ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2023

CHARITY REGISTRATIONS UK NUMBER 1171947 SCOTLAND SC051982

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

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Trustees, Executives and Advisors for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees:

Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas DBE (Chair)

Major General Alastair Bruce KStJ OBE VR

Mr Julian Evans (appointed 6 September 2022)

Lady Lucy French OBE (resigned 22 August 2022)

Mr Terence Hewett (resigned 22 August 2022)

The Hon Kevan Jones MP (reappointed 6 September 2022)

Sir Adrian Alastair Montague CBE

Captain Jay Singh-Sohal VR

Chief Executive:

Claire Horton CBE

Director of the Foundation:

Michele Jennings

Executive Director:

John Grain (resigned May 2023)

Registered Office:

2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7DX

Bankers:

HSBC, The Boulevard, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 1UT

BNP Paribas Fortis, Korte Torhoutstraat 1, 8900 Ieper

BNP Paribas, Centre d'Affaires Nord de France Entreprises,

140, Parvis de Rotterdam, 59777 Lille

Auditors:

Buzzacott LLP, 130 Wood Street, London, EC2V 6DL

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

The Commission's charitable arm, the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation continued to expand its activities during the year.

Supported by a generous donation in March 2022 from the MacRobert Trust, our volunteer speaker programme grew significantly allowing us to recruit and train Volunteer Guides as well to provide tours at cemeteries all over the UK telling the stories of those we care for as well as the history of the Commission. Over the course of the year, we gave 599 talks and 423 public tours engaging close to 30,000 people with our work and generating over £16,000 in donations.

Our Guides programme saw us welcome visitors to two of our most well-known sites on the Western Front: Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, and Tyne Cot Cemetery. During their time abroad Guides provide tours throughout the day, help visitors with research and give recommendations of other sites to visit.

Development of a number of exciting new projects were started during the year, chief among them our new Stories Portal, which will be funded by a generous donation from the Post Office Remembrance Fellowship. The portal will provide a platform in the form of a digital hub, where anyone - individuals, communities, families, researchers - can add their casualty stories, memories, pictures, photographs, and ephemera to share with others. This user-generated approach will allow us to create a hugely rich and diverse repository, with the potential to bring each individual casualty's story to life. Importantly, it also enables us to link the 'unofficial' to the verified Casualty Database record, whilst keeping them in separate, dedicated areas.

Membership has continued to grow as has our wider fundraising. As part of War Graves Week in May, the Foundation held an Evening at Brookwood where we welcomed nearly four hundred families, history lovers, and CWGF supporters of Brookwood Military Cemetery. Later in the year we held our first ever Carol Service in the wonderful setting of the Royal Military Chapel in London and in March we marked our newly registered status with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator with a launch event at Edinburgh Castle.

With more plans in development for the coming year we are looking forward to engaging and educating many more people – especially the young – with the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) and the inspiring stories of the men and women who died whilst fighting in the two World Wars.

Finally, I would like to record my grateful thanks to my fellow Trustees for their very welcome guidance, support, and contributions over the year.

Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas

Chair of Trustees

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Introduction

The Trustees present their report and accounts, for the Foundation's fifth operational year, ending on 31 March 2023.

Structure and Governance

The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation ("the Foundation" or "CWGF") is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed by its Constitution, as registered on 8 March 2017, and subsequently amended on 6 May 2017. The Foundation is registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales (charity registration number 1171947). The Foundation has also established and registered branches in: Belgium (enterprise number 0689.789.289), and in France (Siret number 850 666 645 00013), governed under the same constitution. On 6 September 2022, the Foundation registered with the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR registration number SC051982).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission ("the Commission" or "CWGC"), an organisation established by Royal Charter in May 1917, is the sole member of the Foundation. The Foundation is a subsidiary of the Commission. The Commission is not a charity as its purposes are not exclusively charitable.

Members of the Foundation's Board of Trustees are appointed by the Commission; the majority of the Foundation's Trustees are not Commissioners. The Foundation's Chief Executive also serves as the Commission's Director General.

Four Trustee meetings took place during the year.

