



Coventry



Irish Society



Annual Report 2018





Kay Forrest Chair



Dear Members



A very warm welcome to our 2018 AGM. I am delighted to be addressing you as Chair of the Coventry Irish Society. I am proud to say that the Irish Society that was set up by our honorary President David Cairns in 1993 has helped so many of the vulnerable Irish. I am also proud of the amount of services we have brought to the Irish community in general and our long tradition of providing social and cultural events including the St. Patrick's Day Festival.

From March 2018 we have been temporarily accommodated at the New Central Credit Union. May I express my gratitude to the Credit Union for helping the charity and especially Patrick Walsh the founder of the Credit Union.

This year we were all filled with great sadness with the passing of our former CEO Kerry Cullen whom made such a great contribution to the Charity

The Society continues to operate a day to day advice service Monday to Friday 9.30-4.30pm. This includes helping people with welfare, pensions, housing and disability benefits. Also a 3rd of all our enquiries day to day are related to Irish Passports and Irish Citizenship.

Our 'Shamrock Club' for people living with memory loss meets weekly at Chris the King and is now regularly attended by 8 people per week. Also there are 8 Carers that also often attend the group or benefit from respite. Our befriending services are still operating well including a bi-monthly Lunch Club at Christ the King and the Claddagh Group now run independently is every Tuesday at Flannelly's. Thanks to Liz Flannelly and Father Tom for providing us with the free venues to provide these important services.

I am also delighted and very proud to tell you that our history exhibition 'Irish Heart, Coventry Home' was showcased in Cork City in September to October 2018. This was especially important for me as Chair of the Cork Association

With the help of grants from the Ireland Fund of Great Britain and the Big Lottery we have been able to help more than 60 Irish Survivors receive grants of up to £12,000 each and provide bi-monthly lunch clubs and/or outings for the group.

I must thank our main funder the Emigrant Support Programme for there long established and continued support of the Coventry Irish community.

This year we were also extremely grateful to the Lloyds Foundation for their grant to help us conduct a community needs analysis and to create a fundraising strategy.

It remains for me to thank all our members and volunteers and the Irish community for their support. I would also like to thank our staff for their hard work and also my fellow Trustees for their commitment to the Charity. Also as always thank you to David and Nancy Cairns for their long-term contribution to the Charity. I hope that CIS can find a new long-term home soon and continue providing necessary services and events for many years to come.

God Bless, Kay Forrest

Managers Report 2018



The Charity continues to provide hugely important services for some of the most vulnerable Irish in Coventry and Warwickshire. We are proud to report that we have opened more than 120 case files in the previous 12 months securing Pensions, Disability Benefits, Housing and other advice to people who are vulnerable. Proudly we supported more than 60 Irish Survivors to gain grants of mostly £12,000 each as well as completing welfare checks when some Survivors were entitled to additional help such as social housing and claiming Attendance Allowance.

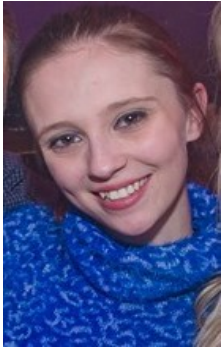
Make no mistake that without the existence of the Coventry Irish Society the aforementioned clients/Irish Survivors would not have received those services. We have campaigned and continue to campaign about the importance of what we do, who we help and the consequences for the vulnerable Irish if the Charity didn't exist. In a recent press release we appealed to the local Irish community to help us find new premises and to support the Charity. One aim of this is to raise awareness amongst the Second and Third Generation Irish that Coventry Irish Society has more than likely at some point given support or advice to one of their parents or grandparents and that they should be motivated to support the Charity. The Irish born community in Coventry is obviously an ageing community therefore there are increasing health needs and there is also feelings of sadness and isolation as so many have lost their life-term partners.

This year we sadly lost our former CEO Kerry Cullen at aged 49. Kerry was a great friend and mentor to me and I pay tribute to her contribution to the Charity.

Our community needs analysis aims to highlight the needs of our community and we are looking for participants to take part in forthcoming focus groups taking place in the first 2 weeks of July 2019. The final report will be available in September 2019. This should help us articulate the needs of our community to potential funders and importantly for the Irish government to understand the need to continue to support the Irish Society.

Thanks to our partners in Cork City for the amazing opportunity to host 'Irish Heart, Coventry Home' last September and October. We are of course incredibly grateful to our main funder the Emigrant Support Programme for their support without which the Charity would have folded some years ago. Also thanks to the Lloyds Foundation, The Ireland Fund of Great Britain and the Big Lottery for recent grants. Our members and volunteers have as usual been amazing and we are delighted to be working with you. Thank you to the Deeley Group and Austin Cairns that have also recently pledged significant annual contributions to the Charity. Also thanks to all of you that are now contributing £2 or more per-month via direct debit or cash contributions after our recent appeal. Thanks to my staff for all their hard work and contributions this year and to the Trustees for their as usual fantastic support and their commitment to the Irish community. Also thanks to our Honorary President David Cairns who will be 86 years old next week and is still campaigning for the rights of the Irish community. **Simon McCarthy**

Kiera Forrest P.A. to Manager



Hello All,

To those of you who don't know me, my name is Kiera Forrest and I am the new P.A. to the Manager at the Coventry Irish Society. I am 3rd generation Irish and joined the Society in July 2018. My role includes finance systems, service databases, marketing, and social media.

I have initiated some new services for CIS including an Online Passport Renewal Service. This service enables me to renew any Irish Passport's that have expired by less than five years without having to send off multiple documents and witness signatures, it also comes back within two weeks as opposed to the paper forms that take a lot

longer, I can also take the passport photo's here in the office for only £5.00 which is cheaper than the photo booths or photography shops.

I am in the middle of arranging to purchase a card machine for us to use in the office and at events so we can take payments by debit or credit card which will be a great help to the Charity. This will also help us with our 'Local Giving' account for those who wish to make direct debits or one off donations. I have been so impressed since our recent appeal of the support from our members and been delighted to help people wishing to set up direct debit payments to help the Charity.

It is also my job to maintain our website and to design and prepare newsletters and event posters. Soon I will also begin taking photos at our events that will be uploaded to our Facebook page for anyone who wishes to download a copy.

Kiera Forrest.

Win McGlynn Welfare Project



The Welfare project covers an large amount of ground with regard to helping Irish people. We provide advice, support and guidance with the whole range of welfare benefits, pensions, housing applications and related issues, debt, utilities bills, U.K. and Irish state pensions. In addition people request help with returning to Ireland and applications for birth certificates.

Irish Passports have continued to remain high on the agenda since 'Brexit'. Many Second and Third Generation are applying for their passports.

The Society continues to enable many Irish people and importantly many vulnerable Irish to access entitlements and services that they may not otherwise avail of. By providing a culturally sensitive and aware service our clients our comfortable enough to approach us for help and support. The Society often liaises with other services such as health, housing and social services to ensure the needs of our people are being met. I also help out with our 'Shamrock Club' which is a lovely group for people living with memory loss. We do activities and have a good chat the people really enjoy it. Thanks so much to Christ the King for allowing us to use the Parish Centre it is really important for people.

I work Tuesdays and Wednesdays if anyone needs support

Thanks to all our kind supporters, members and volunteers.



Health Workers Report



Ann Sullivan



Dawn Lucas

The CIS Health worker role is shared by Dawn and Ann. We continue to offer support and advice on a wide variety of Health and Welfare issues. These include various benefit claims e.g. Housing council tax, (We have had more clients coming in for support mainly due to the changes and how they need to apply for these on line, this being very difficult for clients with literacy and technology fears) Disability Living Allowance(DLA) Attendance Allowance, Carers Allowance, Community Support grants. Due to recent changes in the benefit system we have had a large number of claims/enquiries/appeals to deal with mainly Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) as the boundaries have changed considerably and clients with literacy and technology problems finding it very difficult to access forms to apply for the benefit they are entitled to.

The “BREXIT” impact is still very big with large numbers of people applying for Irish passports. There are lots of 1st, Second and Third Generation Irish reapplying or applying for the first time for their Irish Passport or Irish Citizenship through their parents or grandparents. The 3rd Generation must apply for a ‘Foreign Birth Registration’ before then applying for their Irish Passport.

Our ‘Shamrock Club’ is going from strength to strength and is for people living with memory loss. We are delighted with the success of this group. We now have 8 regular attenders per-week who always enjoy their time with us. Their Carers also attend and often stay and support and socialise us or they can benefit from the respite the group provides.

A huge thank you to Father Tom at Christ The King Church for allowing us to use the Parish room free of charge this is a great help to Coventry Irish. Our group is growing but we still have spaces for more referrals please contact Ann or Dawn if you know anyone who will benefit from this group.

We have been at the Credit Union since March 2018 which is great except that as we are on the 1st floor some people have problems negotiating the stairs. We hope to find a long-term resolution to this as soon as possible.

The Claddagh Group continues to provide social interaction for between 40-50 people each week. We have had a very busy year with several meals and entertainment days, visits to the seaside and to Corby Irish whom we also hosted at Flannelly’s. Thanks to Liz for her great support of the Claddagh and her amazing buffets!. Our holiday this year is in Norfolk in September for an Irish music weekend also our Christmas one to the Isle of Wight is again proving to be very popular.

Although we are still working with a reduced budget, we are still able to offer services as stated to an increasing number of clients both face to face and via the telephone.

Anyone who may have any Welfare/Health/Pension or any other queries is welcome to come into our office or phone 024 76256629 for an appointment and we will endeavour to work with them to get a satisfactory outcome. Thanks to all our members, volunteers and supporters.

Appointments can be made with:

Ann Monday + Wednesday

Dawn Wednesday Thursday and Friday

Confidentiality is maintained at all times



Statement of Financial Activities



Coventry Irish Society
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2017

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Grants & Donations				
Dept. of Foreign Affairs:				
<i>Emigrant Support Programme</i>	-	60,500	60,500	36,770
Less: Clawback	-	-	-	-
Oral History Project	-	30,000	30,000	-
Other Donations	2,678	-	2,678	1,000
Lunch Club	6,118	-	6,118	3,536
Trips and Events Contributions	-	-	-	-
Member's Subscriptions	624	-	624	-
Fundraising and Other income	7,334	-	7,334	7,231
Bank Interest	-	-	-	7
Total incoming resources	16,754	90,500	107,254	48,544
Resources expended				
Staff costs (including NI)	10,973	59,276	70,249	50,464
Event costs and venue hire	7,289	3,580	10,869	7,659
Oral History Project – Direct costs	-	12,083	12,083	-
Other projects	1,499	-	1,499	-
Other expenses and support costs	1,842	9,953	11,795	10,861
Total resources expended	21,603	84,892	106,495	68,984
Net outgoing resources	(4,849)	5,608	759	(20,440)
Fund balances brought forward	(54,844)	53,508	(1,336)	19,104
Fund balances carried forward	(59,693)	59,116	(577)	(1,336)



Balance Sheet 2017



Coventry Irish Society
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2017

	Note	2017		2016	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	3		264		353
Current assets					
Bank and cash		30,064		61,947	
Accrued income	4	24,000			
Prepayments		1,205	55,269	-	61,947
Current Liabilities					
Deferred income (ESP Grant)		(30,250)		(30,750)	
Deferred income (Oral History Project)	4	(24,000)		(30,000)	
Other deferred income		(1,860)	(56,110)	(2,885)	(63,636)
Net Current assets			(841)		(1,689)
Net Assets			(577)		(1,336)
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	5		(59,693)		(54,844)
Restricted funds	6		59,116		53,508
			(577)		(1,336)

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable subject to the small companies' regime.



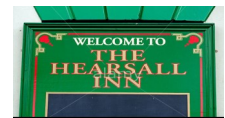
Government of Ireland Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council



**Eugene
Lenehan**



*Noel Kelly
Solicitor*

**Margaret
Campbell**

**Frankie
Felton**



**Liz
Flannelly**

**Synergy
Business
mentoring**

**Gerry
McMahon**



**Austin
Cairns**



COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY
(A company limited by guarantee)
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018
Charity No: 1150290
Company No: 08235510

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COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

COMPANY INFORMATION

TRUSTEES:	Rory Ryan Josephine Addleton Elizabeth Flannelly Kathleen Forrest Kathleen McCarthy
REGISTERED OFFICE:	New Central Credit Union 41 Smithford Way Coventry CV1 1GY
REGISTERED NUMBER:	08235510 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:	1150290
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS:	Simon Horsman Mark Holmes

COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT & REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

A very warm welcome to our 2018 AGM. I am delighted to be addressing you as Chair of the Coventry Irish Society. I am proud to say that the Irish Society, that was set up by our honorary President David Cairns in 1993, has helped so many of the vulnerable Irish. I am also proud of the amount of services we have brought to the Irish community in general and our long tradition of providing social and cultural events including the St. Patrick's Day Festival.

