

Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2014

Grandparents
plus

We champion the wider
family who care for children

Report 2014



**Grandparents Plus: Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2014**

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



Directors and trustees

Jean Stogdon OBE	Co-Chair	director & trustee
Stephen Burke	Co-Chair	director & trustee
Dean Casswell	Treasurer	director & trustee
Janet Brown OBE		(resigned 30th January 2014)
Prof Ann Buchanan		director & trustee
Brian Edwards		director & trustee
Gladys Edwards		(resigned 30th January 2014)
Prof Elaine Farmer		(appointed July 2013)
Patrick Grattan MBE		director & trustee
Jayne Harrill		(appointed 30th January 2014)
Helen Jackson CBE		director & trustee
Stephen Mold		director & trustee
Gail Pringle		(resigned July 2013)
Pat Strachan		director & trustee
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' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2014



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 managed by a CAB-trained adviser. We also run the Kinship Care Group for professionals who offer peer support for social workers and help them to develop and improve their own kinship care practice.

We are grateful for the current support of:

Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities
Big Lottery Fund Silver Dreams Fund
Big Lottery Fund Awards for All
John Ellerman Foundation
Mullberry Trust
The Rayne Foundation

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
The Headley Trust
Drapers' Charitable Fund
The Mercers' Company
Lloyds TSB Foundation
Technology Strategy Board

Staff

Yaw Addo, *Finance Administrator*
Mohammed Ali, *Outreach Worker*
Alison Blaxland, *Network Manager*
Susannah Cardy, *Network Co-ordinator*
Agnes Gautier, *Policy Officer*
Alana Genge, *Administrative Assistant*
Sam Martin, *Fundraising and
Communications Officer*

Jenny McKenna, *Project Worker*
Josephine Raine, *Advice Service Manager*
Briony Robinson, *Policy and Research Intern*
Sacha Shabbir, *Office and Systems Manager*
Gail Wagstaff, *Advice Worker*
Sarah Wellard, *Director of Policy, Research
and Communications*

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 Gail Pringle who stepped down earlier in the year and Janet Brown and Gladys Edwards who resigned at the AGM on 30th January. We were very pleased to welcome Professor Elaine Farmer who was elected to the board in January 2013 and took up her place as a trustee in July 2013, and barrister Jayne Harrill who was elected at the AGM in January 2014, attending her first meeting in July 2013. During the year the charity has continued to be led by Co-Chairs Jean Stogdon and Stephen Burke.

This has been a relatively stable year in terms of staff turnover. Our Policy and Research Intern, Briony Robinson and our Outreach Worker, Mohammed Ali left us during the year. Both were on temporary contracts. We were pleased to welcome Sam Martin, our Fundraising and Communications Officer who joined us at the beginning of the year. Sam has brought valuable fundraising expertise and capacity. The rest of the staff team has remained in post.

We are particularly grateful to our volunteers who have supported the work of the charity during the year. Without them our work would not be possible.

Funding

This was a challenging year for Grandparents Plus as a number of grants came to an end and we had to work hard to renew our funding sources.

Support from the Big Lottery Fund Silver Dreams Fund enabled us to complete the Relative Experience Pilot Project with our partners Family Lives and the Family and Childcare Trust. We were delighted at the end of the year when we discovered that we had been successful in securing a further £1.1million of scale up funding for the project over the next 3 years. This money will be invested in the North East and will provide much-needed trained peer befriending support for kinship carers. Outcomes for the volunteers, the kinship carers and the children in their care will be independently evaluated. Grandparents Plus will be growing our staff team over the coming year to deliver the project with an office base in Newcastle.

On-going support from the Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities Fund 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 Lloyds TSB Foundation and the Rayne Foundation and the Drapers' Company and Mercers' Company. Several smaller grants have also contributed to the work of the advice service and Support Network during the year, enabling us to grow our reach and extend our impact.

Awards for All funding enabled us to hold two child behaviour workshops for our Support Network members by funding venue costs, some trainer fees and travel costs for the events. Remaining staff, fees and support costs were met by our Reaching Communities grant while management and leadership time for this aspect of our work was funded by the Mulberry Trust.

The Headley Trust has provided valuable core funding to support the leadership of the organisation and our policy, communications and research capacity. Further funding from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation was secured to support the dissemination of the Grandparenting in Europe study which was carried out by the Institute of Gerontology at Kings College London in partnership with Beth Johnson Foundation and funded by Gulbenkian. Our association with the Institute of Gerontology at Kings College London has continued with another project this year, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to look at longitudinal data on the wellbeing of grandparents who provide childcare for their grandchildren. It is due to report in the autumn of 2014. Both the ESRC project and the Gulbenkian project have part-funded our policy, research and communications capacity.

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

An anonymous funder has provided £20K to support our fundraising capacity, enabling us to recruit a Fundraising and Communications Officer. £10K from NESTA provided support for our employer-engagement activity, led by the CEO.

In-kind support has been secured from the Rayne Foundation, whose association with the Royal Society of Medicine provided a wonderful venue for the Michael Young Memorial Lecture this year and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Age UK who have provided meeting room space. Age UK also provided analyst capacity to support the grandparenting childcare survey which we jointly published with Age UK in May 2013.

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. We want

- **to make it easier for grandparents and kinship carers to balance work and care** so we will campaign for more flexibility for grandparents, adjustment leave and paid leave for kinship carers.
- **kinship carers get the advice, information and support they need from us** so we will reach more grandparents and kinship carers with our services and ensure that those who use them will feel better supported.
- **every local authority to offer a kinship care service** we will provide the information, advice and support they need to improve their professional practice.
- **to be sustainable as a high-impact, cutting-edge organisation** we will carefully manage the finances, diversify income sources and invest in income-generation.

We provide great value for money

As a charity Grandparents Plus provides great value for money with 89% of our income spent on charitable activities with just 2% on governance costs and 9% in fundraising expenditure.



What have we been doing?

We've been doing more with less...

We have had a challenging year financially, including having to re-fund much of the work of the charity. This has meant that we have had to dip into reserves for a period of time while we secured additional funds. We also reduced costs by £50K by operating a voluntary reduced hours working model for most of the year and reducing rent and other costs. By the end of the year the financial position had improved so that we made a surplus on the year of over £19,299. Fundraising has also been successful so despite having to use reserves for a short time we have ended the year with increased unrestricted income.

Yet somehow we seem to have had an even more productive and active year than before. Our thanks to the staff team for their hard work, commitment and professionalism in continuing to deliver so much while resources have been so stretched.

We've lobbied for change in the children and families bill

We worked with our Kinship Care Alliance (KCA) partners to lobby for amendments to the children and families bill. There are a number of things in the bill that we are very positive about, such as extending the right to request flexible working and introducing shared parental leave. But the bill was a bit of a missed opportunity for kinship carers because it failed to introduce a requirement on local authorities to consider the wider family first before a child becomes looked after. Instead the focus has been on speeding up care proceedings and introducing a new foster to adopt process. The intention is that children spend less time in the care system and more children will be adopted. The risk is that possible suitable carers in the wider family will effectively be squeezed out of the process because they have not come forward early enough to be considered.

However, a number of significant legal cases this year, particularly Re B and Re B-S have strongly reinforced the message that adoption should be used as a last resort for children and local authorities need to demonstrate that they have considered other options for the child.

During the passage of the bill we also lobbied for adjustment leave and paid leave for kinship carers. As a result ministers committed the Business Innovation and Skills Department to consider the evidence of the problem so we are now working with officials to do that.

We've established a cross-government working group

At our kinship care summit in 2012 the then Children's Minister, Tim Loughton MP committed the Government to working with us to establish a cross-government working group on kinship care. This year, the new Children's Minister, Edward Timpson MP made that a reality and hosted the first meeting. The working group, chaired by the Leeds Director of Children's Services, Nigel Richardson, brings central and local government representatives together with Kinship Care Alliance members who are voluntary organisations working in the field of kinship care and kinship carers themselves. We are focussing on how we can improve policy and practice within the existing legislative framework and financial constraints. The working group will report next year and Grandparents Plus is providing the secretariat to the group.

We've grown and developed our Support Network

During the year the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Network was renamed the Grandparents Plus Support Network and our newsletter Grandparents First was renamed Kinship First to acknowledge that some members are sibling carers, aunts, uncles and so on. Membership has continued to grow and currently stands at 5,200 which include individual members, group members and facebook members.

We took 400 of our Support Network members and their children to Gullivers' Land theme parks in July as part of our National Fun Day celebrations. All the children who attended were also given a free toy, courtesy of Tomy.

Our Support Network offers members the opportunity for personal support, practical advice and information and the opportunity for political engagement – to make change happen.

We held a national summit in June with the Children's Minister, Edward Timpson and Shadow Minister for Children, Lisa Nandy MP. At the summit we launched our Forgotten Children survey report which found that grandparents are raising 135,000 children who have experienced abuse or neglect. Almost half of children raised by grandparents have never received help from local authorities, 54% have special needs or a disability and 53% had emotional or behavioural problems when they started living with a kinship carer.

We have focussed our regional Support Network events on some of the child behavioural challenges that kinship carers face. This was based on the feedback that Network members gave us last year when they said that 80% found it more challenging raising their kinship children than raising their own child but only 8% had had any support with parenting. Our 3 regional events this year – in Leeds, Liverpool and London have each provided workshops attended by over 200 kinship carers, on issues such as managing your own emotions, managing a child's anger and trauma and attachment. Feedback has been extremely positive with everyone saying that they found the events helpful or very helpful. The Liverpool event was held in December, in the wake of the Local Government Ombudsman ruling against Liverpool, at Anfield FC, the home of Bill Shankly who was also a kinship carer. It was also instrumental in prompting the local authority to take action to improve support for kinship carers across the city as the Assistant Director of Children's Services spoke on the day and heard directly from kinship carers about their experiences. Nigel Ellis from the Local Government Ombudsman attended our Bethnal Green event in March and was joined by representatives of Tower Hamlets Children's Services.

7 in 10 members say they feel less isolated as a result of being in the Network. But an internal evaluation has found that this figure goes up for those who have attended our events or had more contact with the charity. As a result next year we want to increase the number of smaller, regional events we hold. We have now secured funding from the Tudor Trust to work in partnership with PAC to develop a child behaviour support programme which will begin next year.

We've gained Relative Experience

Our Relative Experience peer befriending Project for kinship carers, delivered in partnership with Family Lives and the Family and Childcare Trust completed its pilot stage in February 2014 and we had a tense wait until we found out that we had been successful with our Big Lottery Fund Silver Dreams Fund scale-up funding application. An independent evaluation by Coram found that the project had delivered improved well-being for both beneficiaries and volunteers in the project. We will now have an additional £1.1million to invest in the North East over the next 3 years. We were delighted when one of the kinship carers involved in our Relative Experience won the Yours Magazine Grandparent of the Year award.

We've delivered high quality, expert advice and information

In its third year of operation, the advice service goes from strength to strength and extends its reach and impact. This year we have seen an increase in demand with 1119 inquiries, up from 631 last year. An internal evaluation found that 96% of our beneficiaries said the advice was helpful, 79% said they had taken action as a result of the advice given. Those who needed benefits advice were on average £4,600 per year better off. We have calculated the value of the benefits, holidays and grants we secured for our clients in the past year to be over £200K.

We've also extended our reach and profile on our doorstep – with outreach activity in the London boroughs of Hackney and Tower Hamlets, where we are based.

