LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!®
LIFE IN ITS FULLNESS
FOR CHILDREN IN COLOMBIA
Charity registered with the Charity Commission No. 1159113

Videns
The Seeing-Heart Choir

Correspondence Address: P.O. Box 11, Walsingham, Norfolk, NR22 6EH, United Kingdom
Telephone: (+44)-1302-858369
letthechildrenlive@mac.com - www.letthechildrenlive.org

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

31st DECEMBER 2025

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!

	Page
GENERAL INFORMATION	1
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS	
Introduction	2
Partner Organisation	4
Objects	4
Mission and Vision	5
The impact of Inflation on the Charity's Donations to Colombia	6
Principal Activities	7
Finance	22
Property	30
Human Resources	31
Public Benefit	32
Risk Management	32
Governance	52
Responsibilities of the Trustees	54
Independent Examination	55
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	56
AGGREGATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	58
AGGREGATED BALANCE SHEET	59
AGGREGATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	61
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	62

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPANY NUMBER:	07140869
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS:	1159113 1159113-1
DIRECTORS:	Miss P. Brown (Chairman) Fr S. Goodman Mrs G. Prosser
COMPANY SECRETARY:	Miss P. Allan
REGISTERED OFFICE:	2, Roberts Road Doncaster DN4 0JW
BANKS:	Barclays Bank PLC 54, High Street Worcester WR1 2QQ Co-operative Bank 27-29 Commercial Street Newport NP20 1HJ
SOLICITORS:	Brabners Chaffe Street LLP Horton House Exchange Flags Liverpool L2 3YL
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	David Hoose FCA Forvis Mazars LLP 3, Chamberlain Square Birmingham B3 3AX

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors/Trustees present their Report for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Introduction

Let The Children Live! is a Charitable Company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. It was incorporated on 29th January 2010, and was registered as a Charity on 6th November 2014. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the Charitable Company; and it is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the Company being wound up, the Members will be required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The Directors of the Company are also its Trustees for the purposes of charity law.

Let The Children Live! was set up by the Trustees of the Charitable Trust of the same name (Registered Charity No. 1159113-1, originally 1013634), which was founded by Father Peter Walters at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk, in 1992. The same people are the Trustees of both charities.

Fr Peter asked the Trustees of the Trust to set up the Company in order:

- to consolidate and extend the work he had begun through the Trust;
- to make the specifically Christian principles and nature of this work more explicit and secure; and
- to provide this work with an incorporated structure in which the liability of the Trustees would be limited.

Although Fr Peter is recognised as being the Founder of both charities, he is not a Trustee of either of them. He was employed by the Trust as its Executive Director until 31st December 2016; and the following day he became employed as the Executive Director of the Company.

When the Company was established, it was agreed that this new body should gradually take over the work of the Trust, and that once all of the assets and liabilities of the latter had been transferred to the former, the Trust would eventually be wound up in order to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of time and money involved in running two charities for the same purpose.

By the end of 2016 the Company was ready to take over the operational responsibilities of the Trust; and it duly did this on 1st January 2017. The Company then became the workhorse in the partnership between the two “related undertakings”.

The employees of the Trust agreed that their contracts of employment should be transferred to the Company as from 1st January 2017. The Trustees decided that the tangible assets of the Trust should be made over to the Company on that day; and they arranged for the leases of the three properties rented by the Trust to be taken over by the Company on the same date. Consequently, thenceforward the Trust has no longer had any employees, tangible assets or leased premises of its own: but it has been able to benefit, free of charge, from those of the Company.

Although, as has been mentioned above, the Trustees had initially expected to be able to wind up the Trust within a quite limited timespan, they found that some regular donors had set up their Standing Orders without giving their contact details to the Trust, so it was not possible to contact them to ask them to transfer their Standing Orders from the Trust to the Company. Others simply ignored repeated requests to make this transfer.

The Trustees feared that the income from these donors would be lost if the Trust were to be wound up, so they allowed it to remain in existence year after year in a semi-dormant state, simply serving as the recipient of this income. However, on 14th December 2020 the Charity Commission told the Trustees that they "should review all available options by 31 May 2021 for effectively winding up the Trust by an appropriate time and transferring all assets/donations to the Charity, taking into account any appropriate professional advice."

The Trustees therefore consulted their Solicitor, who said that in view of the net annual income of more than £10,000 in standing orders and Gift Aid that was likely to be lost if the Trust were to be wound up, he did not consider that this would be in its best interests. He therefore suggested that the Trustees should instead apply to the Charity Commission for the Trust to be "linked" to the Company. The Trustees accepted this advice, and made the necessary application.

On 26th July 2021 the Charity Commission agreed that the Trust (No. 1013634) should be linked to the Company (No. 1159113) for the purposes of Part 4 (registration) and Part 8 (accounting) of the Charities Act 2011. The Commission also decided that the number of the Trust should be changed to 1159113-1.

In order to avoid confusion, hereafter in this Report, the *Company* will be referred to as the "Reporting Charity", and the *Trust* will be referred to as the "Linked Charity". When the linked charities are referred to *jointly*, they will simply be called either "**Let The Children Live!"** or "the charity".

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Partner Organisation

The charity's operational Partner Organisation in Colombia is **Fundación ¡Vivan Los Niños! (Funvini)** a Charitable Foundation that the Trustees asked Fr Peter to set up in 1994 to serve this purpose. It is, however, a separate organisation, subject to Colombian law, and with its own *Junta Directiva* (Board of Trustees) to manage its affairs.

In order to promote transparency and cooperation between **Funvini** and **Let The Children Live!**, an important part of Fr Peter's work is to act as the non-voting Permanent Representative of the British charity on the *Junta Directiva* of the Colombian one. He is therefore usually based in Medellín for more than half of the year. Further contact is provided by occasional visits made to **Funvini** by the Trustees of **Let The Children Live!**

For example, the Chairman of the Trustees made such visits in 2013, 2014 and 2017; She had planned to make her next visit in August 2020, but unfortunately this was not possible because of the Covid pandemic. The ongoing complications in intercontinental travel prevented her from going in 2021 or 2022; but she was at last able to go in August 2023. All being well, she will make another visit in 2026.

The accounts of **Funvini** for 2025 were subjected to a full Audit by an independent *Revisora Fiscal*, and were certified to be in order. **Funvini**'s Child Protection Officer confirmed that its Child Protection Policy had continued to work satisfactorily in 2025, and that no irregularities had come to her notice.

Objects

The Objects of the Linked Charity are: "to relieve children and young persons anywhere in the world but particularly in Colombia who are in conditions of sickness, need, hardship and distress by the provision of medical supplies, clothing, food, shelter and in such other charitable ways the Trustees may determine."

Similarly, the Objects of the Reporting Charity are:

(i) to relieve street-children and young persons anywhere in the world particularly (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) in the Republic of Colombia who are in conditions of sickness, need, hardship and distress by the provision of medical supplies, clothing, food, shelter and in such other Charitable ways as the Trustees may determine;

(ii) to advance the education of the public by the following:

- the provision of education and training of such children and young persons, and to advance their formation within the doctrines and principles of the Christian faith;
- furthering research into the causes and nature of the conditions and behaviour of such children and young people, and into the means of their improvement; and the dissemination of the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public; and

- the provision of Development Education (education on social, health and economic issues), in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in relation to the conditions and behaviour of such children and young people, in particular but not exclusively through delivery of education in schools.

(iii) to preserve and protect the health of such children and young people by assisting in the prevention of substance abuse and delinquency; and in their protection from violence, cruelty, danger or exploitation and other violations of their human rights.

Mission and Vision

In accordance with these Objects and the Founder's intentions, the Trustees defined the charity's Mission as being "to promote the welfare and education of street-children and other young people who are in conditions of hardship, danger or distress, in the Republic of Colombia or elsewhere, so that they 'may have life and have it to the full', by means of obtaining and providing financial and technical support for the work of **Fundación ¡Vivan Los Niños! (Funvini)** and of other similar organisations."

In their Vision Statement, the Trustees proclaimed that the charity would aspire "to develop the expertise and capacity to obtain and provide the financial and technical resources required to enable **Fundación ¡Vivan Los Niños! (Funvini)** to become a leading developer in the Republic of Colombia of innovative, reproducible, small-scale, high-quality programmes, designed and conducted in accordance with Christian teaching and principles, and intended to assist, educate and protect street-children and other young people at high social risk, to prevent their falling into delinquency and substance-abuse, and to facilitate their reintegration into the family, school and society; and also to obtain and provide resources to help other organisations to develop programmes of a similar nature elsewhere."

As their very names proclaim, both **Let The Children Live!** and **Fundación ¡Vivan Los Niños!** are staunchly pro-life organisations, firmly committed to the protection of

the lives and well-being of children from the moment of their conception until the time of their natural death. In traditional Christian moral teaching, certain acts - including abortion, euthanasia and suicide - have been, and continue to be, considered to be *intrinsically wrong* in all cases, and can never be morally justifiable under any circumstances. This teaching received its clearest modern expression in St John Paul II's great Encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* (1993). No matter how superficially attractive, benign or advantageous they may appear, it can never really be in a person's true interest to commit, participate in, consent to, or be the subject of, acts that are *intrinsically wrong*.

These moral principles are the basis of the policies of both **Let The Children Live!** and **Funvini**. As the British charity's Solicitor has confirmed, these views are not extremist: they are perfectly moderate and legitimate expressions of deeply-held and rationally justifiable convictions that are not anti-anyone, or anything-phobic. Like those of their benefactors, they are just pro-Christian, pro-life and pro-children. Any attempt to impose any other interpretation on the contents of this Report would constitute a misunderstanding of the Trustees' intentions, and a wilful misrepresentation of their views.

The impact of Inflation on the Charity's Donations to Colombia

In 2025 the work of **Let The Children Live!** was, as usual, focused on supporting that of **Funvini** with children and young people at high social risk in the city of Medellín. In 2025, a total of 162 families (116 Colombian and 46 Venezuelan) received help of one kind or another from **Funvini**. This total was 31.7% greater than that for 2024. By the beginning of August 2026, the total for the current year was 170 families (130 Colombian and 40 Venezuelan).

In 2025, the total number of children who benefitted from **Funvini**'s help increased by 125 (50.6%) to 372. They included 183 children who attended **Funvini**'s programmes regularly; 86 children who attended on an occasional basis; and a further 103 children who were mostly the younger brothers and sisters of the other groups also received benefits of various kinds. The Trustees were pleased to note the number of *regular* attendees in 2025 was 67 (57.8%) more than in the previous year.

For both **Let The Children Live!** and **Funvini**, every year since 2007 has been impacted by the fluctuations in the value of Sterling against the Colombian Peso (C$). At the beginning of July 2006, £1 was worth C$5,030: and in 2026 the average exchange rate received by **Funvini** was £1= C$5,208.18. This represented a rise of

0.59% in relation to the average rate in 2024, and was only 3.55% higher than the rate in July 2006. However, the average exchange rate that **Funvini** received in the first seven months of 2026 was £1=C$4,699.44. This was 6.58% lower than the average rate in 2025; and 3.55% lower than the rate in July 2006.

According to the *Colombia Inflation Calculator*, the damage caused by the many years of a weak pound between 2006 and 2026 has been made much worse by the accumulative effect of 263% in annual inflation in Colombia in that period on the purchasing power of the charity's donations to **Funvini**. In 2006 the charity donated a total of £423,595 to **Funvini**. In order to have had the same purchasing power in Colombia in 2025 as that sum had in 2006, the charity would have needed to have donated more than £1,114,000 to **Funvini** last year. That would have been £579,000 (108.2%) more than the total of £535,000 that was actually donated, and would obviously have required a correspondingly substantial increase in the British charity's income.

Principal Activities

The Trustees received with great sadness the news of the death after a short illness of Dr Juan Guillermo Gómez Rodríguez on 30th June 2026. He had served for many years as the Treasurer and Legal Advisor of **Funvini**. They extend their condolences to Monseñor José Miguel Gómez Rodríguez, his brother.

On a happier note, the Trustees congratulate Monseñor José Camilo Arbeláez Montoya, a member of **Funvini**'s *Junta Directiva*, on his ordination to the Episcopate on 26th January 2026, and his appointment as Bishop of Vélez. He is the third member of the *Junta* to have been made a Bishop since **Funvini** was founded in 1994.

These two events left serious gaps in **Funvini**'s management structure, so the Trustees were pleased to hear that prompt action has been taken to fill them. Señor Jairo Posada López has been elected to the *Junta*, and has agreed to serve as its Treasurer. **Funvini**'s *Revisor Fiscal*, Dr Diego Leon Palacio Betancur, is also a qualified and practising lawyer. He has agreed to relinquish his post as *Revisor Fiscal*, and after the interval required by Colombian law, to accept the role of the charity's official Legal Advisor. **Funvini**'s Accountant will then become its *Revisor Fiscal*, and a new Accountant will be appointed. This will still leave one free place in

the *Junta*, but there is no urgency for this to be filled because it only needs three members to make a quorum, and it now has four.

The Trustees also congratulate Fr Benicio Enrique Montes Posada, the Vice-President of **Funvini**, on being awarded a Doctorate in Education by the Catholic University of Pereira in 2026.

Whereas in 2023 **Funvini** had a total of 26 employees, it began 2024 with only 18. A social worker had retired; the special needs teacher had gone to work in Australia; and the contracts of another social worker, three teachers, one cleaner and the messenger were not renewed because of the lack of funds. In 2025 the number of employees rose to 21, but in 2026 it has fallen to 20.

Cuts in the number of staff tend to lead to a reduction in the number of children whom **Funvini** is able to help. The converse is also usually true, so the Trustees are pleased to report that the number of children who *regularly* took part in **Funvini**'s programmes in 2025 rose by 67 (57.8%) to 183. In spite of this increase, the total was still 40 (17.9%) lower than that for 2023. However, an additional 86 children participated on an occasional basis: and a further 103 children - most of whom were younger brothers or sisters of those who were involved in **Funvini**'s programmes - also received benefits of various kinds. Thus a total of 372 children were helped in some way by **Funvini** in 2025.

The substantial number of occasional beneficiaries was mostly due to the fact the Venezuelan refugee population in Medellín was - and still is - very unstable because families tend to move from *barrio* to *barrio,* from city to city - and, indeed, from country to country - as they attempt to find a better place in which to live, and a better way with which to try to scratch a living. A total of 162 families (116 Colombian and 46 Venezuelan) families received help from **Funvini**. Up to the beginning of August 2026, the total for the present year was 170 families (130 Colombian and 40 Venezuelan).

In January 2025, **Funvini** admitted 269 children to its programmes. This total was 86 (47%) more than in January 2024. As in previous years, the children were selected on the basis of a "traffic light" system based on their characteristics and their perceived degree of deprivation and vulnerability, according to various criteria. In the red category of greatest need or danger were 98 (36.4%) of the children; 154 (57.3%) of them were in the amber category; and only 17 (6.3%) were in the green category. Some children were re-categorised during the course of the year in response to

changes in their situation, and the total population of the programmes gradually increased during the year.

However, it is important to understand that, in both years, *all* of the children were deprived and at high social risk. The "traffic light" system was only indicative of the *relative degree* of their deprivation and of the risk to which they were exposed. It has proved useful in prioritising the use of **Funvini**'s limited resources to benefit most the children whose need or danger is considered to be greatest.

Funvini arranged 25 *talleres* (workshops) for the children's parents, 21 in *Casa Walsingham* and 4 in *Casa Bannatyne*. and a total of 90 individuals took part in these. The *talleres* were designed to provide the parents with a forum in which common problems can be discussed, and at which classes could be given about such matters as parenting skills and budgeting. Those who were in particular difficulty were able to receive additional support in private from the charity's social-workers and psychologists; and those with legal problems can be referred to its lawyers.

At the beginning of August 2026, the number of children regularly taking part in **Funvini**'s programmes was 140. Of this population, 94 were Colombian and 46 were Venezuelan. A further 66 children were attending occasionally; and 84 younger children were benefitting from food-parcels. In total, 290 children were therefore being helped. This number was 32 (12.4%) greater than the total in August 2025.

Funvini helped to matriculate, or re-matriculate, a total of 163 children in local schools in 2025, which was 20 (14%) more than in 2024. In order to keep their school places, pupils in Colombia have to be re-matriculated every year. With support from **Funvini**'s teachers 139 (85.3%) of these children completed the year successfully, and were promoted to the next grade.

In 2023, the average number of pupils in Medellín's primary schools was 40 per class; and in the city's secondary schools it was 35. The average class size in the secondary schools attended by the choristers was 39.5. However, one of the choristers had 51 other children in his class! These average figures were 50% higher than in British state schools, where the figures were 26.6 and 22.3, respectively.

With such large numbers, the teachers in Colombian state schools are unable to provide the pupils with special educational needs with much individual support. **Funvini** has made its own small contribution. Until October 2023 the *Sala VIP* at *Casa Walsingham* had been run by a dedicated special needs teacher, who was also a

psychologist. Unfortunately, she then resigned in order to emigrate to Australia, and lack of funds prevented **Funvini** from replacing her in 2024; and the general shortage of special needs teachers in Medellín had the same effect in 2025.

To help to compensate for this, **Funvini** entered into agreements with various specialist organisations to provide extra support for the nine children who would otherwise have been attending the *Sala VIP* in 2025. Thanks to this, all of these children were able to complete the year successfully, and were promoted to the next grade. Without this help, however, it is unlikely that *any* of them would have done so.

In 2025, eight girls who had belonged to **Funvini's** School Project celebrated their graduation from High School. They were all young mothers of the St María Goretti Group. It is hoped that a further six pupils will graduate from High School in 2026. This will bring the total number of students who have graduated through the School Project since 2017 to 53, (35 girls and 18 boys). None of these young people would, in all probability, have managed to complete their secondary education without this help.

Small though the scale of the Project may be, the Trustees consider these results to be very encouraging. However, they show that the girls who have benefited from the project considerably outnumber the boys, so it is clear that more needs to be done to encourage more boys to enter it, and to remain in it.

Many of **Funvini**'s beneficiaries reach the age of 18 before they have completed their secondary education, and would stand little chance of finding honest employment if they were forced to leave school and go out looking for work without any qualifications. In 2025, seven of these young adults received support from **Funvini**'s *Extension* group to further their education. Four of them were girls who pursued technical-vocational training; and two of these have gone on to university in 2026.

Of the three who went to university in 2025, two were boys who had belonged to *Cor Videns,* and the other was a girl from **Funvini**'s School Project. After graduating from High School, she had undertaken a technical course in Accounting and Financial Information Management; and she is now doing a degree in Public Accountancy. All seven of these young people came from families with very restricted means, so they are another instance of youngsters who would probably not have been able to fulfil their potential without **Funvini**'s help.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

All 194 youngsters who belonged to **Funvini**'s programmes in December 2024 were given presents of toys, clothing and sweets by the charity over the Christmas period. An additional 40 children who came along in the hope of presents were not sent away disappointed. In many cases, these were the only presents the children received, so it is easy to imagine how much excitement and pleasure they generated. Once again, all of the funds needed to fund the festivities and to buy the presents were raised in Scotland by Mr George McAleenan, in spite of his ill health. The Trustees are most grateful for this.

During 2025, more than 14,200 lunches were served at *Casa Walsingham*. This was more than twice the total in 2024. The children who went there in the morning were also given breakfast; and those who attended in the afternoon also received a nutritious snack before they went home. For many of these children, these meals were - and continue to be - their main source of nourishment.

At *Casa Bannatyne,* more than 8,900 lunches were served; and the children who stayed there were also provided with breakfast and dinner. A further 768 lunches were purchased off-site for the youngsters in **Funvini**'s School Project.

In the course of 2025, the charity assisted 148 boys and girls to receive various types of medical attention. This total was 68 (85%) more than in 2024. The attention provided included general practitioner and paediatric appointments, nutritional evaluations, dental treatment and eye tests.

In particular, **Funvini** paid for a 15 year old girl to be attended by a maxillofacial prosthetist for the fitting of a false eye; and for a 13 year old boy to be attended by an ENT specialist and a speech therapist, and to be provided with hearing aids for both ears. F**unvini** arranged and helped to pay for the evaluation of nine children presenting with ADHD; and paid for two of these children to be examined by a paediatric neuropsychologist.

Additionally, **Funvini** paid insurance policies to provide a total of 178 children with accident and emergency health cover for all or part of the year in 2025. The policy covered 151 children at any one time, but the departure of some children - when they entered other institutions, moved to distant *barrios*, or left the city altogether - meant that their places could then be assigned to new arrivals.

Lack of funds prevented **Funvini** from providing the usual annual vaccinations against influenza for its children and staff in either 2023 or 2024. However, the

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Trustees are pleased to be able to report that in 2025 a total of 114 vaccinations were administered. If funds permit, a similar number of vaccinations will also be given in September 2026. They are particularly necessary in Medellín because the high level of pollution in the air in the city causes many respiratory problems amongst the children, and a bad bout of influenza could seriously aggravate these. The authorities sometimes have to declare amber or red alerts about the air quality in Medellín. On these occasions emergency measures have to be implemented to try to reduce the smog by which the inhabitants are threatened.

Unlike **Let The Children Live!**, **Funvini** is an explicitly Roman Catholic organisation. Although it certainly does not exclude non-Catholics, and it provides its services on the basis of need rather than creed, the great majority of its children - in common with the majority of the population of Medellín in general - are Catholics. **Funvini** considers that enabling them to participate in the sacramental life of the Church is an integral and very important part of the charity's work. It therefore provides Catechism classes for those who wish to be prepared for the Sacraments, and who for one reason or another are not able to attend catechism classes in their own parishes.

The Rev'd Deacon Germán Montoya Maya joined **Funvini**'s team as a full-time employee in 2025. This has enabled the spiritual life of *Casa Walsingham* to remain active whilst Fr Peter is away, and has allowed the religious formation both of **Funvini**'s children and of its staff to be intensified.

The Trustees are pleased to report that, as a result of Deacon Germán's work, seven children and three of their adult family members received Holy Baptism in November 2025, and a child made his First Communion before returning to Venezuela. In December, another twelve children and an adult mother made their First Communion in the Chapel at *Casa Walsingham*. In August 2026, a total of 19 children were being prepared for Holy Baptism and First Communion, and another 15 children were being prepared for Confirmation.

In October 2025, the Forty Hours Devotion of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament was held again in the Chapel at *Casa Walsingham*. This is normally a high point in **Funvini**'s spiritual calendar; and although it is always rather tiring, the event was well-supported both by the children and by the staff. The girls took it in turns to keep the adoration going for most of the first night, and the boys did the same on the second night. However, because most of the children who attended *Casa Walsingham*

in 2025 were younger than in previous years, it was not possible to keep the watch going continuously throughout the night. It is hoped that this Devotion will be celebrated again towards the end of November 2026.

In the Holy Year 2000, a substantial number of **Funvini**'s children and staff undertook a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Las Lajas, which is situated near Colombia's border with Ecuador. This was such a success that Fr Peter hoped to be able to arrange a similar Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Chiquinquirá during the Holy Year 2025. Unfortunately, however, the funds required for this were not available.

Some years ago, permission was given for a branch of the Archconfraternity of St Stephen to be erected in **Funvini**. The Archconfraternity is a guild for the instruction and sanctification of Altar servers, and is approved by the Holy See. Fr Peter decided that the branch ought to be set up before the end of the 2025 Holy Year, so a special Mass was celebrated at *Casa Walsingham* on 26th December, the Feast of St Stephen, at which the objects of the Confraternity were explained to **Funvini**'s Altar boys, and the first member was enrolled. Three more members are due to be enrolled in August 2026.

Let The Children Live! receives the support of all sorts of people of good will. Most of them are Christians of one kind or another, but some are of different religious persuasions. The Trustees are most grateful for the spiritual support of all the individuals and groups who prayed for the children in response to the charity's intercession list.

In accordance with its Catholic principles, **Funvini** fully shares the commitment of **Let The Children Live!** to safeguard the lives of children from the time of their conception onwards. When young girls belonging to any of its programmes become pregnant - or other pregnant teenagers turn to it for help - **Funvini** therefore does all it can to provide care for them and their babies both before and after the birth through its Santa Maria Goretti group.

The charity ensures that these girls are given the necessary medical checks; it gives them basic training in child care; it helps with supplies of food, nappies and other essentials; and it gives them support if they have been abandoned by their families or subjected to domestic violence. **Funvini** also encourages the girls to continue with their education; and it gives them the chance to meet together regularly for recreation and mutual support.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

In 2025 the beneficiaries of the St Maria Goretti group included 13 of these young mothers and their babies. All of these girls were aged under 17, and the youngest was 15, having become pregnant at the age of 13. Two babies were born in the course of the year. As of August 2026, the group was composed of 13 mothers and their babies. The youngest two mothers in the group were aged 16.

With **Funvini**'s help, all but one of the girls were enabled to continue with their secondary schooling in 2025, or to begin vocational training. Twelve of the girls belonged to **Funvini**'s School Project, and seven of them completed their *Bachillerato* (High School Diploma) in 2025. The other girls continued with their studies.

A trainee social-worker who did her practical work with **Funvini** in 2025 wrote a paper on adolescent pregnancy as part of her degree course. She reported that Medellín has achieved a significant reduction in the adolescent pregnancy rate thanks to various prevention and education strategies. According to recent data, the teenage pregnancy rate decreased to 9.75%, in 2024, a notable decrease from the 10.46% recorded in 2023. This decrease is attributed to the implementation of the *Medellín Te Quiere* Development Plan 2024-2027, which includes specific goals to reduce the proportion of teenage pregnancies from 11.3% to 8.5%.

Unfortunately, this programme is focused on sex education and the provision of contraception, and has not included any attempt to combat premature sexual activity and promiscuity amongst teenagers by promoting such vital concepts as virginity, continence, chastity and fidelity which are so alien to the prevailing moral culture. It is therefore an important part of **Funvini**'s mission to do all in its power to help the children in its care to learn about these virtues and to put them into practice. The Trustees appreciate that this is no easy task.

Unfortunately, only a tiny minority of the children cared for by **Funvini** benefit from the advantages of a stable and non-conflictual marital home. The overwhelming majority of them were born outside wedlock and live with their mothers, often accompanied by the mother's current *novio* (boy-friend), and with little - if any - contact with, or support from, their biological fathers. In such families, skills in verbal communication and the articulation of emotions tend to be limited, and anger and stress tend to express themselves in violence. Instances of physical and sexual abuse by the "stepfathers" are rife. Criminal gangs sometimes serve as substitute families for youngsters who can no longer tolerate life at home.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

A study of 177 of **Funvini**'s children conducted in 2022 showed that only *one* of these children - a chorister - was currently living with parents who had been married in Church. The parents of three other choristers had been married in Church, but were not currently living together. The parents of four of the Venezuelan children had had civil weddings. Only 38 of the children lived with both parents, whether married or not. A total of 96 children lived in households with adults who were in unmarried relationships; 73 of the children were being brought up by their mothers alone; and just two by the father alone. A "stepfather" figure was living with the mothers of 42 of the children; and a "stepmother" was living with the fathers of 6 children. A total of 30 children were living with grandparents or other members of their extended families.

Funvini seeks to prepare some of its youngsters to assume leadership roles in their local communities, to equip them to resist what St John Paul called the "culture of death", and what Pope Benedict XVI referred to as "the tyranny of relativism". However, one of the greatest challenges it faces is recruiting staff who are themselves living in accordance with Catholic moral teaching, and who are able to share their principles with cheerful conviction. A number of **Funvini**'s current employees are living in relationships outside wedlock, or have had children who have been born outside wedlock. This therefore greatly diminishes their ability to serve as good role-models for the charity's children.

Unfortunately, fewer than a quarter of **Funvini**'s employees are married; and those who are married are all male. This means that even when the children are taking part in the charity's activities, they very rarely come into contact with a married lady. This makes it more difficult for them to learn to consider marriage as normal, and as a state to which they should aspire. It is hoped that the work of Deacon Germán will help to redress this deficiency to some extent. However, these are matters that have to be handled with great delicacy because nothing will be achieved if the children gain the impression that their parents or families are being criticised.

The total number of Venezuelan children who benefited from **Funvini**'s programmes rose in 2025 to 106 (28.5% of the beneficiaries) from 83 (33.6%) the previous year. However, only 57 (53.8%) of these did so *regularly*. A further 27 (25.5%) children benefitted occasionally, or for part of the year, either because their families moved to cheaper accommodation in *barrios* that were too far from *Casa Walsingham* for them to go there regularly, or because they decided to leave Medellín altogether. The other 22 (20.7%) Venezuelan children benefitted from food parcels given to their families.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Funvini's Venezuelan children ranged from 6 to 17 years of age, and school places were obtained for 57 (53.8%) of them. Unfortunately, in many cases there was no room for them in schools close to their new temporary abodes, so their education was interrupted. Of those who went to school, 47 (82.5%) succeeded in gaining promotion to the next grade. Another 22 Venezuelan children - who were mostly younger brothers and sisters of the other children - benefitted from **Funvini**'s help in various ways, but were not formally admitted to its programmes.

By August 2026, a total of 45 Venezuelan children had been admitted to **Funvini**'s programmes since the beginning of the year. They constitute 32% of this population. Twelve Venezuelan children are currently being helped on an occasional basis; and a further 21 younger brothers and sisters are also receiving indirect benefits.

In October 2025 Fr Peter received a visit from Nicolás André Gutiérrez Vera, a 23-year-old Venezuelan who had lived at *Casa Bannatyne* in 2019 whilst he was completing his secondary schooling. Nicolás had returned to Venezuela to study engineering, and now planned to pursue further studies in Spain. The Trustees were pleased to hear that he was so grateful for the help that **Funvini** had given him that he made a donation of US$1,000.

Since 2009, *Casa Bannatyne* has served mainly as the base of **Funvini**'s choir, *Cor Videns*. This was formed in 2004 in the hope that it would develop into a first-class children's choir which would give the city's invisible, forgotten children, whose cries so often go unheeded, a voice that would eventually be heard around the world. Although it was originally a mixed group, the choir is now only for boys because there are plenty of other choirs that are either mixed or only for girls.

The name *Cor Videns - the Seeing Heart Choir* - was inspired by a passage by Pope Benedict XVI in his Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (31,b) in which he said, "The Christian's programme—the programme of the Good Samaritan, the programme of Jesus—is 'a heart which sees'. This heart sees where love is needed and acts accordingly." *Cor Videns* aims to help its hearers develop such a "seeing heart", and to respond generously to the charity's appeals.

Although most of the choristers who are admitted as full members of the choir stay for at least five years, it is inevitable that each year some of them should leave. In some cases, this is because they grow up and leave school and no longer have the time; in others because they have competing interests, such as football; and in others it is for family reasons, such as a move to another town. Some of the Probationers

also leave because they are not willing to make the necessary commitment, or because they fail to reach the required standard. In order to maintain a balance between a strong top line and a stable nucleus of experienced singers it is clear that *Cor Videns* will eventually need to have at least 20 fully-fledged choristers and a similar number of Probationers.

On school days, the admitted choristers normally stay on in *Casa Bannatyne* after choir practice and spend the night there. This arrangement has proved very popular both with the children and with their parents, and it provides the choristers with valuable extra time not only for additional musical and recreational activities, but also for them to receive help from **Funvini**'s teachers with their school homework.

During the months when Fr Peter is in Colombia, the choristers normally go home on Friday evening and come back into residence at *Casa Bannatyne* on Sunday morning in time to sing at Mass there at noon. Although the Oratory at *Casa Bannatyne* is ideal for Fr Peter's daily Masses, it is too small to accommodate everyone for Mass on Sundays, so the dining-room then has to be converted into a temporary Chapel.

On Friday evenings - and throughout the school holiday - groups of children from **Funvini**'s other programmes usually come into residence. In term time they stay until the Sunday afternoon, or until the Monday afternoon when there is a bank holiday. This ensures that they go to Mass on the Sunday, and that they do their homework - as well, of course, as having the chance to play football and to enjoy other recreational activities. For many of these children, the stays at *Casa Bannatyne* provide a much-needed respite from hunger, neglect or mistreatment at home.

As an economy measure, the choir's weekly periods in residence in 2024 had to be shortened from five nights to four. Fortunately, things have returned to normal in 2025. However, shortage of funds still prevents *Casa Bannatyne* from being used by other groups at weekends when Fr Peter is away.

In order to maintain the necessary balance between the broken and unbroken voices, only a limited number of those whose voices have broken can be allowed to remain as full members of the choir. Knowing that they will not have to leave the choir as soon as their voices change helps to reduce the stress of the voice-breaking process. Moreover, the continued presence in 2025 of some boys whose voices had broken enabled *Cor Videns* to tackle a more advanced and extensive repertoire; and it also served to prevent the premature loss to the choir of the older boys' talent and

experience. However, in 2026 all of the choristers have unbroken voices so it is likely to be some time before the choir will be able to sing in four parts again.

One of the high points in the choir's year came on 7th September 2025 when *Cor Videns* accompanied the special Holy Year Mass celebrated by the Archbishop of Medellín in the Cathedral for the workers in the Archdiocese's charitable and social organisations. A substantial contingent of **Funvini**'s children and staff took part in the procession through the streets that preceded the Mass.

In 2025, auditions were carried out in four schools, and 540 boys took part. Of these, 320 were selected; 24 became aspirants; and 15 (4.7% of those originally selected) were still aspirants at the end of the year. In 2025 seven aspirants became probationers, and one had been admitted as a full member of the choir. By August 2026, four auditions had been held this year. A total of 314 children had taken part, and 147 were selected. Of these, eight have now joined the group of Aspirants, who now number twelve in all.

In one school where the Rector was particularly supportive, **Funvini** has helped to form an experimental "satellite" choir that rehearses and sings at the school. There are currently 16 boys in this group, and it is hoped that some of them will go on to become probationers of *Cor Videns*.

Señorita Ana Cristina Mejía Mesa, **Funvini**'s Director of Music, reported that in the audition process she had noticed a marked decline in the general standard of behaviour, capacity for concentration, reading ability and self-confidence among the children whose first years of education had been disrupted by the Covid lockdowns. This is making it increasingly difficult to find and retain suitable candidates for the choir, and some of the children are less able to adapt to the give and take of community life even in the very gentle form of this that they experience at *Casa Bannatyne*.

Having been **Funvini**'s Director of Music for eight years, Señorita Mejía moved on to a new post in July 2026. Before her departure, she held a very successful farewell concert in which 21 children took part. She also helped in the process of choosing her successor, Señorita Juanita Rivera Meneses.

In 2025 a total of four former members of the choir were at university, reading for music degrees of various kinds. Two of these completed their degrees by the end of the year, and the remaining two are continuing with their studies. Two choristers who

left the choir at the end of 2025 have now gone on to university to read for music-related degrees. One of them is currently employed by **Funvini** as a part-time accompanist and piano teacher.

Casa Walsingham and *Casa Bannatyne* are still acutely short of *space*. Both houses need more space in which to provide children with more access to books and to the computers they use for their homework. The Chapel at *Casa Walsingham* needs more space in which to accommodate the children at Mass. More dormitory space is needed at *Casa Bannatyne* in order to allow more choristers to stay there during the week when they are in residence, and more children from **Funvini**'s other programmes to stay there at the weekend and when the choristers are away.

More space is also needed in both houses for the storage of equipment, materials and archives in easily-accessible but secure and damp-free conditions. And the children need more space in which to play and exercise safely: *Casa Walsingham* does not have a playground, and neither house has an area in which ball-games can be played.

Because *Casa Walsingham* is in a conservation area, there is little that can be done there, although **Funvini** hopes to be allowed to enlarge the Chapel by extending the pitched roof over a wing that currently has a flat roof. This was in the plans when approval for the construction of that wing was granted; but that was back in 2007, so fresh permission will now be needed. This wing already contains a well for a lift, and if planning permission is granted, this would be extended to make all five floors accessible to the disabled, as and when funds become available for the purchase of the lift itself.

Plans for the extension of *Casa Bannatyne* were drawn up in 2022, and planning permission was granted: but this has now expired, and permission would have to be sought again if construction were ever to go ahead. The plans provide for the building of an additional floor over about two-thirds of the house. This would provide a library, a multi-purpose classroom/ performance space; two offices; two loos; storage space for the choir's vestments, uniforms and instruments; and a central control point for the electronic and telecommunications system. Although the plans show how all this would be done, they do not cover the necessary alterations to the existing structure because planning permission will not be required for these. Plans for these alterations would also have to be drawn up, as would those for the new electricity and water networks.

The extension would involve roofing over an internal utility patio, and the partial covering of another internal patio. However this would enable the construction of an additional dormitory and bathroom on the ground floor, and of an extension to the dining-room and the Oratory on the second floor. Provision would also be made for the installation of a lift in order to make all three floors accessible to the disabled. It is hoped that it would also be possible to gain some space between the kitchen on the ground floor and the new third floor.

Unfortunately, the cost of building materials has been increasing so rapidly since 2022 that the architects are now unable to provide reliable estimates. In 2022 the planned extension would have cost around £100,000, but it is clear that the cost is now likely to be at least twice that for the construction work alone. The only thing that is certain is that the longer this work is postponed, the greater the eventual cost will be. However, although this extra space is so urgently needed, the extension will not be built until this cost can be borne without harming **Funvini**'s operational budget.

When *Casa Bannatyne* was purchased in 2004, Pilarica, the *barrio* in which it is situated, was an oasis of calm because it was composed of a fairly small number of substantial houses set in large gardens. Then the *barrio* was re-zoned, and the construction of high-rise buildings was permitted. Nowadays, *Casa Bannatyne* is almost surrounded by blocks of flats; and where formerly one family lived with one car, now there are 50 families and 50 vehicles.

The area where *Casa Bannatyne* is located now forms an uncomfortably narrow island between the territories of two of the city's gangs. An armed guard has always been necessary at the property throughout the day and night, but the steep rise in the local population has been accompanied by a worrying increase in street-crime and muggings; and on two occasions in June 2023 attempted robberies leading to exchanges of gunfire took place within yards of *Casa Bannatyne's* front gate. Fortunately, no children were entering or leaving it at the time.

In the last few years, shortage of funds had obliged a number of improvements and routine maintenance tasks at both houses to be postponed, but fortunately in 2025 it was possible to put these in hand. At *Casa Walsingham*, these works included: the replacement of worn carpets; the repair and redecoration of areas affected by damp; repair or replacement of some of the lighting; repair of the water-heaters; and the maintenance of the wooden floors. And at *Casa Bannatyne* they included: the

installation of water-filters; the installation of a pump to improve the water pressure; the painting of the kitchen; and the installation of double-glazing and air-conditioning in a dormitory particularly affected by noisy neighbours.

Because of its age, *Casa Bannatyne* was built without a damp-proof membrane underneath it. It is located on the side of a mountain in which there are many underground streams, some of which have been forced to find new paths by the construction in recent years of the large blocks of flats that now almost surround the house. Consequently, parts of the ground floor have been plagued by damp, and although various remedies had been applied over the years, none had proved effective for any length of time.

The problem was aggravated by leaks occasioned by the deterioration of the underground pipework of the house's water system, which had also affected part of the house's electrical system. Repairing this damage was a major undertaking because it involved taking up large sections of flooring. The work was carried out in October and November 2025, and *Casa Bannatyne* was out of action for nearly six weeks.

In August 2025 it was at last possible to change the telephone systems at both *Casa Walsingham* and *Casa Bannatyne* from analogue to digital to prevent them from being interrupted for weeks at a time by the repeated theft of sections of the copper analogue cables in their respective parts of the city.

Future projects at **Funvini**'s two properties include:

- building and equipping the extension at *Casa Bannatyne*;
- installing sound-proof windows in more bedrooms at *Casa Bannatyne;*
- extending the Chapel at *Casa Walsingham;*
- improving the air-conditioning in the Chapel at *Casa Walsingham*;
- installing a lift at *Casa Walsingham;* and
- installing sound-insulating windows and air-conditioning in the dormitories and bedrooms at *Casa Bannatyne*.

Other projects include:

- providing more amplification and lighting equipment for the Choir;
- designing and buying a definitive uniform for the Choir;
- enabling **Funvini** to buy a minibus to transport the Choir;

- providing regular dental care for all of **Funvini**'s children; and
- helping **Funvini** to provide more vocational training, tertiary education and employment opportunities for its young adults.

The Trustees were very relieved and thankful to know that the Colombian earthquake of 10th August 2026 that caused so much devastation and loss of life in the cities of Cali and Pereira had not had the same effect in Medellín, which was about 160 miles from the epicentre. Although the earthquake measured 7.4 on the Richter scale, and had been the longest and most severe that Fr Peter had ever experienced, no significant damage or injuries were sustained at *Casa Walsingham* or *Casa Bannatyne*. Providentially, a routine emergency evacuation drill had been held at the latter at 1:30am on the day before the earthquake, so everyone knew exactly what to do.

Naturally, Fr Peter made an immediate offer of help to his contacts in Pereira and Manizales, and he hopes that this will be taken up if, once the initial emergency phase of the disaster is over, they find children with specific needs that no other agency is meeting.

If sufficient funds were ever to become available, *Casa Bannatyne* would be sold and replaced by a larger building and sufficient land for a school somewhere in the *Oriente Antioqueño*, the large plateau outside and above Medellin where the international airport is located. However, **Funvini** has been hoping and praying for this for many years, and the shortage of space is so acute that it is clear that the extension of *Casa Bannatyne* cannot be postponed indefinitely in the hope that the dream of a completely new home may eventually become a reality.

Finance

In 2025 the charity met its objects by making donations in cash and in kind to a total value of £551,912 to support **Funvini's** work in Colombia. This sum was £207,892 (60.43%) more than the total that it had donated to **Funvini** in 2024; and it represented 70.3% of total expenditure. A further £90,617 was expended on fieldwork in Colombia. Thus a total of £642,529 - which was 81.8% of all expenditure - was devoted to **Funvini's** activities.

Since the hiatus of three years caused by the Covid crisis and its aftermath, the charity has only been able to undertake very limited work in the field of Development

Education. Although such educational talks are not appeals, in many cases the children who attended them subsequently decide to raise funds for the charity, so the decrease in the charity's Development Education work has had a significant impact on its income.

In accordance with the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), the charity's administrative expenditure is classified under the heading of 'Support Costs', and included in the total for Charitable Activities. In 2025, these Support Costs amounted to £107,280 which was 2.4% more than the previous year, and represented 13.7% of all expenditure. This brought the total spent on Charitable Activities to £750,068 (95.5% of all expenditure). This was a satisfactory result, but the Trustees emphasise that it is most unlikely that **Let The Children Live!** will be able to continue indefinitely this feat of devoting around 95 pence in every pound of expenditure to its Charitable Activities.

Moreover, the Trustees realise that many of the charity's donors are unlikely to consider that Support Costs - no matter how necessary they may be - actually constitute expenditure on the charity's *objects*. The Trustees always preserve a clear distinction in their own minds between the *ends* for which the charity exists and the *means* which have to be adopted to achieve them; and they will continue to endeavour to keep all administrative expenditure - and any bureaucratic procedures that tend to engender it - to a minimum.

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or were repaid for any expenses during the year, so the only expenses to be classified under the heading of Governance were the aggregated Independent Examination fees, which were £6,030. This total was 4.8% more than that of the previous year. These Governance costs constituted 0.8% of total expenditure.

Expenditure on Raising Funds amounted to £35,480 in 2025, which was 8.3% more than the previous year, and was 4.5% of total expenditure. However, as the Trustees have warned repeatedly, it is unlikely that the charity will be able to maintain the very low level of expenditure on fund-generation that it has sustained for many years.

In the last *twenty years* fund-generation has never taken up more than 5.5 pence in each pound that the charity has expended. This compares very favourably with the proportion spent on fund-raising by most other charities. In its *Annual Return 2024 Analysis Report,* which was published on 26th March 2026, the Charity Commission

reported that nearly "9% of expenditure went on raising funds – £8.55 for every £100 spent by the 14,424 charities with an income of £500,000 or more."

Although, quite naturally, the Trustees are pleased that these figures show that**Let The Children Live!** is so much more efficient than many other charities - and many of the large ones, in particular - they are concerned that the profligacy of some of charities tends to tarnish the image of charities in general, and may lead to calls for yet more regulation.

The Trustees therefore welcome the fact that the Charity Commission now includes graphics that show charitable spending ratios in the main page on its website of its information about each charity. They hope that this will provide a useful aid to ordinary members of the public who are looking for a quick and easy way to assess how a charity has used - or is likely to use - their donations.

The Trustees appreciate that charitable spending ratios need to be understood in context, and they are very much aware that any charity may experience a difficult year - or a series of difficult years - when the results of its fund-raising campaigns are not very good, or when the cost of fund-generation increases sharply. Consequently, they think that it would be helpful if the Commission were to include these ratios for the *previous five years*, as is done with the charity's financial and compliance histories. The Commission already has this information in its system, so this could easily be calculated automatically, without involving charities in any extra work.

It would also be helpful if the Charity Commission were also to publish on each charity's page the average fund-generation ratios for the previous five years of *all charities of similar size*, dividing them into bands by income. This would put pressure on less efficient charities to improve their performance, and make it easier for prospective donors to find charities that are particularly efficient.

The weight of any additional bureaucratic burden tends to fall disproportionately on smaller charities, and to make them less efficient. The Trustees are therefore concerned about the possible impact on small charities of the introduction of yet another revision to the SORP in 2026. Unless the current SORP is seriously defective, there should be no need to tinker with it every ten years: otherwise, it may well be a case of the best being the enemy of the good.

Perhaps the changes in the new SORP will be helpful for very large charities, but unless they will simplify and shorten the present SORP they are unlikely to be of real

benefit to smaller ones, or to donors who prefer to support smaller charities. The Trustees consider that it would be much better if only those charities with an income large enough to require a full audit were obliged to adopt the new SORP, and if smaller ones could be allowed to continue using the present version. In that case, if the new SORP were really found to be an improvement, smaller charities would soon start to adopt it of their own accord.

Like increased health and safety requirements, Net Zero and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), *increased accountability, transparency and social responsibility requirements come at a cost*; and it should not simply be assumed that this cost is always justified.

The Trustees believe that the Charity Commission should be required to monitor and publish details of the effect on *small charities* of any regulatory change in order to ensure that the benefits actually obtained really are proportional to the extra cost imposed on them in time, money and efficiency. An important element and indicator of good Governance is the elimination of all non-essential bureaucratic costs and activity, and the Commission could do much more to promote this both by simplifying its own procedures and demands, and by giving this matter greater prominence in the advice it gives to Trustees and to the government.

The income of the Linked Charity in 2025 was £9,085. This constituted 2% of the aggregated ordinary income of the two charities, and was £898 (11%) more than the previous year's total. Whereas the Reporting Charity's income from Standing Orders rose by £8,211 (4.4%) in 2025, the Linked Charity's income from Standing Orders fell by £852 (10.8%) because all new supporters of **Let The Children Live!** are asked to make their donations to the Reporting Charity rather than to the Linked Charity.

The Trustees expect that the income of the Linked Charity will continue to decline as its remaining donors either transfer their giving to the Reporting Charity, or cancel their Standing Orders altogether. However, the Trustees note that in 2025 the fall in the Linked Charity's income from Standing Orders was outweighed by payroll giving donations made by the Charities Trust and Charitable Giving. These amounted to £1,417.

The Trustees consider that the Linked Charity is still viable because its only running cost was £3,015 for its Independent Examination. It therefore made a net profit of £6,070, and the Trustees would be very loath to risk losing this income.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Trustees are deeply grateful to those who have remembered the charity in their Wills. The children in *Casa Walsingham* remember their deceased benefactors every working day at the noon Angelus. They are also remembered at various special Masses in the Chapel there.

Legacies have frequently played a vital part in enabling the Trustees to fund most of **Funvini**'s work. A substantial legacy can make an enormous difference to a small charity like **Let The Children Live!** It is therefore unfortunate that benefactors who wish to leave most of their property to charity so often decide to divide it amongst *several* good causes, instead of maximising the impact of their legacy by leaving the lion's share to *one* small charity.

The total of £28,002 that the charity received from legacies in 2025 was £50,126 (64.2%) less than the legacy income in 2024. This decrease was not really surprising because the total of £78,128 received in 2024 had been £66,747 more than that received in 2023, and had been substantially greater than those of the previous few years.

The Trustees fear that future income from legacies is likely to be reduced because of the ever-increasing amount that the elderly have to contribute towards the cost of their personal care, which has been aggravated by the new Labour government's abandonment of plans for the introduction of a social care cap.

The Trustees also wish to express their gratitude to everyone who has requested that, when they die, donations should be sent to the charity in lieu of flowers; and to all those who have made this request after the death of a loved one.

The charity's income from grant-making Trusts in 2025 rose by £29,020 (283.8%) to £39,245. The Trustees are most grateful for this, but they regard the funds the charity receives from legacies, grant-making Trusts and exceptionally large personal donations as *extraordinary* income, which, amounted to £417,908 in 2025. This was 47.5% of the charity's total income that year. The Trustees continue to be concerned about the high degree to which the charity has to rely on such extraordinary income, which fluctuates so wildly and is totally unpredictable.

Donations received from the public and funds received from other sources are considered to constitute the charity's *ordinary* income, unless they are exceptionally large. The charity considers an individual benefactor's personal donations to be "exceptionally large" if they amount to more than £25,000 - exclusive of Gift Aid - in

the course of a single year, unless the donor has indicated his or her intention to make such donations on a regular basis. Two such benefactions were received in 2025: one of £200,000, for which Gift Aid of £50,000 and interest of £661 was also received; and the other of non-Gift-Aided donations amounting to £100,000. The Trustees wish to record their most profound gratitude for the great generosity of these two benefactors.

In 2025, the charity's *ordinary* income amounted to £462,218, which was 52.5% of its total income that year. This total was £42,235 (8.4%) less than its ordinary income in 2024. This was not surprising, considering that the *UK Giving Report* published by the Charities Aid Foundation showed that public donations to charities in the UK fell by an estimated £1.4 billion in 2025.

According to this Report, participation in charitable giving had fallen in the previous decade from 69% to 55% of adults, representing about six million fewer donors. Nearly half of those who did not donate cited the cost-of-living crisis, falling consumer confidence, and a lack of disposable income as primary reasons for this. The Report also showed that support for overseas aid and disaster relief had notably fallen, whereas that for local causes such as food banks had increased.

Traditionally, most of the charity's ordinary income has been generated by appeals in Roman Catholic parishes. However, the Trustees realise that the income of many parishes has not kept pace with inflation since the Covid crisis. This is tending, in turn, to diminish the income that dioceses receive from their parishes, and some Bishops are banning charities from making appeals at Mass in their territory.

Even in ordinary times, Parish Priests receive many requests for appeals by charities, and they are also required to hold quite a number of collections for causes chosen by their Bishops. Competition amongst charities for limited parish collection 'slots' is therefore now more acute than ever. The severe health problems of Mr George McAleenan, the charity's voluntary Promotor in Scotland, has resulted in a very marked reduction in invitations from Scottish parishes. Moreover, increased taxation is resulting in shortage of disposable income amongst parishioners, and a consequent increase in the already acute competition for their donations from other worthy causes.

Experience has shown that return visits to parishes are rarely as successful as the initial ones, and that it is generally better to leave an interval of four or five years between visits. Fr Peter usually makes around 17 weekend appeals each year, so that

means that invitations need to be obtained from about 68 parishes in any four year period. In view of the intensity of the competition from other charities obtaining all those invitations is no mean feat; and since many requests for appeals slots are unsuccessful - at least at the first attempt - this is likely to involve approaching hundreds of parishes.

For many years, Miss Pauline Allan, the charity's Administrator, had undertaken the quest for parishes in England and Wales unaided: but the task has become increasingly onerous, so in order to spread the load, the Trustees decided to appoint some part-time Regional Promotors to help her. Having discussed the matter with the charity's Solicitors, they considered engaging these on a self-employed basis; but in the end it was decided that the most appropriate solution would be to employ them on 'zero-hours' casual worker contracts, which would leave each person to work as few or - up to a specified limit - as many hours each month as they found convenient.

The charity's Solicitors produced the necessary form of contract in December 2025, and the process of recruiting some Regional Promotors began the following month. This led to two appointments: one on a paid basis, and the other on a voluntary one. The Trustees are pleased to be able to report that their work is already bearing fruit in terms of invitations from parishes for appeals in 2026 and 2027. Both of the ladies concerned live near the South coast of England, so the Trustees hope that they will be able to recruit several more regional Promotors in other parts of the country.

The Trustees are very grateful for the generosity of those who kindly donated goods for the charity's shop in Walsingham to sell. Despite the best efforts of Mrs Seals and her team of faithful volunteers, in 2025 the income from sales there fell by £1,088 (6.9%) to £14,593. A further £2,149 was received in donations made at the shop, bringing its total income to £16,742.

The running-costs of the shop amounted to £18,071, so it made a net loss of £1,329, which is a poor return for so much devoted effort. The Trustees know that the shop continues to be an important point of contact with the charity's supporters, and that it also helps **Let The Children Live!** to retain its identity as Walsingham's own special charity. Nevertheless, they recognise that the viability of the shop is now in question, so it will have to remain under annual review.

Unless the charity receives more substantial windfalls from Trusts and legacies - which is very uncertain - it will not be able to meet the whole of **Funvini**'s future funding needs. Additional regular income will therefore need to be generated from

other sources. It had been hoped that one such source would be **Let The Children Live! Inc**., the charity's independent offshoot in the United States. This is recognised by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a 501(3)(C) not-for-profit charitable corporation, so its benefactors are able to offset their donations to it against tax.

The American charity suffered the loss, through death, of two Treasurers in less than twelve months, and it proved very difficult to recruit a third one. Fortunately, Mrs Lynn Forrester Pitocco kindly agreed to take on this role. However, although the charity continued to receive regular donations from existing supporters, it was not possible to undertake any initiatives to attract new ones. Nonetheless, in 2025 the American charity sent US$100,000 to **Funvini**, which constituted 12.6% of its income. As things stand, it is unlikely that the British charity would be able to increase its support to fill the gap that would be left in **Funvini**'s finances if donations from the American charity were to be reduced or to dry up altogether, so this would be a serious blow.

Most of the money received by the charity in 2025 was the fruit of the generosity of a large number of individual donors and of parishes and other groups. It is not possible to name them all here, but the Trustees wish to express their warmest thanks to all of them.

The Trustees are also most grateful to Caring and Sharing for its continued support for Funvini's Educational Project; and for unrestricted donations from:

- The de Vitre Fund;
- The Dromintee Trust; and
- The Haramead Trust.

In 2010 a benefactor made a loan of £200,000 to the Trust; and in 2011 he increased this loan to £225,000. The benefactor has asked to remain anonymous, but he is not a Trustee; and the Trustees, the Independent Examiners and the Charity Commission are aware both of his identity and of the source of the money. With the benefactor's agreement, this sum was subsequently loaned to **Funvini** in order to mitigate the effects of the fall in its income caused by the recession.

As security for the loan, **Funvini** pledged *Casa Bannatyne,* the smaller of its two properties in Medellín. The property cannot now be sold without the consent of **Let The Children Live!** Whether the value of this property goes up or down, the benefactor has agreed with the Trustees that whatever its market value may happen to

be at the time of repayment shall be the amount that is to be repaid to him. Because it is interest-free, the Trustees consider that this is the best way to try to ensure that it retains its value in real terms, without endangering the liquidity either of **Let The Children Live!** or of **Funvini.** The Trustees were pleased to learn that the property was professionally valued in May 2024 at C$2,631,811,000 (Colombian pesos), or slightly over £500,000. Because of the weakness of the pound against the peso, by mid-2026 this figure has risen to more than £600,000.

All being well, the loan will not have to be repaid until September 2029: and the benefactor may well agree to postpone repayment still further. However, under certain circumstances **Let The Children Live!** would have to make earlier repayment to its benefactor. In that event, it would be necessary for **Funvini** to repay its loan early, too. The mortgage therefore stipulates that **Funvini** must repay its loan at any stage at the charity's request, within a maximum of one year.

On 13th June 2019 the Trustees of the Linked Charity and the Directors of the Reporting Charity signed the necessary documents to transfer to the latter the liability of the benefactor's loan to the Linked Charity, and the mortgage securing the Linked Charity's loan to **Funvini**.

Property

Let The Children Live! itself does not own any land or buildings. In 2018 the Reporting Charity took over from the Linked Charity the leases of a three-room office in Doncaster and of a small shop in Walsingham. Unfortunately, in August 2025 the landlord informed the Trustees that he intends to sell the property when he retires in 2028, and that the charity will therefore need to find new premises before then. He very kindly did not increase the rent for over 10 years, but had to do so in November 2025 because of the increased cost of electricity. They realise that the rent of the new premises will almost certainly be considerably more expensive.

The Reporting Charity also took over responsibility for the rental of a flat near Oxford to serve as a base for Fr Peter and his colleagues during their fund-raising visits to Britain. The five-year lease of this property expired in February 2019, but fortunately the landlord generously agreed to allow the tenancy to continue at the existing rent for a further five years; and then only increased it by £195 (10%) per month as from April 2024.

Human Resources

The Trustees are most grateful for the continued devoted service of the charity's four employees:

- Fr Peter Walters, the Executive Director;
- Miss Pauline Allan, the Administrator;
- Mrs Shirley Davies, the Book-keeper;
- Mrs Jackie Seals, the Manageress of the charity's shop in Walsingham;

and also for the work of Mrs Tessa Ricketts and Mrs Jamie Mead, its Regional Promotors.

In accordance with the provisions of the 2014 Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) Regulations, the employees whose contracts were transferred from the Linked Charity to the Reporting Charity were entitled to continue to enjoy the same terms and conditions of employment with the Reporting Charity as they had had with the Trust. The basis on which their salaries had been established when they entered the employment of the Linked Charity was therefore not subject to any review or benchmarking when they entered that of the Reporting Charity . The same applied to the non-contributory pension scheme on a sliding scale according to age which the Linked Charity had established for personnel normally based in Colombia, in view of the additional risks involved in living and working there.

However, the Trustees are aware that because, in particularly difficult years - and again in both 2020 and 2021 - the charity's Key Management Personnel refused to accept any increase in pay, their salaries had not always kept pace with inflation. Although the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) in April 2022 stood at 9.0%, they accepted an increase of 5%. Inflation reached 11.1% in October 2022. In March 2023 the CPI stood at 10.1%, Once again, the charity's Key Management Personnel accepted an increase of only 5%, so although by July 2023 the CPI had fallen to 6.8%, it is clear that theses salaries are not keeping pace with inflation or the benchmarks that the Linked Charity originally adopted.

Although consumer prices in Britain accumulated between 2023 and mid-2026 an overall increase of more than 20%, the charity's Key Management Personnel have accepted no salary increase since 2023, so their salaries have now fallen yet further behind. When funds permit, the Trustees therefore intend to raise the salaries of its

existing Key Management Personnel to a level closer to those currently paid to those with similar experience and responsibilities in other charities of comparable size. The terms and conditions of any new Key Management Personnel will be decided on a similar basis, and consideration will be given to the possibility of awarding them a compensatory Golden Handshake if they eventually retire.

Sums of money were often given to the charity without any indication as to whether they were straight donations or the results of fund-raising activities. It is therefore impossible to estimate how many volunteers may have been involved in one way or another. The Trustees are very grateful to them all.

The Trustees wish to express their special gratitude to all the members of the charity's informal support groups.

The Trustees also wish to pay particular tribute to the great value of the work that Mr George McAleenan has continued to do, in spite of severe health problems, as the charity's voluntary Promotor in Scotland.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have taken account of the Charity Commission's general guidance relating to public benefit when reviewing the charities' achievements and performance.

Risk Management

The success or otherwise of **Let The Children Live!** is evaluated by the Trustees in terms of the extent to which they manage:

- to sustain or increase the charity's income;
- to send funds to Colombia that fulfil or exceed the budget agreed with **Funvini**;
- to enable **Funvini** to maintain or increase the numbers of children in its programmes;
- to enable **Funvini** to maintain or improve the quality of care it provides;
- to raise public awareness and understanding of the situation of Medellín's children;
- to raise public awareness and understanding of the grave burden of moral responsibility that must fall on all those in the United Kingdom or the United

States who help to fuel violence and corruption in countries like Colombia by *buying* illegal drugs;

- to control and cover the charity's fund-raising costs; and
- to maintain a prudent level of reserves.

The Trustees consider 2025 to have been a reasonably successful year by most of these criteria.

The charity continued to try to raise public awareness and understanding during the year, and was able to make a limited number of educational visits to schools.

The Trustees are relieved to be able to report that the total funds available at the end of 2025 was £94,578 (25.8%) more than the sum available at the end of 2024. That, in turn, had been £220,008 (150.7%) more than at the end of 2023. The Trustees consider that this substantial increase in the unrestricted funds at their disposal has left the charity in much better position from which to face the difficulties of a very uncertain future.

It is always frustrating that many of the factors that have a negative impact on the charity's work are beyond the power of the Trustees to control. However, they remain very conscious of their duty to try to evaluate and monitor the various risks to which the charity is exposed, and to take what measures they can to try to reduce or manage them. Amongst these risks and measures, they wish to draw particular attention to the following:

a) Although neither the Linked Charity nor the Reporting Charity had any children directly in its care, the Trustees' prime concern continued to be to ensure the well-being of the children who benefitted from the services of the institutions which they helped to fund. It therefore remained their policy that they would only consider applications for funding from organisations that were duly constituted according to local law and which had implemented, or were actively in the process of implementing, a child protection policy that was in general accord with that of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, adapted to the local circumstances and culture.

In order to minimise the risk both of child-abuse and of financial mismanagement it remained the Trustees' policy to restrict the charity's activities to geographical areas of which they had a fair degree of knowledge and in which they could exercise a reasonable degree of oversight. This meant making donations only to Colombia, and concentrating them on the city of Medellín, where **Funvini** is based.

Funvini was one of the first charities in Colombia to implement a proper Child Protection Policy in all of its programmes. This policy is subject to frequent review, and **Funvini's** designated Child Protection Officer confirmed that the provisions of the Policy had been adhered to properly in 2024, and were continuing to be so in 2025.

b) In May 2018, Medellín's health and safety authorities made very detailed inspections of *Casa Walsingham* and *Casa Bannatyne*. They found the facilities in both buildings to be up to the required standards, and renewed their operating licences for two years. In March 2020 **Funvini** applied for another inspection in order to renew the licences for both buildings, but because of the backlog caused by the Covid emergency, *Casa Walsingham* was not inspected until April 2026. It was given conditional approval, subject to a few minor improvements. By late July 2026 Casa Bannatyne had still not been inspected: but its existing licence remains valid in the meanwhile. **Funvini** pays an independent health and safety expert to make unannounced, unofficial inspections in order to try to ensure that its facilities and procedures are kept up to the standards required.

Colombian health-and-safety-at-work regulations are now so complex and extensive that even a small organisation like **Funvini** has to employ a full-time, qualified officer to supervise their implementation. All of its staff have to attend numerous safety workshops; and emergency evacuation drills are held with the children both in the daytime and at the dead of night.

c) In order to reduce the charity's exposure to the risk of bank failure, the Trustees decided in 2006 to open an account with the Charities Aid Foundation Bank (CAF Bank), in addition to the charity's existing accounts with Barclays. The new account functioned smoothly until 2017 when the CAF Bank suddenly informed the Trustees, without any explanation, that it was to be closed. There was no question of any discussion or appeal, so the Trustees reluctantly accepted this decision, and a balance of £40,000 was returned to Barclays.

When the Trustees, in conversations with representatives of the Charity Commission in 2020, mentioned what the CAF Bank had done, they were told that they ought to have mentioned this in their Annual Return to the Commission. However, the representatives of the Charity Commission did not explain to the Trustees why what appeared to be a commercial decision ought to have been reported to them; and their guidance notes for the Return had made no mention of any such necessity.

The reasons for both the CAF Bank's action and the Charity Commission's concern about it are now more apparent. A charity like **Let The Children Live!** that regularly sends considerable sums of money to Colombia could be exposed to the risk of abuse by money-launderers, and would therefore be bound to attract the attention of the authorities. However, as a spokesperson for Save the Children was quoted as saying in the same article, "A more aligned approach between governments, regulators, and NGOs will help to reduce financial crime, whilst ensuring critical and life-saving humanitarian work continues."

In the wake of the scandal provoked in the Summer of 2023 by the closure of Mr Nigel Farage's accounts with Coutts Bank for purely political reasons, it has come to light that the accounts of thousands of other individuals and businesses have also been closed without explanation by other banks, including Barclays; and the suspicion has been aroused that in some cases this may have been done for political rather than purely commercial motives. The banks appear to have taken advantage of the same anti-money-laundering regulations to hide these motives.

Although they are perfectly legal, the Christian motivation of **Let The Children Live**!, and the pro-life and morally conservative work it supports, might be considered to be objectionable by some of the individuals or groups with different philosophies that are involved in defining the policies of the banks. There therefore exists the risk that Barclays might decide to follow the CAF Bank's example and suddenly close the charity's accounts.

The Trustees considered this to be a very real risk because for many months in 2023 Barclays Know Your Customer department had been badgering the charity for more and more information. The Trustees had, naturally, made every effort to comply with these requests, but Barclays repeatedly lost documents or failed to give their staff in local branches proper training about what needs to be done with them, with the result that in June 2023 the charity's deposit cards were temporarily frozen as a compliance enforcement measure. So badly had this whole matter been mishandled that on 19th

July 2023 Barclays made a donation of £200 to the charity, with their apologies. However, in August 2024 yet *another* administrative error - this time by Company Barclaycard - resulted in the closure without warning of the charity's credit card account for several weeks.

Unfortunately, the temporary freezing of the charity's deposit cards in 2023 proved to be the prelude to a much graver crisis. On 1st November 2023 one of the charity's employees attempted to pay cheques into the charity's account, Barclays said that the charity's accounts had been closed down. This had been done with immediate effect, with no prior warning. The charity was therefore unable to transfer funds to **Funvini**, to pay its bills or its staff, or to receive any new donations by cheque or Standing Order. The bank gave no explanation to donors, who were therefore left with the impression that the charity itself had been closed down.

As Barclays subsequently accepted, their devastating action had been entirely caused by a mistake on their part. In desperation, the Chairman of Trustees sent an email to the CEO of Barclays. As a result, the case was escalated to the highest level, and the bank agreed to pay compensation for the very grave problems their error had caused. Even so, the charity's account was not reactivated until 17th November. An initial offer of £300 compensation was subsequently raised to £500, but the Trustees did not consider that this sum was at all proportionate to the damage that Barclays' mistake had caused.

Barclays' high-handed and irresponsible action had brought both **Let The Children Live!** and **Funvini** to the very brink of collapse. The charity was only able to remain afloat because Fr Peter agreed to meet some of its bills from his personal funds. The charity's office in Doncaster was inundated by enquiries from anxious supporters, and the charity's employees were subjected to a great deal of stress and extra work as they struggled to resolve the situation. If the crisis had lasted a few days longer, **Funvini** would have been unable to pay its staff, and would have had to close down, and thereby abandon all the children whose welfare depends on it.

The Chairman of the Trustees then filed a Serious Incident Report (No 668580) with the Charity Commission. This deplorable episode shows that the arrogance, incompetence, ignorance and indifference of banks like Barclays poses an *existential threat* to many charities in the United Kingdom. The Trustees therefore welcome the announced introduction of new rules to give customers 90 days' - rather than 60 days'

- notice before closing accounts, and to provide the time and information needed to challenge such closure decisions.

However, the Trustees are concerned that these new rules will only apply to contracts agreed from and including 28th April 2026, when the legislation came into force. Accounts opened before this date still lack this increased protection. They therefore believe that legislative action is urgently required both to extend the new rules to cover *all* existing accounts, and to make banks liable for any consequential damage that the unjustified debanking of their clients may occasion.

In January 2025 Barclays announced that they were going to conduct *another* review of the charity's account. The Trustees suspected that the trigger for this may have been the arrival in the previous month of the above-mentioned donation of £200,000, even though the donor had long been a Barclays Wealth customer, so Barclays ought already to have been fully satisfied about the origins of the funds in his account.

The review dragged on for the next two months, with a lengthy exchange of e-mails, and requests for numerous documents. Although at the beginning of the review process the Specialist CDD (Customer Due Diligence) Associate who was conducting it assured the Trustees that he would "bring the review to conclusion", they received no formal notification that the review had been completed satisfactorily, but were left to conclude from the fact that the requests for further information eventually ceased that this had been the case. They consider that it is disgracefully irresponsible of Barclays to have left a charity in a state of such uncertainty for so long about a matter so vital to its continued functioning.

In April 2026 Barclays launched *yet another* review, and once again the charity's small staff were obliged to waste precious time in answering questions which had already been answered in the previous reviews, and in providing further copies of documents with which Barclays had already been supplied. This time, however, the charity accompanied its compliance with the bank's requests with a vigorous protest at this continuing harassment. Once again, the requests for further information eventually dried up without any formal notification that the review process had been concluded.

The nature of some of the questions in the review process revealed that Barclays still has no real understanding of how a small charity has to function. Although banks like Barclays benefit from being able to manage many millions of pounds deposited by charities, it seems that only acute social pressure - or legislation - will oblige them to

make the investment in staff training that would enable them to provide charities with a satisfactory level of service.

The Charity Commission stressed the importance of proper training for bank staff in its letter of 15th November 2023 to the Chief Executives of UK Banks: but if the Trustees' experience is in any way typical, precious little progress seems to have been made since then. The Trustees therefore urge the Commission to continue to press this matter publicly, in the hope that the banks may be shamed into taking appropriate action.

The scandal that developed after the debanking of Mr Farage made it clear that if one's business or personal accounts were to be closed by one bank, it was likely to be extremely difficult to open a new account with another UK bank. The Trustees therefore asked the Chairman to take on the task of trying to open additional accounts with another bank in order to spread the risk in case the charity were ever to be debanked by Barclays again.

It took the Chairman several months to achieve this, and to provide all the necessary paperwork; but in the end she managed to open dedicated Charity and Community accounts for the charity at the Co-operative Bank. A substantial proportion of the charity's funds were then transferred to these from Barclays.

The Trustees wish to record their thanks both for the Chairman's perseverance and for the help and advice that Mrs Sian Tiley, of the Co-operative Bank's Newport branch, gave her during the process of setting up the new accounts. The fact that she was able to deal with Mrs Tiley face-to-face, rather than on line, made it very much easier to explain the nature of the charity's work and of its particular needs. Mrs Tiley provided exactly the sort of specialised support that the Charity Commission has requested. Her example shows what sort of service *all* UK banks could - and *ought* to be - providing for charities.

The Trustees consider that banks ought to be pressured into regarding the services that they provide for charities to be an integral part of their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) framework. Indeed, the number of charities that each bank serves ought to be published as an important metric of its ESG commitment. The banks ought to consider it their duty actively to *encourage* legally registered charities to sign up with them, whether or not their employees happen to sympathise with the particular causes that these charities espouse. The worthiness of these causes should be a matter for the Charity Commission - and for not the banks - to determine.

d) The Trustees are also concerned that some of the banks may be using their anti-fraud and anti-money-laundering policies as pretexts for trying to force customers into accepting moves towards the creation of a "cashless society".

Although the charity itself receives very few donations in cash, a very considerable amount of its income is received in cash by the parishes that take collections on its behalf; by groups and individuals who hold fund-raising events for it; and by its shop in Walsingham. Many of its donors do not wish to give by credit or debit card, and some of them do not hold such cards. And on many occasions people who have heard the charity's appeals, and who are not carrying much cash, have hurried off to make a cash withdrawal from an ATM even if they could have used the same card to give to the charity directly. Any significant limitation on the daily and annual amounts of cash deposits would therefore pose a direct threat to the income of charities like **Let The Children Live!**

The lowest denomination Sterling banknote currently in circulation in the United Kingdom is worth £5. Many people - children and the elderly, in particular - who contribute to collections for charities are unable to give as much as that, so they donate their small change. Individually, these may be very small amounts - too small to be worth giving by card, even if the donor has a card: but accumulatively they often form a significant part of the collection. The loss of this income would therefore be a considerable blow to the charities. Moreover, the loss of the ability to donate small change would either deprive these potential donors of the dignity of making their own limited but much appreciated contributions, or put them in the invidious position of having to place on record the small amount of their donations.

The Trustees believe that donors should retain the right to give to charity anonymously, provided that the amount of their donations is not so large as to constitute a serious risk of money-laundering. For all these reasons, they hope that the Charity Commission will urge the government to take steps to protect charities from the negative effects of any moves towards the creation of a "cashless society".

e) Although Medellín no longer appears in the list of the world's 50 most violent cities, the issue of safety continues to be one of the greatest importance for the Trustees. They have therefore continued their policy of not inviting foreign volunteers to work in Colombia on its behalf. On the other hand, when foreigners who in any case intend to visit Colombia - entirely at their own initiative and risk -

ask if they may visit *Casa Walsingham* or help with the work there, they are always referred directly to **Funvini**.

In such cases **Let The Children Live!** can, of course, accept no liability for their conduct or their welfare. For its part, **Funvini** requires any foreign volunteers it accepts to provide a current International Child Protection Certificate (ICPC) or equivalent clearance document, and to agree to abide by the terms of its Child Protection Policy.

f) The unrestricted funds held by the Linked Charity effectively serve as a reserve for the Reporting Charity. For most of 2025 the Trustees continued their policy of aiming to maintain reserves in unrestricted funds which, when combined with those of the Reporting Charity, amount to at least £150,000. However, they subsequently decided that this figure should, if possible, be increased to £300,000. This would be equivalent to about six months of the Reporting Charity's unrestricted charitable expenditure. The reserves are intended to provide a buffer in case of fluctuations in the charity's income and in the value of the pound against the peso. The Trustees realise, however, that it would only be possible to maintain this level of reserves in years when the charities' income was sufficient to permit this.

Although the Trustees are under no *contractual* obligation to provide any particular level of support to **Funvini**, they are acutely aware that the welfare of hundreds of children in Medellín depends on the funds sent by **Let The Children Live!** The Trustees do not believe that the charity's supporters would wish it to maintain a rigid policy of maintaining any particular level of reserves above that required to comply with its legal obligations if **Funvini**'s children were to be exposed to danger or hardship in consequence of this. The charity's reserves policy must therefore remain a very flexible one.

The charity's aggregated balance of unrestricted funds on 31st December 2025 was £460,544. This sum was £94,578 (25.8%) greater than the previous year's total. The Trustees therefore achieved their objective of establishing a reserve of £300,000. However, in view of the probable negative impact on donations of the ongoing weakness of the British economy - combined with the weakness of the pound against the Colombian peso, and the increases in **Funvini**'s running costs - they were by no means confident that it would be possible to maintain this level. Indeed, by early August 2026 it was already proving difficult to do this.

Because of the volatility of the political and security situation in Colombia, the Trustees have been reluctant to provide **Funvini** with funds that are much in excess of its immediate needs, and thus to accumulate some reserves of its own. However, because of the continuing risk of the sudden debanking of the British charity by Barclays, they decided that it would be more prudent to allow **Funvini** to build up a reserve of US$100,000 that would enable it to continue functioning for a limited period if the usual monthly flow of funds from Britain were to be interrupted for any reason.

Funvini put this money into a high interest CDT (Fixed Term Deposit) account in December 2025. However, the Trustees regret to report that because of the reduction of £90,000 (23.7%) in the funds that **Let The Children Live!** had been able to send to **Funvini** in the first seven months of the current year, **Funvini** was obliged to cash this CDT in August in order both to make good this deficit and to finance its activities in September 2026. This means that **Funvini** has been left once again without any reserves of its own. The Trustees intend to rectify this unsatisfactory situation as soon as the funds as their disposal safely permit.

g) The charity does not possess any investments. The Trustees have done their best to protect the charity's funds against the fluctuations of the currency markets by keeping these in a mixture of pounds, US dollars and euros in order to spread the risk. However, the fate of the euro has become so uncertain that reserves are not now being maintained in this currency, and the account is only being kept open to receive the donations that are occasionally received in it.

Funvini maintains an account in US dollars at its bank's branch in Panama so that donations sent from Britain can be converted into Colombian pesos when the exchange rate is favourable, rather than being converted automatically into pesos, regardless of the exchange rate, as has to happen when donations are sent direct to Colombia.

h) Since 2010, **Let The Children Live!** has sent its donations to **Funvini** via foreign exchange companies such as Custom House, Western Union and Moneycorp. The Trustees initially decided to do this because these companies offered more favourable exchange rates and lower transfer fees than Barclays provided. In more recent years, however, the use of these companies became the only practical means to send its donations because Barclays no longer permitted the transfer form to be signed by two authorised signatories in their own homes, but required them to come in together to

sign the form in one of their branches. This was not practical, because the signatories lived more than 180 miles - and more than three hours' drive - apart. Unfortunately, Barclays did not permit its customers to make transfers to Colombia via electronic banking.
Over the years, a total of more than £6,000,000 has been transferred to **Funvini** by means of these foreign exchange companies. This has involved more than 130 individual transactions, and these have been made with no difficulties and no losses. However, the Charity Commission has become concerned about the use of foreign exchange companies because - although their use by charities is perfectly legal - they are outside the regulated banking system, and their use involves a greater element of risk than transfers effected through the regulated banking system.

In 2019 the Charity Commission asked charities that used foreign exchange companies to mention this in their Annual Return; and this the charity duly did. As a result, the Commission summoned the Trustees to a virtual Compliance Meeting, which took place on 23rd June 2020. The representatives of the Commission expressed their concerns about the possible risks involved in the making of transfers to Colombia outside the regulated banking system.

The Trustees, for their part, explained why they considered this practice to be necessary in their case, and the steps they had taken to try to manage the risks involved. They also showed that a proper paper-trail existed for each transaction, and that no funds had ever been lost. Neither at the meeting nor subsequently was the Commission able to suggest a more practical way to effect these transfers.

The Trustees consulted their Solicitor about this practice, and he confirmed that it was legal, and that it was still within their powers to employ it. They therefore informed the Commission that whilst this continues to be the case they would continue to make use of foreign exchange companies to make transfers to **Funvini** until an alternative that is practical in their circumstances becomes available.

In August 2024 Barclays said that they would now allow the charity to make international transfers telephonically, but the rate offered and the speed of the transfer were still inferior to those that were being offered by foreign exchange companies such as Convera and Equals. It was intended that a small trial transfer should be made by Barclays' new service for purposes of comparison. However, it was eventually decided that this should not be done in case using this service might trigger Barclays

into conducting yet another of their stressful and time-consuming reviews of the charity's account.

The Trustees have reviewed this policy annually, and have decided that in view of the fact that it has continued to work perfectly satisfactorily, and that they had not become aware of any better alternative options, it shall remain in force until it is reviewed again at their Autumn meeting in 2026, unless they become aware of any significant developments in the meanwhile.

i) The cost-of-living crisis in the United Kingdom in 2022 had a very severe effect on the income of **Let The Children Live!** Its effects have been intensified and prolonged by increases in taxation and by the continuing weakness of the British economy. Although the total aggregated income of the linked charities in 2025 was £87,320 (11%) more than it had been in 2024, all of this difference was caused by two *exceptional* donations that amounted - with Gift Aid - to £368,661. If those two donations and other extraordinary income of £67,247 from legacies and Trusts are excluded, it will been seen that the *ordinary* income of the linked charities in 2025 actually *fell* by £42,235 (8.4%).

The amount of *ordinary* income is always the most important indicator of the financial climate because the income from legacies and Trusts is completely unpredictable, and exceptionally large donations and exceptionally large Gift Aid claims are, indeed, *exceptional*. The Trustees are therefore well aware of the need to try to find or devise additional sources of ordinary income.

j) In December 2012 the charity introduced the facility for credit card donations to be made online. In order to do this, the charity registered with the charity donation system CharityCheckout - now known as Enthuse - which continues to handle the whole process of taking credit card donations, and of paying them into the charity's bank account. No sensitive information now has to be handled by, or to pass through, the charity's website.

k) The Trustees have implemented an anti-money-laundering policy in order to reduce the risk that anyone might try to make use of the charity for that purpose. There are no indications that any such attempt has ever been made. However, at Barclays request, this policy was revised and considerably elaborated in 2025.

l) Most of the funds raised by the charity are the results of appeals made in Catholic parishes, so it is clear that Christianity is the force that motivates the great majority of

the charity's donors, but an increasingly - and sometimes aggressively - secular society is not conducive to the flourishing of charities that, like both **Let The Children Live!** and **Funvini,** remain firmly Christian in their ethos. The officials from the Charity Commission who attended the Compliance Meeting in 2020 readily admitted that they had little experience of dealing with Christian charities; and they obviously had no real understanding of their particular ethos. There is a danger that such a lack of understanding could result in misunderstanding and misinterpretation.

The charity's Solicitor confirmed that he considers that the moral views that the charity and its supporters uphold "might be conservative but they are not radical". These views are not universally popular, and the Trustees are aware that they have a duty to "consider the charity's reputation". They know that the charity could fall victim to the 'cancel culture' because the era in which Christians could disagree with some of the conventions and assumptions of secular thinking and still expect to be respected as decent members of society at large seems to be drawing to an end.

However, the Trustees believe that the damage that would be caused to the charity's reputation among its supporters by being perceived to have abandoned or diluted its Christian principles would heavily outweigh any possible advantages of such action, even in merely prudential terms. Moreover, this would threaten the future existence of **Funvini** - and hence the welfare of the children who depend on it - because, as a specially Catholic charity, **Funvini** would not be able to accept funding from a source that was not in sympathy with its own moral views.

The Trustees are therefore concerned that there is a danger that their duty to "consider the charity's reputation" may be interpreted in some quarters as a duty not to express views, or to fund activities, which - even though they are perfectly legal - are currently *unfashionabl*e. This, in turn, is likely to result in a tendency towards excessive caution and self-censorship by charity Trustees who become afraid of being 'cancelled' for being considered 'politically incorrect' or insufficiently 'woke'.

m) In 2020 the Charity Commission also expressed their views about the reporting by the charity of the criticisms expressed by Venezuelan refugees in Medellín of the policies and failures of the far-left Venezuelan government, which they blamed for the events and conditions that had obliged them to seek refuge in Colombia. However, it is hardly to be expected that many admirers of the present Venezuelan regime will be found amongst those who have had to flee from it or from the consequences of its policies.

The Trustees consulted their Solicitor on this point, and he said: "The Commission's guidance is clear that charities can campaign for a change in the law, policy or decisions where such change would support the charity's purposes. Charities can also campaign to ensure that existing laws are observed." Therefore if the charity "identified government policy that negatively impacted on your beneficiaries then 'speaking out' on such an issue would be acceptable".

Although the Trustees certainly do not consider it to be the charity's mission to campaign on political issues, they therefore reserve the right to criticise - and to publish comments made by third parties that are critical of - the Venezuelan government, the Colombian government, or the British government, or any other body that they believe to be wholly or partly responsible for any policy, decision or situation they consider to be prejudicial to the welfare of the children - born or unborn - whom **Funvini** serves.

n) It remains to be seen what attitude the government of President de la Espriella, who took office in August 2026, will adopt towards the Venezuelan refugees and migrants who are currently living in Colombia. In a special report published in June 2026 the official Observatorio de Migraciones, Migrantes y Movilidad Humana (OM3) estimated that in January 2026 these numbered more than 2,840,000, and that about 82% of them had legal residence permits. Of course, that meant that more than 500,000 of the Venezuelans did *not* have such permits.

This was in considerable measure the consequence of the policies of the socialist government led by the former guerrilla, Gustavo Petro. He had reversed the policy of his predecessor, Iván Duque, and made it much more difficult for Venezuelan migrants to regularise their situation. One of the negative consequences of this is that a number of **Funvini**'s Venezuelan children have been unable to make their First Communion because they have been unable to provide proof of their identity.

In order to make one's First Communion, one has to provide proof of Baptism because in Catholic theology an unbaptised person is deemed to be incapable of receiving any other Sacrament validly. But in Colombia children who do not have proof of their identity and parentage are not allowed to be baptised - even conditionally - because a Certificate of Baptism can be used as a means of obtaining a Colombian Birth Certificate. When Fr Peter queried this point with the Archbishop of Medellín, the Archbishop was adamant that was a matter of Colombian law. Fr Peter very much hopes that the Episcopal Conference of Colombia will press the new

government to change the law in this respect. There must be thousands of Venezuelan children in Colombia who are currently being deprived of the grace of the Sacraments because of this law.

When President Petro came to power in 2022, he restored diplomatic relations with the illegal Maduro regime in Venezuela,. These had been severed in 2019, and the new *rapprochement* between Bogotá and Caracas was viewed with deep suspicion by many of Venezuelans who had fled to Colombia as refugees rather as migrants. **Funvini**'s employees have reported that it was extremely rare to hear the Venezuelans in Medellín saying anything positive about the Maduro regime, whereas harsh criticisms of it were common. There was great rejoicing among them in January 2026 when Maduro was captured and taken to face justice in the United States.

They had feared that the political sympathy between the Colombian and Venezuelan governments might have lead to them being forced to return to the clutches of the very regime from which they had come to Colombia to escape. The authoritarian Venezuelan government, which was still clinging to power in 2025 despite having lost the elections that were held in the previous year, did not look kindly on any form of dissidence, and some of the refugees are alarmed about the risk of reprisals if they go home. So, although the Maduro regime tried to promote a *Return to the Motherland* campaign, many of the exiles remained highly sceptical about this.

President Petro's government certainly made it much more difficult for Venezuelans who lacked passports or other documents to regularise their situation in Colombia and obtain resident permits. This meant that they were unable to work legally, and so were much more likely to turn to illegal activity. This helped Venezuelan gangs - most notably the transnational *Tren de Aragua* - to develop criminal cells in major Colombian urban centres and border zones, and to engage in extortion, human trafficking, and local drug distribution.

This has caused a significant deterioration in the attitude of many Colombians towards their Venezuelan guests, which had initially been very sympathetic. Public perception has also tended to link the prolonged presence of so many migrants to excessive demands on public services, and a fall in the number of available jobs. Nonetheless, the OM3 report stated that about 79% of the Venezuelans in Colombia had indicated their intention to remain there indefinitely. Whether they will be allowed to do so will depend on the policies adopted by the new government in Colombia and the current regime in Venezuela. The Trustees are therefore concerned

that in the meanwhile the future of the Venezuelan families helped by **Funvini** will remain very uncertain.

o) Although Colombia has long been the closest Latin-American ally of the United States, President Petro's hard-left policies, hostile rhetoric and pro-China sympathies incurred the displeasure of President Trump. Moreover, since President Petro took office in 2022, the area in Colombia under coca cultivation is estimated to have increased by about 70 percent.

In March 2025, President Petro's officials gained the support of 63 countries to achieve the support of the 68th session of the the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna for his proposals to ease the war on drugs on the world stage and to create a "high level panel of independent experts to critically analyse the global drug regime," which will report back in 2029. This could lead to the decriminalisation of products such as coca leaves that are currently classified as dangerous substances.

All this means that there was a real danger that in September 2025 Colombia would be "decertified" as a counter-narcotics partner of the United States. This would lead Washington to slash bilateral aid by 50%, which would be a very severe blow after the loss of funding from USAID (the U.S.Agency for International Development) when that body was closed down by President Trump. It could also entail diplomatic and financial sanctions, including government officials being barred from the U.S. and restrictions on Colombia's banking systems.

The Trustees were concerned about the possible impact of such restrictions on the ability of **Let The Children Live! Inc.** to transfer its donations from the United States to **Funvini**. Moreover, substantial cuts by the United States in its funding for Colombia's security forces would reduce still further their ability to control violence and crime in its territory.

However, the election in 2026 of the more rightist President Abelardo de la Espriella has greatly diminished these risks because he has made it clear that he wishes to cooperate fully with the United States in the war on narco-terrorism and in the resumption of aerial fumigation to eradicate the coca crops.

p) The long-term loan of £225,000 made to the charity will eventually have to be paid back. As has been explained above, this money has now been loaned to **Funvini,** and the Trustees have therefore had to consider the risk that the Colombian charity

might fail to return it. However, the Trustees are satisfied that the terms of the mortgage on *Casa Bannatyne* by which the loan has been secured have reduced this risk to the minimum. Its main value lies in its site rather than in its structure; and, as has been mentioned above, the property was professionally valued in May 2024 at C$2,631,811,000 (Colombian pesos), or slightly over £500,000. Because of the weakness of the pound against the peso, by mid-2026 this figure has risen to more than £600,000.

Moreover, if the worst came to the worst, and **Funvini** failed to meet - or were to be prevented from meeting - its obligations, the Trustees could reduce their annual grant to **Funvini** by £225,000, and the charity would therefore still be able to meet its own obligations to the benefactor.

q) In 2003 the Linked Charity established a notional benchmark for the salary of its Executive Director, with those of other Key Management Personnel being determined in reference to this. The Trustees did this by consulting the press to see what other charities were then offering for the posts that they were advertising.

For example, they noted that on 11th August 2003 The Children's Society advertised for a Youth Campaign Coordinator in London, with a maximum salary of £25,536. Applicants had to be under the ages of 25, and would therefore have had neither experience nor responsibilities commensurate with those of the Executive Director of **Let The Children Live!** At the other end of the spectrum, World Vision, a very much larger charity, advertised on 14th March 2003 for a Chief Executive with an annual salary of £70,000.

The Trustees therefore considered that a notional benchmark figure of £30,000 of basic salary would be appropriate, and they hoped to be able to sustain this at least in line with inflation. According to the CPI UK Inflation Calculator (*www.officialdata.org*), £30,000 in 2003 would be the equivalent of £59,443.64 in August 2024 - without any increments in recognition of increased experience and responsibility - but the Trustees regret that the financial circumstances of the Linked Charity did not permit the salaries of the Key Management Personnel who are now employed by the Reporting Charity to be increased to that extent.

According to the 2024 Pay and Equalities Survey of almost 900 charity leaders published by the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO), the median annual basic salary reported by charity C.E.O.s in the early Summer of 2025 was £59,850. The Trustees therefore realise that if it ever became

necessary to seek to replace the charity's Executive Director, it is probable that the present terms of remuneration would have to be improved considerably, and that this would require painful adjustments to its budget.

r) The constant intensification of the competition for funds is placing increasingly heavy burdens of work and stress on the charity's employees. The Trustees realise that an excessive work-load poses a risk to the charity's efficiency, and limits the possibilities for its expansion.

The illness of Miss Pauline Allan, the charity's Administrator, in the Summer of 2026 showed that the Trustees' had been justified in their concern about the gravity of the threat that such an event would pose to the charity's administrative system.

Thanks to the gallant efforts of Miss Allan from her hospital bed, and of Ms Shirley Davies in the charity's office, this system did not collapse. Nonetheless, the Trustees are very much aware of the need to reduce the load on Miss Allan by outsourcing the charity's payroll management, and to devise contingency plans to mitigate the effects on the charity of any illness that she or Ms Davies may experience in the future.

s) Fr Peter's illness in the Summer of 2024 caused the length of his Autumn fund-raising tour of the United Kingdom to be reduced by half that year. If he were to be incapacitated for a prolonged period, the Trustees know that it would not be easy for them to find a suitable replacement. Indeed, in such an eventuality, it might well be necessary to wind up the charity.

The Trustees will therefore continue to ensure that the charity does not incur any debts or contractual obligations which cannot be met from its reserves.

t) The salaries of **Funvini's** team of psychologists, social-workers, teachers and other staff constitute by far the largest item in the Colombian charity's monthly budget. It can do little to control these because they are calculated in terms of multiples of the SMMLV (National Minimum Monthly Wage), which is increased every year by government decree.

In 2023 the working-week in Colombia was reduced by two hours to 38 hours. Moreover, it was also decreed that extra night-time payments should be made to those who work after 6:00pm, rather than after 9:00pm, as had previously been the case. The SMMLV was raised by 16% in 2023, by 12% in 2024, and by a further 9.53% un 2025. The salaries of **Funvini**'s employees all increased accordingly.

This represented a compound increase of 41.59% in only three years, and was accompanied in the same period by a gradual reduction of three hours in the working week. However, in December 2025, the outgoing Colombian President decreed a further increase of *23.7%* in the SMMLV for 2026, and further reduction of one hour in the working week. This was more than *four times* the rate of inflation, and brought the compound increase in the SML to *75.15%* in the four years of his administration.

Fortunately, the law only required this additional increase to be paid to those employees who were actually on the minimum rate, so **Funvini** raised the salaries of those who were on higher rates in line with inflation. This obviously had the effect of reducing the differential between the salaries of employees with professional qualifications and those without. That has caused a certain amount of ill-feeling amongst some of **Funvini**'s staff; but most of this has been directed towards the government rather than towards colleagues or the charity itself.

Furthermore, when student teachers, psychologists and social-workers undertake the practical work required by their universities, they now have to be paid the minimum wage. And employers who have more than 19 employees in their workforce are now legally obliged to take on an apprentice from the SENA (Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje), who is also entitled to receive the minimum wage. **Funvini**'s Trustees therefore very much hope that the new Colombian President will restrict future increases in the SMMLV to the level of inflation, and that there will be no additional reductions in the working week.

All the measures taken by the outgoing administration have resulted in a dramatic increase in **Funvini**'s wages bill, and consequently in the proportion of its expenditure that has to be devoted to staff costs. This obviously leaves a smaller percentage available to be spent directly on the children whom **Funvini** exists to serve. This presents the Colombian charity with the invidious dilemma of having to reduce either the number of children it helps, or the range, frequency and quality of the services it provides for them. Reducing the workforce would offer no escape from this because the cost of making long-serving staff redundant would be so high, and because **Funvini**'s team is already so small that reducing it any further would necessarily lead to a corresponding reduction in the number of children who could be attended safely.

The only escape would therefore be for **Funvini**'s income to be increased. However, there is little hope that the Colombian charity will be able to do this for itself. The

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

2025 World Happiness Report revealed Colombians to be one of the least generous nations on earth in terms of donations to charity. Colombia ranked 130th out of the 147 countries in the survey. Although the accuracy of the survey may be open to question, it may to some extent explain the difficulty that **Funvini** has always experienced in trying to raise funds in Colombia.

Fortunately, the United Kingdom ranked 4th in the index in terms of donations to charity; and the United States ranked 12th: but even so, neither the British nor the American charity is currently in a position to provide the extra funding needed to meet **Funvini**'s ever-increasing needs. The Trustees of both charities very much regret that the constant statutory improvements in the working conditions of **Funvini**'s staff are likely to have to be implemented at the cost of the suffering of the children for whom the Colombian charity will no longer be able to provide services. The Trustees are therefore acutely aware of the need to try to devise and invest in additional fund-raising strategies.

u) As the competition for donations becomes ever-more intense, **Let The Children Live!** faces an increasing need to develop new ways of appealing for the public's sympathy. There are constant appeals in the media for the victims of disaster, and stories and images of children who are being enabled to go to school and to avoid catastrophe tend to have less emotional impact than those that feature children who have fallen victim to it.

The charity may well need professional help to surmount this public-relations hurdle. In the meanwhile, the Trustees believe that the best way to retain the confidence of the charity's supporters is to be completely transparent about this problem, and to explain both what is happening and why it is happening.

In particular, the Trustees think that it is very important to stress what a very small proportion of the United Kingdom's Overseas Aid Programme is devoted to helping children in Colombia, in marked contrast to the enormous sums that British drug-users squander each year on Colombian cocaine and heroin. The money they spend on their 'recreational habit' helps significantly to fuel the violence and corruption in Colombia to which so many children there continue to fall victim.

Supporting charities like **Let The Children Live!** is one way by which people in Britain can help to undo some of this harm. Unfortunately, however, some people regard drug-consumers as innocent victims of their habit. They fail to recognise that the *purchase* of illegal drugs is *not* a 'victimless crime'; so they take offence when

the charity maintains that drug-users ought to accept responsibility for the part that they each play in sustaining the drug-trade with countries like Colombia through their purchases.

The Trustees call on the government to do a great deal more to educate the public about this in order to make the *purchase* of illegal drugs as socially unacceptable as the purchase of child pornography or of items made of ivory or animal fur.

v) As has been made clear above, the Trustees are very much aware of problems caused by the charity's dependence on the income it receives from such unpredictable sources as Trusts and legacies. Attempts to reverse this trend are likely to require a significant increase in both the overall amount that the charity spends on fund-generation, and in the proportion of the charity's expenditure that is used for this purpose.

The Trustees of **Let The Children Live!** fully support the measures being taken by **Funvini** in response to all the problems they have mentioned, and they will do their best to raise extra funds to help the Colombian charity to meet these grave and continuing challenges. However, it must be accepted that the outlook both for the remainder of 2026 and for 2027 is not very encouraging.

Governance

Let The Children Live! is governed by a Board of Trustees/Directors, who usually meet twice a year. They are a small, well-integrated group of non-executive volunteers, who share the Christian principles upon which the charity was founded, and who are motivated by a commitment to the welfare of the children whom the charity exists to serve.

The day-to-day conduct of the charity's affairs is managed by Fr Peter Walters, as its Executive Director. None of the Trustees have any personal interests to declare, and all of them have signed the Trustees' Code of Conduct, which includes provisions to manage any potential conflicts of interest.

There must always be a minimum of *three* Trustees and there may be a maximum of *five*. The policy of the Trustees in relation to potential candidates for election to the Board is that in addition to being legally qualified to serve, the person concerned should be one:

- of whose integrity and other qualities at least either one of the existing Trustees or the Founder has considerable personal knowledge;
- who has an established history of support for and interest in the charity;
- who would be willing to subscribe to the charity's Mission and Vision Statements; to its Donations and Funding Policy; and to the Trustees' Code of Conduct, which contains a conflict of interest policy;
- who is likely to inspire the confidence of the charity's supporters;
- who is likely to be able to devote to the charity the time necessary to be an effective Trustee; and
- who would be able to attend the Trustees' meetings without undue inconvenience or expense.

It is the Trustees' policy to try to keep the affairs of the charity as simple as possible, and to conduct them with the minimum of formality and bureaucratic procedures compatible with efficiency and compliance with the law; and that such professional expertise and advice as may be necessary should normally be obtained externally.

Because a new Trustee must already have some knowledge of the charity, and because the governance of its affairs has been designed to be so straightforward, the process of induction normally consists of a briefing by the Director and the other Trustees, and the reading of the Charity Commission's publication *The Essential Trustee*. The Trustees may subsequently undertake such further reading or training as they deem necessary.

On 10th September 2024 Miss Pauline Allan, the charity's Administrator, attended a workshop on "Working Overseas: Risks, Responsibilities and Legal Duties". This was held in Manchester, and it was organised by the Charity Commission. When Miss Allan subsequently reported back to the Trustees about this event, they were pleased to find that the charity had already implemented all of its relevant recommendations.

However, as has been mentioned above, the Trustees continue to regard with grave concern the failure of the Government and of the Charity Commission to value and protect the essentially 'amateur' status of the Trustees of small charities. They suspect that part of the problem here may stem from the lack of a distinction in law between Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and charities.

Each of these types of not-for-profit body has a valuable role to play in contemporary society, but although they have elements in common, their regulatory needs and, indeed, their whole ethos tends to be very different. NGOs require detailed regulation and considerable formality in their structures and procedures, particularly if their funding depends on grants from - or contracts with - statutory bodies.

In the case of small charities, however, any excess of regulation or formality may prove stifling. They rely for their governance upon the good will and enthusiasm of part-time, non-specialist volunteers whose mentality reflects that of the private donors upon whose generosity their income chiefly depends.

The Trustees remain firmly of the opinion that the tendency towards over-regulation poses a real threat to the survival of small charities like **Let The Children Live!** because the greater the administrative burden, the harder it will be to attract new Trustees; and the more disproportionate the administrative costs, the more difficult it will become to inspire the generosity of donors who wish their money to be used for the benefit of children, not for the funding of bureaucracy. Every aspect of the regulation of charities ought always itself to be subject to strict and clear 'public benefit' criteria, including the regular evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of any public reporting burden that it imposes on smaller charities.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Charities Act 2011 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 and of its income and expenditure for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required:

- to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- to comply with applicable accounting standards subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it would be inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and

to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examination

The Trustees share the view expressed in *The Government Response to the Consultation on Charity Audit and Independent Examination* (2015) that, except in special circumstances, "professional independent examination is a more proportionate form of scrutiny" than a full Audit for a charity with an annual income below the government's threshold of £1,000,000.

In preparing this Report, the Directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemption provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

A resolution to re-appoint Forvis Mazars LLP as Independent Examiners was passed by the Trustees at their meeting on 2nd July 2025.

Approved by the Trustees, and signed on 12th September 2026 on their behalf by



Paulette Brown,
Chairman

Let The Children Live!
2, Roberts Road
Doncaster
DN4 0JW

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!

I report on the Financial Statements of **Let The Children Live!** for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 58 to 69.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Reporting Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the Financial Statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for Independent Examination, I report in respect of my Examination of the charity's Financial Statements as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my Examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(b) of the 2011 Act.

This Report, including my Statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body for my Examination work, for this Report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My Examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An Examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the Financial Statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Financial Statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an Audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the Financial Statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, your Examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

In connection with my Examination, which is complete, no matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of **Let The Children Live!** in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the Financial Statements do not accord with those records; or
- the Financial Statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the Financial Statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an Independent Examination; or
- the Financial Statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the Examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Financial Statements to be reached.

Signed by:
David Hoose
C86E5ED349AC40D...

David Hoose FCA

Forvis Mazars LLP
3, Chamberlain Square
Birmingham
B3 3AX

28 September 2026

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE! - Company No. 07140869 - Registered Charity No. 1159113

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
AGGREGATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	**Total funds 2025 £**	Total funds 2024 £
	13				
INCOME:					
Voluntary Income:					
General Donations		706,581	0	**706,581**	598,837
Shop Donations		2,149	0	**2,149**	2,384
Trust Donations		35,750	3,495	**39,245**	10,225
Legacies		28,002	0	**28,002**	78,128
Income Tax Recovered		89,542	0	**89,542**	87,536
		862,024	3,495	**865,519**	777,110
Trading Activities					
Sales - Mail Order		8	0	**8**	0
Sales - Walsingham Shop		14,593	0	**14,593**	15,681
Investment Income:					
Interest Receivable		1	0	**1**	15
Foreign Currency Valuation		5	0	**5**	0
TOTAL INCOME		876,631	3,495	**880,126**	792,806
EXPENDITURE:					
Expenditure on Raising Funds	3	35,480	0	**35,480**	32,745
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	4	746,573	3,495	**750,068**	540,054
TOTAL EXPEND ITURE		782,053	3,495	**785,548**	572,799
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME	5	94,578	0	**94,578**	220,007
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		365,966	0	**365,966**	145,959
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	460,544	0	**460,544**	365,966

This Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended relate to continuing activities.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE! - Company No. 07140869 - Registered Charity No. 1159113

AGGREGGATED BALANCE SHEET
31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
	13	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	7	**1,572**	1,881
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	8	**2,508**	52,269
Debtors (amounts falling due after more than one year)	9	**225,000**	225,000
Bank and Cash		**464,471**	320,076
		691,979	597,345
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	10	**(8,007)**	(8,260)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**683,972**	589,085
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	11	**(225,000)**	(225,000)
NET ASSETS		**460,544**	365,966
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	14	**460,544**	365,966
RESTRICTED FUNDS	14	**0**	0
TOTAL FUNDS		**460,544**	365,966

For the year ending 31st December 2025 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and the Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved and authorised for issue by the Directors/Trustees,
and signed on 12th September 2026 on their behalf by



Paulette Brown,
Chairman

BALANCE SHEETS OF REPORTING CHARITY 1159113 AND LINKED CHARITY 1159113-1 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	**2025** **£**	2024 £
BALANCE SHEET - REPORTING CHARITY 1159113			
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	7	**1,572**	1,881
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	8	**2,508**	52,269
Debtors (amounts falling due after more than one year)	9	**225,000**	225,000
Bank and Cash		**355,667**	217,395.99
		583,175	494,749
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	10	**(4,992)**	(5,383)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**578,183**	489,366
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	11	**(225,000)**	(225,000)
NET ASSETS		**354,755**	266,247
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	13	**354,755**	266,247
RESTRICTED FUNDS	13	**0**	0
TOTAL FUNDS		**354,755**	266,247
BALANCE SHEET - LINKED CHARITY 1159113-1			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	8	**0**	0
Bank and Cash		**108,754**	102,596
		108,804	102,596
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	10	**(3,015)**	(2,877)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**105,789**	99,719
NET ASSETS		**105,789**	99,719
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	13	**105,789**	99,719
RESTRICTED FUNDS	13	**0**	0
TOTAL FUNDS		**105,789**	99,719

AGGREGATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) Operating Activities	A	**144,604**	158,923
Net cash provided by (used in) Investing Activities		**6**	15
Net cash provided by (used in) Financing Activities		**0**	0
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		**(215)**	0
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		**144,395**	158,938
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**320,076**	161,138
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	B	**464,471**	320,076

NOTE A Reconciliation of Net Expenditure to Cash Flow from Operating Activities

Net Movement in Funds	**94,578**	220,007
Less Investment Income	**(6)**	(15)
Decrease/(Increase) in Debtors	**49,761**	(51,292)
(Decrease)/Increase in Creditors	**(253)**	(10,405)
Add back Depreciation	**524**	628
Net cash provided by(used in) Operating Activities	**144,604**	158,923

NOTE B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

Cash in hand	**464,471**	320,076
Total cash and cash equivalents	**464,471**	320,076

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

After considering the charity's available cash reserves, expected income, committed expenditure and the principal risks described in the trustees' report, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are authorised for issue. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a 'going concern' basis.

Income
Income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable that the resources will be received and their monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay the expenditure. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories of expenditure in the SOFA. The charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on charitable activities
The expenditure on charitable activities includes payments to related undertakings, support costs and governance costs.

Restricted Funds
Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Unrestricted Funds
The Designated Fund represents the proportion of the unrestricted funds which the Trustees consider is immediately available to them for the purpose of assisting children and young people in Colombia in accordance with the policy agreed by the Trustees. The remainder is held to protect the charity against fluctuations in income.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation
Items of a capital nature costing in excess of £200, or with an economic life of more than 4 years, are included in fixed assets. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of fixed assets, plant and equipment on a 25% reducing balance basis over their estimated useful lives.

2 LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

The charity is a company registered in England and Wales (No. 07140869). It is limited by guarantee, and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of its registered Office is: 2, Roberts Road, Doncaster DN4 0JW.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		2025 £	2024 £
3 AGGREGATED EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS			
	Appeals	**7,457**	5,115
	Shop	**3,843**	4,525
	Staff costs	**24,180**	23,105
		35,480	32,745
4 AGGREGATED CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES			
Development Education costs:			
	General	**259**	757
	Staff costs	**0**	421
		259	1,178
*** Donations made to Funvini**		**551,912**	344,020
Fieldwork costs:			
	General	**21,099**	19,603
	Staff costs	**69,518**	70,510
		90,617	90,113
Support Costs:			
	General	**62,993**	61,773
	Governance	**6,030**	5,754
	** Staff costs	**38,257**	37,216
		107,280	104,743
Total Charitable Activites:		**750,068**	540,054

*** Funvini**

Let The Children Live! has the right to nominate a member of the Board of the Colombian charity Fundación ¡Vivan Los Niños! (Funvini). This representative has a voice but not a vote. In 2025 the representative nominated was Fr Peter Walters.

**** Support Costs — Staff**

No person was paid more than £60,000 in either year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		2025 £	2024 £
5 AGGREGATED NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			
The net movement in funds is after charging:			
Independent Examiner's fees		**6,030**	5,754
Employment costs	6	**131,955**	131,252
Depreciation of owned tangible assets	7	**524**	628
6 STAFF COSTS			
Salaries		**103,333**	102,264
National Insurance		**5,689**	4,526
Pension		**22,933**	24,462
		131,955	131,252

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:	Number	Number
Administration & Shop	**3**	3
Field-work & Appeals	**1**	1

The Charity considers that its Key Management Personnel comprise the Trustees, the Executive Director and the Administrator. None of the Trustees received any remuneration or were repaid any expenses for either year. The total employment benefits - including employer's National Insurance and pension contributions - of the Key Management Personnel amounted to £103,921 (2024: £104,459). None of the Charity's employees received a salary in excess of £60,000 in either year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

7 FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and Equipment £
COST	
Accumulated	3,344
Additions	215
Disposals	0
At 31st December 2025	3,559
DEPRECIATION	
Accumulated depreciation at 1 January 2025	1,463
Charge for Year	524
Disposals	0
Accumulated depreciation at 31 December 2025	1,987
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2025	1,572
At 31 December 2024	1,881
Depreciation Rate	25% RB

	2025 £	2024 £
8 (a) AGGREGATED DEBTORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Gift Aid receivable	2,508	52,269

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
8 (b) REPORTING CHARITY DEBTORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Gift Aid receivable	**2,508**	52,269
8 (c) LINKED CHARITY DEBTORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Gift Aid receivable	**0**	0

9 DEBTORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR *

Loan to Funvini	**225,000**	225,000

The Reporting Charity's loan is secured against a property owned by **Funvini**, is interest-free, and is repayable in 2029.

* The Linked Charity did not - in either year - have any Debtors with amounts falling due after more than one year.

10 (a) AGGREGATED CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade Creditors	**2,099**	1,014
Other Creditors	**2,006**	1,622
Accruals	**3,902**	5,624
	8,007	8,260

10 (b) REPORTING CHARITY CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade Creditors	**2,099**	1,014
Other Creditors	**2,006**	1,622
Accruals	**887**	2,747
	4,992	5,383

10 (c) LINKED CHARITY CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Accruals	**3,015**	2,877

	2025	2024
	£	£

11 REPORTING CHARITY CREDITORS
- AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR *

Loan from Benefactor	**(225,000)**	(225,000)
The loan is interest free and repayable in 2029.		

* The Linked Charity did not - in either year - have any Creditors with amounts falling due after more than one year.

12 REPORTING CHARITY PENSION COMMITMENTS *

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Company to the fund, and amounted to £22,933 (2024: £24,462). Contributions totalling £1,807 were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date (2024: £1,807).

* The Linked Charity did not have any Pension Commitments in either year.

13 (a) AGGREGATED ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

2025

	Unrestricted		Restricted	
	General fund £	Designated fund £	Funvini fund £	**Total £**
Income	876,631	0	3,495	**880,126**
Expenditure	782,053	0	3,495	**785,548**
Net inflow/(outflow) of funds	94,578	0	0	**94,578**
Transfer between funds	(94,578)	94,578	0	**0**
Balances at beginning of year	100,000	265,966	0	**365,966**
Balances at end of year	100,000	360,544	0	**460,544**

The Trustees designate funds held at the year end in excess of their reserve policy for the benefit of **Funvini** because of fluctuations in the rate of exchange between the pound and the Colombian peso.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

13 (b) REPORTING CHARITY - ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

	2025			
	Unrestricted		Restricted	
	General fund £	Designated fund £	Funvini fund £	**Total £**
Income	867,546	0	3,495	**871,041**
Expenditure	779,038	0	3,495	**782,533**
Net inflow/(outflow) of funds	88,508	0	0	**88,508**
Transfer between funds	(88,508)	88,508	0	**0**
Balances at beginning of year restated	100,000	166,247	0	**266,247**
Balances at end of year	100,000	254,755	0	**354,755**

13 (c) LINKED CHARITY - ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**Total funds £**
Income	9,085	0	**9,085**
Expenditure	3,015	0	**3,015**
Net inflow/(outflow) of funds	6,070	0	**6,070**
Balances at beginning of year restated	99,719	0	**99,719**
Balances at end of year	105,789	0	**105,789**

14 CORPORATION TAX

The charity is exempt from tax on income to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

15 RELATED PARTIES

Included within creditors - amounts falling due after one year (Note 11) is an interest-free loan of £225,000. This was made by a related party to the reporting charity, and is repayable in 2029.

16 LINKING OF ACCOUNTS

On 26th July 2021 the Charity Commission confirmed that the Reporting Charity should be linked to the charity Let the Children Live! (charity registered with the Charity Commission No. 1159113-1, originally 1013634) for the purposes of Part 4 (registration) and Part 8 (accounting) of the Charities Act 2011.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

17. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	**Total funds 2024**
INCOME				
Voluntary Income				
General Donations		598,837	0	**598,837**
Shop Donations		2,384	0	**2,384**
Trust Donations		2,100	8,125	**10,225**
Legacies		78,128	0	**78,128**
Income Tax Recovered		87,536	0	**87,536**
		768,985	8,125	**777,110**
Trading Activities				
Sales - Mail Order		0	0	**0**
Sales - Walsingham Shop		15,681	0	**15,681**
Investment Income				
Interest Receivable		15	0	**15**
Foreign Currency Valuation		0	0	**0**
TOTAL INCOME		784,681	8,125	**792,806**
EXPENDITURE				
Raising Funds		32,745	0	**32,745**
Charitable Activities		531,929	8,125	**540,054**
TOTALEXPENDITURE		564,674	8,125	**572,799**
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME		220,007	0	**220,007**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		145,959	0	**145,959**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		365,966	0	**365,966**