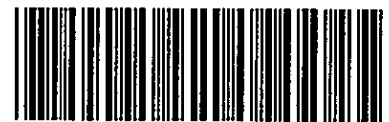


REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00770036 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 231708

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015
FOR
THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

FRIDAY



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02/09/2016

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COMPANIES HOUSE

Philip Deane Accountancy Limited
Units 1 & 2, Field View
Baynards Green Business Park
Baynards Green
Nr Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX27 7SG

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

General overview

The Board of Trustees has met four times during the year to discuss the work of the Society. In between meetings the trustees communicate, usually via email or telephone, to discuss matters arising and to move forwards on all outstanding issues.

The Society continues to support and develop relationships with other dysmelic groups and three members of the Board of Trustees are actively involved with EDRIC to this end. The Society also continues to support Genetic Alliance UK, Rare Disease Association and DysNet. We are currently developing a Friends of the Thalidomide Society scheme which we hope to use to reach out to people interested in what we do who are not eligible to be Society members.

2015 Annual General Meeting

The 2015 Annual General Meeting was held at Burleigh Court Hotel, Loughborough.

On Friday evening we screened a film about the life and work of former Sunday Times editor, Sir Harold Evans, *Attacking the Devil*, which covered his involvement with the thalidomide scandal at the time the news story broke. We were lucky to have the film's director and producer, Jacqui Morris, along to do a question and answer session with our members afterwards.

Following our morning AGM, in the afternoon we had an inspirational talk by Rick Clement, founder of the charity *A Soldier's Journey*, followed by a question and answer session with him. We rounded the afternoon off with an open floor discussion with our members about the future of the Society and preferences for future AGM meetings.

The celebration continued with a drinks reception, a raffle and a dinner and dance then music from the band Hipshaker.

The Board of Trustees

At the Trustees' Board meeting following the AGM, Edward Freeman was elected as Chair, Marie Pearse was elected as Vice Chair and Claire Elvins was elected as Line Manager to the Secretary. Liz Lash, who had been co-opted onto the Board, was also elected as a full member. More recently Brian Payne has been co-opted onto the Board.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

Throughout the year there have been two meetings of the Governance Subcommittee which consists of three members of the Board of Trustees - Louise Medus-Mansell (as Chair), Claire Elvins and Liz Lash, with the Secretary in attendance. This year, in particular, the Subcommittee have worked to produce a Social Media policy document as well as working towards setting up a Gift Aid subscription. We updated a number of our forms including adding in a Trustees Declaration of Interests document.

There have also been two meetings of the Finance Working Party consisting of Louise Medus-Mansell (as Chair), Edward Freeman and Darren Mansell (as advisor), with Anthony McGarel-Groves and Ruth Blue in attendance. Much progress has been made this year and details of the Society's finances can be seen below in the Finance Report and Investments Review sections.

Following our application for funding from the Freemason's Grand Charity for our oral history project with the parents of thalidomide-affected people, we have added money to support this from our projects fund and have now recorded the testimonies of ten parents. We are hoping to extend this funding over the next year and will present the outcome of this project at the 2016 AGM.

Our Vice Chair, Marie Pearse, has run a very successful Lottery project which she aims to continue over the next year.

The Society's Secretary has been making inroads to updating the Society website and many improvements have been made. She has also been working towards getting a greater number of members to use electronic means of communication to cut down on postal costs and has completed a project to contact all members currently receiving Society information by post. There has also been a lot of media interest in the Society this year as the popular television series, *Call the Midwife*, prepare to run three stories relating to thalidomide at the start of 2016 which the Society are expecting to be a very busy year.

Financial Review

Mr Anthony McGarel-Groves continues as Honorary Treasurer for the Society. The Society continued making steady financial progress during the period under review.

Restricted funds have been segregated in to a separate bank account. These funds are generated either from Grants received (2015: £1,000 received from The Freemasons' Grand Charity, 2014: £Nil), net receipts from the Thalidomide Society Lottery (2015 £198, 2014 £Nil), rebate on Mirror Wills from UK Law on Line (2015 £76, 2014 £Nil), from specific gifts by individual members of the Board of Trustees (2015: £442, 2014: £335), Sale of Society Badges (2015 £Nil, 2014: £192). These funds are applied to specific approved projects (2015 £2,151 'Parents' Oral History Project', 2014 £Nil).

Unrestricted funds are generated by the Society mostly from its Investment Portfolio and uses this income to cover all other Charitable Activities and Governance Costs.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

Investment Policy and Performance at year-end the Society's Investment Portfolio was valued at £517,451 (2014 £512,680) and generated an income of £18,477 (2014: £17,045) This level of income is expected to rise over time in line with or ahead of generalised inflation The annual Portfolio Management Fee was £775 (2014 £1,285) and is expected to stabilise at this level The Finance Working Party actively monitors these investments and continues to take 'pro bono' advice from Martin Ingham of Independent Portfolio Managers

Reserve Policy apart from Restricted Funds, all the Reserves available for use by the Society are unrestricted and can be used by the Society in accordance with its charitable objectives The Trustees are aware that the Society depends upon the income, which the corresponding investments yield to fund its core activities, and recognise the need to source other income to fund its current level of expenditure. It is not the Trustees' policy to embark on major initiatives without committed funding

Future development

The Thalidomide Society website will undergo a major redevelopment, hopefully beginning at the end of 2015 and reaching completion in early 2016 The oral history project with parents will continue and the Trustees are keen to work towards producing a publication containing extracts from it.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Company Act 2006

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number;

00770036 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number;

231708

Registered office;

Clapton Revel
Falcons Croft
Wooburn Moor
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire HP10 0NP

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

Trustees

Mr E Freeman, Chair
Mrs M Pearse - Vice Chair
Mrs L Medus-Mansell
Mrs M Hogg
Ms C Elvins
Ms E Lash
Mr B Payne (Trustee co-opted
member)

Company Secretary

Dr R Blue

Independent examiner

Philip Deane Accountancy Limited
Units 1 & 2, Field View
Baynards Green Business Park
Baynards Green
Nr Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX27 7SG

Honorary Treasurer

A McGarel-Groves

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

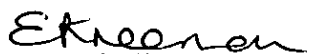
Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 10th February 2016 and signed on its behalf by



Mr E Freeman, Chair - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 October 2015 set out on pages eight to fifteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met, or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Philip Deane Accountancy Limited
Units 1 & 2, Field View
Baynards Green Business Park
Baynards Green
Nr Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX27 7SG

Date 10 February 2016

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.10.15 Total funds £	31.10.14 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		884	-	884	425
Investment income	2	18,477	-	18,477	17,045
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Restricted projects		-	1,952	1,952	587
Total incoming resources		19,361	1,952	21,313	18,057
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Investment management costs	3	775	-	775	1,285
Charitable activities					
Training and education		-	-	-	84
Restricted projects		6,864	2,390	9,254	-
Governance costs		2,240	-	2,240	2,170
Other resources expended		12,878	-	12,878	22,578
Total resources expended		22,757	2,390	25,147	26,117
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS					
		(3,396)	(438)	(3,834)	(8,060)
Gross transfers between funds	11	(4,783)	4,517	(266)	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses		(8,179)	4,079	(4,100)	(8,060)
Other recognised gains/losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets		4,771	-	4,771	12,680
Net movement in funds		(3,408)	4,079	671	4,620

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.10.15 Total funds £	31 10 14 Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		544,845	-	544,845	540,225
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>541,437</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>545,516</u>	<u>544,845</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 OCTOBER 2015**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.10.15 Total funds £	31 10 14 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	8	517,451	-	517,451	512,680
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	260	-	260	300
Cash at bank		<u>27,338</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>31,417</u>	<u>33,645</u>
		27,598	4,079	31,677	33,945
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(3,612)	-	(3,612)	(1,780)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>23,986</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>28,065</u>	<u>32,165</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>541,437</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>545,516</u>	<u>544,845</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>541,437</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>545,516</u>	<u>544,845</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	11				
General fund				541,437	544,258
Restricted funds					
Restricted Projects				<u>4,079</u>	<u>587</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>545,516</u>	<u>544,845</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 OCTOBER 2015**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 October 2015

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2015 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 10th February 2016 and were signed on its behalf by



Mr E Freeman, Chair -Trustee

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure

Tangible fixed assets

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

Plant and machinery etc - 15% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.10.15	31.10.14
	£	£
Investment income - listed	18,434	17,039
Deposit account interest	<u>43</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>18,477</u>	<u>17,045</u>

3. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS

	31.10.15	31.10.14
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>775</u>	<u>1,285</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 October 2015 nor for the year ended 31 October 2014

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 October 2015 nor for the year ended 31 October 2014.

5. STAFF COSTS

	31.10.15	31.10.14
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>12,878</u>	<u>13,469</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows

	31.10.15	31.10.14
Administration	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000

6. MATERIAL TRANSFERS

It was agreed that £4000.00 should be transferred from the Metro Current account to the HSBC (Restricted) bank account Reference; FWP Minutes

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery etc
	£
COST	
At 1 November 2014 and 31 October 2015	<u>2,725</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 November 2014 and 31 October 2015	<u>2,725</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 October 2015	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 31 October 2014	<u><u>-</u></u>

8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments
	£
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 November 2014	500,000
Revaluations	<u>4,771</u>
At 31 October 2015	<u>504,771</u>
PROVISIONS	
Provision b/f	<u>(12,680)</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 October 2015	<u><u>517,451</u></u>
At 31 October 2014	<u><u>512,680</u></u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The movement during the year on intangible assets relates to the reinvestment of funds in an Investment Trust

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.10.15 £	31 10 14 £
Other debtors	<u>260</u>	<u>300</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.10.15 £	31 10 14 £
Other creditors	<u>3,612</u>	<u>1,780</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.11.14 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.10.15 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	544,845	1,375	(4,783)	541,437
Restricted funds				
Restricted Projects	-	(438)	4,517	4,079
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>544,845</u>	<u>937</u>	<u>(266)</u>	<u>545,516</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	19,361	(22,757)	4,771	1,375
Restricted funds				
Restricted Projects	1,952	(2,390)	-	(438)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>21,313</u>	<u>(25,147)</u>	<u>4,771</u>	<u>937</u>

There was a revaluation of assets amounting to £12,680 during the year (2013 £71,544).

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

	31.10.15 £	31 10 14 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	884	425
Investment income		
Investment income - listed	18,434	17,039
Deposit account interest	<u>43</u>	<u>6</u>
	18,477	17,045
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Restricted projects	<u>1,952</u>	<u>587</u>
Total incoming resources	21,313	18,057
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management	775	1,285
Charitable activities		
Other donations	-	84
Governance costs		
Accountancy	2,240	2,170
Other resources expended		
Wages	12,878	13,469
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	-	784
Telephone	820	973
Restricted Project costs	2,390	-
Conference & Trustee Meetings	4,908	5,148
Travel Expenses	<u>387</u>	<u>621</u>
	8,505	7,526

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015**

	31.10.15 £	31.10.14 £
Finance		
Bank charges/refunds	(259)	-
Information technology		
Printing	<u>1,008</u>	<u>1,583</u>
Total resources expended	<u>25,147</u>	<u>26,117</u>
Net expenditure before gains and losses	(3,834)	(8,060)
Realised recognised gains and losses		
Gains & Losses on Revaluation of Fixed Assets for the charity's own use	4,771	12,680
Net income	<u>937</u>	<u>4,620</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements