



NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Company No. 3325597

Charity Registration No. 1061676

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2016

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FOREWORDS FROM OUR PATRONS

I first visited Macaroni Wood some years ago as a Trustee of a Charity who were proposing to make a grant. I was immediately struck by the vitality of the project, its environment and the opportunities offered to those using the facilities. The leadership and dedication of Richard and Liz are the major inspiration to the continuing success of the venture and I count it a privilege to have been asked to be a Patron

Richard Saunders

I am delighted to have become a Patron of Macaroni Wood having known of the fantastic work that Richard and Liz do for the last few years. It is a truly inspirational place and all the groups I have encountered there have been having a great time. The fact that so many are repeat visitors is testament to the commitment of the management and the fact that the whole site works so well and provides such good experiences for all visitors.

Camilla Woodward

CHAIR'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that Macaroni Wood continues to flourish in its 38th year of Liz & Richard's dedication. The Wood continues to develop and grow under their careful management. As a board of Trustees we are very fortunate to work with these two dedicated individuals whose ideas and passion seems to know no bounds.

With changing economic times our long standing relationship with Lewisham is once again in question. We sincerely hope that it will continue as it has helped shape much of our organisations work, not to mention all of the young people who have benefitted from a safe space away from inner city pressure 'where children can be children'.

The Trustees have always valued the ethos behind woodland learning, where education is based around the outdoor environment of the woods. We continue to use some designated resources to part fund this experience for groups who would not normally be able to have this opportunity and give them a chance to discover more about the countryside. We are also looking at funding the training of our excellent assistant manager Marcus to be able to deliver onsite woodland learning to the groups who come to stay at Macaroni Wood.

We continue to be lucky enough to take advantage of the social media talents of James Wilkinson - through his skills we have seen the online presence of Macaroni Wood continue to grow. His sponsored bike ride was a huge success and may even become an annual event. Through James's work on Facebook, and in more traditional ways, our users continue to report how much they love coming to Macaroni Wood. I know that the groups of youngsters that I take there don't want to leave and, when they do, the first question as we drive away is not "how long until we are home?" but "when can we come back?" Feedback is continually sought. We encourage our users to give us their ideas and opinions. Indeed, some of our latest innovations have stemmed from ideas put forward by our user groups.

I continue to feel very lucky to be a part of such a fantastic organisation directly as anyone who has ever met Liz, Richard & Marcus would, I am sure, agree. However, much of what makes Macaroni Wood so special goes on behind the scenes. For instance, Liz's financial management of our organisation is consistently praised by Lewisham's auditors as being one of the best in the borough. The health and safety risk assessments undertaken by all three Staff and Trustees are extremely comprehensive. The time consuming fundraising efforts of the Centre Managers ensures that the animals are fed, the buildings maintained, sessional staff paid and new projects are given a lifeline. In today's economic climate it continues to be a testament to both the Centre Managers' passion and our efforts to highlight the importance of what we do that sees a consistent level of funding coming from individuals and grant making trusts, organizations and companies who continue to support the valuable work and ethos of Noah's Ark Children's Venture.

As always, our thanks go to the London Borough of Lewisham for providing some of the underlying funding for the Centre. This means that our philosophy of social inclusion, and our ability to prioritize and offer low cost places in Bazley House for Lewisham groups as well as subsidized places in Castree House for other users, can continue whilst the funding is in place.

Macaroni Wood would not be in existence without the original generosity of the Bazley Family, and the ongoing support of the Ernest Cook Trust. These, together with the donations from individuals, grant making trusts, companies and organisations have allowed Macaroni Wood to continue to grow and

flourish and we thank them all. The seemingly never ending credit crunch is having an impact on what we do, so I ask you, if you believe in what we do, become a Friend of Macaroni Wood and log on to the website and make a donation. Tell everyone! Help us discover new ways to fund raise for us. Every penny helps and every new idea is more than welcome!

The board of trustees actively review their skills to enable NACV to meet its aims and objectives and to identify gaps in the expertise of the board. In the coming year we will be working with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations to develop a strategic and business plan that will include governance and strengthening the board of trustees to ensure that Noah's Ark continues to thrive.

My own personal thanks go to Liz and Richard, my fellow Trustees and all those who help facilitate the smooth running of Noah's Ark Children's Venture.

N Vann

Chair

CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

We have been in receipt of community sector funding from the London Borough of Lewisham since 1981 and our application to the borough for funding this year was successful but, in line with the overall reduction in the council's budget, was reduced by 25%. We are delighted that the borough is still prepared to support our work, with particular regard to groups working with people with disabilities and respite provision, young carers and looked after children and have agreed to provide a grant of just over £48,000 for this financial year. Next year the grant will be reduced even further to £42,000 as this year the reduction only applied to nine months and not the full year. Hopefully, we can continue to have links with the borough in the future as the Lewisham grant still constitutes a valuable percentage of our core income and helps to provide a stable platform from where we can continue to attract funding from grant making trusts and other organisations. Income from our own fundraising efforts, from fees and from Lewisham all help to sustain and develop the project and make Macaroni Wood the wonderful place it is today. The whole ethos of the project has been to provide facilities to those who cannot afford our experiences elsewhere. We thank Lewisham and all the other grant making trusts, companies and individuals for their continued support.

A new fundraising event in June this year was organised by James Wilkinson and Pete Scarrot. A sponsored cycle ride from London to Macaroni Wood raised nearly £10,000 in sponsorship and donations – a huge thank you to everyone involved.

This year the Centre was just as busy as in previous years and we have attracted new clients from Lewisham by attending ward assembly meetings in the borough and speaking to them about the work that we do at Macaroni Wood. We continue to see many of our regular user organisations and also many new users, particularly in Castree House, where we seem to struggle to satisfy demand in the summer months. Demand for the use of our minibus by groups has increased and we provide a safe and reliable vehicle to get them here and for trips around the Cotswolds. We are happy to help with transport problems whenever possible, despite the burden it has on our finances.

We continue to employ Anne who has now been the domestic worker here for almost 11 years. Marcus, our Assistant Manager now works full time, Monday to Friday, and has gradually taken on more responsibility for the delivery of health and safety introductions to groups and maintaining the risk assessment management of the Centre. He also now delivers woodland activity sessions to groups on a regular basis as well as much of the day to day maintenance needs of the Centre. The funding for his role was fully met by grant-making trusts throughout this period and this funding is already guaranteed for 2016/17. We aim to ensure that he develops a complete understanding of the management of the Centre as we move towards the retirement from full time work of the centre managers, Richard and Liz, in the not too distant future.

Other achievements this year include the renovation of the bathroom for people with disabilities in Castree House and the reorganisation of the office entrance area and adjoining wood room area into a new office space. This involved knocking down walls and adding new windows and doors but we now have a proper office and a much more agreeable working environment. We would not be able to maintain the Centre and site to such a high standard without the help of our trustees, volunteers and staff. We all work together to make the Centre a special and exciting place for each visiting group. Looking ahead over the next year, and to continue our policy of continuous cost effective improvements to the centre, Marcus is leading on a project to fund and develop a biomass project which will be very green and greatly reduce our costs in relation to heating the property.

The small animals we have at the Centre continue to be very popular We have rabbits and guinea pigs and lots of chickens out in the runs as well as guinea fowl and turkeys and of course the not so micro, micro pigs! Children love the opportunity to feed the animals, collect eggs and generally get involved in a little animal husbandry.

We continue to assess and manage risk in a very responsible and responsive way, making the Centre as safe as it can be for our users groups, while still ensuring that users can have a stimulating and exciting experience; we aim not to be too risk averse.

Statistics

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR USERS

BUILDING	BAZLEY	CASTREE
GENDER	57% Male	51% Male
ETHNICITY	54% Minority Ethnic Communities	31% minority Ethnic Communities
AGE U 16	46%	37%
DISABILITIES and other special needs	20%	27% the remainder being staff

Castree House groups have very high staff levels

A total of 1,804 people stayed with us during the last 12 months (110 groups – which also reflects an increase in private usage and, therefore, income generated by such groups) – a slight increase on 2014-15. 1168 (62 groups) were Bazley House users – of which 77% were from Lewisham, whilst 628 (48 groups) stayed in Castree House. This was another increase on the previous year. The Centre was open throughout the year, including Xmas and the New Year, and seldom empty

R J Wilkinson
Centre Manager

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Statement of Financial Activities set out in this Annual Report shows we have had another successful year maintaining our financial position at Noah's Ark Children's Venture (NACV). Our income generation activities have become increasingly diversified over recent years, and in broad terms our income is generated from:

- Charitable trusts, companies, and individuals who have contributed towards our fundraising through donations, charitable grants, legacies, and our Friends of Macaroni Wood.
- Local authority grant aid from the London Borough of Lewisham.
- Fees and charges from user groups, and additional fees derived from hiring Macaroni Wood as a venue for training and recreational weekends, at less busy times of year.
- Sponsorship events & appeals.

All of this support is crucial to our survival and growth, particularly at a challenging time for organisations providing services and opportunities for children, young people and vulnerable adults. Everyone involved with Noah's Ark Children's Venture, our board of trustees, staff and all volunteers involved would like to express thanks to all the trusts, companies, and individuals who have not only donated money but given their time and expertise to help us achieve all the goals that we have set ourselves this year.

