

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100326

Details

Status Received

Registered 2014-09-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address 23 Hazelwood Lane
Comber
Newtownards
Bt23 6dg
BT23 6DG

Phone 07805361769

Email info@acrossthenations.org.uk

Website <https://acrossthenations.org.uk>

Activities

Purposes: The charity's objects ("the objects") are:- The relief of poverty and sickness of any persons who are in need as a result of drought earthquake flood or other natural disaster or who by reason of their social economic medical and health conditions are in need of assistance; The charity may grant relief to such inhabitants through the agency of other charities. To educate and assist young persons and young adults through their leisure time activities so to develop their physical mental and spiritual capacities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society and their condition of life may be improved and in furtherance of that object to provide a centre for meetings, lectures, outdoor pursuits and other forms of leisure time occupation for the benefit of such persons.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Community development, Community enterprise, Cultural, Disability, Economic development, Education/training, Environment/sustainable development/conservation, Medical/health/sickness, Overseas aid/famine relief, Relief of poverty, Rural development, Sport/recreation, Volunteer development, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Learning disabilities, Overseas/developing countries, Specific areas of deprivation, Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£6,410	£5,380	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Beth Coghlan		
Dr Mark Coghlan		
Miss Heather Mason		
Mr Timothy Robert Morris B.Sc.(Hons)		
Mrs Anne Davey		
Mrs Tracey Ripley-Mcelvogue		
Phil		
Rev Alan Peek		

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Accounts

Registered number
NI028174

Across The Nations Limited
Report and Abridged Accounts

28 February 2025

Across The Nations Limited

Registered number: NI028174

Directors' Report

The directors present their report and abridged accounts for the year ended 28 February 2025.

Principal activities

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be meeting the needs of the marginalised within society with home- grown solutions and perspectives from across the nations

Directors

The following persons served as directors during the year:

Timothy Morris
Alan Peek
Heather Mason
Anne Davey
Tracey Ripley-McEnvogue

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board on 26 September 2025 and signed on its behalf.

Timothy Morris
Director

Across The Nations Limited
Abridged Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 28 February 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross profit/(loss)	1,310	(193)
Administrative expenses	(282)	(257)
Operating profit/(loss)	<u>1,028</u>	<u>(450)</u>
Interest receivable	2	2
Profit/(loss) before taxation	<u>1,030</u>	<u>(448)</u>
Tax on profit/(loss)	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	<u>1,030</u>	<u>(448)</u>

Across The Nations Limited**Registered number:**

NI028174

Abridged Balance Sheet**as at 28 February 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		2,211	1,180
Net current assets		<u>2,211</u>	<u>1,180</u>
Net assets		<u>2,211</u>	<u>1,180</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		2,211	1,180
Shareholders' funds		<u>2,211</u>	<u>1,180</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. The profit and loss account has not been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

The members have agreed to the preparation of abridged accounts for this accounting period in accordance with Section 444(2A) of the Companies Act 2006.

Timothy Morris

Director

Approved by the board on 26 September 2025

Across The Nations Limited
Notes to the Abridged Accounts
for the year ended 28 February 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The abridged accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as applied to small entities by section 1A of the standard).

Turnover

Turnover consist of gifts and Donations and is measured at fair value

2 Employees

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Average number of persons employed by the company	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

3 Other information

Across The Nations Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in Northern Ireland . Its registered office is:

34 Ballycrochan Avenue
Bangor
County Down
BT19 7LA

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 28 February 2025

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2025	2024
	£	£
Sales	6,408	8,722
Cost of sales	(5,098)	(8,915)
Gross profit/(loss)	<u>1,310</u>	<u>(193)</u>
Administrative expenses	(282)	(257)
Operating profit/(loss)	<u>1,028</u>	<u>(450)</u>
Gain on revaluation of investments	-	-
Interest receivable	2	2
Profit/(loss) before tax	<u>1,030</u>	<u>(448)</u>

