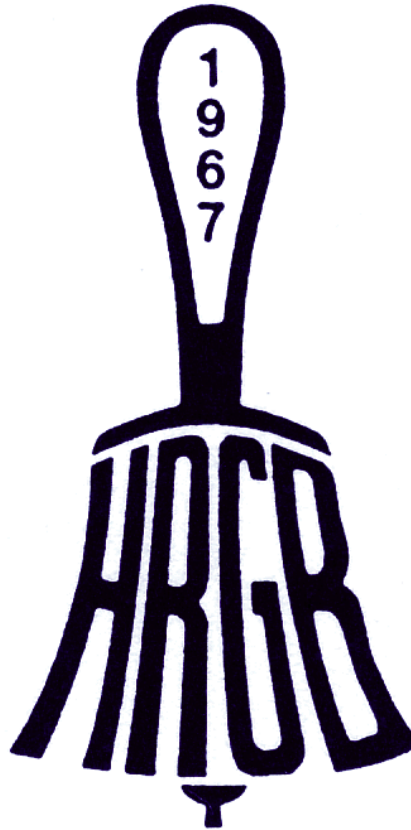


Handbell Ringers of Great Britain

Registered Charity Numbers

298945 (England and Wales) and SC038918 (Scotland)



Report and Consolidated Financial
Statements

Year ended 31st December 2023

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HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Reference and Administrative Information

National Chair

Mr Tim Willetts (retired 15/04/2023)
Oak Cottages
4 Oak Lane
Woking
Surrey
GU22 8BX

Mr Keith Rowland (elected 15/04/2023)
50 Star Lane
Ash
Aldershot
GU12 6RH

Telephone: 01483 760746
Email: tim@hrgb.org.uk

Telephone: 07912 352634
Email: keith@acorncottage.org.uk

NEC Secretary

Judy Gees (up to 30/06/2023)

NEC, AGM & Diary Secretary

Judy Gees (effective 01/07/2023)

AGM & Diary Secretary

Kate Worthington (up to 30/06/2023)

International Secretary

Jacky Cooper (up to 30/06/2023)

International Liaison Officer

Jacky Cooper (effective 01/07/2023)

Correspondence Secretary

Sandra Winter

Independent Examiner

Robert Whowell & Partners LLP

National Website

www.hrgb.org.uk & www.handbells.org.uk

Principal Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4JQ

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

Charity Trustees

National Officers

Mr Tim Willetts - Chair Retired 15/04/2023
Mr Keith Rowland – Chair Elected 15/04/2023
*Position Vacant - Secretary ***
Mr Anthony Hayes - Treasurer
Mrs Diane Holt - Membership Secretary

Executive Committee

Patron, WHMF

Dr Alan Hartley

North East Region (NE)

Mr Anthony John Atkinson
Mrs Sheila Christine Lazenby

Scotland Region (SC)

Mr John Elcock *
Ms Laura Buist *

East Midlands Region (EM)

Mrs Judy Gees
Mr Michael Johnson Retired 29/04/2023
Ms Nicola Wright Elected 29/04/2023, Resigned
18/12/2023

North West Region (NW)

Miss Elizabeth McCord
Ms Kate Worthington

East Anglia Region (EA)

Mrs Linda McCord
Mr Keith Meader Retired 23/03/2023
Mr John Thompson Elected 23/03/2023

West Midlands Region (WM)

Mr David Hampson
Miss Coralie Paxton Resigned 08/06/2023

South East Region (SE)

Mrs Gay Cooper
Mr Alan Cooper

South West Region (SW)

Mrs Veronica Jane Willis BEM
Mr Edwin John Willis BEM

* resident in Scotland

** The position of National Secretary is currently vacant, but has (for the interim) been split into the roles of NEC Secretary, AGM Secretary, Diary Secretary, International Secretary and Correspondence Secretary (either singular or combined). These specific positions are non-Trustee bearing (unless the person currently holds a Trustee state due to also being a Regional Representative).

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

Handbell Ringers of Great Britain (HRGB) is a Registered Charity and an unincorporated Society founded in 1967 and is the major organisation in the United Kingdom dedicated to the promotion of handbell tune ringing. It is governed by its rules which were last amended on 17th April 2010. The Trustees are pleased to report that for the year ending 31st December 2023 the Society remained financially sound, assisted by a financial rebate under the Gift Aid Scheme and prudent control of expenditure. The Trustees, mindful of the fact that the level of the Gift Aid rebate reduced in 2012 and the increased costs of running the organisation, last proposed an increase in the annual membership fees from 1st January 2013, which was agreed at the AGM in 2012.

The Charity continues to work in line with its objective: 'To advance, provide and encourage for the public benefit, the art of handbell tune ringing in all its forms.' Conformity with this objective is achieved across the country, including Scotland, through workshops, residential courses, concerts and handbell rallies organised by members for the benefit of members and the general public.

HRGB Promotions Limited is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England (company number 2128737) and a registered charity (number 800808). The company is controlled by two Directors who by virtue of its Articles of Association would normally be the four Officer roles of HRGB. Accordingly, the company is deemed to be a subsidiary of the Society within the context of Financial Reporting Standard and its results have been consolidated into the Charity's accounts. The subsidiary's aims and objectives are: 'To promote, encourage and educate the general public in the ancient art of handbell tune ringing.' In particular the company manages the finances relating to the attendance of UK ringers at International Handbell Symposia which are held every two years.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and Performance

2023 has been a year of consolidation. Groups throughout the UK continue to recover and restart their music programmes. There has been a growing number of national and regional events, increasing in number as the year has progressed. Most handbell groups have returned to their pre-Covid practice and concert arrangements, although, sadly, the membership of some groups has been affected by the pandemic.

Overall, the Society's membership numbers are lower than in 2023, and the importance of regaining members remains a priority, so that the Society can maintain its programme of activities.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

Some new practices, established during 2020, have been maintained because they are beneficial to the Society. Prominent amongst these are the use of video-conferencing technology to run both national and regional committee meetings and webinars. The advantage of the former is that committee members do not have to travel long distances from around the country to one location, with a reduction in our carbon footprint and our expense payments. The advantage of the latter is similar - members who live long distances from the venues for events can still engage with other members and develop their knowledge and skills. It will be important to continue to develop this use of technology to enable, for example, the live streaming of concerts, so that more members of the public have access to handbell events and are thereby encouraged to attend a live event.

The Charity's positive developments during 2023 include:-

- The National Rally (annual national residential ringing weekend) in Scotland was well-attended and much enjoyed by the participants.
- The Team Leaders' / Musical Directors' Seminar Weekend (biennial event established in 2018 whose aim is to raise the standard of conducting and level of skills and knowledge about team leadership) is to be resurrected in 2024.
- The National Residential Ringing Week (a biennial event) attracted a record number of delegates this year. Sheffield University has proved to be an excellent venue for this event. As usual, 2 overseas conductors led the music making.
- It is apparent that members are reluctant to undertake lengthy journeys to attend rallies, so regional committees will be planning smaller, more intimate events to reduce travel time especially in inclement times of the year.
- A subgroup of the National Executive Committee has successfully undertaken an extensive selection process and identified the venue for the next International Handbell Symposium to be hosted in Britain – in 2026.
- Broxbourne Handbell Ringers took part in a public Christmas Carol Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in December 2022.
- The HRGB Archivist has successfully concluded arrangements with the Archivist at Heritage Quay at the University of Huddersfield, and Heritage Quay now houses the HRGB Archive, making it accessible to the public. An Open day was held displaying some of the more important memorabilia held there.
- Trustees have approved minor changes to the HRGB Rules designed to remove gender specificity.
- This year has seen an increase in the number of requests we have received to entertain other members of the general public over the Christmas period.
- The mutually supportive link with Northumbria University – the first University in the UK to establish a handbell group – continues to provide a template for the future. Several universities in other countries – for example, the USA and Japan – have handbell groups, and many music teachers leaving these universities are knowledgeable and skilled in the art of handbell ringing. This important work continued in 2023 and we hope to find new opportunities in other UK universities.
- Bell orchestras are now widely back in action. These events provide an excellent opportunity for ringers to play music with larger sets of instruments than usually played in smaller local groups.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

William Hartley Memorial Fund

During 2023, the WHMF continued with its support of new handbell teams across the UK. More than half the bells owned by the WHMF are on lease for use in schools for the benefit of younger ringers, many with no other musical experience. The WHMF provides handbells to support some of the regional handbell teams as their performances are a musical showcase of handbell tune ringing to the wider public. And for the benefit of HRGB members, instruments are made available for nationally organised events. The Society has two outstanding loan for financial assistance currently. The WHMF has now made 100 loans since its inception, all of which have been repaid on time.

Vaughan Evans Bursary

The Bursary created by the Trustees for the support of young ringers to attend advanced ringing events supported the attendance of one young ringer at the National Residential Ringing Week and will support a further young ringer at the National Rally in 2024. The fund will look to further support at least two young people at the next National Residential Ringing Week in 2025. The Trustees agreed no contribution was required in 2023 to the maintenance of the Bursary fund but would need to be considered in 2024 to ensure the fund contained adequate funds for the future events.

Financial and Risk Review

The group statement of financial activities for the year ending 31st December 2023 shows a net excess of income over expenditure of £29,808.

The principal source of income of the Charity was from donations and membership subscriptions, together with a tax refund from H.M. Revenue and Customs Gift Aid Scheme.

Sales income remained on par with last year, with continued support being made by attendance at the National Rally. The cost of sales has increased, primarily due to the increase of the stock provision held. The provision against stock remains at what the Charity sees as a sensible prudent take on the stock provision. Further increases in the price of products purchased and additional increases in postage have reduced margins on sales in the year.

The source of the subsidiary company's income during 2023 was only from bank interest. Expenditure resulted normal governance costs. The deposit for the 2026 International Handbell Symposium was paid in 2023 but can be deferred until 2026 to be offset against event income.

The Trustees have considered whether any major risks pertain to the subsidiary company and have concluded there are none. Further, the Trustees consider that there are systems in place to manage risks relating to the company.

Group investments increased in value during the year by £6,037 compared with a decrease of £7,867 the previous year. We accept that market conditions may still carry some uncertainty in 2024 due to circumstances out of the Charity's control and so will monitor accordingly.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

The William Hartley Memorial Fund continues to provide interest free loans to members and registered teams to enable them to purchase additional bells, refurbish bells etc. During the year the WHMF generated funds from donations and bank interest. The Crescendo Scheme was re-launched in 2015 as a free scheme designed for new, young ringers which is staged to maintain enthusiasm and progression with four progressive certificates that can be won plus additional lapel badges (for a small charge).

A significant item of expenditure is the cost of publishing "Reverberations" the Charity's six-monthly journal which is an important source of communication with the members. Some of the cost is recovered through suppliers' advertisements published in the magazine. After allowing for advertisement income, the net cost of the journal went up from £10,990 to £11,775. This increase has come about from a 6% increase in publishing / distribution costs but also a 8% decrease of the advertising income year on year.

Regional newsletters continue to provide regions with news of local events and the cost of producing these (less advertising income) went up from £3,096 to £3,119. Regions continue to move onto digital platforms to send their news, but rising costs (primarily around Royal Mail) have offset this.

General Administration expenditure increased during the year. Further development of the HRGB website due to required software and security updates have seen costs for the year. We are continuing NEC meetings via Zoom and the licences held by HRGB have continued to be made available for national webinars and regional activities. Regions that have purchased their own licences continue to benefit with their use within their region.

We also accept that inflation is increasing the other costs within the charity and that this is something that we must continue to monitor.

Funds above and beyond those required for the day to day business of the Charity are placed in high interest accounts to maximise investment income. Financially, the Trustees consider that the Charity is in a strong position as a going concern.

Policy on Reserves

It is considered that the level of reserves held by the Charity and its subsidiary company is reasonable based upon the projections of the level of funding required for the UK preparation and hosting the next International Handbell Symposium. Additions to the countries that make up the IHC (International Handbell Committee) meant that an increase to the rotating countries hosting an International Symposium may have pushed the UK back to 2028, however Handbell Ringers of Singapore said they would prefer to host in 2028, thus keeping the UK with 2026. This will be 14 years after the last UK held Symposium due to the addition of a Symposium in Hong Kong being added into the rotation in 2020.

The Charity has also continued its policy of maintaining reserves at a level sufficient to cover the costs associated with the organisation of National Rallies in three consecutive years.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a National Executive Committee consisting of four elected officers, a patron for the William Hartley Memorial Fund (WHMF) and (up to) two representatives elected from each of eight branches. The Executive Committee is responsible for the prudent management of the Society and determination of policy in line with Governmental and Charity law. Day to day administration of the Society is carried out by the elected Officers. In 2023 the Society had a change in the Chair and is still looking for a permanent Secretary following the retirement of the then Secretary in 2022. All members of the National Executive Committee are Trustees of the Charity. The Charity operates a branch in Scotland and in order to comply with legislation from the Scottish Parliament it was necessary for the Society to register as a Charity in Scotland with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) during 2007.

The Trustees are mindful of, and grateful for, the time and energy given by members of the Society who organise events, lead and serve on sub-committees and regional committees, carry out specific tasks (for example, editing, managing resources) and generally undertake a wide range of tasks to ensure that the organisation of the Charity and its charitable purpose are accomplished successfully.

Trustee Induction and Training: Induction for new Trustees includes the provision of the relevant guidance notes, reports and accounts (Charity Commission and OSCR guidance notes on the responsibility of Trustees, the Society Rules and a copy of the most recent Trustees' report which includes the most recent accounts for the Society) and a dedicated induction meeting which provides an opportunity to question and discuss these with officers, together with the regular Executive Committee Meetings which provide updates on aspects of Governmental and Charity law that may affect Society governance and management.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding public benefit.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on 22/06/2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr K. A. Rowland
Chair
22/06/2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Laws applicable to charities in England, Wales and Scotland require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view 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, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the 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 accounting records which 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 and other associated and relevant legislation. 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.

Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 22/06/2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr K. A. Rowland
Chair
22/06/2024

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023 *

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	<i>Prior period Total funds</i>
	Note no	All	William Hartley Memorial Fund		2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations, legacies and subscriptions	4	34,459	1,373	-	35,832	52,501
Charitable activities	5	119,458	79	-	119,537	92,348
Investments	6	10,984	420	-	11,404	3,773
Total Income and endowments:		164,901	1,872	-	166,773	148,622
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	137,787	1,415	-	139,202	116,093
Other	8	5,299	1	-	5,300	2,853
Total Expenditure:		143,086	1,416	-	144,502	118,946
Net gains / (losses) on investments	9	6,037	-	-	6,037	(7,867)
Net gains / (losses) on disposals of fixed assets	10	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Net income / (expenditure)		29,352	456	-	29,808	21,809
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):						
Gains / (losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	11	1,828	-	-	1,828	9,213
Net movement in funds:		31,180	456	-	31,636	31,022
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		423,886	14,862	121,301	560,049	529,027
Total funds carried forward	12	455,066	15,318	121,301	591,685	560,049

* Included within the Group Statement of Financial Activities is the income and expenditure relating to the subsidiary HRGB Promotions Limited (see Note 3).

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		Group	Group	Charity	Charity
		2023	2022	2023	2022
	Note				
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible Fixed Assets	11	238,886	230,508	238,886	230,508
Investments	9	67,883	61,846	67,883	61,846
Total Fixed Assets		306,769	292,354	306,769	292,354
Current Assets:					
Stock	13	8,018	10,871	8,018	10,871
Debtors & Prepayments	14	24,369	15,279	16,189	15,203
Cash at bank, COIF and in hand		292,567	277,656	282,934	259,934
Total Current Assets		324,954	303,806	307,141	286,008
Current Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(40,038)	(35,891)	(39,163)	(35,653)
Total Current Liabilities		(40,038)	(35,891)	(39,163)	(35,653)
Net Current Assets:		284,916	267,915	267,978	250,355
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		591,685	560,269	574,747	542,709
Creditors: Amounts falling after one year	16	-	(220)	-	(220)
TOTAL NET ASSETS:		591,685	560,049	574,747	542,489
The funds of the charity:					
Endowment:		93,627	93,627	93,627	93,627
Restricted:					
<i>William Hartley Memorial Fund</i>		15,318	14,862	15,318	14,862
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		15,318	14,862	15,318	14,862
Unrestricted:					
<i>General</i>		400,355	377,946	383,417	360,386
Designated:					
<i>Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund</i>		9,375	9,630	9,375	9,630
<i>National Events Fund</i>		33,174	23,772	33,174	23,772
<i>South West Regional Bell Fund</i>		1,438	1,339	1,438	1,339
<i>South West Young Ringer Fund</i>		2,329	2,304	2,329	2,304
<i>South East Ring from Scratch</i>		426	426	426	426
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		447,097	415,417	430,159	397,857
Revaluation Reserve:					
<i>Unrestricted: General</i>		7,969	8,469	7,969	8,469
<i>Endowment</i>		27,674	27,674	27,674	27,674
TOTAL RESERVES		35,643	36,143	35,643	36,143
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	12	591,685	560,049	574,747	542,489

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22/06/2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr A. P. Hayes
National Treasurer
22/06/2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The presentation currency is pound sterling.

The consolidated financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 December 2023.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is achieved where the charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

Inter-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between the charity and its subsidiary, which are related parties, are eliminated in full.

Intra-group losses are also eliminated but may indicate an impairment that requires recognition in the consolidated financial statements.

Accounting policies of the subsidiary have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity adopted Bulletin 1 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Going concern

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

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 of bells / equipment will be recorded at the recoverable amount of the item(s) at the time of transfer of ownership, to be completed by a qualified individual either within the society or an expert in their field. This will be specified within note 4.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

Support costs

SORP 2019 requires support costs such as administration, postage, telephone, depreciation etc. to be allocated to the relevant activity cost category they support. The Trustees do not consider it cost beneficial to set up systems to allocate such costs and accordingly have shown such support costs separately under charitable activities.

Governance costs

These costs are associated with the governance arrangements of the charity which relate to its general running and statutory obligations. These include the costs of holding Trustees' meetings, bank charges incurred from our current account holders, transaction and service charges from our card processors and accountancy fees.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets with a cost (or donated value) of £1,000 or more are capitalised.

Musical handbells and similar assets such as Handchimes and Belleplates® are valued at recoverable amount at the balance sheet date. Such valuation is carried out by the Officers of the relevant branch or National Officers who have the necessary expertise to determine such valuations. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

All other assets are recorded at historical cost less depreciation on a straight line basis so as to write off the assets over their expected useful lives. The principal rates are: Office Equipment - 3 years, Plant and Machinery - 4 years. Currently the charity has no office equipment or plant and machinery which is capitalised.

The Trustees are aware that there is a requirement to show the reserve arising from the revaluation of fixed assets over the years on the face of the balance sheet. This evaluation of the assets was carried out in 2016 to reflect the revaluation reserve and is reviewed each year.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Fixed asset investments

The fixed asset investments are income units that have been purchased by the charity from the COIF Charities Investment Fund. The investment aims to provide a long-term total return comprising growth in capital and distributions in quarterly dividends. These investments are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

An explanation of the movement in the year is given at note 9

Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale and is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

A breakdown of the different stock types held and related provisions is detailed in note 13

Debtors

Debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of this is established when there is objective evidence that they will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the debtors.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Creditors

Creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of activities from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Fund structure

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects. Designated funds have been created for the following purposes:

Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund

This fund has been set up in memory of Vaughan Evans a former National Chair, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Honorary Life Member of the charity. Its purpose is to provide funding to enable young ringers to be able to participate in events such as the National Residential Ringing Week. The Trustees intend to transfer an amount to this fund from general funds each year subject to availability and requirement.

National Events Fund

This was a newly created fund in 2010 with a transfer from general funds of £7,000 representing the surplus on National Events during the previous four years. The Trustees intend that the fund will be used to provide some finance for certain national events which would otherwise not be financially viable to undertake based on delegate income alone.

South West Regional Bell Fund

This fund is used by the South West branch for the maintenance of its regional handbells.

South West Young Ringer Fund

This fund has been created by the South West branch in 2010 to support young ringers from the South West attending National events.

South East Ring from Scratch Fund

This fund is used by the South East branch to purchase music for 'Ring from Scratch' rallies, where member teams ring from previously unseen music.

Restricted funds comprise of funds raised for and their use restricted to a specific purpose or donations subject to imposed donor conditions.

William Hartley Memorial Fund (WHMF)

This fund exists principally to provide teams registered with the society with interest free loans for the purpose of renovating or augmenting their handbells, Handchimes and Belleplates® and to maintain and repair as necessary the handbells etc. which are held by the WHMF.

Endowment Funds comprise funds consisting of fixed assets (principally handbells) which have been left as bequests to the charity over a number of years. Some of these Endowments are permanent.

2 Trustee information

Trustees received no remuneration (2022 - £Nil). Expenses of £2,873 were reimbursed by the charity to 14 of the 23 Trustees covering travelling, telephone and similar costs (2022 - £3,344, 16 of the 23 Trustees). No expenses were reimbursed by HRGB Promotions Limited to charity Trustees (2022 - Nil). The charity did not employ any staff during 2023 (2022 – Nil).

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

3 Consolidation

The Charity Balance Sheet comprises the national society and its 8 branches. The Group Balance Sheet and Group Statement of Financial Activities comprise the national society, its 8 branches and HRGB Promotions Limited, the charity's subsidiary company. The company's accounts for 2023 were prepared under SORP 2019. Summary results of HRGB Promotions Limited for the year ended 31 December:

	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover	402	171
Less: outgoing resources	(1,024)	(1,507)
Net outgoing resources	(622)	(1,336)

4 Donations, legacies and subscriptions

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2023	Prior period Total funds (2022)
Donations	10,348	1,373	11,721	27,899
Membership subscriptions	22,208	-	22,208	22,476
Gift Aid Taxation	1,903	-	1,903	2,126
Total	34,459	1,373	35,832	52,501

Donations comprise of:

	2023 £	2022 £
William Hartley Memorial Fund	1,373	1,944
Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund	162	92
General	1,636	2,883
Bells / Equipment*	8,550	22,980
TOTAL	11,721	27,899

*Donations of Bells / Equipment consist of:

- 2022: Dr.Alan Collings Bells (2) (£6,500) ^(a)
The Tyler Bells (£7,300) ^(a)
NE Region: "Wharfedale Handbells" (£9,180) ^(b)
- 2023: SC Region: "Birnam Bells" (£8,000) ^(c)
SW Region: 'Anonymous' Bells (£550) ^(d)

^(a) – Valuation by Alan Hartley (HRGB)

^(b) – Valuation by Allianz Insurance

^(c) – Valuation by Laura Buist (HRGB)

^(d) – Valuation by Jane Willis (HRGB)

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

5 Income on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Endowment funds	Total funds 2023	Prior period Total funds (2022)
Sales Income	13,712	-	-	13,712	13,690
National Rally 2022	-	-	-	-	40,786
National Rally 2023	35,941	-	-	35,941	-
National Residential Ringing Week 2023	43,366	-	-	43,366	-
UK Bronze 2022	-	-	-	-	18,624
Rallies & Events	19,732	-	-	19,732	14,816
Regional Ensembles and Orchestra	5,415	-	-	5,415	2,760
Crescendo Scheme	-	79	-	79	19
Bell loan fee	20	-	-	20	60
Raffles	-	-	-	-	212
Advertising	1,148	-	-	1,148	1,245
Miscellaneous	124	-	-	124	136
Total	119,458	79	-	119,537	92,348

