

Charity number 209978
Company number 00183397

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2024

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

CONTENTS

	Page
General information	1
Report of the Council	2-15
Independent Auditor's Report	16-18
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities	19
Entity Statement of Financial Activities	20
Consolidated Balance Sheet	21
Consolidated Cash Flow Statement	22
Notes To The Accounts	23-36
The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements;	
The Cremation Society of Great Britain	
Statement of Financial Activities	38
Balance Sheet	39
Schedule of income	40
Schedule of expenditure	41-42
Schedule of investments	43

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Cremation Society is a registered charity, not conducted for profit, and was originally founded in 1874 by Sir Henry Thompson, Bart. The Society was incorporated in 1922 under the Companies Act as a body limited by guarantee, and without a share capital.

Honorary President

Lord de Mauley

Vice Presidents

Ulf Lagerström, LL.M.

The Reverend Professor Douglas J Davies FBA

Honorary Treasurer

R D Clarke

Council

Lord de Mauley (Honorary President)

Professor H J Grainger OBE (Chair)

C F Rickman (Vice-Chair)

R D Clarke

Professor H A Conway

Right Revd C.R.J. Foster

D A Kerslake

Executive Officer & Secretary

W Buchan

Registered Office

Brecon House, Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ

Telephone: 01622 688292

Email: info@cremation.org.uk

Website: www.cremation.org.uk

Auditors

Begbies Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Unit 14 Park Barn, Evegate Business Park

Smeeth

Ashford

Kent

TN25 6SX

Solicitors

Geldards LLP

Dumfries House

Dumfries Place

Cardiff CF10 3ZF

Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc

Regent Street

London

Registrations

Charity registered number 209978

Company registered number 183397



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Society was founded in 1874 by Sir Henry Thompson, Bart to promote a more sanitary, reverent and inexpensive method of disposing of the dead. The Society's current charitable objectives are:

Objectives

- to promote the practice of cremation for the respectful disposal of the bodies of dead persons;
- to advance public education in the practice and ethics of cremation; and
- to investigate methods of disposing of the bodies of dead persons which appear to the Society to be superior to cremation and, if the Society thinks fit, to promote such methods and advance public education in their practice and ethics either instead of or in addition to cremation.

Strategies

Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Council members undertake a review of the Society's strategy every three years to ensure the Society's objectives are being met and to ensure that the Society's activities remain relevant and aligned to its objectives. Under its current strategic plan, the Society will concentrate on three keys areas:

- research – building a systematic picture of the impact of the practice of cremation from an environmental, societal and financial perspective, to provide an easy pathway for the public to consult in order to make informed decisions about their funeral choices
- data collection – including the monitoring and analysing of changes in practice to highlight best practices where they evolve – and to educate the public and cremation sector generally, in any moving trends
- international co-operation – to pursue existing and new working relationships with international colleagues, for joint working opportunities to be explored and knowledge to be shared

The Society looks to achieve its current charitable aims and strategic objectives through:

- providing and supporting cremation conferences, meetings and lectures, both nationally and internationally
- promoting the work of the International Cremation Federation, the European Cremation Network, and other international colleagues
- communication of information relating to cremation, through social media, and the provision of regular publications
- continued collation and publication of national and international statistical information and cremation data
- monitoring all forms of new technology and equipment that may better protect the environment for the future
- providing an impartial resource to members of the public and funeral sector generally on all matters relating to cremation

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Future Aims

Looking ahead the Society plans to:

- continue to work with working groups covering the cremation sector, including government departments, stakeholders and through its membership of the Deceased Management Advisory Group (DMAG) and the promotion of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Funerals and Bereavement
- expand the role of the Society as the international repository of cremation statistics, exploring relationships where data is not currently provided
- through Council members' appointment to the International Cremation Federation and through its involvement with the European Cremation Network, to promote cremation practice and encourage the sharing of knowledge between nations – contributing to the expansion of the cremation sector in those countries where cremation is yet to be introduced, where appropriate
- commission research on current societal attitudes to cremation and to explore where more detailed research may be required
- continue to explore additional or alternative methods of disposal where appropriate, particularly with the environmental, societal and financial impact of alternative methods in mind
- promote informed decision-making with respect to funerary choices, to members of the public, through its publications
- encourage the use of its archived material, to educate on the history of cremation
- monitor its operations in order to evaluate the success of its strategies.

3. ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE

a. External Representation

The Society is represented by its Council members or its Executive Officer on a number of external groups, which enable the Society to pursue its charitable objectives. These include:

Deceased Management Advisory Group (DMAG)

DMAG was formed in March 2020 when the government met with representative bodies from the death care sector regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. The Group is formed of representatives from the National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD), National Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors (SAIF), Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA), Funeral Suppliers' Association (FSA), Association of Private Crematoria and Cemeteries (APCC) and the Cremation Society.

The Group continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss issues affecting the death care sector, liaising with Government departments and experts from within the funeral sector, where necessary. The Group has spent a significant amount of time over the past year working closely with the Ministry of Justice on the implementation of the statutory medical examiner system, providing feedback on draft legislation and guidance, and discussing concerns around the new system.

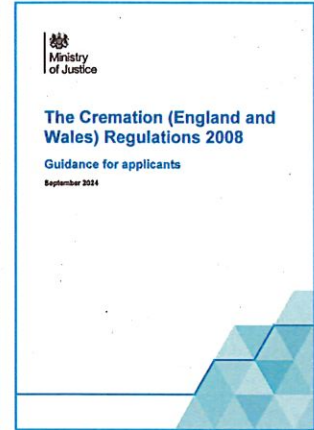
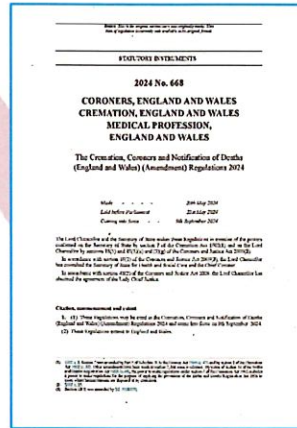
THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

DMAG continues to fund the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Funerals and Bereavement. The Group has discussed issues affecting the death management sector including the environmental impact of funerals, the problem with unclaimed ashes, the provision of bereavement support, issues surrounding funeral poverty, and the work of the coroner's service.

Funeral Sector – Burials and Cremation Stakeholders Working Group

The Society has worked with the Ministry of Justice and sector colleagues on the development of the guidance and new forms required for the statutory implementation of the national medical examiner system in England and Wales. Working with DMAG colleagues, feedback has been provided on draft legislation throughout as the date for the implementation of the statutory system was announced and updates will continue to be communicated as the system is implemented.



Environment Agency – Process Guidance Notes Technical Working Group

The Society contributed to the public consultation launched by Defra in December 2023 and will continue to press for progress to be made on the publication of the new Guidance.

Law Commission Project : Burial, Cremation, and New Funerary Techniques

The Law Commission is now undertaking its project looking at the current law governing burial and cremation and investigating what legislation may be required for new funerary techniques – with the project being undertaken as three separate strands: 'burial and cremation', 'new funerary methods' and 'rights and obligations relating to funerary methods, funerals and remains'. The Society has met with the Law Commission team to discuss the progress being made on the project and has highlighted to the team where the current law impacts on members of the public and the funeral sector generally, on a day-to-day basis.

Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation (CAMEO)

As part of its commitment to its environmental responsibilities, the Society continues to work with its FBCA colleagues in the ongoing provision of the CAMEO scheme, with Professor Hilary Grainger representing the Society, as one of the CAMEO directors. 77.5% of cremations carried out in the UK were fully abated in 2023, with 76% of crematoria participating in the CAMEO scheme. It is intended that CAMEO Limited will continue to operate to carry through the successful Burden-Sharing Scheme for Mercury Emission Reduction.

Council of British Funeral Services (CBFS)

The Council of British Funeral Services is a forum of representatives from across the death care sector, providing an opportunity for every organisation to discuss issues facing the sector and update on their current work. More recent discussions have included the subject of direct cremation, the children's funeral fund, and the long-awaited medical examiner system.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Churches' Funerals Group

The Society is represented on the Churches Funeral Group (CFG) by Debbie Kerslake. The CFG is chaired by the Right Reverend Christopher Foster, formerly Bishop of Portsmouth, who is also on the Board of the Cremation Society. The CFG was formed in 1982 by the mainstream churches in England and Wales, as an advisory group to co-ordinate policy relating to the pastoral and administrative aspects of funeral services at cemeteries and crematoria, and to represent the Churches in negotiations and discussions with central Government, local authorities and other organisations connected with funerals and the care of bereaved people. The Group consists of representatives from the largest Christian denominations along with representatives of funeral directors (the NAFD and SAIF); burial and cremation authorities (the ICCM) and Quaker Social Action.

The subjects and issues discussed by the Group this year include updates on the Law Commission consultation; the uptake and issues relating to direct cremation; the transfer of churchyards to local authority care; the lack of ability for people in prison to attend funerals in person; access to funerals for those who are deaf; the report of the UK Commission on Bereavement and consultation on the review of the crematoria guidance.

Dr Naomi Thompson from Goldsmiths, University of London, shared the results of her research into Faith in Funerals with the group and some members attended the seminar to launch the report. The Group receives regular reports including from the Council of British Funeral Services, Byw Nawr (Living Now) and Dying Matters.

The group was represented at the Cremation and Burial Communication and Education (CBCE) conference and took part in a Theos round table event on Death and Dying in the UK to discuss the findings of the report – Love, Grief and Hope: Emotional responses to death and dying in the UK by Dr Madeleine Pennington and Dr Nathan Mladin. Published in November 2023 it has implications for faith groups, the funeral industry and public policy.

Lonely Funerals Symposium

The Society was invited to a symposium organised by Dr Sally Raudon of St John's College, University of Cambridge, looking at the subject of 'lonely funerals'. Attended by a UK and internationally-based researchers, discussions took place around the subjects including public health funerals, direct cremations, 'the unclaimed dead', and 'the lonely dead'.

Lonely Funerals: an interdisciplinary symposium	
Tuesday 20 April 2024	
Archer Quaker Church House, 62/62a University Street, St John's College, University of Cambridge	
8.30am	Coffee
9.30	Opening remarks
10.00	John van Oortzen, <i>Lonely Funerals</i>
10.45	Anna Allison, <i>The Risk and Practical Act of Choosing to Lonely Final in a Quiet</i>
11.30	Debbie Kerslake, <i>Love, Faith, and Death in Lonely Funerals</i>
12.00	Clayton Corbett, <i>Exploring the Public Health Potential</i>
12.15	David Ludbrook, <i>Public Health Potential: Training</i>
1.00pm	Philip Mason, <i>Mortality, Grief, and Policy</i>
1.30pm	Tea
2.00	Françoise Pélissier, <i>Religious Beliefs</i>
2.15	Jonathan Biles, <i>Understanding Deep Discontent at the End of Life: A Narrative Analysis of Unclaimed Deaths</i>
2.45	Madeline Pennington, <i>Exploring the Relationship Between Bereavement and "Lonely Funerals" to Inform Policy through Qualitative Research</i>
3.30	Kate Worthington and Lynn Sainsbury-Edley, <i>Public Health Potential: Time for Review</i>
3.45	Alison Webb
3.45	Hilary Grainger, <i>From the Rural French: Social Death, Public Grief, and the French Long Vegetarian Heritage Ceremony</i>
4.30	Sally Raudon, <i>How to Stand on Obituary Material Cases?</i>
4.30	Concluding remarks, next steps
5.00	Tea
Hosted by St John's College and Quaker	
Donor: A. J. van Oortzen, The Pastor	

b. International Collaboration

International Cremation Federation

The ICF was established in 1937 to 'promote the practice of cremation to the highest standard'. The Society's Chair, Professor Hilary Grainger OBE acts as one of the ICF Vice-Presidents and Council member Professor Heather Conway sits on the ICF's Legal sub-committee.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

The ICF held its General Council Meeting as part of the CBCE programme in Blackpool. A number of ICF members provided country reports to delegates as part of the CBCE programme, which were well received.

The General Council Meeting received a report from Tom Wustenberghs on behalf of the technical sub-committee, setting out their work and proposals for the future to be considered by the Executive Committee.



European Cremation Network

The Society attended the European Cremation Network conference in Zwolle, hosted by Orthometals – which provided an opportunity to meet international cremation sector colleagues and to hear speakers addressing conference delegates on crematoria design, improving communication, the calculation of the carbon footprint of cremation, and many opportunities for networking.



c. Public and Sector Education

o Educational Events

Lectures

Professor Grainger has given a number of lectures on behalf of the Society:

- Cremation Memorialisation - The Mausolea and Monuments Trust, London
- Crematoria Design – Durham University
- Cremation & Crematoria – The Solihull Society of Arts
- Designs on Death – UK Crematorium Architecture – Durham University
- Architecture of Crematoria – Faith in Funerals Conference – Goldsmiths University of London

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Cremation and Burial Communication and Education (2024)

CBCE was again jointly hosted by The Cremation Society and the FBCA and was held at the iconic Winter Gardens in Blackpool. The conference marked the 150th anniversary of The Cremation Society and the 100th anniversary of the FBCA with the anniversaries being celebrated as part of the event. The conference banquet provided an excellent networking opportunity with an opportunity for delegates and exhibitors to make new contacts and share knowledge in their own areas. The evening included Winter Olympic Gold Medal winner, Amy Williams, who addressed the banquet audience on the career path to success illustrated by the story of her Olympic journey.

The CPD-accredited conference was opened by the Society's Chair, Professor Hilary Grainger, who provided a brief history of both the Society and the FBCA – as well mention of the iconic Blackpool Tower and Ballroom, both of which featured as part of the conference programme.

The programme included papers on the re-use of graves, an update on the Catholic faith and cremation, the medical examiner system, decarbonising energy-intensive industries (such as cremation), as well as international papers from Germany, the Netherlands, the USA and Belgium.



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

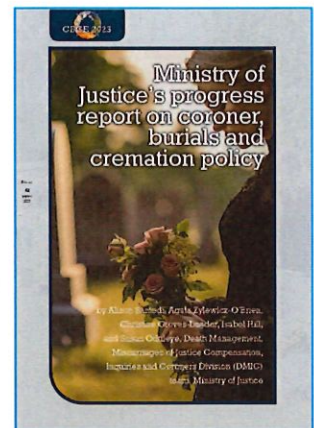
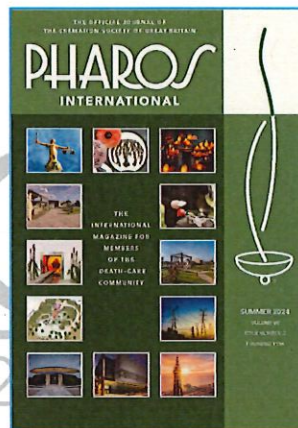


o Publications

As part the Society's environmental commitment, all of its regular publications are now available in digital format, as well as in hard copy.

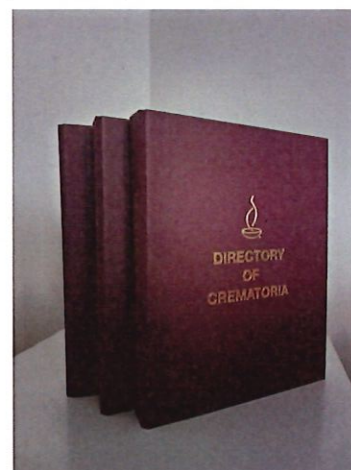
Pharos International

Founded in 1934, Pharos International is the official journal of the Cremation Society and the International Cremation Federation. It is published quarterly with an additional dedicated statistics issue. Contents include news articles on crematoria development and planning updates, environmental features, crematoria design, Government news, and articles covering a wide spectrum of subjects relating to the cremation sector. Pharos International also features many of the papers presented at each year's CBCE joint conference.



Directory of Crematoria

The Society's annual **Directory of Crematoria** is the definitive publication of its kind and is used widely across the funeral sector. The Directory includes detailed information on crematoria across the British Isles, as well as information on building costs, facts and figures including the table of cremations, and comprehensive table of maximum coffin dimensions accepted by each crematorium. It is an essential resource for any crematorium or funeral director's office.



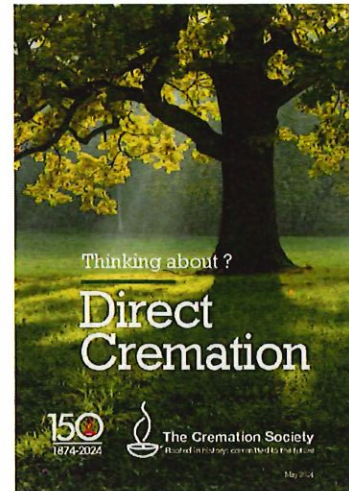
THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Thinking About Direct Cremation?

The Society has produced a new online publication aimed at members of the public considering a direct cremation.

The publication is intended to ensure people make informed decisions about direct cremations and it answers some of the questions that people may ask, whilst also answering some that they may not have contemplated. It is free to download from the Society's website.



- Online

The Society provides a comprehensive website which provides a wide range of resources and statistics, including data on the progress of cremation since 1885, national and international cremation statistics, links to cremation forms and guidance, cremation fee information from all crematoria across the British Isles, as well as links to all of the Society's online publications.

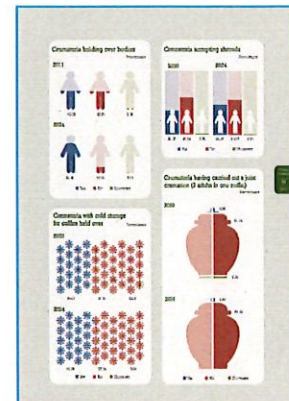
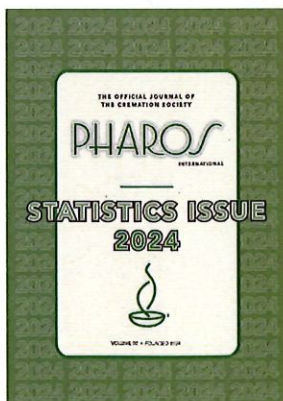
The Society's monthly e-news review is free-to-view and can be subscribed to via the Society's website. It is currently circulated to over 1750 recipients worldwide, providing news updates from across the cremation sector.

The Society also communicates via its X and LinkedIn pages, as well as promoting the CBCE educational event through its own dedicated LinkedIn page.

- Statistics

The Society collects annual data from all crematoria across the British Isles including information on cremation numbers, cremation fees, and a comprehensive survey of service provided by crematoria. Both national and international cremation numbers are published on the Society's website, as well as the full survey results being published in the dedicated statistics issue of Pharos International.

The Society's Council would like to record its thanks to all who provide this information enabling the sector to be fully informed of cremation trends and data.



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

d. Public and Sector Engagement

- Enquiries

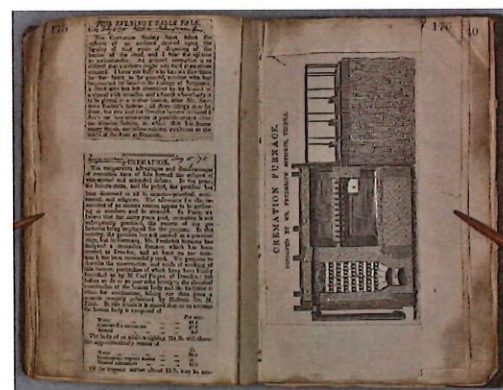
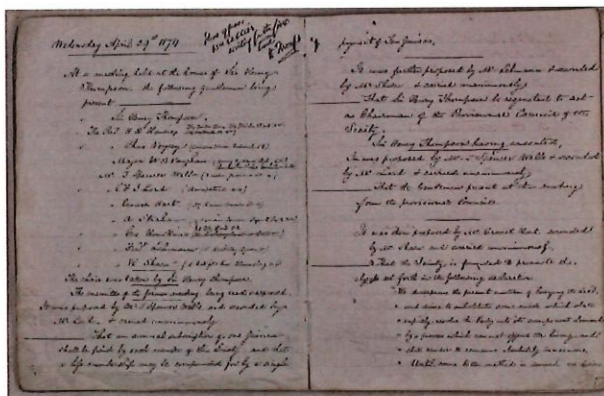
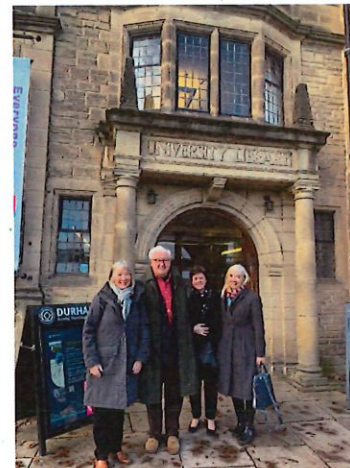
The Society provides free advice to members of the public and funeral sector colleagues, with enquiries often relating to direct cremation, ownership of ashes, the legal position around unclaimed ashes and many other queries. All enquiries are recorded in a log and where appropriate sector colleagues are consulted with, to ensure bereaved families receive the answers that they need. These help to inform the Society's contributions on regulatory issues and to feed into consultations where appropriate.



- Archives

The Society's Archives are stored at the University of Durham's Palace Green Library (Special Collections Section). The collection includes minute books dating back to 1874, publications, press cuttings, and other transactions. Many items have been digitised and can be viewed via the Durham University website.

Professor Hilary Grainger, Debbie Kerslake and Wendy Buchan visited Palace Green Library to meet with Society Vice-President Professor Douglas Davies, and the Collections team to discuss ways in which the archives could be used and promoted in the future.



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

- Sector engagement

The Society has had the pleasure of supporting fellow organisations within the death care sector in attending a number of external events. These have included attending dedication services, anniversary celebrations, open days and conference banquets including: Garden of England Crematorium 20th anniversary, Mercia Forest Crematorium Dedication Service, Herne Bay Crematorium Dedication Service, Beckenham Crematorium Open Day, ICCM Learning Convention, Funeral Suppliers' Association banquet, SAIF conference banquet, and NAFD conference banquet.



Professor Hilary Grainger, Professor Heather Conway and Wendy Buchan visited both crematoria in Northern Ireland, following the opening of Antrim and Newtownabbey Crematorium, meeting with both crematorium teams and hearing about the gradual increase in popularity of cremation in Northern Ireland.



e. Environment

The Society has committed to the sustainability audit scheme offered by Greener Globe Funeral Standards and has received its Bronze Award as the first step on this commitment. Improvements have already been made to the day-to-day operations to improve the Society's environmental impact and progress is being made towards achieving the Silver Award.



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Group results for the year are shown in the consolidated summary income and expenditure account and the consolidated statement of financial activities. The net increase in funds of the Group for the year was £963,505 as compared with an increase of £754,280.

- Brecon House

The property provides a significant income for the Society. The second and third floors are occupied, with the ground floor currently vacant. The commercial rental property market remains stagnant but the intention is to re-let the ground floor as soon as a new tenant can be found.

Messrs Watson Day, Chartered surveyors, act as the Society's property managers advising the Society on all aspects of its responsibilities.

The Society engages an independent health and safety and fire risk assessor to carry out regular assessments of both the Society's own office and the building as a whole and remedial action is taken, where advised.

- Investments

The Society's investment portfolio is managed by Sarasin & Partners. A formal review presentation is regularly made to the Council by the Investment Fund Manager, providing an opportunity for Council members to review the performance of the portfolio and of the investment manager. The income from the portfolio's endowment fund continues to be monitored and distributions will be adjusted if that becomes necessary.

- Subsidiary company - The London Cremation Company plc

The charity is the major shareholder in The London Cremation Company plc (LCC), a company registered in England, which owns and operates crematoria at Golders Green and St. Marylebone in London, Woking St. John's in Surrey, Banbury in North Oxfordshire and the Garden of England (Sittingbourne) and Thames View (Gravesend) both situated in Kent. The LCC has acquired a site with planning permission for a crematorium in the Solent, which is expected to open in 2027.

During the year under review the LCC's profit before taxation amounted to £1,410,527. In the previous year the profit before taxation amounted to £1,356,195. The LCC carried out 7,735 cremations during the year, a decrease of 12% on the previous year, which reflects the general decrease in the death rate.

- Market value of subsidiary's freehold and leasehold land and buildings

In the opinion of the Directors of the LCC, the market value of the freehold and leasehold land and buildings of the subsidiary is considerably in excess of the net book value of £12,337,342. In the absence of a professional valuation of all the properties the Society's Council is unable to quantify that excess.

- Reserves policy

The charity has adequate reserves to sustain its activities of educating the public and developing best practice in the disposal of the bodies of dead persons. The Trustees aim to keep the income and expenditure of the charity before revaluations broadly in balance; the net income for the last year was £53,887 compared with a net income of £29,395 in the previous year.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

FUTURE PLANS

The Society's ongoing plans include:-

- Continuing to work with government departments, stakeholders and fellow sector organisations, including through its membership of the Deceased Management Advisory Group and through its funding of the APPG for Funerals and Bereavement secretariat
- Continuing to provide a CPD-accredited and widely respected education conference to ensure delegates receive updated and topical information affecting the cremation sector
- Continuing to work with the Law Commission team as it progresses its project reviewing the laws surrounding burial, cremation and other funerary methods
- Promoting cremation practice internationally through Council members' work with the International Cremation Federation, the European Cremation Federation and through its working relationships with international colleagues
- Expanding its role as the central repository of national and international cremation data, in order to provide more information for use by both the public and sector colleagues
- Continuing to promote best practice through its shareholding of its subsidiary company shares. The subsidiary company is developing a decarbonation roadmap to achieve net zero carbon emissions by the end of 2030
- Continuing to highlight best practices generally and in particular in environmental practices, including through its own environment policy and commitment
- Investigating new research projects, including those relating to the environmental impact of cremation, alternative fuel sources, and other methods of disposal
- Monitoring its operations in order to evaluate the success of its strategies
- To continue to mark its 150th anniversary through a scheme of tree-planting; the promotion of the role of the Society in the development of cremation, through its own and external publications; highlighting the importance of the Society's archives at Durham University; and to introduce a series of webinars relating to cremation, past and present.

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

- **Structure**

The Society is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 26 July 1922, as most recently amended on 10 October 2018.

- **Governance**

The Society's Council currently comprises of seven members whose skills and knowledge cover a wide range of aspects of the cremation, funeral and bereavement sectors. Appointments to the Council are on the basis of need identified by Council members and the Council acknowledges the need for diversification in its appointments. Council members serve for a term of three years after which they are eligible for re-election.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

The Council meets five times each year with the majority of meetings being held online, to reduce the Council's environmental impact, but in-person whenever beneficial.

To ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties and responsibilities, Council Members and the Executive Officer have the opportunity to attend appropriate trustee training courses and are regularly updated on regulation and statutory changes.

Officers and Council

The Directors of the Society (who are unpaid and known as Members of the Council) who served during the year were as follows:-

Lord de Mauley (Honorary President)
Professor H J Grainger OBE (Chair)
C F Rickman (Vice-Chair)
R Clarke
Professor H A Conway
Right Revd C.R.J. Foster
D Kerslake

The undermentioned members of the Council were also Directors of the Society's subsidiary, the LCC, from which they received total emoluments of £42,000 during the year ended 31st March 2024 (2023: £33,026).

Lord de Mauley
Professor H J Grainger OBE

- **Management**

The day to day operations of the charity are delegated to Wendy Buchan (Executive Officer & Secretary) and her team based in Brecon House. The Council offers warm thanks for the team's enthusiastic work and commitment.

All staff undertake regular online training covering data protection, first aid and fire safety, office safety, cyber security, and equality and diversity. An external HR consultancy service is engaged in order to provide ongoing HR support.

The Council's remuneration sub-committee reviews staff remuneration on an annual basis.

- **Risk Management**

The Council regularly reviews the major risks to which the Society may be exposed with regard to its practical operations. During the period under review the Council commenced a comprehensive risk assessment exercise identifying the likelihood of any occurrence, the severity of its impact and any mitigating factors that should be taken into account. This exercise is being implemented on an on-going basis and is reviewed regularly in order to maintain an up to date Risk Register. The Society maintains Directors and Officers Liability Insurance cover for all of its Council Members and the Executive Officer. Periodic fire risk and health and safety assessments are carried out for both the 1st floor offices occupied by the Society's office team, as well as the common areas of Brecon House.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

6. STATEMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires Council Members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair account of the financial status of the Society and of the group and of the net income or expense of the Society and the group for that period.

In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

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

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. We are required to issue consolidated accounts of the Society and its subsidiary.

7. STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO THE AUDITORS

So far as the Council is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the group's auditors are unaware. Additionally, Council Members have taken all the necessary steps required of them as Directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the group's auditors are aware of that information.

8. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

A resolution will be submitted to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting that Messrs Begbies, Chartered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors of the Society.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

Professor Hilary J. Grainger OBE

Chair

Dated:

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

6. STATEMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires Council Members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair account of the financial status of the Society and of the group and of the net income or expense of the Society and the group for that period.

In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

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

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. We are required to issue consolidated accounts of the Society and its subsidiary.

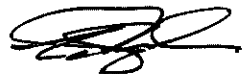
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8. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

A resolution will be submitted to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting that Messrs Begbies, Chartered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors of the Society.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL



COLIN F. RICKMAN
VICE CHAIR

~~Professor Hilary J. Grainger OBE~~

~~Chair~~

Dated: 21 November 2024

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Cremation Society of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's and the parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the group's and parent income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of director's remuneration specified by law or not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Audit planning and fieldwork included specifically engaging with the auditors of the company's subsidiary, London Cremation Company plc, to ensure that their audit procedures correctly take account of the possibility of irregularities, including fraud, and instances of non compliance with laws and regulations, and that they respond to any such instances appropriately
- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF
THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- Agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- Enquiries and confirmation of management and the trustees as to their identification of any non-compliance with laws or regulations, or any actual or potential claims;
- Review of minutes of Board meetings throughout the period;
- Incorporating unpredictability into the nature, timing and/or extent of testing.
- Evaluation of the selection and application of the accounting policies chosen by the charity.
- In relation to the risk of management override of internal controls, by undertaking procedures to review journal entries and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering the key risks impacting the financial statements.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Daniel Valentine ACA
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of

Begbies
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Unit 14 Park Barn, Evegata Business Park
Smeeth
Ashford
TN25 6SX

25/11/2024

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £
Income from:			
Donations		1,000	-
Charitable activities	4	40,659	38,724
Other trading activities	5	8,649,095	8,736,015
Investments	6	233,770	141,037
Total income		<u>8,924,524</u>	<u>8,915,776</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds			
- Other trading activities	7	7,331,216	7,402,289
- Investment management fees	7	56,622	56,670
Charitable activities	8	193,786	191,263
Other expenditure			
- Taxation	15	350,723	270,702
- Preference dividends paid to minority shareholders		5,547	7,025
Total expenditure		<u>7,937,894</u>	<u>7,927,949</u>
Net (losses)/gains on investment assets		<u>142,024</u>	<u>(64,395)</u>
Net income		1,128,654	923,432
Attributable to minority interest		(165,149)	(169,152)
Transfers			
Transfers between funds		-	-
Net movement in funds		963,505	754,280
Reconciliation of Funds			
Total Funds at 1 April 2023		12,089,591	11,335,311
Total Funds at 31 March 2024		<u>13,053,096</u>	<u>12,089,591</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Notes to the Accounts form part of the Financial Statements

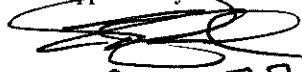
**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
SOCIETY ONLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:		
Incoming resources		
Donations	3,500	2,500
Charitable activities	40,659	38,724
Investments	260,136	236,104
Total income	<u>304,295</u>	<u>277,328</u>
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	56,622	56,670
Charitable activities	193,786	191,263
Total expenditure	<u>250,408</u>	<u>247,933</u>
Net income before investment gains	53,887	29,395
Net (losses)/gains on investment assets		
Realised	-	-
Unrealised	142,024	(64,395)
	<u>142,024</u>	<u>(64,395)</u>
Net income	195,911	(35,000)
Transfers		
Transfers between funds	-	-
Net movement in funds	195,911	(35,000)
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total Funds at 1 April 2023	2,828,860	2,863,860
Total Funds at 31 March 2024	<u>3,024,771</u>	<u>2,828,860</u>

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Group		Society	
		2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16	16,232,507	13,550,678	579,471	580,750
Intangible assets	17	15,205	17,285	-	-
Investments	18	1,964,119	1,817,741	2,212,472	2,066,094
		<u>18,211,831</u>	<u>15,385,704</u>	<u>2,791,943</u>	<u>2,646,844</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	20	21,963	17,352	-	-
Debtors	21	1,702,629	1,749,113	30,260	34,435
Short term deposits		2,000,030	4,001,288	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		3,248,363	2,159,073	279,294	227,696
		<u>6,972,985</u>	<u>7,926,826</u>	<u>309,554</u>	<u>262,131</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	<u>(2,715,968)</u>	<u>(2,126,203)</u>	<u>(70,726)</u>	<u>(74,115)</u>
Net current assets		<u>4,257,017</u>	<u>5,800,623</u>	<u>238,828</u>	<u>188,016</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>22,468,848</u>	<u>21,186,327</u>	<u>3,030,771</u>	<u>2,834,860</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	23	<u>(6,546,725)</u>	<u>(6,358,892)</u>	-	-
Provision for liabilities and charges	25	<u>(991,210)</u>	<u>(1,001,721)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
Net assets		<u>14,930,913</u>	<u>13,825,714</u>	<u>3,024,771</u>	<u>2,828,860</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds					
- General fund	26	12,465,007	11,503,333	2,188,329	1,994,249
- Designated funds	26	588,089	586,258	836,442	834,611
Total Charity funds		<u>13,053,096</u>	<u>12,089,591</u>	<u>3,024,771</u>	<u>2,828,860</u>
Minority interest		<u>1,877,817</u>	<u>1,736,123</u>	-	-
		<u>14,930,913</u>	<u>13,825,714</u>	<u>3,024,771</u>	<u>2,828,860</u>

Approved by the Council and signed on 21 November 2024 on their behalf by:


COLIN F. RICKMAN
 Professor Hilary J. Gratger OBE

The Notes to the Accounts form part of the Financial Statements

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	1,128,654	923,432
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	732,407	643,130
Amortisation	2,080	20,505
(Gains)/losses on sale of tangible fixed assets	(3)	55,925
(Gains)/losses on revaluation of tangible fixed assets	-	(50,000)
(Gains) /losses on investments	(142,024)	114,395
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(233,770)	(141,037)
Interest paid	147,944	156,652
Taxation charge	350,723	270,702
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	(4,611)	(511)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	46,484	(471,393)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	760,977	327,184
Corporation tax paid	(129,346)	(87,945)
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>2,659,515</u>	<u>1,761,039</u>
Cash flow from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	233,770	141,037
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(3,414,583)	(1,069,568)
Payments to acquire intangible fixed assets	-	(988)
Payments to acquire short term investments	-	(4,001,288)
Proceeds from short term investments	2,001,258	-
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	350	29,321
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,179,205)</u>	<u>(4,901,486)</u>
Cash flow from financing activities		
Repayment of loans	(212,880)	(265,545)
Repayment of preference shares	(3,677)	2,393
Equity dividends paid to minority	(22,165)	(20,128)
Interest paid	(147,944)	(156,652)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(386,666)</u>	<u>(439,932)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,093,644	(3,580,379)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2023	<u>2,198,988</u>	<u>5,779,367</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024	<u>3,292,632</u>	<u>2,198,988</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the year end comprise:		
Cash at bank and in hand	3,248,363	2,159,073
Cash at brokers	44,269	39,915
	<u>3,292,632</u>	<u>2,198,988</u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

a) General information and basis of preparation

The Cremation Society of Great Britain ('Society') is a charity incorporated and registered in the United Kingdom as a private company limited by guarantee without share capital. The address of the registered office is given in the information on page 2. The nature of the Society's operations and principal activities are to promote the practice of cremation for the respectful disposal of bodies of dead persons; to advance public education in the practice and ethics of cremation and to investigate methods of disposing of the bodies of dead persons which appear to the Society to be superior to cremation and, if the Society thinks fit, to promote such methods and advance public education in their practice and ethics either instead of or in addition to cremation.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis as the members believe that no material uncertainties exist. The expected income and expenditure, together with the level of reserves, is sufficient for the Society to be able to continue as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

b) Statement of Recommended Practice

The Society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

c) Format of financial statements

In accordance with Paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 4 of the Companies Act certain amendments to the standard layout of the Society's financial statements have been made. These amendments relate to the wording used in the financial statements and have no effect on the net income or expenditure for the financial year. These changes are made to enable the financial statements to show a true and fair view in light of the special nature of its activities and charitable status.

d) Group financial statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the Society and its subsidiary, The London Cremation Company Plc on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities is also presented for the Society itself because in the trustees' view this is fundamental to understanding the financial position of the Society.

e) Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative amortisation and any accumulative impairment losses. All intangible assets are considered to have a finite useful life. If a reliable estimate of the useful life cannot be made, the useful life shall not exceed ten years. No amortisation is provided in respect of these assets until they are brought into use.

Computer software and website - 10 years straight line

f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

The Society adds to the carrying amount of an item of fixed assets the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred, if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the Society. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. Repairs and maintenance are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which they are incurred.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their estimated useful lives on the following bases:

Furniture, fittings and equipment		10%	
Buildings	- freehold	1%	
	- leasehold	2%	
Plant & machinery	- furnaces	5%	
	- other	20%	
Fixtures and fittings	- memorials	2%	
	- other	10%	
Motor vehicles		25%	reducing balance

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

No depreciation is provided in respect of land, or other fixed assets until they are brought into use

At each reporting period end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Society estimates the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

g) Freehold land and buildings

The Society owns the office block from which it operates. As a significant proportion of the building is let on commercial leases the property is treated as an investment property and included at estimated market value.

h) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, being the estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stock to their present location and condition.

At each reporting date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stock is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell. The impairment is recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities.

i) Fixed asset investments

Investments are included in the financial statements at market value, except for the Society's investment in the subsidiary company, which is shown at cost.

For unlisted investments, the Council's valuation is based on the last known transactions in the shares prior to 31 March 2024.

j) Estimated liability for cremation fees

Claims on membership certificates during the year are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities. The estimated liability on outstanding certificates is considered on the basis of information extracted from the Society's membership records and taking into account the incidence of claims over the years but the precise number of future claims cannot be accurately determined.

k) Subsidiary company activities

The turnover of The London Cremation Company Plc is included in income from other trading activities.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

l) Income

Income from trading activities is recognised as the related goods and services are provided.

Rent and other investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Credit for income from new memorials is taken partly in the year of sale with the remainder apportioned over the period of dedication; income from memorial renewals is recognised over the period of re-dedication. The directors of the subsidiary company are of the opinion that the subsidiary's activities constitute one class of business and therefore that segregated analysis is not appropriate.

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Society and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, VAT and other sales taxes.

m) Expenditure

Expenditure is provided for an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income and those costs incurred in trading activities that raise funds and include the direct and indirect costs of the subsidiary.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes expenditure associated with the promotion of cremation and direct and indirect costs and support costs relating to those activities.

Support costs have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis of the time spent by the staff involved or by their usage.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

n) Pensions

The Society operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid, there are no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities when they fall due. Amounts not paid are included in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Society in independently administered funds.

o) Taxation

The Society is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 1960 and is therefore exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges arise in the Society.

The subsidiary company is liable to corporation tax and the charge for the year includes current and deferred taxation. The current tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all timing differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the timing difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting end date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered. Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the profit and loss account, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when the subsidiary has a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.

p) Dividends

The subsidiary's equity dividends are recognised when they become legally payable. Interim equity dividends are recognised when paid. Final equity dividends are recognised when approved by the shareholders at an annual general meeting. Dividends on shares recognised as liabilities are recognised as expenses and classified within interest payable.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

q) Fund accounting

Unrestricted general fund

This fund can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the trustees' discretion.

Unrestricted designated funds

The designated freehold property fund represents the net book value of Brecon House. The designated fixed asset investment fund represents the book value of investments in cremation authorities (including the subsidiary company). These funds are not readily available to meet the normal running expenses of the Society.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Society. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

r) Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

s) Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price less any impairment.

t) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown with borrowings in current liabilities.

u) Financial instruments

The Society and its subsidiary company have elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publicly traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

v) Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, save that financial liabilities payable in less than 12 months are not amortised.

w) Provisions for liabilities

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefit, and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value, the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

x) Finance costs

Finance costs are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the term of the debt using the effective interest method so that the amount charged is at a constant rate over the carrying amount.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2 JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The areas where uncertainty of estimation arise are in deferred income, where management judgement is employed to defer income based on estimated time spent on memorial maintenance and the valuation of investment property.

3 ANALYSIS OF TURNOVER

The whole of the subsidiary company's turnover is attributable to the subsidiary's principal activity and arose solely in the UK.

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Group Total 2024 £	Group Total 2023 £
Cremation conference and publications	<u>40,659</u>	<u>38,724</u>

All income from charitable activities arises in respect of the Unrestricted General Fund.

5 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Group Total 2024 £	Group Total 2023 £
Turnover - The London Cremation Company Plc	<u>8,649,095</u>	<u>8,736,015</u>

All income from other trading activities arises in respect of the Unrestricted General Fund.

6 INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	Group Total 2024 £	Group Total 2023 £
Listed investments	52,297	50,754
Unlisted investments	1,696	4,612
Rents receivable	44,280	28,476
Service charges receivable	21,822	13,518
Short term deposits and bank interest	<u>113,675</u>	<u>43,677</u>
	<u>233,770</u>	<u>141,037</u>

All income from investments arises in respect of the Unrestricted General Fund.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS	Group Total 2024 £	Group Total 2023 £
Other trading activities		
The London Cremation Company Plc		
Cost of sales, administrative expenses and interest payable	<u>7,331,216</u>	<u>7,402,289</u>
	7,331,216	7,402,289
Investment management costs		
Investment property expenses	38,387	39,047
Support costs (see note 9)	18,235	17,623
	<u>7,387,838</u>	<u>7,458,959</u>

All expenditure on raising funds arises in respect of the Unrestricted General Fund

8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Group Total 2024 £	Group Total 2023 £
Cremation conference and publications	32,190	35,087
Support costs (see note 9)	161,596	156,176
	<u>193,786</u>	<u>191,263</u>

All expenditure on charitable activities arises in respect of the Unrestricted General Fund.

9 SUPPORT COSTS	Raising funds £ (see note 7)	Charitable activities £ (see note 8)	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	10,562	93,603	104,165	96,349
Establishment and administration	3,400	30,135	33,535	39,453
Finance, professional fees and sundry expenses	4,143	36,710	40,853	36,718
Depreciation	130	1,148	1,278	1,279
	<u>18,235</u>	<u>161,596</u>	<u>179,831</u>	<u>173,799</u>
Allocation for 2023	<u>17,623</u>	<u>156,176</u>		<u>173,799</u>

10 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging :	2024 £	2023 £
Auditor's remuneration		
Society		
- Audit	6,125	5,650
- Accountancy services	3,575	3,575
- Other services	525	275
Subsidiary		
- Audit	30,500	28,100
- Taxation services	2,650	2,400
- Other services	6,800	6,900
Interest payable	137,021	145,729
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	732,407	643,131
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(3)	55,925
Amortisation of intangible assets	2,080	20,505
Operating lease charges	<u>42,355</u>	<u>42,355</u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

11 STAFF COSTS	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	2,759,974	2,952,755
Social security costs	270,825	296,142
Pension contributions - defined contributions	126,306	135,551
	<u>3,157,105</u>	<u>3,384,448</u>

The average number of persons employed by the group, excluding non-executive directors, during the year was as follows:

Society		
- charitable, fundraising and administration	4	4
Subsidiary		
- Operational	39	39
- Administrative	42	42
	<u>85</u>	<u>85</u>

Subsidiary company directors' remuneration	£	£
Directors' emoluments	354,569	329,492
Directors' pension costs - defined contribution scheme	20,563	20,813
	<u>20,563</u>	<u>20,813</u>

The highest paid director received remuneration of £129,188 (2023: £136,277), and pension contributions of £9,563 (2023: £12,313).

Charity

No charity employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Total emoluments received by the charity's key management personnel	<u>70,905</u>	<u>64,117</u>

12 COUNCIL MEMBERS' EMOLUMENTS AND EXPENSES

Neither the Society nor its subsidiary paid any emoluments for services as Council members.

Out of pocket travel expenses of £4,135 (2023 - £4,750) were reimbursed to 5 (2023 - 6) Council Members in the year.

13 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

The Society owns 84.417% of the ordinary share capital of The London Cremation Company Plc, a company registered in England (company no. 00612939). This trading subsidiary is a cremation authority and its principal activities are carrying out cremations and providing memorials at its crematoria. In addition, the Society owns 64.41% of the 10% cumulative preference shares.

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Turnover	8,649,095	8,736,015
Cost of sales, administrative expenses and interest payable	(7,331,216)	(7,402,289)
Exceptional administrative expenses		
Donation to parent undertaking	(2,500)	(2,500)
Preference dividends paid	(16,470)	(17,948)
Interest receivable	111,618	42,917
Profit before tax	1,410,527	1,356,195
Tax on profit	(350,723)	(270,702)
Profit after tax	1,059,804	1,085,493
Retained earnings at beginning of the year	10,017,923	9,082,946
Dividends paid	(150,516)	(150,516)
Retained earnings at the end of the year	<u>10,927,211</u>	<u>10,017,923</u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:		
Tangible fixed assets	15,653,036	12,969,928
Intangible fixed assets	15,205	17,285
Current assets	6,665,890	7,666,490
Current liabilities	(2,647,701)	(2,053,883)
Other liabilities	(7,635,965)	(7,458,643)
Total net assets	<u>12,050,465</u>	<u>11,141,177</u>
Aggregate share capital and reserves	<u>12,050,465</u>	<u>11,141,177</u>

14 INTEREST PAYABLE	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	131,474	138,704
Subsidiary preference dividends paid to minority shareholders	5,547	7,025
	<u>137,021</u>	<u>145,729</u>

15 TAXATION

No tax charges have arisen in the charity. The subsidiary is liable to corporation tax and the charge for the year is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current year tax charge	361,340	129,346
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	(106)	6,470
Total current tax	<u>361,234</u>	<u>135,816</u>
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(10,511)	134,886
Total deferred tax	<u>(10,511)</u>	<u>134,886</u>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	<u>350,723</u>	<u>270,702</u>
Reconciliation of tax charge to accounting profit		
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	<u>1,410,527</u>	<u>1,356,195</u>
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by small company rate of corporation tax - 25% (2023: 19%)	352,632	257,677
Effect of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	3,186	3,410
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of prior periods	(106)	6,470
Fixed asset permanent difference	5,579	(141,293)
Change in deferred tax	(10,511)	134,886
Other permanent differences	(1)	10,701
Provisions tax adjustments	(56)	(1,149)
Current tax charge for the year	<u>350,723</u>	<u>270,702</u>

Factors that may affect future tax charges

Included within deferred taxation are 2 liabilities on gains relieved by rollover relief totaling £202,461 (2023: £202,461)

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

16 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

a. Group	Freehold investment property £	Freehold and leasehold property £	Assets under construction £	Plant and machinery, motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2023	575,000	11,235,663	47,748	6,434,856	1,545,963	19,839,230
Additions	-	2,836,593	13,342	477,674	86,974	3,414,583
Disposals	-	-	-	(9,615)	-	(9,615)
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	575,000	14,072,256	61,090	6,902,915	1,632,937	23,244,198
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2023	-	1,623,586	-	3,855,703	809,263	6,288,552
Charge for the year	-	111,328	-	570,849	50,230	732,407
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	(9,268)	-	(9,268)
At 31 March 2024	-	1,734,914	-	4,417,284	859,493	7,011,691
Net book value						
At 31 March 2024	575,000	12,337,342	61,090	2,485,631	773,444	16,232,507
At 31 March 2023	575,000	9,612,077	47,748	2,579,153	736,700	13,550,678
b. Society				Freehold investment property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2023				575,000	33,965	608,965
Additions				-	-	-
Revaluation				-	-	-
At 31 March 2024				575,000	33,965	608,965
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2023				-	28,215	28,215
Charge for the year				-	1,279	1,279
At 31 March 2024				-	29,494	29,494
Net book value						
At 31 March 2024				575,000	4,471	579,471
At 31 March 2023				525,000	5,750	580,750

The Society purchased the freehold of Brecon House, in which its offices are located, in December 1999 and the majority of the building is let on commercial leases. The investment property was revalued at 31st March 2023 by Watson Day Chartered Surveyors at an estimated market value of £575,000. The trustees consider that the property value has not materially changed in the year. The original cost of the property was £803,876.

The group's freehold and leasehold land and buildings also include £2,076,354 of long leasehold property that was bought into use during August 2003 and subject to depreciation from that date. The figure also includes non-depreciated land of £5,199,233 (2023: £2,367,025).

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

a. Group	Computer costs and website £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2023	20,802	20,802
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2024	20,802	20,802
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2023	3,517	3,517
Charge for the year	2,080	2,080
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At 31 March 2024	5,597	5,597
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	15,205	15,205
At 31 March 2023	17,285	17,285

18 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

a. Group	Listed £	Unlisted £	2024 £	2023 £
Market value				
At 1 April 2023	1,766,568	11,258	1,777,826	1,892,221
Additions	-	-	-	-
Net (losses)/gains on revaluations	140,193	1,831	142,024	(114,395)
	1,906,761	13,089	1,919,850	1,777,826
Cash at brokers	44,269	-	44,269	39,915
At 31 March 2024	1,951,030	13,089	1,964,119	1,817,741
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	1,407,856	343	1,408,199	1,408,199
Additions	-	-	-	-
	1,407,856	343	1,408,199	1,408,199
Cash at brokers	44,269	-	44,269	39,915
At 31 March 2024	1,452,125	343	1,452,468	1,448,114

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

b. Society

	Subsidiary £	Listed £	Unlisted £	2024 £	2023 £
Market value/cost					
At 1 April 2023	248,353	1,766,568	11,258	2,026,179	2,140,574
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Net (losses)/gains on revaluations	-	140,193	1,831	142,024	(114,395)
	<u>248,353</u>	<u>1,906,761</u>	<u>13,089</u>	<u>2,168,203</u>	<u>2,026,179</u>
Cash at brokers	-	44,269	-	44,269	39,915
At 31 March 2024	<u>248,353</u>	<u>1,951,030</u>	<u>13,089</u>	<u>2,212,472</u>	<u>2,066,094</u>
Cost					
At 1 April 2023	248,353	1,407,856	343	1,656,552	1,656,552
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals at cost	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>248,353</u>	<u>1,407,856</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>1,656,552</u>	<u>1,656,552</u>
Cash at brokers	-	44,269	-	44,269	39,915
At 31 March 2024	<u>248,353</u>	<u>1,452,125</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>1,700,821</u>	<u>1,696,467</u>

Details of the company's investment in its subsidiary can be found in note 13.

19 GAINS AND LOSSES ON FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Unrealised gains and losses		
Market value at 31 March 2024	1,919,850	1,777,826
Cost	<u>(1,408,199)</u>	<u>(1,408,199)</u>
Unrealised gains to date	<u>511,651</u>	<u>369,627</u>
Unrealised gains b/fwd at 1 April 2023	369,627	484,022
Unrealised gains/(losses) in year	<u>142,024</u>	<u>(114,395)</u>
Unrealised gains c/fwd at 31 March 2024	<u>511,651</u>	<u>369,627</u>

20 STOCKS

	Group		Society	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Brochures and transit urns	12,902	9,407	-	-
Memorials	<u>9,061</u>	<u>7,945</u>	-	-
	<u>21,963</u>	<u>17,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

21 DEBTORS

	Group		Society	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	893,419	1,127,498	18,560	26,833
Other debtors	67,014	108,153	2,459	1,795
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>742,196</u>	<u>513,462</u>	<u>9,241</u>	<u>5,807</u>
	<u>1,702,629</u>	<u>1,749,113</u>	<u>30,260</u>	<u>34,435</u>

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

22 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans	220,784	212,880	-	-
Trade creditors	1,056,407	674,118	8,341	10,687
Corporation tax	361,340	129,452	-	-
Taxation and social security	127,816	126,304	1,791	1,625
Other creditors	88,030	100,002	30,158	29,501
Accruals and deferred income	861,591	883,447	30,436	32,302
	<u>2,715,968</u>	<u>2,126,203</u>	<u>70,726</u>	<u>74,115</u>

23 CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans	3,021,802	3,242,586	-	-
Deferred income	3,470,459	3,058,165	-	-
10.5% cumulative preference shares (held by minority shareholders)	54,464	58,141	-	-
	<u>6,546,725</u>	<u>6,358,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

24 LOANS AND DEFERRED INCOME: analysis of maturity of debt

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Within one year or on demand				
- loans	220,784	212,880	-	-
- deferred income	611,273	555,742	-	-
Payable after one year				
- loans	3,076,266	3,300,727	-	-
- deferred income	3,470,459	3,058,165	-	-
	<u>7,378,782</u>	<u>7,127,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Included within bank loans is £3,242,586 (2023 - £3,455,466) loan held under the security of debentures and a charge over the freehold land and buildings at the subsidiary company's crematoria in St Marylebone and Banbury. This loan is repayable over 19 years with a fixed interest rate of 3.84%.

25 PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions repayable and cremation fees payable	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Deferred taxation	985,210	995,721	-	-
	<u>991,210</u>	<u>1,001,721</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>

The provision for deferred taxation is made up of £784,749 (2023: £795,260) accelerated capital allowances and £200,461 (2023: £200,461) timing difference arising on rollover relief.

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

26 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

a. General fund

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April 2023	11,503,333	10,797,493	1,994,249	2,077,689
Net movement for the year	961,674	705,840	194,080	(83,440)
Transfer from/(to) designated funds	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2024	12,465,007	11,503,333	2,188,329	1,994,249

b. Designated freehold property fund

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April 2023	575,000	525,000	575,000	525,000
Transfer from General fund	-	50,000	-	50,000
Balance at 31 March 2024	575,000	575,000	575,000	575,000

The designated freehold property fund represents the net book value of Brecon House. The reserves invested in the property are not readily available to meet the normal running expenses of the Society.

c. Designated fixed asset investment fund

	Group		Society	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April 2023	11,258	12,818	259,611	261,171
Net movement for the year	1,831	(1,560)	1,831	(1,560)
Transfer from General fund	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2024	13,089	11,258	261,442	259,611

The designated fixed asset investment fund represents the book value of investments in cremation authorities (including the subsidiary). These are long term investments and the funds are not available to meet the normal running expenses of the Society.

Total designated funds

At 31 March 2024	588,089	586,258	836,442	834,611
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27 ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted general fund £	Unrestricted designated funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	15,657,507	575,000	16,232,507
Intangible fixed assets	15,205	-	15,205
Investments	1,951,030	13,089	1,964,119
Net current assets	4,257,017	-	4,257,017
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(6,546,725)	-	(6,546,725)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(991,210)	-	(991,210)
	14,342,824	588,089	14,930,913
Less minority interest	(1,877,817)	-	(1,877,817)
Total funds	12,465,007	588,089	13,053,096

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Unrestricted general fund £	Unrestricted designated funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	12,975,678	575,000	13,550,678
Intangible fixed assets	17,285	-	17,285
Investments	1,806,483	11,258	1,817,741
Net current assets	5,800,623	-	5,800,623
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(6,358,892)	-	(6,358,892)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(1,001,721)	-	(1,001,721)
	<u>13,239,456</u>	<u>586,258</u>	<u>13,825,714</u>
Less minority interest	(1,736,123)	-	(1,736,123)
Total funds	<u><u>11,503,333</u></u>	<u><u>586,258</u></u>	<u><u>12,089,591</u></u>

28 PENSION COMMITMENTS

The London Cremation Company Plc operates a defined contributions scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £21,279 (2023 - £15,569) were payable to the fund at 31 March 2024 and are included in creditors.

29 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases were as follows:

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	180,977	85,277
Between two and five years	470,076	213,328
After more than five years	<u>2,637,938</u>	<u>2,675,518</u>
	<u><u>3,288,991</u></u>	<u><u>2,974,123</u></u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The following pages do not form part of the Statutory Financial Statements.

Statement of Financial Activities	38
Balance sheet	39
Schedule of income	40
Schedule of expenditure	41-42
Schedule of investments	43

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Designated 2024 £	General 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:				
Incoming resources				
Donations	-	3,500	3,500	2,500
Charitable activities	-	40,659	40,659	38,724
Investments	-	260,136	260,136	236,104
Total income (page 41)	-	304,295	304,295	277,328
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	-	56,622	56,622	56,670
Charitable activities	-	193,786	193,786	191,263
Total expenditure (pages 42-43)	-	250,408	250,408	247,933
Net income before investment gains/(losses)	-	53,887	53,887	29,395
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets				
Realised	-	-	-	-
Unrealised	1,831	140,193	142,024	(64,395)
	1,831	140,193	142,024	(64,395)
Net income	1,831	194,080	195,911	(35,000)
Transfers				
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	1,831	194,080	195,911	(35,000)
Reconciliation of Funds				
Total Funds at 31 March 2023	834,611	1,994,249	2,828,860	2,863,860
Total Funds at 31 March 2024	836,442	2,188,329	3,024,771	2,828,860

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets				
- Investment property	575,000		575,000	
- Fixtures, fittings & equipment	<u>4,471</u>		<u>5,750</u>	
		579,471		580,750
Investments (page 44)				
- Unlisted	261,442		259,611	
- Listed	1,906,761		1,766,568	
- Cash at broker	<u>44,269</u>		<u>39,915</u>	
		<u>2,212,472</u>		<u>2,066,094</u>
		2,791,943		2,646,844
Current assets				
Debtors	30,260		34,435	
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>279,294</u>		<u>227,696</u>	
	309,554		262,131	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
	<u>(70,726)</u>		<u>(74,115)</u>	
Net current assets		<u>238,828</u>		<u>188,016</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		3,030,771		2,834,860
Provision for liabilities and charges		<u>(6,000)</u>		<u>(6,000)</u>
Net assets		<u><u>3,024,771</u></u>		<u><u>2,828,860</u></u>
The funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds				
- General fund		2,188,329		1,994,249
- Designated funds		<u>836,442</u>		<u>834,611</u>
		<u><u>3,024,771</u></u>		<u><u>2,828,860</u></u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
SCHEDULE OF INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
INCOME FROM DONATIONS		
Donation from London Cremation Company Plc	2,500	2,500
Donation from Sarasin & Partners	1,000	-
	<u>3,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Cremation conference and publications		
Cremation conference	634	113
Seminar	-	(5)
Pharos Journal	28,552	28,477
Directories of crematoria	6,140	6,884
Other publications	434	73
Royalties received	4,899	3,182
	<u>40,659</u>	<u>38,724</u>
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS		
Listed		
Sarasin & Partners LLP	52,297	50,754
Unlisted		
Edinburgh Crematorium (£1 ordinary shares)	1,696	4,612
Subsidiary (unlisted)		
London Cremation Company Plc		
10.5% Cumulative preference shares	10,923	10,923
50p ordinary shares	127,061	127,061
	<u>191,977</u>	<u>193,350</u>
Investment property		
Rent receivable	44,280	28,476
Service charges	21,822	13,518
Interest received	2,057	760
	<u>260,136</u>	<u>236,104</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u><u>304,295</u></u>	<u><u>277,328</u></u>

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		
Investment property expenses		
Light and heat	8,625	4,824
Water and sewerage	4,732	4,678
Health and safety fees	2,240	1,063
Caretaking, cleaning and refuse	12,689	9,284
Repairs to property	4,767	11,514
Watson Day management charge	5,334	7,684
	38,387	39,047
Share of support costs	18,235	17,623
	56,622	56,670
EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Charitable activities		
Cremation conference	9,076	8,498
Seminar expenses	-	-
Professional fees	3,012	6,470
Pharos Journal	18,117	16,173
Literature and brochures	150	418
Directories of crematoria	1,835	2,934
Research funded	-	6,200
Provision for cremation claims	-	(5,606)
	32,190	35,087
Share of support costs	161,596	156,176
	193,786	191,263
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	250,408	247,933

**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
SUPPORT COSTS		
Establishment and administration expenses		
Staff costs	99,550	92,876
Staff welfare	362	391
Staff Training	1,223	443
Pension costs	3,030	2,639
Cleaning	2,496	2,500
Light and heat	2,512	2,308
Insurance	6,578	4,913
Rates	3,117	5,825
Repairs and renewals	2,531	5,673
Advertising	330	330
Office equipment hire	1,324	1,344
Printing and stationery	654	661
Postage	1,367	1,510
Telephone and internet	1,419	1,578
Travelling and meeting expenses	11,207	12,811
	<u>137,700</u>	<u>135,802</u>
Financial and sundry		
Audit and accountancy	11,690	9,670
Bookkeeping services	14,543	12,423
Bank charges and interest	253	289
Computer training and maintenance	7,413	4,316
Irrecoverable VAT	607	729
Legal and professional	3,306	5,604
Subscriptions	1,202	769
Sundries	1,141	2,715
Donations	200	203
Bad debts	498	-
Depreciation	1,278	1,279
	<u>42,131</u>	<u>37,997</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT COSTS	<u><u>179,831</u></u>	<u><u>173,799</u></u>
ALLOCATED TO:		
EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS (10.14%)	18,235	17,623
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (89.86%)	161,596	156,176
	<u><u>179,831</u></u>	<u><u>173,799</u></u>

THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SUBSIDIARY	Carrying Value		Additions		Disposals		Gain / (loss)	No	Closing Cost	Carrying Value	Revalue
	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost					
London Cremation Co Plc	1,896,436	128,616							128,616	128,616	-
50p Ordinary								1,896,436			
10.5% cum. Preference shares	104,030	119,737						104,030	119,737	119,737	-
		<u>248,353</u>							<u>248,353</u>	<u>248,353</u>	
OTHER UNLISTED INVESTMENTS											
Edinburgh Crematorium Ltd	6,782	343						6,782	343	13,089	1,831
£1 ordinary										13,089	
		<u>343</u>							<u>343</u>	<u>13,089</u>	<u>1,831</u>
TOTAL UNLISTED INVESTMENTS		<u>248,696</u>							<u>248,696</u>	<u>261,442</u>	<u>1,831</u>
LISTED INVESTMENTS											
Sarasin	1,542,687	1,407,856						1,542,687	1,407,856	1,906,761	140,193
Sarasin Endowments Fund Class A (income)										1,906,761	
		<u>1,407,856</u>							<u>1,407,856</u>	<u>1,906,761</u>	<u>140,193</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS (EXCLUDING CASH)		<u>1,656,552</u>							<u>1,656,552</u>	<u>2,168,203</u>	<u>142,024</u>
Cash at brokers		39,915								44,269	
		<u>39,915</u>								<u>44,269</u>	
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		<u>1,696,467</u>							<u>1,700,821</u>	<u>2,212,472</u>	