

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2021

Registered Charity No. 1109593

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Oversight of the charity is in the hands of Trustees who met on three occasions during the year. Due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic it was necessary to hold all meetings on-line via video conferencing.

Policy is set and implemented by the Trustees.

New Trustees are provided with a trustee file, which includes a copy of the governing document, a copy of the latest annual return and a copy of CC3 'The Essential Trustee' published by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees are committed to developing a programme of trustee in-service training and can attend relevant training courses.

The Trustees regularly examine the major strategic, business and operational risks that the Charity faces and have taken any actions necessary to reduce these risks to an acceptable level.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the Roman Catholic Religion by advancing the pastoral and social work of the Ethiopian Catholic Church, and to advance the education of children in Ethiopia, regardless of ethnicity or religion, through the support of schools run by the Ethiopian Catholic Church.

The addition of the second objective, which was agreed in May 2016 with the consent of the Charity Commission, recognises that a significant proportion of donors are not members of the Catholic Church but recognise the value of, and wish to support, the educational work undertaken by the Church.

The Charity's current priority is to maintain and increase the support given to the four schools with which the Charity works:

- The Blessed G Michael School at Bahir Dar, run by the Daughters of the Charity of St Vincent de Paul.
- The Lord Jesus Catholic School, Zizencho, in the Eparchy (Diocese) of Erndibir, run by the Bethany Sisters.
- The St Peter and Paul School in Zalambessa, in the Eparchy of Adigrat, run by the St Lucy Filippini Sisters.
- The Holy Saviour Kindergarten School in Dawhan, in the Eparchy of Adigrat, run by the Sisters of St Louis.

The Charity carries out internal reviews and when necessary will appoint professional advisors to carry out the charity's strategies.

The significant activity of the Charity during the year was to continue to find ways to increase the awareness of the Charity and therefore increase donations to support its objectives.

The long term strategy of the Charity is to maintain close personal links with the principals of the supported schools and the bishops of the respective Eparchies (the Eparchs) in order to ensure that the giving of grants continues to support the priority needs of the schools.

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

How our Activities and Achievements deliver Public Benefit

The benefit that a small charity provides for the education of children in Ethiopia is substantial. Two thirds of children in that country are not able to attend school; in rural communities places have to be rationed and allocated to ensure that the benefits of education are spread as widely and effectively across the community. The Catholic Church in Ethiopia provides a high quality education in much smaller classes than can be offered by the Government schools which themselves are unable to cover all areas of the Country, and does not have any kindergarten programme. The pupil population is made up of approximately equal numbers of boys and girls, and the education is offered to children irrespective of religious background.

There are around 2000 pupils at the four schools supported by the Trust. The annual cost of educating a child varies from school to school, but £100 is still enough to cover the cost of salaries, teaching materials, uniforms and food for a single student; inflation in Ethiopia remains high and the exchange rate of the Ethiopian Birr has weakened against the pound, which increases the value of our donations. The charity is now providing full support to the equivalent of some 300 children; in reality, the number of children supported is much greater as the principals of the schools are able to allocate our funding according to individual needs. One of the aspects that makes support from the Jean Grove Trust particularly welcome is that our grants are given without conditions, and are available to cover operating expenditure, especially teachers' salaries. All of the schools tell us that that is their greatest challenge.

The situation in Ethiopia has changed dramatically in 2020, firstly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and secondly due to the outbreak of civil war and wider ethnic conflict affecting the northern part of the country, especially the Tigray region, where two of our schools are located. Initially the children were kept away from school across the country due to the pandemic. In October 2020 most children returned, but the Tigray region was excluded from this. Shortly afterwards the Ethiopian Government commenced military action against the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and all communications were shut down with the region. There have been many reports of atrocities being committed, including widespread rape of women and murder of school age boys, and there are rising concerns about famine in the area.

Through the good offices of the Sisters of St Louis, we received a report from the **Holy Saviour Kindergarten School at Dawhan** in May 2021. Fearing for their safety, the sisters had fled the town on 16th November 2020 and sought refuge initially in Adigrat, and subsequently returned to their native countries. They returned to Ethiopia in early April 2021 and then travelled back to Dawhan, where they found that, mercifully, the school was intact and had suffered only minor looting. The school, which had registered 109 children for the year, including 36 new entrants, remains closed with no indication of when it will reopen. The school relies on donations from the Trust to pay salaries, and with the Banks closed for several months, and then only able to re-open under severe restrictions, there was the prospect of severe hardship amongst the staff. Accordingly, the Trustees felt able to send the Trust's annual donation via the Sisters of St Louis office in Dublin, in the expectation that the money would be used to pay staff at the earliest possible opportunity.

On a positive note, we are pleased to report that the projects to complete the playground wall/fence and new drinking water storage tank, funded from our donation last year, were completed in October 2020, with great benefit to the safety of the children.

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Sr. Maureen Long'ep, the School Administrator wrote in her report: *In the midst of this pain and suffering, the Sisters, the Holy Saviour Kindergarten staff and children, and the larger community of Dawhan send our warmest appreciation to you Jean Grove Trust for what you have been to the school, the children, the teachers, the parents, and the entire Dawhan people at this time. We are so grateful for the prayers, good wishes and considerable financial support for teachers' salaries and other projects that give the school a befitting look during this time of destruction that helps to engender a sense of dignity and pride in the town. May the Lord the generous God continue to bless and provide for you and your families.*

We have received no further news since the TPLF regained control of Tigray at the end of June 2021.

Worryingly, we have been unable to make contact with Bishop Tesfaselassie in Adigrat, or the Religious Sisters Filippini who run the **St Peter and Paul school in Zalambessa**. In the absence of any information as to conditions on the ground, the Trustees felt unable to send the Trust's annual donation to this school. Anticipating that, when conditions begin to improve, the need will be very great, we have held the donation in reserves with the intention that it will be paid out as soon as we are able to be confident that it can be used as intended.

The city of Bahir Dar, where we have long supported the **Blessed G Michael School** run by the Daughters of Charity, is the capital of the Amhara region of Ethiopia. The region is suffering both from the consequences of the conflict in Tigray, which has led to ethnic conflict between the Amhara people and the Tigrayans to the west, and from separate conflicts in the eastern part of the region between Amhara, Gumuz and Oromo peoples. Happily, the school and the banking system are operating, and we have received confirmation from Bishop Lesanu-Christos that our annual donation has been received with great gratitude.

The region of Guraghe, in which the fourth of our schools, **The Lord Jesus Catholic School at Zizencho**, is situated, is over 600 miles from the areas in conflict and has been relatively unaffected. It has also been spared the worst of the COVID-19 epidemic. The school, which was established with a single kindergarten class, now goes up to grade 8, and has 548 children on site with new classrooms, a dining hall, a library and a laboratory. 80% of the children come from poor families. The schooling is offered free of charge and remains extremely oversubscribed; places are awarded on a 'first come first served' basis. Malnutrition is general and the midday meal given by the school is much prized by its recipients. The Trust's annual donation covers over 25% of the entire cost of the school.

We received the usual annual report from the Bethany Sisters who run the school, in August, at which point the sisters were preparing for the new school year. There is rising pressure on staff salaries as the Government is mandating substantial increases for teachers. The sisters write:

Bethany sisters, staffs and students, we are so grateful for the generous contribution. Our good friends gave help for the students and society. Some people make the world brighter, just by being in it. We are proud to say you are among them. Thank-you so much from the bottom of our heart.

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Year

Fundraising during the year has been severely constrained due to the restrictions in place in response to the global pandemic. As a result, and excluding the impact of a 'one-off' legacy of £12,000 in the previous year, total income raised from donations fell from £35,192 to £28,026. Most of this arises from a fall in 'one-off' donations; the Trustees have been immensely grateful to the regular supporters who have mostly been happy to continue their support. Regular donations are a little lower than in the previous year and now stand at around £22,300 per annum (including gift aid).

The Trustees have considered it prudent to make a small reduction in the amount of the annual grants in line with the reserves policy. Given the strength of the reserves at the beginning of the year, the Trustees felt it important to avoid a drastic reduction in funding in view of the very difficult circumstances facing Ethiopia at this time. Although the 'cash accounts' show a surplus of income over expenditure of £2,279 this is before taking account of the deferred grant to the St Peter and Paul School in Zalambessa. Had this grant been paid during the year as usual, there would have been a deficit for the year of £8,171.

Grant Making Policy

The policy of the Charity is to sustain and, where possible, grow regular annual support to schools to cover the costs of education, on the understanding that regular progress reports are received. These awards are considered each year at a full meeting of the Trustees. Applications for other 'one off' grants made under the policies of the Charity are assessed and recommendations considered at a full meeting of the Trustees. Follow up action is taken by the Treasurer.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover two years' committed expenditure, after allowing for regular committed income. Unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2021, amounted to £31,006 (2020: £28,727), which figure is artificially high as a result of the Trustees' decision not to send funds to Zalambessa until satisfactory communications are re-established. Had this payment been made as planned, reserves would have fallen by approximately £8,000, to £20,556. The Trustees are aware that it will be necessary to further reduce grants next year if fund-raising remains constrained.

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021****RISKS FACED BY THE CHARITY**

The Trustees have identified two significant risks faced by the Charity. These are:

- That the money sent to the schools is diverted or not used for its intended purpose. This is mitigated by Trustee visits, by the financial reports that the schools send, and by communication at the time of transfer that the money has been safely received.
- That the Trust fails to raise enough money to cover annual commitments. The reserve policy is designed to mitigate against this.

The Trustees are confident that the Charity has the resources available to it to continue as a going concern. The Trust has no employees and no remuneration is paid to members or Trustees for their work.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

1. To increase awareness of the Charity to donors and to undertake further fundraising activities.
2. To continue to monitor the existing projects and to increase awareness of the Charity in the area of benefit and increase grant giving.
3. Maintain and strengthen links with schools and other funding bodies and individuals.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

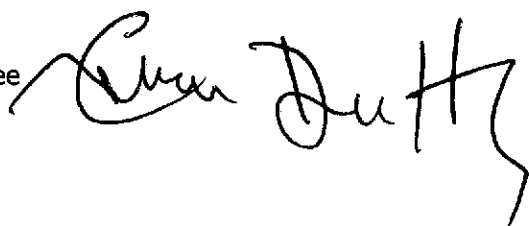
Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee



Date

11th October 2021

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE JEAN GROVE TRUST**

I report on the accounts of the Jean Grove Trust, charity number 1109593, for the year ended 31st March 2021, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and related notes.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). Under section 145(1) of the Act, the accounts of this charity must either be audited by a person as specified in section 144(2) of the Act, or examined by an independent examiner, at your election.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act, and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

The examination 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 statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination, and I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with these records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



26TH NOVEMBER 2021

Ashleigh Bridges
1 Dalton Square
Cambridge
CB4 1QJ

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

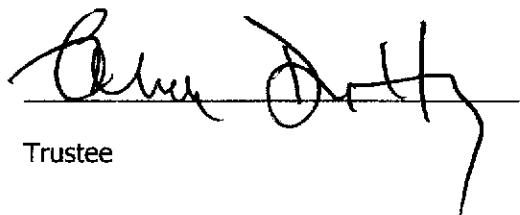
	Notes	2021 £	Unrestricted 2020 £
INCOME FROM			
Grants and Donations	2	28,026	47,192
Investments		11	61
Other Trading Activities		710	1,354
Other Income	5	-	24
Total Income		28,747	48,631
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Raising Funds		280	303
Charitable Activities	3	26,188	45,713
Total Expenditure		26,468	46,016
Net Income and Net Movement in Funds		2,279	2,615
Funds Brought Forward		28,727	26,112
Funds Carried Forward		£31,006	£28,727

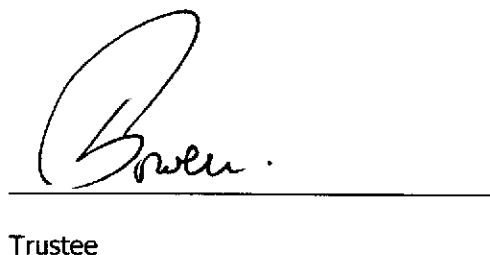
None of the Charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST**BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at Bank and in Hand	5	31,006	28,703
Debtors	5		24
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>£31,006</u>	<u>£28,727</u>
INCOME FUND			
Unrestricted General Fund		31,006	28,727
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>£31,006</u>	<u>£28,727</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 11th October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Trustee


Trustee

THE JEAN GROVE TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 July 2015) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

(c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

(d) Grants

Grants payable are charged in the year in which the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Gift Aid is accounted for when received.

(e) Cashflow Statement

The Charity has taken the exemption available under the SORP and has not produced a cash flow statement.

(f) Fund Accounting

The unrestricted funds may be used by the Charity in furtherance of its charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

(g) Value Added Tax

The Charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly where applicable, all expenditure incurred is inclusive of VAT.