New Trustees' induction is provided by meetings with the Foundation's Chief Executive alongside meetings with members of the Commission's senior management team.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

- (a) To promote and support the maintenance and upkeep of graves, cemeteries, buildings and memorials for the burial and commemoration of members of the naval, military and armed forces from countries of the Commonwealth who were killed during the First Word War or the Second World War anywhere in the world, in particular (but without limitation) through the support of charitable activities undertaken by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission;
- (b) To advance citizenship among the people of the Commonwealth through the commemoration of members of the naval, military, and armed forces from countries of the Commonwealth who were killed during the First World War and the Second World War; and
- (c) To advance the education of the public, especially young people, in the history of the First World War and the Second World War. In particular (but without limitation) through advancing education in the lives of those commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and in the history of the cemeteries, buildings and memorials maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Foundation's strategic objectives are:

- the building of public engagement programmes engaging the wider community in the story of our common sacrifice and shared history initially focussed around sites and war graves in the UK.
- the creation of educational resources and a programme of educational support and activities; and
- the development and sponsorship of internship programmes for youth guides from the Commonwealth, at the Commission's main sites in Belgium and France.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance published by the Charity Commission in regard to public benefit when reviewing the Foundation's objectives and planning future activities.

Activities and Achievements

Despite the ongoing impact of the pandemic, the Foundation made progress in the following areas:

- Grew membership supporter numbers to 1,570.
- Delivered over 599 talks and 423 public tours from trained volunteers in the Speakers & Tour Guides Programme and via CWGC Public Engagement Co-ordinators.
- Two cohorts of Guides each spent three months working at sites in Belgium and France helping with research and providing tours for visitors.
- The Foundation registered as a charity in Scotland to reflect the increasing number of volunteers and supporters we have there.
- Two new major fundraising events took place: An Evening at Brookwood and the first ever Carol Service at the Royal Guards' Chapel in London.
- The Foundation depends on the support from the Commission, the Commission's volunteers and its own volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the delivery of the charitable activities. In the year, 2,300 volunteers gave their time and energy, an estimated 17,592 hours, with an estimated value of £167.2k.

Business Plan 2023-24

The Foundation's key deliverables in 2023/24 are planned to include:

- Developing new outreach and education programmes in partnership with the CWGC.
- Further improvements in engaging with supporters and growing membership, in order to fund the running costs of the Foundation.
- Repeating major events at Brookwood and the Royal Guards' Chapel and introducing new events including in France and Belgium.
- Installing contactless donation stations in the Visitors Centre in France and the Information Centre in Belgium.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

• Further developing income streams from donations, and surpluses from the sale of new and updated merchandise at the Commission's Ieper Information Centre and French Visitor Centre.

Volunteers policy

The Foundation encourages, welcomes, and recognises volunteers; educating and informing the wider public on the Commission's work having received training funded by MacRobert Trust for speakers and Tour Guides programme; and supporting core Foundation activity by freely lending their time and skills.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Foundation's key management comprises the Trustees, the Chief Executive, the Director of the Foundation, and the Executive Director; however, Trustees are unpaid, and the Chief Executive is not remunerated by the Foundation. During the year under review the Foundation increased to five employees, three of whom were employed on fixed term contracts. The Foundation's approach and policy on remuneration follows that of the Commission, which is that remuneration levels are in line with median market pay data for the not-for-profit sector as established from salary survey and benchmark data. The Commission agreed that during the Foundation's start-up period, until it has free cash to pay for administration, finance, and marketing, that it would provide back-office support free of charge.

Top Risks and Mitigation

The Foundation maintains a register of risks and their mitigation. Risks are categorised as Operational, Reputational, and Financial; mitigation measures are identified for each one. This register is monitored by management and the Trustees to ensure it is kept relevant and up to date.

The top risk under each category is:

Operational: Overcommitment on project activity before funds are received – which is mitigated through business planning, comprehensive project management and KPI measurements.

Reputational: Threat of cyber security breach/hacking/website malfunction - mitigated through staff training, internal IT expertise and resources and clear reporting guidelines.

Financial: Insolvency - mitigated by having a reserves policy, financial controls, and reporting.

Reserves

The Foundation's reserves at 31 March 2023 were £57k, split between £15k restricted and £42k unrestricted. The Foundation has set a reserves target of £48k of unrestricted reserves. This level of reserve is considered sufficient to cover the costs arising on the windup of the Foundation and would:

- Cover the redundancy costs of the Foundation's employees; and
- Make provision for early termination of any other contracts currently in place.
 - At 31 March 2023, available unrestricted reserves of £42k is lower than target of £48k by 12.5%, due to the agreed Foundation budget for 2024 and the commitment from CWGC the trustees are comfortable with the level of reserves held.

There is a loan facility still available from CWGC which can be drawn against, this supports any short-term cash issues which includes managing the expenditure of the foundation. The loan will be drawn against in 2023/24.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Financial results for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Foundation's income was £405k comprising unrestricted income of £350k and £55k of restricted income. Over 68% of unrestricted income, £238k, came from donations and legacies and donated services with the remainder from the Supporters' Scheme, £57k, bank interest of £3k and trading income from retail activities of £52k. Restricted income comprised £50k of donations from Alastair Kerr for the Runnymede memorial lighting and £5k from the Princess Anne's Trust for the 2024 Speakers programme.

Costs of £802k were incurred. Key expenditure items were: grants to CWGC of £393k to complete the Eyes on Hands on project, the MacRobert Trust and Princess Anne's Trust Speakers programmes and the Runnymede memorial lighting; staffing costs of £282k; £110k for direct and supporter scheme costs, along with £17k incurred on marketing, web sites costs and professional costs.

The outcome was a deficit of £396k (2022 – surplus of £40k), made up of a £58k unrestricted deficit (2022 – £1k deficit) and a £338k restricted deficit (2022 – surplus of £41k). The deficit is £46k worse than the budgeted deficit of £350k.

The intergroup balance (net) between the Commission and the Foundation was £1.3k at the year-end (2022 £12.1k). The balance sheet stock value of £12k comprised gift items, books, maps, and pins. A provision has been made for slow-moving stock. Bank balances at the year-end were £82k (2022 -£475k) of which 18% (£15k) related to restricted activities.

The 2023/24 budget anticipates a break-even position for the Foundation which will be funded from in year trading, however due to the timing of income generation it is estimated for £100k of the loan facility available from CWGC will be drawn down.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 5 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

jayhen () oras

Chair

Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas DBE

Date St. September, 2023

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities Act 2011 requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The Trustees have to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting 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 business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The Trustees confirm that:

- so far as each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and the notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ♦ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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 accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

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

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts, 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 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charity and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting framework, Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the the Charities Act 2011, Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and those that relate to data protection (General Data Protection Regulation).
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- · making enquiries of management as to their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- used data analytics to investigate the rationale behind any significant or unusual transactions;
- tested authorisation controls on expenditure items, ensuring all expenditure was approved in line with the charity's financial procedures.

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

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts 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 with regulations made under section 154 of that Act and in accordance with Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Bora alt Lens

Buzzacott LLP Statutory Auditor 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL

Date: 3 October 2023

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2023

		Un- restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Un- restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
T 6	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:	1	238,031	55,000	293,031	298,232	48,675	346,907
Donations & Legacies Charitable Activities	ı	200,001	,3,3,000	273,031	290,2,32	40,073	540,207
Grants receivable	2			_			
Supporter Scheme Income	3	56,863		56,863	50,238		50,238
Investment Income	4	2,561		2,561	534		534
Other Trading Activities	5	52,237		52,237	18,500		18,500
Total Income		349,692	55,000	404,692	367,504	48,675	416,179
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
Fundraising costs	6	316,165		316,165	273,098	-	273,308
Charitable Activities	7	93,264	392,683	485,947	95,561	7,713	103,274
Total expenditure		409,429	392,683	802,112	368,659	7,713	376,372
Net (expenditure) / income		(59,737)	(337,683)	(397,420)	(1,155)	40,962	39,807
Other recognised gains	8	1,561	-	1,561	-		•
Net movement in funds		(58,176)	(337,683)	(395,859)	(1,155)	40,962	39,807
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	13	100,608	352,683	453,291	101,763	317,721	413,484
Net movement in funds	13	(58,176)	(337,683)	(395,859)	(1,155)	40,962	39,807
Total funds carried forward	1.3	42,432	15,000	57,432	100,608	352,683	453,291

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Current assets	10	10.071		10.071	11,938		11,938
Stock	10	12,861	-	12,861		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		67,902	15,000	82,902	117,734	357,412	475,146
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	11	12,214		12,214	4,869	-	4,869
		92,977	15,000	107,977	134,541	357,412	491,953
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(50,545)		(50,545)	(33,933)	(4,729)	(38,662)
Net current assets		42,432	15,000	57,432	100,608	352,683	453,291
Total assets less current liabilities		42,432	15,000	57,432	100,608	352,683	453,291
Net assets		42,432	15,000	57,432	100,607	352,683	453,291
Funds of the Foundation							
Unrestricted funds	13	42,432	-	42,432	100,608	-	100,608
Restricted funds	13	-	15,000	15,000	-	352,683	352,683
		42,432	15,000	57,432	100,608	352,683	453,291

The financial statements were approved by the Foundation's Trustees on 5 September 2023 and were signed on their behalf by:

Oudeth Hayner Conas Chair Date Sth September, 2023

Chief Executive

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Un- restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Un- restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities						
Net (expenditure) / income	(58,176)	(337,683)	(395,859)	(1,155)	40,962	39,807
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(923)	-	(923)	1,979		1,979
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(7,345)	-	(7,345)	77,132	490	77,622
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	24,548	(1,961)	22,587	(2,330)	(3,778)	(6,108)
(Decrease) in intergroup balance with CWGC	(7,936)	(2,768)	(10,704)	(53,257)	-	(53,257)
Net cash (used in)/ provided operating activities	(49,832)	(342,412)	(392,244)	22,369	37,674	60,043
(Decrease)/Increase in cash	(49,832)	(342,412)	(392,244)	22,369	37,674	60,043

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in cash and cash equivalents					
	2023	2022			
	£	£			
Movement in cash and cash equivalents	(392,244)	60,043			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	475,146	415,103			
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	82,902	475,146			

The charity has no financed debt. There is therefore no difference between the movement in the net debt of the charity and the cash and cash equivalents shown above

Principal Accounting Polices for the year ended 31 March 2023

The principal accounting policies and judgements used in the preparation of the financial statements are:

Basis of Accounting

The Trustees' Report and accompanying financial statements have been produced in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to entities preparing their financial statements in accordance with FRS102, and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) including FRS102). The Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The functional currency is sterling.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is the sole member of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (Registered charity number 1171947). These financial statements are therefore also consolidated in the results of the Commission on a line-by-line basis.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Foundation's financial statements are in a net asset position of £57.4k at 31 March 2023 (2022 - £453.3k). The net intergroup balance has in decreased to £1.4k owed by the Foundation to the Commission (2022 -£12k owed to the Commission). The Foundation currently has cash balances of £82k (2022 -£475.1k) which together with drawing down on the loan from CWGC of £100k in April 2023, and throughout the year if required, will cover activities and general running costs in 2023-24 and also specifically to cover the 12 months from the signing of these accounts to September 2024. The Foundation expects its membership, donations, and other income to both continue and grow over the medium term, as the charity increases its ability to both identify and attract new sources of grant and charitable funding.

Trustees have approved a budget for 2023/24 with forecast income of £761.5k, split between £559.5k unrestricted and £202k restricted. Budgeted costs include grants to the Commission of £301.8k, employment costs of £315.8k and direct & running costs of £143.5k resulting in a small forecast surplus for the year of £0.4k.

As required, the Foundation can also draw down additional cash, and will in 2023/24 estimated at £100k, from the Commission's agreed loan facility of £500k which was extended in 2023 until March 2025. The repayment date for loan balances is by 31 March 2027. On this basis, the Foundation is considered to be a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

Fund accounting

The Foundation holds unrestricted and restricted funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use at their discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Foundation.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictions imposed by the donors.

Income recognition

Income is recognised once the Foundation has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and Legacies

Donations received are recognised once the Foundation has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. Legacies are included

Principal Accounting Polices for the year ended 31 March 2023

in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity. Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably.

Supporter membership scheme income

Income from the supporters' membership scheme is treated and recognised as a donation when the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated services, facilities and goods

The Foundation receives services, facilities, and goods free of charge in support of its finance, human resources, legal, management and operational activities including marketing activities. The value of these is recognised as donated services.

Donated services and facilities received free of charge are shown as donations in kind and recognised in income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under charitable costs. The valuation attributed to these donations is as follows: the Foundation has been allocated 5% of the running costs of both the Ieper Information Centre and the Beaurains Visitor Centre, 0.5% of CWGC's total applicable back-office support costs and 100% of the staff costs for the dedicated finance and 50% for social media support.

Donations of book stocks from the Commission are recognised in the period that they are received.

Grant Funding

Funding from organisations supporting the Foundation's objectives is treated as restricted funds and shown separately in the statement of financial activities where this is mandated by the grant agreements. The full income is recognised in the year in which the Foundation becomes fully entitled to receive it.

Recognition of expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis.

Classification of expenditure

The Foundation's expenditure is analysed between fundraising costs and charitable activities.

Expenditure on raising funds

Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs to manage the supporter scheme, marketing, and promotion costs to raise income, other direct costs attributable to raising funds including a portion of the donated in-kind support cost from the CWGC. The resources expended on raising funds include 100% of staff costs for those individuals responsible for fundraising and, 75% of the Executive and Administration support. The cost of donations in-kind costs includes administrative support, finance support and other donated costs. These three cost areas are allocated between expenditure on raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The following proportion of the donations in kind are allocated to expenditure on raising funds; Administrative support 75%, finance support 50%, other costs 50%.

Principal Accounting Polices for the year ended 31 March 2023

Expenditure on charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes: all expenditure relating to the charitable activities of the Foundation; resources expended on managing and administering the charity the direct cost of delivering the charitable activities; grants payable; and a portion of the donated in-kind support cost from the CWGC. The costs of donations in-kind are apportioned across expenditure on raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Donations in kind costs include administrative support, finance support and other donated costs. These three cost areas are allocated between expenditure on raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The following proportion of the donations in kind are allocated to expenditure on charitable activities; Administrative support 25%, finance supports 50% and other costs 50%.

Charitable activities are currently associated with two activities: Advancing public education on First and Second world wars and promoting and supporting activities undertaken by CWGC. The total cost of the expenditure on charitable activities is apportioned 50:50 to these activities.

Governance costs

Governance costs represent direct expenditure incurred by, or on behalf of, the Foundation, for external audit and legal costs.

Other recognised Gain/losses

The expenditure within other gains and losses relates to exchange differences.

Inventory

Cost for the stock of merchandise is included in current assets. Merchandise, directly purchased by the Foundation's Belgian and French branches, is valued at cost. Merchandise at head office for on-line sales is valued at cost. The Commission's historic stock of books and maps has been donated to the Foundation free of charge.

Provisions

Provisions for future liabilities are recognised if there is a legal or constructive financial obligation that can be readily estimated and for which there is a reasonable expectation that payment will be made.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the monthly average exchange rate. Currency balances at the year-end are translated at the year-end rate. The net exchange gain was f_1 ,561(2022 – f_1 nil).

Operating leases

The Foundation currently has no operating leases. Rent is not currently charged for Foundation engagement activities conducted at Commission locations, i.e., the Ieper Information Centre and French Visitor Centre. The use of the Information and Visitor Centres is donated in kind by the Commission and is accounted for under donations and expenditure in kind.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

The Foundation's trading activities have not yet reached the VAT thresholds in the UK, France, or Belgium and therefore it is not currently required to register for VAT.

Restricted funds

The Foundation's financial statements include restricted funds for grant activities.

Principal Accounting Polices for the year ended 31 March 2023

Significant estimates and judgements

Estimates

Where contractual revenue cannot be allocated with certainty, but is related to the current financial period, an estimate of the income is booked within the financial statements based on the anticipated completion value. Costs are allocated on an accruals basis for costs incurred within the current financial period.

Judgements

Membership income is recognised in the month it is received rather than being amortised over the twelvemonth subscription period. This revenue recognition approach has been adopted because the membership fee is in substance a donation and no substantive benefits accrue to members and no refunds are made.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Income from Donations		
Donations – Unrestricted		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations & CWGF legacies received	79,710	81,053
Legacies – received at Head Office	46,916	61,558
Donations - Belgium, Ieper Information Centre	1,602	291
Donations - France, Beaurains Visitor Centre	3,999	975
Gift Aid - Claims from donations	920	1,739
Donations in kind - valued cost for services from CWGC	104,884	152,616
	238,031	298,232

Donations include fundraising from Trustees' engagement activities, legacies received, amounts received from events together with donations received directly by the Foundation at Commission locations and those made via the website. The website upgrade was completed in FY2021/22 which has resulted in the decrease in donations in kind.

Donations - Restricted

	2023	2022
	£	£
Runnymede Memorial Lighting project	50,000	-
Princess Anne's Trust – Speakers programme	5,000	-
MacRoberts Trust – Speakers programme		48,675
	55,000	48,675

A donation of £50k was provided by a one-off donor for the night lighting at the Runnymede Memorial. £5k was donated by the Princess Anne's Trust to continue the work on the Speakers Programme. Both donations were granted by the Foundation to the Commission for the work to be completed.

2 Income from Grant Funding - Restricted

During 2023 (2022 nil) the foundation did not receive any restricted grant income.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Books and printed matter sales

Tour & Coach Reservation Fees - Beaurains Visitor Centre

School & University Visits - Beaurains Visitor Centre

Sale of wreaths

3 Income - Membership Scheme and Sponsorship - Unrestrict	ted	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Standard donation membership	50,367	46,191
Standard donation membership – Gift Aid	4,896	••
Sponsorship – Carol Service	1,000 600	4,047
Sponsorship – An Evening at Brookwood		
	56,863	50,238
Standard membership increased in 2023 to 1,570 members, (2022 – 1,42 membership for a further 12-months, a renewal rate of 69%.	6). 983 (2022 – 1,052) rend	ewed their
4 Investment Income		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank Interest	2,561	534
		534
During 2023 Bank Interest received of £2.5k (2022 £534)		
5 Income from other trading activities - Unrestricted		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Ticket Sales Events	21,294	8,563
Merchandise sales	13,941	6,455

2,836

217

429

18,500

9,247

3,901 1,823

2,031

52,237

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

In 2022/23 tickets were sold for two virtual walks, and events at the Tri-Service day, the Evening at Brookwood and the Carol Concert which contributed to the increase in merchandise sales. In year, the visitor numbers, school visits and coach parties have improved to the Ieper information centre and the Visitor Centre at Beaurains, with wreaths now being sold for family cemetery visits.

6 Expenditure on Raising Funds

Raising Funds	Staff/ recharge costs	Other Direct costs	Total 2023	Staff/ recharge costs	Other Direct costs	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	206,180	109,985	316,165	158,783	114,315	273,098
	***************************************		•	<u></u>		A
	206,180	109,985	316,165	158,783	114,315	273,098

Fundraising costs were higher in 2023 due the recruitment of the Director of the Foundation on a fixed term contract, along with support from 2 admin staff working with the Foundation and corporate fundraising manager.

7 Expenditure - Charitable Activities

	Un- restricted	Restricted	2023 Total	Un- restricted	Restricted	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Advancing public education on First and Second world wars	46,632	392,683	439,315	47,781	7,713	55,494
Promoting and supporting activities undertaken by CWGC	46,632	0	46,632	47,780	0	47,780
	93,264	392,683	485,947	95,561	7,713	103,274

^{*} Restricted charitable activities costs comprise: the activities Eyes On Hands On (Annington) £289k; MacRoberts Trust speakers programme; £49k, Runnymede Lighting £50k and; Princess Anne's Trust speakers programme £5k. All such costs are grants to CWGC.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Support service costs of £104,884 (2022-£152,616) and governance costs of £5,723 (2022 – £5,010) have been apportioned between fundraising costs and charitable activities expenditure based on the income split of 86% relating to unrestricted income and 14% relating to restricted income and for other costs and a 50% 50% split for staff costs to the Foundation's two principal charitable activities and objectives on a 50:50 basis.

8	Other recognised gains/(losses)		
		2023	2022
		£	£
Exch	ange gain/(loss) on balance sheet revaluation	1,561	-
		1561	0
9	Governance costs		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	payable to the Foundation's auditor for the audit of the addition's financial statements	5,430	4,890
	payable for professional fees for branches in Belgium and France	293	120
			5.040
		5,723	5,010
			
	e were expenses of £80 reimbursed to one trustee during the year		
tor a	ttending an event in Norwich at a meeting. (2022 – none)		
10	Stock of Merchandise		
		2023	2022
		£	£
Bool	ss and maps	3,944	3,165
Merc	chandise - stationery, badges, and pins	7,757	8,773
	- -	11,701	11,938
	<u> </u>		

The slow-moving stock provision normally provides for any stock which, based on historic sales volumes, may not be sold within the twelve months following the end of the year. The provision at 31 March 2023 remains at 50% of the stock value.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

11 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepayments	2,748	1,535
Accrued donations	9,466	3,334
	12,214	4,869

Prepayments relate to sales service costs at Ieper and Beaurains plus event and social media costs at Head Office. Accrued income includes gift aid claims awaiting payment of £5.2k, PayPal income of £3.6k, lecture fees of £0.4k and £0.2k Go-cardless income.

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income	175	2,208
Trade creditors	4,584	7,120
Trade accruals	18,291	6,396
Other creditors	26,129	10,867
Intergroup balance owed to Commonwealth War Graves Commission	1,366	12,071
	50,545	38,662

Other creditors include an increase in the holiday pay accrual due to the newly recruited Foundation staff.

The Foundation has an unsecured draw down facility of a total principal amount not exceeding £500k from the Commission available until 31 March 2025 and fully repayable by 31 March 2027. The loan balance bears interest at the rate of 1.5% above the Bank of England base rate. There is a zero drawn down balance as at 31 March 2023. The Intergroup balance does not bear interest.

13 Retained funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Unrestricted fund Restricted funds	42,432 15,000	100,608 352,683
	57,432	453,291

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

2022/23	Brought forward 01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Carried forward 31-Mar-23
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	~	~	~	~~
Interns	15,000	-	-	15,000
Annington Homes	289,008		(289,008)	-
MacRoberts Trust – Speakers Programme	48,675		(48,675)	-
Runnymede Memorial Lighting	-	50,000	(50,000)	-
Princess Anne's Trust – Speakers Programme	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Total restricted funds	352,683	55,000	(392,683)	15,000
Unrestricted funds	100,608	349,692	(407,868)	42,432
Total funds	453,291	404,692	(800,551)	57,432

Grants and Donations awarded to the Foundation for specific projects are treated as restricted in line with the contract.

In 2022/23 there was £55k of restricted income in respect of two projects. This consisted of restricted donations: £50k to support the lighting at the Runnymede Memorial and £5k from the Princess Anne's Trust to support the speakers programme. The £392k of restricted expenditure relates to the grants to CWGC to complete the restricted projects. All projects were completed in year apart from the speakers programme which was a grant to the commission in 2022/23 for the completion of work in 2023/24.

2021/22	Brought forward 01-Apr-21	Income	Expenditure	Carried forward 31-Mar-22
,	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds				
Interns	15,000	-	-	15,000
Annington Homes	289,008		~	289,008
Kantor – Speakers Programme	7,713	-	(7,713)	-
MacRoberts Trust - Speakers Programme		48,675	-	48,675
Total restricted funds	311,721	48,675	(7,713)	352,683
Unrestricted funds	101,763	330,926	(332,081)	100,608
Total funds	413,484	379,601	(339,734)	453,291

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Analysis of net assets/(liabilities) between funds			
, ,	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:			
Stock	12,861	-	12,8861
Cash at bank and in hand	67,902	15,000	82,902
Debtors amounts falling due within one year	12,214	-	12,214
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(50,545)	-	(50,545)
Total	42,432	15,000	57,432
Creditors amounts falling due after more than one year	-		_
Total funds carried forward	42,432	15,000	57,432
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:	:		
Stock	11,938	-	11,938
Cash at bank and in hand	117,734	357,412	475,146
Debtors amounts falling due within one year	4,869	-	4,869
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(33,933)	(4,729)	(38,662)
Total	100,608	352,683	453,291
Creditors amounts falling due after more than one year	~	-	-
Total funds carried forward	100,608	352,683	453,291

14 Staff Costs

For the 2022/23 financial year the Foundation had five employees. Administrative support for the supporter scheme is provided by the recruited Foundation employee.

One employee earned between £70,000 - £80,000 during the year (2022: one employee earned between £60,000 - £70,000).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

The total remuneration cost of key management personnel was £116,354 (2022: £81,158) which comprises salary costs and employer's national insurance and pension contributions. Key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive, none of whom receive remuneration from the Foundation, the Director of the Foundation and the Executive Director contracted directly in the Foundation.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	159,950	102,401
Social security costs	16,768	10,526
Pension – defined contribution scheme	18,182	12,865
Staff - donated support services from CWGC	79,723	95,499
	274,623	221,291

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

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15	Support	SCIVICES	anu	iaciniv	CUSIS
	F				

Donations in kind 2022/23

	Finance	Legal	Marketing	Mgt	HR and Ops	Total 2022
Support Facilities	£ 66,354 8,108	£ 3,607	£ 23,397 	£ 1,747 	£ 1,671 	96,776 8,108
	74,462	3,607	23,397	1,747	1,671	104,884

Donations in kind 2021/22

	Finance	Legal	Marketing	Mgt	HR and Ops	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Support	70,632	1,427	35,118	1,713	1,592	110,482
Facilities	7,954		34,180	-		42,134
	78,586	1,427	69,298	1,713	1,592	152,616

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

16 Related party transactions

The ultimate parent company and controlling party of the Foundation is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Consolidated accounts for the group are available on the Commission's website. The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation, has as its sole member the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Material transactions with the Commission comprised:

- Branch stock merchandise movements included trench whistles from Belgium to France £0.2k, gifts from France to Belgium for their annual tombola £0.1k and books from Head Office £0.6k to France £1k.
- The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation owed the Commonwealth War Graves Commission £1.3k (2022 £12.1k) at the year-end. The Commonwealth War Grave Commission owed the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation £0k (2022 £0k) at the year end.
- Back-office support and services donated by the Commission to the Foundation free of charge, whilst the Foundation continued to establish itself, were valued at £117k (2022 £152k).
- Lady Lucy French, a Trustee of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation for part of the financial year, resigned on 22 August 2022, is also a Trustee of "Never such Innocence" a charity which aims to give children and young people across the world a voice on war and conflict. Books published by Never such Innocence are retailed by the Foundation at cost price 5 books were sold between April 2022 March 2023 at £98 (2022 £20) and thirty-six books (2022 41 books) remain in stock.
- In 2023 2 Trustees have Foundation memberships, amount received £36, one of the trustees had paid in advance in the previous financial year (2022 £ 138)
- In year £45k was charged from The Commonwealth War Graves Commission for donations and legacies less direct costs in 2023 (2022 an income recharge of £56k)
- Expenses of £80 were reimbursed to one trustee during the year for attending a Foundation meeting at an event in Norwich. (2022 none). However, in the year, no trustees of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation attended Commission events where expenses were incurred. (2022 Jay Singh Sohal, a trustee of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation attended a remembrance event for the Commission, their expenses of £134 were charged across to the Commission.)

17 Post Balance Sheet Events

There are no balance sheet events to disclose.