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This year we were all filled with great sadness with the passing of our former CEO Kerry Cullen who made such a great contribution to the Charity.

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I must thank our main funder the Emigrant Support Programme for their long established and continued support of the Coventry Irish community. This year we were also extremely grateful to the Lloyds Foundation for their grant to help us conduct a community needs analysis and to create a fundraising strategy. I would also like to thank our volunteers and staff for their hard work and also David and Nancy Cairns. Finally, thanks to my fellow Trustees and everyone involved in the Charity.

Thank you, Kay Forrest

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees who are also Directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act submit their Report together with the reviewed Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2018. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

The Charity is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee and was set up on 1st October 2012 and commenced to trade on 1st January 2013. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Objectives

The Charity's objectives are:

- to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Coventry and surrounding areas with particular reference to those who are Irish or of Irish descent;
- to relieve sickness and old age, preserve and protect good health and advance education and training;
- to address issues of deprivation, social exclusion and isolation related to poor health and old age, preserve and protect good mental and physical health and spiritual well-being;
- to promote culturally appropriate housing, health and social welfare services and recreational and other leisure time occupations with the object of improving the quality for the said inhabitants.

Risks management

The Trustees conduct their own review of major risks to which the Charity is exposed, these procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the Charity and are as follows:

- an annual review of the risks which the Charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified;
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of the risks materialise.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

The company's "results" and position at 31st December 2018 are set out in the accounts on pages 7 to 11. There were negative unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2018, and the trustees are continuing to seek to address this and establish an appropriate reserves policy.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Coventry Irish Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charitable Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charitable Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant Audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant Audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware of that information.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Chairperson

Print name: Rory Ryan

Date: 27th September 2019

Independent Accountant's Report on the Accounts

We have both prepared and, there being two accountants involved, reviewed the financial statements of the Coventry Irish Society (CIS). The circumstances whereby this has come about are discussed in Section 4 of this report. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

This report is made wholly to the CIS trustees on the examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and reporting accountants.

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibility Statement, the trustees (who, for the purposes of company law, are also the directors of the charitable company) are responsible for the records from which these accounts have been prepared. Normally, they would also be responsible for preparing the accounts, leaving the independent accountants merely the task of reviewing the accounts, but this year that was not possible and the independent accountants have prepared the accounts and take responsibility for them showing a true and fair view, subject to the note below. In doing so we have followed applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Scope of the accounts

The accounts concerned are in accordance with the underlying books and records of the organisation and have been verified with reference to external documents (e.g. bank statements) where this is feasible. Being acceptable to us, we have not changed any accounting policies from past years. We have not received a trustees report for the year and so have no comment to make.

Reservations regarding "a true and fair view" and "Going Concern".

The figures we inherited from the years to December 2013 and 2014 were both subject to audit qualifications. In these circumstances we are unable to satisfy ourselves as to the appropriateness of the comparative figures and in particular the analysis of restricted and unrestricted funds. This impacts on later figures, especially the analysis of the capital funds on 31st December 2015 (The first period for which we were acting as independent accountants) as at the earlier year ends. On the other hand readers may wish to note and take some comfort from the fact that funders have not responded to these qualified figures in such a way as to indicate that they were unhappy with the position revealed.

It is also necessary to state that in determining whether Coventry Irish Society ("CIS") is a going concern the accountants must be mindful that, like many charitable bodies, CIS's activities in both scale and direction are driven by the grants it is awarded. Changes in grants will impact CIS's future activities. This is not to say that CIS would not be able to continue but that its scope will always have to be adjusted to its resources.

Qualified Opinion on the financial statements.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the Reservations regarding "a true and fair view" and "Going Concern" paragraphs, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the charitable company's affairs at 31st December 2018
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK generally accepted accounting Practice (applicable to smaller entities), and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed:

Print name: MARK HOLMES

Date: 27th September 2019

Coventry Irish Society
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2018

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
Incoming resources				
Grants & Donations				
Dept. of Foreign Affairs:				
<i>Emigrant Support Programme</i>	-	60,500	60,500	60,500
Less: Clawback	-	-	-	-
Oral History Project	-	31,732	31,732	30,000
Ireland Fund Great Britain	-	7,000	7,000	
Big Lottery		6,980	6,980	
Other Donations	240	-	240	2,678
Lloyd's Development Grant	-	6,400	6,400	
Lunch Club	3,122	-	3,122	6,118
Member's Subscriptions	90	-	90	624
Fundraising and Other income	8,028	-	7,668	7,334
Total incoming resources	11,480	112,612	124,092	107,254
Resources expended				
Staff costs (including NI)	5,287	57,500	62,787	70,249
Event costs and venue hire	4,918	3,000	7,918	10,869
Oral History Project – Direct costs	-	18,675	18,675	12,083
Other projects	-	7,537	7,537	1,499
Other expenses and support costs	1,496	15,128	16,624	11,795
Total resources expended	11,701	101,840	113,541	106,495
Net outgoing resources	(221)	10,772	10,551	759
Fund balances brought forward	(59,693)	59,116	(577)	(1,336)
Fund balances carried forward	(59,914)	69,888	9,974	(577)

Coventry Irish Society
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2018

		2018		2017	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	3		176		264
Current assets					
Bank and cash		38,454		30,064	
Accrued income		-		24,000	
Sundry debtor		1,732	<u>40,186</u>	1,205	<u>55,269</u>
Current Liabilities					
Deferred income (ESP Grant)		(30,250)		(30,250)	
Deferred income (Oral History Project)		-		(24,000)	
Accruals		(138)	<u>(30,388)</u>	(1,860)	<u>(56,110)</u>
Net Current assets			<u>9,799</u>		<u>(841)</u>
Net Assets			<u><u>9,974</u></u>		<u><u>(577)</u></u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	4		(59,914)		(59,693)
Restricted funds	5		<u>69,888</u>		<u>59,116</u>
			<u><u>9,974</u></u>		<u><u>(577)</u></u>

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable subject to the small companies' regime.

On behalf of the board

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

Charity number 08235510

Company number 115029


Chairperson

Print Name: Rory Ryan

Date: 27th September 2019

COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

1. Accounting policies

- (a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in July 2014 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).
- (b) The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis notwithstanding an overdrawn unrestricted funds position at 31st December 2018. A reduction in funding from the principal funder reduced the Society's income significantly from mid-2014. The trustees have taken widespread and substantial remedial to rectify the situation, and are confident that a positive position has been restored. The 2019-20 grant awards from the principal funder, albeit at a lower level than pre-2014, have been confirmed at the date of approval of the financial statements. The trustees, being mindful of all relevant factors, consider the Going Concern basis to be appropriate.
- (c) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. The value of the services provided by volunteers has been included.
- (d) Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which they are receivable.
- (e) Incoming resources from investments is included when receivable.
- (f) Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.
- (g) Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to the activity.
- (h) Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which is estimated at five years for furniture, four years for office equipment and three years for computers.
- (i) Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

- (j) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the management committee for particular purposes.
- (k) Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.
- (l) Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises for the year ended 31st December 2018 nor for any previous periods.

3. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer £	Furniture £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st January 2018	5,490	5,196	1,978	12,664
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2018	<u>5,490</u>	<u>5,196</u>	<u>1,978</u>	<u>12,664</u>
Depreciation				
At 1st January 2018	5,291	5,196	1,913	12,400
Charge for the year	69	-	19	88
At 31st December 2018	<u>5,360</u>	<u>5,196</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>12,488</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31st December 2017	199	-	65	264
At 31st December 2018	<u>130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>176</u>

4. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1st January 2018 £	Movement in resources		Balance at 31st December 2018 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
Unrestricted funds	<u>(59,693)</u>	<u>11,480</u>	<u>(11,701)</u>	<u>(59,914)</u>

5. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1st January 2018 £	Movement in resources		Balance at 31st December 2018 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
Various Programmes	59,116	112,612	(101,840)	69,888

COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY
(A company limited by guarantee)
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018
Charity No: 1150290
Company No: 08235510

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COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

COMPANY INFORMATION

TRUSTEES:	Rory Ryan Josephine Addleton Elizabeth Flannelly Kathleen Forrest Kathleen McCarthy
REGISTERED OFFICE:	New Central Credit Union 41 Smithford Way Coventry CV1 1GY
REGISTERED NUMBER:	08235510 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:	1150290
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS:	Simon Horsman Mark Holmes

COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT & REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

A very warm welcome to our 2018 AGM. I am delighted to be addressing you as Chair of the Coventry Irish Society. I am proud to say that the Irish Society, that was set up by our honorary President David Cairns in 1993, has helped so many of the vulnerable Irish. I am also proud of the amount of services we have brought to the Irish community in general and our long tradition of providing social and cultural events including the St. Patrick's Day Festival.

From March 2018 we have been temporarily accommodated at the New Central Credit Union. May I express my gratitude to the Credit Union for helping the charity and especially Patrick Walsh, the founder of the Credit Union.

This year we were all filled with great sadness with the passing of our former CEO Kerry Cullen who made such a great contribution to the Charity.

The Society continues to operate a day to day advice service Monday to Friday 9.30-4.30pm. This includes helping people with welfare, pensions, housing and disability benefits. Also, a 3rd of all our enquiries day to day are related to Irish Passports and Irish Citizenship.

With the help of grants from the Ireland Fund of Great Britain and the Big Lottery we have been able to help more than 60 Irish Survivors receive grants of up to £12,000 each and provide bi-monthly lunch clubs and/or outings for the group.

I must thank our main funder the Emigrant Support Programme for their long established and continued support of the Coventry Irish community. This year we were also extremely grateful to the Lloyds Foundation for their grant to help us conduct a community needs analysis and to create a fundraising strategy. I would also like to thank our volunteers and staff for their hard work and also David and Nancy Cairns. Finally, thanks to my fellow Trustees and everyone involved in the Charity.

Thank you, Kay Forrest

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees who are also Directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act submit their Report together with the reviewed Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2018. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

The Charity is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee and was set up on 1st October 2012 and commenced to trade on 1st January 2013. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Objectives

The Charity's objectives are:

- to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Coventry and surrounding areas with particular reference to those who are Irish or of Irish descent;
- to relieve sickness and old age, preserve and protect good health and advance education and training;
- to address issues of deprivation, social exclusion and isolation related to poor health and old age, preserve and protect good mental and physical health and spiritual well-being;
- to promote culturally appropriate housing, health and social welfare services and recreational and other leisure time occupations with the object of improving the quality for the said inhabitants.

Risks management

The Trustees conduct their own review of major risks to which the Charity is exposed, these procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the Charity and are as follows:

- an annual review of the risks which the Charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified;
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should any of the risks materialise.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

The company's "results" and position at 31st December 2018 are set out in the accounts on pages 7 to 11. There were negative unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2018, and the trustees are continuing to seek to address this and establish an appropriate reserves policy.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Coventry Irish Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charitable Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charitable Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant Audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant Audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware of that information.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Chairperson

Print name: Rory Ryan

Date: 27th September 2019

Independent Accountant's Report on the Accounts

We have both prepared and, there being two accountants involved, reviewed the financial statements of the Coventry Irish Society (CIS). The circumstances whereby this has come about are discussed in Section 4 of this report. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

This report is made wholly to the CIS trustees on the examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and reporting accountants.

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibility Statement, the trustees (who, for the purposes of company law, are also the directors of the charitable company) are responsible for the records from which these accounts have been prepared. Normally, they would also be responsible for preparing the accounts, leaving the independent accountants merely the task of reviewing the accounts, but this year that was not possible and the independent accountants have prepared the accounts and take responsibility for them showing a true and fair view, subject to the note below. In doing so we have followed applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Scope of the accounts

The accounts concerned are in accordance with the underlying books and records of the organisation and have been verified with reference to external documents (e.g. bank statements) where this is feasible. Being acceptable to us, we have not changed any accounting policies from past years. We have not received a trustees report for the year and so have no comment to make.

Reservations regarding "a true and fair view" and "Going Concern".

The figures we inherited from the years to December 2013 and 2014 were both subject to audit qualifications. In these circumstances we are unable to satisfy ourselves as to the appropriateness of the comparative figures and in particular the analysis of restricted and unrestricted funds. This impacts on later figures, especially the analysis of the capital funds on 31st December 2015 (The first period for which we were acting as independent accountants) as at the earlier year ends. On the other hand readers may wish to note and take some comfort from the fact that funders have not responded to these qualified figures in such a way as to indicate that they were unhappy with the position revealed.

It is also necessary to state that in determining whether Coventry Irish Society ("CIS") is a going concern the accountants must be mindful that, like many charitable bodies, CIS's activities in both scale and direction are driven by the grants it is awarded. Changes in grants will impact CIS's future activities. This is not to say that CIS would not be able to continue but that its scope will always have to be adjusted to its resources.

