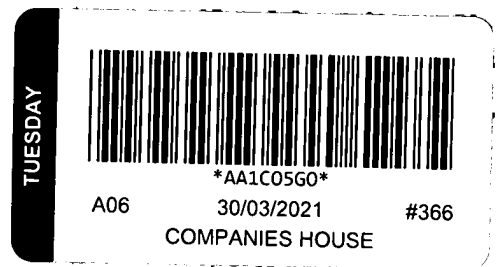


**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**



---

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

---

**COMPANY INFORMATION**

---

**Directors** Mark Stephens  
David Aaronovitch  
Anthony Barling  
Jodie Ginsberg (resigned 28 February 2020)  
Trevor Phillips  
Ruth Smeeth (appointed 17 November 2020)

**Registered number** 01157814

**Registered office** Autograph Building  
Rivington Place  
London  
EC2A 3BA

**Independent auditors** Haysmacintyre LLP  
10 Queen Street Place  
London  
EC4R 1AG

---

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

---

**CONTENTS**

---

|  | Page          |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Directors' Report</b>                         | <b>1 - 2</b>  |
| <b>Independent Auditors' Report</b>              | <b>3 - 5</b>  |
| <b>Statement of Income and Retained Earnings</b> | <b>6</b>      |
| <b>Statement of Financial Position</b>           | <b>7</b>      |
| <b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>         | <b>8 - 12</b> |

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

The company has recorded a loss in the year of £89,559 with retained earnings in deficit by £87,803. This is mainly as certain project grants came to an end. Since the year-end and following the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the company (and group of which it is a part of) has taken the opportunity to restructure the organisation. This has resulted in less reliance on specific projects with fewer staff being required with a redundancy having taken place and other staff not being replaced. A cost cutting exercise has also been undertaken resulting in the company giving up its office in the near future. The Company's management accounts for the 9 months to 31 December 2020 show a return to profit with £53k being achieved. Forecast budgets and cash flows have been prepared for the period to 31 March 2022 which show a return to surplus for the group as a whole by 31 March 2021. This will mean that the group negative funds at 31 March 2020 will be reversed and the parent charity will be able to continue to support the company if needed. The charity has provided assurances that the company continues to be an integral part of the group and the magazine will continue to operate within the company.

#### Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the directors 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 Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Company's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements 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.

#### Directors

The directors who served during the year were:

Mark Stephens  
David Aaronovitch  
Anthony Barling  
Jodie Ginsberg (resigned 28 February 2020)  
Trevor Phillips

---

WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

**Auditors**

The auditors, Haysmacintyre LLP, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

**Small companies note**

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board on 23 March 2021 and signed on its behalf.

*Trevor Phillips*

Trevor Phillips  
Director

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Writers and Scholars International Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 March 2020, which comprise the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings, the Statement of Financial Position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Emphasis of matter

We draw attention to note 2.2 to the financial statements which refers to the company's going concern position. Our opinion is not modified in this respect.

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (CONTINUED)

---

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Directors' Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

#### **Responsibilities of directors**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement on page 1, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

---

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

---

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WRITERS AND SCHOLARS  
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (CONTINUED)**

---

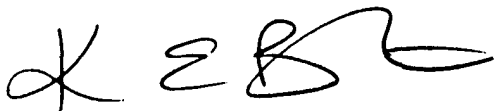
**Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the Company's members in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Kathryn Burton (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of

**Haysmacintyre LLP**  
Statutory Auditors  
10 Queen Street Place  
London  
EC4R 1AG

Date: 24th March 2021

---

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

---

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

---

|   | Note | 2020<br>£              | 2019<br>£            |
|---|------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Turnover  |      | 256,565                | 379,556              |
| Cost of sales                                   |      | (252,999)              | (299,729)            |
| <b>Gross profit</b>                             |      | <u>3,566</u>           | <u>79,827</u>        |
| Administrative expenses                         |      | (93,125)               | (62,392)             |
| <b>Operating (loss)/profit</b>                  |      | <u>(89,559)</u>        | <u>17,435</u>        |
| <b>(Loss)/profit after tax</b>                  |      | <u><u>(89,559)</u></u> | <u><u>17,435</u></u> |
|   |      |                        |                      |
| Retained earnings at the beginning of the year  |      | 1,756                  | (15,679)             |
|   |      | <u>1,756</u>           | <u>(15,679)</u>      |
| (Loss)/profit for the year                      |      | (89,559)               | 17,435               |
| <b>Retained earnings at the end of the year</b> |      | <u><u>(87,803)</u></u> | <u><u>1,756</u></u>  |

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2020 or 2019 other than those included in the statement of income and retained earnings.

