



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 2017

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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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

As Chair of the Board of Trustees of Noah's Ark Children's Venture, I am pleased to introduce our Annual Report for the year ending 31st March 2017, which sets out our charitable aims and objectives, the work we carry out, the services we provide, and most importantly tells you about the range of children, young people and adults who make use of our residential and outdoor facilities throughout the year. The opportunities we provide for those most in need of accessing our services at an affordable, or a minimal cost, remains our prime objective. Information about our user groups is given below.

This Report also incorporates our annual accounts for that period. The annual grant aid we have long received from the London Borough of Lewisham has remained a major contribution this year, and our thanks to that local authority for its continued support. Our thanks also to the Friends of Macaroni Wood, and the wide range of charitable trusts listed in the report, that have provided essential funds to maintain and develop our charity. We end the year on a positive note financially, thanks in no small measure to the experienced fundraising skills of our Centre Manager, Richard Wilkinson.

However, the past year has been a challenging one and will continue to be so as we approach the retirement of Richard & Liz Wilkinson, the centre managers of NACV at Macaroni Wood who will retire in 2018, during their 40th consecutive year of joint service to our charity. A quite magnificent achievement and an incredibly hard act to follow!

To this end, the staff and Board of Trustees are engaged in an ongoing process to ensure a smooth as possible transition that will involve a change of management, staff reorganisation and new appointments. In 2016/17 the Board and staff began a thorough review and evaluation of the organisation, revisiting aims, objectives, governance and management processes to focus on this transition, and to also take account of the changes to help prepare and design a forward strategy and business development plan for the organisation. We contracted external support and guidance from the NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations) to lead and facilitate our discussions.

In terms of governance we are undertaking a review of our membership criteria to ensure it is fit for purpose, and compliant with our charitable obligations and legal requirements. Four new trustees and a company secretary, all with a broad range of key skills and expertise have been recruited and will be appointed early on in the coming year to the Board to help us take the organisation forward.

We remain grateful to the Ernest Cook Trust, the owners of Macaroni Wood, who lease this wonderful woodland site to us, and their wholehearted support over the years to help further our development and growth continues apace, and we look forward to consolidating this positive relationship in the future.

Finally, may I also say thanks and pay tribute to our staff team of Richard & Liz Wilkinson, Marcus Scrivens, part-time workers Ann Trinder and Vicki Winstanley, trustees, volunteers, and friends of Macaroni Wood who donate their time and energies in so many ways that contribute so much to the organisation's success and development.

Stanley Skoglund,
Chair
7 November 2017

TREASURER'S REPORT

Results for the year

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.
- A local authority grant 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. The income from activities not related to our primary purpose falls below the small trading tax exemption limit of £50,000.
- Fund raising events.

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 NACV, 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 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 £42,667 in 2016/17 towards our core running costs. 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 2016/17, as the Lewisham grant provided 24% of our revenue funding, whereas Lewisham groups represented 62% 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 2017/18 to £36,156.

In June 2016 James Wilkinson and Pete Scarott organised another marathon cycle ride from London to Macaroni Wood and the event was a great success with cyclists and their supporters raising nearly £9,000 in sponsorship and donations. A huge thank you to both of them for all their hard work and commitment to Macaroni Wood.

A huge thank you also to Helena Eastham who ran the London Marathon in April to raise funds for NACV. Helena has been a 'Friend' of Macaroni Wood for many years as she is the daughter of our vice chair, James Eastham. Her hard work and dedication raised £2,620 for Macaroni Wood – truly inspirational.

The predominant revenue funding need for NACV remains our staff costs. During the year Liz Wilkinson reduced her hours to 3 days per week and an additional domestic worker was employed on a part-time basis to help us to manage the increasing workload of running such a busy and popular Centre. The charitable trusts who supported NACV by providing grants to cover some of our staff costs are listed in the financial statements of this report.

Other major expenditure this year included refurbishing two of the shower rooms in Bazley House. Income from the Friends of Macaroni Wood enabled us to build a new basket swing in the adventure playground area to replace the extremely popular rope swing that had reached the end of its useful life. We also replaced some of the bunk beds in the bedrooms in Bazley House. Another major capital expense during the year was the renovation of the main drive in April 2016. Of huge benefit to everyone who drives in and out of the wood we were delighted that the Ernest Cook Trust, our landlords, contributed 50% of the outlay.

