

# St Mark Universal Copts Care

Report & Accounts  
2019/20



*Give health, give life, give hope*





OF OUR LORD 2019

Monday 25 May

ope Tawadros II

Alexandria

See of St Mark

- Church

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## Chairman's Report

As ever, it has been a privilege to serve St Mark Universal Care as Chair over the past year, and witness the flourishing programme of events and projected supported by the charity, both in the UK and overseas.

There have been a number of landmark achievements, as we laid the foundation stone for a new teaching hospital in Cairo and signed a partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons who will provide global leading medical training for the new Kimi Hospital and Training Academy.

This hugely exciting project promises to contribute vital skills in a state-of-the-art setting as part of our commitment to supporting healthcare projects that will help transform the delivery of medicine in the Middle East.

Alongside this, we have seen significant developments in the UK following the purchase of our new base in Werneth Grange. We were delighted to welcome the Coptic Orthodox Pope, His Holiness Pope Tawadros II during the year, when he officially unveiled the site as a Papal Residence and vital Youth Centre for the charity.

This stunning heritage building has since provided the base for a number of youth engagement events and projects over the past year, and it has been wonderful to open up enjoyment of this inspirational setting to the wider community.

We are grateful to the SUEZ Communities Trust and Kinex Community Support Scheme for the award of significant grants which have helped us provide greater outdoor facilities at Werneth Grange, including a sympathetically designed play area for the enjoyment of local children and a bouncy castle for use at youth events.

Thanks also to St. James's Place Wealth Management Group, whose Charitable Foundation awarded a grant towards St Mark's healthcare projects. We are hugely grateful for this significant support, which is helping us making a positive impact on healthcare outcomes for the communities we serve.

Of course, the last quarter of this period was overshadowed by the onset of the global novel coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic, which continues to challenge businesses, charities and individuals around the world.

So far, we have sustained all our overseas programmes, albeit construction schedules for new medical facilities have seen delays. In the UK, events have necessarily been paused and we have used this time to prepare for new youth services to launch in 2021.

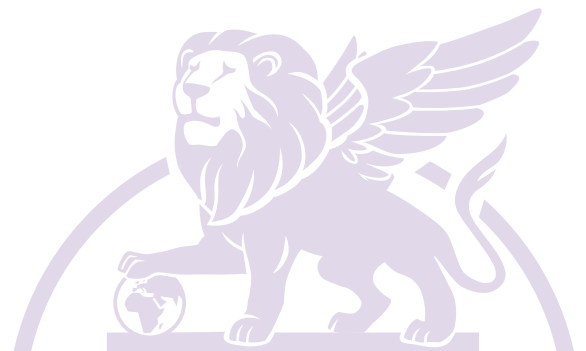
In the meantime, we have continued to fund a range of vital education and healthcare services, in particular funding medications and operations, including providing over 17,000 prescriptions to

support people living with chronic illness, who need our help now more than ever.

Thank you to all our supporters who make our work possible. You are helping to transform lives for some of the Middle East's most impoverished communities and, as well as assuring their physical wellbeing, enabling people to live with dignity and self-esteem.



Dr Naser Fouad  
*Chair of St Mark Universal Care and  
Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire*



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## Mission

**St Mark Universal Care is a UK based charity with a strong track record in helping to transform healthcare and wellbeing outcomes in the communities where we operate. These include projects overseas and in the UK, in Oldham and Warrington.**

The charity supports disadvantaged people in all the work it undertakes and ensures that our services are there for all, regardless of any characteristic.

Overseas, our primary focus is on improving access to high quality healthcare in Egypt and the Middle East.

By combating disease, we recognise the fundamental link between good health and people's ability to work and generate income.

In the UK, we also work in partnership with other community groups to provide health and wellbeing benefits.

We have bases in Warrington and Oldham, where we operate the St Mark Youth Centre from our fundraising base in Werneth Grange. This heritage building also enables us to provide a range of spaces and opportunities to the local community.

In short, we exist to further the following charitable objects.

1. The relief of need and the advancement of health and education worldwide for the public benefit
2. The advancement of heritage, through securing the future of our listed heritage building and youth centre, Werneth Grange

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## Our values

***Excellence  
in services***

***Respect, dignity  
and compassion***

***Collaboration and  
sustainability***

### Governance

*St Mark Universal Care is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, updated 28 October 2019. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission on 23 January 2014. The charity is governed by a board of trustees, responsible for setting the strategic direction and policies of the organisation and ensuring it meets its legal and contractual obligations. Its trustees are Dr Naser Fouad (Chairman), Mrs Hala Elnarshy-Fouad (Treasurer), Paolo Baskharoun, Mariam Ibraheim, Shery Ibraheim, Maha Hamer and Dr Lourence Lewis-Hanna.*

### Auditing

*All our programmes are audited on a monthly basis to ensure money is invested as pledged, that projects are managed efficiently and that medicines are reaching people in line with our commitments to fulfil prescriptions.*

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## Overseas Aid

### My Health Programme, Egypt

St Mark continues to support the 'My Health' (Sehaty) Programme, targeting the construction and fit-out of four international hospitals and three healthcare centres in Egypt to provide a range of healthcare services according to local needs.

The Qous international hospital is well underway, with the main building work set to complete in spring 2022. Procurement and fit-out of furniture and equipment will follow, with opening targeted by the end of the year.



### Kimi Academy and Hospital, Cairo

The purchase of the land was completed in August 2019 and the foundation stone laid for the new teaching hospital, which is now under construction.

The building of the medical training academy is already complete and fully kitted out.

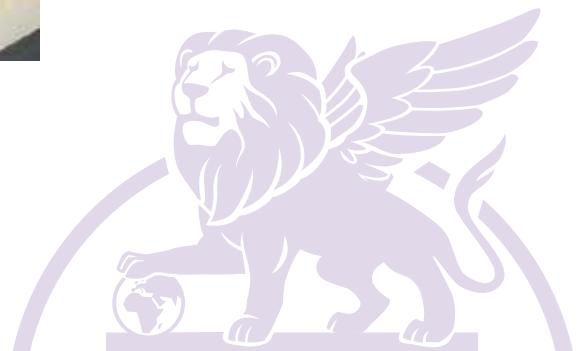
In November 2019, a collaboration was signed with the Royal College of Surgeons, who will provide training to medical students of the Kimi Academy when it opens in January 2021, subject to regulatory approval.

The construction timetable for the hospital has been impacted by Covid-19 related delays, and is now expected to open in 2023.



### Education support

In addition to vital healthcare projects, the charity has supported projects to widen access to education, supporting families in deprived areas to be able to afford uniforms and stationery supplies to enable their children to attend primary and secondary schools.



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## Overseas Aid

### Medication Programme

St Mark Universal Care has continued to provide essential medication to people with chronic diseases, who would otherwise be unable to afford their prescriptions.

By bulk buying medication, the charity is able to secure a significantly discounted rate, enabling it to aid more individuals in need.



### Changing lives

These figures translate to transforming the lives of around 1,500 people living in deprived communities, who would otherwise be unable to access the regular medication needed to enable them to manage chronic health conditions, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart and kidney disease.

Through St Mark Universal Care's medication programme, they are able to obtain timely access to the drugs they need to sustain quality of life and enable them to provide practical and emotional support to their families.

In addition, the charity has funded a range of life changing medical operations for over 65 individuals.

### Impact in numbers

17,842

Total number of prescriptions dispensed

67

Total number of operations

### In detail:

Gynaecology

4

General Surgery

49

ENT (Ear, nose & throat)

4

Orthopaedic

10



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# Werneth Grange & St Mark Youth Centre

## Official opening by His Holiness Pope Tawardos II

In April 2019, the charity launched its youth events programme at Werneth Grange, following the purchase of the heritage building at the end of the previous year.

This was marked by an inaugural visit from the Coptic (Egyptian) Orthodox Pope, His Holiness Pope Tawadros II in May 2019, when he formally designated the building as a Coptic Papal Residence and St Mark Youth Centre.

For this very special occasion, we were delighted to welcome The Lord Lieutenant of Manchester, Sir Warren Smith; the Worshipful Mayor of Oldham, Councillor Ginny Alexander; the first Coptic Archbishop of London, His Eminence, Archbishop Angaelos; and His Grace, Bishop Missael; as well as welcoming back a number of sisters of The Convent of Mercy previously resident at Werneth Grange.

Providing a community and youth centre for the people of Oldham, as well as a

base for charity events and fundraising activities, Werneth Grange has enjoyed a revival at the heart of the community over the past year.

Events ranged from animal therapy sessions to spiritual days and summer barbecues to winter balls, while spaces within the building have also been opened up to the local community through clothing sales and community hire, providing a new base in the local area.

The charity has also continued to invest in a renovation programme, including restoring the formal lounges within the oldest parts of the listed building. A number of grant applications were also secured to improve the grounds of the building and create a playground for children of the local community (see page nine).



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# Phoenix Project

## Providing vital equipment for people with disabilities

St Mark Universal Care continued to work in conjunction with the Warrington Disability Partnership to recycle used disability equipment, such as wheelchairs and hoists, refurbishing these to 'as new' condition and providing vital living aids to disadvantaged communities overseas.

These included items, such as wheelchairs, walkers, hoists, medical beds and chairs, zimmer frames and specialist mattresses, originally donated in the UK by individuals, families, other charities, schools, national suppliers, community home loan stores, hospitals, nursing and residential homes.

Over **3,000** items  
of equipment,  
worth **£212,609**  
were refurbished  
and provided to  
Syrian refugees living  
in camps in Syria, Turkey  
and Greece.

As well as the life-changing impact for people with disabilities overseas, the Phoenix Project also creates employment for people with disabilities in Warrington, and recycles equipment that would otherwise have been destined for landfill.

Over the past year, the project has also supported the donation of clothing and shoes to Syrian refugee camps, working in partnership with the Warrington based charity, Care UK.





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## Grants & fundraising

### Unveiling our new playground, courtesy of the SUEZ Communities Trust

We were delighted to be awarded a grant of £28,120 from the SUEZ Communities Trust to fund the installation of a new playground for the enjoyment of local children and those attending events at Werneth Grange.

The SUEZ Communities Trust supports community and environmental projects, with a focus on those that achieve lasting physical improvements.

Following the award of the monies, the project has been completed and we

look forward to organising an official launch of the facility in 2021, as soon as Covid-19 restrictions permit.

#### Donations thanks

In further grants made during the year, St. James's Place Charitable Foundation



awarded £2000 to support our healthcare projects, while the Kinex Community Support Scheme provided a grant of



£500 to fund a bouncy castle for use at youth events.

We are enormously grateful to SUEZ Communities Trust, St James's Place Charitable Foundation and Kinex for their support.

Finally, we would like to thank the Hollyoaks Production team for their very tasty cake sale, held in aid of St Mark's Universal Care in August 2019 – thank you guys for adding a touch of celebrity to our year!





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# Volunteering

## Youth in action

This year, the charity once again ran two volunteering trips to Egypt in August and December 2019. The summer project was based in Naqada, Upper Egypt, and saw around 20 students support an English teaching programme to children from deprived families over a number of weeks.

The winter project funded Christmas gifts and events for 375 children in Cairo orphanages, with volunteers wrapping gift parcels and organising a memorable gala event, hosted at the Coptic cathedral in the capital.

In the UK, volunteers provided over 500 hours of support, including facilitating regular youth events and fundraising initiatives organised at Werneth Grange, from summer barbecues to animal therapy sessions, clothing sales to a Christmas black tie event, and spiritual retreats.

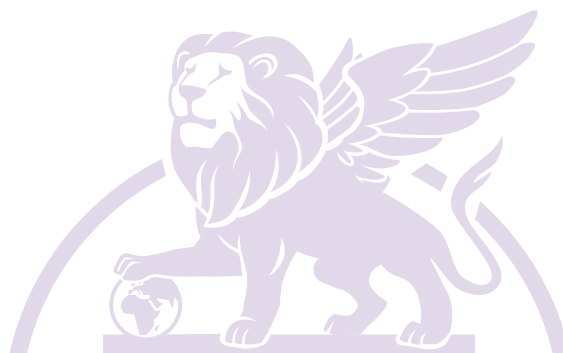




# Accounts

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations and legacies	908,328	2,502,550
Income from other trading activities		
- Fundraising and events	39,957	9,857
- Rental income	1,880	8,610
<b>Total income</b>	<b>950,165</b>	<b>2,521,017</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
- Overseas aid	-	(26,571)
- Kimi Project	-	1,314,674
- Education centre	-	80,000
- Medical treatment costs	268,561	269,080
- Healthcare projects	6,000	122,000
- Phoenix project & Clothes for Syrian Refugees	-	207,239
- UK charitable contributions - Phoenix Project	53,054	36,278
- Coptic Orthodox Church	1,702	435
- The Coptic Orthodox Church Centre UK, Stevenage	-	6,912
- Wages & salaries	79,543	30,851
- Operating costs	175,986	60,447
- Governance costs	8,749	10,886
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>593,595</b>	<b>2,112,231</b>
<b>Net income (expenditure) and movement in funds</b>	<b>356,570</b>	<b>408,786</b>
Fund balance at 1 April 2019	411,813	3,027
<b>Fund balance at 31 March 2020</b>	<b>768,383</b>	<b>411,813</b>





[www.stmarkuniversalcare.org](http://www.stmarkuniversalcare.org)

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