

Company registration number: 01351149

Charity registration number: 507337

The Grantham Canal Society

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

Community Accounting Plus
7 Mansfield Road
Nottingham
NG1 3FB

The Grantham Canal Society

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The Grantham Canal Society

Reference and Administrative Details

Honorary Patron	His Grace The Duke of Rutland
Honorary President	John Brydon
Chairman of Trustees	Mike Stone
Chief Executive Officer	David Lyncham-Brown
Trustees	Anthony Pitman David Lyncham-Brown Ian Wakefield John Trigg Mark Hubbard Mary Noble Michael Stone Rosemary Gibson
Acting Secretary	Gordon Wallis
Registered Office	Unit 2 Sherbrook Enterprise 100 Sherbrook Road Daybrook Nottingham NG5 6AB
Company Registration Number	01351149
Charity Registration Number	507337
Independent Examiner	John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus 7 Mansfield Road Nottingham NG1 3FB

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Trustees

Anthony Pitman

David Lyneham-Brown

Ian Wakefield

John Brydon, Vice Chairman (resigned 27 November 2018)

John Trigg

Mark Hubbard

Mary Noble

Michael Stone, Chairman

Rosemary Gibson

Stanley Harbidge, Treasurer (resigned 15 February 2019)

Report from the Chairman

As in previous reports some of the content of this report inevitably refers to the period following 31st March 2019 as this keeps members up to date in this very active time in the Society's history.

The year has been an even busier year for the Society both on and off the canal. The planned investment of previous years coupled with a broader management structure has showed dividends. The Society is healthy and the quality of work it carries out continues to be recognised by the local community and other stakeholders.

Much of this success has been the result of the professional commitment received from the increasing numbers of active volunteers. The Society could not progress without those supporters who give time or money to enable us to continue with our work to maintain and restore the canal.

The Society's management has worked tirelessly behind the scenes. David Lyneham-Brown, our Chief Executive is now supported by others who have provided their management skills for the Society's benefit. David's plans for the future will expand the Society's involvement along the length of the waterway and will commence during the coming winter.

The Society continues to contribute both physically and financially to the Grantham Canal Heritage Initiative Project. Volunteers have demonstrated their learning from the work at Lock 15 through their rapid demolition and reconstruction of Lock 14 which is now substantially complete.

Society Status

There is now a strong working relationship between the Society and the canal owners Canal & River Trust. Senior CRT management have undertaken a restructuring of the trust and this has resulted in visits to the canal on several occasions. We welcome the new faces in the CRT management structure and trust they will enjoy their opportunity to contribute to canal restoration.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Public Benefit

The Society's facilities and the opportunities these present have continued to be enjoyed by the wider community. The Society's work to maintain the navigation and control bank vegetation has once again attracted a few negative comments recently due in part to excessive weed growth. However this does not appear to have had an impact on visitor numbers who still enjoy the range of leisure facilities for towpath users with differing interests. Opportunities to take an active part in the Society by doing maintenance and restoration work or several other less physical tasks extend the potential further and provide a business training environment for any wishing to further their learning.

The community benefits offered are reflected in the substantial local support received through fund-raising and support for events.

Grantham Heritage Initiative

The project to restore Lock 15 was completed in May of last year (2018). This was followed by the dredging of the length of canal from Locks 16 to 15 by a local contractor. The recovered silt has been used to restore the site at Lock 15 where landscaping improvements are in progress. The majority of this work has been undertaken by Society volunteers and we thank them for their hard work and commitment.

As with Lock 15, most of Lock 14 had to be demolished and within ten months it has been largely rebuilt. This rapid result is down to learning from the previous work and the ability of the now highly skilled volunteer workforce.

To support our teams the Waterway Recovery Group of the IWA operated further weekly camps at the site and the Society are most grateful for their input and energy. They have been for another four weeks since March so their volunteers must enjoy the tasks we have to offer!

CRT Heritage apprentices have also spent some weeks on the project giving them an insight into lock construction which they probably could not see elsewhere on CRT waterways.

The understanding and commitment shown by the CRT site supervisor Mark Owen has ensured that the project and the GCS volunteers have developed successfully during the past year. The teams have done a fantastic job and now look forward to restoration of Locks 13 and 12 which are considered to be in a much better condition than the two completed.

Construction & Maintenance

As you are aware the Society has undertaken to carry out much of the maintenance work along the four mile navigable length of canal to maintain navigation. This has largely entailed the removal of towpath bank shrubs, lots of fallen branches, trees overhanging the water and, with technical difficulties, some of the rapidly growing weed.

The Society has committed to this work and using teams operating on Fridays and Saturdays ensures that these important tasks do not get 'side-tracked' by the GCHI Project commitments.

CRT has given approval for GCS volunteers to raise the weir at Denton to reduce the loss of canal water and to reconstruct the slipway at Woolsthorpe Depot. Both of these tasks are planned for the coming winter.

The Society still awaits approval from CRT to carry out other tasks including silt removal and access to the A1 landing stage.

The GCS would welcome more volunteers for the wide-ranging list of enjoyable and satisfying tasks we undertake so why not come and see what we do?

CRT continues to be responsible for towpath maintenance and associated grass and hedge cutting.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Fund Raising

As you must be aware by now, restoration work of the scale of a canal requires significant volumes of money. The Society has previously enjoyed some grant funding from various sources. However, in today's financial climate income from such sources is not as freely available.

The Society has been very well supported by donations from individuals and groups which together form a major part of our annual income. Whilst we receive, and are most grateful for, formal donations to appeals from organisations or individuals, those who throw loose change into buckets; partake of tea and cakes; visit our work-sites; take a cruise on *The Three Shires*; buy a raffle or tombola ticket etc. are very important supporters and we thank them for their generosity. All income is channelled into canal restoration and maintenance and no individual receives any financial gain from the Society.

Under the terms of the Heritage Lottery Fund grant for the GCHI Project the Society has a commitment to raise £100,000 in cash. To date we have delivered 80% of our commitment and the balance will be delivered on completion of the Project next summer. We thank everyone for their support which has made this challenging target achievable!

Membership & Social

Membership numbers have been steadily increasing thanks largely to efforts by Mary Noble and Jane Grylls. Numbers now total 681.

The previous growth rate in the number of active volunteers has significantly increased in the past year. This is largely as a result of work by the team supporting new members and volunteers. The Society continues to welcome recruits, undertake induction processes and monitor volunteers during the early stages of their work with the Society. This makes it easier for recruits to experience the different types of tasks available and to select the one(s) that meet needs and aspirations.

A number of social events have been organised either at the Dirty Duck or at villages along the canal. We are grateful to the organisers for presenting the Society to a wider audience and for the fellowship enjoyed.

Communications

Reaching out into the wider community is very important to the Society. There can be few in the Vale of Belvoir who are not aware of the Society and its activities. Chris Cobb, who sadly has relocated to the North East, was until recently responsible for the management of the Society stand and continues to appear at events far and wide. This has further increased our profile in the community and, once again, included appearances in West Bridgford.

Rosemary Gibson continues to deliver talks relating to the Grantham Canal and other canal subjects and also subjects that pre-date the canal age! All contribute income to the Society and we are most appreciative of the donations received from the various audiences.

We held our annual 'Discovery Day' at Woolsthorpe Depot and again we received support, in the form of exhibition stands and activities from several other organisations. We gratefully acknowledge their support in making this a memorable event – although sadly the weather plays an important part! Naturally a highlight was our famous annual Duck Race along the lock 16 by-wash. We are fairly sure this is a unique UK event. We greatly appreciate the commitment of the organising team led by Ian Simmons and supported by Rosemary Gibson, Tony Jackson and a valuable team who organised the 'Day' and were largely responsible for its success.

Our monthly publication ***Bridge*** continues to develop a world-wide audience. The on-line version is now distributed electronically to at least three continents and over 900 readers automatically receive it each month on their devices. Our thanks go to our editor Steve Swann for an excellent publication.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

There has been positive coverage by various external media including Television, Radio, local and waterway press together with several websites during the year.

Social media continues to be a very active contributor to local communications and the GCS website has a Twitter section and Facebook pages managed, as you will soon see, most effectively by Tony Jackson. For those who enjoy statistics, in September on Twitter the Society had a total of 2,365 followers and a reach of 33k per month; the figures for Facebook are a substantial increase on last year with 1,565 followers and a reach of 34k monthly. Now if those numbers don't prove that the GCS is getting out into the community what will!

We are pleased to announce the recent arrival of Michelle Storer who has agreed to take responsibility for Public Relations on behalf of the GCS.

Sales of the Society's Guide Book have been buoyant and contribute to the Society's coffers. Copies of the Society DVD are still available and provide excellent views along the canal with contributions by individuals attracted to the canal for different reasons.

Volunteers

The Society would not have reached the status it has without the commitment and dedication of its volunteer members. We thank them for their contribution in whatever field they choose to operate as our range of needs is much broader than it may appear. All contributions of assistance are most welcome.

We are attempting to broaden the age profile of our volunteers and would welcome any young people over 18. We can offer a wide range of voluntary activities which could strengthen their chances of entering skilled employment or furthering their education.

The success of GCHI Project is entirely dependent on the regular commitment of teams of GCS volunteers and we recognise the debt we owe to them for the hard work. There is nothing like an active project to encourage participation.

Rangers

The Towpath Rangers have been very active during the year under the leadership of Chris Cobb. All lengths of the canal are now 'patrolled' on a regular basis by a uniformed Society member. Their role is to engage with their local community and to maintain a 'watching brief' on the canal infrastructure. There are still areas where further support for this initiative would enable some current rangers to reduce the length of their patrolled area.

Passenger craft

Our trip-boat, *NB The Three Shire*, continues to attract visitors and the revenue from the increasing number of cruises booked during the year is the Society's main source of regular income. There have been 39 charter cruises and 18 short cruise dates which in total means that over 1600 people were carried on the water. This business has contributed over £7,000 in the year to GCS funds. Regrettably we have still been unable to rectify the position at the A1 end that has precluded access to the landing stage at that location. For a further year this failure continues to seriously impact our earnings potential.

A new, and more secure, mooring has been constructed for the boat above Lock 17 which has reduced the likelihood of it being accessed by casual 'visitors' and intruders.

During the year all volunteer skippers attended a refresher course under the leadership of John Trigg. We are required to provide qualified skippers whenever passengers are carried.

We recognise the time given by all volunteer crew members who are critical to the success of the trip-boat and to the booking service. I am sure most of our guests do not appreciate the time and effort that goes into delivering a successful cruise or the impact of weed on the crew's patience!

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Maintenance craft

Regular maintenance of the navigable canal is the responsibility of the Society. CRT is responsible for maintenance of the towpath and also undertakes any safety issues. Under the leadership of Ian Wakefield the GCS teams work hard to keep the waterway navigable which is essential to the Society's income. There have been technical issues with our weed-boat, *Osberton*, but our dredger, *Mudlark*, the work-flat, *Earwig*, and our work-boat *NB Centauri* have all been active, the latter assisting with the ever-present requirement to remove debris from the waterway or its banks. The latter craft is also the 'floating base' for the maintenance team and has worked hard during the year. Much of the work undertaken by volunteers would not be possible without a craft which not only enables access to overhanging trees and the off-side bank but also provides a logistics service for the removal of debris.

Environment

The Society recognises that the canal offers visitors an environmental experience throughout almost all its length. Moves have been made to work with the communities and other partners to enhance the areas close to the waterway. We hope that this work will encourage more visitors onto the canal in future years.

The wild flower seeding and planting that took place at various sites along the waterway in previous years requires regular attention each year and should not ever be regarded as a 'completed project'. If you wish to be more involved in our environmental activities please contact us.

Education

The education team led by Rosemary Gibson has worked throughout the year with primary schools and youth groups both visiting the canal depot at Woolsthorpe and at their own venues. During the Schools Week in July children learned about why and how the canal was built, how locks work, working life on the boats, how the canal forms a valuable habitat in and out of the water for a wide variety of life forms and how to stay safe near water. Activities tailored to particular topics being studied (eg environment, industrial revolution, water safety etc) have also been taken out to schools and community groups. In addition, the team has set up a selection of "hands on" learning activities on open days and taken out talks to a wide variety of groups of all ages.

Woolsthorpe Depot

The Society leased the depot area and building from CRT for a period of fifteen years from 2014. Previously, our occupation ensured that the roof is weatherproof, the rear windows were replaced (twice) and the installation of a kitchen with a range of facilities including a fridge was completed.

Recently the toilet facilities at the depot have been re-developed and can now meet the standards required for persons of restricted mobility.

Steve Tow has responsibility for the organisation and maintenance of the site and the stores have been reorganised and yard area has been kept very tidy. The depot is used for various purposes including Discovery Day, regular meetings, maintenance of craft and various other activities.

The Society appreciates the support and benefit it has received from Canal & River Trust with regard to the depot.

Health & Safety

The Society is happy to report that there were no significant accidents or incidents reported by volunteers during the year. Health & Safety at work is an essential part of any organisation and more so when it involves a volunteer force. All members need to remain aware of safety at all times whether on the canal as working volunteers or just walking their dog along the towpath.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Our Partners

The Society's work continues to attract support and donations of money, time or equipment from a number of partners. We thank them for their generosity and for their continued support for the work of the Society. Significant supporters during the past year have been John A Stephens, John Moulcher, Experian, the Lincolnshire Masonic Charity, Anglia Water, Waterways Recovery Group BITM, Grantham Rotary Club and, not least, the Canal & River Trust management.

The assistance given by those who live and work on the land adjoining the canal is also acknowledged as they are significant stakeholders in the ongoing development of the waterway.

Sponsors

The Society's work enjoys support from a number of commercial sponsors. This support is delivered in various ways which are not always obvious to the public. Professional advice, technical support, materials supply, operational flexibility and financial help are of considerable value both to the management of the Society and to the delivery of projects. The Society wishes to publicly thank all those companies and individuals who have helped it during the year.

Financial

We regrettably have to report that our Treasurer, Stan Harbidge, has retired through ill health. Stan has ably managed our finances for several years and we acknowledge his contribution to the success of the Society and the current GCHI Project.

We are happy to report that the position has been filled by Jane Grylls who has combined the role with that of Membership Secretary. Jane's father was one of the original founders of the movement to restore the canal.

Reserves

The Society's policy is that unrestricted reserves should not fall below £5,000 at any time. This represents the minimum annual expenditure to keep the Society in existence, giving us a twelve month window to rebuild our funds should the need arise.

People

Finally, the Trustees must thank all members of the Executive for their excellent input, support and encouragement during the year. They deliver significant professionalism to their responsibilities and to the development of your Society. It would be invidious of me to mention individuals but some devote very significant amounts of their time to the Society. Please continue to support them in the forthcoming years. A Society is only as good as those active individuals who are willing to give leadership and who make the decisions that move things forward. Everyone plays a part and although some actions are visible on the canal others are less obvious as their time is spent attending meetings or writing e-mails.

We know that volunteers have contributed over 1362 days which has a financial equivalent of more than £125,000!

For this magnificent commitment we thank each and every one of our volunteers!

Looking Forward

David Lyneham-Brown has continued to fulfil the post of Chief Executive and has successfully managed the day-to-day activity of the Society for the past year. He has devolved the role of General Manager to Tony Osbond who is supported by a strong team. David has also commenced a re-structure of the management of the Society and attracted new volunteers to fill some vacant posts.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank you all for your support as it is largely through your input that the Society is where it is today. As said last year the GCS is regarded as one of the premier waterway restoration Societies in the country. It differs from many others in that we do not employ contractors and almost all work is undertaken by volunteers. Please continue with your excellent work and maybe we will have a canal connected to the national system by 2030.

Thank you all.

Mike Stone

Chairman

Report from the Chief Executive Officer

May I start by echoing Mike's sentiments in respect of progress and support over the last year. Lock 14 progress has been a revelation to all, not least CRT's engineers and management. I will start with CRT because the last 18 months has seen a sea change in attitude and approach on behalf of many within that organisation.

Phil Mulligan, newly appointed as Regional Director and previously experienced in working with volunteers, is a genuine and substantial breath of fresh air. He is highly supportive of us as a society, his new appointees are, without exception, tuned in to the volunteer ethos and we have noted a marked change in attitude and support from such as CRT engineering.

As a result we will be lifting the footbridge across the Denton overflow to enable a minimum of a 50mm lift in the top pound. On the long-running slipway project we are being assisted by the CRT Engineers drawing up the plans and Tony Osbond has roped in more professional assistance for this and further projects.

Our success in delivering the GCHI project has woken up the canal world to our capabilities and reinforced my oft used observation:

We might be volunteers but we are not amateurs.

I have been informed from several sources that the official opening of Lock 15 on September 13th achieved high visibility throughout CRT and across the wider canal community. From being a backwater restoration (what Grantham Canal?) we are now firmly established in the top echelon of Britain's restoration projects.

I am reasonably content with the organisation structure we have created and which has been in place now for well over a year. Lateral communication between all the "Heads of Department" in the society has matured nicely. There will always be issues and volunteers/ members concerns that we need to address and changes that we need to make – no human system is perfect - but without micro-managing the everyday, I am delighted at the initiative and at times innovative approaches that so many of those who have taken on roles and responsibilities display. I thank all of you – you have helped create, and are enhancing what we have become, leaders in the national restoration movement.

Part of my role is forward thinking the restoration process. By way of simple example I have just raised the subject of the pipeline running across the canal by Redmile road bridge with Cadent Gas Network. Sitting just a few centimetres above water level not even a canoeist could limbo dance under that, let alone a narrowboat.

Brought to my attention by one of our members I am addressing it because it can take many years for such items of infrastructure to be sorted and it is pointless getting to Redmile in 10 years time to have to wait another 10 to navigate further.

For the future there are a number of issues we would like to, and in some cases, must address.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

1. The subject of dredging is a perennial one and one in which I share the frustration of so many of you. I have always maintained that it is pointless restoring more and more of the canal if we cannot maintain that we have already worked up to navigable standard. What we have already restored HAS to be sustainable in full navigable condition.

I can think of no more important strato-tactical issue currently and I have moved it to the top of our agenda. It will be there for some time. It will not be easy to progress, other societies have found it difficult in the past but is a “must do”. Your support and encouragement is vital.

We are formally establishing a team to tackle this issue. I have sought help and advice from those in the society with experience and expertise. Equipment, funding and expertise are our priorities - silt disposal is currently my least concern. We know that apart from nitrates the canal is toxins free and ideally we need to further develop our working relationships with local farmers, encouraging them to use their equipment to take the silt away once extracted and make use of it.

Currently I can think of no option but to approach directly manufacturers and contractors in pursuit of equipment and expertise. Also, articles in relevant trade journals, waterways press to seek ideas/ contacts from other societies. If any of you have other suggestions please make contact.

We will need to get CRT onboard in an active facilitation role but realistically they do not have the resources to complete their own dredging programme let alone ours.

2. Closely linked is the issue of duckweed. Key question, is it getting worse ?

Tony Jackson is in the front line on this, getting flack through his social media activities. The consensus is that agricultural nutrients run-off and possibly mild winters are causing the problem. It seems worse on our summit pound which runs through Harlaxton Cutting where numerous land drains run into the canal.

Tony tells me that we continue to get our ear bent on our social media about it, with many anglers giving up trying to fish. I hope I am not being too pointed if I wonder if some of those self-same fishermen would like to work with us on resolving the problem.

3. What links dredging and duckweed is of course the Three Shires trip boat. Navigating a permanent obstacle course is not what our crews should have to be doing but at times it must feel like it. This boat and our crews are a major fundraiser and profile raiser for the GCS. The problem was rammed home to me when a 40 to 50 cm bed of duckweed prevented our crew getting the boat through Lock 18 earlier this year.

There will always be duckweed to a degree and maybe we should be educating our followers that although its total banishment is not in our gift we will seek to reduce it.

4. The Cropwell Dry Section project is our next big project along the canal and is currently being launched. I have long regretted our absence from Nottinghamshire as the major population centre along the canal so, while continuing to work from the east, we will have a new project zone much further west. This will be the third major project in Nottinghamshire and could take 8 to 12 years, giving us a long term presence towards the east end of the canal around which to base recruitment, publicity and PR. It will encouraged to grow organically as we build support and interest – we will not be taking major resource from the east end of the canal restoration.

5. Locks 13 and 12 – our restoration priorities. Work has already begun appraising what we are taking on and a team is coming together to manage our approach. This is a GCS project – CRT are supportive but we cannot expect major practical and financial input from them. Fundraising for this is our focus at present and we will soon be approaching HF and after them other organisations for match funding.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

6. As we have heard membership continues to expand and the target of 1000+ looks more and more achievable. What we need is more active volunteers. Too much effort sits on too few shoulders and filling roles is not easy. We lost Christina Wallace as Volunteer Co-ordinator and I see the gaps that has left. Chris Cobb left as Head Ranger having done an excellent job building up the team. I have “re-inherited” the role ably assisted by Rob Cook but could really do with another Chris to come forward.

So, much achieved and plenty in the pipeline. To my exec team my thanks for your professional approach and willingness to face up the problems and issues that continually arise. Like so many of you I planned to retire a few years ago but the progress justifies the effort and I thank you all for that effort and our members for their support.

David Lyneham-Brown, Chief Executive Officer

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 02/02/1978 and most recently amended 04/11/2008. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM by the voting membership.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

To advocate the use, maintenance and development of inland waterways and particularly the Grantham Canal, to advocate and promote the restoration and maintenance in good order and condition of the Grantham Canal and other waterways and to promote the use of such waterways.

The aims include:

- To promote, assist financially and otherwise support any measure or proposal for restoring, maintaining or improving the Grantham Canal or other inland waterways;
- To oppose the abandonment neglect pollution obstruction inappropriate development or closure of inland waterways or their infrastructure, environment and facilities;
- To create and promote by publicity and education the value and importance of inland waterways to the community;
- To promote by meetings, lectures exhibitions publications and other activities the collection and dissemination of knowledge about the Grantham Canal and other inland waterways;
- To lend and advance money to anybody established for charitable objects similar to those of the Society;
- To borrow or raise money for the purposes of the Society; sell goods, articles, services or things in connection with the promotion of the Society's objects;
- To do all such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the Society's objects and which may lawfully be done by a body established for charitable purposes.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Objectives, strategies and activities

Activities in the year included:

- Maintenance of the currently navigable portion of the canal, to benefit wildlife and keep this section usable by boats;
- Completion of the restoration of lock 15 and significant progress in restoration of lock 14. Dredging of the canal between locks 16 and 15;
- Further improvements to facilities at the Woolsthorpe Depot;
- Fundraising at the Depot on Discovery Day and other open days raised £5,775;
- Extension of the educational offering of the Society to further schools in the locality;
- The raising of significant sums of Match Funding towards the Locks 15 and 14 restoration project.

Our membership, supporters, and the wider general public have generously donated money, materials and time to allow us to make progress. The Canal and River Trust and the Waterways Recovery Group have also helped us to maintain and restore this beautiful canal.

Public benefit

- The education and training of the Society's volunteers in heritage and building skills;
- The provision of "hands on" experience and involvement in the restoration, repair, maintenance, and management of canals and waterways;
- The restoration, repair, maintenance and management of the Grantham Canal as a navigable canal;
- The provision of a multi-use leisure facility for the community both on and off the water (eg boating, fishing, walking, running, cycling, bird and wildlife watching and relaxation);
- The provision of a wildlife environment along the line of the canal for the enjoyment of all; the promotion of the canal and its wildlife and leisure facilities to the community and the encouragement of the community to use and enjoy the canal and its facilities;
- The provision of education and involvement opportunities for children and young persons in the flora, fauna and wildlife found in, on, and around the canal;
- The provision of boat trips and other events on and around the canal for the enjoyment of the public;
- The maintenance of an archive about the history and heritage surrounding the Grantham Canal and the dissemination of such information to the public.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Grantham Canal Society

Trustees' Report

Financial review

The surplus is a little lower than the average of previous annual years, but considering the amount of Heritage Lottery Fund Match Funding payments is well in line with expectations.

We are committed to Match Funding of £100,000 over 5 years towards the Locks 15 and 14 restoration project.

Policy on reserves

Reserves required are an annual balance of £5K to cover insurances, licenses and essential inspection certificates and maintenance. This is considered by the Committee to be adequate at the present time bearing in mind that the Society has no paid employees and all the work of the Society is undertaken by unpaid volunteers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Michael Stone
Trustee

The Grantham Canal Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Grantham Canal Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Grantham Canal Society ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

7 Mansfield Road
Nottingham
NG1 3FB

Date:.....

The Grantham Canal Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	19,558	-	19,558	25,415
Charitable activities	3	19,356	-	19,356	16,951
Investment income	5	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
Total income		<u>38,917</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,917</u>	<u>42,368</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	<u>(38,621)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(38,621)</u>	<u>(46,473)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(38,621)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(38,621)</u>	<u>(46,473)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>(4,105)</u>
Net movement in funds		296	-	296	(4,105)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>79,336</u>	<u>3,008</u>	<u>82,344</u>	<u>86,449</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>79,632</u></u>	<u><u>3,008</u></u>	<u><u>82,640</u></u>	<u><u>82,344</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 16.

The Grantham Canal Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	24,415	1,000	25,415
Charitable activities	3	16,951	-	16,951
Investment income	5	2	-	2
Total income		<u>41,368</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>42,368</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	<u>(30,448)</u>	<u>(16,025)</u>	<u>(46,473)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(30,448)</u>	<u>(16,025)</u>	<u>(46,473)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		10,920	(15,025)	(4,105)
Transfers between funds		<u>29,384</u>	<u>(29,384)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		40,304	(44,409)	(4,105)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>39,032</u>	<u>47,417</u>	<u>86,449</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>79,336</u></u>	<u><u>3,008</u></u>	<u><u>82,344</u></u>

The Grantham Canal Society
(Registration number: 01351149)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	26,286	28,575
Current assets			
Stocks	12	836	836
Debtors	13	10,199	10,035
Cash at bank and in hand		45,919	43,498
		<u>56,954</u>	<u>54,369</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(600)</u>	<u>(600)</u>
Net current assets		<u>56,354</u>	<u>53,769</u>
Net assets		<u>82,640</u>	<u>82,344</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		3,008	3,008
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>79,632</u>	<u>79,336</u>
Total funds	16	<u>82,640</u>	<u>82,344</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2019 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 24 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Michael Stone
Trustee

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

1 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

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

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £200.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
General Equipment	25% straight line
Boats	10% straight line to leave a residual value of 50% of the cost

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those grants for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
	General £	£	£
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	7,904	7,904	1,000
Donations from individuals	11,654	11,654	24,415
	<u>19,558</u>	<u>19,558</u>	<u>25,415</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
	General £	£	£
Subscriptions	9,702	9,702	8,827
Boat trips	7,392	7,392	6,275
Sales & events	2,182	2,182	1,849
Sundry receipts	80	80	-
	<u>19,356</u>	<u>19,356</u>	<u>16,951</u>

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

4 Grants & donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
The Worth Waynflete Foundation	1,000	-	1,000
Sundry donations	11,654	-	11,654
South Kesteven District Council	5,404	-	5,404
Grantham Rotary Club	1,000	-	1,000
Rempstone Tractor Club	500	-	500
	<u>19,558</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,558</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Insurances & licenses	3,701	3,701	3,215
Boat maintenance	4,667	4,667	4,620
Equipment testing	312	312	111
Advertising	1,752	1,752	15
Depot lock ups	3,285	3,285	520
Adminsitration	1,159	1,159	1,442
Events	10	10	596
HLF contribution	20,000	20,000	32,000
Training	-	-	875
Sundry payments	1,446	1,446	765
Bank charges	-	-	25
Depreciation	<u>2,289</u>	<u>2,289</u>	<u>2,289</u>
	<u>38,621</u>	<u>38,621</u>	<u>46,473</u>

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>2,289</u>	<u>2,289</u>

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Fees payable to independent examiner

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Independent examination	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Boats £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2018	12,367	43,138	55,505
At 31 March 2019	12,367	43,138	55,505
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2018	12,017	14,913	26,930
Charge for the year	133	2,156	2,289
At 31 March 2019	12,150	17,069	29,219
Net book value			
At 31 March 2019	217	26,069	26,286
At 31 March 2018	350	28,225	28,575

12 Stock

	2019 £	2018 £
Stocks	836	836

13 Debtors

	2019 £	2018 £
Accrued income	9,746	9,746
VAT recoverable	453	289
	10,199	10,035

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £	2018 £
Other creditors	600	600

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

15 Charity status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General fund	79,336	38,917	(38,621)	79,632
Restricted funds				
Training	3,008	-	-	3,008
Total funds	<u>82,344</u>	<u>38,917</u>	<u>(38,621)</u>	<u>82,640</u>

	Balance at 1 April 2017 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2018 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General fund	39,032	41,368	(30,448)	29,384	79,336
Restricted funds					
HLF Project donations	15,150	-	(15,150)	-	-
Training	2,883	1,000	(875)	-	3,008
Trip Boat	18,450	-	-	(18,450)	-
Other craft (Mudlark)	2,815	-	-	(2,815)	-
Other craft (Osberton)	8,119	-	-	(8,119)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>47,417</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>(16,025)</u>	<u>(29,384)</u>	<u>3,008</u>
Total funds	<u>86,449</u>	<u>42,368</u>	<u>(46,473)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,344</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Training fund is to cover occasional training for volunteers.

The HLF fund was for canal regeneration work.

The Grantham Canal Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2019 Total funds
	General £	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	26,286	-	26,286
Current assets	53,946	3,008	56,954
Current liabilities	(600)	-	(600)
Total net assets	79,632	3,008	82,640

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2018 Total funds
	General £	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	28,575	-	28,575
Current assets	51,361	3,008	54,369
Current liabilities	(600)	-	(600)
Total net assets	79,336	3,008	82,344

18 Benefits in kind

The charity benefits from considerable input from many volunteers. The value of this contribution is not included within the financial statements

19 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.