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 28 February 2025

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2025	2024
	£	£
Sales		
Gifts and Donations	<u>6,408</u>	<u>8,722</u>
Cost of sales		
Events	<u>5,098</u>	<u>8,915</u>
Administrative expenses		
General administrative expenses:		
Bank charges	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>
	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>
Legal and professional costs:		
Accountancy fees	<u>250</u>	<u>225</u>
	<u>250</u>	<u>225</u>
	<u>282</u>	<u>257</u>

Independent examiner’s report to the charity trustees of Across the Nations Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 28 February 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 6

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to: • examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act • follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act • state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner’s report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters. My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner’s statement

I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Gary Peter Brookes

Relevant professional qualification FCA BSc

Address: 130 Wombourne Park , Wombourne , South Staffs WV5 0LY

Date 14 October 2025

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Accounts

Registered number
NI028174

Across The Nations Limited
Report and Abridged Accounts
29 February 2024

Across The Nations Limited

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Timothy Morris
Director

Across The Nations Limited
Abridged Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 29 February 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross loss	(193)	(421)
Administrative expenses	(257)	(870)
Operating loss	<u>(450)</u>	<u>(1,291)</u>
Interest receivable	2	3
Loss before taxation	<u>(448)</u>	<u>(1,288)</u>
Tax on loss	-	-
Loss for the financial year	<u>(448)</u>	<u>(1,288)</u>

Across The Nations Limited**Registered number:**

NI028174

**Abridged Balance Sheet
as at 29 February 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	1,180	1,628	
Net current assets		<u>1,180</u>	<u>1,628</u>
Net assets		<u>1,180</u>	<u>1,628</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		1,180	1,628
Shareholders' funds		<u>1,180</u>	<u>1,628</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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Across The Nations Limited
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for the year ended 29 February 2024

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	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Average number of persons employed by the company	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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 Bangor
 County Down
 BT19 7LA

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 29 February 2024

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
Sales	8,722	3,029
Cost of sales	(8,915)	(3,450)
Gross loss	<u>(193)</u>	<u>(421)</u>
Administrative expenses	(257)	(870)
Operating loss	<u>(450)</u>	<u>(1,291)</u>
Gain on revaluation of investments	-	-
Interest receivable	2	3
Loss before tax	<u>(448)</u>	<u>(1,288)</u>

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 29 February 2024

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sales		
Gifts and Donations	<u>8,722</u>	<u>3,029</u>
Cost of sales		
Events	<u>8,915</u>	<u>3,450</u>
Administrative expenses		
General administrative expenses:		
Bank charges	32	31
Equipment expensed	-	519
	<u>32</u>	<u>550</u>
Legal and professional costs:		
Accountancy fees	225	320
	<u>225</u>	<u>320</u>
	<u>257</u>	<u>870</u>

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Annual report

Across the Nations Annual Report 2023-2024



ACROSS

The Nations

Our mission

We believe in a world that welcomes and values minoritised communities.

Our vision

Across The Nations is a charity that partners with local organisations to develop innovative and sustainable programmes promoting the well-being of marginalised communities.

Our key principles

The ethos of the charity and the activities it invests in are underpinned by the following key principles:

- Filling the gap of the marginalised; to be led by the needs of the marginalised and invisible in society.
- Forming and collaborating with local and international partnerships.
- Understanding local culture to find sustainable solutions that are understood by the local culture.
- Building new leadership to enable new leaders to build capacity at local level.
- Investing at the point of need to ensure funding goes directly to those at their point of need.

Our history

Established in 1998, Across the Nations (AtN) was initially set up to provide a response to the marginalised special needs community in Morocco. The charity partnered with others to support the foundation of a special school which was established at this time and continues to the present day.

In 2017, as a response to the needs of people displaced by events in the Middle East, a partnership was established with STEP Iraq which was

already working with marginalised and displaced people in a refugee camp in Rabat.

Working in partnership with STEP, AtN began an Art Therapy Project and an Adventure Therapy Climbing Project aimed at supporting the mental health and well-being of displaced and traumatised young people. In addition, a Livelihood project was started to develop IT skills for those within the refugee camp.

In 2020, HEM, which began independently in 2014 with a small group of healthcare professionals supporting local clinicians in Burkina Faso and Jordan, affiliated itself with AtN to give it a structure to grow within. This affiliation has developed alongside the other strands of the charity and is now an important and integral part of the work of AtN.

HEM connects Health, Education and Mentoring expertise and experience with local and national practitioners and service providers working to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

The charity continues to actively seek ways to support marginalised and displaced people at a local level and in partnership with others, wherever they are in most need across the world.

Our partners

STEP UK

Established in the Kurdish region of Northern Iraq in 2001 when Saddam Hussein was still in power, STEP is a niche child protection agency which primarily supports vulnerable children, refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, and local Kurds; including kids working on the streets. It is also working with the local government to pioneer a regional foster care system which is slowly being rolled out across Kurdistan. For more information see: <http://www.step-uk.com/uk/>

MRDS (Millenium Relief & Development Services)

MRDS partners with AtN to fund all of the food, water and transportation for the climbing trips.

ABOUT US

Board of Trustees

The Across the Nations board of trustees is responsible for governing the charity to ensure compliance with the charities aims and the law, manage the effective use of resources, set strategy and ensure the work is effective.

In line with good practice, the board keeps under regular review its own performance, roles and responsibilities and sets boundaries between its governance role and the charity's day-to-day operations. In June 2023 the Trustees all engaged in a self-evaluation process focused on best practice for the role of Trustees. As a result, the policies and practices were reviewed, updated and improved.

The AtN board of trustees includes a wide range of ages, relevant skills, and experience.

Trustees meet at least four times a year and often monthly to maintain an oversight of all aspects of the delivery and finances of the charity.

Name	Position
Tim Morris	Chairperson
Tracey Ripley – McElvogue	Trustee
Conor Mason	Trustee/Finance
Heather Mason	Trustee
Alan Peek	Trustee
Anne Davey	Trustee/Secretary

Volunteers/field workers

Matthew Low	Volunteer field worker/ climbing project/HEM
Gail Low	Volunteer field worker/art therapy/HEM
Bryony Wilson	Volunteer field worker/Leader of the HEM team

The volunteer field workers lead and develop the day to work of the charity at the point of need. They develop collaborative relationships and partnerships, lead training and engage in the practical tasks relevant to their various areas of expertise.

Annual update on the activities of the charity

The following section summarises the key activities and development of the charity that have been taken place within the reporting period.

The activities fall under several areas, including the Çiyako Project/adventure therapy, art therapy and health, mentoring and education through HEM.

Adventure Therapy/ Çiyako Project

The prototype adventure therapy project, named the Çiyako project, has continued amongst displaced people in the Middle East, with progress being made both to document and build improvements into the programme to improve the service for participants.

Climbing continues to be a popular and well-attended activity, with lots of positive feedback from the young people involved. During this reporting period a total of 237 male and female young people took part in 23 climbing days at two locations. It is reported that the more frequently the young people are able to attend, the more confident they are becoming.

For 2023 we went back to mostly using our well established site at Kani Shok, which continues to be a popular site. At the beginning of 2024, the team started to use a site in Hazer Merd for some of the young people who had been climbing with us previously. This is assessed as being a



good, very challenging site but is not as suitable for beginners.

We did three training days for the Çîyako staff to keep their skills fresh and look at new skills. The staff also helped develop the new site, which included risk assessments.

Through partnering with STEP, the charity has provided regular financial support and mentoring to two young local adults who live in the refugee camp: Jwan Fathi and Nour Anwar Mohammad. They train and prepare groups of young people using the STEP facility in the Arbat Refugee Camp in preparation for the climbing days in the mountains when fully qualified and accredited mountain climbers are available to take them. During the summer months of July and August, when it has been too hot to be outside, Jwan and Nour help with the programmes run by STEP.

Jwan and Nour are developing experience, leadership and reporting skills under the guidance of the Across the Nations field worker Matt Low. During Matt's visits to lead the climbing trips it was noted that most of the young people managed to climb well and handled the belaying competently.

The project continues to show real potential. It is encouraging to note that an in-country social worker identifies and funnels children into the programme for its emotional therapeutic benefit. Verbal feedback gathered from the young people and staff indicates clearly how much they enjoy, benefit from, and value these climbing sessions. It is an extremely popular programme, with almost 100% positive participant feedback.

What some of the young people said:

"The thing I remember is the encouragement and motivation of colleagues and teachers when I climbed the mountain and reached a point where I could not continue, but thanks to their encouragement, I was able to reach the top and the summit."

"The first time when I went to Çîyako. I looked at the mountain and felt afraid and was trembling with fear, but because of this experience and my ascension to the top, I overcame fear and was no longer afraid of heights."

"[Çîyako is] very useful. We learn cooperation, encouragement, and a pleasant atmosphere outside the camp. We have fun with friends outside, we are in the mountains, we face our fear, and we can do a lot to be stronger and overcome fear."

What some of the staff said:

“When I came back from Syria, I didn't trust myself. I was not confident; I had a problem with self-esteem. So, when I attended or joined the climbing team, I felt that the first few sessions were difficult, and then I continued. I trusted my power, my energy, and I continued building the trust within myself.”

Çiyako, or the climbing, built a relationship with a young child who didn't trust anybody. “He sought to start to trust the staff who found a way to help him and to avoid the bad things that could happen during that time to him. Now, he takes the responsibility of his family and he's working and bringing the income to the whole family right now. And we saved his life.”

This feedback is part of the work being developed to capture and collate both qualitative and quantitative data. This is building an evidence base to show how the project is positively impacting the mental health and well-being of the young people involved.

The AtN volunteer field worker Matt Low is writing an evaluation of the project, which he aims to publish in an academic journal. He values the supervision he receives from Dr Glenn Myles. It is expected that it will be finished by the end of 2024.

A review of the project noted a particular challenge which the climbing team are assessing, and they will plan appropriate strategies to overcome them, where appropriate. Some of the young people were struggling to descend from the top of a rock climb despite pre-climb day preparation in the playground at STEP's facilities. Despite a more focused effort to encourage each child to climb two metres and descend to prepare them, this was still a notable difference from the young people who climbed in the United Kingdom.

There were no safety issues or notable injuries among the young people.

Security in the area remains an ongoing concern that remains under constant review for visits taking place.

Future priorities for the climbing project are:

- to establish a sound financial footing for the resources required to maintain and develop the work;
- to further develop the therapeutic side of the programme;
- to source additional good climbing sites to provide for those young people requesting to go climbing in different places;

- to consider suitable training and qualifications for local climbing instructors to run this type of programme to facilitate the expansion and longer-term sustainability of the project at both a local and regional level.

A student, from the University of Wales Trinity St David, made a high-quality film in February 2023-2024 as a part of his course, focused on the climbing activities. It can be viewed here:

https://youtu.be/NCn3yQn7dDA?si=Q_7AgLCVoA_t9UzP.

The film has been used to help with fundraising and raise awareness of the work of AtN.

The hope is that, with secure funding, Adventure Therapy programmes could be developed to help displaced people in other parts of the Middle East or those who have fled the region and ended up in Europe.

Livelihoods Project

AtN identified a particular gap in training for some young people in the refugee camp as a result of research and advice from organisations such as the ILO and UN bodies.

A programme was started at the Arbat Refugee Camp to empower some of these young people through IT skills, English language courses, business basics lectures, and leadership sessions.

AtN provided ten computers to help develop this work.

This programme is ongoing and being run by STEP staff.

HeM Health

The collaborative work on person-centred nursing care in Erbil and a national suicide prevention strategy with academics and practitioners in Sulaymaniyah started in the previous reporting period and has continued. There is a strong emphasis on continuing to build effective working relationships and networks across and between contacts being made.

Training for university staff in Koya by the HEM team was provided during a visit to Kurdistan in October 2023. These lecturers are connected to the Education, Peace and Politics (EPP) venture with Ulster University. The training focussed on Occupational Therapy, Art Therapy and Adventure Therapy. This link came through collaboration through HEM with a PhD student in Critical Studies in Improvisation and International Development from Guelph University.

An Occupational Therapist from the UK had travelled with the volunteer team and as well as teaching at Koya, they carried out enjoyable and informative sensory training sessions with staff and the Child Protection Team at Arbat Refugee Camp, Sulaymaniyah. There was a very positive response to the training by everyone involved.

HEM has now completed its role in instigating links between health professionals to raise awareness about suicide prevention. Three psychologists in Sulaymaniyah are carrying out research on causes and prevention to inform future work.

HEM will continue to support the work from the UK.

HEM is currently investigating and researching links with further international areas of conflict and exile within the Middle East, with a possible focus on emergency response. A slow and gradual approach is being advocated to gain an understanding of where the charity can best help.

ART THERAPY

The Art Space developed for children in STEP's Child Friendly Space in the camp continues to be used by the young people in the camp. Gail Low's work as an art therapist in this context has ended, but the therapeutic value of art continues as children use this space. Gail continues to mentor one of the staff as she explores how to establish art therapy indigenously.

Having relocated to Wales, Gail continues to explore ways to develop art therapy among marginalised and displaced people.

How have our activities met the AtN aims and objectives?

Filling the gap of the marginalised; to be led by the needs of the marginalised and invisible in society.

- The Çiyako Project has been attended by children and young people who need experiences to support their mental health and well-being, from the refugee camp in Rabat.
- HeM health has raised awareness about the high level of suicide among women, often unseen, living in Northern Iraq and fostered links to promote a strategy to address this.

- HeM health has fostered international links to support the training of staff and development of patient centred care in Northern Iraq.

Forming and collaborating with local and international partnerships.

Partnership working and collaboration has continued with:

- STEP
- MRDS
- Health professional from the UK, Iraq and the United States
- Local climbers in Kurdistan

Understanding local culture to find sustainable solutions that are understood by the local culture.

- Two of the volunteers have lived and worked in the Middle East for many years and have a sound understanding of the local culture and language where the projects are currently focused.
- The third volunteer has visited the projects and built relationships with people on the ground.
- Opportunities are prioritised to listen to local people and discuss their needs and the projects with people on the ground both in person and remotely.
- Young people participating in the projects are asked for their views and actions are taken because of their feedback.

Building new leadership and capacity at local level.

- Jwan and Nour are provided with opportunities to develop their leadership skills through funding, leading sessions with young people and receiving mentoring from Matt Low.
- All three volunteers have participated in leading training workshops to build capacity and leadership skill of staff.
- Sensory training sessions were held for staff and the Child Protection Team at Arbat Refugee Camp, Sulaymaniyah.

Investing at the point of need to ensure funding goes directly to those at their point of need.

- Almost all funding goes directly to the projects to benefit the young people who participate.
- Essential resources are purchased to maintain a safe and high-quality project.
- A minimal amount of resource is used for administration purposes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

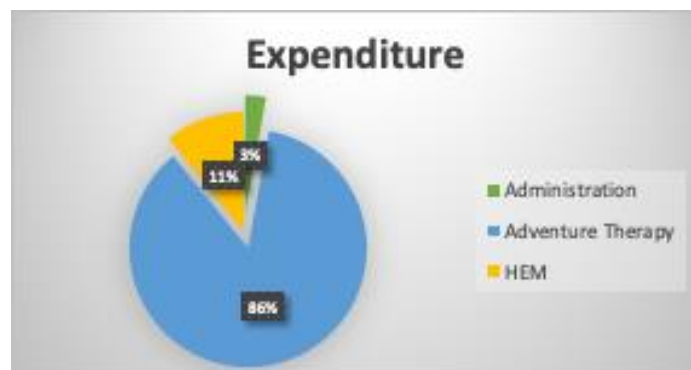
There has been a significant increase in gifts this year, primarily driven by additional fundraising to provide regular support for the adventure therapy project via STEP.

Most of our giving this year was through one-off gifts. The trustees are aware of the need to grow regular support to enable more consistent project funding going forward.

Costs of running the charity remain minimal with only accountancy and bank fees this year. We continue to leverage grants and charitable benefits wherever possible to keep our costs to a minimum. Accountancy fees decreased this year due to not having to prepare a corporation tax return.

Expenditure was allocated as follows:

- Adventure Therapy £7915
- HEM £1000
- Administration £257



AtN continues to leverage CAF, Stewardship and JustGiving platforms as well as direct bank transfers where appropriate to receive funds.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

The Trustees are very grateful to the following donors who have provided funds for the charity during this reporting period. The annual report summarises some of the significant impact you are making in the lives of many people because of your generous giving.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DONORS

MRDS (*Millenium Relief & Development Services*): for the generous funding that provides all of the food, water and transportation for the climbing trips.

Individual donors: for the donations given on a regular monthly basis.

Derby Community Choir led by Gaynor Shaw: for the generous donation raised by a Saturday walking up a hill in the Peak District and the sponsored “sing” on top. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/local-vocals-community-choir-1682456615723>

Flashpoint in Swansea and RedPoint in Bristol: For their support for AtN in hosting fundraising events at their climbing and bouldering sites.

Across the Nations Ltd. Registered Charity Number NIC100326. Registered Company
Number NI028174

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Annual return

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Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters. My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Gary Peter Brookes



Relevant professional qualification FCA BSc

Address: 130 Wombourne Park , Wombourne , South Staffs WV5 0LY

Date 27 September 2024

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Accounts

Registered number
NI028174

Across The Nations Limited
Report and Abridged Accounts
28 February 2023

Across The Nations Limited

Registered number: NI028174

Directors' Report

The directors present their report and abridged accounts for the year ended 28 February 2023.

Principal activities

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be meeting the needs of the marginalised within society with home- grown solutions and perspectives from across the nations

Directors

The following persons served as directors during the year:

Timothy Morris
Alan Peek
Joseph Hosken

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board on 18 May 2023 and signed on its behalf.

Timothy Morris
Director

Across The Nations Limited
Abridged Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 28 February 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross (loss)/profit	(421)	1,841
Administrative expenses	(870)	(278)
Operating (loss)/profit	(1,291)	1,563
Interest receivable	3	3
(Loss)/profit before taxation	(1,288)	1,566
Tax on (loss)/profit	-	-
(Loss)/profit for the financial year	<u>(1,288)</u>	<u>1,566</u>

Across The Nations Limited

Registered number:

NI028174

Abridged Balance Sheet

as at 28 February 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		1,628	2,916
Net current assets		<u>1,628</u>	<u>2,916</u>
Net assets		<u>1,628</u>	<u>2,916</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		1,628	2,916
Shareholders' funds		<u>1,628</u>	<u>2,916</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. The profit and loss account has not been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

The members have agreed to the preparation of abridged accounts for this accounting period in accordance with Section 444(2A) of the Companies Act 2006.

Timothy Morris

Director

Approved by the board on 18 May 2023

Across The Nations Limited
Notes to the Abridged Accounts
for the year ended 28 February 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The abridged accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as applied to small entities by section 1A of the standard).

Turnover

Turnover consist of gifts and Donations and is measured at fair value

2 Employees

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Average number of persons employed by the company	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

3 Other information

Across The Nations Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in Northern Ireland . Its registered office is:
34 Ballycrochan Avenue
Bangor
County Down
BT19 7LA

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 28 February 2023

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sales	3,029	1,841
Cost of sales	(3,450)	-
Gross (loss)/profit	(421)	1,841
Administrative expenses	(870)	(278)
Operating (loss)/profit	(1,291)	1,563
Gain on revaluation of investments	-	-
Interest receivable	3	3
(Loss)/profit before tax	<u>(1,288)</u>	<u>1,566</u>

Across The Nations Limited
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 28 February 2023

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sales		
Gifts and Donations	<u>3,029</u>	<u>1,841</u>
Cost of sales		
Events	<u>3,450</u>	<u>-</u>
Administrative expenses		
General administrative expenses:		
Information and publications	-	55
Bank charges	31	23
Equipment expensed	519	-
	<u>550</u>	<u>78</u>
Legal and professional costs:		
Accountancy fees	320	200
	<u>320</u>	<u>200</u>
	<u>870</u>	<u>278</u>

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Annual report

Across the Nations Annual Report

22/23

ACROSS

The Nations



Our mission

We believe in a world that welcomes and values minoritised communities.

Our vision

Across The Nations is a charity that partners with local organisations to develop innovative and sustainable programmes promoting the well-being of marginalised communities.

Our key principles

The ethos of the charity and the activities it invests in are underpinned by the following key principles:

- Filling the gap of the marginalised; to be led by the needs of the marginalised and invisible in society.
- Forming and collaborating with local and international partnerships.
- Understanding local culture to find sustainable solutions that are understood by the local culture.
- Building new leadership to enable new leaders to build capacity at local level.
- Investing at the point of need to ensure funding goes directly to those at their point of need.

Our history

Established in 1998, Across the Nations (AtN) was initially set up to provide a response to the marginalised special needs community in Morocco. The charity partnered with others to support the foundation of a special school which was established at this time and continues to the present day.

In 2017, as a response to the needs of people displaced by events in the Middle East, a partnership was established with STEP Iraq which was

already working with marginalised and displaced people in a refugee camp in Rabat.

Working in partnership with STEP, AtN began an Art Therapy Project and an Adventure Therapy Climbing Project aimed at supporting the mental health and well-being of displaced and traumatised young people. In addition, a Livelihood project was started to develop IT skills for those within the refugee camp.

In 2020, HEM, which began independently in 2014 with a small group of healthcare professionals supporting local clinicians in Burkina Faso and Jordan, affiliated itself with AtN to give it a structure to grow within. This affiliation has developed alongside the other strands of the charity and is now an important and integral part of the work of AtN.

HEM connects Health, Education and Mentoring expertise and experience with local and national practitioners and service providers working to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

The charity continues to actively seek ways to support marginalised and displaced people at a local level and in partnership with others, wherever they are in most need across the world.

Our partners

STEP UK

Established in the Kurdish region of Northern Iraq in 2001 when Saddam Hussein was still in power, STEP is a niche child protection agency which primarily supports vulnerable children, refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, and local Kurds; including kids working on the streets. It is also working with the local government to pioneer a regional foster care system which is slowly being rolled out across Kurdistan.

For more information see: <http://www.step-uk.com/uk/>

MRDS (Millenium Relief & Development Services)

MRDS partners with AtN to fund all of the food, water and transportation for the climbing trips.

ABOUT US

Board of Trustees

The Across the Nations board of trustees is responsible for governing the charity to ensure compliance with the charities aims and the law, manage the effective use of resources, set strategy and ensure the work is effective.

In line with good practice, the board keeps under regular review its own performance, roles and responsibilities and sets boundaries between its governance role and the charity's day-to-day operations. The AtN board of trustees includes a wide range of ages, relevant skills, and experience. TMcE was welcomed to the Board in 2022 and provided with documentation on the role. She brings a wide range of skills in strategic planning, experience of funders and administration and personal qualities of compassion and empathy relevant to the charities aims.

Trustees meet at least four times a year and often monthly to maintain an oversight of all aspects of the delivery and finances of the charity.

Name	Position
Tim Morris	Chairperson
Tracey Ripley – McElvogue	Trustee
Conor Mason	Trustee/Finance
Heather Mason	Trustee
Alan Peek	Trustee
Anne Davey	Trustee/Secretary

Volunteers/field workers

Matthew Low	Volunteer field worker/ climbing project/HEM
Gail Low	Volunteer field worker/art therapy/HEM
Bryony Wilson	Volunteer field worker/Leader of the HEM team

The volunteer field workers lead and develop the day to work of the charity at the point of need. They develop collaborative relationships and partnerships, lead training and engage in the practical tasks relevant to their various areas of expertise.

Annual update on the activities of the charity

The following section summarises the key activities and development of the charity that have been taken place within the reporting period.

The activities fall under several areas, including the Çîyako Project/adventure therapy, art therapy and health, mentoring and education through HEM.

Çîyako Project/Adventure therapy

Due to personal reasons Matt Low had to relocate back to the UK during the period of this report. The adventure therapy has been able to continue with the support and partnership of STEP. Matthew will continue to lead this team virtually from the United Kingdom and also make regular trips to Kurdistan.

The two local apprentices, Noor and Jwan will continue to carry out initial training for the children to climb in Kurdistan. Matt will continue to build on this during his visits back. Eighty children were taken out to the rock face in July following preliminary training and safety work done in the camp.

In August 2022 Matt focused on necessary administration to set up a management and recording system and English lessons.

Matt was also contacted in 2022 by the International Mountain Federation to develop a qualification for leaders.

Following his trip in early 2023 Matt was able to provide a positive update on the ongoing work in the camp in Kurdistan. Nathan Low accompanied him and made a film of the refugee camp and the work of Noor, camping and climbing. During this trip Matt scoped out another potential site for rock climbing having lost another location.

It is encouraging to note the requests from an ex-Iranian camp for stateless women to be involved in the adventure climbing. The apprentice Noor is going to go and help train them.

The next trip to Iraq by Matt will be in June 2023. He will be starting a peer review on Adventure therapy in Iraq to document the work being done and provide evidence of the impact it is having in the lives of those who participate.

Useful discussions are taking place with the University of Wales concerning a proposal for a PhD focused on the benefits of Adventure Therapy in Kurdistan. Matt has also written and submitted a short piece about the adventure therapy work to a professional mountaineer magazine.

We continue to network with relevant people and bodies to access funding for the future of this project.

We are always mindful of the political climate in Kurdistan and the challenges people face in their day-to-day life and the challenging context in which AtN functions in Kurdistan.

Hem Health

Bryony Wilson continues to head up the work of HEM health, an integral part of the work of AtN. She undertook a successful trip in October 2022 to Kurdistan when she was able to meet with a range of former and new contacts to continue to build good working relationships. Much networking with relevant professionals has continued throughout this period linked to the suicide prevention work, patient centred care and trafficking. She has also continued to meet with the patient-centred care group online.

Deborah McMillan from this group, contacted a University of Ulster staff member who has written textbook on person centred care and explored ways to partner with them. This included a discussion on any expectation of financial contribution or voluntary help to factor in moving forward.

The suicide prevention work continued with good connections being made. The mental health work is Kurdish led with ongoing retrospective work being carried out to provide the first quantitative data since the war. There are plans to set up a group amongst Kurds and minority middle eastern groups.

She currently works on HEM Health initiatives on a self- funded basis for one day a week.

Art Therapy

Finances

Funds remain small based on regular giving with several small donations made to AtN and HEM health during the year.

Final papers to be completed and submitted are still pending before donations can be given through the Charities Aid Foundation. (CAF)

Fundraising

Work has been done to ensure that any fundraising campaign is accessible and manageable including clear branding.

Social media is now being used to post information about the work of AtN on Facebook. This has enabled sharing with a much wider audience.

Future fundraising possibilities are being explored including an AtN presence at a climbing festival, further fund raising applications in Iraq and USA.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

The Trustees are very grateful to the following donors who have provided funds for the charity during this reporting period. The annual report summarises some of the significant impact you are making in the lives of many people because of your generous giving.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DONORS

MRDS (*Millenium Relief & Development Services*): for the generous funding that provides all of the food, water and transportation for the climbing trips.

Individual donors: for the donations given on a regular monthly basis.

The Board would like to acknowledge the work and thank all the members of the Board, staff volunteers and associates in all that has been achieved in this reporting period.

Giving a voice to the marginalised

Across the Nations Ltd. Registered Charity Number NIC100326. Registered Company
Number NI028174

Across the Nations Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100326

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Across the Nations Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 28 February 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 6

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to: • examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act • follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act • state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

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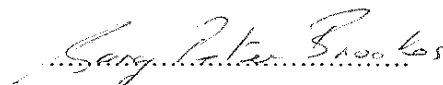
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Name: Gary Peter Brookes



Relevant professional qualification FCA FCIE BSc

Address: 130 Wombourne Park , Wombourne , South Staffs WV5 0LY

Date 27 June 2023