

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 2018
FOR**

**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

THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

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**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

General Overview

The Board of Trustees meets every four months (usually in October, February, March and June) to discuss the work of the Society, to review investments and to plan ahead. In between meetings the trustees communicate, usually by email, to discuss matters arising and to move forward on all outstanding issues as they arise.

The Board has four Subcommittees: Finance, Governance, Events and Communications. The Finance and Governance Subcommittees meet at least once a year and the Events and Communications as and when necessary.

The Society has a website to share information about the activities of the Society with the public and its members. The Society also has a Facebook page and Twitter account through which information is shared with members. The Society produces a yearly newsletter which is sent to all members and holds an Annual General Meeting and Conference to which all members are invited.

2018 Annual General Meeting

The Society's Annual General Meeting and Conference was held on 14 April 2018 at Hilton St George's Park, Burton on Trent.

During the AGM, the Board of Trustees asked members to vote on two issues. Firstly, they were asked to vote on whether to trial a joint annual event with the Thalidomide Trust's NAC. Secondly, they were asked to vote on changing the Society's legal status from a Company Limited by Guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). There was also an update on the Society's archiving and parent oral history projects as well as the Society's project to support Srey Hang in Cambodia. The work of trustee Margaret Hogg was also celebrated and she was invited to become an Honorary Trustee of the Society.

Over lunch, delegates were invited to have their photographs taken and to hold a specially made copy of 'Baby Susan' kindly donated by the producers of the TV series *Call the Midwife*. Martin Johnson, former director of the Thalidomide Trust signed copies of his recently published book, as did Karen Braysher who had written a memoir about being the sister of a thalidomide survivor.

At the Conference in the afternoon, Neil Vargesson from the University of Aberdeen gave a presentation entitled *Thalidomide and the forgotten thalidomide* which looked in particular at how thalidomide affected the growing foetus. Martin Johnson discussed his book, *The Thalidomide Catastrophe*, with the Society's chair, Geoff Adams-Spink. After coffee Selina Hurley from the Science Museum talked about the new Medicine Galleries at the Science Museum and the role that thalidomide will play in those. The Society's secretary, Ruth Blue, played some clips relating to prosthetics from the oral history projects and Stewart Lee and Wendy Stubbings hosted an open discussion in which people shared their prosthetic stories and memories.

In the evening there was a silent auction of artworks, an auction (including a visit to the *Call the Midwife* film studios), the raffle, casino tables, a magic mirror photo booth and a disco. All proceeds from the auctions and the raffle will go to the Srey Hang project.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

The Board of Trustees

At the trustees' board meeting following the AGM, Geoff Adams-Spink was elected as Chair, Stewart Lee as Vice Chair and Kath West as Line Manager to the Secretary.

In January 2018, trustee Marie Pearse resigned and at the 2018 AGM Louise Medus-Mansell retired from the board. Brian Payne was elected as a retiring trustee; Wendy Stubbings and Kath West were elected as trustees after having been previously co-opted. Cas Bulmer and Guy Tweedy were elected as new trustees and Tom Yendell was co-opted to the board.

The Governance Subcommittee, chaired by Kath West, met on several occasions throughout the year to compile an up to date version of the Trustee Handbook, now renamed the Trustee Reference Book. The committee also worked on updating the Society's grant scheme and on re-writing the Society's aims and objectives for the updated Constitution.

At the end of August 2018, Honorary Treasurer Anthony McGarel-Groves retired following many years' service to the Society. Trustee and Chair of Finance, Brian Payne, took over the role of treasurer temporarily throughout September until Jennifer Tunbridge was appointed as the new Honorary Treasurer in October 2018. Vice Chair Stewart Lee resigned from the Board in October 2018.

In October 2018, the Society had an extended Board of Trustees meeting over two days at NCVO in London. At this meeting, Kath West was voted in as Vice Chair and Jennifer Tunbridge was welcomed to the Board as the Society's new Honorary Treasurer. As well as the usual Society business and plans for the 2019 AGM and Conference, trustees discussed the new Reference Book, had some safeguarding training, started to make plans for the 60th anniversary celebration in 2022 and discussed scenarios for the future of the Society.

In May 2018 the Society had applied for Heritage Lottery funding to run an oral history project with thalidomide survivors. The project aim is to train thalidomide survivors to do the interviews and to complete 46 interviews by April 2021. The Society was awarded the full amount requested and the project began officially in October 2018.

The Society's Parents' Oral History Project has continued, with three new interviews completed over the year. Also special interviews were undertaken with some thalidomide survivors and others whose testimonies we wished to capture.

The Society's website has begun to run a series of 'blog' posts written by the trustees. These are shared on the Facebook page and by Twitter and are received favourably by Society members as a way of getting to know more about the trustees.

Former trustee Marie Pearse has continued to run the successful Lottery project throughout the year.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

Financial Review

Jennifer Tunbridge was appointed as the new Honorary Treasurer in October 2018.

Restricted Funds

The restricted funds are held in a separate bank account:

These funds are generated from several sources and are restricted for specific projects. These are:

Support for Srey Hang

Funds are generated from the Society's raffle and auctions at the AGM, as well as from occasional separate private bequests.

Oral History Project: Thalidomide Stories

In July 2018 the Society was granted £96,935 of Heritage Lottery funding for Thalidomide Stories: An Oral History of Thalidomide Survivors. The funds will be used solely for this project and so far £49,300 has been transferred to the Restricted account.

Oral History Project: Parents' Oral History

Funds generated from private bequests, net receipts from the Thalidomide Society Lottery, specific gifts from members and the sale of Society badges are used to support the Society's Parents' Oral History Project. Occasionally funds here may be used to fund an interview with a thalidomide survivor or someone involved in the thalidomide community when it is needed for a specific talk or presentation on behalf of the Society.

Unrestricted Funds

The Society generates most of its unrestricted funds from its investment portfolio and uses this income to cover all charitable activities and governance costs.

Investment Policy and Performance

During the period the Society realised £24,462 from its investment portfolio. At the year end the balance of the Society's investment portfolio was valued at £525,840 (2017: £592,740) and generated income of £14,467 (2017: £21,135). The Finance Committee actively monitors these investments.

Reserves Policy

Apart from the Restricted Funds, all reserves available for use by the Society are unrestricted and can be used for the Society in accordance with its charitable activities. The Trustees are aware the Society depends upon the income from its investments to fund its core activities and recognise the need to source other income to embark on any major projects.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

Future Development

The Society aims to continue with archival digitisation work to protect its heritage and enhance the website content. We will also to continue with the production of trustee and member blog posts.

The HLF-funded oral history project will be a strong focus for the next two years, with presentations and updates made to members at the 2019 and 2020 AGMs. The Society will continue to support Srey Hang, will implement its new grant scheme and continue with the conversion from Company Limited by Guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



Geoff Adams-Spink, Chair - Trustee

Date: 21-2-19

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.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
00770036 England and Wales

Registered Charity number
231708

Registered Office
29 Weymouth House
Hill House Mews
Bromley
BR2 0DD

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

Trustees

G Adams-Spink (Chair)
C Bulmer (appointed April 2018)
M Hogg
S Lee (Vice Chair) (resigned October 2018)
L Medus-Mansell (retired April 2018)
B Payne
M Pearce (resigned January 2018)
W Stubbings (appointed April 2018)
G Tweedy (appointed April 2018)
K West (Vice Chair) (appointed April 2018)
T Yendell (co-opted April 2018)

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 (resigned August 2018)
J Tunbridge (appointed October 2018)

Approved by the order of the Board of Trustees on 21 February 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

G Adams-Spink – Trustee

THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

	Unrestrict ed funds £	Restricted fund £	Year Ended 31.10.18 Total funds £	Year Ended 31.10.17 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	-	57,391	57,391	558
Charitable activities				
Restricted projects	-	1,351	1,351	10342
Unrestricted	19,055	-	19,055	339
Investment income	<u>14,496</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,496</u>	<u>21,265</u>
Total	33,551	58,742	92,293	32,504
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	835	4,646	5,481	885
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted	60,722	-	60,722	21,067
Other	<u>132</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>18,289</u>
Total	61,689	4,650	66,339	40,241
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(28,138)	54,092	25,954	(7,737)
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	<u>(42,065)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(42,065)</u>	<u>60,829</u>
Net movement in funds	(70,203)	54,092	(16,111)	53,092
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	621,623	7,476	629,099	576,007
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>551,420</u>	<u>61,568</u>	<u>612,988</u>	<u>629,099</u>

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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**BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 OCTOBER 2018**

	Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted fund	31.10.18 Total funds	31.10.17 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Investments	525,840	-	525,840	592,740
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank	27,881	61,568	89,449	37,779
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	(2,301)	-	(2,301)	(1,420)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>25,580</u>	<u>61,568</u>	<u>87,148</u>	<u>36,359</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>551,420</u>	<u>61,568</u>	<u>612,988</u>	<u>629,099</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>551,420</u>	<u>61,568</u>	<u>612,988</u>	<u>629,099</u>
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds:				
General fund			551,420	618,227
Restricted funds:				
Restricted Projects			<u>61,568</u>	<u>10,872</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			612,988	629,099

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 OCTOBER 2018**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 31 October 2018.

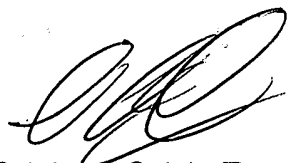
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 31 October 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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 charitable small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 February 2019 and were signed on its behalf by:



G Adams-Spink -Trustee

**THE THALIDOMIDE SOCIETY
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**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES,
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018**

	Year Ended 31.10.18 £	Year Ended 31.10.17 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Subscriptions	-	558
Investment income		
Investment income - listed	14,467	21,244
Deposit account interest	<u>29</u>	<u>21</u>
	14,496	21,265
Charitable activities		
Restricted projects	58,742	10,342
Unrestricted Income	<u>19,055</u>	<u>339</u>
	77,797	10,681
Total incoming resources	92,293	32,504
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Portfolio management	835	885
Charitable activities		
Insurance	254	250
Other		
Wages	21,539	18,289
Support costs		
Management		
Telephone	751	1,025
Restricted Project costs	<u>4,646</u>	<u>28</u>
Carried forward	5,397	1,053

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DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2018

	Year ended 31.10.18 £	Year Ended 31.10.17 £
Management		
Brought forward	5,397	1,053
Conference & Trustee Meetings	27,831	12,334
Travel Expenses	<u>1,151</u>	<u>1,870</u>
	34,379	15,257
Information technology		
Sundries	-	25
Printing	659	1,021
Computer costs	<u>4,450</u>	<u>647</u>
	5,109	1,693
Other		
Training & maintenance	513	1,535
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>3,710</u>	<u>2,332</u>
Total resources expended	<u>66,339</u>	<u>40,241</u>
Net expenditure before gains and losses	25,954	(7,737)
Realised recognised gains and losses		
Gains & Losses on Revaluation of Fixed Assets for the charity's own use	(42,065)	60,829
Net loss/income	<u>(16,111)</u>	<u>53,092</u>