During the year we raised some funding towards reducing our energy costs at Macaroni Wood. We have not yet reached a decision on how to use this funding to the best effect but are seeking advice on how to gain the maximum environmental impact from the funds we have available.

We are approaching a very important time in the life of NACV at Macaroni Wood as Richard and Liz Wilkinson will be retiring in 2018. A considerable amount of time during the year has been spent on planning for the future of NACV, not only in terms of the future staffing structure but also in terms of governance and the structure of the board of trustees and members. To this end we employed the services of the NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations) to provide a trustee and staff training day in September 2016. We are in a transition phase for NACV and planning and preparation for the future of the organisation will continue during the coming year by developing a new management structure, a business plan and a sustainable fund raising strategy.

Reserves Policy

The trustees recognise the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of reserves in order to ensure the sustainability of the charity. In line with the recommendations and monitoring requirements of our core funder, the London Borough of Lewisham as well as the Charity Commission the board has therefore allocated necessary amounts to the designated funds described below. Given the existence of these funds, the policy concerning general funds is simply to ensure that it stays in credit to the extent of £10,000 or thereabouts. Our balance sheet, at 31st March 2017 shows that we have net assets of £217,363. However, the greater proportion are designated funds, restricted grants, and reserve funds, as set out below:

- £10,181 – General Fund
- £27,929 - 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.
- £53,115 – Restricted Funds - include the balance of grants that have been given for specific purposes. The majority of this sum, £33,520 is for staffing costs. These grants have been donated in advance, and allocated for costs to be incurred in 2017/18 and 2018/19.
- £52,500 - 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, staff accommodation, and external storage facilities.
- £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.
- £24,786 – Future Management Change Fund – a designated reserve to cover any potential cost in ensuring a smooth transition for the charity when the management structure changes during the coming year.

- £15,000 – Biomass Project – a fund that has been put aside from a legacy received from Richard MacVicar, former Chair of NACV, to cover the some of the costs incurred in our aim to reduce our future energy costs and thereby our green footprint.
- 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.

Concluding comments

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. 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 2016-17.

Finally, the full accounts are published on our website, www.macaroniwood.org.uk but, if you should require a hard copy, please contact the Centre Managers who will be happy to post you a copy.

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 -

Bartlett Taylor Charitable Trust

Charles Irving Trust

Childwick Trust

CHK Charities Ltd

Clothworkers' Foundation

Coln St Aldwyn Fete Committee

Deptford Challenge Trust

Dulverton Trust

Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust

Eveson Charitable Trust

Four Winds Charitable Trust

Garfield Weston

Guiting Manor Amenities Trust

The Headley Trust

H R Bull Charitable Trust

The Leathersellers' Company

Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust

Mercers Charitable Foundation

PF Charitable Trust

Quenington Society

Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund

Swire Charitable Trust

Wates Foundation

Woodward Trust

Zurich Community Trust

And all the Friends of Macaroni Wood who support our work with their generous donations

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 2017.

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) (resigned Feb 2017)

J R Eastham

D Hunter

J Rush (resigned Jan 2017)

Cllr A R Till

A Williams (resigned Feb 2017)

A L Wright

J Wylie

B Cummings (resigned Feb 2017)

M Rahmani

S Hodson (resigned Jun 2016)

S Bioletti (co-option terminated Mar 2016)

S Skoglund (Acting Chair) (appointed May 2016)

Secretary R J Wilkinson (retired 5th May 2017)
Sophie E Edwards (appointed 5th May 2017)

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:

A fantastic time yet again. The students enjoyed feeding the pigs and collecting the eggs, trampolining, water fights, as well as racing around on the quads and BMX track. Both Richard and Marcus were welcoming and nothing was too much trouble – thank you – we'll be back!

Baskerville School

A fantastic facility. The kids absolutely loved it here. Richard is very easy going and is always around for ideas and help. Would highly recommend it for any class/school.

Joe Page, Milestone SLD School

We have used the centre for the past 5 years and find it a truly inspirational and amazing place. Fox Hollies is a school for pupils aged 11 – 19 with severe learning difficulties. Many of our pupils live sedentary life styles which results in poor health as they get older. Macaroni Wood gives us a beautiful environment to explore and encourage the pupils to become involved with the curriculum. Richard is passionate about his job and amazes me with his constant plans on how to improve things for the future.

Teresa Fadden – Headteacher Fox Hollies School

I would like to thank you and your team especially Marcus, for giving our young people a wonderful memory for life at Macaroni Wood. They enjoyed the stories Marcus would tell in the evening around the campfire and walking through the woods, gaining knowledge about plants and different things that happen in the forest. All of the youth, felt that Marcus was part of our family and made them feel very comfortable, we look forward to working with him again.

Fiona – The REAP Centre, Lewisham

Richard, Liz, Marcus and Matt were great, as always, over the summer and half term holidays at Macaroni Wood – always willing to help and nothing is a problem – thank you! Each holiday we have at Macaroni Wood is great, everyone enjoys their time – especially spending time in the woods feeding the animals, building bonfires and creating/cooking various things!

SENSE

The relaxed atmospheres of the centre is lovely for our families, and having the freedom of being cut off from roads, traffic and other dangers is amazing. This allows our young children to ‘play-out’ like we used to in the streets when I was a child, and I think that’s something our children miss out on in their everyday lives. Richard was fantastic at looking after us as always. Thank you, we can’t wait to come back!

Follow Your Dreams - Newport

A place where children can really be children. It’s the perfect location for a true nurture holiday and we become one big happy family for the week. We leave with memories that will last a life time and looking forward to returning again.

Kate Nicklin – Brent Knoll School

Richard consistently provided our students with magical experiences that they had never had before, ranging from animal-care and feeding to night walks under the stars. It was quite extraordinary how Macaroni Wood featured in our students’ leavers ‘speeches’, (not all were verbal presentations of course), as they reminisced to a large audience about their most powerful memories of their school careers.

Martin Doyle – Headteacher Riverside School

Visitors to Macaroni Wood during the last year included:

Lewisham Youth Clubs and Adventure Playgrounds

Lewisham XLP Project
 SENSE
 Follow Your Dreams
 Barnados
 St Andrew's Centre
 Beormund School
 Uffculme School
 Rushey Green Super Dads
 Lewisham NEET
 Milestone School
 Vietnamese Women's Group
 GEMS
 Drumbeat School
 Quenington YC
 Lewisham PSG
 Therapy Therapy
 Baskerville School
 Springfield School
 Deptford Green School
 Riverside School
 Tidemill School
 Lewisham Sports Club
 Grinling Gibbons School

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR USERS

BUILDING	BAZLEY	CASTREE
GENDER	49% Male	47% Male
ETHNICITY	43% Minority Ethnic Communities	17% Minority Ethnic Communities
AGE U 18	59%	36%
DISABILITIES and other special needs	22%	25%

Castree House groups have very high staff levels

A total of 1,962 people stayed with us during the last 12 months (136 groups – which also reflects an increase in private usage and, therefore, income generated by such groups) – a slight decrease on 2015-16.

1,003 people (61 groups) were Bazley House users – of which 62% were from Lewisham, whilst 959 people (75 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.

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. We have always had and continue to maintain a strong commitment to working with groups who provide respite and care for those with special needs.

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. 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.

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. 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.

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. Ms Wylie retires by rotation and

offers herself for re-election and in addition Mr Hainsworth, Mr Davidson, Ms Newton-Alfred and Mr Doyle were appointed by the directors on 5th May 2017 and therefore retire and offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

As NACV approaches a period of change, with the retirement of Richard and Liz Wilkinson in 2018 and the need for a new management structure, it also became apparent that there would be a need for a recruitment drive for new trustees to enhance the skill set of the current board. A recruitment drive began in January 2017 and four new trustees with the relevant skills required by NACV will be joining the board in May 2017. New trustees are recruited for the specialist skills and knowledge that they bring to the board and we are looking forward to the coming year when the board will work together to deliver a suitable operating model for the future, create strategic partnerships and developing our future membership structure. 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 to £42,667 and will be further reduced in 2017-18 to £36,155.

In September 2016 the trustees engaged the services of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) to implement a training programme for both trustees and management to cover governance, fund raising and strategic planning – issues that NACV will need to address during the next 12 months when the management structure of the charity changes following the retirement of the Wilkinsons. The trustees are engaged with the Charity Commission to ensure that appropriate risk management, expertise and governance capabilities are maintained as the roles and responsibilities of key people change as NACV moves forward. We are supremely confident that Marcus and whoever replaces Richard as ‘leader’ of the charity will carry on the good work that has been achieved at Macaroni Wood over the last 40 years and are looking forward to the future period of change with anticipation and excitement.

The promotional video on our website and Facebook page continues to prove helpful at fundraising presentations and with the help of the Trustees who attend Lewisham Assembly meetings we continue to attract new users and new funding as our financial statements and treasurers report elsewhere in this report ascertain.

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 Board of Trustees are in the process of reviewing all policies and procedures to ensure 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. In the coming year we will be having monthly meetings to deliver the operational changes that need to be made to the structure of the charity to cover the period of change that the charity faces. All decisions are taken by the Board of Trustees. The operation is run by the Managers (Richard Wilkinson and Marcus Scrivens) 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 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 a proportion of the meetings are 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 7 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Sophie E Edwards
SECRETARY

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an income and expenditure account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	Notes	2017			2016		
		Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	121,419	64,627	186,046	97,846	26,550	124,396
Charitable activities	4	46,226	-	46,226	33,365	-	33,365
Other trading activities		30,877	-	30,877	32,521	-	32,521
Investments		64	-	64	51	-	51
Total		198,586	64,627	263,213	163,783	26,550	190,333
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		1,938		1,938	1,692		1,692
Charitable activities	6	151,966	42,101	194,067	149,848	43,549	193,397
Total		153,904	42,101	196,005	151,540	43,549	195,089
Net income (expenditure)		44,682	22,526	67,208	12,243	(16,999)	(4,756)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Funds brought forward		119,566	30,589	150,155	107,323	47,588	154,911
Funds carried forward		164,248	53,115	217,363	119,566	30,589	150,155

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

(Company number 03325597)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		-		-
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	9	3,169		2,274	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>237,422</u>		<u>170,974</u>	
		240,591		173,248	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(23,228)</u>		<u>(23,093)</u>	
Net current assets			217,363		150,155
Net assets	11		<u>217,363</u>		<u>150,155</u>
Represented by:					
Accumulated funds:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	12		11,471		10,181
Designated funds	12		<u>152,777</u>		<u>109,385</u>
			164,248		119,566
Restricted funds	12		53,115		30,589
			<u>217,363</u>		<u>150,155</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2017 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 7 November 2017 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 2017

1. Company information

The company is limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales; it is also a registered charity whose activities are intended to be for the public benefit.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

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 and in accordance with company law.

Going concern

After making enquiries, the directors are not aware of any material uncertainties that cast doubt on going concern and they have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue its activities for the foreseeable future, and at least twelve months from the date of approval of these accounts. Accordingly, they have continued to adopt the going concern basis in the financial statements.

Income

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

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. The following depreciation rates apply:

Improvements to leasehold property	Over the lesser of three years and the remaining life of the lease
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NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

2. Accounting Policies (continued)

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.

3. Donations and legacies

Donor	Purpose	2017 £	2016 £
Restricted funds			
Four Winds Trust	Salaries	1,000	-
Wates Foundation	Salaries	10,000	-
Leathersellers	Salaries	10,000	-
Childwick Trust	Salaries	10,000	-
Mercers Company	Salaries	15,000	-
Southall Trust	Biomass boiler	3,000	-
The Trefoil Trust	Biomass boiler	3,000	-
Zurich Community Foundation	Biomass boiler	2,427	-
Summerfield Trust	Biomass boiler	8,000	-
Lewisham Youth Service		2,200	-
Other	Various	-	26,550
		<u>64,627</u>	<u>26,550</u>
Unrestricted funds:			
The London Borough of Lewisham		42,667	48,117
Friends of Macaroni Wood	Designated Fund	7,237	8,383
PF Charitable Trust		2,000	-
Lord Faringdon CT		1,000	-
Richard MacVicar Legacy		15,000	-
Richard MacVicar Legacy - designated as Biomass Boiler Project		15,000	-
Guiting Manor Trust		2,000	-
Dulverton CT		2,500	-
Bartlett Taylor		1,000	-
HR Bull Charitable Trust		2,000	-
29th May CT		4,000	-
Eveson CT		3,000	-
The Swire Charitable Trust		10,000	-
London Community Foundation		450	-
Four Winds Trust		1,000	-
Other		12,565	41,346
		<u>121,419</u>	<u>97,846</u>
Total		<u>186,046</u>	<u>124,396</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

4. Income from charitable activities

	2017	2016
	£	£
Bazley House fees	11,304	10,832
Castree House fees	34,922	22,533
	<u>46,226</u>	<u>33,365</u>

5. Costs of Charitable activities

	2017			2016
	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total £
Direct costs				
Animal expenses	2,344	-	2,344	2,005
Motor and travelling	11,715	-	11,715	8,645
Play equipment	686	-	686	1,502
Equipment	8,029	-	8,029	12,279
Woodland learning	-	544	544	273
	<u>22,774</u>	<u>544</u>	<u>23,318</u>	<u>24,704</u>
Staff costs				
Salaries and contributions	60,129	33,807	93,936	97,146
Staff training	1,394	-	1,394	729
Catering	-	-	-	-
	<u>61,523</u>	<u>33,807</u>	<u>95,330</u>	<u>97,875</u>
Premises costs				
Rates	4,609	-	4,609	4,581
Light and heat	12,344	-	12,344	11,694
Repairs and maintenance	22,240	7,110	29,350	40,934
Cleaning	1,201	640	1,841	1,219
	<u>40,394</u>	<u>7,750</u>	<u>48,144</u>	<u>58,428</u>
Support costs				
Telephone	2,942	-	2,942	2,420
Insurances	2,628	-	2,628	2,504
Stationery and postage	2,171	-	2,171	1,782
Computer expenses & IT support	3,785	-	3,785	5,149
Subscriptions & donations	35	-	35	35
	<u>11,561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,561</u>	<u>11,890</u>
Governance				
Management change	15,214	-	15,214	-
Independent examiner's fees	500	-	500	500
	<u>15,714</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,714</u>	
	<u>151,966</u>	<u>42,101</u>	<u>194,067</u>	<u>193,397</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

6. Staff costs

Total staff remuneration during the year was:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Gross salaries	85,702	86,521
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	4,432	5,465
Employer's pension contributions	3,802	5,160
	<u>93,936</u>	<u>97,146</u>

The remuneration for the year of the Centre Manager was £32 858 (2016: £32,837).

7. 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 £379 (2016 £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.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to leasehold property	Vehicles	Total
	£	£	
Cost			
As at 31 March 2016	132,504	8,895	141,399
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2017	<u>132,504</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>141,399</u>
Depreciation			
As at 31 March 2016	132,504	8,895	141,399
Provided in year	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2017	<u>132,504</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>141,399</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 March 2017	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
As at 30 March 2016	<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 2017 (continued)

9. Debtors

	2017 £	2016 £
Prepayments	<u>3,169</u>	<u>2,274</u>

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £	2016 £
Taxation and social security	2,280	2,280
Accruals	1,095	960
Grants received in advance	10,668	10,668
Fees received in advance	9,185	9,185
	<u>23,228</u>	<u>23,093</u>

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	187,476	53,115	240,591
Current liabilities	(23,228)	-	(23,228)
As at 31 March 2017	<u>164,248</u>	<u>53,115</u>	<u>217,363</u>

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S VENTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

12. Restricted funds

Name of fund	Purpose	Opening balance	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Closing balance
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:						
Lewisham Youth Service	Facilities to support visits	-	2,200	(1,125)	-	1,075
Various	Biomass boiler	-	16,427	-	-	16,427
Rowlands Charitable Trust	Woodland learning sessions	2,440	-	(544)	-	1,896
Various	Salaries	21,967	46,000	(34,447)	-	33,520
Various	Renovation of bathrooms	6,182	-	(5,985)	-	197
		<u>30,589</u>	<u>64,627</u>	<u>(42,101)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,115</u>
Unrestricted funds:						
Designated funds:						
Friends of Macaroni Wood	Money raised as contingency against unforeseen general expenditure	24,323	7,237	(3,631)	-	27,929
Revenue Contingency Fund	Money raised as contingency against unforeseen general expenditure	32,562	-	-	-	32,562
Buildings Contingency Fund	Contingency against unforeseen building expenditure	32,500	-	-	20,000	52,500
Biomass boiler project	Provision of boiler	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Future management change fund	Management transition	20,000	-	(15,214)	20,000	24,786
Sub-total - designated funds		<u>109,385</u>	<u>22,237</u>	<u>(18,845)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>152,777</u>
General Fund		10,181	176,349	(135,059)	(40,000)	11,471
		<u>119,566</u>	<u>198,586</u>	<u>(153,904)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>164,248</u>
Total funds		<u>150,155</u>	<u>263,213</u>	<u>(196,005)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>217,363</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 2017 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 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).
- have 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
Chartered Accountant
1b Oxford Street, Cheltenham, GL52 6DT

7 November 2017