



The  
Haemochromatosis  
Society

An Iron Overload Disorder

Support | Research | Education

[haemochromatosis.org.uk](http://haemochromatosis.org.uk)

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## Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ending 31 December 2015 (15 months)

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## **Statutory Information**

### ***Regulators***

The Haemochromatosis Society is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (1001307) and with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (SCO41701). The Society is also a Company Limited by Guarantee (2541361).

### ***Registered address***

The Chief Executive, The Haemochromatosis Society, PO Box 6356, Rugby, CV21 9PA  
T: 03030 401101 E: office@haemochromatosis.org.uk

### ***Independent Examiner***

Geoffrey Hodge Chartered Accountants, 30 Market Place, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 1DY  
T: 01462 437117 E: geoffrey.hodge@geoffreyhodge.co.uk

### ***Principal Bankers***

CAF Bank Ltd, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

### ***Trustees/Directors 2015***

Mrs Eileen Don (resigned 28 October 2015)

Mr Howard Don MBA (Chair)

Mrs Jane Elliott

Mr Christopher (Kit) Farrow

Mrs Janet Fernau

Mr Paul Hirons

Mr Nick Howes SRN

Dr Stuart MacDonald

Mr George Scott

Dr Simon Turton PhD

Mr David Widden (Secretary)

## *Introduction from the Chairman*

2015 has proved to be a momentous year for The Haemochromatosis Society, as we move from a purely voluntary organisation to one employing a Chief Executive, and with higher than ever aspirations.

We are now a few short months into an ambitious two year programme of modernisation and clearer strategic direction. Our priorities are to secure the long term sustainability of the charity in its new format, and to very significantly step up our work raising awareness of genetic haemochromatosis, especially amongst healthcare professionals.

As you can read in this document, we have made some significant progress already, whilst recognising – indeed highlighting – that there is a long way to go. The Society has been in existence now for 25 years, which coincides with the length of time since I was diagnosed, so I have witnessed first-hand how much progress has been made in that time. However there is still far too little knowledge of the prevalence of genetic haemochromatosis in the UK and far too little understanding of the condition and its implications amongst healthcare professionals.

Thinking of that quarter of a century as a patient organisation, it would be remiss of me not to mention, and thank, Mrs Janet Fernau. Janet founded the organisation with her husband in 1990 and has been a committed trustee ever since. She stood down as Chair of the Society in June 2015, and I am very conscious that I am reporting now only a few short months after succeeding her. Credit for our achievements over the years lies with Janet, her family and those that have supported her throughout. It is worth noting that Janet received the MBE in recognition of her work and we are proud of what she has done.

Writing an annual report is by its nature of course a retrospective. Looking back over 15 months – and reflecting on Janet's achievements over longer – is important. However we must now turn to the future and to the task of growing our influence and strengthening our support services. It is likely that we will have a hiatus on research investment in 2016 but going forward, the board want to step that up as well.

Finally, I'd like to extend my personal thanks to our members for the support I have had in taking up the role of Chairman.

Thank you for taking an interest in the work of The Haemochromatosis Society and I hope you find this report informative and interesting.

Howard Don  
Chairman  
March 2016

### **Message from the Chief Executive**

In his introduction above, Howard writes “2015 has proved to be a momentous year for The Haemochromatosis Society, as we move from a purely voluntary organisation to one employing a Chief Executive”. I am proud to have been selected to take on this role and grateful for the support I have received over the first few months of my appointment.

It’s been a steep learning curve for me as I get to grips with understanding haemochromatosis and the impact it has on people’s lives. Add to that some of the uncertainties about the condition, and some fairly complex science, and there has been a lot to take in.

Fortunately many of the projects I was asked to work on in 2015 have also been ideal ones to educate me too – the updating of all the material on our website, the revision of *The Haemochromatosis Handbook*, and the development of our new publication *Genetic Haemochromatosis – A Guide for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians* have all been really informative.

Many who read this report will be well aware of the number of changes the board and I have made over the year. Some of these have been very overt – such as the overhaul of the website. Others have been much more behind the scenes – establishing our new office in Rugby and adopting a new accounting system for example.

I am anticipating (in fact we have planned for) more change in the coming 12 months. I think the old cliché “change is the only constant” has never been truer than at The Haemochromatosis Society at the moment.

I invite everyone involved with the society to get behind our trustees as they drive this forward; we really can make a difference when we can demonstrate that we are

representing significant numbers of patients. Please join us if you are not already a member, and encourage friends and family to support us too.

I am looking forward to 2016 and my first full year at The Haemochromatosis Society. With the ongoing support of existing and new members I am confident we will succeed and thrive.

David Head  
Chief Executive  
March 2016

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Introduction**

The Haemochromatosis Society exists to do three things.

- Provide good quality information and support for people affected by genetic haemochromatosis (GH) and their families
- Raise awareness of GH and of the importance of early diagnosis, especially amongst healthcare professionals and related professionals and organisations
- Support research into the causes of and the management of GH

The Society is a truly patient-led organisation. It is led by people with GH and brings together over 1200 members, and many more through events, social media and other activities.

In this report we outline our work over 2015 in respect of our main activities, and report on the progress of our plans to modernise, professionalise and grow.

The trustees consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and reviewing activities and when approving budgets. The trustees include several people who either have GH or have a close family member with GH which ensures that we do not lose sight of our priorities and origins.

For us, 2015 was a 15-month year, as we have changed our reporting date to 31 December in order to optimise the time between year-end and reporting to our members at the AGM. The Haemochromatosis Society increased its income in 2015 (even taking into account the longer year) as a direct result of the creation of the new

role of Chief Executive – our first employee. Establishing this dedicated, paid-for resource has been a fundamental change and one which is already reaping benefit.

### **Thank you message**

The trustees of The Haemochromatosis Society would like to take this opportunity to extend our grateful thanks to a number of people for their contribution over this reporting period.

#### ***Volunteers***

Though the charity has made a bold step this year in appointing its first staff member, there is no doubt that volunteers remain important and have a continuing role. Volunteers have been helping at events, raising awareness, running groups, and getting involved in projects. We are very grateful.

#### ***Members***

Our membership is absolutely critical to our credibility, standing and future success. We are first and foremost a patient organisation and the more people we represent, the stronger we will be. We regard the relationship with our members as one of mutual support and benefit and a cornerstone of what we do.

#### ***Donors***

Many thanks indeed to the individuals – members and non-members – who have made donations or fundraised for the charity (or in some cases both). Thank you to people who have run, cycled, swam, and so on to raise funds and to those that have organised community events or sold items. Notably, as in previous years, we were well supported by in-memoriam income and we must also express our sincere gratitude to the bereaved families who honoured their loved ones with gifts to the society.

#### ***Professionals***

The Society's medical and scientific advisers give their time and expertise free of charge. They are eminent in their fields and often speak at our events out of their normal working hours. We extend our gratitude.

## ***Local Groups***

We are grateful to the volunteers that organise local group meetings. These are important because they bring people together for mutual support, social events, and sharing of experience and information. Thank you to everyone involved.

## ***Other charities and organisations***

The Society received donations this year from Eastfields Masonic Lodge, Ynystawe Cricket Club, Weedon Golf Society, Medstead Summer Ball and the DG Roper Charitable Trust. Companies making donations were Graficom, UK Healthcare, Moore Blatch Solicitors, Minuteman Press, NHBC, and Santander Bank.

Speaking on behalf of all Trustees, Chairman Howard Don said "The Trustees would like to extend their sincere thanks and gratitude to all our members, volunteers, sponsors and funders who have contributed in so many ways. Without their generosity, time, commitment and drive our work would not be possible."

## **Information and support services**

The society modernised and expanded its information and support services over the course of 2015, and will continue to do so in 2016. Notably, we have taken steps to make better use of technology and to reach more patients and families online. However, it should be stressed that the trustees are keen to ensure that traditional methods of communicating with those needing information and support are maintained as well.

## ***The GH Newsletter and E-Bulletins***

The GH Newsletter was updated to a magazine style and now contains a broader mix of articles and reports. It will continue to be published 3 or 4 times a year and posted or emailed to members, as well as being made available to members to download.

Since August 2015 the newsletter has been complemented by an electronic bulletin, consisting of a series of headlines and onward web-links, in the first week of every month in which the GH Newsletter is not published. This means information is available more quickly to anyone happy to provide their email address. At the end of 2015 this was being distributed to a rapidly growing list of over 1,200 people. The e-bulletin is made freely available to non-members as well as to members of the society.

***www.haemochromatosis.org.uk***

In the first half of 2015 the charity's main website was totally overhauled. The technical platform was significantly improved and updated, and made much more accessible. The content was rewritten, re-reviewed by our medical advisers and considerably extended. In 2016 this will continue with improvements to the design and navigation of the site.

From the overhaul in May until the end of December the site was visited over 77,000 times with over 1.2 million page hits. Our aspiration is that our website will be increasingly seen as *\*the\** source of lay level information about GH in the UK, and indeed more widely. In an age in which computers and mobile devices dominate how people access information an organisation's website is a key shop window. Patient organisations are no exception and we are committed to the charity having a professional, fresh and accessible internet presence.

### ***Social media***

2015 was the first full year in which we have been proactive in the use of social media, with active trustees and our new Chief Executive working to develop this as a way of engaging with GH patients across the country.

There are now three live social media presences – our official 'page' on Facebook, a very active support group (also using Facebook) and an active Twitter feed. In general terms, Facebook appears to be facilitating links with individuals, and Twitter with organisations. At year end over 3,400 people or groups were following us through these channels, though of course there is likely to be some overlap between the three.

The most active presence is the support group. Positive comments received from members of the group include these, which are very typical and sum up what we are trying to achieve:

*...it's great that (this group) exists. It is reassuring to feel that I am in touch with others who are going through the same thing and probably have more experience than me!*

*...Really great to be able to read all your comments and know that I'm not the only one dealing with this.*

*...Welcome to the group. You'll find this is a really friendly bunch and you'll get lots of support and answers. It's helped me no end of times.*

### **Advice lines**

In 2015 we improved our use of internet telephone technology and added a further advice line to our services. The GH Advice Line (03030 401102) is a local cost number that people can call to speak to a volunteer with experience and knowledge of GH. The new Families and Partners Advice Line (03030 401103) operates similarly, and is intended to help those people affected indirectly by haemochromatosis. Many family members and partners also become carers if symptoms are advanced, and this can often take its toll and create a need for support.

### **Meetings and local groups**

The society delivered its AGM in June. As in previous years this was extended to include medical speakers and attracted about 80 delegates. In addition this year we ran two patient information days in Glasgow, with a view to creating a support group in the city. The second of these attracted over 80 delegates and included an opportunity to ask questions of one of our medical advisers, Dr David Das.

Local independent GH support groups, with our financial support, ran several patient meetings in the North West of England and Birmingham during the year. Towards the end of 2015 we formalised our relationship with these groups which will allow us to support them more and provides a good framework for creating more groups in 2016.

### **Publications**

During 2015 a number of enhancements were made to our various existing publications and further publications have been planned.

*The Haemochromatosis Handbook*, which is provided to every member and is also available to purchase, was fully revised resulting in the publication in May of the 4th edition. The handbook is a very comprehensive lay-level guide to living with haemochromatosis and is recognised as an authoritative source at patient level.

Our leaflets, posters, venesection diary, patient template letters and other material have been redesigned and revised and at the time of writing of this report are being finalised ready for printing. Particular thanks are extended to Rowan Caney of

EightYears Design for his time and expertise redesigning our material, logo and image; Rowan has donated his time to the charity and we are extremely grateful.

### ***Membership***

As mentioned earlier, throughout our modernisation process membership is and will remain a crucial element of our work. We regard membership as symbiotic – we provide information, support, services, events, contacts, and so on. Members in turn feel able to support us with their membership fees, donations, volunteering, contributions to our project work, and by disseminating our materials.

As a patient organisation we have more credibility and sway as more people join us. In future this will allow us to influence researchers, clinicians, funders, and institutions.

### **Education and awareness**

Raising awareness of haemochromatosis is a high priority for the charity and one of the key reasons behind the strategic decisions taken over the last two years and for the resulting changes to the way we are operating.

### ***Online activity***

As described in the previous section, in 2015 we overhauled our website and stepped up social media activity. Not only have these enhanced the delivery of information to members and other patients, but it is serving to raise the profile of the society and of genetic haemochromatosis. In 2016 we will build on this, using striking new colours, to ensure we are increasingly recognisable as an internet presence.

### ***Nurses forum***

In November of 2015 we launched GHANDI (Genetic Haemochromatosis All Nurses Discussion and Information). GHANDI is an online forum designed to link together healthcare professionals who are responsible for the care of GH patients, particularly during the venesection process.

In a report commissioned by the society in 2013, Marvelle Brown identified that there was inadequate communication between individual nurses and between clinics, which was stifling the spreading of good and best practice. She also identified many inconsistencies in guidelines given to nursing staff, and consequently in their practices. We anticipate that the new forum will improve things in this regard.

At the end of 2015, about 6 weeks after launch, some 50 nurses had signed up to using GHANDI. Our objective is to increase this to at least 200 over the course of 2016 and to stimulate plenty of discussion between those participants.

### ***Pharmacists***

In a landmark project for the society, our Chief Executive David Head, together with a couple of volunteers, worked with Boots Pharmacies to develop new training material for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. This was launched in December 2015.

The origins of the project lay in concerns raised by members who, upon seeking advice from pharmacists for lethargy in particular, but also other symptoms of iron overload, had been recommended to take iron supplements.

Raising this concern with Boots, as the largest High Street pharmacist in the UK, we were able to secure a meeting with their Clinical Governance Manager and Senior Pharmacist. Over a period of several weeks we worked to produce the training which has now been approved by Boots as part of the CPD (Continuing Professional Development) programme for their staff. Further, we now have the opportunity to take this to other pharmacy chains in the UK as well as disseminate it ourselves to independent pharmacists.

### ***Exhibitions and conferences***

In October we took a stand at the two-day Best Practice and Best Practice in Nursing exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. We were able to talk directly to dozens of healthcare professionals about genetic haemochromatosis and some of the key symptoms to be watching out for in their patients.

There is no doubt that this generated considerable interest, but perhaps more importantly it demonstrated to us that the anecdotal evidence of a lack of awareness of iron overload and its complications we have been citing for many years is indeed true. In the coming months and years we need to explore ways in which we can reach GPs and others in very large numbers with more in depth information. This is an interesting challenge given our limited resources.

The Haemochromatosis Society was represented at the EFAPH (European Federation of Associations of Patients with Haemochromatosis) and HI (Haemochromatosis International)



meetings in Cologne in October. We regard the strengthening of links with our counterparts in other countries as very important, especially in respect of research and the development of consistent clinical guidelines, and we will continue to play a part in 2016 and beyond with our Chairman Howard Don now also a trustee at Haemochromatosis International.

We were also represented at the Genetic Diseases UK Leadership Symposium in early 2015; our Chief Executive has now been asked to speak at the 2016 event. Speaking opportunities are an excellent way for us to improve awareness of genetic haemochromatosis amongst the public and amongst professionals.

### ***Media***

We saw GH mentioned in several news articles over the year, with varying degrees of accuracy. The society was instrumental in securing a good article in Woman's Weekly, following their printing of some inaccurate information previously, and coverage for the launch of our pharmacists training material (see above) online and in several printed trade publications.

### **Modernisation Programme**

Following the strategic decisions made in 2014, much of our activity in 2015 has been with the objective of modernising our infrastructure, practices, technology and image.

We have also taken the opportunity to review our constitution, accounting practices, online presence, and much more. Behind the scenes, to facilitate this, there has also been extensive administrative work.

As outlined in the previous two sections, and also underscored by our financial report and accounts below, modernisation is a comprehensive programme requiring significant investment over a two year period.



**The  
Haemochromatosis  
Society**

In 2015 we saw:

- The appointment of our first employee and dedicated paid resource
- Relocation to new office in Rugby, Warwickshire
- Overhaul of our website technical platform and content
- Revision of many materials
- Development of new imagery (above)
- Implementation of modern accounting system and practices
- Use of Justgiving and other online donation platforms
- Introduction of Direct Debiting and overhaul of membership package
- Introduction of new internet telephony and robust office IT
- Improved and more extensive use of internet technology to deliver services
- Revision of constitution to permit use of modern communications methods

In 2016 and into 2017 we anticipate further modernisation:

- Further improvements to the navigation of our main website
- Application of our new imagery to all materials and presences
- Appointment of part time administrative support at the office
- Development of new materials for patients and healthcare professionals
- Improvements in the way we help local GH Support Groups (and more of them)
- Strengthening the Helpline service with volunteer training

## **Governance and Finance**

### **Governance**

#### **Board**

The board of The Haemochromatosis Society will always include a majority of people affected by GH or with a family member who is affected. This ensures that the organisation remains focused on objectives. However the board is also conscious of the need to include a range of appropriate skills amongst its number.

For example, at the time of writing this report we are in discussions with a potential new trustee with extensive experience and knowledge of financial management and accounting. To date we have not had a qualified accountant on the board.

Trustees are responsible in law for financial and strategic management and this is taken very seriously. New trustees will complete an induction process based on briefings by existing trustees, our Chief Executive and medical advisers, and material provided by The Charity Commission. Trustees are expected to attend all trustee meetings and the charity's annual conference, contribute meaningfully, and act in accordance with good practice guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

Like all registered charities in England and Wales, The Haemochromatosis Society is regulated by the Charity Commission. Our record can be found at [www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk) using our charity number 1001307.

### ***The Executive***

Following a period of transition in 2015, the Trustees now delegate responsibility for day to day operations to the Chief Executive. From 2016 this includes an agreed operational plan and budget. In future the Chief Executive may well be supported by other staff as the organisation develops and grows as well as – like now – by volunteers and by trustees in a hands-on capacity.

### ***Constitution***

During the latter part of 2015 an extensive and detailed review of our constitution (Memorandum & Articles) was undertaken and as a result changes are proposed to our Articles. These changes do not impact at all on the Objects of the charity or the responsibilities of the Trustees, however changes are required to bring things up to date, for example by allowing us to communicate more effectively with members using the internet and by amending some archaic language. These changes will be submitted to the society's members at our AGM in April for approval.

### **Finance report**

The accounts are presented at the end of the first period in which the society has been an employer and committed significant resources to our own development and future.

### ***Income***

Our financial priority for 2015, 2016 and 2017 is ensuring our sustainability given these new commitments, primarily salary but also the costs of our office, as well as

the costs incurred in modernising and extending our services to people with GH.

Our total income for the year (15 month) was just over £61,000 which compares extremely well with £25,000 in the previous year (12 month). The increase is ascribed to a higher level of donations, increased membership subscription income, and the collection of three years' Gift Aid previously unclaimed. In turn, higher donations and increased membership are ascribed to increased activity and improved use of online giving platforms such as Justgiving and other technology.

We have also been more proactive in fundraising, for example with the launch of our new Annual Raffle and the purchase of places for runners – Team Iron Overload – on the famous Virgin Money London Marathon.

### ***Expenditure***

Expenditure increased in 2015 as a result of our decision to appoint a Chief Executive and set up a permanent office in Rugby. This was entirely as planned and in fact the deficit recorded by the charity for the year was considerably less than expected being under £16,000. The board is extremely pleased with this result.

The trustees are also satisfied that costs remain under control and that they are commensurate with the changes we are making and our aspirations to professionalise.

In our statutory accounts, overhead costs (primarily salary and office costs) are allocated to six headings (fundraising, governance, and four charitable activities) based on the time spent on each. This has not been relevant in previous years so comparisons with 2014 are moot, however it does give a more realistic indication of the costs of our various activities. Governance costs were inflated in 2015 as a result of time spent on the constitutional review described above.

The Trustees expect the society to run a deficit again in 2016 and reach a sustainable (break-even) position in 2017, notwithstanding any commitment that might be made to specific additional project work or research from our reserves.

### ***Investment policy***

Our investment policy remains unchanged; we will use only secure UK bank deposits on notice or fixed terms of up to one year. We do not anticipate investing in equities.

## ***Reserves policy***

In the long term, once income is adequate to cover routine expenditure, trustees consider that in addition to any other reserves it will be appropriate to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover six months non-research expenditure. This is enough to meet obligations in the event of the charity being wound up. At present we hold reserves of some £158,000 which will reduce over 2016 as a result of the expected deficit.

Signed on behalf of the board

Howard Don  
Chairman  
April 2016

## **Accounts**

The directors present their report to the members, together with the annual accounts for the period ended 31 December 2015.

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be that of advising and educating sufferers of Haemochromatosis.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Statement of financial activities including Income and Expenditure Account  
for the period from 01 October 2014 to 31 December 2015

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2015 £	2014 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Subscriptions			17,200	17,200	9,740
Donations		1910	24,568	26,478	14,377
Gift Aid			9,438	9,438	
Other income		553	6,311	6,864	
Interest receivable			1,101	1,101	922
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>2463</b>	<b>58,618</b>	<b>61,081</b>	<b>25,039</b>
Information and support		(1,810)	(33,436)	(35,246)	(5,261)
Education & awareness		(135)	(18,506)	(18,641)	(2,058)
Research		(518)	(561)	(1,079)	(3,500)
International expenses			(2,552)	(2,552)	-
<b>Total Charitable activities</b>		<b>(2,463)</b>	<b>(55,055)</b>	<b>(57,518)</b>	<b>(10,819)</b>
Cost of generating funds			(6,546)	(6,546)	(183)
Governance			(12,786)	(12,786)	(5,146)
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>(2,463)</b>	<b>(74,387)</b>	<b>(76,850)</b>	<b>(16,148)</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus of income over expenditure on ordinary activities before taxation</b>					
		-	(15,769)	(15,769)	8,891
Tax on (deficit)/surplus of income on ordinary activities	2			-	-
<b>(Deficit)/surplus of income over expenditure on ordinary activities after taxation</b>					
				<b>(15,769)</b>	<b>8,891</b>
<b>Retained (deficit)/surplus for the period</b>					
	5			<b>(15,769)</b>	<b>8,891</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward				174,471	165,580
Total funds carried forward				<b>158,702</b>	<b>174,471</b>

The statement of financial activities above includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

### Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2015

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	3	17,185	-
Cash at bank and in hand		142,360	179,290
		<u>159,545</u>	<u>179,290</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year</b>			
	4	(843)	(4,819)
<b>Net current assets</b>		158,702	174,471
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>158,702</u>	<u>174,471</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Income and expenditure account	5	158,702	174,471
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>158,702</u>	<u>174,471</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board

Howard Don MBA  
Chairman  
April 2016

## Notes to the accounts for the period from 01 October 2014 to 31 December 2015

### **1. Accounting policies**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Subscriptions and donations are accounted for as they are received.

### **2. Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and is not liable to Corporation Tax.

### **3. Debtors**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	17,185	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amounts due after more than one year included above	3,500	-

### **4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	843	4,819
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## **5. Income and expenditure account**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At 01 October	174,471	165,580
Retained surplus (deficit) of income over expenditure	(15,769)	8,891
At 31 December	158,702	174,471

## **6. Liability of members**

The company is limited by guarantee having no share capital and in accordance with the Terms and Memorandum and Articles of Association every member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up whilst he is a member or within one year thereafter.

## **7. Reserves policy and risk management**

It is an objective of the Society to be able to be able to undertake activities for the benefit of members, including the support of relevant research, as and when opportunities arise. Its policy is, therefore, to maintain reserves sufficient to give it flexibility in future years.

## **Statement of directors' responsibilities**

The directors are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The accounts are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period. In preparing these accounts, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to

presume that the company will continue in business.

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

### **Independent examiner's report**

#### ***Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Haemochromatosis Society***

I report on the accounts of the company for the period ended 31 December 2015, which are set out on pages 22 to 26.

#### ***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 accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether 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 and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts 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 section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirement of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- which are consistent 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 accounts to be reached.

Geoffrey Hodge  
Chartered Accountant  
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