



Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund

Founded 1944

75th ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended

31 DECEMBER 2019

See separate booklet for Financial Statements for year ended 31 December 2019

Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the
13th Annual General Meeting
will be held, if the Lord will, at
Clifton Chapel, Broad Street, Clifton, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5RJ
on Friday, 17 April 2020 at 1:45 p.m.

Agenda

1. Chairman to open the meeting.
2. To consider and approve the minutes of the AGM held on 12 April 2019.
3. General Manager to introduce the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.
4. To approve and adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.
5. General Manager to announce the result of the ballot for election of members of the Bethesda Fund Committee.

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity: Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund
Charity Number: 209376

Trustees serving during the financial year and since the year end:
(Also known as the Bethesda Fund Committee)

Mr. M.D. Ridout (Chairman)	Mr. A. Rayner (Resigned 07/10/19)
Mr. A.J. Collins (Vice-Chairman)	Mr. R.A. Saunders
Mr. S.B. Cottingham	Mr. T.H.W. Scott
Mr. H. Mercer (Resigned 12/04/19)	Mr. M.O. Wiltshire (Resigned 21/10/19)
Mr. P.J. Pocock	

Custodian Trustee: The Gospel Standard Trust,
50 Broadway, Westminster, London SW1H 0BL

General Manager: Mr. A.J.H. Topping
Address of the Principal Office of the Charity
Bethesda General Office
12(b) Roundwood Lane
Harpenden, Herts.
AL5 3BZ
Telephone: 01582 460522 Fax: 01582 460790
Email: adriantopping@gsbf.uk

Connected Charity

The Piggott Charity is a “connected Charity” under the control of the Trustees of the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund. It exists to help Residents of the Bethesda Homes who are in financial need to pay the cost of their care. During the year a general grant of £9,000 was received from The Piggott Charity. Further information can be obtained from the General Manager.

Auditors: Mazars LLP, 2nd Floor, 6 Sutton Plaza, Sutton Court Road,
Sutton, SM1 4FS

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 60 George Street, Luton, LU1 2BB

Solicitors: Bircham Dyson Bell Pitman LLP, 50 Broadway, Westminster,
London, SW1H 0BL

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR 2019

Introduction

During 2019, the Trustees have taken the first steps to address the challenges and changes facing the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund and the homes and Flatlets that it provides for the beneficiaries of the Charity.

This has involved analysing the changing care and dependency needs of those coming into Bethesda; the desire of individuals to maintain their independence and own 'front door'; and the need to address the Charity's financial stability whilst not losing sight of the purpose of Bethesda to provide the highest quality personal care for our residents in a God honouring environment. This analysis is going to say against a backcloth of declining numbers amongst the Gospel Standard chapels and Bethesda being perceived as a 'last resort' when individuals are unable to care for themselves.

The Trustees were encouraged by the provision of an additional twenty-three subscribers during the year.

Objective of Charity

The purpose of the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund is to provide accommodation and personal care and support to adults aged 65 and over who are members of Gospel Standard Strict and Particular Baptist chapels, or who regularly attend Gospel Standard chapels.

How this objective is met

This service is provided to people with a wide range of personal care needs, including those living with dementia and those with nursing needs who can be treated in our Homes by district nurses. The types of service offered are: permanent residency, short stays for breaks or respite care and day care. Each resident is treated as an individual and personalised care plans are prepared and monitored regularly to ensure their needs are continually met.

Permanent Residents of the Homes who are unable to meet the full cost of the fees are assisted from the Underfunded Residents Fund (this Fund, although receiving external donations, draws heavily on Bethesda's reserves and thereby potentially limiting future activity). For those requiring it, financial assistance is provided towards short stays from the Short Stay Fund.

The Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund was set up in 1944 with the specific purpose of providing a Christian Home for the elderly and infirm from the Gospel Standard group of Churches. The manner and method of the provision of this accommodation and care is therefore designed to reflect the need to provide a spiritual as well as homely atmosphere for likeminded people. In line with this ethos, life in the Bethesda Homes centres around daily Bible reading and prayer, chapel services which can be attended in person or listened to via the relay into the Homes, and the prayer meetings and hymn signing evenings organised in the Homes.

Governing Document

The Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund is an unincorporated charitable trust, first registered as a Charity in 1944. It now operates under a Charity Commission scheme which came into effect on 15 June 1999, amended by resolution on 6 January 2003 and 5 October 2007. The scheme is a fully regulating scheme which replaces the former trusts of the Charity.

Constitution and Organisational Structure

Under the scheme as amended, the Committee appoints members to the Bethesda Fund Committee, and new appointees submit to election by the subscribers at the next Annual General Meeting following the appointment. Members of the Committee offer themselves for re-election by rotation each year at the Annual General Meeting. In this way the subscribers have the power to re-elect individually every Committee member once every three years.

The members of the Bethesda Fund Committee are the Trustees of the Charity, and with them rests the overall responsibility for running and administering the Charity. The Charity Commission scheme provides for the appointment of a minimum of six committee members up to a maximum of twelve; there are currently six members following the retirement of Mr. Henry Mercer, Mr. Alan Rayner and Mr. Mark Wiltshire during the year.

The Committee seeks to appoint new members, who are sympathetic to the founding purposes of Bethesda and in addition are able to provide relevant skills and experience. New committee members, prior to joining the Committee, are introduced to their duties and responsibilities (including the requirements of the Charity Commission).

In 2019, the Trustees identified the need to review, in the fear of the Lord, the appropriateness of the Charity's current legal entity. This work has started and, if the Lord will, be concluded in 2020.

The General Manager has the responsibility for ensuring that the Bethesda Homes are managed effectively and in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements and is assisted in this by the Home management teams.

Public Benefit

As a charitable organisation, Bethesda is required to demonstrate that there is an identifiable benefit to a section of the general public as a direct result of its activities in pursuit of its charitable aims. To that end the Charity's Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to Public Benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has a reserves policy which is reviewed at least annually by the Trustees.

We consider reserves as that part of our general funds which do not need to be spent immediately and which are not committed or designated. They are the resources we have or can make available to spend on any of our objectives once we have met our known commitments and covered any other planned expenditure.

During 2019 the Trustees considered that the Charity should endeavour to hold, as a minimum, free reserves amounting to the “Total expenditure” in one year. At this level the Trustees consider that the current activities of the Charity would be able to continue in the event of a significant drop in funding. The free reserves at the year-end amount to £2,038,199. This is 7.9% more than the total expenditure for the year of £1,888,752 (compared with 17.8% in 2018). There is no contractual commitment to expenditure for planned works in 2020.

In 2020 the Trustees reviewed the reserves policy and on the basis that the current policy was very conservative, it was agreed to revise it. The Trustees now consider that the Charity should endeavour to hold, as a minimum, free reserves amounting to “six months expenditure” in one year.

Going Concern

The Financial Statements (shown in a separate booklet) have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees assess whether the use of this basis is appropriate and have identified no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of 12 months from the date of approval of the Financial Statements.

Financial review

As with previous years, the full Financial Statements have been published in a separate booklet.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows that total income was £1,617,843 compared with £1,796,670 in the previous year. This a £178,000 decrease is due to care home fee income falling by around £200,000, offset by increases of around £12,000 in Flatlet rents and £10,000 of investment income. Although investment income is higher than last year, it continues to be poor overall in line with lower interest rates generally. Donations and chapel collections have increased 22% (£9,489) this year. We remain truly thankful to our congregations and personal supporters for the regular giving to Bethesda. Five legacies were received during the year amounting to £106,517 with the overall amount received being lower than the previous year when the total was £112,301.

Income from residents' fees was £1,338,752 compared with £1,541,864 in 2018 due to lower occupancy in the Harpenden and Studley Homes, although this has been offset to some degree by higher occupancy in the Brighton Home. Subsidies paid to meet shortfalls in funding by Social Services amounted to £81,134 (2018: £47,517) which was matched by a transfer from the designated fund specifically set up to assist Residents who are unable to meet the full cost of the fees. The shortfalls in funding have also been helped by a grant of £9,000 (2018: £9,000) from our connected charity, The Piggott Charity. Assistance towards the fees of short-stay Residents amounted to £1,240 (2018: £500) and this was provided from a restricted fund.

Employment costs have decreased from £1,451,667 in 2018 to £1,408,887 in 2019. Although agency costs remain high and there was an increase in some staff wages in line with the requirements of the National Living Wage, overall employment costs decreased due to reductions in staffing levels at the Harpenden and Studley Homes in line with reduced occupancy. Further information on employment costs can be found in Note 13 to the Financial Statements.

The cost of repairs and renewals at the three Bethesda Homes remains high at £75,307, but is down on the previous year when expenditure was £90,554 (2017: £114,725). The expenditure on building maintenance is in line with the charity's policy on maintaining its properties in good condition and meeting all safety and registration requirements. Occasionally, heavy and unexpected repairs can suddenly become necessary.

The Bethesda Homes

A summary of the financial results for each of the Homes is given below.

	<i>Brighton</i>	<i>Harpenden</i>	<i>Studley</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
Residents' fees	660,024	399,105	279,623	1,338,752
Other income	17,449	9,794	2,967	30,210
Total income	677,473	408,899	282,590	1,368,962
Employment and agency costs	574,411	463,837	301,642	1,339,890
Depreciation & loss on disposal	12,085	11,663	10,695	34,443
Hardware, cleaning and laundry	8,158	9,870	3,905	21,933
Insurance	9,453	10,616	4,791	24,860
Motor and travel	2,186	3,332	1,375	6,893
Power	17,193	15,315	12,573	45,081
Provisions	32,648	20,209	9,679	62,536
Registration fees	3,328	3,328	1,664	8,320
Repairs and renewals	19,671	41,012	14,624	75,307
Staff training	2,968	4,902	2,690	10,560
Telephone, relay and internet	3,704	1,324	2,138	7,166
Water services	6,869	4,127	3,060	14,056
Council tax	1,148	2,459	1,072	4,679
Garden expenses	279	9,615	3,639	13,533
Medical supplies	6,032	871	2,887	9,790
Postage & stationery	1,941	1,770	535	4,246
Waste collection	3,845	2,036	101	5,982
Professional services	1,346	1,346	1,346	4,038
Sundry expenses	5,728	3,963	2,214	11,905
Central office support costs	41,929	47,646	24,776	114,351
Other costs	4,994	4,658	4,858	14,510
Total expenditure	759,916	663,899	410,264	1,834,079
(Deficit) for year	(£82,443)	(£255,000)	(£127,674)	(£465,117)

The overall deficit in running the three Homes of £465,117 is higher than the previous year when the deficit was £306,820.

Occupancy levels have a large bearing on the financial results of running the Homes and the large overall reduction on last year has had a marked impact.

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Brighton (22 beds)	90.3%	74%	72%	80%	85%
Harpenden (25 beds)	43.6%	70%	77%	71%	58%
Studley (13 beds)	61.5%	74%	81%	72%	66%
Overall	64.6%	73%	76%	75%	70%

The Bethesda Flatlets

At Harpenden, all three of the flatlets were occupied for the entire year. At Redhill, of the six flatlets, two of these are occupied by elderly residents. However, several of the Flatlets have been occupied by other people, thus producing additional income. The Harpenden Flatlets show a surplus of £4,784 and the Redhill Flatlets a surplus of £9,073 as shown in the summary below.

	<i>Harpenden</i>	<i>Redhill</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Residents fees	19,038	30,586	49,624
Other income	2,174	150	2,324
Total income	21,212	30,736	51,948
Cleaning, windows and waste	390	1,354	1,744
Council tax on unoccupied properties	-2	173	171
Depreciation	5,293	3,325	8,618
Garden maintenance	1,359	1,023	2,382
Insurance	737	1,474	2,211
Power	2,208	3,140	5,348
Repairs and renewals	1,794	1,310	3,104
Central office support costs	3,862	7,723	11,585
Other costs	787	2,141	2,928
Total expenditure	16,428	21,663	38,091
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	4,784	9,073	13,857

Overall financial results

Overall, the total deficit for the year was £270,909 compared with a deficit the previous year of £150,887. Every effort has been made, and will continue to be made, to reduce the running costs of the Homes, whilst endeavouring to maintain high standards of care.

The balance of unrestricted funds has reduced somewhat, being £3,377,850 at the end of 2018 and £3,130,742 at the end of 2019. Restricted funds also decreased from £915,048 at the end of 2018 to £891,247 at the end of 2019. As a result, total funds (including properties valued at their original cost) reduced from £4,292,898 at the end of 2018 to £4,021,989 at the end of 2019. Further details can be found in Notes 21 - 23.

Achievements and Outcome of Activities

As helped of the Lord, Bethesda has been upheld and provided for during 2019. This section of the report summarises Bethesda's activities, in fulfilling the purpose of the Charity both for the residents and more widely.

Bethesda continues to provide, as set out in its Trust Deed, residential care, in Christian homes, for the elderly and infirm from the Gospel Standard group of Churches. At the end of 2019, thirty-nine residents were receiving care across the three Bethesda Homes.

The Homes continue to provide an environment where residents are able to live amongst like-minded people, including taking part in daily acts of worship, receive ministry and visits from local pastors and ministers. In addition, transport is provided to a local Gospel Standard chapel for those residents wishing to attend Lord's Day and week evening services, and for those too infirm to attend in person, services are relayed live into the Homes' lounge and bedrooms so that residents can still take part in this essential part of their lives.

Bethesda has developed its understanding and expertise in supporting residents with dementia and high dependency needs; thereby allowing them to remain in their chosen Home. In 2019 this represented 28% of the residents in the Homes.

A programme of outings and other activities, that engage and involve the residents, is provided and contributes to their physical and mental well-being. During the year, this has included numerous activities shown on Pages 16 – 21 under the individual Reports from the Homes.

Each Home is supported by a Home Support Group comprising of local volunteers who help to organise outings and activities as well as providing, where needed, visits and personal assistance to residents. In addition, there is a network of volunteers and helpers, in each of the Homes, who assist with activities such as decorating rooms, gardening and general maintenance as well as being involved with the residents. All volunteers and helpers who are regularly involved with residents are DBS checked as part of Bethesda's safeguarding policy.

The importance and contribution of volunteers and helpers to the well-being of residents is acknowledged and appreciated by the Trustees and staff. In addition, the love that is shown to all the residents underpins the high quality of care provided by Bethesda and cannot be underestimated.

More widely, the Bethesda Homes provide employment opportunities for individuals in the: Chippenham, Luton and Brighton areas. Forty-eight part-time and twenty-five full-time staff along with a number of bank staff were employed, during 2019, across the three homes.

Wherever possible, the individual Homes support and use local craftsmen, contractors and suppliers to provide services, equipment and consumables. Local tradesmen, such as butchers and greengrocers, are used to supply fresh produce and meat. In the case of the Studley Home links are in place with FairShare (a charity that is involved with tackling food waste).

Work experience opportunities, where possible, are also provided for school pupils and college students.

The Homes are also engaged with local care networks to share good practice and learn from others in the care sector. The Brighton and Hove Bethesda Home has been involved in sharing with other care providers the work that has been undertaken in supporting residents with dementia.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the year end and of its income and expenditure during that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are required to keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Charity's governing documents. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Risk management policy

The Trustees review on a regular basis the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. A strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis was carried out at the beginning of the year and agreed, and a risks register is maintained, and on the basis of this review a risk management policy drawn up. The Trustees are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to significant risks. The Trustees believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at the level stated above will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions.

The Charity's policy reflects the principle that effective risk management is the responsibility of all levels of management and staff. The review of risks within the Bethesda Homes is on-going with the encouragement of timely reporting by staff on quality issues and adverse occurrences.

The major risks that Bethesda face are financial and relate largely to under occupation of the Homes and to the low level of care fees compared to fixed costs.

The decreasing number of elderly people attending Gospel Standard chapels is directly impacting on the level of demand for Bethesda services. Whilst the rules covering admissions are regularly reviewed it is considered essential that the original ethos of the Charity is maintained.

The low levels of occupancy in the Homes compared with the high level of fixed costs in running the Homes indicates that high levels of occupation are essential to cover those fixed costs.

The low occupancy of the Homes puts dependence on Bethesda's financial reserves in order to fund the current high standards of care provided. Whilst still strong there is a risk that these reserves will be substantially depleted.

Another risk is the ageing of the facilities in the Homes and the buildings themselves and a programme of refurbishment and renewal is in progress. This obviously entails considerable expense and this is being managed on a prioritised basis.

Further risks are those arising from potential impacts of Brexit, which could be that it is more difficult to obtain staff for Bethesda. This has accordingly been identified as an operational 'risk' and is being kept under regular review. Current EU/EEA staff have been made aware of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Bethesda is also working closely with its suppliers of medicine and medical supplies to ensure continuity of supply. When new equipment is purchased; then assurance is sought that support and spare parts will be available after leaving the EU.

Investment Policy

At the beginning of the year the Trustees reviewed the Charity's investment policy setting out Bethesda's investment objectives. No changes were made to the policy.

There are no restrictions on the Charity's power to invest both restricted and unrestricted funds. In the past, the Trustees have considered only investments classified as low risk. In practice, this means that surplus funds are maintained in short-term deposit accounts attracting competitive rates of interest with reputable banks, building societies or common deposit funds. Details of the Charity's deposits can be found in Note 19 to the financial statements.

The Trustees will continue to monitor closely the Charity's investments in these difficult times.

Policy Statement on Paying Staff

The Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund ('The Bethesda Fund') is committed to ensuring that we pay and reward our staff fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain those with the right skills to ensure that we deliver our charitable objectives.

In accordance with the SORP we:-

- Disclose the number of staff in receipt of more than £60,000 per annum and above (in bands of £10,000)
- Disclose the provision of pensions and other benefits

The Bethesda Fund Committee ('The Committee') meets annually to determine the rates of pay for all staff. The General Manager is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the General Manager's remuneration).

The main responsibilities of the Committee in respect of determining of the rates pay are to:-

- review the level of the Bethesda Fund salaries and wages compared to an agreed independent market benchmarking tool and make sure changes, where appropriate to ensure that salaries and wages remain competitive
- determine the remuneration package of the General Manager, Home Managers and Deputy Managers
- approve the annual percentage increase in the rates of pay for all staff (which can be zero) taking into account CPI as at 31 December for the previous year.
- approve any consolidated pay awards and staff salary increases outside of the annual review process as recommended from time to time by the General Manager.

- determine pension arrangements and
- ensure that contractual terms on termination of employment are fair to the individual and the charity, that poor performance is not rewarded and a duty to mitigate loss is recognised.

In determining the Bethesda Fund's remuneration policy the Committee takes into account all factors which are relevant. The appropriateness of the remuneration policy is reviewed annually ensuring the Bethesda Fund remains sensitive to the broader issues e.g. pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

We aim to recruit, subject to experience, at the lower – medium point within a band, providing scope to reward excellence. We pay at or above the national living wage for all our staff.

Delivery of the Bethesda Fund's charitable vision and purpose is to a large degree dependent on our staff which is the largest single element of charitable expenditure. In 2019 the Bethesda Fund awarded hourly paid staff a cost of living increase of 4.5% in line with the change to the National Living Wage and salaried staff an inflationary increase of 2% in line with the CPI.

Conclusion

The focus of Bethesda continues to be on the Residents in the Homes, and every effort is made to ensure that they are kept safe and well cared for in a homely and Christian atmosphere. It is felt that, with the Lord's blessing and help, this has been achieved for another year.

The Trustees, however, are conscious of the challenges ahead, the need to seek, know and do the Lord's will and endeavour to 'do all to the glory of God' (1 Cor. 10 v31).

The prayers of all those with an interest in Bethesda, for the Lord to appear, are very much felt to be needed at this time.

On behalf of the Trustees



M. Ridout, Chairman

21 February 2020

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM THE HOMES

Brighton and Hove Bethesda Home



Home Manager: Miss Sarah Williamson
Deputy Home Manager: Mrs. Vivita Torres
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Jackie Funnell
Home Chairman: Mr. Michael Ridout

Residents as at 31 December 2019

Mr. P. Cornwall	Mr. & Mrs. R. Bradstock	Mrs. B. Chilton
Mrs. M.R. Dann	Mr. P. Drury	Mrs. I. Ford
Miss I. Fuller	Miss M.V.G. Haddow	Mrs. L. Hills
Mrs. M. Hills	Miss S. J. Holman	Mrs. M. Hughes
Mrs. K.R. Payne	Mrs. R.M. Poole	Mrs. E. Snell
Mrs. B. Stewart	Mrs. G. Walder	Mr. K. Warren
Miss B.M. Wickens		

We desire to acknowledge and thank the Lord for His help again through another year, in supplying our every need.

Since the beginning of 2019, six new permanent residents have entered the home, Mr. Reginald Bradstock, Mrs. Kathleen Bradstock, Mrs. Mary Hughes, Mrs. Barbara Chilton, Miss Iris Fuller and Mrs. Muriel 'Ruth' Dann. There were three short stay residents during the year, all benefiting from the rest and change.

Mrs. Marjorie Woodhams passed away during the year and Mrs. Rosie Mercer moved to the Redhill flatlets. They are both lovingly missed.

There have been some staff changes with Jessica Woodhams and Leyani Mascitti having left us to pursue other opportunities. Louise Dadswell and Katrina Starta joined us during the year, both as Bank Care Assistants.

We are continuing with regular training sessions with the dementia NHS Inreach team. The Inreach team have invited staff from local care homes to have a look at the work that has gone into making the hallways dementia friendly, without spending a great deal of money.

During the new year we started to use e-care planning. This is a step forward in Care Planning, has meant less paperwork and has enabled us to spend quality time with the Residents.

Prayer Meetings were once again arranged by the Home Support Group during the year, led by friends from local Chapels, including Rotherfield, Dicker and Redhill Chapels.

The Residents have enjoyed outings again this year. We organised an outing to the Bluebell Railway at which the Home Support Group provided a picnic and also to Sheffield Park. James and Joanna Pearce kindly invited the Residents to their home for a Cream Tea. The Residents have also enjoyed BBQ's in the garden during the Summer. Christmas lunch and shopping at Ditchling Garden Centre was arranged in December was also an enjoyable outing. Mill Cottage Farm visited again this year and the residents enjoyed being able to hold some of the smaller animals. Other little excursions were made to local beauty spots together with a 'fish & chips' meal by the seafront.

Miss Beatrice Wickens reached her 100th Birthday on 26th August, and the occasion was remembered by staff and friends with a special tea.

A coffee morning took place again in November which was well supported and raised in excess of £2,500 which is to be put towards upgrading the minibus and some soft furnishings.

Eastbourne Sunday School visited again this year and sang some Christian hymns which were very much enjoyed by the residents and Mr. Paul Tyler conducted the usual Christmas Service held at the Home.

Our Craft team - Mrs. Joanna Pearce, Mrs. Esther Hickman and Mrs. Sheila Main organise the monthly craft mornings, including cooking with the Residents and we are thankful to them all for their help. We are also grateful to Paul, Gill and Ed Hanks who hold monthly hymn singing afternoons for the residents, Gill Evans who holds regular gentle exercise sessions and Tim Hart who has shown slides to the Residents. We are very grateful to Paul Hanks and Gordan Dadswell for their on-going help with decorating and other tasks.

We hope and trust the Lord will continue to supply our needs in the coming year.

Harpenden Bethesda Home



Home Manager: Mrs. Debbie Scott
Assistant Home Manager: Mrs. Marion Haddow
Administrative Assistants: Mrs. Ruth Janes/Mrs. Esther Green
Home Chairman: Mr. Trevor Scott

Residents as at 31 December 2019

Mrs. J. Baker	Mr. J. Barker	Mrs. M. Brooks
Mr. A. Chivers	Mrs. M. Crowter	Mrs. S. Haddow
Mrs. J.M. Harrison	Mrs. B. Kingham	Miss E. Morley
Mrs. P.H. Watts	Mrs. A. Wells	

We wish to acknowledge with thankfulness the Lord's goodness and mercy in providing for all our needs throughout another year.

During 2019 at Harpenden Bethesda, we have been pleased to welcome two new residents to the Home, Miss Evelyn Morley from West Row and Mr. Alfred Chivers from South Moreton

We have been pleased to welcome a number of friends for short stays and these have included; Miss Iris Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. David Lawson, Mrs. Jenny Tyler, Mrs. Mary Pickles, Mrs. Iris Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. David Tong and Miss Suzanne Cook.

During 2019 we were saddened to lose four of our friends living in the Home, Mrs. Margaret Ruse, Miss Dinah Gibb, Mr. David Crowter and Miss Ruth Fuller.

There have been a number of staff changes over the past year with Nicky Shah leaving to pursue alternative opportunities and Mrs. Margaret Boyton retiring after working in the Home for thirty-two years as a kitchen assistant.

We were pleased to welcome Anja Stiger, Ilke Megans and Marieke Bakker who came to work in the Home as carers in a voluntary capacity for a short period of time before returning to Holland.

We remain very grateful to all our staff, whether permanent or temporary, who have done so much for our residents over the year. We would desire the Lord's help and blessing for them day by day in what is for many, a real labour of love.

The residents this year have become frailer and not able to participate in outings as in previous years, although occasionally a small group of residents have been out to a local coffee shop. Therefore, the majority of the resident's activities this year has been arranged in house thanks to the help and organisation of our Home Support Group. These activities have included a small fireworks display, a fish and chips lunch in the garden, making mince pies, a slide presentations of Australia and the royal family and a reminiscence activity involving slides of past ministers and chapels. A coffee morning was also held in the Home during February.

June this year was a very special occasion in the history of the Home as we remembered 50 years since our opening. A thanksgiving service was held to mark this anniversary, conducted by Mr. B.A. Ramsbottom. This was followed by tea in the garden and marquee. It was a lovely day to look back on and it was very nice to have so many visitors to share the occasion with us.

Other events during the year have included musical afternoons on several occasions throughout the year and we are grateful for the time and effort put in by those that organise these, and to those that attend to play their instruments to the residents, who always appreciate it. In December children from Bethel Sunday School came to visit and sing Christmas hymns with the residents.

Prayer meetings and hymn singing evenings have been arranged and a regular activities programme has also been established by the Home Support Group for the benefit of the residents. We are very grateful for all their help.

May the Lord be pleased to grant His presence and help in the coming year.

Studley Bethesda Home



Home Manager:	Mrs. Sammy O'Dwyer
Home Administrator:	Mrs. Emma Trafford
Local Secretary:	Mr. Henry Mercer
Home Chairman:	Mr. Philip Pocock

Residents as at 31 December 2019

Mr. & Mrs. J. Burrows	Miss M. Julian	Mrs. J. Kinderman
Miss P.M.R. Hunt	Mrs. R.D Moore	Mrs. H.E. Painter
Mr. H.A. Wallis		

We give thanks to the Lord for maintaining and providing for us during another year.

We are very thankful that we have continued to provide care for the eight Residents here at Studley and hopefully numbers will increase throughout the coming year.

We have been able to provide weekly bathing as part of our day care service, and lunches for family friends and Home Support Group members during the year.

At present the Home has a full contingent of staff. For a prolonged period over the year we have had to use agency staff to cover night shifts. Staff training continued throughout the year. In January a virtual Dementia training session was provided for all staff. Family members, trustees and Home Support Group members were also invited to participate. Oral care training has been introduced this year as this is now a CQC requirement.

We have had a number of home improvements carried out during the year including a new bath and air conditioning in the lounge.

Prayer Meetings were held in the Home in June and November and hymn singing evenings were held monthly, all of which have been appreciated by the residents. In the week before Christmas we once again held our annual Christmas Hymn singing service with a large number of family and friends attending.

We would like to express our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wiltshire, who have now stepped down from their various duties, for their many years of help and support. We would also like to welcome Mr. Philip Pocock who is the new Home Chairman.

During July we provided a cream tea on the lawn for our Residents and the Home's volunteers in recognition of the support they provide throughout the year. This was also an opportunity to showcase the newly renovated lawn.

Residents were invited to afternoon tea in July kindly provided by a member of the Home Support Group. They also enjoyed several slide shows throughout the year, including presentations on the Congo and Norway.

The annual coffee morning was held in November which raised just over £500 to date, with a little more expected from the Ossett Bookshop for the sale of greeting cards and calendars. We especially thank the many friends who helped and others by contributing gifts for sale. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the Residents.

A trip was arranged in December to Whitehall garden centre for coffee, cake, and to see the Christmas decorations.

The Trolley Shop, which provides a bespoke shopping facility for the convenience and benefit of the Residents, continues to be run by Mrs. Patricia Tugwell. Monthly craft and activity mornings continue to be organised by Mrs. Monica Redhouse and Miss Myrtle Robinson. Other activities include the 'Knitting Hour', when Residents knit squares which are sewn into blankets for charity, and weekly exercise sessions. We have introduced daily activities including flower arranging, cake decorating and a range of different games to stimulate the mind which is good for people's wellbeing.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the many friends who continue loyally to support us by taking the morning readings, hymn-singings and prayer meetings, and also for practical help in many ways. Our volunteers perform many valuable duties such as transport to chapel services and medical appointments.

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM THE FLATLETS

Harpenden Bethesda Flatlets

203 Luton Road, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 3DE



Warden: Mr. Alan Rayner

Residents as at 31 December 2019

Miss P.A. Lawrance

Mrs. J. Tyler

We would return our grateful thanks to the Lord for His goodness to us in maintaining the Flatlets for another year.

The three Residents, Miss Pat Lawrance, Mrs. Jenny Tyler and Mr Alfred Chivers (who subsequently moved into the Home), were able to meet with the Home Residents for morning readings and at other times such as prayer meetings and hymn singing evenings, whilst living an independent life in the flatlets. Mrs. Jenny Tyler has continued to be a great help in improving the rear garden, making it more bird friendly and in building a small water feature.

The bathroom in Flatlet 3 was refurbished in the early part of the year to make it more suitable for today's requirements.

Redhill Bethesda Flatlets

3 White Post Hill, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 6AN



Warden:

Mr. Jon Hickman

Residents as at 31 December 2019

Mrs. R. Mercer

Mrs. D. Sayers

We are thankful to the Lord for the help given in maintaining the Redhill flatlets through another year.

During the year, Mrs. Rosie Mercer returned to Flat 2. Mrs. Dorothy Sayers continued to reside in Flat 3. In November Mr. & Mrs. S. McKay vacated Flat 6 returning to Northern Ireland after over five years as temporary residents, acknowledging that this had been the Lord's provision for them. We wish them the Lord's rich blessing in their future pathway. We are thankful the remaining three Flats continue to be occupied by our other valued temporary residents. At the close of the year therefore Flat 6 was the only vacant Flat.

Once again, we are thankful the Redhill flatlets have been fully occupied most of the year, and thereby providing surplus income to the Bethesda General Fund, as well as being an appreciating asset.

We have also appreciated the voluntary help and interest shown by the residents and friends from Hope Chapel, Shaw's Corner, in their willingness to carry out maintenance and repairs, resulting in significant savings in the running of the Flatlets.

Monthly coffee mornings have continued through the year, still enjoying the coffee made by Mrs. Margretha Hayden, who has been doing this for about thirty years. A number of friends from our local chapels join the residents for coffee, followed by reading, prayer and hymn singing.

‘The Lord hath been mindful of us.’

A few pictures taken during 2019:



Harpenden 50th Anniversary during the year
and residents helping with the preparation



Brighton residents and helpers visit to Wakehurst Place, West Sussex



Afternoon tea in the garden at the Brighton Home, and a stall from this year's coffee morning.



Tea in the Garden at Studley



Christmas Dinner

Published by the Trustees of the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund

Printed by Olive Press, Stotfold

GOSPEL STANDARD BETHESDA FUND

Financial Statements

for the

year ended

31 December 2019

Charity No. 209376

Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund
Bethesda General Office
12(b) Roundwood Lane
Harpenden
Herts
AL5 3BZ

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

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The Annual Report for 2019 is available from the address above.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GOSPEL STANDARD BETHESDA FUND

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the 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 FRS 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 charity 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.

The Impact of Uncertainties due to the United Kingdom exiting the European Union on our audit

The Trustees' view on the impact of Brexit is disclosed on page 13 of the Trustees' Report.

The United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union on 31 January 2020 and entered into an Implementation Period which is scheduled to end on 31 December 2020. However the terms of the future trade and other relationships with the European Union are not yet clear, and it is therefore not currently possible to evaluate all the potential implications to the Charity's activities, customers, suppliers and the wider economy.

We considered the impact of Brexit on the Charity as part of our audit procedures, applying a standard firm wide approach in response to the uncertainty associated with the Charity's future prospects and performance.

However, no audit should be expected to predict the unknowable factors or all possible implications for the Charity and this is particularly the case in relation to Brexit

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' Report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the Trustees' Report, the trustees 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 charity'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 charity 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of the audit report

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and regulations made or having effect thereunder. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK). Those standards require us to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed: 

Mazars LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

2nd Floor, 6 Sutton Plaza, Sutton Court Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 4FS

Date: 10 March 2020

Mazars LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

GOSPEL STANDARD BETHESDA FUND
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2019

		----Unrestricted funds----		Restricted	Total funds
	Note	General	Designated	funds	2019
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	85,487	43,123	30,832	159,442
Charitable activities	4	1,410,139	-	2,804	1,412,943
Investments	5	26,930	479	9,049	36,458
Grant - The Piggott Charity	6	-	9,000	-	9,000
Total		1,522,556	52,602	42,685	1,617,843
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7-8	13,807	-	-	13,807
Charitable activities	7-13	1,834,929	2,636	37,380	1,874,945
Total		1,848,736	2,636	37,380	1,888,752
Net (expenditure)/income		(326,180)	49,966	5,305	(270,909)
Transfers between funds	14,23	90,240	(61,134)	(29,106)	-
Net movement in funds		(235,940)	(11,168)	(23,801)	(270,909)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,325,458	52,392	915,048	4,292,898
Total funds carried forward		£3,089,518	£41,224	£891,247	£4,021,989

Comparative figures for the prior year
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	----Unrestricted funds----		Restricted funds	Total funds
		General	Designated		2018
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	25,274	9,944	120,519	155,737
Charitable activities	4	1,605,158	-	-	1,605,158
Investments	5	17,920	372	8,483	26,775
Grant - The Piggott Charity	6	-	9,000	-	9,000
Total		1,648,352	19,316	129,002	1,796,670
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7-8	15,608	-	-	15,608
Charitable activities	7-13	1,889,788	2,937	39,224	1,931,949
Total		1,905,396	2,937	39,224	1,947,557
Net (expenditure)/income		(257,044)	16,379	89,778	(150,887)
Transfers between funds	14	19,021	(17,517)	(1,504)	-
Net movement in funds		(238,023)	(1,138)	88,274	(150,887)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,563,481	53,530	826,774	4,443,785
Total funds carried forward		£3,325,458	£52,392	£915,048	£4,292,898

GOSPEL STANDARD BETHESDA FUND
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	15-17	1,051,319	1,060,645
Investments	19	-	250,000
<i>Total fixed assets</i>		<u>1,051,319</u>	<u>1,310,645</u>
Current assets:			
Debtors	18	152,772	114,040
Investments	19	2,702,650	2,634,356
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>193,610</u>	<u>321,462</u>
<i>Total current assets</i>		3,049,032	3,069,858
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	20	<u>(78,362)</u>	<u>(87,605)</u>
<i>Net current assets</i>		2,970,670	2,982,253
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>		<u>4,021,989</u>	<u>4,292,898</u>
Total net assets		<u>£4,021,989</u>	<u>£4,292,898</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted -			
General	21	3,089,518	3,325,458
Designated	21,23	41,224	52,392
Restricted income funds	21,22	<u>891,247</u>	<u>915,048</u>
Total charity funds		<u>£4,021,989</u>	<u>£4,292,898</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 February 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



M. RIDOUT, Chairman

GOSPEL STANDARD BETHESDA FUND
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<i>Net cash (used in) operating activities</i>	24(a)	<u>(309,582)</u>	<u>(150,745)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest and rents from investments		36,458	26,775
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		<u>(36,434)</u>	<u>(6,074)</u>
<i>Net cash provided by investing activities</i>		<u>24</u>	<u>20,701</u>
<i>Change in cash & cash equivalents in reporting period</i>		(309,558)	(130,044)
Cash & cash equivalents at start of reporting period		<u>3,205,818</u>	<u>3,335,862</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of reporting period	24(b)	<u>£2,896,260</u>	<u>£3,205,818</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1 Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice SORP 2015 (FRS 102) published by the Charity Commission in 2014.

(b) Going concern

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate and have identified no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of 12 months from the date of approval of the Financial Statements.

(c) Income

Voluntary income, including donations, Gift Aid, and chapel collections, is recognised in the period in which the income is received.

Investment income and rent is recognised on a receivable basis.

Legacies are accounted for as income either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable. Receipt is normally probable when:

- there has been a grant of probate
- the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate, after settling any liabilities, to pay the legacy; and
- any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Legacies which have been notified, but are not recognised as income in the Statement of Financial Activities, are disclosed within the note 'Donations and legacies' with an estimate (if possible) of the amount receivable.

Fees from residents in the care homes and flatlets are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided.

(d) Income tax recoverable

Any income tax due to be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue on donations made under Gift Aid or income tax deducted from interest received net of basic rate tax, has been brought into these financial statements as a debtor.

(e) **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, that is, when a liability is incurred. The charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Support costs are costs incurred in support of both income generation, charitable activities, and governance, as shown in the note 'Allocation of support costs.' These costs comprise a proportion of central office staff, information systems and internal accounting costs, and costs relating to the premises. Also included is a proportion of the management and administration costs in the three Bethesda Homes and servicing of the Homes' premises.

Governance costs are costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity which relate to the general running of the charity as distinct from those costs associated with its charitable activities. They include the cost of meeting constitutional and statutory requirements, audit fees, legal fees, and a proportion of central office costs.

(f) **Pension scheme contributions**

Contributions payable to the Charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme. For further information see the note 'Employee information.'

(g) **Capitalisation and depreciation of tangible fixed assets**

Freehold properties

Freehold properties are carried in the accounts at their original cost. Depreciation is provided to write down the original cost of the buildings, and the cost of later permanent additions and improvements, on a straight-line basis over a period of fifty years. No depreciation is charged on freehold land.

Equipment

Due to the large number of fixed assets owned and used by the charity, our policy is to recognise within the assets register only those assets that cost more than £1,000. Numerous items purchased at the same time costing in total more than £1,000 but each item individually costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised. This policy of depreciation applies only to assets acquired after January 1990; all equipment acquired before that date has been written off completely in previous accounting periods.

Equipment in the Homes and Flatlets costing more than £1,000 is capitalised and written off on a straight-line basis over a period of five years, and is shown in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation, the annual depreciation being charged as a running cost of the Homes and Flatlets. Equipment in the Homes and

Flatlets costing less than £1,000 is not capitalised but is written off in the year of acquisition as an expense, being charged directly to the running costs of the Homes and Flatlets under 'Repairs and renewals.'

Equipment in the Bethesda General Office at Harpenden costing more than £1,000 is capitalised and written off on a straight-line basis over a period of five years, and is shown in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation, the annual depreciation being charged as a running cost under 'Central office costs.'

Equipment in the Bethesda General Office costing less than £1,000 is written off as an expense in the year of acquisition, being charged to 'Central office costs' under 'Repairs and maintenance.'

Motor vehicles

Motor vehicles are written off at 25% per annum on a reducing balance.

(h) Transactions with trustees and related parties

Two trustees received remuneration for services rendered outside the scope of their roles as trustees. Each payment was made having regard to Charity Commission guidance and all requirements were met. The payments made were:

Henry Mercer - Local Secretary of Studley Bethesda Home: £750 (2018 - £750).

Alan Rayner - Gardening work at the Harpenden Flatlets: £1,616 (2018 - £1,744).

No trustees received any remuneration for their services as a trustee. Six trustees (2018: 5 trustees) were reimbursed expenses covering travel, subsistence and accommodation when away on the charity's business, totalling £4,329 (2018: £1,299). One trustee was paid £1,200 (2018: £1,200) to reimburse secretarial assistance. Expenses waived by trustees amounted to £865 (2018: £793). G Wiltshire, the son of a trustee, was paid £420 (2018: £480) for hedge cutting at Studley Bethesda Home. Besides the disclosures in these financial statements, no trustee or connected persons had any beneficial interest in any material contract, transaction or arrangement with the Charity during the year.

(i) Indemnity insurance

The charity carries a comprehensive insurance package provided by Travelers Insurance. Engineering Insurance and Inspection is provided by Allianz Insurance, Trustees Liability by Catlin Insurance via Angel Risk Management Ltd., Group Personal Accident by Chubb Insurance, Cyber & Data Risks by Lloyd's via CFC Underwriting Ltd., and Motor Vehicle Insurance by QBE Insurance.

(j) **Stocks of foods and other supplies**

Stocks held at the year end have not been brought into these Financial Statements, as the amounts held are relatively insignificant.

(k) **Funds**

Unrestricted funds - these comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds that are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - these are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees at their discretion from the general funds for specific purposes.

Restricted funds - these comprise funds subject to specific restrictions imposed by donors and funders.

Further details of the nature and purpose of each fund are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Surplus cash is held on fixed term deposits. Deposits maturing in less than one year are recognised as current investments and those that mature in more than one year are recognised as fixed investments.

2 Statement of Financial Activities

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all income, gains, expenditure and losses recognised for the reporting period. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

3 Donations and legacies

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2019</i>	<i>Total 2018</i>
	£	£	£	£
Collections & donations from chapels:				
For general purposes	10,498	-	10,498	9,944
For specific Homes	-	675	675	486
For assisting short-stay residents	-	1,546	1,546	1,364
Personal donations & subscriptions:				
For general purposes	1,591	-	1,591	1,250
For general purposes - Gift Aid	31,034	-	31,034	22,098
For specific Homes	-	4,681	4,681	6,924
For specific Homes - Gift Aid	-	1,143	1,143	446
For the Flatlets - Gift Aid	1,250	-	1,250	25
Home collecting boxes	-	507	507	899
Total	44,373	8,552	52,925	43,436
Legacies received:				
Miss Mary Guest	-	22,280	22,280	110,400
Miss F Curd	4,910	-	4,910	-
Miss Dinah Gibb	5,000	-	5,000	-
Miss Ruth Fuller	74,242	-	74,242	-
Mr Brian Honeysett	85	-	85	1,212
Mrs Irene Guest	-	-	-	500
Mrs Grace Saxby	-	-	-	189
Total	84,237	22,280	106,517	112,301
Total	£128,610	£30,832	£159,442	£155,737

3 Donations and legacies (continued)

The Charity has been advised that it is a beneficiary of the following legacies:

Mr S E George: Balance arising from the sale of building land and a partial interest in tenanted agricultural land. There is no immediate prospect of the balance being realised.

Mr K Evans: No further details are yet known.

For an explanation of when legacies are recognised as income see Note 1(c).

4 Income from charitable activities

	<i>Total</i> <i>2019</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>2018</i>
	£	£
Fees from residential care homes	1,338,752	1,541,864
Fees from flatlets	49,624	37,689
Staff board charges	17,922	19,926
Sundry receipts	6,645	5,679
	<u>£1,412,943</u>	<u>£1,605,158</u>

5 Investment income

	<i>Unrestricted</i> <i>funds</i>	<i>Restricted</i> <i>funds</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>2019</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>2018</i>
	£	£	£	£
Interest on short-term deposits	24,909	9,049	33,958	24,275
Rent receivable from bookroom	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	<u>£27,409</u>	<u>£9,049</u>	<u>£36,458</u>	<u>£26,775</u>

The bookroom within the Bethesda General Office, Harpenden is occupied by The Gospel Standard Trust as its publications centre. As the fair value of the investment property component cannot be measured reliably, the entire property is accounted for within tangible fixed assets and not under investments.

Related Party Transactions note: The Gospel Standard Trust is a Custodian Trustee of the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund and holds in trust all of the charity's freehold properties. The appointment was made under the Charity Commission Scheme referred to earlier in this report.

6 Transactions with The Piggott Charity

A grant of £9,000 (2018 - £9,000) was received from The Piggott Charity towards assisting underfunded residents. The Piggott Charity is a 'connected charity.' The trustees of the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund are also trustees of The Piggott Charity. However, the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund does not exercise any dominant influence over The Piggott Charity. The Piggott Charity makes grants at its own discretion to the Gospel Standard Bethesda Fund. Therefore, based on this, no consolidated accounts are prepared. For further information see notes on 'Designated funds' and 'Restricted funds.'

7 Analysis of expenditure

	<i>Direct costs</i>	<i>Governance & support costs</i>	<i>Total 2019</i>	<i>Total 2018</i>
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	13,807	13,807	15,608
Charitable activities:				
Running costs of care homes	1,476,787	356,052	1,832,839	1,882,413
Running costs of flatlets	26,506	11,585	38,091	45,944
Underfunded residents' fund	-	2,636	2,636	2,937
Short-stay residents' fund	1,240	139	1,379	655
	1,504,533	370,412	1,874,945	1,931,949
Total	£1,504,533	£384,219	£1,888,752	£1,947,557

'Raising funds' is the term required by accounting rules to be used for expenditure in relation to dealing with donations, grants, legacies, subscriptions and management of investments, hence a proportion of costs are allocated under this caption.

8 Allocation of Governance and support costs

Support costs comprise costs incurred in support of both income generation, charitable activities, and governance, as shown below. These costs comprise a proportion of central office staff, information systems and internal accounting costs, and costs relating to the premises. Also included is a proportion of the management and administration costs in the Bethesda Homes and Flatlets and the servicing of the buildings.

Governance costs are those for the governance arrangements of the charity. These include audit, legal advice for trustees and costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as trustee meetings and preparing statutory accounts. In prior years governance costs were shown separately in the Statement of Financial Activities but are now included as a sub-category of support costs and allocated to activities along with the other support costs. Governance costs are shown in Note 9.

	<i>Staff costs</i>	<i>Other costs</i>	<i>Total 2019</i>	<i>Total 2018</i>
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	9,399	4,408	13,807	15,608
Charitable activities:				
Care homes	289,102	66,950	356,052	364,344
Flatlets	7,489	4,096	11,585	12,870
Subsidies: underfunded residents	1,721	915	2,636	2,937
Subsidies: short-stay residents	91	48	139	155
Total Governance & support costs	£307,802	£76,417	£384,219	£395,914

9 Governance costs

	<i>Total 2019</i>	<i>Total 2018</i>
	£	£
Audit fees incl disbursements - current year	8,500	8,430
Audit fees incl disbursements - prior years	103	(311)
Advertising and Website costs	77	77
Bank charges	727	788
Committee members' expenses	4,562	1,299
Printing	606	786
Management and finance staff costs	24,457	26,477
Other costs	9,075	12,276
	£48,107	£49,822

10 Subsidies paid to short-stay residents

During the year two residents coming into a Bethesda Home for a short stay were assisted with their fees from the Short-Stay Fund (2018: 1 resident). During the year the Short-Stay Fund was supported by two (2018: 3) chapel collections.

11 Assistance towards residents' fees

Fee subsidies amounting to £81,134 (2018: £47,517) were paid from a designated fund to residents supportable by local authorities under the Community Care Act in cases where the maximum amount paid by the local authority was less than the Bethesda fee. During the year eight residents were assisted in this way: 5 residents at the Brighton Home, 2 at Harpenden, and 1 at Studley (2018: 8 residents).

During the year contributions amounting to £115,111 (2018: £142,096) were receivable from local authority social services departments towards residents' fees.

12 Ex gratia payments

Ex gratia payments amounting to £2,000 (2018: £2,075) were paid by way of honoraria to people who assist the charity in various ways. Four payments (2018: 7 payments) were made in the year ranging from £150 to £750. The sum of £750 was paid to one Trustee which is already disclosed in Note 1(h). In some cases the payment, or part of the payment, is used by the recipient to defray expenses incurred in rendering services to the charity.

13 Employee information

The average number of care home staff employed during the year, including part time workers, was 93 (2018: 76). The number of management and administration staff at the Bethesda General Office was 2 (2018: 2). Staff costs were as follows:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,256,830	1,275,025
Social security costs	85,607	86,209
Pension costs	28,087	27,745
Agency workers	38,363	62,688
	<u>£1,408,887</u>	<u>£1,451,667</u>
Cost of raising funds - support costs	9,399	10,176
Costs relating to charitable activities:		
Care homes - direct costs	1,101,085	1,131,688
Care homes - support costs	289,102	299,734
Flatlets - support costs	7,489	8,108
Fee subsidies - support costs	1,721	1,863
Short-stay Fund - support costs	91	98
	<u>£1,408,887</u>	<u>£1,451,667</u>

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more in either year. Premiums of £1,280 (2018: £1,280) were paid into a private pension plan held by 1 officer (2018: 1 officer). Employers premiums of £26,685 (2018: £26,363) were paid into 'The People's Pension' scheme administered by B&CE Insurance Ltd. which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This is an auto-enrolment scheme which commenced in October 2015.

Key management personnel are identified as the General Manager and the three Home Managers. The compensation of these members of staff amounts to £152,470 (2018: £150,745) including remuneration and all benefits paid. In addition, the General Manager separately invoiced the charity, and was paid, £1,000 (2018: £1,650) for preparing drawings of proposed building work. The Home Manager of the Harpenden Home, Debbie Scott, is daughter in law to a trustee, Trevor Scott. Regulations require that each of the care Homes have a registered Manager, and each Home Manager's remuneration is decided with reference to an agreed independent market benchmarking tool for their roles on an impartial basis.

14 Transfers from restricted funds

	<i>2019</i>	<i>2018</i>
	£	£
Transfer from restricted funds relating to capital expenditure	<u>29,106</u>	<u>1,504</u>
Total transfers	<u>£29,106</u>	<u>£1,504</u>

The expenditure for 2019 related to a number of high value items including a powered bath seat, wi-fi home coverage, commercial dishwashers & washing machine, patio extension, audio equipment & split heat pump system (2018: planning costs for a proposed sun lounge extension at the Brighton Home).

15 Freehold land and buildings

(a) *Holding trustee*

The freeholds of the Bethesda Homes and Flatlets and the Bethesda General Office are held by the custodian trustee, The Gospel Standard Trust.

(b) *Net book value*

The Trustees consider that the open market value of the freehold land and buildings is in excess of the net book value at which they are shown in the Balance Sheet.

(c) *Note concerning the Brighton and Hove Home*

The Gospel Standard Baptist Library is situated within the grounds of the Brighton & Hove Bethesda Home. The cost of the library building, which was erected in 1980 and extended in 2003, was met entirely from the funds of the library. There is no formal agreement with the trustees of the library and no ground rent or other payments are received.

	Bethesda Homes £	Bethesda Flatlets £	Office Premises £	Total £
COST				
At start of year	1,299,371	449,492	125,019	1,873,882
Additions	1,000	-	-	1,000
At end of year	1,300,371	449,492	125,019	1,874,882
DEPRECIATION				
At start of year	587,725	182,722	50,889	821,336
Charge for year	23,770	7,612	2,484	33,866
At end of year	611,495	190,334	53,373	855,202
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31.12.19	£688,876	£259,158	£71,646	£1,019,680
At 31.12.18	£711,646	£266,770	£74,130	£1,052,546

Included within the cost of freehold property is land of £181,523 (2018: £181,523) which is not depreciated.

16 Equipment and motor vehicles

	Equipment in Homes £	Equipment in Flatlets £	Office Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
COST					
At start of year	215,318	9,885	5,003	55,837	286,043
Additions	29,326	5,029	1,079	-	35,434
Disposals	<u>(15,255)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,255)</u>
At end of year	<u>229,389</u>	<u>14,914</u>	<u>6,082</u>	<u>55,837</u>	<u>306,222</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At start of year	208,609	9,885	5,003	54,447	277,944
Charge for year	9,231	1,006	216	348	10,801
Less: Disposals	<u>(14,162)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(14,162)</u>
At end of year	<u>203,678</u>	<u>10,891</u>	<u>5,219</u>	<u>54,795</u>	<u>274,583</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31.12.19	<u>£25,711</u>	<u>£4,023</u>	<u>£863</u>	<u>£1,042</u>	<u>£31,639</u>
At 31.12.18	<u>£6,709</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,390</u>	<u>£8,099</u>

17 Tangible assets

	2019 £	2018 £
Freehold land and buildings	1,019,680	1,052,546
Equipment and motor vehicles	<u>31,639</u>	<u>8,099</u>
	<u>£1,051,319</u>	<u>£1,060,645</u>

18 Debtors

	2019	2018
	£	£
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid	6,705	4,498
Interest accrued on short-term deposits	22,625	20,582
Gospel Standard Trust - use of bookroom	2,813	-
Legacy from Miss Ruth Fuller deceased	74,243	-
Prepayments	19,214	19,098
Residents' fees receivable	27,172	69,862
	<u>£152,772</u>	<u>£114,040</u>

19 Investments: short-term deposits

	2019	2018
	£	£
<i>Fixed assets</i>		
United Trust Bank Two Year Bond	-	250,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>250,000</u>
<i>Current assets</i>		
Charity Bank One Year Bond	253,241	250,000
United Trust Bank Two Year Bond	250,000	-
United Trust Bank One Year Bond	392,809	-
Hampshire Trust Bank One Year Bond	253,232	250,000
Hampshire Trust Bank One Year Bond	392,809	-
Cambridge & Counties Bank One Year Bond	395,680	269,464
Cambridge & Counties Bank Easy Access Account	-	395,533
Cambridge & Counties Bank One Year Bond	272,967	-
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	491,912	688,388
Close Brothers 18 Month Fixed Term Deposit	-	780,971
	<u>£2,702,650</u>	<u>£2,634,356</u>
	<u>£2,702,650</u>	<u>£2,884,356</u>
Total investments		

20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019	2018
	£	£
Accrued expenses	4,357	1,974
Accrued holiday pay	22,599	25,498
Financial services fees	8,500	8,430
PAYE & NIC due to HMRC	22,631	22,119
Pension premiums due	5,437	5,109
Residents' fees repayable/paid in advance	5,165	8,231
Trade creditors	9,673	16,244
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£78,362	£87,605
	<hr/>	<hr/>

21 Net asset analysis by fund

	----Unrestricted funds----		Restricted	Total	Total
	Designated	General	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	2019	2018
				£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible	-	1,051,319	-	1,051,319	1,060,645
Investments	-	-	-	-	250,000
Current assets:					
Investments	41,224	1,770,179	891,247	2,702,650	2,634,356
Other	-	346,382	-	346,382	435,502
Current liabilities	-	(78,362)	-	(78,362)	(87,605)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£41,224	£3,089,518	£891,247	£4,021,989	£4,292,898
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

22 Restricted funds

	<i>Balance</i> <i>01.01.19</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Transfers</i> <i>to capital</i> £	<i>Balance</i> <i>31.12.19</i> £
<i>Brighton Home:</i>					
Miss M J Guest	55,292	11,696	(9,561)	(15,832)	41,595
Mr J Tucker	20,353	204	-	-	20,557
Mrs E E Walker	67,967	683	-	-	68,650
<i>Harpenden Home:</i>					
Mr S E Biggs	42,023	266	(20,576)	-	21,713
Mrs E M Burgess	75,959	763	-	-	76,722
Mrs N M Gosling	141,050	1,405	(1,380)	-	141,075
Miss M J Guest	55,292	11,751	-	-	67,043
Mr L W Palmer	277,731	2,790	-	-	280,521
Miss M A Patterson	78,750	791	-	-	79,541
Mrs E D Sneesby	4,993	50	-	-	5,043
Miss M K Watts	2,759	28	-	-	2,787
Miss R E Wilkins	16,967	170	-	-	17,137
<i>Studley Home:</i>					
Miss S A Burgess	1,981	11	-	(1,992)	-
Mr O Pollington	11,559	72	(1,485)	(10,146)	-
Mr C A Wood	1,129	7	-	(1,136)	-
<i>Other funds:</i>					
Brighton Amenity	23,401	4,483	(988)	-	26,896
Harpenden Amenity	12,762	3,715	(2,011)	-	14,466
Studley Amenity	19,849	2,206	-	-	22,055
Short-stay Residents	5,231	1,594	(1,379)	-	5,446
	<u>£915,048</u>	<u>£42,685</u>	<u>(£37,380)</u>	<u>(£29,106)</u>	<u>£891,247</u>

Restricted funds are to be used only for the benefit of the Bethesda Home under which they are listed above. The Short-stay Residents Fund is supported by chapel collections and is used to assist people coming into the Bethesda Homes for short stays. See Note 1(k) for more information on Restricted funds.

23 Designated funds

	<i>Balance 01.01.19</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Net transfers</i>	<i>Balance 31.12.19</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Underfunded residents	26,360	52,340	(2,636)	(61,134)	14,930
Miss K E Aston dec'd	26,032	262	-	-	26,294
	<u>£52,392</u>	<u>£52,602</u>	<u>(£2,636)</u>	<u>(£61,134)</u>	<u>£41,224</u>

The 'Underfunded residents fund' was established in 2007 from part of the sale proceeds of the Tunbridge Wells Bethesda Home, and is used to assist residents who are unable to meet the full fees. However, these monies were exhausted some years ago and the Fund has instead been supported principally by diverting other monies into it. The income allocated to the Fund and the net transfers for 2019 were as follows:

	<i>2019</i>	<i>2018</i>
	£	£
Chapel collections & donations for general purposes	10,498	9,944
Personal donations & subscriptions for general purposes	32,625	-
Grant from the Piggott Charity	9,000	9,000
Interest	<u>217</u>	<u>113</u>
Total income	<u>£52,340</u>	<u>£19,057</u>
Transfer from general reserves	20,000	30,000
Shortfalls in residents fees met by the Fund	<u>(81,134)</u>	<u>(47,517)</u>
Net transfers	<u>(£61,134)</u>	<u>(£17,517)</u>

Part of a legacy received in 2009 from the estate of the late Miss Kathleen Eunice Aston was transferred into a designated fund to be used for the benefit of the Brighton Bethesda Home, where Miss Aston was a resident for over ten years.

Income includes interest received on unexpended balances. See Note 1(k) for more information on Designated funds.

24 Notes to Statement of Cash Flows

(a) Reconciliation of net (expenditure) to net cash (used in) by operating activities

	2019 £	2018 £
Net (expenditure) for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)	(270,909)	(150,887)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	44,667	40,498
Loss on disposal of equipment	1,093	-
Interest and rents from investments	(36,458)	(26,775)
(Increase) in debtors	(38,732)	(33,890)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(9,243)	20,309
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(£309,582)	(£150,745)

(b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	193,610	321,462
Cash on deposit (current asset investments)	2,702,650	2,634,356
Cash held (fixed asset investments)	-	250,000
	£2,896,260	£3,205,818

25 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
<i>Amounts due:</i>		
Within 1 year	3,533	3,533
Between 1 and 5 years	7,348	10,882
After 5 years	-	-
	£10,881	£14,415

26 Commitments for expenditure

There were no other material commitments for expenditure at the year end.

END OF NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS