

## Chairs Report to the Annual General Meeting 2022

The year 2021- 22 has been another where we have had to face up to a number of challenges, and I am proud of the way that the Heather Club has stepped up to meet them.

The main issue has been how to provide a safe and secure environment to those we serve that are living with early onset dementia, or memory loss. We are aware, from many personal endorsements that this is also an oasis of respite and calm for their carers, in what can be a pressurised week. However, we have to remain conscious that the demographic we serve, and indeed many of our volunteers, are in the vulnerable category, and that we have a duty of care for all.

We have closely followed the NHS advice on Covid precautions, and will continue to do so, particularly as we head towards winter. We continue to invite entertainers for our members but have moved in to the adjacent church to allow larger groups for better social distancing and ventilation.

As a small charity, we are entirely reliant on our wonderful volunteers who give their time freely once or twice a week and some also help to raise funds. Without these volunteers we would have to close our doors and we are very grateful for their ongoing support. Similarly, we must acknowledge that the two members of paid staff give far more than their contracted hours. We are currently in the process of appointing an assistant manager in order to future proof the Heather Club.

The Trustees bear the responsibility for guiding the strategic direction of the Heather Club and are working as a cohesive team in order to carry out this role, and again we are grateful to them for giving up a significant amount of their time.

We continue to struggle with gaining trustees to fill our skills gap, but we have been fortunate to recruit a further two trustees, one of whom has stepped into the recently vacated position of Treasurer and brings with him a wealth of knowledge.

In April the Chair informed the other Trustees that he wished to step down from the role, but agreed that he would remain in post until a new Chair could be found. Despite advertising widely, it has not been possible to recruit a replacement.

Sadly, as previously reported, a number of our regular members have died, either due to their age, Covid or a deterioration in their condition, which made it impossible to continue to attend the Heather Club. However, we have been receiving between three and five enquires a month, most of which resulted in membership. We are close to being at the maximum membership in terms of venue capacity and volunteer base, and our next discussion will be centred around ensuring as many people as possible can attend the club and whether we should limit the number of times a member is able access the club each week or to create a waiting list.

Due to relatively recent changes in funding from one of our significant funders, Trustees have had to make some difficult decisions to continue providing this service. One such decision was to increase the daily charge although this will be kept under review and if possible, we will reduce the charge.

Over the past year we have received a number of donations from both individuals and organisations, for which we are very grateful.

In June we were able to hold Jubilee Celebrations, which consisted of an afternoon tea and a photograph of each member beside a cardboard cut out of the late Queen. We later presented each member with a photograph of the occasion.

Michael Rowan, Chair of Trustees, The Heather Club

The Heather Club

Income & Income Statement 20022 & PY 2021

	<b>2022 In £</b>	<b>2021 In £</b>		<b>2022 OUT £</b>	<b>2021 OUT £</b>
<b>Balance in hand B/FWD</b>			<b>Equipment</b>		
Saving Account	£20,020.39	£20,015.39	Meals	£6,168.90	£2,180.40
Current Account	£32,286.17	£28,780.33	Rent	£5,306.15	£491.60
Petty Cash		£15.00	Refreshemnt	£222.42	£92.81
<b>Donations</b>			<b>Transport</b>		
Grant	£16,300.00				
General Donations	£3,602.94				
Restrictied funds (Activiti	£194.10				
Grant		£0.00	Mini Bus	£740.00	£3,140.66
Rowlandson		£5,000.00			
Rotary Club		£250.00	<b>Club Activitives</b>		
Watford Organ Club		£300.00	Enernment	£350.00	£140.00
Kocycle		£599.00	Outins/Activities	£360.00	£234.00
Shenlly Foundation		£1,500.00			
Other Donations		£799.95	Out Reach rogramme	£0.00	£92.48
Web Site		£240.00	Gifts	£54.55	£23.00
Tring Lyons Club		£329.00	Other Expenses	£1,032.88	£17,776.40
National Lottery Grant			Insurance/HR	£1,686.74	£339.73
Mebership Subcriptions	£20,750.67	£6,248.00			
Forough	£0.00	£6,759.24	Membership		45
Bank Interest	£20.39	£3.61	DBS	186	45
Gift aid	£239.00	£0.00	Post/Tele/stat/comp/phot/	£4,434.17	£156.00
Other Income	£4,215.00		Salaries	£18,023.11	£9,588.44
			Payroll	£302.40	£352.80
			Advert	£0.00	£24.00
			Training	£0.00	£45.00
			Bank charges	£32.00	
			Accountant	£475.00	
			Ring Fenced Funds	£450.00	
			Car Park	£2,440.00	
			<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£42,264.32</b>	<b>18.722.33</b>
			<b>Balance in hand c/fwb</b>		
			Saving Account	£20,020.39	£20,020.39
			Current Account	£32,286.17	£28,780.33
			Petty Cash		£150.00
			<b>Total in bank,</b>	<b>£52,306.56</b>	<b>£48,950.72</b>
	<b>£97,628.66</b>	<b>£70,839.52</b>		<b>£90,010.50</b>	<b>£67,673.05</b>

## **Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Heather Club**

I report of the accounts of the Heather Club Registered Charity 1015598 for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 as follows:

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the charity commissioners (under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act) and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

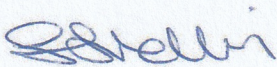
### **Basis of independent examiners report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiners statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 act; and
  - b. To prepare accounts which accords with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met or
2. To which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Sandra Mellish FCCA  
SJ Mellish Accountancy Services Ltd  
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Hemel Hempstead  
HP2 7DX

The Heather Club  
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