We would like again like to extend our thanks to the London Borough of Lewisham for providing us with an annual grant of £48,117 in 2015/16 towards our core running costs. In common with other organisations and services supported by Lewisham Council's grant programme, this figure represented a 25% reduction in grant aid from the amount we received in 2014/15 (£64,469). This reduction was required due to the overall financial position of Lewisham Council and its requirement by central government, to reduce public sector expenditure by local authorities. Trustees agreed, nevertheless, that NACV would maintain our policy of offering all Lewisham groups use of Bazley House free of accommodation charges, including at Easter & Summer school holidays, until midway through the year. In September 2015, we then introduced a heavily discounted accommodation charge for Lewisham groups, whereby all groups are charged £100 per night, regardless of the number of people who stayed with us, up to our maximum number of 27 places available. In comparison, non-Lewisham groups charged are charged £15.00 per person per night with a minimum charge of £210 per night. The London Borough of Lewisham has long been our principal funder, and we recognise and value it's continued support in these difficult times, and as far as are able, we want to maintain our long standing commitment to organisations and groups that serve children, young people, & community groups in the borough. This commitment was maintained over 2015/016, as the Lewisham grant provided 25% of our revenue funding, whereas Lewisham groups represented 77% of Bazley House users.

Our fundraising targets this year were concentrated on raising revenue income to meet the shortfall resulting from our Lewisham Council grant reduction which will be further reduced in the coming year 2016 / 2017 by a further £5,445. In total over the two financial years, our grant will have reduced by 33% – a reduction of £22,000, and we have also been recently informed that the third year's grant for 2017 / 2018 will also be reviewed as the pressure on local government expenditure will continue.

In the summer of 2015, a major contribution was made by a new fundraising event organised by James Wilkinson and Pete Scarrott, with a sponsored cycle ride from London to Macaroni Wood which raised

nearly £10,000 in sponsorship and donations. The event was a great success and we are grateful to all those riders who participated and volunteers who helped out on the day. A repeat is planned for 2016. The predominant revenue funding need for NACV remains our staff costs to employ our Centre Managers, Richard & Liz Wilkinson, our Assistant Centre Manager, Marcus Scrivens as well as additional cleaning and maintenance staff on a part-time basis to help us to manage the increasing workload of running such a busy and popular Centre. In March 2016, at the end of our 2015/ 2016 financial year, I am pleased to report that we are now able to employ Marcus on a full-time basis, an increase from four days per week.

In February 2016, grants from over 11 grant making trusts and other individuals and organisations (listed in the financial statements of this report) enabled NACV to completely update and refurbish the downstairs bathroom in Castree House for our visitors with disabilities. Other grants enabled us to buy some new mountain bikes and cycling helmets. In the coming year we will be mounting a fundraising campaign to install a Biomass central heating plant at Macaroni Wood. If we are successful this will not only be good for the environment but also significantly reduce our expenditure on heating and lighting. Looking forward to the next two or three years, we are approaching a very important time in the life of NACV at Macaroni Wood. Richard & Liz, our Centre Managers and founders of the organisation who will be retiring from full time employment in 2018, after over 40 years of unbroken, and unparalleled commitment to our charity. However, we are pleased to say that they will continue to work with NACV in a reduced capacity at Macaroni Wood to support the smooth running of the charity.

We are in a transition phase for NACV and planning and preparation for the future of the organisation is under way. Central to our planning is the formation of a costed, up to date business plan, for us to refine and build a sustainable funding strategy for NACV to meet our future financial needs. We have a solid base as starting point, thanks in no small measure to Richard's proven fundraising skills.

Our balance sheet, at 31 March 2016 shows that we have net assets of £150,155. However, the greater proportion are designated funds, restricted grants, and reserve funds, as set out below:

- £10,181 – General Fund
- £24,323 - Friends of Macaroni Wood Fund – a designated fund made up from the generous donations of supporters to our work. We use this fund to buy equipment and innovations that we would not generally be able to afford.
- £30,589 – Restricted Funds - include the balance of grants that have been given for specific purposes. The majority of this sum, £21,967 is for the continued employment of additional staff to assist with maintaining the site to its customary high standards. These grants have been donated in advance, and allocated for costs to be incurred in 2016/17 & 2017/18.
- £32,500 - Building Contingency Fund - a designated reserve that is in place to take account of the fact that we have a full repairing lease on a property that comprises 17 acres of woodland, pathways, and outdoor play structures, as well as three substantial buildings that can accommodate 42 people, the Centre Managers' accommodation, and external storage facilities. We plan in the next financial year to spend £9,500 of this fund on repairing and upgrading the main drive into Macaroni Wood. The total cost was over £18,000 and The Ernest Cook Trust have kindly agreed to pay a 50% share of the cost.
- £32,562 - Revenue Contingency Fund – a designated reserve that represents 3 months of running costs which should be in place to cover unseen eventualities or liabilities, such as the unexpected loss of revenue or maintenance grants. This reserve figure now meets the target set by our trustees, and is in line with the recommendations, and monitoring requirements of our core funding provider, the London Borough of Lewisham as well as the Charity Commission.

- £20,000 - Future management change designated fund - to ensure a smooth transition when the current centre managers retire.

Overall, as I have indicated, I am pleased to report we had another successful year maintaining our financial position, and the Annual Report records a list of all the charitable trusts, companies and individuals who have contributed towards our fundraising targets in recent years.

Of course, fundraising is hard work and increasingly difficult to carry out in demanding times, and I wish to record our thanks, in particular, to our Centre Managers, Richard and Liz Wilkinson, for continuing to make use of their skills in financial management. In particular, to Richard for his expertise and energy in fundraising, and to Liz for carrying out the very important everyday tasks of monitoring our income and expenditure, and for preparing detailed financial reports & projections for trustees, grant applications and funding bodies.

The Board of Trustees of NACV would also like to take the opportunity to thank John Price as the Independent Examiner for our Charity Accounts for his expertise in examining and preparing the accounts for 2015-16.

D Hunter
Treasurer

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

The committee would like to thank the London Borough of Lewisham, our principal funder, and the following recent supporters:

PATRONS -

Richard Saunders, Camilla Woodward

FUNDERS -

Allchurches Trust
Bartlett Taylor Charitable Trust
Bazley Charitable Trust
Boshier Hinton Trust
Bruce Wake Charity
Carswell Golf Club
Charles Irving Trust
Childwick Trust
CHK Charities Ltd
Clothworkers' Foundation
Deptford Challenge Trust
Douglas Arter Foundation
Dulverton Trust
Edgar E Lawley Foundation
Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust
Eveson Charitable Trust
Fairford Steam Rally
Four Winds Trust
Guiting Manor Amenities Trust
The Headley Trust
Henry Smith Charity
H D Wills Charitable Trust
H R Bull Charitable Trust
J A Pye Charitable Settlement
Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust
Macfarlane Walker Trust
Mercers Charitable Foundation
PF Charitable Trust
Schuster Charitable Trust
Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund
Souter Charitable Trust
Sir Charles Irving Trust
St James' Place Foundation
Wates Foundation
Woodroffe Benton Foundation
Woodward Trust
The Cotton Trust
The Leathersellers' Company
Sun Life
Garfield Weston
Sheriff's & Records' Fund
Zurich Community Trust
Charles Irving Trust
The Cotton Trust
Miss Lawrence Charitable Settlement

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The members of the Board of Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2016.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name Noah's Ark Children's Venture

Company registration number 3325597

**Registered office and
Operational address** Macaroni Wood
Eastleach
Cirencester
Gloucestershire GL7 3NF

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:

N Vann (Chair)
J R Eastham
D Hunter
J Rush
Cllr A R Till
A Williams
A L Wright
J Wylie
B Cummings
M Rahmani
S Hodson
S Bioletti (appointed 2 February 2016)

Secretary R J Wilkinson

Centre Managers Richard Wilkinson & Liz Wilkinson
Assistant Manager Marcus Scrivens

**Independent
Examiner** John Price
1b Oxford Street
Cheltenham
GL52 6DT

Bankers Lloyds TSB Bank Plc
High Street
Fairford
Gloucestershire GL7 4AD

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purpose, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, is:

“to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation for children and others resident in the London Borough of Lewisham and elsewhere, being facilities of which children and others have need by reason of their youth, disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances: and which will improve the conditions of life for such children and others by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being”.

Our aims, and what we have strived to achieve over the years, is to make Macaroni Wood a refuge for children and young people to escape the pressure of modern society. Children today face unprecedented demands on their young lives. Too often they are bullied into growing up too soon. It seems modern society doesn't want children to enjoy their own childhood. At school, they face the relentless demands of the exam system. At home, they are under siege from advertisers in search of young consumers. At Macaroni Wood, we feel this is too much, too soon. Our heartfelt belief is that children should be allowed to be children. That's why we founded the Centre, giving children the time and freedom to be themselves. At Macaroni Wood children are free to explore and have fun. They are given responsibility to make their own decisions. They share time on their own terms. They are not hemmed in by boundaries. It is their space to express who they really are.

Macaroni Wood is a magical place to many people and we have had many wonderful letters from youth workers, teachers and young people themselves testifying that a residential visit to the centre has had a positive and therapeutic impact on their lives. Our aims fully reflect the purposes that the charity was set up to further.

We work with a wide range of statutory and voluntary organisations and other charities that use our facilities at Macaroni Wood to provide therapeutic, educational and respite care to their individual clients. We aim to support them to the best of our ability to achieve their individual goals.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous year. Part of this review is the monitoring of the feedback forms from user groups upon which we have acted and have bought new play equipment. This review helps us to ensure that our aims, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus on our work

Our main objective for the year continued to be the provision of recreation and leisure facilities for children and others resident in Lewisham and elsewhere. The strategies we used to meet these objectives included:

- to continue to upgrade the facilities to enable users to enjoy their stay in a pleasant and nurturing environment.
- to provide play and other equipment.
- to encourage the husbandry of small animals and birds in a safe environment.
- working in partnership with youth and other groups in Lewisham to allow less fortunate children to enjoy a short stay in the countryside.

HOW OUR ACTIVITIES DELIVER PUBLIC BENEFIT

Our main activities and who we try to help are described below. All our charitable activities focus on the provision of recreation and leisure-time facilities at modest cost to our users and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Who used and benefited from our services

All our activities throughout the year have been in pursuance of our charitable objects; our fundraising enables us to offer our facilities at a significantly reduced cost to groups from Lewisham, in recognition of their grant funding, and at a subsidised cost to groups from elsewhere. Our promotional activities aim to ensure that all groups who may benefit from our facilities know of them. Feedback from service users enables us to constantly monitor their experiences of using our facilities and informs our development planning, to meet the changing and diverse needs of our service users. Some testimonials this year from user groups include:

Grinling Gibbons has been attending Macaroni Wood for the past 9 years. Children have benefitted immensely from this experience. It has improved confidence, self-help skills and independence in all of our children. Children enjoy the countryside and look forward to this experience on a yearly basis. Parents have expressed their gratitude to Macaroni Wood for enabling their children to do things that they felt was beyond their capability. Children have learned to ride bikes, make their beds, wash up dishes and have also thoroughly enjoyed night walks with Richard.

Since 2009 the Vietnamese Supplementary School have been organising a yearly residential trip to Macaroni Wood for their students with support from volunteers/parents. For many Young people, this is the first time they had a chance to pick an egg from the cage or feeding pigs, particularly Vietnamese pigs, as well as playing games they enjoyed making Vietnamese Spring rolls and barbecue, bicycle rides, to explore the country site....three days there with lot of learning new life skills. Thanks for Richard and the team, they talked about the trip all the time and all our young people attracted to this trip

Best regards,

Quynh - Vietnamese Women & Families

This was my first visit to Macaroni Wood and I was pleasantly surprised about how much I enjoyed myself. It was a great bonding experience, not only for myself and the families but it was wonderful for parents to spend quality time with their children. The facilities were nice, it was

spacious and everyone felt at home. It was like one big family. Most importantly, the families had nothing but great feedback about their experience at Macaroni Woods, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Thank you.

Tina Esezobo - Family Liaison Officer

Visitors to Macaroni Wood during the last year included:

Lewisham Youth Clubs and Adventure Playgrounds

Lewisham XLP Project

Lewisham Looked After Children

Dalmain Athletic Club

Quaggy Children's Centre

SENSE

Follow My Dreams

Barnados

St Andrew's Centre

Beormund School

Uffculme School

Rushey Green Super Dads

Evelyn Parents Forum

Lewisham NEET

Milestone School

Vietnamese Women's Group

GEMS

Drumbeat School

Quenington YC

New Woodland School

Lewisham PSG

Jimmy Mizen Foundation

Therapy Therapy

Baskerville School

Netherfield School

Springfield School

Deptford Green School

Riverside School

Tidemill School

The Link School

Lewisham Sports Club

Grinling Gibbons School

Our website and Facebook page are full of testimonials of visits and other comments from users. We have also made a short promotional video that is on both sites and this has been seen by a large number of people.

Our charity operates a policy of helping all children and others irrespective of race, colour, creed, gender and sexual orientation or physical or mental ability. The analysis of the users can be seen in the centre manager's report.

Our charity operates from the registered office in Gloucestershire provided at a peppercorn rent by The Ernest Cook Trust. The property has been converted for use by children and others, and, particularly, Castree House has been built for use by people with disabilities and their carers. Various activities are available at the Centre including helping with the animals, a BMX cycle track, structured woodland activities, adventure playground area, walks in the woods and, nearby many interesting educational, leisure, sporting and entertainment venues.

As detailed in the centre managers' report, Noah's Ark has enjoyed another good year in terms of attracting new groups and improving facilities at the Centre.

MacVicar House is now well used. There is a sports hall, kitchen, toilet block and large heated workspace/ classroom that has been used for music sessions and training workshops. This facility is a huge benefit to our client groups and expands the range of activities we can offer to our visitors.

Children and young people from inner city areas relax away from the strains and stresses of urban city life and we notice, and many group leaders comment on how individual behaviour changes dramatically in a positive way during their stay at the Centre. Children and young people experience a sense of freedom often not possible in their home environments – being able to play outside without anxiety because the Centre is situated in a wood with no busy roads close by. A stay at the Centre encourages social responsibility – our visitors meet new people, have to work with them, learn new life skills such as cooking and looking after themselves and are encouraged to behave responsibly to the animals, equipment and the site in general. We seldom if ever have any occurrences of anti-social behaviour or vandalism.

The Trustees ensure that the facilities are for public benefit, in line with our charitable objects.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered under the Companies Acts 1985 and 1989, and was incorporated on 28th February 1997. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.00 each.

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also the Board of Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's articles are known as the trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the trustees must retire at each Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

All members of the Board of Trustees give their time voluntarily. Some Trustees are involved with some of the users and beneficiaries of the charity. However, no Trustee benefits personally from their involvement with the charity and no expenses have been reclaimed by any Trustee.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs M Rahmani, N Vann and B Cummings retire by rotation. All three offer themselves for re-election. In addition, Ms S Bioletti was appointed by the directors on 2nd March 2016 and therefore retires and offers herself for election.

Trustee induction and training

The Board of Trustees are recruited for the specialist skills and knowledge that they bring to NACV: all members of the Board of Trustees are invited to complete an annual Trustee Statement of Competence and Record of Training and are encouraged to attend training courses to fill any gaps in the Board of Trustees collective knowledge.

New members of the Board of Trustees are offered a thorough induction into their role as members of the Board of Trustees and the organisation and are encouraged to discuss any particular problems they encounter with any of the existing members of the Board of Trustees.

Planning for the Future

The Trustees have been aware for some time that local authority funding from Lewisham was likely to be reduced, and as a worst case scenario, cut altogether in the future. Our grant this year has been reduced and it is highly likely that it will be reduced by a further 25% in the financial year 2017-18. The trustees and staff held a planning day in March 2016 to brainstorm ideas about the future of Macaroni Wood - assisted by the training consultancy skills and input of two of our most valuable 'Friends' and supporters, Sophie Edwards and Gareth Ellis. The end result of this planning day was that the trustees felt that a new strategic and business plan was needed to take account of the probable further reduction in our core funding from Lewisham and to secure a smooth transition in succession when the current managers, Richard and Liz Wilkinson, semi-retire in 2018/19. Accordingly, in the coming year we will be having a number of training days with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations to cover these issues.

The marketing of Castree House for private use in "down" time has brought in extra revenue.

A promotional video has been added to our website and Facebook page and this has already proved helpful at fundraising presentations. The Trustees have also begun presentations at Lewisham Assembly meetings that has attracted new user groups from Lewisham.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A risk register has been established and is updated at least annually. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors to the Centre. The continuing implementation of PQASSO (Practical Quality Assurance System for Small Organisations) ensures a consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity and the regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meet as a body usually six times per annum. All decisions are taken by the Board of Trustees. The operation is run by the Manager (R J Wilkinson) and Deputy Manager (Mrs E M Wilkinson) who are responsible for the day to day running of the charity including its administration, financial management, supervision of part-time staff, service delivery and fundraising activities. They report to the Board of Trustees at every meeting with detailed Centre Managers' reports and financial statements thus ensuring that Board members are kept up to date with all relevant information. To ensure that all Trustees are fully focused on the work of the project every alternate meeting is held at Macaroni Wood.

Related parties

As is stated elsewhere, several of the Trustees are involved with users of the charity which is invaluable in enabling the Trustees to identify relevant policy developments and improvements.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Board of Trustees and the financial statements, in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that year. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant financial information of which the charity's Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- The Board of Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant financial information and to establish that the Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

In determining how amounts are presented within the statement of financial activities and balance sheet, the Trustees have had regard to the substance of the reported transaction or arrangement, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or practice.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of any financial information included on the charity's website.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 18 September 2016 and signed on its behalf by:

R J Wilkinson
SECRETARY

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an income and expenditure account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	2016			2015		
		Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	97,846	26,550	124,396	111,662	57,450	169,112
Charitable activities	3	65,886	-	65,886	55,541	-	55,541
Investments		51	-	51	44	-	44
Total		163,783	26,550	190,333	167,247	57,450	224,697
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		1,692		1,692	1,886		1,886
Charitable activities	5	149,848	43,549	193,397	143,107	38,018	181,125
Total		151,540	43,549	195,089	144,993	38,018	183,011
Net income (expenditure)		12,243	(16,999)	(4,756)	22,254	19,432	41,686
Reconciliation of funds:							
Funds brought forward		107,323	47,588	154,911	85,069	28,156	113,225
Funds carried forward		119,566	30,589	150,155	107,323	47,588	154,911

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

(Company number 03325597)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

		2016		2015	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		-		-
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	8	2,274		3,043	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>170,974</u>		<u>158,653</u>	
		173,248		161,696	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(23,093)</u>		<u>(6,785)</u>	
Net current assets			150,155		154,911
Net assets	10		<u>150,155</u>		<u>154,911</u>
Represented by:					
Accumulated funds:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	11		10,181		9,916
Designated funds	11		<u>109,385</u>		<u>97,407</u>
			119,566		107,323
Restricted funds	11		30,589		47,588
			<u>150,155</u>		<u>154,911</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2016 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 18 September 2016 and are signed on their behalf by:

D. Hunter - Treasurer

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

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) (effective 1 January 2015), as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published in February 2016. The policies adopted for items which are judged material to the financial statements are as follows:

Incoming resources

Voluntary income, is recognised as income when received. Grants, where related to performance, are recognised as income when the right to income is earned. Interest is recognised as income when

Resources expended

Cost of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects comprise those costs incurred by the charity as a result of the delivery of its service. Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income. Governance costs comprise those costs incurred by the charity in meeting its constitutional and statutory requirements.

The regular cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits is charged to the profit and loss account over the period of the employees service lives on the basis of a constant percentage of earnings. Any difference between the amount charged to the profit and loss account, and amount paid to the scheme is shown as an asset or liability in the balance sheet.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are included in the balance sheet at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is generally calculated so that the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value are written off over their estimated useful lives. Equipment purchased using restricted funds is charged as an expense in the year of acquisition. Assets under construction are not depreciated until they are brought into use. The following depreciation rates apply:

Improvements to leasehold property	Over the lesser of three years and the remaining life of the lease
Vehicles	Three years

Funds

Restricted funds represent the funds specifically earmarked for the charity's property and other projects, specified by the donor. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular purpose. Unrestricted funds are funds which can be utilised at the discretion of the trustees.

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016 (continued)

2. Donations and legacies

Donor	Purpose	2016 £	2015 £
Restricted funds			
Sheriff's & Recorders' Fund	Sessional Staff	2,500	2,500
Douglas Arter Foundation	Bathrooms renovation	500	-
JA Pye Charitable Settlement	Bathrooms renovation	500	-
Boshier Hinton Trust	Bathrooms renovation	3,000	-
Bruce Wake Charity	Bathrooms renovation	1,000	-
Carswell Golf Club	Bathrooms renovation	500	-
Allchurches Trust	Bathrooms renovation	1,000	-
Fairford Steam Rally	Bathrooms renovation	2,000	-
Charles Irving Trust	Bathrooms renovation	250	-
St James's Place Foundation	Bathrooms renovation	5,000	-
Woodroffe Benton CT	Bathrooms renovation	1,500	-
Edgar E Lawley Foundation	Bathrooms renovation	1,500	-
Wates Foundation	Sessional Staff	5,000	-
Henry Robert Bull	Sessional Staff	2,000	-
Cotswold District Council	Cycling Helmets	300	-
Rowlands Charitable Trust	Woodland learning sessions	-	1,000
Clothworkers Foundation	Bicycles and improvements	-	20,000
Sun Life	Insulation	-	2,000
Glos CC	Bicycles	-	2,700
Wates Foundation	Sessional Staff	-	10,000
Zurich Community Trust	Sessional Staff	-	3,000
Childwick Trust	Sessional Staff	-	6,250
Leathersellers' Company	Sessional Staff	-	10,000
		<u>26,550</u>	<u>57,450</u>
Unrestricted funds:			
The London Borough of Lewisham		48,117	64,469
Friends of Macaroni Wood	Designated Fund	8,383	13,532
Guiting Manor Trust		1,500	1,500
The Cotton Trust		1,250	-
London Community Foundation		4,050	-
Esmee Fairbairn CT		15,000	-
PFK Charitable Trust		2,000	-
Miss Lawrence Trust		1,300	-
Bazley Charitable Trust		1,800	-
The Headley Trust		-	2,000
The Charles Irving Charitable Trust		-	750
Henry Robert Bull Charitable Trust		-	2,000
Indiegogo Appeal		-	9,698
Garfield Weston CT		-	7,500
CHK Charities		-	5,000
London Community Foundation		-	450
Quenington Bulldogs		-	1,000
Others		14,446	3,763
		<u>97,846</u>	<u>111,662</u>
Total		<u>124,396</u>	<u>169,112</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016 (continued)

3. Income from charitable activities

	2016	2015
	£	£
Bazley House fees	10,832	803
Castree House fees	22,533	25,716
Training weekends	32,521	26,365
Other fees	-	2,657
	<u>65,886</u>	<u>55,541</u>

4. Costs of Charitable activities

	2016			2015
	General	Restricted	Total	Total
	Fund	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs				
Animal expenses	2,005	-	2,005	2,380
Motor and travelling	8,645	-	8,645	7,956
Play equipment	1,502	-	1,502	1,099
Equipment	9,041	3,238	12,279	16,086
Woodland learning	273	-	273	546
	<u>21,466</u>	<u>3,238</u>	<u>24,704</u>	<u>28,067</u>
Staff costs				
Gross salaries	64,496	27,490	91,986	73,825
Employer's NI Contributions	-	-	-	4,314
Employer's pension contributions	5,160	-	5,160	13,960
Staff training	729	-	729	1,675
Catering	-	-	-	278
	<u>70,385</u>	<u>27,490</u>	<u>97,875</u>	<u>94,052</u>
Premises costs				
Rates	4,581	-	4,581	4,358
Light and heat	11,694	-	11,694	11,039
Repairs and maintenance	28,113	12,821	40,934	20,329
Cleaning	1,219	-	1,219	1,232
	<u>45,607</u>	<u>12,821</u>	<u>58,428</u>	<u>36,958</u>
Support costs				
Telephone	2,420	-	2,420	2,079
Insurances	2,504	-	2,504	2,426
Stationery and postage	1,782	-	1,782	946
Computer expenses & IT support	5,145	-	5,145	2,760
Professional charges	4	-	4	238
Subscriptions & donations	35	-	35	207
	<u>11,890</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,890</u>	<u>8,656</u>
Fixed assets				
Depreciation	-	-	-	12,892
Governance				
Independent examiner's fees	500	-	500	500
	<u>149,848</u>	<u>43,549</u>	<u>193,397</u>	<u>181,125</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016 (continued)

5. Staff costs

Total staff remuneration during the year was:

	2016	2015
	£	£
Gross salaries	73,825	68,854
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	5,465	5,966
Employer's pension contributions	3,960	5,520
	<u>83,250</u>	<u>80,340</u>

The remuneration for the year of the Centre Manager was £32,837.

6. Trustees' remuneration and related party transactions

(i). The Trustees received no remuneration during the year.

(ii). The charity has an insurance policy to cover the major risks of the Trustees at a cost of £322 (2015 £322).

(iii). Trustee expenses during the year were £nil (2015 £nil).

(iv). Six Trustees are trustees of or otherwise connected to user groups or funders of the facilities; In no cases, does either the trustee concerned or their organisations derive any direct benefit from their position as Trustee.

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to leasehold property	Vehicles	Total
	£	£	
Cost			
As at 1 April 2015	132,504	8,895	141,399
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2016	<u>132,504</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>141,399</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1 April 2015	132,504	8,895	141,399
Provided in year	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2016	<u>132,504</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>141,399</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 March 2016	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
As at 31 March 2015	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

All fixed assets above are used in direct furtherance of the Charity's objectives.

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016 (continued)

8. Debtors

	2016 £	2015 £
Prepayments	<u>2,274</u>	<u>3,043</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016 £	2015 £
Taxation and social security	2,280	2,074
Accruals	960	1,058
Grants received in advance	10,668	-
Fees received in advance	9,185	3,653
	<u>23,093</u>	<u>6,785</u>

10. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	142,659	30,589	173,248
Current liabilities	(23,093)	-	(23,093)
As at 31 March 2016	<u>119,566</u>	<u>30,589</u>	<u>150,155</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016 (continued)

11. Restricted funds

Name of fund	Purpose	Opening balance	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Closing balance
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:						
Jack Lane Charitable Trust	Equipment and training	305	-	(305)	-	-
Rowlands Charitable Trust	Woodland learning sessions	2,440	-	-	-	2,440
Various	Sessional Staff	39,957	9,500	(27,490)	-	21,967
Clothworkers Foundation	Bicycles and improvements	4,283	-	(2,633)	-	1,650
Sun Life	Insulation	603	-	(603)	-	-
Cotswold District Council	Cycling Helmets	-	300	(300)	-	-
Various	Renovation of bathrooms	-	16,750	(12,218)	-	4,532
		<u>47,588</u>	<u>26,550</u>	<u>(43,549)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,589</u>
Unrestricted funds:						
Designated funds:						
Friends of Macaroni Wood	Money raised as contingency against unforeseen general expenditure	20,345	8,383	(4,405)	-	24,323
Revenue Contingency Fund	Money raised as contingency against unforeseen general expenditure	24,562	-	-	8,000	32,562
Buildings Contingency Fund	Contingency against unforeseen building expenditure	52,500	-	-	(20,000)	32,500
Future management change fund	Management transition	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Sub-total - designated funds		<u>97,407</u>	<u>8,383</u>	<u>- 4,405</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>109,385</u>
General Fund		9,916	155,400	(147,135)	(8,000)	10,181
		<u>107,323</u>	<u>163,783</u>	<u>(151,540)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,566</u>
Total funds		<u>154,911</u>	<u>190,333</u>	<u>(195,089)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,155</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

I report on the accounts of Noah's Ark Children's Venture for the year ended 31 March 2016 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

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

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

- examine the accounts under section 130 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (made under section 145 (9) (b) of the Act); and
- to 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 the seeking of 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:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charitieshave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



JB Price
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18 September 2016