Qualified Opinion on the financial statements.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the Reservations regarding "a true and fair view" and "Going Concern" paragraphs, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the charitable company's affairs at 31st December 2018
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK generally accepted accounting Practice (applicable to smaller entities), and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed:

Print name: MARK HOLMES

Date: 27th September 2019

Coventry Irish Society
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2018

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
Incoming resources				
Grants & Donations				
Dept. of Foreign Affairs:				
<i>Emigrant Support Programme</i>	-	60,500	60,500	60,500
Less: Clawback	-	-	-	-
Oral History Project	-	31,732	31,732	30,000
Ireland Fund Great Britain	-	7,000	7,000	
Big Lottery		6,980	6,980	
Other Donations	240	-	240	2,678
Lloyd's Development Grant	-	6,400	6,400	
Lunch Club	3,122	-	3,122	6,118
Member's Subscriptions	90	-	90	624
Fundraising and Other income	8,028	-	7,668	7,334
Total incoming resources	11,480	112,612	124,092	107,254
Resources expended				
Staff costs (including NI)	5,287	57,500	62,787	70,249
Event costs and venue hire	4,918	3,000	7,918	10,869
Oral History Project – Direct costs	-	18,675	18,675	12,083
Other projects	-	7,537	7,537	1,499
Other expenses and support costs	1,496	15,128	16,624	11,795
Total resources expended	11,701	101,840	113,541	106,495
Net outgoing resources	(221)	10,772	10,551	759
Fund balances brought forward	(59,693)	59,116	(577)	(1,336)
Fund balances carried forward	(59,914)	69,888	9,974	(577)

Coventry Irish Society
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2018

		2018		2017	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	3		176		264
Current assets					
Bank and cash		38,454		30,064	
Accrued income		-		24,000	
Sundry debtor		1,732	<u>40,186</u>	1,205	<u>55,269</u>
Current Liabilities					
Deferred income (ESP Grant)		(30,250)		(30,250)	
Deferred income (Oral History Project)		-		(24,000)	
Accruals		(138)	<u>(30,388)</u>	(1,860)	<u>(56,110)</u>
Net Current assets			<u>9,799</u>		<u>(841)</u>
Net Assets			<u><u>9,974</u></u>		<u><u>(577)</u></u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	4		(59,914)		(59,693)
Restricted funds	5		<u>69,888</u>		<u>59,116</u>
			<u><u>9,974</u></u>		<u><u>(577)</u></u>

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable subject to the small companies' regime.

On behalf of the board

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

Charity number 08235510

Company number 115029



Chairperson

Print Name: Rory Ryan

Date: 27th September 2019

COVENTRY IRISH SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

1. Accounting policies

- (a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in July 2014 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).
- (b) The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis notwithstanding an overdrawn unrestricted funds position at 31st December 2018. A reduction in funding from the principal funder reduced the Society's income significantly from mid-2014. The trustees have taken widespread and substantial remedial to rectify the situation, and are confident that a positive position has been restored. The 2019-20 grant awards from the principal funder, albeit at a lower level than pre-2014, have been confirmed at the date of approval of the financial statements. The trustees, being mindful of all relevant factors, consider the Going Concern basis to be appropriate.
- (c) Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. The value of the services provided by volunteers has been included.
- (d) Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which they are receivable.
- (e) Incoming resources from investments is included when receivable.
- (f) Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.
- (g) Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to the activity.
- (h) Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which is estimated at five years for furniture, four years for office equipment and three years for computers.
- (i) Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

- (j) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the management committee for particular purposes.
- (k) Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.
- (l) Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises for the year ended 31st December 2018 nor for any previous periods.

3. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer £	Furniture £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st January 2018	5,490	5,196	1,978	12,664
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2018	<u>5,490</u>	<u>5,196</u>	<u>1,978</u>	<u>12,664</u>
Depreciation				
At 1st January 2018	5,291	5,196	1,913	12,400
Charge for the year	69	-	19	88
At 31st December 2018	<u>5,360</u>	<u>5,196</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>12,488</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31st December 2017	199	-	65	264
At 31st December 2018	<u>130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>176</u>

4. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1st January 2018 £	Movement in resources		Balance at 31st December 2018 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
Unrestricted funds	<u>(59,693)</u>	<u>11,480</u>	<u>(11,701)</u>	<u>(59,914)</u>

5. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1st January 2018 £	Movement in resources		Balance at 31st December 2018 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
Various Programmes	59,116	112,612	(101,840)	69,888