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2023	Prior period Total funds (2022)
Interest from bank and other deposits	10,984	420	11,404	3,773
Total	10,984	420	11,404	3,773

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

7 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2023	<i>Prior period Total funds (2022)</i>
Cost of Goods Sold and other Sales Costs	10,118	-	10,118	6,749
National Rally 2022	-	-	-	44,774
National Rally 2023	29,609	-	29,609	-
National Residential Ringing Week 2023	41,877	-	41,877	-
UK Bronze 2022	-	-	-	18,144
International Symposium 2022	-	-	-	1,087
Rallies & Events	16,671	-	16,671	15,005
Regional Ensembles and Orchestra	4,347	-	4,347	1,435
Crescendo Scheme	-	-	-	2
Equipment and repairs	-	401	401	-
Reverberations	12,923	-	12,923	12,235
Regional Newsletters	3,119	-	3,119	3,096
International Handbell Committee	76	-	76	236
Insurance	1,542	796	2,338	2,843
Society Membership fees	465	-	465	465
Donations	575	-	575	803
General Admin (stationery, postage etc.)	15,398	-	15,398	8,661
Rent	180	-	180	367
Miscellaneous	887	218	1,105	191
Total	137,787	1,415	139,202	116,093

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

8 Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2023	Prior period Total funds (2022)
Bank charges	1,274	1	1,275	1,703
Accounting fees	4,025	-	4,025	1,150
Total	5,299	1	5,300	2,853

Accounting fees comprise of:

Group (2023)	Group (2022)	Charity (2023)	Charity (2022)
£	£	£	£
4,025	1,150	3,150	900

These fees relate to work carried out by independent accountants in providing the charity with advice regarding value added tax and completing examinations of accounts.

9 Investments

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Market value as at 1 st January:	61,846	70,713	61,846	70,713
Additions / (sales):	-	(1,000)	-	(1,000)
Gain / (loss) during year:	6,037	(7,867)	6,037	(7,867)
Market value as at 31 st December:	<u>67,883</u>	<u>61,846</u>	<u>67,883</u>	<u>61,846</u>

10 Disposal of Fixed Assets

During the year the following asset was disposed:

	General Funds	Revaluation Reserve	TOTAL
Set of Bells purchased by SE Region 05/06/2004	1,500	-	1,500
Revaluation	-	500	500
C/F value 01/01/2023	1,500	500	2,000
Asset sold 21/07/2023	(3,000)	(500)	(3,500)
Net gains / (losses) on disposals of fixed assets	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

11 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

<u>All figures</u> <u>£'s</u>	Handbells Chimes etc. available for loan to teams as part of the William Hartley Memorial Fund	Liversedge Handbells	Handbells Chimes, Cases etc. for general use by regions	Handbells as part of the "Bells Into Schools" Project (2016)	Total	2022
Book value 01/01/2023	94,200	27,101	92,567	16,640	230,508	186,642
Additions	-	-	8,550	-	8,550	34,653
Disposals	-	-	(2,000)	-	(2,000)	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Increase (Decrease) in valuation	-	-	-	1,828	1,828	9,213
Book value 31/12/2023	94,200	27,101	99,117	18,468	238,886	230,508

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

12 Summary of funds

Movement of funds (Group)

Fund name	Balances brought forward £ 01/01/2023	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Gains and Losses £	Balances Carried Forward £ 31/12/2023
Unrestricted Funds						
General (including revaluations)	386,414	83,646	(70,851)	(250)	9,365	408,324
Designated - National Society <i>Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund</i>	9,630	584	(839)	0	-	9,375
Designated – National Society <i>National Events Fund</i>	23,773	80,546	(71,145)	0	-	33,174
Designated - South West Branch <i>South West Regional Bell Fund</i>	1,339	100	(251)	250	-	1,438
Designated - South West Branch <i>Young Ringer Fund</i>	2,304	25	0	0	-	2,329
Designated - South East Branch <i>Ring from Scratch</i>	426	0	0	-	-	426
Total Unrestricted Funds (including revaluations)	423,886	164,901	(143,086)	0	9,365	455,066
Restricted Funds						
William Hartley Memorial Fund	14,862	1,872	(1,416)	0	0	15,318
Total Restricted Funds	14,862	1,872	(1,416)	0	0	15,318
Endowment Funds (including revaluations)	121,301	0	0	0	0	121,301
Total Funds (including revaluations)	560,049	166,773	(144,502)	0	9,365	591,685

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

12 Summary of funds (continued)

Analysis of unrestricted funds by national society, branches and subsidiary company as at 31st December:

	2023	2022
	£	£
National Society	267,270	252,694
South East	32,054	29,158
South West	44,569	42,779
North East	15,415	15,175
North West	5,499	4,873
East Midlands	4,154	3,077
West Midlands	13,021	12,214
East Anglian	40,491	39,476
Scottish	15,655	6,880
Total Charity	438,128	406,326
HRGB Promotions Ltd	16,938	17,560
Total Group	455,066	423,886

Within the “Unrestricted fund” balances above are the following “Designated” funds:

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
National Society	Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund	9,375	9,630
National Society	National Events Fund	33,174	23,772
South West	South West Regional Bell Fund	1,438	1,339
South West	Young Ringer Fund	2,329	2,304
South East	Ring from Scratch	426	426
Total		46,742	37,471

“Endowment funds” comprise:

	<u>Fixed Assets</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
Bells, chimes etc. held for loan to registered HRGB teams		94,200	94,200
Liversedge handbells		27,101	27,101
		121,301	121,301

An explanation of these funds is given at note 1.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

13 Stocks

	Cost 2023 £	Provision 2023 £	Provision % of value	Cost 2022 £	Provision 2022 £	Provision % of value
National: Resale Stock*	5,111	(1,763)	34%	5,632	(1,106)	20%
National: Mayola Music*	10,458	(8,143)	78%	10,749	(6,510)	61%
Regional: Resale Stock**	2,729	(374)	14%	2,414	(308)	13%
Total	8,018		56%	10,871		42%

*National stocks carry a specific provision based on age of stock, risk of slow / non-movement.

**Regional stock (unless accounted for at regional level) is a general 20% provision value of stock held within the national provision.

No stocks are held within HRGB Promotions Ltd.

14 Debtors and Prepayments

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade Debtors	1,022	711	1,022	711
Other Debtors	922	125	922	125
Prepayments and Accrued income	18,825	13,143	10,645	13,067
WHMF Loans***	3,600	1,300	3,600	1,300
Total	24,369	15,279	16,189	15,203

***Included in the WHMF loans are instalments totalling £2,000 (2022 - £600) which are not due within one year.

15 Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade Creditors	9,095	1,270	8,220	1,032
Other Creditors	27,703	30,991	27,703	30,991
Accruals and Deferred income	3,240	3,630	3,240	3,630
Total	40,038	35,891	39,163	35,653

16 Creditors (amounts falling after one year)

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Accruals and Deferred income	-	220	-	220
Total	-	220	-	220

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	117,585	-	121,301	238,886
Fixed asset investments	67,883	-	-	67,883
Current assets	309,636	15,318	-	324,954
Current liabilities	(40,038)	-	-	(40,038)
Total net assets	<u>455,066</u>	<u>15,318</u>	<u>121,301</u>	<u>591,685</u>

18 Capital and Financial Commitments

At 31st December 2023 there were no potential financial commitments other than those relating to a contract between HRGB Promotions Limited and “ASM Global” in respect of the 22nd International Handbell Symposium to be held in 2026. This commitment cannot be quantified at this stage (2022: *£nil*)

19 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HANDBELL RINGERS
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 11 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees 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 needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of 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 statement 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.



P. D. Johnson FCA
Partner
Robert Whowell & Partners LLP
Westwood House,
78 Loughborough Road,
Quorn,
Leicestershire, LE12 8DX

Dated: 25th September 2024