COMPASS BRAILLE

England & Wales · Charity number 292625

Details

Other names	COMPASS BRAILLE, THE FELLOWSHIP FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED, SIGHTLINK
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1985-09-16
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Compass Braille Torch House Torch Way Market Harborough Leicestershire LE16 9HL
Phone	01858 438260
Website	www.compassbraille.org

Activities

Objects: TO SUPPORT FINANCIALLY AND IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE CHRISTIAN WORK AMONGST VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE WORLD-WIDE, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON UNDER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND WITH THE OBJECT OF SPREADING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

Activities: COMPASS BRAILLE TRANSCRIBE/PRODUCE BRAILLE BIBLES/BOOKS IN MANY LANGUAGES FOR USE IN 120+ DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE AT A COMPUTERISED BRAILLE PRODUCTION UNIT. OVERSEAS PARTNER GROUPS DISTRIBUTE THE BRAILLE TO OTHER GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THEIR COUNTRY/COMMUNITIES. THE BRAILLE IS USED IN CHURCH SITUATIONS, EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES, ETC.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Disability, Religious Activities
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Devon
- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£108,992	£87,210	-	-
2024-09-30	£147,298	£176,044	-	-
2023-03-31	£115,075	£131,102	-	-
2022-03-31	£84,697	£116,175	-	-
2021-03-31	£88,757	£110,616	-	-
2020-03-31	£89,803	£115,470	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
THE TORCH TRUST FOR THE BLIND		2023-11-10

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

<u>Report of the Trustees and</u>

<u>Unaudited Financial Statements</u>

<u>for the Year Ended 30 September 2025</u>

<u>for</u>

<u>Compass Braille</u>

A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Compass Braille

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

The trustee, being The Board of the Torch Trust for the Blind (Torch), presents their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025. The trustee has adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing braille resources, primarily Bibles.

Summary of main activities:

The principal activities of the charity are:
1. The production of Braille, including development and preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.

2. Mini-braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund provide rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions chosen by the group for use in Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are added.

3. The transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:
Compass Braille is not in a position to make grants. They continue to send their Braille free of charge to the end user.

Contribution made by volunteers:
The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions: cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. It is estimated that they give 25-27 hours/week to this. Their valued help enables Compass Braille to produce large quantities of Braille each year. Outside volunteers (usually overseas) proofread sample Braille to check for errors.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:
The sole trustee of Compass Braille is the Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind (Torch) which, on 30th September 2025, had a chair and seven directors. Compass Braille has one staff member who handles transcription remotely. Production is outsourced to Torch and a team of six committed volunteers.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE
Production of braille Bibles and books:
In 2024-25, Compass Braille had a steady stream of orders for braille Bibles and booklets. Over twelve months, they produced 7,091 braille volumes of which 6,233 were Bible volumes and 858 were booklets containing Scriptures on themes.

So far, they have transcribed the Bible and other books into braille in more than 60 languages for use in various parts of the world. During this financial year they completed transcribing the Bible into braille into 3 new languages: Ndebele for Zimbabwe, Lusoga for Uganda and Asante Twi for Ghana. For each new language a launch event was held in the recipient country, organised by the national Bible Society there. Each event included visually impaired people reading from the new braille Bibles and giving testimonies of the beneficial impact of the Bible in braille. These were occasions of much rejoicing and thanksgiving to God, with church leaders and national press in attendance.

Compass Braille employee, Jake Kyle, was invited to attend the launch of the Lusoga Braille Bible in Uganda in January 2025. This coincided with a summit organised by the Bible Society of Uganda whose aim was to increase Scripture engagement for visually impaired people. Also present were representatives from 12 African nations. It was a useful time of learning from one another and building relationships.

Transcription was also completed for two Spanish braille Bible projects: the Reina Valera version which is being produced by Christian Library for the Blind in the Netherlands and the deuterocanonical books of the more modern "Dios Habla Hoy" (God Speaks Today) version which is being produced in Brazil. Work continued on transcribing the Urdu Bible into braille.

Transcription was completed on the giant print versions of the Good News Bible in 24 pt font and the King James Version in 25 pt and 30 pt.

Compass Braille have continued to develop their Braille transcription program which has improved efficiency and accuracy and reduced overall transcription costs. Developing templates for Giant Print transcription was part of this.

Compass Braille are a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library, as part of their partnership with the United Bible Societies, and this involves ongoing transcription work. They continue to update their transcription software to handle the new languages and layouts.

FINANCIAL REVIEW
Policy statement on Reserves:
The Torch reserves policy is three months' average expenditure, and Compass Braille's balance sheet shows more than that at the 30th September 2025 year end.

Principal sources of funds:
Compass Braille's funds come mainly from United Bible Societies (UBS) who part-fund and facilitate the braille projects of local Bible societies in poorer countries. Compass Braille also receives UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant-making bodies and legacies. They do not run fundraising campaigns, nor do they use any funds to engage professional fundraisers or commercial participants. They do have a website, and they produce a quarterly newsletter to raise awareness of their needs. They occasionally approach grant-making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by supporters improves their financial position. They occasionally receive financial gifts when staff/volunteers give talks about the charity in churches or at social groups, but this is less common now.

They also have their own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area, to which people can/have donate(d).

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Type of governing document: Trust deed

How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust

Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:
The trustee, being The Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind, has delegated management of Compass Braille to Torch staff, in particular the Ceo, the Head of Technical Services and the Head of Finance and Operations. They report to the Board on progress. The Board meets four times per year. Compass Braille has only one employee, their full-time Transcription Specialist.

Partnerships/Relationship with related parties:
Compass Braille works in partnership with the United Bible Society(UBS) Helpdesk for People with Visual Disability based in Germany. UBS collaborate with many Bible Societies around the world and facilitate Braille provision. These Bible Societies then distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. Compass Braille also partners with other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:
The charity recognises that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, their ability to function is dependent on these groups so they continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. The website and quarterly newsletters have helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that they are the only group in the UK (and worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout, in so many languages. Their press is fully computerised, allowing them to produce Braille in small or large quantities in any language.

Prior to the move to Torch House in 2023, the need to dissolve the charity due to greatly increased lease costs was a serious risk. The charity still does not own any property of its own. However, being housed in facilities owned by Torch offers considerable security.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Charity number
292625

Principal address
Torch House
Torch Way
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 9HL

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

Trustees
Trustee: **The Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind.**
The Board had five members on 1st October 2024. Three new ones were added in the course of the year. The eight members of the Board as at 30th September 2025 are as follows:
Anthony (Tony) Brown (Chair of Trustees)
Marilyn Baker
Ife Akintunde
Sheila Armstrong
Brian Anderson
Edith Townsend
Philip Rice
Trevor Stammers

Chief Executive/Oversight
Compass Braille's oversight is delegated to staff at Torch: CEO Sarah Dawkins, Head of Technical Services, Paul Wood, and Head of Finance and Operations, Linda Prickett.

Independent Examiner
A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

Approved by order of the board of The Torch Trust for the Blind on 19 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Anthony (Tony) Brown-Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Compass Braille (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Date: 14 April 2026

Compass Braille

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year Ended 30.9.25 Total funds £	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		24,113	-	24,113	41,046
Charitable activities					
Braille production		84,783	-	84,783	105,496
Investment income	2	96	-	96	756
Total		108,992	-	108,992	147,298
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		275	-	275	-
Charitable activities					
Braille production		79,465	-	79,465	171,920
Support costs		7,470	-	7,470	4,124
Total		87,210	-	87,210	176,044
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		21,782	-	21,782	(28,746)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		45,590	-	45,590	74,336
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		67,372	-	67,372	45,590

CONTINUING OPERATIONS
All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Compass Braille

Balance Sheet
30 September 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	30.9.25 Total funds £	30.9.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	9,423	-	9,423	12,564
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	8	11,370	-	11,370	10,300
Debtors	9	7,014	-	7,014	502
Cash at bank		46,479	-	46,479	47,335
		64,863	-	64,863	58,137
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(6,914)	-	(6,914)	(25,111)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		57,949	-	57,949	33,026
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		67,372	-	67,372	45,590
NET ASSETS		67,372	-	67,372	45,590
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				67,372	45,590
TOTAL FUNDS				67,372	45,590

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees of the Torch Trust for the Blind and authorised for issue on 1 April 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Anthony (Tony) Brown- Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Stocks
Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Year Ended 30.9.25	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24
	£	£
Interest	96	756

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustees' remuneration was paid during the year as the trustee is a charity.

In the period ended 30 September 2024, remuneration was paid to a trustee, G A Dowling (£8,145), and family members related to G A Dowling as follows:

C P Dowling, also a member of key management personnel, received remuneration of £14,915.

N A Dowling received remuneration totalling £14,706.

R J Dowling received remuneration totalling £18,320.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 September 2025 nor for the period ended 30 September 2024.

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	Year ended 30.9.25	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24
	£	£
Gross Wages	30,031	97,370
Employer's National Insurance	-	-
Pension costs	897	1,309
Total	£30,928	£98,679

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	Year ended 30.9.25	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24
Charitable activities	1	3

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2024: none).

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	41,046	-	41,046
Charitable activities			
Braille production	105,496	-	105,496
Investment income	756	-	756
Total	147,298	-	147,298
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	171,920	-	171,920
Support costs	4,124	-	4,124
Total	176,044	-	176,044
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(28,746)	-	(28,746)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	74,336	-	74,336
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	45,590	-	45,590

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	Year ended 30.9.25 £	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,700	£1,700

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment
	£
COST	
At 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025	57,821
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 October 2024	45,257
Charge for year	3,141
At 30 September 2025	48,398
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 September 2025	9,423
At 30 September 2024	12,564

8. STOCKS

	30.9.25	30.9.24
	£	£
Stock of paper and packaging	11,370	10,300

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	30.9.25	30.9.24
	£	£
Trade debtors	5,286	-
Tax recoverable	1,083	317
VAT	645	185
	7,014	502

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	30.9.25	30.9.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	468	-
Taxation and social security	396	363
Other creditors	6,050	24,748
	6,914	25,111

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.10.24	Net movement in funds	At 30.9.25
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	36,434	21,820	58,254
Special Bible Fund	6,575	(38)	6,537
Special Booklet Fund	2,581	-	2,581
	45,590	21,782	67,372
TOTAL FUNDS	45,590	21,782	67,372

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	108,492	(86,672)	21,820
Special Bible Fund	500	(538)	(38)
	108,992	(87,210)	21,782
TOTAL FUNDS	108,992	(87,210)	21,782

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	At 30.9.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	65,180	(28,746)	36,434
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,581	-	2,581
	74,336	(28,746)	45,590
TOTAL FUNDS	74,336	(28,746)	45,590

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,298	(176,044)	(28,746)
TOTAL FUNDS	147,298	(176,044)	(28,746)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund
This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, £29,000 in respect of production costs and a contribution to overheads was recharged by the Torch Trust for the Blind, a trustee, to Compass Braille. Expenditure of £2,317 was also paid by the Torch Trust for the Blind on behalf of Compass Braille and reimbursed to them.
At the year end, the outstanding balance due to the Torch Trust for the Blind was £4,173.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Period
1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

for

Compass Braille

A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

Report of the Trustees
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

The trustee, being The Board of the Torch Trust for the Blind (Torch), presents their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 30 September 2024. Note that the year-end has changed from 31st March to 30th September, making the 2023-24 "year" an eighteen-month period. The trustee has adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing braille resources, primarily Bibles.

Summary of main activities:

The principal activities of the charity are:

1. The production of Braille including development and preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.
2. Mini-Braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund provide rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions chosen by the group for use in Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are added.
3. The transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:

Compass Braille is not in a position to make grants. They continue to send their Braille free of charge to the end user.

Contribution made by volunteers:

The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions: cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. It is estimated that they give 25-27 hours/week to this. Their valued help enables Compass Braille to produce large quantities of Braille each year. Outside volunteers (usually overseas) proofread sample Braille to check for errors.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:

The sole trustee of Compass Braille is the Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind which, on 30th September 2024, had a chair and four directors. Compass Braille went from five staff members to one when the production site was moved from Ware to Market Harborough in the autumn of 2023. Production was largely outsourced to Torch, and a new team of six committed volunteers joined the effort.

Report of the Trustees
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Production of braille Bibles and books:

In 2023-24, Compass Braille kept up with the continued demand for Braille which remains as high as ever. Over eighteen months, they produced 11,075 braille Bible volumes, 10 complete children's Bibles and 114 booklets.

So far, they have transcribed Bibles and other books into Braille in more than 60 languages for use in various parts of the world. During this financial year they completed work on six Indian languages - Ao-Naga, Sumi, Angami, Rabha, Mara and Biate - and have sent a seventh, Saurashtra, to the proofreaders. They also transcribed new Bible translations in the Ugandan language of Runyankore and the Mongolian Kazakh language. They continued transcribing the Urdu Bible and started work on the Zimbabwean Ndebele Bible and the Ugandan Lusoga Bible.

Other braille transcription projects included the Spanish Reina Valera Bible and the English New International Version Bible, while large print transcription included the Good News Bible in 24 pt font and the King James Version in 25 pt and 30 pt.

They have continued to develop their Braille transcription program which has improved efficiency and accuracy and reduced overall transcription costs. Developing templates for Giant Print transcription was part of this. Compass Braille are a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library, as part of their partnership with the United Bible Societies, and this involves ongoing transcription work. They continue to update their transcription software to handle the new languages and layouts.

Compass Braille also partner with other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy statement on Reserves:

At the beginning of our 2023-24 fiscal year, Compass Braille had a Reserve Fund for filtering money into their instant access account and this included any money donated for special projects. In the autumn of 2023, they dipped into the fund to cover the large increase in the lease cost of the then premises, in the Crane Mead Business Park. They also used the fund to cover redundancy costs when they let staff go and moved production from Ware to Market Harborough. As of 10th November 2023, their governance changed from a Board of five trustees to one trustee, being the Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind. The Torch reserves policy is three months' average expenditure, and Compass Braille are building up to that level.

Principal sources of funds:

Compass Braille's funds come mainly from United Bibles Societies (UBS) who part-fund and facilitate the braille projects of local Bible societies in poorer countries. Compass Braille also receive UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant-making bodies and legacies. They do not run fundraising campaigns, nor do they use any funds to engage professional fundraisers or commercial participants. They do have a website, and they produce a quarterly newsletter to raise awareness of their needs. They occasionally approach grant-making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by supporters improves their financial position. They occasionally receive financial gifts when staff/volunteers give talks about the charity in churches or at social groups, but this is less common now.

They also have their own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area.

Report of the Trustees
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Type of governing document: Trust deed

How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust

Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:
The organisational structure of Compass Braille changed in November 2023. Previously, the chief executive reported to and liaised with the trustees in matters concerning the management and development of the charity, and there were five members of staff whose hours tallied to 3.5 full-time posts. The trustees met twice per annum.

Since November 2023, the new trustee, being The Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind, has delegated management of Compass Braille to Torch staff, in particular the Head of Technical Services and the Head of Finance and Operations. They report to the Board on progress. The Board meets four times per year. Compass Braille has only one employee, their full-time Transcription Specialist.

Partnerships/Relationship with related parties:
Compass Braille work in partnership with the UBS Helpdesk for People with Visual Disability based in Germany. UBS collaborate with many Bible Societies around the world and facilitate Braille provision. These Bible Societies then distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. Compass Braille also partner with other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:
The charity recognises that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, their ability to function is dependent on these groups so they continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. The website and quarterly newsletters have helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that they are the only group in the UK (and worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout, in so many languages. Their press is fully computerised, allowing them to produce Braille in small or large quantities in any language.

The risk of needing to dissolve the charity due to greatly increased lease costs was addressed in the 2023-24 fiscal year by moving premises from Crane Mead Business Park in Ware to Torch House in Market Harborough. The charity still does not own any property of its own. However, being housed in facilities owned by Torch offers considerable security.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Charity number
292625

Principal address
Torch House
Torch Way
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 9HL

Report of the Trustees
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

Trustee from 11th November 2023 onward: The Board of The Torch Trust for the Blind.
The Board had seven members on 11th November 2023. Two of these passed away before the financial year-end: Mike Townsend (28.11.2023) and Julia Chapman (08.07.2024). The five members of the Board remaining on 30th September 2024 are as follows:
Anthony (Tony) Brown (Chair of Trustees)
Marilyn Baker
Ife Akintunde
Sheila Armstrong
Brian Anderson.

Chief Executive/Oversight
Compass Braille's Chief Executive was Colin P Dowling through 10th November 2023. Thereafter, oversight was delegated to staff at Torch: Head of Technical Services, Paul Wood, and Head of Finance and Operations, Linda Prickett, along with CEO Sarah Dawkins.

Independent Examiner
A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

Approved by order of the board of The Torch Trust for the Blind on 23rd January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

....
Anthony (Tony) Brown-Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Compass Braille (the Trust) for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith
FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Date: 17 February 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24 Total funds £	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		41,046	-	41,046	40,260
Charitable activities					
Braille production		105,496	-	105,496	73,809
Investment income	2	756	-	756	1,006
Total		147,298	-	147,298	115,075
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Braille production		171,920	-	171,920	128,085
Support costs		4,124	-	4,124	3,017
Total		176,044	-	176,044	131,102
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(28,746)	-	(28,746)	(16,027)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		74,336	-	74,336	90,363
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		45,590	-	45,590	74,336

CONTINUING OPERATIONS
All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Compass Braille

Balance Sheet
30 September 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	30.9.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	12,562	-	12,562	21,116
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	8	10,300	-	10,300	-
Debtors	9	502	-	502	3,519
Cash at bank		47,337	-	47,337	53,245
		58,139	-	58,139	56,764
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(25,111)	-	(25,111)	(3,544)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		33,028	-	33,028	53,220
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		45,590	-	45,590	74,336
NET ASSETS		45,590	-	45,590	74,336
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				45,590	74,336
TOTAL FUNDS				45,590	74,336

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees of The Torch Trust for the Blind and authorised for issue on 14 February 2025. and were signed on its behalf by:

Anthony (Tony) Brown-Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Stocks
Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24	Year Ended 31.3.23
	£	£
Interest	756	1,006

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the period ended 30 September 2024 remuneration totalling £8,145 (year ended 31 March 2023: £5,348) was paid to G A Dowling, a trustee.

C P Dowling, a member of key management personnel, who is also the spouse of a trustee, received remuneration of £14,915 (2023: £10,131).

N A Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £14,706 (2023: £9,932).

R J Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £18,320 (2023: £22,529).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses for the period ended 30 September 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The charity purchased Trustees' Indemnity Insurance during the prior period at a cost of £296, but did not purchase any during the current period.

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24	Year ended 31.3.23
	£	£
Gross Wages	97,370	73,820
Employer's National Insurance	-	227
Pension costs	1,309	838
Total	£98,679	£74,885

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24	Year ended 31.3.23

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

4. STAFF COSTS - continued

Charitable activities	3	5

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2023: none).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	40,260	-	40,260
Charitable activities			
Braille production	73,809	-	73,809
Investment income	1,006	-	1,006
Total	115,075	-	115,075
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	128,085	-	128,085
Support costs	3,017	-	3,017
Total	131,102	-	131,102
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(16,027)	-	(16,027)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	90,363	-	90,363
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	74,336	-	74,336

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	Period 1.4.23 to 30.9.24 £	Year ended 31.3.23 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,700	£1,500

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2023	248,355
Disposals	(190,535)
At 30 September 2024	57,820
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2023	227,239
Charge for year	7,538
Eliminated on disposal	(189,519)
At 30 September 2024	45,258
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 September 2024	12,562
At 31 March 2023	21,116

8. STOCKS

	30.9.24 £	31.3.23 £
Stock of paper and packaging	10,300	-

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	30.9.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Tax recoverable	317	2,378
VAT	185	1,141
	502	3,519

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	30.9.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Taxation and social security	363	749
Other creditors	24,748	2,795
	25,111	3,544

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	At 30.9.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	65,180	(28,746)	36,434
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,581	-	2,581
	74,336	(28,746)	45,590
TOTAL FUNDS	74,336	(28,746)	45,590

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,298	(176,044)	(28,746)
TOTAL FUNDS	147,298	(176,044)	(28,746)

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,206	(16,026)	65,180
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	(1)	2,581
	90,363	(16,027)	74,336
TOTAL FUNDS	90,363	(16,027)	74,336

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,075	(131,101)	(16,026)
Special Booklet Fund	-	(1)	(1)
	115,075	(131,102)	(16,027)
TOTAL FUNDS	115,075	(131,102)	(16,027)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund
This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Please see note 3 to the accounts for details of trustees' remuneration and benefits.

In addition, costs totalling £26,231 were recharged by the Torch Trust for the Blind, a trustee, to Compass Braille during the period ended 30 September 2024 (year ended 31 March 2023: £nil).

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

for

Compass Braille

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Compass Braille

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing Braille.

Summary of main activities:

The principal activities of the charity are:

1. The production of Braille including development and preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.
2. Mini-Braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund provide rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions chosen by the group for use in Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are added.
3. The transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:

We are not in a position to make grants. We continue to send our Braille free of charge to the end user.

Contribution made by volunteers:

The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions - cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. Their valued help enables us to produce large quantities of Braille each year. Outside volunteers (usually overseas) proofread sample Braille to check for errors.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Braille Bible and Braille Booklet Production:

As well as the large number of Braille Bible volumes that we produce each year, we also produce a number of Braille Booklets which consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's Bibles and story books, health awareness books, etc. We have kept up with a continued demand for Braille which remains as high as ever as well as adding new languages.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:

We have a committed team of 5 Trustees, 5 staff and 10 volunteers.

Transcription and software development:

So far, we have transcribed Braille into more than 56 languages for use in various parts of the world. During this financial year, we have completed work on the whole Shona and Kinyarwanda Bibles as well as continuing work on parts of the Urdu and Armenian Bibles. In addition, we have started work on 7 new Indian languages: Ao-Naga, Sumi, Angami, Saurashtra, Rabha, Mara and Biate. We have continued to develop our Braille transcription program that has improved efficiency and accuracy as well as reducing our overall transcription costs. We have continued to develop templates for Giant Print transcription. Compass Braille is a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library as part of our partnership with the United Bible Societies and this involves ongoing transcription work and updating of the transcription program.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy statement on Reserves:

We have a Reserve Fund for filtering money into our instant access account and this includes any money donated for special projects. This Reserve Fund is also for emergency use should we suffer shortfalls during low income periods and to cover the lease of our present premises.

Principal sources of funds:

UBS part-fund all the Bible Society Braille projects. We also receive UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant-making bodies and legacies. We do not run fundraising campaigns neither do we use any funds to engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator. We do produce a quarterly newsletter and have a Website to raise awareness of the needs and we occasionally approach grant making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by our supporters improves our financial position. We occasionally receive financial gifts when we carry out talks about the charity in churches or at social groups but these have diminished now.

We also have our own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: Trust deed

How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust

Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:

The chief executive reports to and liaises with the trustees in matters concerning the management and development of the charity. There are five members of staff whose hours equate to an equivalent of 3.5 full-time posts. The trustees meet two times per annum.

Partnerships/Relationship with related parties:

Whilst the charity is independent of any other organisation, it works in partnership with the UBS (United Bible Societies) Helpdesk for People with Visual Disability based in Germany. They facilitate Braille provision and collaboration with many Bible Societies around the world who distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. We also partner other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:

We recognise that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, Compass Braille's ability to function is dependent on these groups so we continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. Our website and quarterly newsletters have helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that we are the only group in the UK (and probably worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout, in so many languages. Our Press is fully computerised and this means we can produce Braille in small or large quantities in any language.

The premises at Crane Mead Business Park are leased and a contingency amount is invested in a no risk savings account to cover this cost should there be cause to dissolve the charity before the lease expires. The charity does not own any property.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

292625

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Principal address
16 Crane Mead Business Park
Crane Mead
Ware
Hertfordshire
SG12 9PZ

Trustees
Glennis Anne Dowling
Paul East
Susannah Joan East
Gwilym Aylward Hitchcock (Chair of Trustees)
Madhukanta Jacob Hitchcock

Chief Executive
Colin P Dowling

Independent Examiner
A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ....05/07/2023...... and signed on its behalf by:

....
G Hitchcock - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Compass Braille (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Date: 5 July 2023

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		40,260	-	40,260	23,527
Charitable activities					
Braille production		73,809	-	73,809	61,144
Investment income	2	1,006	-	1,006	26
Total		115,075	-	115,075	84,697
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Braille production		128,085	-	128,085	115,565
Support costs		3,017	-	3,017	610
Total		131,102	-	131,102	116,175
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(16,027)	-	(16,027)	(31,478)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		90,363	-	90,363	121,841
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		74,336	-	74,336	90,363

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Compass Braille

Balance Sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	21,116	-	21,116	26,161
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	3,519	-	3,519	1,855
Cash at bank		53,245	-	53,245	65,789
		56,764	-	56,764	67,644
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(3,544)	-	(3,544)	(3,442)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		53,220	-	53,220	64,202
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		74,336	-	74,336	90,363
NET ASSETS		74,336	-	74,336	90,363
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				74,336	90,363
TOTAL FUNDS				74,336	90,363

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ....05/07/2023....... and were signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Interest	1,006	26

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year ended 31 March 2023 remuneration totalling £5,348 (2022: £5,348) was paid to G A Dowling, a trustee. The remuneration is approved by the Charity Commission.

C P Dowling, a member of key management personnel, who is also the spouse of a trustee, received remuneration of £10,131 (2022: £10,160).

N A Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £9,932 (2022: £9,021).

