

Friends of Grahamstown and District Development (FOGADD)

Registered Charity Number: 1093339

Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2023

Friends of Grahamstown and District Development

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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Principal Address: 22 Moor Park Drive, Leeds LS6 4BX UK

Friends of Grahamstown and District Development

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Legal and Administrative Information

This is a fundraising charity set up under a Trust Deed dated 16 January 2002 and Supplemental Deed dated 8 July 2002. The objects of the charity are to promote the advancement of education, health, welfare and sporting developments in Grahamstown (now known officially as Makhanda, though 'Grahamstown' is still in widespread usage – including on road-signs and official postal addresses), and the surrounding region of the Eastern Cape, South Africa.

Trustees and Governance

Name of Trustee	Dates during which the named trustee acted if not for the whole period	Name of person or body entitled to appoint any charity trustee
Prof C Megone (Chair)		Trustee resolution
Mr C Iley (Treasurer)		Trustee resolution
Mrs A Hall		Trustee resolution
Mrs C Harvey		Trustee resolution
Mr M Lamb (Secretary)		Trustee resolution
Mr C Law		Trustee resolution
Mrs S Law		Trustee resolution
Mrs C Mallett		Trustee resolution
Prof D Matravers		Trustee resolution
Mrs D Megone		Trustee resolution
Mrs C Smith		Trustee resolution

Eleven trustees are appointed by resolution of the existing trustee body. New trustees are recruited through personal recommendation and approved by resolution of the existing trustee body. The details below explain the main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Activities and Achievements

Overview

FOGADD continues to support education and welfare projects in the Eastern Cape of South Africa, specifically in the Grahamstown area. During the financial year ended 31 March 2023 there were three full meetings of the UK trustees, whilst in South Africa there was one meeting of the Watch Committee and a selection meeting of the Scholarship Committee. Two trustees also visited Grahamstown and met scholars and visited projects. All committee members both in UK and SA remain volunteers, and all fund-raising is carried out on a voluntary basis. We would once again like to thank Mrs Margie Keeton for monitoring our activities in Grahamstown. We are pleased that Mr Gavin Keeton (formerly Professor of Economics at Rhodes University, and Chair of Grahamstown Rotary Club) has agreed to take on oversight of the SA Bank Account.

i) Fund-raising

We are pleased to report that our donations increased from £13,849 to £20,678 partly thanks to a large one-off donation for a specific project. These funds were part of the donation to GADRA. We are also very grateful to St Edwards church in York which included FOGADD in the list of charities they support over three years. In the year ended 31 March 2023, we received a second donation from them of just over £1,500. Other regular donations were broadly stable.

Our income from events increased significantly from £529 to £3,107 thanks to two very successful quiz nights in York and London. In the previous year we did not hold any fund-raising events. The income which was received was carried forward from an event the previous year. Gift-Aid rose slightly thanks to the increase in donations, though we cannot reclaim Gift-aid on all donations such as that from St Edwards church.

Our strategy remains to increase our regular donations and reduce our dependence on events, but we recognise the need to continue with events both to raise money and to widen the base of regular

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supporters. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters who give so generously and provide FOGADD with a sound basis to enable us to carry out our work, which remains much needed in such a poor part of a very poor Province. There continue to be serious challenges brought on by COVID in the Grahamstown and District area. Once again, our fund-raising 'benefited' as the rand remained weak against the pound which means the money we raised could go further in South Africa.

As ever, we would encourage all regular donors to consider whether they have any friends who might contribute regularly, **even on a small scale**, to a charity which has virtually no running costs but remains well-managed. Even ten more regular donors would make a significant difference.

ii) Allocation of Funds

How then do we spend the money which we receive?

Strategy

We continue to support six on-going projects, but in the accounting period we did not make payment to two (who may possibly receive two donations in the following year as a result). The projects we support provide us with good feedback on their activities, accounting well for the money we send, and in the case of the scholarships, which has always been our major outlay, we are now seeing very gratifying results as the scholars go on to higher education or employment. As usual, we report on the projects supported last year individually, setting out our comments on them again below.

The trustees are satisfied they have sufficient funds to pay bills and meet any liabilities as they fall due.

Scholarships

The amount spent on scholarships rose due to an additional scholar at Victoria Girls High School, though we benefited from having funds in place in February to pay the school-fees which led to an 'early-bird' fee reduction.

During 2022-23 we supported eight scholars at PJ Olivier and Victoria Girls High School. We are again pleased that our matriculating scholar passed matric at bachelors pass level, and those from previous years continue to do well, either at university or in work.

Overall since we began, we have supported 39 scholars (including current scholars) and nearly all of them have either gained University or Tertiary Education places or gone on to full employment in good quality jobs (or both). In 2022/23 six scholars attended PJ Olivier High School, where the language of instruction is Afrikaans, and two attended Victoria Girls High School (see below). All the scholars continue to benefit from the opportunity to attend these good quality schools despite often difficult home backgrounds. Furthermore, whilst all have benefited significantly, some of their achievements have been very impressive indeed.

We have worked with Victoria Girls High School, which obtains the best exam results in the Eastern Cape, to find other suitable scholarship candidates. As a result, the school again identified a suitable second candidate for a scholarship; two trustees also met her in August 2022, and we began to support her in January 2023.

Two trustees visited Grahamstown in July/August 2022, and were very pleased to find that several scholars are contributing directly back to the Grahamstown community, as teachers, social workers, or in business.

GADRA

In the year ended 31 March 2023 a donation in one tranche of R210,000 was paid. This was made up of R80,000 one-off donation, R100,000 for general purposes and R30,000 to cover two bursaries to the Matric school.

GADRA continues to operate in four main areas. Firstly, this organisation has embarked on an ambitious plan to improve the quality of the more deprived schools in Grahamstown. This plan involves a number of initiatives including a mentoring programme at three schools for final year pupils, with mentoring

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provided by Rhodes University students. This was a significant contributing factor in an excellent number of passes at University entrance standard from these schools.

Secondly, GADRA runs the Matric School, which we also continued to support. This provides intensive tuition to school leavers to improve their grades and so improve their chances of further education and employment. GADRA is now the leading feeder school in Grahamstown (public or private) for Rhodes University. In recent years there has always been approaching a 100% pass rate, and over 150 students have gained bachelor passes i.e. achieved university entrance level grades. We believe this achievement by GADRA continues to give credibility to the wider project they are undertaking to raise achievement levels in the weaker schools across the city.

Thirdly there is the mobile science lab which we have helped to fund since its inception, and which our funding continues to support. This is now overseen by GADRA because GADRA can provide the financial and other management skills needed to organise the work of the mobile science lab. There has been a shift in the project's approach to developing science education in weaker schools. Rather than supplying teachers into the schools, the teachers at the supported schools receive additional training and development through sessions undertaken at Rhodes University. The mobile lab then provides the necessary equipment for pupils to undertake practical work in biology and physics, as well as giving support for that practical work via the Xhosa speaking assistant.

Finally, GADRA has developed a recent initiative, two "Whistlestop" schools, which we also continue to support through our funding. These schools work with deprived children at primary age to develop their literacy and numeracy, and thus to prevent them from falling behind in these key skills early in their educational development. So far results for this programme have proved to be outstanding, and we are delighted to be contributing to its support.

Admirably, GADRA managed to maintain all its educational activities in operation for all permitted periods in the face of the COVID challenges which continued in SA through much of this reporting period.

In this period, we also received a substantial one-off donation which was largely spent on a one off GADRA project, namely refurbishment of classrooms and school buildings at Tanti where one of the whistle-stop schools operates. Tanti is the poorest area within the Grahamstown township area and this school had fallen into some disrepair. However the refurbishment has had a dramatic effect on the environment in which the pupils learn, a matter of recognised educational significance. The donation also came soon after a very energetic new principal had come into post so was particularly timely. (It was visited by two Trustees in August 2023, outside this reporting period but still relevant. They were able to confirm very impressive results.)

St Mary's Development and Care Centre (DCC)

In the year ended 31 March 2023 donations of R65,000 were paid in two tranches.

We continued to provide funding to the St Mary's DCC which was originally founded to address the problem of poor children coming to school hungry. In addition to providing nutritious lunches after school, the DCC also provides support to over 200 children through purposefully scaffolded sets of developmental, learning, and enrichment activities. It worked throughout the pandemic, though affected by lock-downs. However, it is now operating normally again.

A new leadership appointment was made at DCC in 2022, but the person is known to FOGADD trustees, and we are confident that they will lead this organisation successfully. They seem to have made a very good start.

Child and Family Welfare (CFW)

In the year ended 31 March 2023 a single donation of R35,000 was paid.

This charity works with children suffering from abuse and neglect and struggles to retain the professional staff required. (It is estimated that 1 in 3 children under 18 suffer from child abuse. This terrifying level of abuse has remained constant for many years.) Case-loads thus remain high, and salaries need to be competitive if social workers are to be attracted to Grahamstown as there is a national shortage of social workers. As in the past, the FOGADD contribution supports salary costs, aiming to help with staff retention.

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We are delighted that under Martha Thompson, a qualified social worker who has also worked in the UK, together with the SA management committee of CFW, this important organization continues to develop its work. As part of that work, it is now successfully running three safe houses for 16 children that have suffered abuse or neglect.

In July/August 2022 two trustees met with Ms. Thompson, and with some of her staff, and so were able to be assured on the ground of the continued well-organised operation of CFW.

Siyazama Pre-School

In the year ended 31 March 2023 a single donation of R25,000 was paid.

Siyazama continues to be a model for pre-schools in the township, and our funding enables them to keep their buildings in good repair and provide some small additional funding for staff, who receive only a very small monthly stipend. This year the donation went towards the refurbishment cost for the waterless toilets.

CSD

In the year ended 31 March 2023 no donations were paid as the timing of the payment meant it fell outside the accounting period. We aim to resume donations in the next accounting period as trustees visiting in July/August 2022 were able to be assured that it continues to do excellent work.

The Centre for Social Development ('CSD') focuses on training and support for pre-schools but uses these bases for early childhood development as a springboard for the development of Multipurpose Centres that serve the welfare of the whole wider community (from Aids awareness classes to Governance training). They have recently appointed a new Director who is doing excellent work.

Assumption Nutrition

In the year ended 31 March 2023 no donations were paid as the timing of the payment meant it fell outside the accounting period. Again, we aim to resume donations in the next accounting period as trustees visiting in July/August 2022 were able to visit the Centre and meet both staff and children. This enabled us to be assured that it continues to do excellent work.

This project, like St Marys DCC, provides lunches to children who would otherwise not be sure of getting a meal at home. Our donations have been used mostly for food for children from very poor families who suffered particularly during Covid lockdowns.

iii) Costs and Publicity

In all this activity, we seek to keep our costs to the barest minimum. Thus, almost all donations are spent on the needs in SA. Our only costs continue to be the bank charges for each electronic transfer of funds, and a monthly charge from Just Giving. We aim to minimise the bank charges by making just one transfer a year. Everyone involved directly in our work both here and in SA is contributing voluntarily.

The web-site address is www.fogadd.org, and we have a facebook page. We also have a short power point presentation which can be delivered to donor organisations such as schools and churches in order to provide their members with more information on our activities.

In 2021 we made a major revamp of the website, and this has borne fruit with a significant increase in visits to the site, and good use being made of it during event funding activities in particular.

iv) Grahamstown Watch Committee

We are grateful for the work of the Watch Committee in Grahamstown which continues to monitor all FOGADD projects and also to advise on other possible worthwhile areas for support. This committee plays a crucial role (along with the accounts and reports from the relevant organisations) in assuring us that the money raised by FOGADD is well spent. We are very fortunate that such skilled and busy people continue to offer their services. We are delighted that Mrs Margie Keeton, who is involved in a number of voluntary organisations in Grahamstown, continues to monitor projects on our behalf.

Due to COVID, no trustees had been able to visit Grahamstown during the previous reporting period. However, in July/August 2022 two trustees were able to spend five weeks in Grahamstown/Makhanda and meet many of the key stakeholders in supported projects and activities, from project leaders to

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scholars. Although we always make efforts to ensure that we are in regular electronic contact with Grahamstown, and the funded projects, visiting on the ground in this way is an extremely important supplement to such indirect contact. Both forms of engagement are recognised at the Eastern Cape end, and both play a role in the efficacy of FOGADD's work, and in assuring donors of the good use of their funds.

One additional innovation, a result of technology development during Covid, has been to invite key Grahamstown stakeholders to attend trustee meetings on zoom. This has enabled all trustees to gain deeper insights into the activities FOGADD is supporting.

As noted above, the quality and dedication of the leaders of all the organisations FOGADD supports was both reassuring and heart-warming, with so much still needing to be done.

Readers of the last two annual reports will recall the degree of stress caused in the area by COVID 19, with many families struggling for even the most basic necessities such as food. The extensive drought reported in 2021 had continued into its fourth year in 2022, but in 2023 the drought broke, so that brought some relief to the community. However, the problems caused by the Municipality's inability to ensure the provision of basic services to citizens continued still, so that despite the rains, water supplies were affected by failures in the dams and the pumping facilities. Also, once again, the Municipality still failed, in the reporting period, in effectively maintaining roads, sewerage and electricity delivery, keeping public highways clear of grazing animals (cows and donkeys), clearing rubbish and so on. The worst affected by these failures are still the poorest citizens.

In all these circumstances it remains, once again, of the utmost importance to stress that the achievements of civil society, and in particular the organisations FOGADD supports, are even more impressive, and even more vital. In particular the work in education is outstanding, and this is so crucial both to enable students to gain employment and to enable them to be active citizens. In this area Grahamstown/Makhanda is becoming a leader in the Eastern Cape.

In conclusion, we reiterate our thanks to all our donors, and as chairman I would once again also like to thank all my fellow trustees for all the work they have put in over the last year. I would also like to thank all those in Grahamstown/Makhanda who send us regular reports on their activities. As this review has indicated the work needed to raise funds for FOGADD is always challenging. Nonetheless we wish to continue our support and, if possible, to increase it year on year. Recent events have only confirmed yet again the need for this. As noted, we were able to return to see activity on the ground in July/August 2022, so we continue to monitor projects closely. It was satisfying to see so much being achieved by the projects we support.

Our current plan remains that of maintaining contributions to the activities we currently support, subject to satisfactory reports on their work. However, if possible, we would like to raise additional funds to increase our support for the ambitious project to raise standards in all the former 'township' schools. As already indicated, it is likely that the demands will continue to be challenging over the next few years as our support base also faces financial challenges. Having said that the overall sums required remain fairly small when viewed in a larger context and I am confident that we will continue to be motivated to meet the significant needs that continue to require addressing in Grahamstown.

(Prof.) Christopher Megone, Chairman of Trustees.

* The conversions are approximations using an exchange rate of R20.4 to £1 which was the average for the past year.

Policies

There should be a description of the policies adopted as follows:

- *Reserves Policy: The charity currently operates with minimal reserves at the end of the financial year as normally payments are made just before the year end. The trustees wish to retain a minimum level of reserves to enable the charity to meet its commitment to scholarships each year even if there is a significant fall in donations. Other donations are at their discretion dependent on*

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the income raised each year. Trustees are endeavouring to build up its donor base with a view to having cash reserves equal to Scholarship fees committed, currently of c £7,000. The year-end reserves figure of £3,819 is somewhat below the target but we will continue to try to build up our reserves whilst maintaining our support for projects.

- *Grant-making policy –*
 1. Accountability and ease of monitoring e.g. proper accounts must be kept; Grahamstown Watch Committee able to monitor activity and report back on progress and outcome.
 2. Effectiveness and achieving outcomes – e.g. monitoring of what scholars have gone on to do; monitoring of results from GADRA matric school and primary schools projects.
 3. Meeting our priorities – our priorities are in the areas of education and welfare, with health and sport remaining as secondary targets.
 4. Number of people benefiting – we want to uplift the whole community, so where we support individuals, as in the scholarship scheme, we shall be looking for knock on benefits for the wider community.
 5. Geography – projects nearer to Grahamstown have priority, in part because of greater ease of monitoring via the Watch Committee.
 6. Length of our commitment – important to classify all potential projects as ongoing or one-off.
 7. Scholarship selection – independent Grahamstown scholarship committee to recommend scholarship awards for approval by Trustees.

- *Review of major risks (optional) –*

Risk: failure of proper allocation of funds overseas

Action: Grahamstown Watch Committee to oversee activities, and accounts received from projects supported.

Signature and Declaration

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that:

- The trustees have approved the report above; and
- Have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.



Prof. C Megone, Chairman

Date: 15th January 2024

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF GRAHAMSTOWN AND DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT (FOGADD) CHARITY NUMBER 109339

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of Grahamstown and District Development ('the Trust') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on page 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Use of my report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the statement I have made.



Name: Linda Cooper

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Office address: Little Trees, Brearton, Harrogate HG3 3BZ

Date:

16 January 2024

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

<u>Receipts</u>	Year ended £	31 March 2023 £	Year ended £	31 March 2022 £
Donations and other similar receipts	20,678		13,895	
Fundraising events	3,107		529	
Gift aid	3,115		2,988	
Deposit interest	25		84	
Total receipts		<u>26,925</u>		<u>17,496</u>
<u>Payments</u>				
Charitable payments:				
Scholarships paid	9,117		7,400	
Grants paid	10,313		18,676	
Charitable activities	6,138		7,618	
Bank charges	44		126	
		<u>25,612</u>		<u>33,820</u>
Fundraising costs		838		216
Administration costs		0		0
Total Payments		<u>26,450</u>		<u>34,036</u>
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		475		-16,540
Cash funds last year end		2,791		21,071
Exchange rate differences		553		-1,740
Cash funds this year end		<u>3,819</u>		<u>2,791</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT YEAR END for the financial year ended 31 March 2022

	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £
Total Unrestricted Cash Funds	<u>3,819</u>	<u>2,791</u>

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees:



Prof C Megone

Date

15th January 2024



Mrs D Megone