173,348)	1,273,663
Decrease in stock of goods for resale	-	37,309
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	37,002	(46,302)
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors and provisions	(58,660)	(101,307)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(695,555)</u>	<u>(535,576)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	306,957	269,885
Accumulating dividends	(19,565)	(7,759)
Cash from investment income	<u>287,392</u>	<u>262,126</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	(10,445)	(18,000)
Purchase of investments	(550,000)	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	699,685	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>426,632</u>	<u>244,126</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(268,923)	(291,450)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	313,526	604,976
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u>44,603</u></u>	<u><u>313,526</u></u>

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and Charities Act 2011. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The Royal Signals Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements (see Risk Management in the Trustees' Report, page 6).

b. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Headquarters Officers Mess assets were revalued at 1 January 2015; this was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward. All other assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. As explained in note 7, historic assets owned prior to 1 January 1994 have not been capitalised.

Depreciation is applied on a straight line basis calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life and potential impairments are kept under review. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Headquarters Officers Mess	1%
Bands	15%
Regimental Headquarters fixtures and fittings	33%
Yacht Club - small boats and dinghies	15%

Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as the residual value is considered to be higher than the carrying value. Assets are continuously reviewed for potential impairment.

c. Investments, Investment Income and Gains

Investments are held in the BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund and Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares. They are valued at the bid price prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. Investment historic cost is the average cost per unit purchased or the market value when donated or transferred.

Dividends, other investment income and income from cash deposits are accounted for when the Charity is entitled to them. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

d. Taxation

The entity is a registered Charity and, as such, claims tax exemptions from all its United Kingdom income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Income tax recoverable represents tax which is recoverable in respect of tax credits from dividends receivable during the year and from gift aid subscriptions on which tax has been paid by the subscriber during the year.

e. Funds

Restricted funds are amounts which have been earmarked by the donors for specific purposes. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes, but they remain at their discretion (see notes 12 and 13).

f. Income

Income from donations, fundraising and events are accounted for on a receipts basis unless the income will be received and its value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Those funds provided for a specific purpose are taken to a restricted fund.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Subscriptions represent voluntary contributions received monthly from serving members and annually from retired officers of the Corps and are accounted for when they are receivable.

g. Grants Payable and Direct Charitable Expenditure

Grants paid and direct expenditure are accounted for when paid or when the liability is established with the third party. They are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity and in accordance with the objectives of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

h. Support and Shared Costs

Support and Shared Costs comprise expenditure incurred directly in support of charitable objectives and are attributable to the Charity's activities. Governance costs represent professional and statutory fees and other costs incurred in running the Charity. They are allocated to activities in proportion to their utilisation.

i. Debtors

Legacies receivable, subscriptions, loans and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

j. Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Provisions are not discounted to net present value as the difference would be immaterial to the financial statements.

k. Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Investments are included at fair value.

l. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to consider making any significant judgements and estimates where necessary. Apart from depreciation, there are no items in the financial statements where significant judgements and estimations have been made.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Donations	34,725	37,359
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	326,070	313,419
Legacies	4,911	267
	<u>365,706</u>	<u>351,045</u>
Restricted Funds		
Donations	34,721	37,357
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	441,998	425,793
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	4,958	5,143
Legacies	21,818	267
	<u>503,495</u>	<u>468,560</u>
Total Funds		
Donations	69,446	74,716
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	768,068	739,212
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	4,958	5,143
Legacies	26,729	534
	<u>869,201</u>	<u>819,605</u>

Subscriptions from serving members of the Corps are collected under the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. These are donated entirely voluntarily by the serving members of the Corps. Under Queen's Regulations (QR 5.613) the first 50% must be applied to Welfare purposes.

Soldiers' subscriptions are 110%. Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) subscribe at 140% of a days basic pay per annum of which 30% is used specifically for Sergeants' Messes. Officers' subscriptions are 190% of a days basic pay per annum of which 80% is used specifically in support of Officers' activities.

Retired Officers' subscriptions are voluntary and currently at a minimum of £10 a year.

Legacies are accrued for if they were notified as being receivable before the end of the year, either at the value actually received or estimated from the details of the estate provided by the executors.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	106,504	91,761
Interest on Deposit Accounts	428	77
	<u>106,932</u>	<u>91,838</u>
Restricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	199,272	177,908
Interest on Deposit Accounts	753	139
	<u>200,025</u>	<u>178,047</u>
Total Funds		
Gross Dividends	305,776	269,669
Interest on Deposit Accounts	1,181	216
	<u>306,957</u>	<u>269,885</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants from Other Organisations	-	123,360
RSI Events and Advertisements	8,950	11,980
	<u>8,950</u>	<u>135,340</u>
Restricted		
Grants from Other Organisations	110,299	146,100
Disposal of Redundant Corps Silverware	551	240
RSI Events and Advertisements	183,022	76,029
Wire Magazine subscriptions	8,263	8,849
	<u>302,135</u>	<u>231,218</u>
Total Funds	<u>311,085</u>	<u>366,558</u>

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Sporting	126,899	147,239
Sailing	-	19,045
Adventure Training	104,699	70,975
Messes, Heritage and History	131,000	125,000
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	33,263	64,557
Bands	15,533	8,141
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	17,540	15,355
RSI events, awards and publishing	41,053	40,892
Wire Magazine	56,599	49,822
Support and Shared costs		
Corps Activities	68,199	66,088
Governance	16,344	17,228
	<u>611,129</u>	<u>624,342</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)	2023	2022
	£	£
Restricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	476,712	336,021
Sporting	106,299	134,650
Sailing	-	2,850
Adventure Training	-	7,000
Messes, Heritage and History	98,254	110,151
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	72,151	31,404
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	20,067	24,471
RSI events, awards and publishing	220,061	62,240
Officers' Dinner & Social	17,187	15,213
Wire Magazine	8,263	8,849
Reunions and other costs	104,330	93,755
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	25,115	23,984
Veterans	33,486	31,978
Officer Activities	41,858	39,973
Governance	24,514	25,842
	1,248,297	948,381
Total Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	476,712	336,021
Sporting	233,198	281,889
Sailing	-	21,895
Adventure Training	104,699	77,975
Messes, Heritage and History	229,254	235,151
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	105,414	95,961
Bands	15,533	8,141
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	37,607	39,826
RSI events, awards and publishing	261,114	103,132
Officers' Dinner & Social	17,187	15,213
Wire Magazine	64,862	58,671
Reunions and other costs	104,330	93,755
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	25,115	23,984
Veterans	33,486	31,978
Corps and Officer Activities	110,057	106,061
Governance	40,858	43,070
	1,859,426	1,572,723

All welfare grants are to third party organisations and made for the benefit of both serving and retired members of the Corps (Regulars and Reserves) and their families.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) fosters professional development amongst the serving Corps, the retired Corps and their close colleagues in Defence and Industry.

Welfare Grants includes payments to other charities for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives:	2023	2022
	£	£
Army Benevolent Fund	35,000	35,000
various nursing homes with ex Royal Signals residents	7,750	-
	42,750	35,000

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Shared Support Costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	55,641	52,968
IT Support and Equipment Costs	6,353	5,733
Postage	432	630
Bank Charges	835	1,066
Depreciation	362	361
Total Shared Support Costs	63,623	60,758
Direct Corps Administration	1,226	2,132
	<u>64,849</u>	<u>62,890</u>
Restricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	90,783	86,421
IT Support and Equipment Costs	10,366	9,353
Postage	706	1,029
Bank Charges	1,363	1,740
Depreciation	590	590
	<u>103,808</u>	<u>99,133</u>
Total Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	146,424	139,389
IT Support and Equipment Costs	16,719	15,086
Postage	1,138	1,659
Bank Charges	2,198	2,806
Depreciation	952	951
Total Shared Support Costs	167,431	159,891
Direct Corps Administration	1,226	2,132
	<u>168,657</u>	<u>162,023</u>
Attributed to:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Corps Fund	64,849	62,890
Restricted Funds		
Officers Fund	50,229	47,967
Welfare	10,045	9,593
Veterans	43,534	41,573
	<u>168,657</u>	<u>162,023</u>
Total Expenditure included the following costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	92,598	84,600
Social Security Costs	10,829	9,586
Pension Scheme Costs	3,111	2,836
	<u>106,538</u>	<u>97,020</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>2,651</u>	<u>1,600</u>
Restricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	243,977	208,012
Social Security Costs	23,850	17,362
Pension Scheme Costs	7,553	6,189
	<u>275,381</u>	<u>231,565</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>4,171</u>	<u>4,171</u>
Total Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	336,576	292,612
Social Security Costs	34,679	26,948
Pension Scheme Costs	10,664	9,025
	<u>381,919</u>	<u>328,585</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>6,822</u>	<u>5,771</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES (continued)

One employee earned £60,000 - £70,000 (2022: one employee).

The average number of employees in the year was 5 full time (2022: 5) and 3 part time = 2 full-time equivalents (2022: 3 = 2 full-time equivalents).

The Charity benefits from staff costs, administration and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, contributing to esprit de corps. It is not practical to quantify such costs with any certainty.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Governance Costs included the following		
Unrestricted Funds		
Audit	7,156	7,111
Investment Advice	7,684	7,822
Trustee Expenses	715	1,149
Trustee Meetings	195	520
Trustee Liability Insurance	594	626
	<u>16,344</u>	<u>17,228</u>
Restricted Funds		
Audit	10,734	10,667
Investment Advice	11,525	11,733
Trustee Expenses	1,072	1,724
Trustee Meetings	293	780
Trustee Liability Insurance	890	938
	<u>24,514</u>	<u>25,842</u>
Total Funds		
Audit	17,890	17,778
Investment Advice	19,209	19,555
Trustee Expenses	1,787	2,873
Trustee Meetings	488	1,300
Trustee Liability Insurance	1,484	1,564
	<u>40,858</u>	<u>43,070</u>

3 Trustees (2022: 3) received the above reimbursements of expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation) none of which were paid to third parties.

Key Personnel

No Trustee (2022: None) received any remuneration or benefit from the Fund or any Related Parties.

The Regimental Secretary and the Assistant Regimental Secretary are employees of the Ministry of Defence.

Honorariums were paid at a total cost to the Charity of £22,323 (2022: £20,281).

The Corps Accountant and RSI Director (due to changes in the year, 3 individuals fulfilled this role) are employees of the Charity at a total cost of £148,140 (2022: £130,002).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	HQ Officers Mess	Historic Assets	Regimental HQ	Yacht Club	Bands	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2023						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2023	360,000	381,111	7,718	35,267	22,347	806,443
Additions	-	8,450	-	-	1,995	10,445
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>360,000</u>	<u>389,561</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>24,342</u>	<u>816,888</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2023	27,916	-	6,766	35,267	10,186	80,135
Charge for Year	3,600	-	952	-	2,270	6,822
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>31,516</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>12,456</u>	<u>86,957</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2023	328,484	389,561	-	-	11,886	729,931
At 31 December 2022	<u>332,084</u>	<u>381,111</u>	<u>952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,161</u>	<u>726,308</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2022						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2022	360,000	370,111	7,718	35,267	15,347	788,443
Additions	-	11,000	-	-	7,000	18,000
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>360,000</u>	<u>381,111</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>22,347</u>	<u>806,443</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2022	24,316	-	5,815	35,267	8,966	74,364
Charge for Year	3,600	-	951	-	1,220	5,771
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>27,916</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,766</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>10,186</u>	<u>80,135</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2022	<u>332,084</u>	<u>381,111</u>	<u>952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,161</u>	<u>726,308</u>

The assets above relate directly to charitable purposes.

The assets are kept continuously under review for potential impairment.

Headquarters Officers Mess

A professional valuation in 2014 of the furniture in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled £360,000, all of which are assets for which the risks and rewards belong to the Charity. This was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward.

Historic Assets

Reliable cost information is not available for historic assets acquired prior to 1 January 1994 which have not been capitalised. Recent valuations of silverware and paintings in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled over £1.25 million and other locations were assessed in the year.

Since 1 January 1994 historic assets have been acquired for the Blandford Garrison Church £22,365, the National Arboretum Memorial £22,185 and Silver and Artworks £345,011 (2022: £336,561). Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value.

8. INVESTMENTS - LISTED

	2023 £	2022 £
Market Value at 1 January	10,769,615	12,035,519
Additions	569,565	7,759
Disposal Proceeds	(699,685)	-
(Losses) / Gains in year	173,348	(1,273,663)
Market Value at 31 December	<u>10,812,843</u>	<u>10,769,615</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,413,426</u>	<u>9,417,356</u>
Held in:-		
BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund	7,022,550	6,932,890
Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares Accumulation Units	3,340,293	3,836,725
BlackRock Sterling Liquidity Fund shares	450,000	-
	<u>10,812,843</u>	<u>10,769,615</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Subscriptions	64,589	61,588
Loans	-	1,002
Other Debtors	15,239	10,534
Prepayments	36,591	80,297
	<u>116,419</u>	<u>153,421</u>

Debtors do not include any amounts due in more than one year, apart from Loans.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance with Related Entities	107,805	105,335
Social Security and Other Taxes	9,377	8,737
Balances held as Agent (see note 15)	68,701	60,619
Other Creditors	42,489	43,457
Accruals	22,478	22,478
Deferred Income and Provisions		
Brought forward from prior year	115,107	222,056
Used or repaid in year	(115,107)	(218,452)
Arising in the year	31,768	111,503
Carried forward	31,768	115,107
	<u>282,618</u>	<u>355,733</u>

Deferred Income arises when receipts relate to activities planned for the future.

11. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Employees' Retirement Provision	<u>109,251</u>	<u>94,796</u>

Provision for the amounts due to employees upon their retirement in accordance with their employment contract.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 January	Income	Expenditure	Investment	31 December
	£	£	£	Gains £	£
2023					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,048,781	466,290	(642,148)	81,258	4,954,181
Officers' Activities Fund	2,157,847	360,089	(335,577)	23,253	2,205,612
Sergeants' Messes Fund	118,622	53,135	(73,315)	1,909	100,351
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	299,417	8,986	(84,525)	5,075	228,953
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	78,383	1,908	-	1,078	81,369
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	28,464	685	-	387	29,536
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	114,562	(114,562)	-	-
	<u>7,731,514</u>	<u>1,005,655</u>	<u>(1,250,127)</u>	<u>112,960</u>	<u>7,600,002</u>
2022					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,722,537	421,372	(489,631)	(605,497)	5,048,781
Officers' Activities Fund	2,262,793	238,499	(178,675)	(164,770)	2,157,847
Sergeants' Messes Fund	173,601	53,673	(90,282)	(18,370)	118,622
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	371,948	8,485	(40,943)	(40,073)	299,417
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	85,090	1,801	-	(8,508)	78,383
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	30,871	646	-	(3,053)	28,464
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	153,349	(153,349)	-	-
	<u>8,646,840</u>	<u>877,825</u>	<u>(952,880)</u>	<u>(840,271)</u>	<u>7,731,514</u>

Restricted Funds arise from income received for specified purposes and are held separately until expended.

Welfare & Veterans Fund - This Restricted Fund serves members of the Corps, fostering comradeship and providing welfare support to those in need. It receives donations, legacies, and other voluntary income that have been canvassed for welfare purposes. It receives grants from the Army Benevolent Fund to augment, on a case-by-case basis, the welfare grants made. Welfare grants and costs are initially funded by "One Day's Pay" Subscriptions as described in Note 2.

Officers' Activities Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Officers' purposes, such as dinners, Officers' Messes and other costs specifically for the benefit of Officers.

Sergeants' Messes Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Sergeants' Messes' improvements and other costs specifically for the benefit of Warrant Officers and SNCOs.

Disbanded Units Funds - These Funds arise from disbanded units and are held to assist with the formation of new units and for morale and efficiency purposes similar to the main objects of the Charity. They may not however be used for welfare.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January £	Transfers £	Transactions £	31 December £
2023				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	629	-	-	629
Total Designated Funds	102,226	-	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	3,678,599	-	(68,902)	3,609,697
	<u>3,780,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(68,902)</u>	<u>3,711,923</u>
2022				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	629	-	-	629
Total Designated Funds	102,226	-	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	4,198,099	-	(519,500)	3,678,599
	<u>4,300,325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(519,500)</u>	<u>3,780,825</u>

Designated Funds are Unrestricted Funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees. The Yacht Club Expedition Fund is an unexpended grant that has been allowed to be carried forward and the Yacht Club Offshore Account accumulated charter fees for the use of the yachts, and is used for offshore races and events.

The transactions of the "Corps - General Fund" are as shown on page 10, Statement of Financial Activities, Unrestricted Funds.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity is related to The Royal Signals Museum (an incorporated charity) and its subsidiary The Royal Signals Museum Trading Company Limited due to their related objectives and activities.

In the year grants were made to The Royal Signals Museum of £131,000 (2022: £125,000).

At the end of the year the debts with The Royal Signals Museum and its subsidiary company amounted to £107,804 payable (2022: £105,335 payable).

15. AGENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity acts as agent for activities related to its Morale and Efficiency Objectives; the larger funds being:-

The **Royal Signals Officers Domestic Fund** purchases wines, etc for the HQ Officers' Mess and maintains the wine cellar, its income arises from the consumption of wines at special events. It also operates a second hand uniform sales and rental facility. At 31 December 2023 the balance held amounted to £35,906 (2022: £31,308).

The **Royal Signals Rugby Club** sells tickets for national rugby matches (Army v Navy and Army v RAF) and applies the profits to boost the finances of the Corps' rugby season. At 31 December 2023 the balance held amounted to £63,912 (2022: £67,195), of which £33,563 was held in a specific bank account..

16. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
2023			
Tangible Fixed Assets	56,436	673,495	729,931
Investments	3,886,334	6,926,509	10,812,843
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	(230,847)	-	(230,847)
	<u>3,711,923</u>	<u>7,600,004</u>	<u>11,311,927</u>
2022			
Tangible Fixed Assets	67,662	658,646	726,308
Investments	3,696,745	7,072,870	10,769,615
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	16,418	-	16,418
	<u>3,780,825</u>	<u>7,731,516</u>	<u>11,512,341</u>

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales - Charity number 284923

Accounts

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2022

Charity No : 284923

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 7
Independent Auditor's Report	8 - 9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered name: The Royal Signals Charity

Charity registration number: 284923

Address of the principal office: Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp
Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Trustees

Corporate Trustee:
The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL)

Acting as Directors of RSTL, as if Trustees:

Major General TG Inshaw CB
Major General D McDowall CBE
Brigadier EM Flint
Brigadier TJP Watts OBE
Colonel EA Mortimore
Captain MC Fitton

appointed:

Colonel KJ Bruce-Smith TD from 1 June 2022
Lieutenant Colonel P Wright from 11 January 2023
Warrant Officer 2 D Roserie from 11 January 2023

retired:

Major General J Stokoe CB CBE to 11 January 2023
Brigadier RJ Carter to 31 March 2022
Colonel MC Brookes ADC to 22 March 2023
Lieutenant Colonel JM Picton QC to 31 May 2022
Staff Sergeant JM Fatiaki to 11 January 2023

Secretary

Colonel DA Craft

Independent Auditor

Crowe U.K. LLP
St James House, St James Square
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3PR

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Cox and Kings Branch
PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

CCLA Investment Management Limited
1 Angle Lane, London, EC4R 3AB

Solicitors

Wilson Solicitors LLP
Alexandra House, St Johns Street
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2SB

Investment Advisers

Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited
10 Old Burlington Street, London, W1S 3AG

Investment Managers

BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL

Troy Asset Management Limited
33 Davies Street, London, W1K 4BP

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. 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 Trust Deed, 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Governance

The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) changed its name from The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) on 16 January 2020.

The Royal Signals Charity is a registered charity constituted under a Trust Deed; registration number 284923 dated 13 May 1982. The Charity Commission scheme was amended on 8 May 2012 and The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL), a non-charitable company limited by shares, became the Corporate Trustee of the Charity replacing all the previous Trustees of the Charity.

The Royal Signals Association (RSA) was a separate unregistered charity, whose objectives and activities were carried out by RSC (formerly RSBF). This arrangement was formalised during 2015 with the constitution of RSA being adopted on 14 March 2015 and RSA was registered with the Charity Commission with RSTL as its Corporate Trustee. The Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction in November 2015 linking RSA to RSC (formerly RSBF).

The Directors of RSTL effectively act as if they were the Trustees of the Charity, and they are referred to as "The Trustees" in this report and the accompanying financial statements. They are appointed by the Master of Signals (Chairman of the Corps Council).

The Trustees are familiar with the work of the Charity through their service in the Royal Corps of Signals. Additionally an induction pack comprising the governing documents, statement of accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know" and other such documents are given to new Trustees, and they are encouraged to attend relevant seminars.

The Trustees aim to follow charity sector best practice and have familiarised themselves with the updated version of the Charity Governance Code (the "Code"). They consider that the Charity's governance framework aligns with much of the Code. The Trustees have been briefed on the Confederation of British Services and Ex-Services Organisations (Cobseo) Aide Memoire approach and the charity participated in initial trials of their self-reporting tool. The board have agreed to adopt this approach, so that they fully comply.

Structure and Management

The Royal Signals Charity is the amalgamation of the Royal Signals Association Fund, the Royal Signals Officers Fund and the Royal Signals Corps Fund which were separate Charitable Trusts. Under the above mentioned Trust Deed they are managed as one organisation, with financial differentiation as restricted funds.

The Trustees are served by a number of committees that are governed by terms of reference and are charged with discrete objectives as follows:

- The RSA Central Committee considers branch and veteran matters.
- The Royal Signals Institution Council maintains strong, professional and social links between the Royal Corps of Signals, professional bodies and other relevant areas of defence, in order to foster the professional well being of the Corps and to contribute to the development of the delivery of Information and Communications Services within Defence and Security.
- The Royal Signals Games Club and The Royal Signals Yacht Club promote sporting and adventurous activities.
- There are also management and finance committees for the Headquarters Officers' Mess, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Messes, Corps Music and Corps Heritage.

The Trustees agree the strategy for the Charity including grant making, investment, reserves, risk management and approval of budgets. Grant making within the approved budget is delegated to the chairs of the committees.

The Royal Signals Museum is an independent charity which is related as a result of complementary objectives and activities. The Trustees have agreed to support the Museum financially, see note 14 to the financial statements.

The Charity is a member of Cobseo and has close working relationships with other charities; the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and The Royal British Legion (TRBL). SSAFA-FH and TRBL undertake welfare casework on behalf of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Structure and Management (continued)

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to Colonel DA Craft (Corps Secretary) who can be contacted at Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals, Griffin House, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH. He is assisted by the Senior Management Team: Lieutenant Colonel S Lockwood (Assistant Corps Secretary), Colonel AE Percival (RSI Director) and Mr MJ Fisher (Corps Accountant). The first two are Ministry of Defence Civil Servants and the last two are employees of the Charity, whose remuneration is set by reference to equivalent Civil Service Grades and market rates of pay.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity set out in the governing scheme are:

- To promote and maintain the physical efficiency and morale of The Royal Corps of Signals.
- To relieve either generally or individually by way of donation, grant, or loan, the following who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress;
 - past and present Signallers and their families and dependants; and
 - the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.
- The payment of donations, subscriptions or grants to charitable organisations concerned with the employment or welfare of Signallers and their dependants.

The aims of the Charity are:

- To fund the activities of the serving and retired members of Royal Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.
- To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity.

The activities for the year result from demands within these aims to support the activities of the serving members of the Corps, to foster comradeship and to meet benevolence requirements.

Grant Making Policy

Applications for welfare grants are judged on their merits, with need being the most significant factor. There is no limit set on the amount spent on benevolence within any year. Grants up to £1,500 are considered electronically using Cobseo's Case Management System.

Grants in support of other activities that fall outside the delegated budgets are submitted by the relevant committee to the Corps Secretary or the Trustees for their consideration, depending on a range of factors which allow some delegation of authority. If the submission is particularly significant or would involve a major change in policy it could be referred to the Corps Council.

Budgets are set for all expenditure other than welfare, no specific targets are set beyond these budgets, they can be exceeded if suitable cases can be made.

Achievements and Performance

Activities

There is a continuing requirement to fund adventurous training expeditions, sport, social and recreational events and professional development, all of which contribute to the efficiency, effectiveness and morale of the Corps. It is equally important to advertise the availability of financial assistance for those who are eligible and grant making to deserving welfare cases.

The Royal Corps of Signals was formed in 1920 and many special events and activities were planned for 2020 to celebrate the Centenary. The restrictions resulting from the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic prevented most of these, some were postponed to 2021 and more were completed in 2022. No more "Centenary" events or activities will take place beyond 2022.

The costs of cancelled events and activities were initially written off in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020, assuming that they could not be recovered or carried forward for future use. The sponsorship, grants and personal contributions attracted for these were carried forward to 2021 and again to 2022 on the basis that they could have to be repaid. A few of these events and activities took place in 2021 and in 2022, a few costs were reimbursed and a few grants were repaid. Assurances have been obtained that refunds will not now be needed, so the unused sponsorship grants have not been carried forward to 2023 and released to income in the 2022 financial year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Activities (continued)

Adventure training, yacht club and sports activities have started to return to "pre-Covid-19" levels, including postponed Centenary trips overseas, resulting in combined costs of £382K compared to the combined cost of £229K in 2021 and £318K in 2020.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) continued to promote professional development of the Officers and Soldiers of the Royal Signals, serving and retired. A full programme of events (lectures, workshops, etc) took place, though the annual seminar and London lecture/dinner had to be postponed till 2023, due to a rail strike. The RSI continued to recognise the academic, professional, engineering and operational excellence of the Corps by presenting a significant number of awards in the year.

Benevolence

The total cost of benevolent welfare was £336K (2021:£285K & 2020:£339K) including overheads directly attributable to welfare. Within that figure £35K (2021 & 2020:£42K) was paid to other charities with similar objectives, for their support of signallers. The number of welfare grants (excluding Christmas grants) in 2022 was 353 (2021:299 & 2020:376). The earlier figures were relatively low, mainly due to the Covid-19 "lockdown" when caseworkers were making fewer visits in support of applications.

Major grants (grants of £801 up to the max of £1,500) from the Charity assisted with the provision of electric scooters, level access showers, grants to replace household items such as carpets or white goods, grants to carry out urgent repairs to houses, grants for priority debts such as rent and utilities, grants for mobility aids such as riser chairs, stair lifts, grants to assist with re-training and grants for removals and rental bonds.

The Trustees are most grateful to the honorary Welfare Officers in branches of the Royal Signals Association and the caseworkers of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association-Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and the Royal British Legion (RBL) for the enormous contribution that they make towards the welfare of serving and retired Signallers and their dependants.

Material Investments - Policy and Performance

Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited (independent investment advisers) help develop the overall strategy of the portfolio and advise on individual transactions and circumstances. The investment policy continues to be to maximise return at medium risk over the long term.

64% of the invested portfolio remained within the Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund managed by BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited, the remaining 36% was held in Trojan 'S' shares fund of Troy Asset Management Limited.

Total dividend income amounted to £270K (2021:£260K), £8K (2021:£6K) arose from accumulating units and so was automatically re-invested, and from the income units £262K (2021:£254) arose in cash. Total losses of £1,274K (2021:£1,131 gains) arose from the investments in the year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Financial Review

Total income amounted to £1,457K (2021:£1,308K). Subscription income increased to £744K in 2022 from £735K in 2021. Donations amounted to £75K (2021:£80K) and Legacies were less than £1K (2021:£6K). Income from Charitable Activities included £123K where confirmation was received that unused Centenary income did not need to be returned to the donor.

The principal funding source continued to be the voluntary subscriptions of 110% of a day's pay a year from the members of the serving Corps. Officers subscribe a further 80% of a day's pay which is used specifically for officer's activities, and Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers subscribe a further 30% of a day's pay which is used to fund improvements to Sergeants' Messes and their social activities. The Trustees are most grateful to the serving Corps for their continued support.

Total expenditure amounted to £1,618K (2021:£1,313K). The increase of £305K is largely due to the relaxation from the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in 2020 and 2021.

The cost of Welfare grants increased by £51K from £285K in 2021 to £336K in 2022.

The total cost of Sporting activities, including Sailing, was £304K in 2022 (2021:£219K), of which £137K (2021:£86K) was funded by external Sponsorships and Grants, the unfunded amount was £166K (2021:£134K).

Adventure Training grants cost £78K (2021:£10K), of which £7K (2021:Nil) was funded by external grants.

Messes, Heritage and History combined with Other Assistance to the serving Corps amounted to £331K (2021:£248K). The increase of £83K included £47K additional support to Warrant Officers and Sergeants Messes from their Restricted Fund, an extra £15K grant to the Museum (2022:£125K, 2021:£110K), and £12K grants to units for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022.

The cost of Raising Funds in 2022 was £45K (2021:£11K), which included a provision against the stock of unsold 2020 Centenary memorabilia.

Before the revaluation of investments the deficit for the year was £161K (2021:£5K deficit). After the investment losses of £1,274K (2021:£1,131K gains) the total of the fund balances was £11,512K (2021:£12,947K).

At the end of the year the unrestricted Corps Funds amounted to £3,781K (2021:£4,300K) and the total of restricted funds was £7,732K (2021:£8,647K).

The Charity benefits from staff costs and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as part of their contribution to esprit de corps. These cannot be meaningfully quantified or evaluated.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities for the charity are carried out by volunteers with assistance from charity staff. The charity does not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participators.

The Royal Signals Charity treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the utmost importance and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual they consider this might apply to.

No complaints relating to fundraising activities have been received by the charity during this financial period. However, the charity has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Corps Secretary. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the Trustees to determine what further action might be required.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should support or undertake. The Charity provides public benefit by enhancing the morale and efficiency of serving service personnel to more effectively perform their role within the Royal Corps of Signals, supporting comradeship within the wider Corps family (regular, reserves and retired), and providing benevolence to individuals and their families where there is need.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that the public benefit requirements have been met.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the operational and business risks and confirm that systems have been established to manage these risks. A risk management plan has been established and is reviewed regularly. There are measures in place to prevent fraud and theft, to ensure the physical security of data and buildings and to maintain business continuity. The management of risk on investments in relation to the market is carried out by RSTL and is explained in more detail later in this report.

The Trustees have identified strategic risks that could have a severe impact on both income and/or expenditure, as follows:

- amalgamation of the serving Corps with another so that most of the income is lost,
- further reduction in the size of the Corps under future Strategic Defence and Security Reviews,
- reduction in support of the Charity by removal of the personnel, premises and infrastructure provided by the Ministry of Defence,
- and, permanent reduction in investment values and income earning capacity.

These risks can be mitigated by maintaining sufficient Reserves to enable the Charity's activities to continue (see Reserves Policy below).

The Trustees do not believe that there is a significant risk to the Charity as a Going Concern.

Reserves Policy

At current levels of activity the Charity needs an investment return (income plus gains) of about £590K to meet its costs. At an average rate of return of about 5% this suggests the need for an investment portfolio of around £12M, at a rate of return of 4% the portfolio would need to be nearly £15M.

As mentioned above, the Trustees have identified strategic risks that can only be mitigated by holding reserves. They have calculated that an amount of over £2M in addition to that mentioned above would be needed to cover these risks enabling ongoing commitments to be fulfilled. This gives an investment target of between £14M and £17M. At 31 December 2022 the market value of the investment portfolio was £10.8M.

The Free Reserves (unrestricted and undesignated) amounted to £3,679K (2021:£4,198K), which would be sufficient to meet the short term results of the identified risks, see Note 13. The Designated Funds amounted to £102K (2021:£102K), and the Restricted Funds totalled £7,732K (2021:£8,647K), see Notes 12 and 13.

The Reserves Policy is therefore, to allow funds to continue to accumulate, when surplus investment return arises. In the event that any strategic risks arise before sufficient reserves have been accumulated, it has been accepted that the charity would reduce the support it gives to Morale and Efficiency (but not Welfare).

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees plan to continue support for the activities outlined above in the coming years and look forward to being able to support future expenditure plans while continuing to monitor closely both the need for benevolence and the performance of investments.

The Trustees have conducted a strategic review into all aspects of the Charity, its activities and procedures. They are implementing many of the recommendations in pursuit of greater efficiency and improved exposure of the Charity and its potential grant giving. The Trustees will work closely with the head of the serving Corps to maintain or improve the level of voluntary subscription income from officers and soldiers.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (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 SORP;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions, 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. 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:



Major General TG Inshaw CB
Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: **30 March 2023**

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Signals Charity ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept by the Charity; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011, together with the Charities SORP (FRS102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence including that with the Charity Commission and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP, Statutory Auditor
St James House, St James Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR



2023

Crowe U.K. LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**


	Note	2022			2021		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	351,045	468,560	819,605	348,683	472,393	821,076
Other trading activities		547	-	547	20,561	-	20,561
Investments	3	91,838	178,047	269,885	89,515	170,550	260,065
Charitable activities	4	135,340	231,218	366,558	17,762	188,337	206,099
TOTAL INCOME		578,770	877,825	1,456,595	476,521	831,280	1,307,801
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising funds		40,536	4,498	45,034	8,965	1,896	10,861
Charitable activities	5	624,342	948,381	1,572,723	522,614	779,624	1,302,238
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		664,878	952,879	1,617,757	531,579	781,520	1,313,099
Operating surplus / (deficit)		(86,108)	(75,054)	(161,162)	(55,058)	49,760	(5,298)
Net gains / (losses) on investment assets	8	(433,392)	(840,271)	(1,273,663)	389,237	741,620	1,130,857
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(519,500)	(915,325)	(1,434,825)	334,179	791,380	1,125,559
Fund balances at 1 January		4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166	3,966,146	7,855,461	11,821,607
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER		3,780,825	7,731,516	11,512,341	4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166
		Note 13	Note 12				

All activities in the year are continuing.
The Charity had no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	<u>2022</u> £	<u>2021</u> £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	726,308	714,079
Listed Investments	8	10,769,615	12,035,519
		<u>11,495,923</u>	<u>12,749,598</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock of Goods for Resale		-	37,309
Debtors	9	153,421	107,119
Cash at Bank and in Hand		313,526	604,976
		<u>466,947</u>	<u>749,404</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(355,733)</u>	<u>(470,389)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		111,214	279,015
Provision for Liabilities and Charges	11	(94,796)	(81,447)
NET ASSETS		<u>11,512,341</u>	<u>12,947,166</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
Designated Funds		102,226	102,226
General Funds		3,678,599	4,198,099
	13	<u>3,780,825</u>	<u>4,300,325</u>
Restricted Funds	12	7,731,516	8,646,841
		<u>11,512,341</u>	<u>12,947,166</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on **30 March 2023** and signed on its behalf by:



Major General TG Inshaw CB
 Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

and



Colonel DA Craft
 Secretary of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Operating activities		
Net income / (deficit) for the reporting period	(1,434,825)	1,125,559
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,771	8,892
(Gain) / Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	(2,555)
Dividends and interest from investments	(269,885)	(260,065)
(Gains) / Losses on investments	1,273,663	(1,130,857)
Decrease in stock of goods for resale	37,309	36,727
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	(46,302)	158,160
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors and provisions	(101,307)	2,334
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(535,576)</u>	<u>(61,805)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	269,885	260,065
Accumulating dividends	(7,759)	(6,127)
Cash from investment income	<u>262,126</u>	<u>253,938</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	(18,000)	(6,448)
Proceeds of disposal of fixed assets	-	2,555
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>244,126</u>	<u>250,045</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(291,450)	188,240
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	604,976	416,736
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u>313,526</u></u>	<u><u>604,976</u></u>

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and Charities Act 2011. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The Royal Signals Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements (see Risk Management in the Trustees' Report, page 6).

b. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Headquarters Officers Mess assets were revalued at 1 January 2015; this was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward. All other assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. As explained in note 7, historic assets owned prior to 1 January 1994 have not been capitalised.

Depreciation is applied on a straight line basis calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life and potential impairments are kept under review. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Headquarters Officers Mess	1%
Bands	15%
Regimental Headquarters fixtures and fittings	33%
Yacht Club - small boats and dinghies	15%

Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as the residual value is considered to be higher than the carrying value. Assets are continuously reviewed for potential impairment.

c. Investments, Investment Income and Gains

Investments are held in the BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund and Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares. They are valued at the bid price prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. Investment historic cost is the average cost per unit purchased or the market value when donated or transferred.

Dividends, other investment income and income from cash deposits are accounted for when the Charity is entitled to them. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

d. Taxation

The entity is a registered Charity and, as such, claims tax exemptions from all its United Kingdom income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Income tax recoverable represents tax which is recoverable in respect of tax credits from dividends receivable during the year and from gift aid subscriptions on which tax has been paid by the subscriber during the year.

e. Funds

Restricted funds are amounts which have been earmarked by the donors for specific purposes. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes, but they remain at their discretion (see notes 12 and 13).

f. Income

Income from donations, fundraising and events are accounted for on a receipts basis unless the income will be received and its value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Those funds provided for a specific purpose are taken to a restricted fund.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Subscriptions represent voluntary contributions received monthly from serving members and annually from retired officers of the Corps and are accounted for when they are receivable.

g. Grants Payable and Direct Charitable Expenditure

Grants paid and direct expenditure are accounted for when paid or when the liability is established with the third party. They are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity and in accordance with the objectives of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

h. Support and Shared Costs

Support and Shared Costs comprise expenditure incurred directly in support of charitable objectives and are attributable to the Charity's activities. Governance costs represent professional and statutory fees and other costs incurred in running the Charity. They are allocated to activities in proportion to their utilisation.

i. Stock of Goods for Resale

Stock of goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

i. Debtors

Legacies receivable, subscriptions, loans and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

j. Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Provisions are not discounted to net present value as the difference would be immaterial to the financial statements.

k. Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Investments are included at fair value.

l. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to consider making any significant judgements and estimates where necessary. Apart from depreciation, there are no items in the financial statements where significant judgements and estimations have been made.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Donations	37,359	39,831
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	313,419	308,177
Legacies	267	675
	<u>351,045</u>	<u>348,683</u>
Restricted Funds		
Donations	37,357	39,830
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	425,793	418,805
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	5,143	8,083
Legacies	267	5,675
	<u>468,560</u>	<u>472,393</u>
Total Funds		
Donations	74,716	79,661
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	739,212	726,982
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	5,143	8,083
Legacies	534	6,350
	<u>819,605</u>	<u>821,076</u>

Subscriptions from serving members of the Corps are collected under the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. These are donated entirely voluntarily by the serving members of the Corps. Under Queen's Regulations (QR 5.613) the first 50% must be applied to Welfare purposes.

Soldiers' subscriptions are 110%. Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) subscribe at 140% of a days basic pay per annum of which 30% is used specifically for Sergeants' Messes. Officers' subscriptions are 190% of a days basic pay per annum of which 80% is used specifically in support of Officers' activities.

Retired Officers' subscriptions are voluntary and currently at a minimum of £10 a year.

Legacies are accrued for if they were notified as being receivable before the end of the year, either at the value actually received or estimated from the details of the estate provided by the executors.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	91,761	89,493
Interest on Deposit Accounts	77	22
	<u>91,838</u>	<u>89,515</u>
Restricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	177,908	170,511
Interest on Deposit Accounts	139	39
	<u>178,047</u>	<u>170,550</u>
Total Funds		
Gross Dividends	269,669	260,004
Interest on Deposit Accounts	216	61
	<u>269,885</u>	<u>260,065</u>
4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants from Other Organisations	123,360	-
RSI Events and Advertisements	11,980	15,207
RSYC Charter Income	-	-
RSYC Profit on Disposals	-	2,555
	<u>135,340</u>	<u>17,762</u>
Restricted		
Grants from Other Organisations	146,100	87,893
Disposal of Redundant Corps Silverware	240	343
RSI Events and Advertisements	76,029	94,097
Wire Magazine subscriptions	8,849	6,004
	<u>231,218</u>	<u>188,337</u>
Total Funds	<u>366,558</u>	<u>206,099</u>
5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Sporting	147,239	107,768
Sailing	19,045	26,409
Adventure Training	70,975	9,711
Messes, Heritage and History	125,000	110,024
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	64,557	58,648
Bands	8,141	11,365
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	15,355	14,348
RSI events, awards and publishing	40,892	50,517
Wire Magazine	49,822	50,175
Reunions and other costs	-	-
Support and Shared costs		
Corps Activities	66,088	66,228
Governance	17,228	17,421
	<u>624,342</u>	<u>522,614</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)	2022 £	2021 £
Restricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	336,021	285,068
Sporting	134,650	78,000
Sailing	2,850	7,393
Adventure Training	7,000	-
Messes, Heritage and History	110,151	62,085
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	31,404	16,897
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	24,471	20,592
RSI events, awards and publishing	62,240	130,208
Officers' Dinner & Social	15,213	5,168
Wire Magazine	8,849	6,004
Reunions and other costs	93,755	46,879
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	23,984	23,800
Veterans	31,978	31,733
Officer Activities	39,973	39,667
Governance	25,842	26,130
	948,381	779,624
Total Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	336,021	285,068
Sporting	281,889	185,768
Sailing	21,895	33,802
Adventure Training	77,975	9,711
Messes, Heritage and History	235,151	172,109
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	95,961	75,545
Bands and Display Team	8,141	11,365
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	39,826	34,940
RSI events, awards and publishing	103,132	180,725
Officers' Dinner & Social	15,213	5,168
Wire Magazine	58,671	56,179
Reunions and other costs	93,755	46,879
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	23,984	23,800
Veterans	31,978	31,733
Corps and Officer Activities	106,061	105,895
Governance	43,070	43,551
	1,572,723	1,302,238

All welfare grants are to third party organisations and made for the benefit of both serving and retired members of the Corps (Regulars and Reserves) and their families.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) fosters professional development amongst the serving Corps, the retired Corps and their close colleagues in Defence and Industry.

Welfare Grants includes payments to other charities for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives:

	2022 £	2021 £
Army Benevolent Fund	35,000	35,000
various nursing homes with ex Royal Signals residents	-	7,250
	35,000	42,250

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Shared Support Costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	52,968	49,970
IT Support and Equipment Costs	5,733	8,869
Postage	630	625
Bank Charges	1,066	468
Depreciation	361	361
Total Shared Support Costs	60,758	60,293
Direct Corps Administration	2,132	2,761
	62,890	63,054
Restricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	86,421	81,529
IT Support and Equipment Costs	9,353	14,470
Postage	1,029	1,021
Bank Charges	1,740	764
Depreciation	590	590
	99,133	98,374
Total Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	139,389	131,499
IT Support and Equipment Costs	15,086	23,339
Postage	1,659	1,646
Bank Charges	2,806	1,232
Depreciation	951	951
Total Shared Support Costs	159,891	158,667
Direct Corps Administration	2,132	2,761
	162,023	161,428
Attributed to:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Corps Fund	62,890	63,054
Restricted Funds		
Officers Fund	47,967	47,600
Welfare	9,593	9,520
Veterans	41,573	41,254
	162,023	161,428
Total Expenditure included the following costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	84,600	82,212
Social Security Costs	9,585	7,384
Pension Scheme Costs	2,836	2,738
	97,021	92,333
Depreciation Charges for the Year	1,600	4,721
Restricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	208,013	193,618
Social Security Costs	17,363	15,014
Pension Scheme Costs	6,189	5,076
	231,565	213,708
Depreciation Charges for the Year	4,171	4,171
Total Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	292,613	275,829
Social Security Costs	26,948	22,398
Pension Scheme Costs	9,025	7,814
	328,586	306,041
Depreciation Charges for the Year	5,771	8,892

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES (continued)

One employee earned £60,000 or more (2021: one employee).

The average number of employees in the year was 5 full time (2021: 4) and 3 part time = 2 full-time equivalents (2021: 4 = 2.5 full-time equivalents).

The Charity benefits from staff costs, administration and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, contributing to esprit de corps. It is not practical to quantify such costs with any certainty.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Governance Costs included the following		
Unrestricted Funds		
Audit	7,111	6,408
Legal Fees	-	911
Investment Advice	7,822	8,418
Trustee Expenses	1,149	590
Trustee Meetings	520	190
Trustee Liability Insurance	626	904
	<u>17,228</u>	<u>17,421</u>
Restricted Funds		
Audit	10,667	9,612
Legal Fees	-	1,366
Investment Advice	11,733	12,626
Trustee Expenses	1,724	884
Trustee Meetings	780	286
Trustee Liability Insurance	938	1,356
	<u>25,842</u>	<u>26,130</u>
Total Funds		
Audit	17,778	16,020
Legal Fees	-	2,277
Investment Advice	19,555	21,044
Trustee Expenses	2,873	1,474
Trustee Meetings	1,300	476
Trustee Liability Insurance	1,564	2,260
	<u>43,070</u>	<u>43,551</u>

3 Trustees (2021: 2) received the above reimbursements of expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation) none of which were paid to third parties.

Key Personnel

No Trustee (2021: None) received any remuneration or benefit from the Fund or any Related Parties.

The Regimental Secretary and the Assistant Regimental Secretary are employees of the Ministry of Defence.

Honorariums were paid at a total cost to the Charity of £20,281 (2021: £20,281).

The Corps Accountant and RSI Director are employees of the Charity at a total cost of £130,002 (2021: £126,862).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	HQ Officers Mess	Historic Assets	Regimental HQ	Yacht Club	Bands	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2022						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2022	360,000	370,111	7,718	35,267	15,347	788,443
Additions	-	11,000	-	-	7,000	18,000
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>360,000</u>	<u>381,111</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>22,347</u>	<u>806,443</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2022	24,316	-	5,815	35,267	8,966	74,364
Charge for Year	3,600	-	951	-	1,220	5,771
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>27,916</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,766</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>10,186</u>	<u>80,135</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2022	332,084	381,111	952	-	12,161	726,308
At 31 December 2021	<u>335,684</u>	<u>370,111</u>	<u>1,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,381</u>	<u>714,079</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2021						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2021	360,000	368,875	7,718	69,658	10,135	816,386
Additions	-	1,236	-	-	5,212	6,448
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	(34,391)	-	(34,391)
At 31 December 2021	<u>360,000</u>	<u>370,111</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>15,347</u>	<u>788,443</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2021	20,716	-	4,864	66,470	7,813	99,863
Charge for Year	3,600	-	951	3,188	1,153	8,892
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(34,391)	-	(34,391)
At 31 December 2021	<u>24,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,815</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>8,966</u>	<u>74,364</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2021	<u>335,684</u>	<u>370,111</u>	<u>1,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,381</u>	<u>714,079</u>

The assets above relate directly to charitable purposes.

The assets are kept continuously under review for potential impairment.

Headquarters Officers Mess

A professional valuation in 2014 of the furniture in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled £360,000, all of which are assets for which the risks and rewards belong to the Charity. This was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward.

Historic Assets

Reliable cost information is not available for historic assets acquired prior to 1 January 1994 which have not been capitalised. Recent valuations of silverware and paintings in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled over £1.25 million and other locations were assessed in the year.

Since 1 January 1994 historic assets have been acquired for the Blandford Garrison Church £22,365, the National Arboretum Memorial £22,185 and Silver and Artworks £336,561 (2021: £325,561). Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value.

8. INVESTMENTS - LISTED

	2022 £	2021 £
Market Value at 1 January	12,035,519	10,898,535
Additions	7,759	6,127
Disposal Proceeds	-	-
(Losses) / Gains in year	(1,273,663)	1,130,857
Market Value at 31 December	<u>10,769,615</u>	<u>12,035,519</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,417,356</u>	<u>9,409,597</u>
Held in:-		
BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund	6,932,890	8,056,585
Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares Accumulation Units	3,836,725	3,978,934
	<u>10,769,615</u>	<u>12,035,519</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Subscriptions	61,588	60,016
Loans	1,002	1,080
Other Debtors	10,534	10,009
Prepayments	80,297	36,014
	<u>153,421</u>	<u>107,119</u>

Debtors do not include any amounts due in more than one year, apart from Loans.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance with Related Entities	105,335	151,731
Social Security and Other Taxes	8,737	7,884
Balances held as Agent (see note 15)	60,619	24,493
Other Creditors	43,457	31,805
Accruals	22,478	32,420
Deferred Income and Provisions		
Brought forward from prior year	222,056	240,180
Used or repaid in year	(218,452)	(90,445)
Arising in the year	111,503	72,321
Carried forward	115,107	222,056
	<u>355,733</u>	<u>470,389</u>

Deferred Income arises when receipts relate to activities planned for the future.

11. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	2022 £	2021 £
Employees' Retirement Provision	94,796	81,447

Provision for the amounts due to employees upon their retirement in accordance with their employment contract.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 January £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains £	31 December £
2022					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,722,537	421,372	(489,631)	(605,497)	5,048,781
Officers' Activities Fund	2,262,793	238,499	(178,675)	(164,770)	2,157,847
Sergeants' Messes Fund	173,601	53,673	(90,282)	(18,370)	118,622
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	371,948	8,485	(40,943)	(40,073)	299,417
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	85,090	1,801	-	(8,508)	78,383
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	30,871	646	-	(3,053)	28,464
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	153,349	(153,349)	-	-
	<u>8,646,840</u>	<u>877,825</u>	<u>(952,880)</u>	<u>(840,271)</u>	<u>7,731,514</u>
2021					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,163,511	420,870	(397,621)	535,778	5,722,537
Officers' Activities Fund	2,090,729	254,015	(225,410)	143,459	2,262,793
Sergeants' Messes Fund	147,298	54,170	(43,149)	15,282	173,601
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	350,931	8,404	(23,943)	36,556	371,948
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	75,546	1,784	-	7,760	85,090
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	27,446	640	-	2,785	30,871
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	91,397	(91,397)	-	-
	<u>7,855,461</u>	<u>831,280</u>	<u>(781,520)</u>	<u>741,620</u>	<u>8,646,840</u>

Restricted Funds arise from income received for specified purposes and are held separately until expended.

Welfare & Veterans Fund - This Restricted Fund serves members of the Corps, fostering comradeship and providing welfare support to those in need. It receives donations, legacies, and other voluntary income that have been canvassed for welfare purposes. It receives grants from the Army Benevolent Fund to augment, on a case-by-case basis, the welfare grants made. Welfare grants and costs are initially funded by "One Day's Pay" Subscriptions as described in Note 2.

Officers' Activities Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Officers' purposes, such as dinners, Officers' Messes and other costs specifically for the benefit of Officers.

Sergeants' Messes Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Sergeants' Messes' improvements and other costs specifically for the benefit of Warrant Officers and SNCOs.

Disbanded Units Funds - These Funds arise from disbanded units and are held to assist with the formation of new units and for morale and efficiency purposes similar to the main objects of the Charity. They may not however be used for welfare.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January	Transfers	Transactions	31 December
	£	£	£	£
2022				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	629	-	-	629
Total Designated Funds	102,226	-	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	4,198,099	-	(519,500)	3,678,599
	4,300,325	-	(519,500)	3,780,825
2021				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	7,415	(6,786)	-	629
Total Designated Funds	109,012	(6,786)	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	3,857,134	6,786	334,179	4,198,099
	3,966,146	-	334,179	4,300,325

Designated Funds are Unrestricted Funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees. The Yacht Club Expedition Fund is an unexpended grant that has been allowed to be carried forward and the Yacht Club Offshore Account accumulated charter fees for the use of the yachts, and is used for offshore races and events.

The transactions of the "Corps - General Fund" are as shown on page 10, Statement of Financial Activities, Unrestricted Funds.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity is related to The Royal Signals Museum (an incorporated charity) and its subsidiary The Royal Signals Museum Trading Company Limited due to their related objectives and activities.

In the year grants were made to The Royal Signals Museum of £125,000 (2021: £110,000).

At the end of the year the debts with The Royal Signals Museum and its subsidiary company amounted to £105,335 payable (2021: £151,731 payable).

15. AGENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity acts as agent for activities related to its Morale and Efficiency Objectives; the larger funds being:-

The **Royal Signals Officers Domestic Fund** purchases wines, etc for the HQ Officers' Mess and maintains the wine cellar, its income arises from the consumption of wines at special events. It also operates a second hand uniform sales and rental facility. At 31 December 2022 the balance held amounted to £31,308 (2021: £17,834).

The **Royal Signals Rugby Club** sells tickets for national rugby matches (Army v Navy and Army v RAF) and applies the profits to boost the finances of the Corps' rugby season. At 31 December 2022 the balance held amounted to £67,195 (2021: £57,925), of which £41,683 was held in a specific bank account..

16. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
2022			
Tangible Fixed Assets	67,662	658,646	726,308
Investments	3,696,745	7,072,870	10,769,615
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	16,418	-	16,418
	3,780,825	7,731,516	11,512,341
2021			
Tangible Fixed Assets	51,833	662,246	714,079
Investments	4,050,924	7,984,595	12,035,519
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	197,568	-	197,568
	4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales - Charity number 284923

Accounts

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2021

Charity No : 284923

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 7
Independent Auditor's Report	8 - 9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21



THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered name: The Royal Signals Charity

Charity registration number: 284923

Address of the principal office: Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp
Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Trustees

Corporate Trustee:
The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL)

Acting as Directors of RSTL, as if Trustees:

Major General TG Inshaw CB
Major General D McDowall CBE
Major General J Stokoe CB CBE
Brigadier RJ Carter
Brigadier EM Flint
Brigadier TJP Watts OBE
Colonel MC Brookes ADC
Lieutenant Colonel JM Picton QC
Warrant Officer 2 MC Fitton

appointed:

Lt Col EA Mortimore from 30 September 2021
Staff Sergeant JM Fatiaki from 1 January 2022

retired:

Colonel EA Byfield to 29 September 2021
Warrant Officer 2 ALM Jarman to 31 December 2021

Secretary Colonel DA Craft

Independent Auditor Crowe U.K. LLP
St James House, St James Square
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3PR

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc, Cox and Kings Branch
39 Piccadilly, London, W1V 0AA
CCLA Investment Management Limited
85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Solicitors Wilsons Solicitors LLP
Alexandra House, St Johns Street
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2SB

Investment Advisers Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited
10 Old Burlington Street, London, W1S 3AG

Investment Managers BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL
Troy Asset Management Limited
33 Davies Street, London, W1K 4BP

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. 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 Trust Deed, 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Governance

The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) changed its name from The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) on 16 January 2020.

The Royal Signals Charity is a registered charity constituted under a Trust Deed; registration number 284923 dated 13 May 1982. The Charity Commission scheme was amended on 8 May 2012 and The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL), a non-charitable company limited by shares, became the Corporate Trustee of the Charity replacing all the previous Trustees of the Charity.

The Royal Signals Association (RSA) was a separate unregistered charity, whose objectives and activities were carried out by RSC (formerly RSBF). This arrangement was formalised during 2015 with the constitution of RSA being adopted on 14 March 2015 and RSA was registered with the Charity Commission with RSTL as its Corporate Trustee. The Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction in November 2015 linking RSA to RSC (formerly RSBF).

The Directors of RSTL effectively act as if they were the Trustees of the Charity, and they are referred to as "The Trustees" in this report and the accompanying financial statements. They are appointed by the Master of Signals (Chairman of the Corps Council).

The Trustees are familiar with the work of the Charity through their service in the Royal Corps of Signals. Additionally an induction pack comprising the governing documents, statement of accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know" and other such documents are given to new Trustees, and they are encouraged to attend relevant seminars.

The Trustees aim to follow charity sector best practice and have familiarised themselves with the updated version of the Charity Governance Code (the "Code"). They consider that the Charity's governance framework aligns with much of the Code. The Trustees have been briefed on the Confederation of British Services and Ex-Services Organisations (Cobseo) Aide Memoire approach and the charity participated in initial trials of their self-reporting tool. The board have agreed to adopt this approach.

Structure and Management

The Royal Signals Charity is the amalgamation of the Royal Signals Association Fund, the Royal Signals Officers Fund and the Royal Signals Corps Fund which were separate Charitable Trusts. Under the above mentioned Trust Deed they are managed as one organisation, with financial differentiation as restricted funds.

The Trustees are served by a number of committees that are governed by terms of reference and are charged with discrete objectives as follows:

- The RSA Central Committee considers branch and veteran matters.
- The Royal Signals Institution Council maintains strong, professional and social links between the Royal Corps of Signals, professional bodies and other relevant areas of defence, in order to foster the professional well being of the Corps and to contribute to the development of the delivery of Information and Communications Services within Defence and Security.
- The Royal Signals Games Club and The Royal Signals Yacht Club promote sporting and adventurous activities.
- There are also management and finance committees for the Headquarters Officers' Mess, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Messes, Corps Music and Corps Heritage.

The Trustees agree the strategy for the Charity including grant making, investment, reserves, risk management and approval of budgets. Grant making within the approved budget is delegated to the chairs of the committees.

The Royal Signals Museum is an independent charity which is related as a result of complementary objectives and activities. The Trustees have agreed to support the Museum financially, see note 14 to the financial statements.

The Charity is a member of Cobseo and has close working relationships with other charities; the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and The Royal British Legion (TRBL). SSAFA-FH and TRBL do welfare casework on behalf of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Structure and Management (continued)

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to Colonel DA Craft (Corps Secretary) who can be contacted at Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals, Griffin House, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH. He is assisted by the Senior Management Team: Lieutenant Colonel S Lockwood (Assistant Corps Secretary), Lieutenant Colonel P Osment (RSI Director) and Mr MJ Fisher (Corps Accountant). The first two are Ministry of Defence Civil Servants and the last two are employees of the Charity, whose remuneration is set by reference to equivalent Civil Service Grades and market rates of pay.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity set out in the governing scheme are:

- To promote and maintain the physical efficiency and morale of The Royal Corps of Signals.
- To relieve either generally or individually by way of donation, grant, or loan, the following who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress;
 - past and present Signallers and their families and dependants; and
 - the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.
- The payment of donations, subscriptions or grants to charitable organisations concerned with the employment or welfare of Signallers and their dependants.

The aims of the Charity are:

- To fund the activities of the serving and retired members of Royal Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.
- To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity.

The activities for the year result from demands within these aims to support the activities of the serving members of the Corps, to foster comradeship and to meet benevolence requirements.

Grant Making Policy

Applications for welfare grants are judged on their merits, with need being the most significant factor. There is no limit set on the amount spent on benevolence within any year. Grants up to £1,500 are considered electronically using Cobseo's Case Management System.

Grants in support of other activities that fall outside the delegated budgets are submitted by the relevant committee to the Corps Secretary or the Trustees for their consideration, depending on a range of factors which allow some delegation of authority. If the submission is particularly significant or would involve a major change in policy it could be referred to the Corps Council.

Budgets are set for all expenditure other than welfare, no specific targets are set beyond these budgets, they can be exceeded if suitable cases can be made.

Achievements and Performance

Activities

There is a continuing requirement to fund adventurous training expeditions, sport, social and recreational events and professional development, all of which contribute to the efficiency, effectiveness and morale of the Corps. It is equally important to advertise the availability of financial assistance for those who are eligible and grant making to deserving welfare cases.

The Royal Corps of Signals was formed in 1920. To celebrate the Centenary many special events and activities, together with specially enhanced routine ones, were planned for 2020. However, the restrictions resulting from the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic prevented most of these and this continued throughout 2021.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Activities (continued)

The costs of the cancelled events and activities were written off in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020, assuming that these could not be recovered or carried forward for future use. The sponsorship, grants and personal contributions attracted for these were carried forward to 2021 on the basis that they may have to be repaid. A few of these events and activities took place in 2021, a few costs have been reimbursed and a few grants have been repaid but the majority have again been carried forward into 2022.

A high proportion of the adventure training, yacht club and sports activities could not take place because of Covid-19, resulting in combined costs of £229K compared to the combined cost in 2020 of £318K.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) continued to promote professional development of the Officers and Soldiers of the Royal Signals, serving and retired. Despite Covid 19 restrictions a full programme of events (lectures, workshops, an annual seminar and an annual London lecture and dinner) took place. Corporate sponsorships had been received in 2020 and, due to the low activity in that year, were rolled forward into 2021. The RSI continued to recognise the academic, professional, engineering and operational excellence of the Corps by presenting a significant number of awards in the year.

Benevolence

The total cost of benevolent welfare was £285,068 (2020: £339,647) including overheads directly attributable to welfare. Within that figure £42,250 (2020: £41,750) was paid to other charities with similar objectives, for their support of signallers. The number of beneficiaries (excluding Christmas grants) in 2021 was 299 (376 in 2020). These totals in 2020 and 2021 were relatively low, mainly because during the Covid-19 "lockdown" caseworkers were making fewer visits in support of applications.

Major grants (grants of £801 up to the max of £1,500) from the Charity assisted with the provision of electric scooters, level access showers, grants to replace household items such as carpets or white goods, grants to carry out urgent repairs to houses, grants for priority debts such as rent and utilities, grants for mobility aids such as riser chairs, stair lifts, grants to assist with re-training and grants for removals and rental bonds.

The Trustees are most grateful to the honorary Welfare Officers in branches of the Royal Signals Association and the caseworkers of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association-Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and the Royal British Legion (RBL) for the enormous contribution that they make towards the welfare of serving and retired Signallers and their dependants.

Material Investments - Policy and Performance

Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited (independent investment advisers) help develop the overall strategy of the portfolio and advise on individual transactions and circumstances. The investment policy continues to be to maximise return at medium risk over the long term.

67% of the invested portfolio remained within the Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund managed by BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited, the remaining 33% was held in Trojan 'S' shares fund of Troy Asset Management Limited.

Total dividend income amounted to £260,004 (2020: £274,015), £6,127 (2020: £21,109) arose from accumulating units and so was automatically re-invested, and from the income units £253,877 (2020: £252,906) arose in cash. Total gains of £1,130,857 (2020: £582,664) arose from the investments in the year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial Review

Total income amounted to £1,307,801 (2020: £1,249,848). Subscription income increased to £735,065 in 2021 from £709,294 in 2020. Donations amounted to £79,661 (2020: £136,770) the difference was mainly due to the "#100for100" campaign in 2020. Legacies of £6,350 arose in 2021 (2020: £38,170).

The principal funding source continued to be the voluntary subscriptions of 110% of a day's pay a year from the members of the serving Corps. Officers subscribe a further 80% of a day's pay which is used specifically for officer's activities, and Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers subscribe a further 30% of a day's pay which is used to fund improvements to Sergeants' Messes and their social activities. The Trustees are most grateful to the serving Corps for their continued support.

Total expenditure amounted to £1,313,099 (2020: £1,566,076). The Covid-19 pandemic continued to cause significant distortion to the usual pattern of expenses.

Welfare grants in 2021 amounted to £245,773, in 2020 the total was £300,794 and in 2019 it was £375,166; the reductions were principally because social workers were making fewer visits, due to Covid19 restrictions. These restrictions caused few sporting, adventure training and other activities to take place. Sports groups were encouraged to use their underspent budgets to improve their equipment.

In 2020 the cost of Raising funds included £94,471 for the aborted Project 204 music festival; during 2021 £19,800 deposits were refunded. Income of £20,339 arose from 2020 memorabilia, however a provision of £27,500 was made against the unsold stock of centenary books. Extra grants were received for sporting activities. £76,600 income arose from RSI Corporate sponsors, which included 2020 receipts rolled forward due to the very low activity in that year.

Before gains on investments the deficit for the year was £5,298 (2020: deficit £316,228). After the investment gains of £1,130,857 (2020: £582,664) the total of the fund balances was £12,947,166 (2020: £11,821,607).

At the end of the year the unrestricted Corps Funds amounted to £4,300,325 (2020: £3,966,146) and the total of restricted funds was £8,646,841 (2020: £7,855,461).

The Charity benefits from staff costs and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as part of their contribution to esprit de corps. These cannot be meaningfully quantified or evaluated.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities for the charity are carried out by volunteers with assistance from charity staff. The charity does not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participators.

The Royal Signals Charity treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the utmost importance and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual they consider this might apply to.

No complaints relating to fundraising activities have been received by the charity during this financial period.

However, the charity has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Corps Secretary. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the Trustees to determine what further action might be required.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should support or undertake. The Charity provides public benefit by enhancing the morale and efficiency of serving service personnel to more effectively perform their role within the Royal Corps of Signals, supporting comradeship within the wider Corps family (regular, reserves and retired), and providing benevolence to individuals and their families where there is need.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that the public benefit requirements have been met.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the operational and business risks and confirm that systems have been established to manage these risks. A risk management plan has been established and is reviewed regularly. There are measures in place to prevent fraud and theft, to ensure the physical security of data and buildings and to maintain business continuity. The management of risk on investments in relation to the market is carried out by RSTL and is explained in more detail later in this report.

The Trustees have identified strategic risks that could have a severe impact on both income and/or expenditure, as follows:

- amalgamation of the serving Corps with another so that most of the income is lost,
- further reduction in the size of the Corps under future Strategic Defence and Security Reviews,
- reduction in support of the Charity by removal of the personnel, premises and infrastructure provided by the Ministry of Defence,
- and, permanent reduction in investment values and income earning capacity.

These risks can be mitigated by maintaining sufficient Reserves to enable the Charity's activities to continue (see Reserves Policy below).

The Covid 19 pandemic arose in 2020 and continued in 2021, with the resulting "lockdowns" of the country and the economy. Whilst there are potential extra costs and income reductions, there are also significant potential cost savings due to reduced activities.

The principal source of income is monthly subscriptions (£727k) from the current members of the Corps, by deduction from their salaries, and this is unlikely to be affected by the pandemic. The secondary source is investment income (£260k) which is assured by the reserve policy of the principal investment fund used. Casual donations are unlikely to exceed £100k in a year, which is insignificant in this context. Legacies can be highly variable but would not be impacted by the pandemic.

The main pandemic risk to the charity would be for potential catastrophic investment losses. The investment portfolio is split between different fund managers with different investment policies. If one of the funds was totally extinguished, it is highly unlikely that the other would be as well.

The Trustees do not believe that there is a significant risk to the Charity as a Going Concern.

Reserves Policy

At current levels of activity the Charity needs an investment return (income plus gains) of about £590K to meet its costs. At an average rate of return of about 5% this suggests the need for an investment portfolio of around £12M, at a rate of return of 4% the portfolio would need to be nearly £15M.

As mentioned above, the Trustees have identified strategic risks that can only be mitigated by holding reserves. They have calculated that an amount of over £2M in addition to that mentioned above would be needed to cover these risks enabling ongoing commitments to be fulfilled. This gives an investment target of between £14M and £17M. At 31 December 2021 the market value of the investment portfolio was £12M.

The Free Reserves (unrestricted and undesignated) amounted to £4,198K (2020: £3,857K), which would be sufficient to meet the short term results of the identified risks, see Note 13. The Designated Funds amounted to £102K (2020: £109K), and the Restricted Funds totalled £8,647K (2020: £7,855K), see Notes 12 and 13.

The Reserves Policy is therefore, to allow funds to continue to accumulate, when surplus investment return arises. In the event that any strategic risks arise before sufficient reserves have been accumulated, it has been accepted that the charity would reduce the support it gives to Morale and Efficiency (but not Welfare).

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees plan to continue support for the activities outlined above in the coming years and look forward to being able to support future expenditure plans while continuing to monitor closely both the need for benevolence and the performance of investments.

The Trustees will work closely with the head of the serving Corps to maintain or improve the level of voluntary subscription income from officers and soldiers. They are also implementing an expenditure review.

The Trustees intend that some of the special Centenary (2020) events and activities that were prevented by the Covid-19 pandemic, or comparable activities, may still be carried out in 2022 with the support of the Charity; the previous budgets being rolled forward.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (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 SORP;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions, 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. 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:



Major General TG Inshaw CB
Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: **31 March 2022**

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Signals Charity ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept by the Charity; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011, together with the Charities SORP (FRS102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.


We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the recognition of income from donations and legacies, and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence including that with the Charity Commission, designing audit procedures to review the recognition of income from donations and legacies, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP, Statutory Auditor
St James House, St James Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR

23 August 2022

Crowe U.K. LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**


	Note	2021			2020		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	348,683	472,393	821,076	384,141	500,093	884,234
Other trading activities		20,561	-	20,561	10,203	19	10,222
Investments	3	89,515	170,550	260,065	97,976	176,134	274,110
Charitable activities	4	17,762	188,337	206,099	7,097	74,185	81,282
TOTAL INCOME		476,521	831,280	1,307,801	499,417	750,431	1,249,848
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising funds		8,965	1,896	10,861	96,503	3,047	99,550
Charitable activities	5	522,614	779,624	1,302,238	674,020	792,506	1,466,526
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		531,579	781,520	1,313,099	770,523	795,553	1,566,076
Operating (deficit)/surplus		(55,058)	49,760	(5,298)	(271,106)	(45,122)	(316,228)
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	8	389,237	741,620	1,130,857	208,262	374,402	582,664
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		334,179	791,380	1,125,559	(62,844)	329,280	266,436
Fund balances at 1 January		3,966,146	7,855,461	11,821,607	4,028,990	7,526,181	11,555,171
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER		4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166	3,966,146	7,855,461	11,821,607
		Note 13	Note 12				

All activities in the year are continuing.
The Charity had no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	<u>2021</u> £	<u>2020</u> £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	714,079	716,523
Listed Investments	8	12,035,519	10,898,535
		<u>12,749,598</u>	<u>11,615,058</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock of Goods for Resale		37,309	74,036
Debtors	9	107,119	265,279
Cash at Bank and in Hand		604,976	416,736
		<u>749,404</u>	<u>756,051</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	10	(470,389)	(468,127)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>279,015</u>	<u>287,924</u>
Provision for Liabilities and Charges	11	(81,447)	(81,375)
NET ASSETS		<u><u>12,947,166</u></u>	<u><u>11,821,607</u></u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
Designated Funds		102,226	109,012
General Funds		4,198,099	3,857,134
	13	<u>4,300,325</u>	<u>3,966,146</u>
Restricted Funds	12	8,646,841	7,855,461
		<u>12,947,166</u>	<u>11,821,607</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on **31 March 2022** and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Major General TG Inshaw CB
Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

and


.....
Colonel DA Craft
Secretary of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Operating activities		
Net income for the reporting period	1,125,559	266,436
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	8,892	14,180
(Gain) / Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(2,555)	25,907
Dividends and interest from investments	(260,065)	(274,110)
(Gains) / Losses on investments	(1,130,857)	(582,664)
Decrease / (Increase) in stock of goods for resale	36,727	(74,036)
Decrease in debtors	158,160	66,303
Increase in creditors and provisions	2,334	160,684
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(61,805)</u>	<u>(397,300)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	260,065	274,110
Accumulating dividends	(6,127)	(21,109)
Cash from investment income	<u>253,938</u>	<u>253,001</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	(6,448)	(62,556)
Proceeds of disposal of fixed assets	2,555	73,587
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	403,098
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>250,045</u>	<u>667,130</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	188,240	269,830
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	416,736	146,906
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u>604,976</u></u>	<u><u>416,736</u></u>

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and Charities Act 2011. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The Royal Signals Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements (see Risk Management in the Trustees' Report, page 6).

b. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Headquarters Officers Mess assets were revalued at 1 January 2015; this was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward. All other assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. As explained in note 7, historic assets owned prior to 1 January 1994 have not been capitalised.

Depreciation is applied on a straight line basis calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life and potential impairments are kept under review. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Headquarters Officers Mess	1%
Bands	15%
Regimental Headquarters fixtures and fittings	33%
Yacht Club - small boats and dinghies	15%

Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as the residual value is considered to be higher than the carrying value. Assets are continuously reviewed for potential impairment.

c. Investments, Investment Income and Gains

Investments are held in the BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund and Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares. They are valued at the bid price prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. Investment historic cost is the average cost per unit purchased or the market value when donated or transferred.

Dividends, other investment income and income from cash deposits are accounted for when the Charity is entitled to them. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

d. Taxation

The entity is a registered Charity and, as such, claims tax exemptions from all its United Kingdom income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Income tax recoverable represents tax which is recoverable in respect of tax credits from dividends receivable during the year and from gift aid subscriptions on which tax has been paid by the subscriber during the year.

e. Funds

Restricted funds are amounts which have been earmarked by the donors for specific purposes. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes, but they remain at their discretion (see notes 12 and 13).

f. Income

Income from donations, fundraising and events are accounted for on a receipts basis unless the income will be received and its value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Those funds provided for a specific purpose are taken to a restricted fund.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Subscriptions represent voluntary contributions received monthly from serving members and annually from retired officers of the Corps and are accounted for when they are receivable.

g. Grants Payable and Direct Charitable Expenditure

Grants paid and direct expenditure are accounted for when paid or when the liability is established with the third party. They are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity and in accordance with the objectives of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

h. Support and Shared Costs

Support and Shared Costs comprise expenditure incurred directly in support of charitable objectives and are attributable to the Charity's activities. Governance costs represent professional and statutory fees and other costs incurred in running the Charity. They are allocated to activities in proportion to their utilisation.

i. Stock of Goods for Resale

Stock of goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

i. Debtors

Legacies receivable, subscriptions, loans and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

j. Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Provisions are not discounted to net present value as the difference would be immaterial to the financial statements.

k. Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Investments are included at fair value.

l. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to consider making any significant judgements and estimates where necessary. Apart from depreciation, there are no items in the financial statements where significant judgements and estimations have been made.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Donations	39,831	68,385
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	308,177	296,671
Legacies	675	19,085
	<u>348,683</u>	<u>384,141</u>
Restricted Funds		
Donations	39,830	68,385
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	418,805	406,813
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	8,083	5,810
Legacies	5,675	19,085
	<u>472,393</u>	<u>500,093</u>
Total Funds		
Donations	79,661	136,770
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	726,982	703,484
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	8,083	5,810
Legacies	6,350	38,170
	<u>821,076</u>	<u>884,234</u>

Subscriptions from serving members of the Corps are collected under the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. These are donated entirely voluntarily by the serving members of the Corps. Under Queen's Regulations (QR 5.613) the first 50% must be applied to Welfare purposes.

Soldiers' subscriptions are 110%. Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) subscribe at 140% of a days basic pay per annum of which 30% is used specifically for Sergeants' Messes. Officers' subscriptions are 190% of a days basic pay per annum of which 80% is used specifically in support of Officers' activities.

Retired Officers' subscriptions are voluntary and currently at a minimum of £10 a year.

Legacies are accrued for if they were notified as being receivable before the end of the year, either at the value actually received or estimated from the details of the estate provided by the executors.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	89,493	97,941
Interest on Deposit Accounts	22	35
	89,515	97,976
Restricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	170,511	176,074
Interest on Deposit Accounts	39	60
	170,550	176,134
Total Funds		
Gross Dividends	260,004	274,015
Interest on Deposit Accounts	61	95
	260,065	274,110
	260,065	274,110
 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
RSI Events and Advertisements	15,207	3,600
RSYC Charter Income	-	3,497
RSYC Profit on Disposals	2,555	-
	17,762	7,097
Restricted		
Grants from Other Organisations	87,893	44,035
Disposal of Redundant Corps Silverware	343	8,550
RSI Events and Advertisements	94,097	11,410
Wire Magazine subscriptions	6,004	10,190
	188,337	74,185
Total Funds	206,099	81,282
	206,099	81,282
 5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Sporting	107,768	112,374
Sailing	26,409	40,661
Adventure Training	9,711	123,693
Messes, Heritage and History	110,000	110,000
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	58,648	70,261
Bands	11,365	14,532
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	14,372	14,385
RSI events, awards and publishing	50,517	40,726
Wire Magazine	50,175	42,567
Reunions and other costs	-	28,154
Support and Shared costs		
Corps Activities	66,228	57,512
Governance	17,421	19,155
	522,614	674,020
	522,614	674,020

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)	2021	2020
	£	£
Restricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	285,068	339,647
Sporting	78,000	34,035
Sailing	7,393	-
Adventure Training	-	7,500
Messes, Heritage and History	62,085	113,262
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	16,897	22,439
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	20,592	15,551
RSI events, awards and publishing	130,208	67,932
Officers' Dinner & Social	5,168	99
Wire Magazine	6,004	10,190
Reunions and other costs	46,879	70,216
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	23,800	20,726
Veterans	31,733	27,635
Officer Activities	39,667	34,544
Governance	26,130	28,730
	779,624	792,506
Total Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	285,068	339,647
Sporting	185,768	146,409
Sailing	33,802	40,661
Adventure Training	9,711	131,193
Messes, Heritage and History	172,085	223,262
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	75,545	92,700
Bands and Display Team	11,365	14,532
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	34,964	29,936
RSI events, awards and publishing	180,725	108,658
Officers' Dinner & Social	5,168	99
Wire Magazine	56,179	52,757
Reunions and other costs	46,879	98,370
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	23,800	20,726
Veterans	31,733	27,635
Corps and Officer Activities	105,895	92,056
Governance	43,551	47,885
	1,302,238	1,466,526

All welfare grants are to third party organisations and made for the benefit of both serving and retired members of the Corps (Regulars and Reserves) and their families.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) fosters professional development amongst the serving Corps, the retired Corps and their close colleagues in Defence and Industry.

Welfare Grants includes payments to other charities for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives:	2021	2020
	£	£
Army Benevolent Fund	35,000	35,000
various nursing homes with ex Royal Signals residents	7,250	6,750
	42,250	41,750

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Shared Support Costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	49,970	44,037
IT Support and Equipment Costs	8,869	6,306
Postage	625	839
Bank Charges	468	1,180
Depreciation	361	145
Total Shared Support Costs	60,293	52,507
Direct Corps Administration	2,761	2,242
	<u>63,054</u>	<u>54,749</u>
Restricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	81,529	71,849
IT Support and Equipment Costs	14,470	10,289
Postage	1,021	1,368
Bank Charges	764	1,925
Depreciation	590	237
	<u>98,374</u>	<u>85,668</u>
Total Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	131,499	115,886
IT Support and Equipment Costs	23,339	16,595
Postage	1,646	2,207
Bank Charges	1,232	3,105
Depreciation	951	382
Total Shared Support Costs	158,667	138,175
Direct Corps Administration	2,761	2,242
	<u>161,428</u>	<u>140,417</u>
Attributed to:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Corps Fund	63,054	54,749
Restricted Funds		
Officers Fund	47,600	41,452
Welfare	9,520	8,290
Veterans	41,254	35,926
	<u>161,428</u>	<u>140,417</u>
Total Expenditure included the following costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	82,212	72,704
Social Security Costs	7,384	7,912
Pension Scheme Costs	2,738	2,624
	<u>92,334</u>	<u>83,240</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	4,721	10,351
Restricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	193,618	186,856
Social Security Costs	15,014	12,159
Pension Scheme Costs	5,076	4,685
	<u>213,708</u>	<u>203,700</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	4,171	3,829
Total Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	275,830	259,560
Social Security Costs	22,398	20,071
Pension Scheme Costs	7,814	7,309
	<u>306,042</u>	<u>286,940</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	8,892	14,180

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES (continued)

One employee earned £60,000 or more (2020: No employees).

The average number of employees in the year was 4 full time (2020: 4) and 4 part time = 2.5 full-time equivalents (2020: 4 = 2.5 full-time equivalents).

The Charity benefits from staff costs, administration and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, contributing to esprit de corps. It is not practical to quantify such costs with any certainty.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Governance Costs included the following		
Unrestricted Funds		
Audit	6,408	6,240
Legal Fees	911	3,040
Investment Advice	8,418	7,622
Trustee Expenses	590	1,394
Trustee Meetings	190	39
Trustee Liability Insurance	904	820
	<u>17,421</u>	<u>19,155</u>
Restricted Funds		
Audit	9,612	9,360
Legal Fees	1,366	4,559
Investment Advice	12,626	11,432
Trustee Expenses	884	2,090
Trustee Meetings	286	59
Trustee Liability Insurance	1,356	1,230
	<u>26,130</u>	<u>28,730</u>
Total Funds		
Audit	16,020	15,600
Legal Fees	2,277	7,599
Investment Advice	21,044	19,054
Trustee Expenses	1,474	3,484
Trustee Meetings	476	98
Trustee Liability Insurance	2,260	2,050
	<u>43,551</u>	<u>47,885</u>

2 Trustees (2020: 4) received the above reimbursements of expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation) none of which were paid to third parties.

Key Personnel

No Trustee (2020: None) received any remuneration or benefit from the Fund or any Related Parties.

The Regimental Secretary, the Assistant Regimental Secretary and the Communications Officer are employees of the Ministry of Defence. Honorariums were paid at a total cost to the Charity of £20,281 (2020: £10,040).

The Corps Accountant and RSI Director are employees of the Charity at a total cost of £126,862 (2020: £118,844).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	HQ Officers Mess	Historic Assets	Regimental HQ	Yacht Club	Bands	Total
2021	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2021	360,000	368,875	7,718	69,658	10,135	816,386
Additions	-	1,236	-	-	5,212	6,448
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	(34,391)	-	(34,391)
At 31 December 2021	<u>360,000</u>	<u>370,111</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>15,347</u>	<u>788,443</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2021	20,716	-	4,864	66,470	7,813	99,863
Charge for Year	3,600	-	951	3,188	1,153	8,892
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(34,391)	-	(34,391)
At 31 December 2021	<u>24,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,815</u>	<u>35,267</u>	<u>8,966</u>	<u>74,364</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2021	335,684	370,111	1,903	-	6,381	714,079
At 31 December 2020	<u>339,284</u>	<u>368,875</u>	<u>2,854</u>	<u>3,188</u>	<u>2,322</u>	<u>716,523</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2020						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2020	360,000	309,173	4,864	180,825	31,933	886,795
Additions	-	59,702	2,854	-	-	62,556
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	(111,167)	(21,798)	(132,965)
At 31 December 2020	<u>360,000</u>	<u>368,875</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>69,658</u>	<u>10,135</u>	<u>816,386</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2020	17,116	-	4,482	69,466	28,090	119,154
Charge for Year	3,600	-	382	8,677	1,521	14,180
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(11,673)	(21,798)	(33,471)
At 31 December 2020	<u>20,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,864</u>	<u>66,470</u>	<u>7,813</u>	<u>99,863</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2020	<u>339,284</u>	<u>368,875</u>	<u>2,854</u>	<u>3,188</u>	<u>2,322</u>	<u>716,523</u>

The assets above relate directly to charitable purposes.

The assets are kept continuously under review for potential impairment.

Headquarters Officers Mess

A professional valuation in 2014 of the furniture in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled £360,000, all of which are assets for which the risks and rewards belong to the Charity. This was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward.

Historic Assets

Reliable cost information is not available for historic assets acquired prior to 1 January 1994 which have not been capitalised. Recent valuations of silverware and paintings in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled over £1.25 million and other locations were assessed in the year.

Since 1 January 1994 historic assets have been acquired for the Blandford Garrison Church £22,365, the National Arboretum Memorial £22,186 and Silver and Artworks £325,561 (2020: £324,325). Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value.

8. INVESTMENTS - LISTED

	2021 £	2020 £
Market Value at 1 January	10,898,535	10,697,860
Additions	6,127	21,109
Disposal Proceeds	-	(403,098)
Gains in year	1,130,857	582,664
Market Value at 31 December	<u>12,035,519</u>	<u>10,898,535</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,409,597</u>	<u>9,403,470</u>
Held in:-		
BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund	8,056,585	7,359,226
Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares Accumulation Units	3,978,934	3,539,309
	<u>12,035,519</u>	<u>10,898,535</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Subscriptions	60,016	57,578
Loans	1,080	1,080
Other Debtors	10,009	191,768
Prepayments	36,014	14,853
	<u>107,119</u>	<u>265,279</u>

Debtors do not include any amounts due in more than one year, apart from Loans.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance with Related Entities	151,731	126,175
Social Security and Other Taxes	7,884	7,504
Balances held as Agent (see note 15)	24,493	48,913
Other Creditors	31,805	25,085
Accruals	32,420	20,270
Deferred Income and Provisions		
Brought forward from prior year	240,180	55,795
Used or repaid in year	(90,445)	(48,695)
Arising in the year	72,321	233,080
Carried forward	222,056	240,180
	<u>470,389</u>	<u>468,127</u>

Deferred Income arises when receipts relate to activities planned for the future.

11. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	2021	2020
	£	£
Employees' Retirement Provision	<u>81,447</u>	<u>81,375</u>

Provision for the amounts due to employees upon their retirement in accordance with their employment contract.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January	Income	Expenditure	Investment	31 December
	£	£	£	Gains £	£
2021					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	5,163,511	420,870	(397,621)	535,778	5,722,538
Officers' Activities Fund	2,090,729	254,015	(225,410)	143,459	2,262,793
Sergeants' Messes Fund	147,298	54,170	(43,149)	15,282	173,601
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	350,931	8,404	(23,943)	36,556	371,948
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	75,546	1,784	-	7,760	85,090
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	27,446	640	-	2,785	30,871
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	91,397	(91,397)	-	-
	<u>7,855,461</u>	<u>831,280</u>	<u>(781,520)</u>	<u>741,620</u>	<u>8,646,841</u>
2020					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	4,915,990	456,388	(476,618)	267,751	5,163,511
Officers' Activities Fund	1,999,344	174,946	(156,942)	73,381	2,090,729
Sergeants' Messes Fund	173,967	56,181	(92,325)	9,475	147,298
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	337,722	8,685	(13,943)	18,467	350,931
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	71,781	1,844	(2,000)	3,921	75,546
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	27,377	662	(2,000)	1,407	27,446
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	51,725	(51,725)	-	-
	<u>7,526,181</u>	<u>750,431</u>	<u>(795,553)</u>	<u>374,402</u>	<u>7,855,461</u>

Restricted Funds arise from income received for specified purposes and are held separately until expended.

Welfare & Veterans Fund - This Restricted Fund serves members of the Corps, fostering comradeship and providing welfare support to those in need. It receives donations, legacies, and other voluntary income that have been canvassed for welfare purposes. It receives grants from the Army Benevolent Fund to augment, on a case-by-case basis, the welfare grants made. Welfare grants and costs are initially funded by "One Day's Pay" Subscriptions as described in Note 2.

Officers' Activities Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Officers' purposes, such as dinners, Officers' Messes and other costs specifically for the benefit of Officers.

Sergeants' Messes Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Sergeants' Messes' improvements and other costs specifically for the benefit of Warrant Officers and SNCOs.

Disbanded Units Funds - These Funds arise from disbanded units and are held to assist with the formation of new units and for morale and efficiency purposes similar to the main objects of the Charity. They may not however be used for welfare.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1 January	Transfers	Transactions	31 December
	£	£	£	£
2021				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	7,415	(6,786)	-	629
Total Designated Funds	109,012	(6,786)	-	102,226
Corps - General Fund	3,857,134	6,786	334,179	4,198,099
	3,966,146	-	334,179	4,300,325
2020				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	7,549	(134)	-	7,415
Other minor replacement Funds	7,365	(7,365)	-	-
Total Designated Funds	116,511	(7,499)	-	109,012
Corps - General Fund	3,912,479	7,499	(62,844)	3,857,134
	4,028,990	-	(62,844)	3,966,146

Designated Funds are Unrestricted Funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees. The Yacht Club Expedition Fund is an unexpended grant that has been allowed to be carried forward and the Yacht Club Offshore Account accumulated charter fees for the use of the yachts, and is used for offshore races and events.

The transactions of the "Corps - General Fund" are as shown on page 10, Statement of Financial Activities, Unrestricted Funds.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity is related to The Royal Signals Museum (an incorporated charity) and its subsidiary The Royal Signals Museum Trading Company Limited due to their related objectives and activities.

In the year grants were made to The Royal Signals Museum of £110,000 (2020: £110,000).

At the end of the year the debts with The Royal Signals Museum and its subsidiary company amounted to £151,731 payable (2020: £126,175 payable).

15. AGENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity acts as agent for activities related to its Morale and Efficiency Objectives:-

The **Royal Signals Officers Domestic Fund** purchases wines, etc for the HQ Officers' Mess and maintains the wine cellar, its income arises from the consumption of wines at special events. It also operates a second hand uniform sales and rental facility. At 31 December 2021 the balance held amounted to £17,834 (2020: £42,254).

The **Royal Signals Rugby Club** sells tickets for national rugby matches (Army v Navy and Army v RAF) and applies the profits to boost the finances of the Corps' rugby season. At 31 December 2021 the balance held amounted to £57,925 (2020: £59,701).

16. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
2021			
Tangible Fixed Assets	51,833	662,246	714,079
Investments	4,050,924	7,984,595	12,035,519
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	197,568	-	197,568
	4,300,325	8,646,841	12,947,166
2020			
Tangible Fixed Assets	52,913	663,610	716,523
Investments	3,706,684	7,191,851	10,898,535
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	206,549	-	206,549
	3,966,146	7,855,461	11,821,607

The Royal Signals Charity

England & Wales - Charity number 284923

Accounts

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly
The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2020

Charity No : 284923

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 7
Independent Auditor's Report	8 - 9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered name: The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund to 16 January 2020
The Royal Signals Charity from 16 January 2020

Charity registration number: 284923

Address of the principal office: Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp
Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Trustees

Corporate Trustee:
The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL)

Acting as Directors of RSTL, as if Trustees:

Major General TG Inshaw CB
Major General J Stokoe CB CBE
Brigadier RJ Carter
Colonel EA Byfield
Lieutenant Colonel JM Picton QC
Warrant Officer 2 ALM Jarman

appointed:

Major General D McDowall CBE from 14 March 2020
Brigadier EM Flint from 24 September 2020
Brigadier TJP Watts OBE from 25 March 2020
Colonel MC Brookes ADC from 6 November 2020
Warrant Officer 2 MC Fitton from 1 June 2020

retired:

Brigadier DA Hargreaves to 14 March 2020
Brigadier JE Thomas MBE to 31 March 2020
Colonel JS Gunning ADC to 6 November 2020
Captain CE Pagan to 22 April 2020

Secretary Colonel DA Craft

Independent Auditor Crowe U.K. LLP
Carrick House, Lypiatt Road
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2QJ

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc, Cox and Kings Branch
39 Piccadilly, London, W1V 0AA
CCLA Investment Management Limited
85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Solicitors Wilsons Solicitors LLP
Alexandra House, St Johns Street
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2SB

Investment Advisers Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited
10 Old Burlington Street, London, W1S 3AG

Investment Managers BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL
Troy Asset Management Limited
33 Davies Street, London, W1K 4BP

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. 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 Trust Deed, 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Governance

The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) changed its name from The Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) on 16 January 2020.

The Royal Signals Charity is a registered charity constituted under a Trust Deed; registration number 284923 dated 13 May 1982. The Charity Commission scheme was amended on 8 May 2012 and The Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL), a non-charitable company limited by shares, became the Corporate Trustee of the Charity replacing all the previous Trustees of the Charity.

The Royal Signals Association (RSA) was a separate unregistered charity, whose objectives and activities were carried out by RSC (formerly RSBF). This arrangement was formalised during 2015 with the constitution of RSA being adopted on 14 March 2015 and RSA was registered with the Charity Commission with RSTL as its Corporate Trustee. The Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction in November 2015 linking RSA to RSC (formerly RSBF).

The Directors of RSTL effectively act as if they were the Trustees of the Charity, and they are referred to as "The Trustees" in this report and the accompanying financial statements. They are appointed by the Master of Signals (Chairman of the Corps Council).

The Trustees are familiar with the work of the Charity through their service in the Royal Corps of Signals. Additionally an induction pack comprising the governing documents, statement of accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know" and other such documents are given to new Trustees, and they are encouraged to attend relevant seminars.

The Trustees aim to follow charity sector best practice and have familiarised themselves with the updated version of the Charity Governance Code (the "Code") published in July 2017. They consider that the Charity's governance framework aligns with much of the Code. The Trustees have been briefed on the Confederation of British Services and Ex-Services Organisations (Cobseo) Aide Memoire approach and the charity participated in initial trials of their self-reporting tool. The board have agreed to adopt this approach.

Structure and Management

The Royal Signals Charity (formerly RSBF) is the amalgamation of the Royal Signals Association Fund, the Royal Signals Officers Fund and the Royal Signals Corps Fund which were separate Charitable Trusts. Under the above mentioned Trust Deed they are managed as one organisation, with financial differentiation as restricted funds.

The Trustees are served by a number of committees that are governed by terms of reference and are charged with discrete objectives as follows:

- The RSA Central Committee considers branch and veteran matters.
- The Royal Signals Institution Council maintains strong, professional and social links between the Royal Corps of Signals, professional bodies and other relevant areas of defence, in order to foster the professional well being of the Corps and to contribute to the development of the delivery of Information and Communications Services within Defence and Security.
- The Royal Signals Games Club and The Royal Signals Yacht Club promote sporting and adventurous activities.
- There are also management and finance committees for the Headquarters Officers' Mess, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Messes, Corps Music and Corps Heritage.

The Trustees agree the strategy for the Charity including grant making, investment, reserves, risk management and approval of budgets. Grant making within the approved budget is delegated to the chairs of the committees.

The Royal Signals Museum is an independent charity which is related as a result of complementary objectives and activities. The Trustees have agreed to support the Museum financially, see note 14 to the financial statements.

The Charity is a member of Cobseo and has close working relationships with three other charities; the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and The Royal British Legion (TRBL). SSAFA-FH and TRBL do welfare casework on behalf of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Structure and Management (continued)

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to Colonel DA Craft (Corps Secretary) who can be contacted at Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals, Griffin House, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH. He is assisted by the Senior Management Team: Lieutenant Colonel S Lockwood (Assistant Corps Secretary), Lieutenant Colonel P Osment (RSI Director) and Mr MJ Fisher (Corps Accountant). The first two are Ministry of Defence Civil Servants and the last two are employees of the Charity, whose remuneration is set by reference to equivalent Civil Service Grades and market rates of pay.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity set out in the governing scheme are:

- To promote and maintain the physical efficiency and morale of The Royal Corps of Signals.
- To relieve either generally or individually by way of donation, grant, or loan, the following who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress;
 - past and present Signallers and their families and dependants; and
 - the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.
- The payment of donations, subscriptions or grants to charitable organisations concerned with the employment or welfare of Signallers and their dependants.

The aims of the Charity are:

- To fund the activities of the serving and retired members of Royal Signals, that attract no or only partial funding from the Ministry of Defence, in order to foster effectiveness, morale, teamwork, fitness, professional development, comradeship and esprit de corps.
- To provide grants for deserving welfare cases that are within the objects of the Charity.

The activities for the year result from demands within these aims to support the activities of the serving members of the Corps, to foster comradeship and to meet benevolence requirements.

Grant Making Policy

Applications for welfare grants are judged on their merits, with need being the most significant factor. There is no limit set on the amount spent on benevolence within any year. Grants up to £1,500 are considered electronically using Cobseo's Case Management System.

Grants in support of other activities that fall outside the delegated budgets are submitted by the relevant committee to the Corps Secretary or the Trustees for their consideration, depending on a range of factors which allow some delegation of authority. If the submission is particularly significant or would involve a major change in policy it could be referred to the Corps Council.

Budgets are set for all expenditure other than welfare, no specific targets are set beyond these budgets, they can be exceeded if suitable cases can be made.

Achievements and Performance

Activities

There is a continuing requirement to fund adventurous training expeditions, sport, social and recreational events and professional development, all of which contribute to the efficiency, effectiveness and morale of the Corps. It is equally important to advertise the availability of financial assistance for those who are eligible and grant making to deserving welfare cases.

The Royal Corps of Signals was formed in 1920. To celebrate the Centenary many special events and activities, together with specially enhanced routine ones, were planned for 2020. However, the restrictions resulting from the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic prevented many of these.

The Adventure Training Centenary Challenge (AT-CC100) planned 26 exercises around the World but due to Covid-19 only two could take place, in New Zealand and Tasmania. The "Ludos 100" games programme planned 15 sports tours (mostly overseas) but Covid-19 allowed only three to take place, Athletics in Tenerife, Squash in Nepal and Basketball in the USA. These five completed activities had a combined net cost of £21K after deducting sponsorships and grants received.

The cancelled events incurred costs for airline, hotel and venue bookings amounting to £102K and attracted sponsorship, grants and personal contributions amounting to £118K. The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 have taken the prudent view that these bookings cannot be recovered or carried forward for future use, and that the related sponsorships, grants and personal contributions will have to be repaid, despite ongoing negotiations that promise otherwise in some cases.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Activities (continued)

A high proportion of the routine (not centenary) AT and sports activities could not take place because of Covid-19, resulting in combined costs of £106K compared to the combined budget of £225K and the combined cost in 2019 of £191K. The overall cost of AT and sports (Centenary and routine) amounted to £236K compared to the combined budget of £396K.

The Yacht Club's activities were also greatly reduced by the impact of Covid-19. The last offshore yacht, Lightwave, was sold in the year.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) continues to promote professional development of the Officers and Soldiers of the Royal Signals, serving and retired. The usual programme of events (lectures, workshops, an annual seminar and an annual London lecture and dinner) was severely curtailed by Covid-19, though some "virtual" events were achieved. The Journal, professional publication, did continue to be produced with a special edition for the Centenary. The RSI continued to recognise the academic, professional, engineering and operational excellence of the Corps by presenting a significant number of awards in the year.

Other activities were also prevented by Covid-19. This included the Corps Weekend at Blandford, a memorial event at the National Memorial Arboretum, attendance at the Remembrance Parade at the London Cenotaph, Project 204 (music festival), the Officers' London Dinner, the Senior NCO's Convention at Edgbaston and many smaller events at RSA branches and within Units of the Corps. A notable exception to this was the service of thanksgiving in Salisbury Cathedral attended by HRH Princess Anne (Colonel-in-Chief), which was before the pandemic "lockdown".

Significant Silver display pieces were completed for both the Officers' Mess and the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, as were a portrait of HRH Princess Anne in Royal Signals uniform and a portrait of the retiring Master. The book "Roger so Far ..." was published and special Centenary Gins, Whisky, Wines and Beers were produced. The "#100for100" campaign was instigated at short notice to generate activities and interest following the loss of so many AT and sporting events, and was highly successful, raising funds of over £75K.

Benevolence

The total cost of benevolent welfare was £339,647 (2019: £411,138) including overheads directly attributable to welfare. Within that figure £41,750 (2019: £42,500) was paid to other charities with similar objectives, for their support of signallers. The number of beneficiaries (excluding Christmas grants) in 2020 was 376 (474 in 2019). These totals were relatively low in 2020, mainly because during the Covid-19 "lockdown" caseworkers were making fewer visits in support of applications.

The Trustees are most appreciative of the financial support provided by The Soldiers Charity - Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) direct to beneficiaries, 90 grants amounting to £69,662 (90 grants totalling £69,587 in 2019). In addition the ABF awarded £15,299 (£47,360 in 2019) towards annuities and nursing home fees.

Major grants (grants of £801 up to the max of £1,500) from the Charity assisted with the provision of electric scooters, level access showers, grants to replace household items such as carpets or white goods, grants to carry out urgent repairs to houses, grants for priority debts such as rent and utilities, grants for mobility aids such as riser chairs, stair lifts, grants to assist with re-training and grants for removals and rental bonds.

The Trustees are most grateful to the honorary Welfare Officers in branches of the Royal Signals Association and the caseworkers of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association-Forces Help (SSAFA-FH) and the Royal British Legion (RBL) for the enormous contribution that they make towards the welfare of serving and retired Signallers and their dependants.

Material Investments - Policy and Performance

Alvarium Investment Advisors (UK) Limited (independent investment advisers) help develop the overall strategy of the portfolio and advise on individual transactions and circumstances. The investment policy continues to be to maximise return at medium risk over the long term.

68% of the invested portfolio remained within the Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund managed by BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited, the remaining 32% was held in Trojan 'S' shares fund of Troy Asset Management Limited.

Total dividend income amounted to £274,015 (2019: £295,603), £21,109 (2019: £35,027) arose from accumulating units and so was automatically re-invested, and from the income units £252,906 (2019: £260,576) arose in cash. Total gains of £582,664 (2019: £1,233,246) arose from the investments in the year.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Financial Review

Total income amounted to £1,249,848 (2019: £1,333,109). Subscription income increased to £709,294 in 2020 from £705,394 in 2019. Donations amounted to £136,770 (2019: £54,969) mainly due to the "#100for100" campaign. Legacies of £38,170 arose in 2020 (2019: £62,701).

The principal funding source continued to be the voluntary subscriptions of 110% of a day's pay a year from the members of the serving Corps. Officers subscribe a further 80% of a day's pay which is used specifically for officer's activities, and Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers subscribe a further 30% of a day's pay which is used to fund improvements to Sergeants' Messes and their social activities. The Trustees are most grateful to the serving Corps for their continued support.

Total expenditure amounted to £1,566,076 (2019: £1,613,366). The Covid-19 pandemic caused significant distortion to the usual pattern of expenses, though the overall total was not significantly different.

Welfare grants were £71,491 lower than in 2019 principally because social workers were making fewer visits. Reduced activities caused savings in Sport and Sailing grants of £55,218, the Officers' Dinner and most RSI events were cancelled saving £73,314. Conversely, deposits, advance bookings and other costs of cancelled activities caused Adventure Training to be £68,527 higher than in 2019 and Raising funds was increased by £94,471 for the Project 204 music festival.

The Sergeants' Mess Fund expenditure was £53,985 lower than in 2019, reflecting the higher than usual expenditure that year, which was £96,454 higher than 2018. Support to Soldier Recruiting increased by £29,291, mainly caused by a new nurturing initiative.

The deficit for the year before gains on investments was £316,228 (2019: £280,257). After the investment gains of £582,664 (2019: £1,233,246) the total of the fund balances was £11,821,607 (2019: £11,555,171).

At the end of the year the unrestricted Corps Funds amounted to £3,966,146 (2019: £4,028,990), which included £109,012 (2019: £116,511) designated asset replacement funds (see note 13).

The restricted funds at the end of the year were held as - Officer Funds £2,090,729 (2019: £1,999,342), Welfare & Veterans Fund £5,163,510 (2019: £4,915,988), Disbanded Units Funds £453,923 (2019: £436,880) and Sergeants Messes Fund £147,298 (2019: £173,967), as described in note 12.

The Charity benefits from staff costs and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as part of their contribution to esprit de corps. These cannot be meaningfully quantified or evaluated.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities for the charity are carried out by volunteers with assistance from charity staff. The charity does not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participators.

The Royal Signals Charity treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the utmost importance and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual they consider this might apply to.

No complaints relating to fundraising activities have been received by the charity during this financial period. However, the charity has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Corps Secretary. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the Trustees to determine what further action might be required.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should support or undertake. The Charity provides public benefit by enhancing the morale and efficiency of serving service personnel to more effectively perform their role within the Royal Corps of Signals, supporting comradeship within the wider Corps family (regular, reserves and retired), and providing benevolence to individuals and their families where there is need.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that the public benefit requirements have been met.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the operational and business risks and confirm that systems have been established to manage these risks. A risk management plan has been established and is reviewed regularly. There are measures in place to prevent fraud and theft, to ensure the physical security of data and buildings and to maintain business continuity. The management of risk on investments in relation to the market is carried out by RSTL and is explained in more detail later in this report.

The Trustees have identified strategic risks that could have a severe impact on both income and/or expenditure, as follows:

- amalgamation of the serving Corps with another so that most of the income is lost,
- further reduction in the size of the Corps under future Strategic Defence and Security Reviews,
- reduction in support of the Charity by removal of the personnel, premises and infrastructure provided by the Ministry of Defence,
- and, permanent reduction in investment values and income earning capacity.

These risks can be mitigated by maintaining sufficient Reserves to enable the Charity's activities to continue (see Reserves Policy below).

The Covid 19 pandemic arose in the year, with the resulting "lockdown" of the country and the economy. Whilst there are potential extra costs and income reductions, there are also significant potential cost savings due to reduced activities.

The principal source of income is monthly subscriptions (£704k) from the current members of the Corps, by deduction from their salaries, and this is unlikely to be affected by the pandemic. The secondary source is investment income (£274k) which is assured by the reserve policy of the principal investment fund used. Casual donations are unlikely to exceed £60k in a year, which is insignificant in this context. Legacies can be highly variable but would not be impacted by the pandemic.

The main pandemic risk to the charity would be for potential catastrophic investment losses. The investment portfolio is split between different fund managers with different investment policies. If one of the funds was totally extinguished, it is highly unlikely that the other would be as well.

The Trustees do not believe that there is a significant risk to the Charity as a Going Concern.

Reserves Policy

At current levels of activity the Charity needs an investment return (income plus gains) of about £590K to meet its costs. At an average rate of return of about 5% this suggests the need for an investment portfolio of around £12M, at a rate of return of 4% the portfolio would need to be nearly £15M.

As mentioned above, the Trustees have identified strategic risks that can only be mitigated by holding reserves. They have calculated that an amount of over £2M in addition to that mentioned above would be needed to cover these risks enabling ongoing commitments to be fulfilled. This gives an investment target of between £14M and £17M. At 31 December 2020 the market value of the investment portfolio was £10.9M.

The Free Reserves (unrestricted and undesignated) amounted to £3,857K (2019: £3,912K), which would be sufficient to meet the short term results of the identified risks, see Note 13. The Designated Funds amounted to £109K (2019: £116K), and the Restricted Funds totalled £7,855K (2019: £7,526K), see Notes 12 and 13.

The Reserves Policy is therefore, to allow funds to continue to accumulate, when surplus investment return arises. In the event that any strategic risks arise before sufficient reserves have been accumulated, it has been accepted that the charity would reduce the support it gives to Morale and Efficiency (but not Welfare).

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees plan to continue support for the activities outlined above in the coming years and look forward to being able to support future expenditure plans while continuing to monitor closely both the need for benevolence and the performance of investments.

The Trustees will work closely with the head of the serving Corps to maintain or improve the level of voluntary subscription income from officers and soldiers. They are also implementing an expenditure review.

The Trustees intend that some of the special Centenary (2020) events and activities that were prevented by the Covid-19 pandemic, or comparable activities, may be carried out in 2021 or 2022 with the support of the Charity; the previous budgets being rolled forward.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (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 SORP;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions, 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. 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:



Major General TG Inshaw CB
Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

Date: **31 March 2021**

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Signals Charity ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept by the Charity; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011, together with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 2019. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the recognition of income from donations and legacies, and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence including that with the Charity Commission, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP, Statutory Auditor
Carrick House, Lypiatt Road
Cheltenham, GL50 2QJ

23 April 2021

Crowe U.K. LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	2020			2019		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM							
Donations and legacies	2	384,141	500,093	884,234	358,811	464,253	823,064
Other trading activities		10,203	19	10,222	95	17	112
Investments	3	97,976	176,134	274,110	106,689	188,971	295,660
Charitable activities	4	7,097	74,185	81,282	36,501	177,772	214,273
TOTAL INCOME		499,417	750,431	1,249,848	502,096	831,013	1,333,109
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising funds		96,503	3,047	99,550	1,186	1,779	2,965
Charitable activities	5	674,020	792,506	1,466,526	582,570	1,027,831	1,610,401
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		770,523	795,553	1,566,076	583,756	1,029,610	1,613,366
Operating (deficit)/surplus		(271,106)	(45,122)	(316,228)	(81,660)	(198,597)	(280,257)
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	8	208,262	374,402	582,664	445,015	788,231	1,233,246
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(62,844)	329,280	266,436	363,355	589,634	952,989
Fund balances at 1 January		4,028,990	7,526,181	11,555,171	3,665,635	6,936,547	10,602,182
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER		3,966,146	7,855,461	11,821,607	4,028,990	7,526,181	11,555,171
		Note 13	Note 12				

All activities in the year are continuing.
The Charity had no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY
 formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020


	Note	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	716,523	767,641
Listed Investments	8	10,898,535	10,697,860
		<u>11,615,058</u>	<u>11,465,501</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock of Goods for Resale		74,036	-
Debtors	9	265,279	331,582
Cash at Bank and in Hand		416,736	146,906
		<u>756,051</u>	<u>478,488</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	10	(468,127)	(322,549)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>287,924</u>	<u>155,939</u>
Provision for Liabilities and Charges	11	(81,375)	(66,269)
NET ASSETS		<u>11,821,607</u>	<u>11,555,171</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
Designated Funds		109,012	116,511
General Funds		3,857,134	3,912,479
	13	<u>3,966,146</u>	<u>4,028,990</u>
Restricted Funds	12	7,855,461	7,526,181
		<u>11,821,607</u>	<u>11,555,171</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on **31 March 2021** and signed on its behalf by:



Major General TG Inshaw CB
 Chairman of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

and



Colonel DA Craft
 Secretary of The Royal Signals Trustee Limited

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Operating activities		
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period	266,436	952,989
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	14,180	24,722
Loss/(Gain) on disposal of fixed assets	25,907	(12,798)
Dividends and interest from investments	(274,110)	(295,660)
(Gains) / Losses on investments	(582,664)	(1,233,246)
(Increase) / Decrease in stock of goods for resale	(74,036)	-
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	66,303	(188,312)
Increase in creditors and provisions	160,684	13,485
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(397,300)</u>	<u>(738,820)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	274,110	295,660
Accumulating dividends	(21,109)	(35,027)
Cash from investment income	<u>253,001</u>	<u>260,633</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	(62,556)	(14,364)
Proceeds of disposal of fixed assets	73,587	36,932
Purchase of investments	-	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	403,098	419,800
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>667,130</u>	<u>703,001</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	269,830	(35,819)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	146,906	182,725
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u>416,736</u>	<u>146,906</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and Charities Act 2011. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The Royal Signals Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements (see Risk Management in the Trustees' Report, page 6).

b. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Headquarters Officers Mess assets were revalued at 1 January 2015; this was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward. All other assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. As explained in note 7, historic assets owned prior to 1 January 1994 have not been capitalised.

Depreciation is applied on a straight line basis calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life and potential impairments are kept under review. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Headquarters Officers Mess	1%
Bands	15%
Regimental Headquarters fixtures and fittings	33%
Yacht Club - small boats and dinghies	15%
- yachts	7%

Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as the residual value is considered to be higher than the carrying value. Assets are continuously reviewed for potential impairment.

c. Investments, Investment Income and Gains

Investments are held in the BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund and Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares. They are valued at the bid price prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. Investment historic cost is the average cost per unit purchased or the market value when donated or transferred.

Dividends, other investment income and income from cash deposits are accounted for when the Charity is entitled to them. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

d. Taxation

The entity is a registered Charity and, as such, claims tax exemptions from all its United Kingdom income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Income tax recoverable represents tax which is recoverable in respect of tax credits from dividends receivable during the year and from gift aid subscriptions on which tax has been paid by the subscriber during the year.

e. Funds

Restricted funds are amounts which have been earmarked by the donors for specific purposes. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes, but they remain at their discretion (see notes 12 and 13).

f. Income

Income from donations, fundraising and events are accounted for on a receipts basis unless the income will be received and its value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Those funds provided for a specific purpose are taken to a restricted fund.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Subscriptions represent voluntary contributions received monthly from serving members and annually from retired officers of the Corps and are accounted for when they are receivable.

g. Grants Payable and Direct Charitable Expenditure

Grants paid and direct expenditure are accounted for when paid or when the liability is established with the third party. They are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity and in accordance with the objectives of the Charity.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

h. Support and Shared Costs

Support and Shared Costs comprise expenditure incurred directly in support of charitable objectives and are attributable to the Charity's activities. Governance costs represent professional and statutory fees and other costs incurred in running the Charity. They are allocated to activities in proportion to their utilisation.

i. Stock of Goods for Resale

Stock of goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

i. Debtors

Legacies receivable, subscriptions, loans and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

j. Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Provisions are not discounted to net present value as the difference would be immaterial to the financial statements.

k. Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Investments are included at fair value.

l. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to consider making any significant judgements and estimates where necessary. Apart from depreciation, there are no items in the financial statements where significant judgements and estimations have been made.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Proceeds from the closure of the Motorcycle Display Team	68,385	-
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	296,671	296,110
Legacies	19,085	62,701
	<u>384,141</u>	<u>358,811</u>
Restricted Funds		
Donations	68,385	54,969
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	406,813	403,704
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	5,810	5,580
Legacies	19,085	-
	<u>500,093</u>	<u>464,253</u>
Total Funds		
Donations	136,770	54,969
Subscriptions - One Day's Pay	703,484	699,814
Subscriptions - Retired Officers	5,810	5,580
Legacies	38,170	62,701
	<u>884,234</u>	<u>823,064</u>

Subscriptions from serving members of the Corps are collected under the "One Day's Pay" Payroll Giving Scheme. These are donated entirely voluntarily by the serving members of the Corps. Under Queen's Regulations (QR 5.613) the first 50% must be applied to Welfare purposes.

Soldiers' subscriptions are 110%. Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) subscribe at 140% of a days basic pay per annum of which 30% is used specifically for Sergeants' Messes. Officers' subscriptions are 190% of a days basic pay per annum of which 80% is used specifically in support of Officers' activities.

Retired Officers' subscriptions are voluntary and currently at a minimum of £10 a year.

Legacies are accrued for if they were notified as being receivable before the end of the year, either at the value actually received or estimated from the details of the estate provided by the executors.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS**

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	97,941	106,668
Interest on Deposit Accounts	35	21
	<u>97,976</u>	<u>106,689</u>
Restricted Funds		
Gross Dividends	176,074	188,935
Interest on Deposit Accounts	60	36
	<u>176,134</u>	<u>188,971</u>
Total Funds		
Gross Dividends	274,015	295,603
Interest on Deposit Accounts	95	57
	<u>274,110</u>	<u>295,660</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
RSI Journal Advertisements	3,600	4,125
RSYC Charter Income	3,497	19,578
RSYC Profit on Yacht Disposal	-	12,798
	<u>7,097</u>	<u>36,501</u>
Restricted		
Grants from Other Organisations	44,035	64,192
Disposal of Redundant Corps Silverware	8,550	-
RSI Events and Advertisements	11,410	71,979
Officers' Dinner Club	-	30,323
Wire Magazine subscriptions	10,190	10,403
Reunions	-	875
	<u>74,185</u>	<u>177,772</u>
Total Funds	<u>81,282</u>	<u>214,273</u>

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Sporting	112,374	130,068
Sailing	40,661	52,528
Adventure Training	123,693	62,666
Messes, Heritage and History	110,000	110,000
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	70,261	35,838
Bands	14,532	13,320
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	14,385	14,035
RSI events, awards and magazine	40,726	39,818
Wire Magazine	42,567	41,716
Reunions and other costs	28,154	-
Support and Shared costs		
Corps Activities	57,512	63,841
Governance	19,155	18,740
	<u>674,020</u>	<u>582,570</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)	2020	2019
	£	£
Restricted Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	339,647	411,138
Sporting	34,035	47,514
Sailing	-	12,178
Adventure Training	7,500	-
Messes, Heritage and History	113,262	171,639
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	22,439	19,992
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	15,551	14,016
RSI events, awards and magazine	67,932	94,342
Officers' Dinner Club	99	47,911
Wire Magazine	10,190	10,403
Reunions and other costs	70,216	81,659
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	20,726	22,232
Veterans	27,635	29,643
Officer Activities	34,544	37,053
Governance	28,730	28,111
	792,506	1,027,831
Total Funds		
Grants Payable and Expenditure		
Welfare	339,647	411,138
Sporting	146,409	177,582
Sailing	40,661	64,706
Adventure Training	131,193	62,666
Messes, Heritage and History	223,262	281,639
Other Assistance to the serving Corps	92,700	55,830
Bands and Display Team	14,532	13,320
Events and Activities		
Corps Property maintenance and control	29,936	28,051
RSI events, awards and magazine	108,658	134,160
Officers' Dinner Club	99	47,911
Wire Magazine	52,757	52,119
Reunions and other costs	98,370	81,659
Support and Shared costs		
Welfare	20,726	22,232
Veterans	27,635	29,643
Corps and Officer Activities	92,056	100,894
Governance	47,885	46,851
	1,466,526	1,610,401

All welfare grants are to third party organisations and made for the benefit of both serving and retired members of the Corps (Regulars and Reserves) and their families.

The Royal Signals Institution (RSI) fosters professional development amongst the serving Corps, the retired Corps and their close colleagues in Defence and Industry.

Welfare Grants includes payments to other charities for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives:	2020	2019
	£	£
Army Benevolent Fund	35,000	35,000
various nursing homes with ex Royal Signals residents	6,750	7,500
	41,750	42,500

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Shared Support Costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	44,037	50,613
IT Support and Equipment Costs	6,306	4,541
Postage	839	632
Bank Charges	1,180	391
Depreciation	145	145
Total Shared Support Costs	<u>52,507</u>	<u>56,322</u>
Direct Corps Administration	2,242	4,556
	<u>54,749</u>	<u>60,878</u>
Restricted Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	71,849	82,578
IT Support and Equipment Costs	10,289	7,408
Postage	1,368	1,032
Bank Charges	1,925	637
Depreciation	237	236
	<u>85,668</u>	<u>91,891</u>
Total Funds		
Accounts & Management Salaries Shared	115,886	133,191
IT Support and Equipment Costs	16,595	11,949
Postage	2,207	1,664
Bank Charges	3,105	1,028
Depreciation	382	381
Total Shared Support Costs	<u>138,175</u>	<u>148,213</u>
Direct Corps Administration	2,242	4,556
	<u>140,417</u>	<u>152,769</u>
Attributed to:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Corps Fund	54,749	60,878
Restricted Funds		
Officers Fund	41,452	44,463
Welfare	8,290	8,892
Veterans	35,926	38,536
	<u>140,417</u>	<u>152,769</u>
Total Expenditure included the following costs		
Unrestricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	72,704	78,747
Social Security Costs	7,912	8,384
Pension Scheme Costs	2,624	2,363
	<u>83,240</u>	<u>89,494</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>10,351</u>	<u>20,893</u>
Restricted Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	186,856	195,892
Social Security Costs	12,159	12,985
Pension Scheme Costs	4,685	4,189
	<u>203,700</u>	<u>213,066</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>3,829</u>	<u>3,829</u>
Total Funds		
Staff Costs		
Wages and Salaries	259,560	274,639
Social Security Costs	20,071	21,369
Pension Scheme Costs	7,309	6,552
	<u>286,940</u>	<u>302,560</u>
Depreciation Charges for the Year	<u>14,180</u>	<u>24,722</u>

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6. EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES (continued)

No employee earned £60,000 or more (2019: One over £60,000).

The average number of employees in the year was 4 full time (2019: 4) and 4 part time = 2.5 full-time equivalents (2019: 4 = 2.5 full-time equivalents).

The Charity benefits from staff costs, administration and building running costs paid for by the Ministry of Defence, contributing to esprit de corps. It is not practical to quantify such costs with any certainty.

	2020 £	2019 £
Governance Costs included the following		
Unrestricted Funds		
Audit	6,240	6,300
Legal Fees	3,040	1,834
Investment Advice	7,622	7,195
Trustee Expenses	1,394	2,330
Trustee Meetings	39	427
Trustee Liability Insurance	820	654
	<u>19,155</u>	<u>18,740</u>
Restricted Funds		
Audit	9,360	9,450
Legal Fees	4,559	2,751
Investment Advice	11,432	10,793
Trustee Expenses	2,090	3,494
Trustee Meetings	59	641
Trustee Liability Insurance	1,230	982
	<u>28,730</u>	<u>28,111</u>
Total Funds		
Audit	15,600	15,750
Legal Fees	7,599	4,585
Investment Advice	19,054	17,988
Trustee Expenses	3,484	5,824
Trustee Meetings	98	1,068
Trustee Liability Insurance	2,050	1,636
	<u>47,885</u>	<u>46,851</u>

4 Trustees (2019: 6) received the above reimbursements of expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation) none of which were paid to third parties.

Key Personnel

No Trustee (2019: None) received any remuneration or benefit from the Fund or any Related Parties.

The Regimental Secretary, the Assistant Regimental Secretary and the Communications and Heritage Officer are employees of the Ministry of Defence. Honorariums, and Salaries during appointment vacancies, were paid at a total cost to the Charity of £10,040 (2019: £29,057).

The Corps Accountant and RSI Director are employees of the Charity at a total cost of £118,844 (2019: £118,848).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2020						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2020	360,000	309,173	4,864	180,825	31,933	886,795
Additions	-	59,702	2,854	-	-	62,556
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	(111,167)	(21,798)	(132,965)
At 31 December 2020	<u>360,000</u>	<u>368,875</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>69,658</u>	<u>10,135</u>	<u>816,386</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2020	17,116	-	4,482	69,466	28,090	119,154
Charge for Year	3,600	-	382	8,677	1,521	14,180
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(11,673)	(21,798)	(33,471)
At 31 December 2020	<u>20,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,864</u>	<u>66,470</u>	<u>7,813</u>	<u>99,863</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2020	339,284	368,875	2,854	3,188	2,322	716,523
At 31 December 2019	342,884	309,173	382	111,359	3,843	767,641

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	HQ Officers Mess £	Historic Assets £	Regimental HQ £	Yacht Club £	Bands £	Total £
2019						
Cost / Deemed cost						
At 1 January 2019	360,000	294,809	4,864	284,490	31,933	976,096
Additions	-	14,364	-	-	-	14,364
Cost of Disposals	-	-	-	(103,665)	-	(103,665)
At 31 December 2019	<u>360,000</u>	<u>309,173</u>	<u>4,864</u>	<u>180,825</u>	<u>31,933</u>	<u>886,795</u>
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 January 2019	13,516	-	4,101	129,777	26,569	173,963
Charge for Year	3,600	-	381	19,220	1,521	24,722
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(79,531)	-	(79,531)
At 31 December 2019	<u>17,116</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,482</u>	<u>69,466</u>	<u>28,090</u>	<u>119,154</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2019	<u>342,884</u>	<u>309,173</u>	<u>382</u>	<u>111,359</u>	<u>3,843</u>	<u>767,641</u>
At 31 December 2018	<u>346,484</u>	<u>294,809</u>	<u>763</u>	<u>154,713</u>	<u>5,364</u>	<u>802,133</u>

The assets above relate directly to charitable purposes.

The assets are kept continuously under review for potential impairment.

Headquarters Officers Mess

A professional valuation in 2014 of the furniture in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled £360,000, all of which are assets for which the risks and rewards belong to the Charity. This was deemed to be historic cost on transition and therefore assumed not revalued going forward.

Historic Assets

Reliable cost information is not available for historic assets acquired prior to 1 January 1994 which have not been capitalised. Recent valuations of silverware and paintings in the Headquarters Officers Mess totalled over £1.25 million and other locations were assessed in the year.

Since 1 January 1994 historic assets have been acquired for the Blandford Garrison Church £22,365, the National Arboretum Memorial £22,186 and Silver and Artworks £324,325 (2019: £264,623). Depreciation is not charged on historic assets as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value.

8. INVESTMENTS - LISTED

	2020 £	2019 £
Market Value at 1 January	10,697,860	9,849,387
Additions	21,109	35,027
Disposal Proceeds	(403,098)	(419,800)
Gains/(Losses) in year	582,664	1,233,246
Market Value at 31 December	<u>10,898,535</u>	<u>10,697,860</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,403,470</u>	<u>9,746,901</u>
Held in:-		
BlackRock, Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund	7,359,226	7,263,084
Troy Asset Management, Trojan 'S' shares Accumulation Units	3,539,309	3,434,776
	<u>10,898,535</u>	<u>10,697,860</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Subscriptions	57,578	56,793
Loans	1,080	7,580
Other Debtors	191,768	36,616
Prepayments	14,853	230,593
	<u>265,279</u>	<u>331,582</u>

Debtors do not include any amounts due in more than one year, apart from Loans.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Balance with Related Entities	126,175	94,469
Social Security and Other Taxes	7,504	7,409
Balances held as Agent (see note 15)	48,913	101,494
Other Creditors	25,085	38,812
Accruals	20,270	24,570
Deferred Income and Provisions		
Brought forward from prior year	55,795	25,410
Used or repaid in year	(48,695)	(25,410)
Arising in the year	233,080	55,795
Carried forward	240,180	55,795
	<u>468,127</u>	<u>322,549</u>

Deferred Income arises when receipts relate to activities planned for the future.

11. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Employees' Retirement Provision	<u>81,375</u>	<u>66,269</u>

Provision for the amounts due to employees upon their retirement in accordance with their employment contract.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 January	Income	Expenditure	Investment (Losses) / Gains	31 December
	£	£	£	£	£
2020					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	4,915,990	456,388	(476,618)	267,751	5,163,511
Officers' Activities Fund	1,999,344	174,946	(156,942)	73,381	2,090,729
Sergeants' Messes Fund	173,967	56,181	(92,325)	9,475	147,298
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	337,722	8,685	(13,943)	18,467	350,931
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	71,781	1,844	(2,000)	3,921	75,546
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	27,377	662	(2,000)	1,407	27,446
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	51,725	(51,725)	-	-
	<u>7,526,181</u>	<u>750,431</u>	<u>(795,553)</u>	<u>374,402</u>	<u>7,855,461</u>
2019					
Welfare & Veterans Fund	4,474,559	433,251	(552,081)	560,261	4,915,990
Officers' Activities Fund	1,829,160	256,483	(235,032)	148,733	1,999,344
Sergeants' Messes Fund	232,064	59,156	(146,310)	29,057	173,967
Disbanded Units - PRI Fund	311,034	9,335	(21,592)	38,945	337,722
Disbanded Units - Officers Messes Fund	66,031	1,982	(4,500)	8,268	71,781
Disbanded Units - Sergeants Messes Fund	23,699	711	-	2,967	27,377
Other Corps Activity Income received and expended in year for specific purposes	-	70,095	(70,095)	-	-
	<u>6,936,547</u>	<u>831,013</u>	<u>(1,029,610)</u>	<u>788,231</u>	<u>7,526,181</u>

Restricted Funds arise from income received for specified purposes and are held separately until expended.

Welfare & Veterans Fund - This Restricted Fund serves members of the Corps, fostering comradeship and providing welfare support to those in need. It receives donations, legacies, and other voluntary income that have been canvassed for welfare purposes. It receives grants from the Army Benevolent Fund to augment, on a case-by-case basis, the welfare grants made. Welfare grants and costs are initially funded by "One Day's Pay" Subscriptions as described in Note 2.

Officers' Activities Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Officers' purposes, such as dinners, Officers' Messes and other costs specifically for the benefit of Officers.

Sergeants' Messes Fund - This Fund receives part of Subscriptions, described in note 2, for Sergeants' Messes' improvements and other costs specifically for the benefit of Warrant Officers and SNCOs.

Disbanded Units Funds - These Funds arise from disbanded units and are held to assist with the formation of new units and for morale and efficiency purposes similar to the main objects of the Charity. They may not however be used for welfare.

Corps - grant for yacht purchase - A grant was received in 2018 for the purchase of a yacht. Upon completion of the purchase, the restriction was satisfied and so the funds were transferred to Unrestricted Funds.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY

formerly:- THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 January £	Transfers £	Transactions £	31 December £
2020				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	7,549	(134)	-	7,415
Other minor replacement Funds	7,365	(7,365)	-	-
Total Designated Funds	116,511	(7,499)	-	109,012
Corps - General Fund	3,912,479	7,499	(62,844)	3,857,134
	<u>4,028,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(62,844)</u>	<u>3,966,146</u>
2019				
Designated Funds				
Yacht Club, vessel replacements and expeditions	101,597	-	-	101,597
Corps - Yacht Club Offshore Account	16,157	(8,608)	-	7,549
Other minor replacement Funds	7,365	-	-	7,365
Total Designated Funds	125,119	(8,608)	-	116,511
Corps - General Fund	3,540,516	8,608	363,355	3,912,479
	<u>3,665,635</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>363,355</u>	<u>4,028,990</u>

Designated Funds are Unrestricted Funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees. These are for the replacement of assets, as denoted in their titles, the Yacht Club Expedition Fund is an unexpended grant that has been allowed to be carried forward and the Yacht Club Offshore Account which accumulates charter fees for the use of the yachts which is applied to their maintenance.

The transactions of the "Corps - General Fund" are as shown on page 10, Statement of Financial Activities, Unrestricted Funds.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity is related to The Royal Signals Museum (an incorporated charity) and its subsidiary The Royal Signals Museum Trading Company Limited due to their related objectives and activities.

In the year grants were made to The Royal Signals Museum of £110,000 (2019: £110,000).

At the end of the year the debts with The Royal Signals Museum and its subsidiary company amounted to £126,175 payable (2019: £94,469 payable).

15. AGENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity acts as agent for activities related to its Morale and Efficiency Objectives:-

The **Royal Signals Officers Domestic Fund** purchases wines, etc for the HQ Officers' Mess and maintains the wine cellar, its income arises from the consumption of wines at special events. It also operates a second hand uniform sales and rental facility. At 31 December 2020 the balance held amounted to £42,254 (2019: £38,560).

The **Royal Signals Rugby Club** sells tickets for national rugby matches (Army v Navy and Army v RAF) and applies the profits to boost the finances of the Corps' rugby season. At 31 December 2020 the balance held amounted to £6,659 (2019: £62,933).

16. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
2020			
Tangible Fixed Assets	52,913	663,610	716,523
Investments	3,706,684	7,191,851	10,898,535
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	206,549	-	206,549
	<u>3,966,146</u>	<u>7,855,461</u>	<u>11,821,607</u>
2019			
Tangible Fixed Assets	174,499	593,142	767,641
Investments	3,772,370	6,925,490	10,697,860
Current Assets less Current Liabilities and Provisions	82,121	7,549	89,670
	<u>4,028,990</u>	<u>7,526,181</u>	<u>11,555,171</u>