



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2018 **To** 31 March 2019

Charity name: Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind

Charity registration number: 202573

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The charity acts for the general benefit of blind and partially sighted persons.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Please see report by Honorary Treasurer
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The charity acts for the public benefit of blind and partially sighted persons

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Please see report by Honorary Treasurer

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21-1.23	The charity maintains funds, in particular investments to generate returns which can be used for the purpose of its charitable activities.
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Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution and Charity Commission Scheme sealed 10 September 1979
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	


Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	A M White-Horan		Resigned Chair 10/9/18	
2	F C Newton	Treasurer		
3	P Bucknall	Chairman	Appointed Chair 10/9/19	
4	C Mosley			
5	The Venerable H McCurdy	President		
6	D Fletcher			
7	B Worthington			
8	N Rushton			
9	Clare Stimpson		Resigned March 2019	

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Frank C Newton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Honorary Treasurer and Trustee	
Date	22/8/19	

HUNTINGDONSHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Report by Honorary Treasurer

INTRODUCTION

I have pleasure in enclosing the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Set out below are points of reference and interest on these accounts which should assist the reader in focusing their attention on the main issues.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Charity Commissioners require the Society Accounts to be prepared and presented in a prescribed manner. Part of these requirements includes the production of a Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

This statement appears at the first page of the Annual Accounts and shows the financial activities of the Society under the headings required by the Charity Commissioners.

TRADING ACCOUNTS

General Trading

Income from sales amounted to £12,173 being a similar figure to the previous year. The gross profit amounted to £10,806 being a reduction of £1,352 when compared to the previous year.

Blind Aids

Income from sales amounted to £6,913, being a reduction of £1,822 when compared to the previous year.

Expenses

General expenses amounted to £16,464 being a very similar figure to the previous year.

Summary

The accounts show an overall Trading Loss of £6,528. The previous year's loss was £9,098 which was inflated by a write off of old Blind Aid Stock to the value of £4,642.

FUND ACCOUNTS

The Capital element of these funds has been adjusted to include a valuation of the Capital Holding as at 31 March 2019. This year it has resulted in an overall increase of £110,000 in the valuations. The key issue for the Society's finances is the actual interest earned each year on these investments. Despite low interest rate returns nationally, the Income from Investments continues to be maintained at or above the previous year's level.

HOLIDAY FUND

Capital

The revaluation exercise has resulted in an increase of £8,543 to a new value of £116,809.

Income

Investment income amounted to £3,831 and deposits and fees received from members in respect of the 2018 and 2019 holidays amounted to £14,050.

In addition, the accounts show a transfer from the main account of £1,500. The Board of Trustees agreed that this transfer, in respect of transport costs, would be made into this account.

Expenditure

Expenditure financed during the year fell into the following headings:-

Summer Holiday 2018 - £1,238

Summer Holiday 2019 - £15,600

Summary

The combined Capital and Revenue balance carried forward on this account amounts to £128,270

WOODWARD BEQUEST

Capital

The revaluation of the investment has resulted in an increase of £26,725 to a new valuation of £365,406.

Income

Investment income produced £11,984, being a small increase when compared to the previous year.

Expenditure

The accounts show a transfer of £10,000 to the Outreach Accounts in respect of the contribution towards the cost of the third Outreach Worker.

Summary

The combined Capital and Revenue balance carried forward is £376,845.

OUTREACH ACCOUNT

Income

The County Council Grant amounted to £33,000 which is the same level as the previous year and is the 5th year of the original 3 year contract. The one year extension clause within the current contract had been exercised by the County Council and a 6th year has recently been approved. As a result of this further extension, the existing contract will now run until the end of March 2020.

The sum of £10,000 was transferred into this account from the Woodward Bequest Account by way of a contribution to the cost of the third Outreach worker.

Expenditure

Expenditure totalled £49,754 which is a small increase of £1,748 when compared to the previous year.

Summary

Expenditure exceeded income by £6,754 for the year. This shortfall has been met by a contribution from the General Fund.

CLUB FUNDS

Although any balances held on behalf of the clubs is still retained in the overall accounts of the Society, an information note has been added to the accounts to reflect the total of the year end balances held.

VOLUNTARY FUND

Income

Total income amounted to £66,798. It should be noted that the previous year's figure included a Legacy sum of £95,830.

General Donations shows a reduction of £3,964 but General Fundraising (Net) showed an increase of £4,028.

The Income from the Charity Commission investments amounted to £33,045 and Rent of Flat Income produced £6,098.

Assistance to the Blind - Expenditure

Total expenditure amounted to £6,483.

Admin and General Expenses

A total expenditure of £40,413, with the main increases being shown in Premises Repairs and Equipment Purchases.

Summary

The total surplus for the year is recorded as £6,618. There were no “special one-off” items of Income or Expenditure during the year and therefore the recorded surplus is a true reflection of the year’s activities. This figure is very similar to the adjusted figure for the previous year.

BALANCE SHEET**General**

The total assets have increased during the year by £121,918 to £1,988,407

General Investments

No changes have been made to the investments during the year.

Current Assets

No major changes to the current assets.

CONCLUSIONS

The financial year 2018/19

This is regarded as a very satisfactory outcome for the year with a healthy surplus being recorded.

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

The appropriate Certificate has been received from the Society Auditors and is attached as the final page of the accounts.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HUNTINGDONSHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND**

We have audited the financial statements of Huntingdon Society for the Blind for the year ended 31 March 2019, which comprise the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2019, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

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

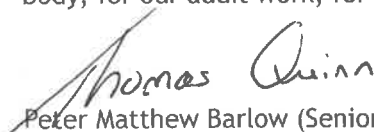
Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144* of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Peter Matthew Barlow (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Thomas Quinn Statutory Auditors

Dated: 29/8/19.