R J Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £22,529 (2022: £21,540).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The charity purchased Trustees' Indemnity Insurance at a cost of £296 (2022: £315).

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Gross wages	73,820	72,133
Employer's National Insurance	227	-
Pension costs	838	810
Total	£74,885	£72,943

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Charitable activities	5	5

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2022: none).

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	23,527	-	23,527
Charitable activities			
Braille production	61,144	-	61,144
Investment income	26	-	26
Total	84,697	-	84,697
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	115,565	-	115,565
Support costs	610	-	610
Total	116,175	-	116,175
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(31,478)	-	(31,478)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	121,841	-	121,841
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	90,363	-	90,363

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,500	£1,300

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment
	£
COST	
At 1 April 2022	246,415
Additions	1,940
At 31 March 2023	248,355
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2022	220,254
Charge for year	6,985
At 31 March 2023	227,239
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	21,116
At 31 March 2022	26,161

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Tax recoverable	2,378	1,233
VAT	1,141	622
	3,519	1,855

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Taxation and social security	749	752
Other creditors	2,795	2,690
	3,544	3,442

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,206	(16,026)	65,180
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	(1)	2,581
	90,363	(16,027)	74,336
TOTAL FUNDS	90,363	(16,027)	74,336

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,075	(131,101)	(16,026)
Special Booklet Fund	-	(1)	(1)
	115,075	(131,102)	(16,027)
TOTAL FUNDS	115,075	(131,102)	(16,027)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	112,684	(31,478)	81,206
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	-	2,582
	121,841	(31,478)	90,363
TOTAL FUNDS	121,841	(31,478)	90,363

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	84,697	(116,175)	(31,478)
TOTAL FUNDS	84,697	(116,175)	(31,478)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund
This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

11. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments

At the Balance Sheet date the charity had a commitment under a non-cancellable operating lease to make rental payments. The property lease expires within five years of the Balance Sheet date.

The rental payments recognised as an expense in the year ended 31 March 2023 were £16,100 (2022: £11,500).

The minimum total lease payments due over the remaining lifetime of the lease are £85,500.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Please see note 3 to the accounts for details of trustees' remuneration and benefits. There were no further related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023, or for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

for

Compass Braille

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing Braille.

Summary of main activities:

The principal activities of the charity are:
1 The production of Braille including development and preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.
2 Mini-Braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund provide rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions chosen by the group for use in Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are added.
3 The transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:
We are not in a position to make grants. We continue to send our Braille free of charge to the end user.

Contribution made by volunteers:
The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions - cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. Their valued help enables us to produce large quantities of Braille each year. The huge difference they make was particularly evident during this financial year when they returned to work having been laid off for a long period due to Corona Virus restrictions. Outside volunteers (usually overseas) proofread sample Braille to check for errors.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Braille Bible and Braille Booklet Production:
As well as the large number of Braille Bible volumes that we produce each year, we also produce a number of Braille Booklets which consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's Bibles and story books, health awareness books, etc. Even through the pandemic we have kept up with a continued demand for Braille which remains as high as ever as well as adding new languages.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:
We have a committed team of 5 Trustees, 5 staff and 6 volunteers.

Transcription and software development:
So far, we have transcribed Braille into more than 55 languages for use in various parts of the world. During this financial year we have completed work on the whole Acholi and Swahili Bibles, and several books from the Urdu and Armenian Bibles. Work has just begun on the Kinyarwanda Bible. We have continued to develop our Braille transcription program that has improved efficiency and accuracy as well as reducing our overall transcription costs. We have developed new templates for Giant Print transcription. Compass Braille is a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library as part of our partnership with the United Bible Societies and this involves ongoing transcription work and updating of the transcription program.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy statement on Reserves:

We have a Reserve Fund for filtering money into our instant access account and this includes any money donated for special projects. This Reserve Fund is also for emergency use should we suffer shortfalls during low income periods and to cover the lease of our present premises.

Principal sources of funds:

UBS part-fund all the Bible Society Braille projects. We also receive UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant-making bodies and legacies. We do not run fundraising campaigns neither do we use any funds to engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator. We do produce a quarterly newsletter and have a Website to raise awareness of the needs and we occasionally approach grant making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by our supporters improves our financial position. We occasionally receive financial gifts when we carry out talks about the charity in churches or at social groups but these have diminished now.

We also have our own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: Trust deed

How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust

Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:

The chief executive reports to and liaises with the trustees in matters concerning the management and development of the charity. There are five members of staff whose hours equate to an equivalent of 3.5 full-time posts. The trustees meet two times per annum.

Partnerships/Relationship with related parties:

Whilst the charity is independent of any other organisation, it works in partnership with the UBS (United Bible Societies) Helpdesk for People with Visual Disability based in Germany. They facilitate Braille provision and collaboration with many Bible Societies around the world who distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. We also partner other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:

We recognise that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, Compass Braille's ability to function is dependent on these groups so we continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. Our website and quarterly newsletters have helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that we are the only group in the UK (and probably worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout, in so many languages. Our Press is fully computerised and this means we can produce Braille in small or large quantities in any language.

The premises at Crane Mead Business Park are leased on a 5-year contract and a contingency amount is invested in a no risk savings account to cover this cost should there be cause to dissolve the charity before the lease expires. The charity does not own any property.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

292625

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Principal address
16 Crane Mead Business Park
Crane Mead
Ware
Hertfordshire
SG12 9PZ

Trustees
Glennis Anne Dowling
Paul East
Susannah Joan East
Gwilym Aylward Hitchcock (Chair of Trustees)
Madhukanta Jacob Hitchcock

Chief Executive
Colin P Dowling

Independent Examiner
A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .... and signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock

....

G Hitchcock - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Compass Braille (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

A. J. Bennewith

Date: 14 September 2022

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		23,527	-	23,527	31,811
Charitable activities					
Braille production		61,144	-	61,144	56,832
Investment income	2	26	-	26	114
Total		84,697	-	84,697	88,757
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Braille production		115,565	-	115,565	108,531
Support costs		610	-	610	2,085
Total		116,175	-	116,175	110,616
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(31,478)	-	(31,478)	(21,859)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		121,841	-	121,841	143,700
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		90,363	-	90,363	121,841

CONTINUING OPERATIONS
All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	26,161	-	26,161	34,881
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	1,855	-	1,855	6,236
Cash at bank		65,789	-	65,789	82,906
		67,644	-	67,644	89,142
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(3,442)	-	(3,442)	(2,182)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		64,202	-	64,202	86,960
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		90,363	-	90,363	121,841
NET ASSETS		90,363	-	90,363	121,841
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				90,363	121,841
TOTAL FUNDS				90,363	121,841

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

....

G Hitchcock - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Interest	26	114

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year ended 31 March 2022 remuneration totalling £5,348 (2021: £5,347) was paid to G A Dowling, a trustee. The remuneration is approved by the Charity Commission.

C P Dowling, a member of key management personnel, who is also the spouse of a trustee, received remuneration of £10,160 (2021: £10,167).

N A Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £9,021 (2021: £8,694).

R J Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £21,540 (2021: £16,996).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The charity purchased Trustees' Indemnity Insurance at a cost of £263 (2021: £263).

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Gross wages	72,133	65,079
Employer's National Insurance	-	-
Pension costs	968	681
Total	£73,101	£65,760

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Charitable activities	5	5

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2021: none).

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	31,811	-	31,811
Charitable activities			
Braille production	56,832	-	56,832
Investment income	114	-	114
Total	88,757	-	88,757
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	108,531	-	108,531
Support costs	2,085	-	2,085
Total	110,616	-	110,616
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(21,859)	-	(21,859)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	143,700	-	143,700
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	121,841	-	121,841

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,300	£1,300
Other accountancy services	-	-

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	246,415
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2021	211,534
Charge for year	8,720
At 31 March 2022	220,254
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	26,161
At 31 March 2021	34,881

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Other debtors	-	2,784
Tax recoverable	1,233	2,818
VAT	622	634
	1,855	6,236

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Taxation and social security	752	726
Other creditors	2,690	1,456
	3,442	2,182

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	112,684	(31,478)	81,206
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	-	2,582
	121,841	(31,478)	90,363
TOTAL FUNDS	121,841	(31,478)	90,363

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	84,697	(116,175)	(31,478)
TOTAL FUNDS	84,697	(116,175)	(31,478)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	134,543	(21,859)	112,684
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	-	2,582
	143,700	(21,859)	121,841
TOTAL FUNDS	143,700	(21,859)	121,841

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,757	(110,616)	(21,859)
TOTAL FUNDS	88,757	(110,616)	(21,859)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund
This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

11. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments

At the Balance Sheet date the charity had a commitment under a non-cancellable operating lease to make rental payments. The property lease expires after more than five years of the Balance Sheet date.

The rental payments recognised as an expense in the year ended 31 March 2022 were £11,500 (2021: £11,500).

The minimum total lease payments due over the remaining lifetime of the lease are £64,687.50.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Please see note 3 to the accounts for details of trustees' remuneration and benefits. There were no further related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022, or for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

for

Compass Braille

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing Braille.

Summary of main activities:
The principal activities of the charity are:
1. The production of Braille including preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.
2. Mini-Braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund provide rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions chosen by the group for use in Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are added.
3. The transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:
We are not in a position to make grants. We continue to send our Braille free of charge to the end user.

Contribution made by volunteers:
The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions - cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. Their valued help enables us to produce large quantities of Braille each year. Unfortunately during this financial year the volunteers have been laid off due to Corona Virus restrictions. Outside volunteers (usually overseas) proofread sample Braille to check for errors.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Braille Bible and Braille Booklet Production:
As well as the large number of Braille Bible volumes that we produce each year, we also produce a number of Braille Booklets which consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's Bibles and story books, health awareness books, etc. Even through the pandemic we have kept up with a continued demand for Braille which remains as high as ever as well as adding new languages.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:
We have a committed team of 5 trustees, 5 staff and 9 volunteers.

Transcription and software development:
So far, we have transcribed Braille into more than 50 languages for use in various parts of the world. During this financial year we have transcribed the new Runyankore and Acholi for Uganda and started work on the Swahili and Armenian Bible updates. We have developed a new Braille transcription program that has improved efficiency and accuracy as well as reducing our overall transcription costs. Compass Braille is a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library as part of our partnership with the United Bible Societies and this involves ongoing transcription work and updating of the transcription program.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy statement on Reserves:

We have a Reserve Fund for filtering money into our instant access account - it includes money that has been donated for projects. This Reserve Fund is also for emergency use should we suffer shortfalls during low income periods. We also have a second Reserve Fund to cover the lease of our present premises.

Principal sources of funds:

UBS part-fund all the Bible Society Braille projects. We also receive UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant-making bodies and legacies. We do not run fundraising campaigns neither do we use any funds to engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator. We do produce a quarterly newsletter and have a Website to raise awareness of the needs and we occasionally approach grant making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by our supporters improves our financial position. We occasionally receive financial gifts when we carry out talks about the charity in churches or at social groups but these have rendered impossible due to the pandemic.

We also have our own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: Trust deed
How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust
Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:

The chief executive reports to and liaises with the trustees in matters concerning the management and development of the charity. There are six members of staff whose hours equate to an equivalent of 3.5 full-time posts. The trustees meet two times per annum.

Partnerships/relationship with related parties:

Whilst the charity is independent of any other organisation, it works in partnership with the UBS (United Bible Societies) Worldwide Braille Coordination Helpdesk based in Germany. They facilitate Braille provision and collaboration with many Bible Societies around the world who distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. We also partner other overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:

We recognise that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, Compass Braille's ability to function is dependent on these groups so we continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. Our website and quarterly newsletters have helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that we are the only group in the UK (and probably worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout in so many languages. Our Press is fully computerised and this means we produce Braille in small or large quantities in many languages.

The premises at Crane Mead Business Park are leased on a 5-year contract and a contingency amount is invested in a no risk savings account to cover this cost should there be cause to dissolve the charity before the lease expires. The charity does not own any property.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
292625

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Principal address
16 Crane Mead Business Park
Crane Mead
Ware
Hertfordshire
SG12 9PZ

Chief Executive
Colin P Dowling

Independent Examiner
A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

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 Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Compass Braille (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

17 September 2021

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		31,811	-	31,811	32,053
Charitable activities					
Braille production		56,832	-	56,832	57,402
Investment income	2	114	-	114	348
Total		88,757	-	88,757	89,803
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Braille production		108,531	-	108,531	112,546
Support costs		2,085	-	2,085	2,924
Total		110,616	-	110,616	115,470
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(21,859)	-	(21,859)	(25,667)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		143,700	-	143,700	169,367
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		121,841	-	121,841	143,700

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	34,881	-	34,881	24,751
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	6,236	-	6,236	7,352
Cash at bank		82,906	-	82,906	113,991
		89,142	-	89,142	121,343
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,182)	-	(2,182)	(2,394)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		86,960	-	86,960	118,949
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		121,841	-	121,841	143,700
NET ASSETS		121,841	-	121,841	143,700
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				121,841	143,700
TOTAL FUNDS				121,841	143,700

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 10 September 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Interest	114	348

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year ended 31 March 2021 remuneration totalling £5,347 (2020: £9,804) was paid to G A Dowling, a trustee. The remuneration is approved by the Charity Commission.

C P Dowling, a member of key management personnel, who is also the spouse of a trustee, received remuneration of £10,167 (2019: £24,204).

N A Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £8,694 (2020: £8,694).

R J Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £16,996 (2020: £4,867).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

The charity purchased Trustees' Indemnity Insurance at a cost of £263 (2020: £263).

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Gross wages	65,079	69,410
Employer's National Insurance	-	2,101
Pension costs	681	641
Total	£65,760	£72,152

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Charitable activities	5	5

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2020: none).

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	32,053	-	32,053
Charitable activities			
Braille production	57,402	-	57,402
Investment income	348	-	348
Total	89,803	-	89,803
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	112,546	-	112,546
Support costs	2,924	-	2,924
Total	115,470	-	115,470
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(25,667)	-	(25,667)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	169,367	-	169,367
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	143,700	-	143,700

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,300	£1,300
Other accountancy services	-	£500

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2020	227,766
Additions	18,649
At 31 March 2021	246,415
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2020	203,015
Charge for year	8,519
At 31 March 2021	211,534
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	34,881
At 31 March 2020	24,751

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Other debtors	2,784	4,176
Tax recoverable	2,818	2,382
VAT	634	794
	6,236	7,352

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Taxation and social security	726	969
Other creditors	1,456	1,425
	2,182	2,394

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	134,543	(21,859)	112,684
Special Bible Fund	6,575	-	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,582	-	2,582
	143,700	(21,859)	121,841
TOTAL FUNDS	143,700	(21,859)	121,841

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,757	(110,616)	(21,859)
TOTAL FUNDS	88,757	(110,616)	(21,859)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	160,469	(25,926)	134,543
Special Bible Fund	6,856	(281)	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,042	540	2,582
	169,367	(25,667)	143,700
TOTAL FUNDS	169,367	(25,667)	143,700

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	89,262	(115,188)	(25,926)
Special Bible Fund	1	(282)	(281)
Special Booklet Fund	540	-	540
	89,803	(115,470)	(25,667)
TOTAL FUNDS	89,803	(115,470)	(25,667)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund

continued...

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

11. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments

At the Balance Sheet date the charity had a commitment under a non-cancellable operating lease to make rental payments of £11,500 per annum. The property lease expires within one to five years of the Balance Sheet date.

The rental payments recognised as an expense in the year ended 31 March 2021 were £11,500 (2020: £11,500).

The minimum total lease payments due over the remaining lifetime of the lease are £18,687.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Please see note 3 to the accounts for details of trustees' remuneration and benefits. There were no further related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021, or for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 292625

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2020
for
Compass Braille

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to support the work of overseas Christian partner groups and individuals, who work amongst people with visual disabilities with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries and with the object of upholding the Gospel by providing Braille.

Summary of main activities:
The principal activities of the charity are:
1. The production of Braille including preparation of computer software and the transcription of various languages into the Braille format.
2. Mini-Braille library projects supported by our Special Bible Fund are now providing rural house churches in India with Braille. Each mini library consists of 10 Braille Bible portions of the group's choice for use in weekly Bible Studies. When and where appropriate additional portions are also provided.
3. Also, the transcription of Bibles into Giant Print in various languages in digital format only.

Public benefit:
The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Policy on grant making and programme related investment:
Small donations that were for 2 or 3 existing overseas partner groups working in India have ceased as these groups are now in a stronger financial position. Also there is no way for us to guarantee how overseas financial gifts might be used so at present we no longer give financially. We continue to send our Braille free of charge.

Contribution made by volunteers:
The charity gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by its volunteers in the preparation of the Braille portions - cutting, binding, labelling and packaging of books and Bible portions. Nine regular volunteers along with occasional volunteers have given their time during this financial year. Their valued help enables us to produce large quantities of Braille each year. Other volunteers (usually overseas) proofread samples of our Braille to check for errors but because we receive electronic text files in each regional language it is not necessary for the entire Bible to be checked in each case.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Braille Bible and Braille Booklet Production:
As well as the large number of Braille Bible volumes that we produce each year, we have also produced a large number of Braille Booklets which consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc. We have kept up with demand for Braille which remains as high as ever as well as adding several new languages thanks to donations, grants and legacies.

Trustees/Staff/Volunteers:
We have a committed team of 5 trustees, 5 staff and 9 volunteers.

Transcription and software development:
So far, we have transcribed Braille into more than 50 languages for use in various parts of the world. We have developed a new Braille transcription program as well as a new Giant Print transcription program that have improved efficiency and accuracy as well as reducing our overall transcription costs. Compass Braille is a licensed member of the Digital Bible Library as part of our partnership with the United Bible Societies and this involves ongoing transcription work and updating the transcription program.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy statement on Reserves:

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW
We have a Reserve Fund for filtering money into our instant access account - it includes money that has been donated for projects. This Reserve Fund is also for emergency use should we suffer shortfalls during low income periods. We also have a second Reserve Fund to cover the lease of our present premises.

Principal sources of funds:
The United Bible Societies part-fund all the Bible Society project requests for Braille portions through donations. We also receive UK donations from individual supporters, church groups, grant making bodies and legacies. We do not run fundraising campaigns neither do we use any funds to engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator. We do produce a quarterly newsletter to raise awareness of the needs and we occasionally approach grant making bodies for support of new projects or new equipment. Income from legacies bequeathed by our supporters is occasionally received and this often improves our financial position considerably. We occasionally receive financial gifts when we carry out talks about the charity in churches or at social groups.

We also have our own projects, such as Mini Braille Libraries and Braille for individuals or small groups who have no Bible Society support in their area.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Type of governing document: Trust deed
How the charity is constituted: Declaration of Trust
Trustee selection methods: Appointed by existing trustees

Organisational structure:
The chief executive reports to and liaises with the trustees in matters concerning the management and development of the charity. There are five members of staff whose hours equate to an equivalent of 3 full-time posts. The trustees meet two or three times per annum.

Partnerships/relationship with related parties:
Whilst the charity is independent of any other organisation, it works in partnership with the UBS (United Bible Societies) Worldwide Braille Coordination Department based in Germany. They facilitate Braille provision and cooperation with many Bible Societies around the world who distribute Braille portions on behalf of Compass Braille. We also partner other Overseas Mission Groups who run projects in their countries, particularly those working in Outreach, Education, Vocational Training, Community Healthcare and Healthcare Awareness.

Consideration of major risks:
We recognise that, having one main partner and only a few smaller partner groups, Compass Braille's ability to function is dependent on these groups so we continue to seek new partnerships and add new languages. Our website has helped to increase the number of enquiries which can lead to the production of Braille for new countries or new language areas. One of Compass Braille's unique strengths is that we are the only group in the UK (and probably worldwide) who transcribe and produce the Braille Bible, with its complex layout. Our Press is fully computerised and this means we produce Braille in small or large quantities in many languages.

The premises at Crane Mead Business Park are leased on a 5-year contract and a contingency amount has been invested in a no risk savings account to cover this cost should there be cause to dissolve the charity before the lease expires. The charity does not own any property.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Charity number
292625

Principal address
16 Crane Mead Business Park
Crane Mead
Ware
Hertfordshire
SG12 9PZ

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Chief Executive
Colin P Dowling

Independent examiner
A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
Fore Street
Okehampton
EX20 1HJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28 August 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Compass Braille

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Compass Braille
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Compass Braille (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA,
FIPA, DChA, FRSA
3 Wey Court
Mary Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4QU

Date: ....

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £	31.3.19 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		32,053	-	32,053	43,304
Charitable activities					
Braille production		57,402	-	57,402	76,247
Investment income	2	348	-	348	260
Total		89,803	-	89,803	119,811
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Braille production		112,546	-	112,546	116,758
Support costs		2,924	-	2,924	3,279
Total		115,470	-	115,470	120,037
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(25,667)	-	(25,667)	(226)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		169,367	-	169,367	169,593
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		143,700	-	143,700	169,367

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £	31.3.19 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	24,751	-	24,751	33,002
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	7,352	-	7,352	7,377
Cash at bank		113,991	-	113,991	130,800
		121,343	-	121,343	138,177
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,394)	-	(2,394)	(1,812)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		118,949	-	118,949	136,365
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		143,700	-	143,700	169,367
NET ASSETS		143,700	-	143,700	169,367
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				143,700	169,367
TOTAL FUNDS				143,700	169,367

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 28 August 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

G Hitchcock -Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.20	31.3.19
	£	£
Interest	348	260

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year ended 31 March 2020 remuneration totalling £9,804 (2019: £10,695) was paid to G A Dowling, a trustee. The remuneration is approved by the Charity Commission.

C P Dowling, a member of key management personnel, who is also the spouse of a trustee, received remuneration of £24,204 (2019: £11,328).

N A Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £8,694 (2019: £8,441).

R J Dowling, a family member of a trustee is employed by the charity and received remuneration totalling £4,867 (2019: £nil).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustee expenses during the year (2019: 2 trustees were reimbursed a total of £52 in respect of travel expenses incurred in carrying out their duties as trustees).

The charity purchased Trustees' Indemnity Insurance at a cost of £263 (2019: £263).

4. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs incurred by the charity were as follows:

	31.3.20	31.3.19
	£	£
Gross wages	69,410	73,889
Employer's National Insurance	2,101	1,384
Pension costs	641	868
Total	£72,152	£76,141

The average number of full and part-time staff employed by the charity was as follows:

	31.3.20	31.3.19
Charitable activities	5	5

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 (2019: none).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	43,304	-	43,304
Charitable activities			
Braille production	76,247	-	76,247
Investment income	260	-	260
Total	119,811	-	119,811

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Braille production	116,758	-	116,758
Support costs	3,279	-	3,279
Total	120,037	-	120,037
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(226)	-	(226)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	169,593	-	169,593
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	169,367	-	169,367

6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

	31.3.20 £	31.3.19 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	£1,300	£1,300

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020	227,766
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2019	194,764
Charge for year	8,251
At 31 March 2020	203,015
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2020	24,751
At 31 March 2019	33,002

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.20	31.3.19
	£	£
Other debtors	7,352	7,377

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.20	31.3.19
	£	£
Taxation and social security	969	353
Other creditors	1,425	1,459
	2,394	1,812

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.19	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.20
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	160,469	(25,926)	134,543
Special Bible Fund	6,856	(281)	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	2,042	540	2,582
	169,367	(25,667)	143,700
TOTAL FUNDS	169,367	(25,667)	143,700

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	89,262	(115,188)	(25,926)
Special Bible Fund	1	(282)	(281)
Special Booklet Fund	540	-	540
	89,803	(115,470)	(25,667)
TOTAL FUNDS	89,803	(115,470)	(25,667)

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.18	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.19
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	160,577	(108)	160,469
Special Bible Fund	7,569	(713)	6,856
Special Booklet Fund	1,447	595	2,042
	169,593	(226)	169,367
TOTAL FUNDS	169,593	(226)	169,367

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	118,492	(118,600)	(108)
Special Bible Fund	599	(1,312)	(713)
Special Booklet Fund	720	(125)	595
	119,811	(120,037)	(226)
TOTAL FUNDS	119,811	(120,037)	(226)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.18	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.20
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	160,577	(26,034)	134,543
Special Bible Fund	7,569	(994)	6,575
Special Booklet Fund	1,447	1,135	2,582
TOTAL FUNDS	169,593	(25,893)	143,700

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	207,754	(233,788)	(26,034)
Special Bible Fund	600	(1,594)	(994)
Special Booklet Fund	1,260	(125)	1,135
	209,614	(235,507)	(25,893)
TOTAL FUNDS	209,614	(235,507)	(25,893)

General fund
This represents the general funds of the charity, to be used to further its charitable objectives.

Special Bible Fund
Gifts which donors make specifically to the Special Bible Fund are used for our own projects. Unlike our other projects that are supported through our partnership with the United Bible Societies, these projects are either urgent or fall outside of the normal remit. The purpose is to help smaller overseas groups who only use small amounts of Braille.

Special Booklet Fund
This fund supports the production of Braille Booklets. These consist of 'lifestyle' books, children's story books, health awareness books, etc.

11. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments

At the Balance Sheet date the charity had a commitment under a non-cancellable operating lease to make rental payments of £11,500 per annum. The property lease expires within one to five years of the Balance Sheet date.

The rental payments recognised as an expense in the year ended 31 March 2020 were £11,500 (2019: £11,500).

The minimum total lease payments due over the remaining lifetime of the lease are £30,187.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Please see note 3 to the accounts for details of trustees' remuneration and benefits. There were no further related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2020, or for the year ended 31 March 2019.