We published the first Kinship Care Guide for England

Our kinship care guide is a rare thing – a truly accessible publication which is both authoritative and packed with information. Written by children's services expert Doug Lawson with input from our Advice Service Manager Jo Raine, the Guide is a valuable contribution and plugs the information gap for kinship carers, social workers and others working in the field.

We held a major national conference on kinship care and celebrated with some awards

As a result of a partnership with Neil Stewart Associates we held a major national kinship care conference in June and also followed it with an awards event in the evening, celebrating kinship care.

The conference featured presentations from Sir Martin Narey, Nigel Richardson, Leeds Director of Children's Services, Professor Joan Hunt and our Chief Executive, Sam Smethers. The awards evening provided a rare opportunity for us all to come together to celebrate good practice and leading contributions from local authorities, academics, the voluntary sector and kinship carers themselves.

Kinship care was honoured!

Our Co-Chair and Co-Founder, Jean Stogdon, was awarded an OBE in the Queen's birthday honours for services to children and families. After a lifetime of working in social work and as a champion of kinship care we were all delighted for Jean. Speaking afterwards Jean said that "this was recognition for the work of Grandparents Plus and the importance of the issue of kinship care".

We've published new research on grandparental childcare

In partnership with Age UK we published a new analysis of Understanding Society data which showed that between 2011-2012 grandparental childcare increased by 34% in terms of the number of hours provided (up from 1.3billion to 1.7billion), with the number of children cared for by grandparents up from 1.3million to 1.6million. We calculated that this is now worth £7.3billion each year. It is younger grandparents who are particularly likely to be asked to provide childcare yet we know that this group is also expected to work longer. We believe this will lead to a childcare gap which could adversely impact upon maternal employment.

We've engaged employers and employees

With some funding from NESTA and working with My Family Care and Working Families, we've been speaking at conferences and seminars, getting the message out to employers to highlight the need for more flexibility at work for grandparents who are also caring for grandchildren.

We also worked with the Trade Union Congress to hold a series of focus groups with grandparents at work as part of their Age Immaterial project, hearing about the challenges that they face when they are trying to combine work and care.

We've shifted political party thinking

At Grandparents Plus we work with all the main political parties. We were delighted when Liberal Democrat party conference passed a motion which established the party's position calling for more support for wider family members who are raising children in the absence of parents and calling for the introduction of adjustment leave and paid leave for kinship carers.

Labour's Older Women's Commission also recommended a period of adjustment leave for kinship carers and called for grandparents who provide childcare to have access to leave entitlements.

We've provided insights for the e-ALT industry into younger-older consumers

The COMODAL project – delivered in partnership with Coventry University and Age UK, focused on the role of electronic Assisted Living Technology in supporting people with care needs. Targeted at the younger-older people we worked with our partners to produce an insights for industry guide which was based on consumer research that the project had carried out.

We remembered Michel Young and the Rise of the Meritocracy

Chaired by journalist Yasmin Alabaih-Brown, Lord Peter Hennessy delivered a fascinating and stimulating Michael Young Memorial Lecture in October, taking as his theme a reprise of Michael Young's *The Rise of the Meritocracy* and challenging his audience to reflect on what Michael was really trying to convey in this insightful and prophetic essay on power, privilege and 'merit'. We were grateful to the Rayne Foundation for their support for this event which secured us a wonderful venue at the Royal Society of Medicine.

We've got the message out...again and again!

Given our financial constraints this year we have done well to maintain our profile and the profile of the issues we campaign on. Highlights include an interview on Channel 4 news, articles in the Independent, Mirror, Mail and BBC website, numerous local radio interviews, particularly featuring our Grandparental Childcare report in May but also a week of features on BBC Newcastle on the issue of kinship care and featuring our Relative Experience project on BBC TV's Look North and a leader comment on kinship care in the Observer in June. It was also good to see reports from the SMF, the IPPR, Working Families, the TUC and others talking about the importance of the grandparental contribution and calling for leave entitlements for grandparents and kinship carers and citing our work.

In addition to our own events, speaking engagements during the year included:

April

- presentation at the European Parliament about challenges facing kinship carers and grandparenting in Europe

July

- presentation about kinship care at Westminster Briefing chaired by Dame Butler-Sloss

September

- a joint event with PACT to support the No Child Left Behind campaign to ensure the courts think about children or dependents left behind when they sentence a parent to prison. Kinship carers Chrissie Mansfield and Cassie Felton also spoke about their experiences

September/October

- party conferences at which we participated in the Family Room receptions.

October

- ILC- UK event on Intergenerational Fairness
- DfE sector training days on kinship care. We participated in the panel discussions at both events.
- presentation about grandparenting in BME communities at ESRC ageing and ethnicity event.

November

- Ealing, Hackney and Tower Hamlets Children's Centres presentations on grandparents and kinship care
- Mayor of London's Older People's Assembly on the caring contribution grandparents make, with our research cited in their Economic Contribution of Londoners' report.
- a presentation on the research evidence on kinship care to a Dorset conference organised by Bournemouth Children Services.

January

- Working Families conference in parliament

February

- My Family Care workshops for employers on childcare and ageing workforces
- An Action for Prisoners' Families conference on women offenders in Peterborough. We were also joined by kinship carer and support group leader, Chris Leaves.

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 we have had to work hard to ensure that income remained strong at £480,231. We kept costs down with expenditure at £460,932 to ensure that we could also grow reserves over the year, despite having to use those reserves for several months the year to support the charity's activity. With careful financial management total unrestricted funds have also grown by just under 28%, closing at £82,705 equivalent to 18% of expenditure. 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 grow 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:

In preparing these 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.

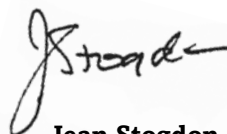
The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company, and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding 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 board of trustees



Stephen Burke
Co-Chair

Date: 17/7/2014



Jean Stogdon OBE
Co Chair

Date: 17/7/2014

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 2014 which are set out on pages 12 to 21.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Sullivan'.

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 2014

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	142,968	125,776	268,744	259,280
Investment income		172	–	172	272
Other incoming resources		2,272	–	2,272	143
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Advice service	3	–	34,471	34,471	37,750
Campaign		–	–	–	15,312
COMODAL		1,723	22,288	24,011	26,876
European Research Project		4,422	25,578	30,000	–
Policy and research		–	–	–	25,000
Relative Experience (Silver Dreams)		4,351	106,215	110,566	86,665
Support Network		–	9,995	9,995	–
Total incoming resources		155,908	324,323	480,231	451,298
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds	4	42,605	–	42,605	15,421
Costs of charitable activities	6	96,032	312,450	408,482	471,531
Governance costs	5	9,845	–	9,845	9,256
Total resources expended		148,482	312,450	460,932	496,208
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	9	7,426	11,873	19,299	(44,910)
Transfer between funds	15	10,496	(10,496)	–	–
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources after transfers, being net movement in funds		17,922	1,377	19,299	(44,910)
Total funds at 1 April 2013		64,783	17,280	82,063	126,973
Total funds at 31 March 2014		82,705	18,657	101,362	82,063

All transactions are derived from continuing activities. The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2014

	Note	£	2014 £	£	2013 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		1,265		2,531
Current assets					
Grants receivable	13	10,000		7,670	
Prepayments and sundry debtors	13	3,036		16,129	
Cash at bank		133,433		113,516	
		146,469		137,315	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(46,372)		(57,783)	
Net current assets			100,097		79,532
Net assets			101,362		82,063
Funds					
Restricted funds			18,657		17,280
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds			1,265		2,531
General fund			81,440		62,252
			101,362		82,063

For the year ending 31st March 2014, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

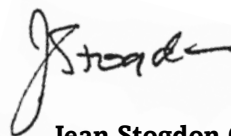
Trustees' responsibilities:

- 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 17/7/14 and signed on its behalf by:



Stephen Burke
Co-Chair



Jean Stogdon OBE
Co Chair

Company No. 04454103

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

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 2014

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 2014 £	Restricted funds 2014 £	Total funds 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Grants and donations (see below)	133,058	125,776	258,834	256,689
Publications	1,831	–	1,831	–
Individual Fundraising	6,668	–	6,668	–
Sundry incomes	1,411	–	1,411	2,591
	142,968	125,776	268,744	259,280
Analysis of voluntary grants and trust fundraising				
Big Lottery Fund (2)	–	114,905	114,905	102,283
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation	–	–	–	42,895
Charities Aid Foundation	–	–	–	27,100
Department for Education	–	–	–	5,665
Dulverton Trust	–	–	–	30,000
ESRC (King's College, London)	–	8,711	8,711	–
Mulberry Trust	10,000	–	10,000	10,000
NESTA	10,000	–	10,000	–
Anonymous trust funder	30,000	–	30,000	20,000
The Rayne Foundation	5,000	–	5,000	5,000
The Headley Trust	25,000	–	25,000	–
John Ellerman Foundation	33,333	–	33,333	–
Mentor UK	3,660	–	3,660	–
Drapers' Charitable Fund	5,000	–	5,000	–
Other grants and donations	11,065	2,160	13,225	13,746
	133,058	133,276	258,834	256,689

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Advice Service				
John Ellerman Foundation	–	–	–	18,750
The Grocer's Charity	–	2,000	2,000	–
Lloyds TSB Foundation	–	15,000	15,000	15,000
Santander Foundation	–	9,971	9,971	–
Mercers' Company	–	7,500	7,500	–
Frognal Trust	–	–	–	2,000
Zurich Trust	–	–	–	2,000
Campaigns				
Comic Relief	–	–	–	15,312
COMODAL				
Technology Strategy Board	1,723	22,288	24,011	26,876
European Research Project				
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation	4,422	25,578	30,000	–
Policy & Research				
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	–	–	–	25,000
Relative Experience				
Big Lottery Fund (Silver Dreams Fund)	4,351	106,215	110,566	86,665
Support Network				
Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All	–	9,995	9,995	–
	10,496	198,547	209,043	191,603

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 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Staff costs	42,069	–	42,069	10,205
Other costs	536	–	536	5,216
	42,605	–	42,605	15,421

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

5. Governance costs	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Staff costs	4,411	–	4,411	3,829
Audit fees	2,862	–	2,862	2,100
Trustees expenses	2,543	–	2,543	3,317
Bank charges	29	–	29	10
	9,845	–	9,845	9,256

6. Resources expended	Staff costs £	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Advice service	44,735	565	4,220	57,020	37,582
Awards for All	–	–	–	–	422
Support Network (AfA/BLF2)	73,720	16,333	12,548	102,601	104,225
Silver Dreams (BLF)	38,001	69,889	3,211	111,101	74,522
COMODAL	21,953	200	968	23,121	24,900
Campaign (Comrel)	–	–	–	–	28,655
Department for Education	–	–	–	–	5,665
Policy and research	–	–	–	–	42,391
European Research Project	13,686	9,600	673	23,959	69,844
ESRC Project (King's College London)	5,124	–	20	5,144	–
Core	50,445	9,603	32,988	85,536	83,325
Total charitable expenditure	247,664	106,191	54,628	408,482	471,531
Costs of generating funds	42,069	536	–	42,605	15,421
Governance costs	4,411	5,434	–	9,845	9,256
Total resources expended	294,144	112,161	54,628	460,932	496,208

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

7. Support costs	Other charitable activities 2014 £	Core 2014 £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Other staff costs	5,295	1,337	6,632	2,872
Premises costs	3,848	17,893	21,741	20,335
Postage	1,413	1,092	2,505	908
Telecommunications	3,861	993	4,854	3,977
Office equipment maintenance	772	5,260	6,032	4,351
General administration costs	6,318	3,072	9,390	8,656
Professional costs	–	2,744	2,744	13,205
Other costs	133	597	730	2,768
	21,640	32,988	54,628	57,072

8. Staff costs and numbers	2014 £	2013 £
Salaries	270,756	234,808
Social security costs	23,388	20,700
	294,144	255,508
Staff costs split:		
Charitable activities (see note 6)	197,218	216,833
Core (see note 6)	50,446	24,641
Costs of generating funds (see note 4)	42,069	10,205
Governance costs (see note 5)	4,411	3,829
	294,144	255,508
The average number of employees, calculated as full time Equivalents during the year were:	Number	Number
Direct activities	8	8.53
Support	0.25	0.25
Costs of generating funds	0.25	0.25
	8.5	9.03

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

9. Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging:	2014 £	2013 £
Depreciation	1,266	1,268
Auditor's remuneration	2,862	2,100

10. Executive committee's remuneration and expenses
 During the year no trustee received any remuneration (2013: £nil). 5 trustees (2013: 8) received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £1,810 for travel (2013: £3,316).

11. Indemnity insurance
 During the year £319 (2013: £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.

12. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2013	7,837	7,837
At 31 March 2014	7,837	7,837
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2013	5,306	5,306
Charge for the year	1,266	1,266
At 31 March 2014	6,572	6,572
Net book value		
At 31 March 2014	1,265	1,265
At 31 March 2013	2,531	2,531

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

13. Debtors	2014 £	2013 £
Due within one year:		
Grant debtors	10,000	7,670
Prepayments	3,009	12,352
Other debtors	27	3,777
	13,036	23,799

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2014 £	2013 £
Trade creditors	12,288	8,878
Social security and other taxes	–	208
Accruals	3,062	3,803
Deferred grant income	31,022	44,894
	46,372	57,783

15. Statement of funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Carried forward £
Designated funds					
Fixed asset fund	2,531	–	(1,266)	–	1,265
	2,531	–	(1,266)	–	1,265
General funds	62,252	145,412	(136,720)	10,496	81,440
Restricted funds					
Support Network	(2,441)	124,900	(102,601)	(12,889)	6,969
Silver Dreams	6229	110,566	(111,101)	(4,351)	1,343
Advice service	12,019	36,631	(57,020)	12,889	4,519
European Research Project	660	30,750	(23,959)	(2,922)	4,529
COMODAL	813	24,011	(23,121)	(1,723)	(20)
ESRC	–	7,961	(5,144)	(1,500)	1,317
Total restricted funds	17,280	334,819	(322,946)	(10,496)	18,657
Total funds	82,063	480,231	(460,932)	–	101,362

Designated funds

Fixed asset fund: **£1,265**

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

Restricted funds

The Big Lottery Fund

Reaching Communities funded the network activities and also contributed towards the advice service and also to core.

Awards for All supported our Child Behaviour workshops.

The Silver Dreams Fund supported the Relative Experience pilot project which ended in February 2014.

The Advice Service

This was funded by the Big Lottery Fund, the Lloyds/TSB Foundation, Santander, Mercers' Company and the Grocers' Charity.

European Research Project

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation supported research activities towards comparative grandparenting and lifestage transitions in the EU.

COMODAL

This project funded by Technology Strategy Board was to help create a marketing place for independent ageing technologies.

Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)

This project was funded via our partners King's College, London (who are also our research partner for the European Research Project) to investigate the health and wellbeing of grandparents caring for grandchildren.

Transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted funds represents the contribution towards core costs.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2014	Total funds 2013
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,265	–	1,265	2,531
Net current assets and liabilities	81,440	18,657	100,097	79,532
	82,705	18,657	101,362	82,063

17. Other financial commitments	2014	2013
	£	£
Commitments of operating leases expire as follows:		
Office equipment: 2 – 5 years	1,265	2,531



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family who care for children

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