

Report and Financial Statements  
Year ended 31 March 2013

Grandparents  
plus

We champion the wider  
family who care for children



Report 2013

**Grandparents Plus: Financial statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2013**

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# Legal and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers



## **Directors and Trustees**

Jean Stogdon, Co-Chair – director & trustee  
Stephen Burke, Co-Chair – director & trustee  
Dean Casswell, Treasurer – director & trustee  
Janet Brown OBE – director & trustee  
Ann Buchanan – (appointed 24 January 2013)  
Brian Edwards – (appointed 24 January 2013)  
Gladys Edwards – director & trustee  
Patrick Grattan MBE – director & trustee  
Helen Jackson CBE – director & trustee  
Stephen Mold – director & trustee  
Gail Pringle – director & trustee  
Pat Strachan – director & trustee  
Judith Trowell – (resigned 24 January 2013)  
Julie Wilkes – director & trustee

## **Company Secretary and Chief Executive**

Sam Smethers

## **Company registration number**

04454103

## **Charity registration number**

1093975

## **Registered office**

18 Victoria Park Square  
Bethnal Green  
London  
E2 9PF

## **Independent Examiner**

Timothy Sullivan FCA  
Field Sullivan Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Neptune House  
70 Royal Hill  
London SE10 8RF

## **Bankers**

Triodos Bank  
Deanery Road  
Bristol  
BS1 5AS

# Trustees' report (including the directors' annual report) for the year ended 31 March 2013



This is a directors' report required by s417 of the Companies Act 2006 and all trustees are directors. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

## About us

Grandparents Plus is the national charity (England and Wales) which champions the role of grandparents and the wider family in children's lives – especially when they take on the caring role in difficult family circumstances – because we want to make children's lives better.

We do this by:

- **Campaigning with them for change** so that their contribution to children's wellbeing and care is valued and understood.
- **Providing evidence, policy solutions and training** so that they get the services and support they need to help children thrive.
- **Advising and supporting grandparents and wider family members** by ensuring that they have access to professional advice, information and peer support, particularly when they are raising children who are not living with their parents or providing intensive family support.
- **Advising, informing and supporting professionals** to develop good kinship care practice.

We run a peer to peer support network for grandparents and family carers who are raising children without parents. We also offer an advice and information service staffed by CAB-trained advisers.

We also run the Kinship Care Group for professionals which offers peer support for social workers and helps them to develop and improve their own kinship care practice.

## We are grateful for the current support of:

Big Lottery Fund  
Charities Aid Foundation  
Dulverton Trust  
John Ellerman Foundation  
Mullberry Trust  
Rayne Foundation  
Comic Relief

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation  
Department for Education  
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  
Lloyds TSB Foundation  
Porticus UK  
Technology Strategy Board

## Staff

Yaw Addo, Finance Administrator  
Alison Blaxland, Network Manager  
Thomas Boulter, Campaigns Intern  
Susannah Cardy, Network Co-ordinator  
Agnes Gautier, Policy Officer  
Alana Genge, Administrative Assistant  
Peter Hulme, Campaigns Officer  
Claire Maugham, Interim CEO Feb-Mar 2013  
Denise Murphy, Interim CEO April 2012  
Jenny McKenna, Project Officer

Habibah Ogundare, Advice Worker  
Josephine Raine, Advice Service Manager  
Briony Robinson, Campaigns and Public Affairs Assistant  
Sacha Shabbir, Office and Systems Manager  
Gail Wagstaff, Advice Worker  
Sarah Wellard, Director of Policy, Research and Communications  
Ben Wheatley, Campaigns Assistant

# Objects for the Public Benefit

Grandparents Plus is a registered charity and is also incorporated as a limited company with dispensation granted to drop the word limited. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association where the objectives are the same as those set out in its charity registration which are to promote the better care, upbringing and establishment in life of children, in particular by;

- Promoting the role of kinship care by grandparents at all levels, particularly in circumstances of family breakdown, single parenthood and other difficult circumstances.
- Supporting and advising grandparents and other kin who are acting as or intend to act as carers, particularly in the circumstances mentioned above.

The board confirms that it has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and priorities for the coming year.

## **Charity organisation**

Grandparents Plus is governed by a board of trustees which holds quarterly board meetings and an annual strategy away day. The chief executive is recruited by and then accountable to the board. The board agrees the annual programme and a budget for the financial year. Management reports are then prepared for board meetings and discussed between the board and chief executive. The chief executive recruits a small staff team with executive and administrative skills and engages external input as required.

New trustees are appointed by identifying those with the skills and experience relevant to the charity's objectives and either recruited openly through advertisement and interview, or approached to enquire whether they would be willing to serve as a trustee.

## **Changes in our board and staff teams**

There have been some changes in board membership during the year. We were very sorry to lose Judith Trowell from the board at the AGM on 24th January but we were very pleased to welcome Brian Edwards and Professor Ann Buchanan to the board. During the year the charity has continued to be led by Co-Chairs Jean Stogdon and Stephen Burke.

We were pleased to recruit several new staff members during the year. In August Yaw Addo joined us as our part-time Finance Administrator. From October Jenny McKenna joined us as a part-time Project Worker and is based in Newcastle working on the Relative Experience Project. Also from October Gail Wagstaff joined us as a part-time Advice Worker providing much-needed additional staff capacity for the Advice Service. Briony Robinson and Alana Genge both joined us first as unpaid interns and from February 2013 have taken up paid temporary part-time campaigns and administrative roles in the charity.

The beginning of the year saw a handover between our interim Chief Executive, Denise Murphy and our Chief Executive, Sam Smethers, who returned from maternity leave in April. We were also pleased to welcome Claire Maugham as our Interim Chief Executive during February-March 2013 while Sam Smethers was on planned sick leave.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Peter Hulme, our Campaigns Officer who left us when funding for his project came to an end, and to Ben Wheatley who was with us temporarily as our Campaigns Assistant and Thomas Boulter who made a big contribution as a campaigns intern. Advice Worker Habibah Ogundare left us after the conclusion of her temporary contract.

Throughout the year Grandparents Plus has continued to recruit volunteers and interns to support the work of the charity. We are very grateful to them as without their input much of our work would not be possible.

## Funding

We were delighted to be awarded £186K from the Big Lottery Silver Dreams Fund over 18 months to deliver the Relative Experience Project with our partners Family Lives and the Family and Parenting Institute. This pilot project provides trained befrienders for kinship carers living in the Newcastle and North Tyneside areas. 40 kinship carers will be supported by 20 volunteers during the course of the project. Coram will provide an independent evaluation and we will have the opportunity to apply for scale-up funding next year.

On-going support from the Big Lottery has enabled us to continue to deliver and to grow our peer support Network. Lottery funding has also contributed to the advice service this year, as has valuable continued support from the John Ellerman Foundation and the Rayne Foundation. We were also pleased to secure £30K from the Lloyds TSB Foundation to provide much-needed support for our Advice Service over the next two years.

Support from the Dulverton Trust has funded the leadership and core capacity of the charity, supporting the Chief Executive's post and the recruitment of a Finance Administrator. This has enabled the charity to bring its financial management in-house and to progress its income-generation activity.

Ongoing funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation has supported our policy and research work for a further year. Our policy and research capacity has also been supported by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation who have funded Grandparents Plus together with our partners, the Institute of Gerontology at Kings College London and the Beth Johnson Foundation to complete a major study of Grandparenting in Europe.

Funding from the Technology Strategy Board has provided the resource for a part-time Policy Officer to work on the COMODAL project with our partners, Coventry University and Age UK. It also funds a contribution to our Chief Executive.

Department for Education funding towards the Family Friendly Scheme, which is run by the Family and Parenting Institute has funded a contribution towards our Chief Executive this year as Grandparents Plus is a partner in the delivery of that project.

Porticus UK has provided £20K towards the cost of a fundraiser who has been recruited and will take up their post in April 2013. Vital core funding was also provided by the Mulberry Trust and from an anonymous donation to the Charities Aid Foundation.

In-kind support has also been secured from NESTA, European Parliament Outreach Office, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Age UK who have provided meeting venues and from Towers Watson who have provided management consultancy and board strategy away day support.

**We are very grateful to all our funders and supporters without whom our work would not be possible.**

## Activities for the Public Benefit

At Grandparents Plus we have continued vigorously to pursue our ambitious vision. We want to see:

- A transformation of the way society thinks about the contribution of grandparents and the wider family so that their role in family life can be recognised, valued, supported and celebrated.
- Kinship carers and the children they care for get the recognition and support they need.

The Chief Executive has worked with the staff team and the board to establish the following strategic priorities for our work:

- **Influencing** – continuing to redefine the family for policy makers and services providers, reflecting the inter-generational complexities of modern family life by producing authoritative research, running effective campaigns and adopting a strategic approach to achieve our influencing objectives.
- **Empowering** grandparents and other kinship carers to improve their lives and the lives of the children they care for, to support each other by responding to them and providing the holistic advice, information, support and opportunities they need; and to amplify their voices at a national and local level via the media or directly with politicians and professionals.
- **Improving** professional practice by sustainably implementing a professional practice development strategy which, working with leading experts in the field, reaches more professional social workers through developing the Kinship Care Group. Improving employer practice so that they can understand and respond to the needs of their ageing workforces.
- **Developing** the organisation, building capacity, becoming an established, sustainable charity and continuing to grow in a sustainable way.

### **We provide great value for money**

As a charity Grandparents Plus provides great value for money with 95% of our income spent on charitable activities with just 2% on governance costs and 3% in fundraising expenditure.

## **What have we been doing?**

### **We focussed on combining work and care**

The year kicked off with an influential seminar on flexible working and grandparents. Hosted by NESTA in collaboration with partner charity Working Families, this event considered evidence on the contribution grandparents make to providing childcare and the need for them to have a better balance between work and care.

### **We got our members out campaigning**

We dubbed June the Month of Action as Network members from across the country organised and took part in events to raise awareness of the issue of kinship care and to lobby their local councils for improvements to policy and practice. As a result kinship carers appeared on local and national radio, requested meetings with their Lead Member for Children's services, or their Director of Children's Services or with their local MP. The month was also lots of fun as kinship carers organised teddy bears' picnics and other social events all over the country. Over a dozen local events took place in groups all over England and Wales. During this month we secured over 40 national and regional media stories including the Times, Telegraph, CYP Now, Community Care, BBC Radio Two and regional TV News in Yorkshire, Wales and South West. In most of these cases kinship carers themselves made their voices heard. We also saw our twitter following increase by 200% in this period.

The month was supported by a range of partner organisations including: The Grandparents Association, Family Rights Group, PACT, Fostering Network, Who Cares? Trust, Action for Children, Age Concern Cardiff, Barnardo's and Age UK London.

### **Kinship carers took the message to Westminster**

The month culminated in a Westminster Ministerial Summit on Kinship Care with the then Children's Minister Tim Loughton MP. At the summit he heard directly from kinship carers about the challenges they face and the solutions they want to see.

The Minister responded by committing the Government to establishing a Cross-Departmental Working Group on Kinship Care. He also announced that the Government would give kinship carers a year's exemption from having to be actively seeking work as part of the welfare reform proposals. Instead they would be treated like parents of under

5s who are required to attend work-focussed interviews. This was an important concession that we and our Kinship Care Alliance partners had won from ministers during the passage of the Welfare Reform Bill. The event was attended by 35 kinship carers and 6 lead members for children's services. One third of the kinship carers attending also requested meetings with their local MP.

The Summit had a particularly strong focus on the issue of kinship carers giving up work to care for children because we published *Giving up the day job?* – a survey which revealed for the first time that 47% of kinship carers give up work when they take on the care of a child. The survey received widespread national and local media coverage. As a result of these findings we have been campaigning for leave entitlements for kinship carers, similar to those available for adoptive parents, so that they wouldn't have to give up work when a child moves in.

### **We had some fun...**

The month of action concluded with 180 members of our Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Network and their children attending a hugely successful family fun day event at Gullivers' Land. Everyone was given our campaign t-shirts to wear and met up for lunch and a team photo on the day.

### **We reached more kinship carers with our advice and support**

Throughout the year our reach via our Support Network has continued to grow with 1,783 individual members and 40 support groups reaching a further 600 kinship carers. We also have 736 Facebook members, reach 1,400 with the Grandparents as Parents group and 330 members who are in the Kinship Foster Carers group. A total of 4876, up from 3,800 which is an increase of 27% on last year.

Our advice service has now been running for almost 2 years and has helped 631 people over the past year. We met our target of 500 cases in the first year of operation. Our CAB-trained advisers provide in-depth advice and casework support. Many of those contacting us have a number of complex issues to resolve and so each inquiry can take several hours to complete. As a result of the advice we gave them the value of the additional benefit entitlement that kinship carers could claim was £191,698. Those contacting us for benefits advice and who we were then able to help found that they would be on average £3,000 per year better off.

### **We published ground-breaking new research**

As well as the month of action in June we also launched the interim findings from our Grandparenting in Europe research which showed that English grandparents are younger, have more grandchildren and are more likely to be working than their European counterparts. The year then ended with a launch event for the findings of the full study in March. Kings' researchers concluded that there is a care gap crisis looming as 23% of grandparents in this country are working but 6 in 10 are relied upon for childcare. We also posed the question, what kind of society and economy do we want to become? The research gets to the heart of a strategic dilemma as the UK faces a stark choice of either investing in its childcare infrastructure or becoming more like some southern European countries where grandparents are expected to provide childcare. But with our ageing population the imperative is to ensure older people can stay in work for longer so the implication is this may have a negative impact on working parents, particularly working mothers.

At the interim launch we heard from Labour Spokesperson for Older People, Liz Kendall MP and at the final launch event we heard from Professor Gunhild Hagestad from Norway and had a presentation of the findings from Professors Karen Glaser and Debora Price from Kings College London. Kings College London's Professor Anthea Tinker also spoke about the impact of caring responsibilities on grandparents themselves. The event also provided the launch for a new collaboration beginning in April 2013 between the team at Kings and Grandparents Plus, this time funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) which will look at the impact on grandparents of providing care for grandchildren. This study will progress next year and is due to report in 2014.



### **We asked people to take a Reality Cheque**

In October we continued our work with our Network members to run a Reality Cheque campaign to challenge local authority children's services about the support they offer kinship carers, highlighting the value of the contribution that carers make and juxtaposing that with the lack of support available to them. We reached 64 different local authorities with the campaign.

Throughout the year we have continued to highlight the issue of poverty and the challenges faced by kinship carers as a group significantly at risk of poverty, linking it to the risk we had highlighted earlier in the year of leaving the labour market when they become kinship carers. We used our annual cartoon Christmas card to drive home the message about the impact of welfare reform on kinship carers.

### **We launched an exciting new peer support project**

February 2013 saw the launch of our exciting new project in Newcastle. Funded by the Big Lottery Silver Dreams Fund, the Relative Experience project will see 20 older volunteers trained to befriend 40 older kinship carers from Newcastle and North Tyneside. Working in partnership with Family Lives and the Family and Parenting Institute this project will pilot a new befriending scheme that, if successful has the prospect of securing scale-up funding from 2014. The launch event was a huge success and captured the enthusiasm of kinship carers and partner organisations in the local area. The project has also been a new departure for Grandparents Plus as we now have a member of our team based in Newcastle working alongside Family Lives' staff.

### **We were shortlisted for a Big Lottery Award**

We were delighted to be shortlisted for a Big Lottery Award this year. It went to the public vote and we came a very respectable 4th – just missing out on the chance to feature in the National Lottery television programme. It's a tribute to the work of our small charity for us to make it this far in such a high profile competition.

### **We geared up for a busy 2013**

In addition to getting the Relative Experience project off the ground the first few months of 2013 were also spent preparing for our Annual Kinship Care Conference and Inaugural Kinship Care Awards. We were pleased to be able to work with leading conference organisers Neil Stewart Associates to organise and host the events which are scheduled for June 2013. The input of our Interim Chief Executive, Claire Maugham was critical at this time as our Chief Executive, Sam Smethers was absent on planned sick leave during February – March.

### **We got the message out**

Throughout the year Grandparents Plus was represented on the platform at a number of other events. For example, our Trustee, Julie Wilkes, ran a session on kinship care alongside a representative from Family Rights Group at Community Care Live in November, our Chief Executive spoke at the NAPF fostering conference in December and addressed staff at the Big Lottery in February in Newcastle and Birmingham. We were also pleased to be involved as a judge in the Yours Magazine grandparent of the year – which was won by a kinship carer. Trustee Gladys Edwards represented the charity on the panel.

Our media profile has remained high during the year with national coverage in the Times, Telegraph, BBC News and Daily Mail plus extensive regional and local media. Our social media presence has grown significantly in that time with our twitter following increasing to 1,909 by the end of March 2013.

### **We continued to work in partnership**

We have also spent the year continuing to work closely with our Kinship Care Alliance partners and working collaboratively with the Welfare Reform Consortium, the Working Parents Group and as active member of the Family Forum and Family Room group of charities. The Family Room partnership ensured we were represented at the party conferences in the autumn with our Chief Executive speaking on the platform at the Labour Party event focussing on the question of childcare and also addressed by Shadow Secretary of State for Education, Stephen Twigg MP.

### **We continued to support social work practice**

Grandparents Plus has continued to provide a valuable resource for social workers and continued to facilitate the Group which also continues to grow in size. It now has 144 members drawn from over 40 local authorities. During the year members heard from James Cox, Kinship Assessment Service Co-ordinator for Edinburgh City Council about practice in Scotland, from child protection expert Susie Essex on the Signs of Safety programme and her approach of using the wider family to safeguard children at risk of harm; from Jo Raine, Grandparents Plus Advice Service Manager, and from Heather McVeigh from Mentor about their Kinship Care Guide they have produced in Scotland.

During the year Grandparents Plus established a collaboration with leading drug and alcohol misuse charity, Mentor to produce a Kinship Care Guide for England which will be published next year. We have also been consulting members of the Group about how we can develop our services and support for them and their colleagues in local authorities.

### **Risk assessment**

The charity trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that procedures are in place to manage those risks. The board consults a risk register every quarter which is regularly updated by the Chief Executive. Risks are coded red, amber or green to indicate level of seriousness. The risk register also includes steps management are taking to manage or mitigate risks identified.

### **Review of financial position and reserves policy**

A strategic priority for the Board is to ensure that the charity can grow in a sustainable way. Therefore a key priority is to grow reserves in order to keep pace with the growth of the charity. In a difficult financial climate income has remained strong at £451,298. Expenditure also reflects the charity's increased activity, rising to £496,208. This is higher than our income for the year but includes planned expenditure of some restricted budgets which were carried forward from last year. With careful financial management total unrestricted funds have also grown by 16.6%, closing at £64,783. It is the board's policy to hold reserves equivalent to the value of 25% of the charity's expenditure and so it remains a priority for the board to continue to grow reserves and a challenge for the charity to ensure the reserves keep pace with growth. Grandparents Plus continues to be funded by external grants. The charity's solvency is dependent on its success to continue to raise funds from these sources. A priority for the coming year therefore will be to establish a regular source of unrestricted income.

### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Grandparents Plus for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources (including the income and expenditure) of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company, and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Committee

**Stephen Burke**  
Co-Chair

Date: 7/11/2013

**Jean Stogdon OBE**  
Co Chair

Date: 7/11/2013

# Independent Examiner's report to the members of Grandparents Plus



## **I report on the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2013 which are set out on pages 11 to 20.**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. 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 this 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 work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- state where particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the 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 statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Tim Sullivan FCA, For and on behalf of Field Sullivan Limited, Chartered Accountants  
Neptune House, 70 Royal Hill, London SE10 8RF

Date: 12/11/2013

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>					
Voluntary income	2	101,787	157,493	259,280	360,485
Investment income		272	–	272	168
Other incoming resources		143	–	143	1,966
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>					
Advice service	3	–	37,750	37,750	25,000
Campaign		–	15,312	15,312	52,601
COMODAL		–	26,876	26,876	15,894
Policy and research		–	25,000	25,000	30,000
Silver Dreams		5,914	80,751	86,665	–
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>108,116</b>	<b>343,182</b>	<b>343,182</b>	<b>486,114</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Costs of generating funds	4	15,421	–	15,421	11,162
Costs of charitable activities	6	79,825	391,706	471,531	409,295
Governance costs	5	9,256	–	9,256	9,326
<b>Total resources expended</b>	6	<b>104,502</b>	<b>391,706</b>	<b>496,208</b>	<b>429,783</b>
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		3,614	(48,524)	(44,910)	56,331
Transfer between funds	15	(893)	893	–	–
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources after transfers, being net movement in funds		2,721	(47,631)	(44,910)	56,331
<b>Total funds at 1 April 2012</b>		<b>62,062</b>	<b>64,911</b>	<b>126,973</b>	<b>70,642</b>
<b>Total funds at 31 March 2013</b>		<b>64,783</b>	<b>17,280</b>	<b>82,063</b>	<b>126,973</b>

All transactions are derived from continuing activities. The notes on pages 13 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

## Balance sheet as at 31 March 2013

	Note	£	2013 £	£	2012 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		2,531		3,799
<b>Current assets</b>					
Grants receivable	13	7,670		19,796	
Prepayments and sundry debtors	13	16,129		1,992	
Cash at bank		113,516		173,663	
		<b>137,315</b>		<b>195,451</b>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(57,783)		(72,277)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>79,532</b>		<b>123,174</b>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted funds	15		17,280		64,911
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	15		2,531		8,688
General fund	15		62,252		53,374
			<b>82,063</b>		<b>126,973</b>

For the year ending the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

### Trustees' Responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), were approved by the Board on 7/11/2013 and signed on its behalf by:

**Stephen Burke**  
Co-Chair

**Jean Stogdon OBE**  
Co Chair

Company No. 04454103

The notes on pages 13 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

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1.

### Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

### Company status

Grandparents Plus is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

### Incoming resources

Income represents amounts receivable during the year. Grants and donations for specific purposes are treated as income in the year in which received. Amounts received during the year relating to specific periods are spread over the periods to which they relate. Income received during the year for future periods is treated as deferred income.

### Fund accounting

Restricted, designated and general funds are separately disclosed, as set out in note.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the executive committee in furtherance of the general objects of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the charity's core services are treated as unrestricted.

### Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Support costs, which cannot be directly attributed to particular activities, have been apportioned proportionately based on the staff numbers.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the management of the charity's assets, routine administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Computer and office equipment and furniture costing less than £500 is written off in the year of purchase. All assets costing more than £500 may be capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold property and improvements	– 10% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	– 25% straight line
Website costs	– 25% to 50% straight line

#### Taxation

No taxation has been provided for in the financial statements because, as a registered charity, the income is exempt in accordance with the section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

2. Voluntary income	Unrestricted funds 2013 £	Restricted funds 2013 £	Total funds 2013 £	Total funds 2013 £
Grants and donations (see below)	99,196	157,493	256,689	360,393
Publications	–	–	–	92
Sundry incomes	2,734	–	2,734	1,966
Interest earned	272	–	272	168
	<b>102,202</b>	<b>157,493</b>	<b>259,695</b>	<b>362,619</b>
<b>Analysis of voluntary grants and trust fundraising</b>				
Big Lottery Fund (2)	–	102,283	102,283	81,141
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation	750	42,145	42,895	122,150
Charities Aid Foundation	27,100	–	27,100	27,100
Department of Education	–	5,665	5,665	36,715
Dulverton Trust	30,000	–	30,000	–
Mulberry Trust	10,000	–	10,000	10,000
NESTA	–	–	–	22,079
Porticus UK	20,000	–	20,000	10,000
Rayne Foundation	5,000	–	5,000	–
Other grants and donations	6,346	7,400	13,746	8,887
Funds movements	–	–	–	42,321
	<b>99,196</b>	<b>157,493</b>	<b>256,689</b>	<b>360,393</b>

Grants raised that are not for one specific activity have been included within voluntary income. Grants relating to specific activities have been reflected in charitable activities in note 3.



### Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2013 £	Total funds 2012 £
<b>Advice Service</b>				
John Ellerman Foundation	–	18,750	18,750	25,000
Lloyds/TSB Foundation	–	15,000	15,000	–
Frognaal Trust	–	2,000	2,000	–
Zurich Trust	–	2,000	2,000	–
<b>COMODAL</b>				
Technology Strategy Board	–	26,876	26,876	15,894
<b>Policy &amp; Research</b>				
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	–	25,000	25,000	30,000
<b>Campaigns</b>				
Comic Relief	–	15,312	15,312	52,601
<b>Silver Dreams</b>				
Big Lottery Fund	5,914	80,751	86,665	–
	<b>5,914</b>	<b>185,689</b>	<b>191,603</b>	<b>123,495</b>

Grants relating to specific activities have been included in charitable activities. Grants raised that are not for one specific activity have been reflected within voluntary income in note 2.

4. Costs of generating funds	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2013 £	Total funds 2012 £
Staff costs	10,205	–	10,205	5,970
Other costs	5,216	–	5,216	5,192
	<b>15,421</b>	–	<b>15,421</b>	<b>11,162</b>

5. Governance costs	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2013 £	Total funds 2012 £
Staff costs	3,829	–	3,829	4,648
Audit fees	2,100	–	2,100	1,500
Trustees expenses	3,317	–	3,317	3,178
Bank charges	10	–	10	–
	<b>9,256</b>	–	<b>9,256</b>	<b>9,256</b>

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

6. Resources expended	Staff costs £	Activities undertaken directly £	Support cost £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
Advice service	34,195	357	3,030	37,582	38,382
Awards for All	–	–	422	422	3,862
Network (BLF2)	72,687	14,565	16,973	104,225	85,611
Silver Dreams (BLF)	12,861	57,640	4,021	74,522	–
COMODAL	22,911	1,270	719	24,900	14,198
Campaign (Comrel)	17,163	7,524	3,968	28,655	55,517
Department of Education	5,665	–	–	5,665	21,024
Policy and research	41,491	900	–	42,391	40,049
European Research Project	9,860	59,452	532	69,844	78,296
Core	24,641	1,612	57,072	83,325	72,356
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>	<b>241,474</b>	<b>143,320</b>	<b>86,737</b>	<b>471,531</b>	<b>409,295</b>
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>	<b>10,205</b>	<b>5,216</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>15,421</b>	<b>11,162</b>
<b>Governance costs</b>	<b>3,829</b>	<b>5,427</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>9,256</b>	<b>9,326</b>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>255,508</b>	<b>153,963</b>	<b>86,737</b>	<b>496,208</b>	<b>429,783</b>

Details of staff costs are given in note 8. Details of costs of generating funds, governance costs and support costs are detailed respectively in notes 5, 6 and 7.

7. Support costs	Total 2013 £	Other charitable activities 2013 £	Core 2013 £	Core 2012 £
Other staff costs	11,275	8,403	2,872	1,150
Premises costs	24,082	3,747	20,335	18,953
Postage	2,931	2,023	908	551
Telecommunications	4,280	303	3,977	16,505
Office equipment maintenance	4,773	422	4,351	6,217
General administration costs	23,423	14,767	8,656	7,337
Professional costs	13,205	–	13,205	3,309
Other costs	2,768	–	2,768	1,268
	<b>86,737</b>	<b>29,665</b>	<b>57,072</b>	<b>55,290</b>

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

<b>8. Staff numbers and costs</b>	<b>2013</b> £	<b>2013</b> £
Salaries	234,808	226,368
Social security costs	20,700	12,450
	<b>255,508</b>	<b>238,818</b>
Staff costs split:		
Charitable activities (see note 6)	216,833	228,200
Core (see note 6)	24,641	–
Costs of generating funds (see note 4)	10,205	5,970
Governance costs (see note 5)	3,829	4,648
	<b>255,508</b>	<b>238,818</b>
The average number of employees, calculated as full time Equivalents during the year were:	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Direct activities	8.53	5.5
Support	0.25	0.25
Costs of generating funds	0.25	0.25
	<b>9.03</b>	<b>6</b>

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000. A majority of staff are employed on a part-time basis.

<b>9. Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging:</b>	<b>2013</b> £	<b>2012</b> £
Depreciation	1,268	1,268
Auditor's remuneration	2,100	–

**10. Executive committee**  
During the year no trustee received any remuneration (2012: £nil). 8 trustees (2012: 6) received reimbursement of expenses amounting £3,316 for travel (2012: £2,340).

**11. Indemnity insurance**  
During the year £541 (2012: £2,541) indemnity insurance was paid to protect the charity from loss arising from the neglect or defaults of its Trustees, employees or agents, and to indemnify the Trustees and other officers against the consequences of neglect or default on their part.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

12. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2012	7,837	7,837
Additions	–	–
<b>At 31 March 2013</b>	<b>7,837</b>	<b>7,837</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2012	4,038	4,038
Charge for the year	1,268	1,268
<b>At 31 March 2013</b>	<b>5,306</b>	<b>5,306</b>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2013	<b>2,531</b>	<b>2,531</b>
At 31 March 2012	3,799	3,799

13. Debtors	2,013 £	2,012 £
Due within one year:		
Grant debtors	7,670	19,796
Prepayments	12,352	1,692
Other debtors	3,777	300
	<b>23,799</b>	<b>21,788</b>

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2,013 £	2,012 £
Trade creditors	8,878	–
Social security and other taxes	208	16
Accruals	3,803	8,018
Deferred grant income	44,894	64,243
	<b>57,783</b>	<b>72,277</b>

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

15. Statement of funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Carried forward £
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Fixed asset fund	3,798	–	(1,267)	–	2,531
Other	4,890	–	–	(4,890)	–
	<b>8,688</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(1,267)</b>	<b>(4,890)</b>	<b>2,531</b>
<b>General funds</b>	<b>53,374</b>	<b>108,116</b>	<b>(103,235)</b>	<b>3,997</b>	<b>62,252</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Network	9,640	102,283	(104,225)	(10,139)	(2,441)
Silver Dreams	–	80,751	(74,522)	–	6,229
Policy and research	1,618	29,645	(42,391)	11,128	–
Campaign	11,682	15,312	(28,655)	1,661	–
Advice service	1,712	37,750	(37,582)	10,139	12,019
European Research Project	39,104	41,400	(69,844)	(10,000)	660
COMODAL	733	26,876	(24,900)	(1,896)	813
Awards for All	422	–	(422)	–	–
Dept. of Educ.	–	5,665	(5,665)	–	–
Strategic development	–	3,500	(3,500)	–	–
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>64,911</b>	<b>343,182</b>	<b>(391,706)</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>17,280</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>126,973</b>	<b>451,298</b>	<b>(496,208)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>82,063</b>
<b>Designated funds</b>					

Fixed asset fund

This fund represents the net book value of the fixed assets.

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2013

### Restricted funds

#### *The Big Lottery Fund*

This funded the network activities and also contributed towards the advice service and also to core. The fund also decided to support the Silver Dream project from September 2012.

#### *The Esmée Fairbairn and Calouste Gulbenkian Foundations*

This fund supported the policy and research programme.

#### *Comic Relief*

This was the funder for our campaigns.

#### *The advice service*

This was funded by the Big Lottery Fund, John Ellerman Trust and the Lloyds/TSB Foundation.

#### *Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation*

This supported research activities towards comparative grandparenting in the EU.

#### *COMODAL*

This was funded by Technology Strategy Board.

#### *Awards for All and the Department for Education*

This part funded running costs and salaries respectively.

#### *Strategic development*

Towers Watson provided in-kind support for a board strategy day.

<b>16. Analysis of net assets between funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2013</b> £	<b>Restricted funds 2013</b> £	<b>Total funds 2013</b> £	<b>Total funds 2012</b> £
Tangible fixed assets	2,531	–	2,531	3,799
Net current assets and liabilities	62,252	17,280	79,532	123,174
	64,783	17,280	82,063	126,973

<b>17. Other financial commitments</b>	<b>2013</b> £	<b>2013</b> £
Commitments of operating leases expire as follows:		
Office equipment: 2 – 5 years	2,531	8,697



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