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER:01157814**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2020**

|  | Note | 2020<br>£              | 2019<br>£           |
|--|------|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                            |      |                        |                     |
| Tangible assets                                | 4    | 15,865                 | 12,105              |
|  |      | <u>15,865</u>          | <u>12,105</u>       |
| <b>Current assets</b>                          |      |                        |                     |
| Debtors: amounts falling due within one year   | 5    | 5,384                  | 105,999             |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       | 6    | 2,694                  | 1,733               |
|  |      | <u>8,078</u>           | <u>107,732</u>      |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 7    | (111,746)              | (118,081)           |
| <b>Net current liabilities</b>                 |      | <u>(103,668)</u>       | <u>(10,349)</u>     |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>   |      | <u>(87,803)</u>        | <u>1,756</u>        |
| <b>Net (liabilities)/assets</b>                |      | <u><u>(87,803)</u></u> | <u><u>1,756</u></u> |
| <b>Capital and reserves</b>                    |      |                        |                     |
| Profit and loss account                        |      | (87,803)               | 1,756               |
|  |      | <u><u>(87,803)</u></u> | <u><u>1,756</u></u> |

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - small entities.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 23 March 2021

*Trevor Phillips*

**Trevor Phillips**  
Director

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

#### 1. General information

Writers and Scholars Limited is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England. The address of the registered office is given in the company information page on page 1 of these financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest £.

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

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

##### 2.2 Going concern

The company has recorded a loss in the year of £89,559 with retained earnings in deficit by £87,803. This is mainly as certain project grants came to an end. Since the year-end and following the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the company (and group of which it is a part of) has taken the opportunity to restructure the organisation. This has resulted in less reliance on specific projects with fewer staff being required with a redundancy having taken place and other staff not being replaced. A cost cutting exercise has also been undertaken resulting in the company giving up its office in the near future. The Company's management accounts for the 9 months to 31 December 2020 show a return to profit with £53k being achieved. Forecast budgets and cash flows have been prepared for the period to 31 March 2022 which show a return to surplus for the group as a whole by 31 March 2021. This will mean that the negative group funds at 31 March 2020 will be reversed and the parent charity will be able to continue to support the company if needed. The activities of the company are considered integral to the group and therefore the parent charity is happy to provide such support. The directors consider there to be no material uncertainties relating to going concern.

As a result of the above, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider to be appropriate.

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.3 Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. The following criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

##### Rendering of services

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised in the period in which the services are provided in accordance with the stage of completion of the contract when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Company will receive the consideration due under the contract;
- the stage of completion of the contract at the end of the reporting period can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred and the costs to complete the contract can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Fixtures and fittings | - 10% straight line |
| Office equipment      | - 25% straight line |
| Computer equipment    | - 25% straight line |

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in profit or loss.

##### 2.5 Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

---

## WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

##### 2.7 Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### 2.8 Financial instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in ordinary shares.

#### 3. Employees

The company itself does not employ any staff. Staff costs are recharged from its related organisation, Writers and Scholars Educational Trust, allocated based on time spent working for each entity.

**WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

**4. Tangible fixed assets**

|                                     | Fixtures and<br>fittings<br>£ | Office<br>equipment<br>£ | Computer<br>equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Cost or valuation</b>            |                               |                          |                            |               |
| At 1 April 2019                     | 3,943                         | 8,175                    | 25,572                     | 37,690        |
| Additions                           | 6,240                         | -                        | 1,227                      | 7,467         |
| At 31 March 2020                    | <u>10,183</u>                 | <u>8,175</u>             | <u>26,799</u>              | <u>45,157</u> |
| <b>Depreciation</b>                 |                               |                          |                            |               |
| At 1 April 2019                     | 1,729                         | 4,446                    | 19,410                     | 25,585        |
| Charge for the year on owned assets | 699                           | 695                      | 2,313                      | 3,707         |
| At 31 March 2020                    | <u>2,428</u>                  | <u>5,141</u>             | <u>21,723</u>              | <u>29,292</u> |
| <b>Net book value</b>               |                               |                          |                            |               |
| At 31 March 2020                    | <u>7,755</u>                  | <u>3,034</u>             | <u>5,076</u>               | <u>15,865</u> |
| At 31 March 2019                    | <u>2,214</u>                  | <u>3,729</u>             | <u>6,162</u>               | <u>12,105</u> |

**5. Debtors**

|                                    | 2020<br>£    | 2019<br>£      |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Trade debtors                      | -            | 7,700          |
| Amounts owed by group undertakings | -            | 47,359         |
| Other debtors                      | 636          | -              |
| Prepayments and accrued income     | 4,748        | 50,940         |
|                                    | <u>5,384</u> | <u>105,999</u> |

---

WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

---

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

---

6. Cash and cash equivalents

|                          | 2020<br>£    | 2019<br>£       |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Cash at bank and in hand | 2,694        | 1,733           |
| Less: bank overdrafts    | (1,145)      | (42,312)        |
|                          | <u>1,549</u> | <u>(40,579)</u> |

7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

|                                    | 2020<br>£      | 2019<br>£      |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bank overdrafts                    | 1,145          | 42,312         |
| Trade creditors                    | 2,590          | 9,805          |
| Amounts owed to group undertakings | 660            | -              |
| Other taxation and social security | -              | 5,025          |
| Accruals and deferred income       | 107,351        | 60,939         |
|                                    | <u>111,746</u> | <u>118,081</u> |

8. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS102 from disclosing transactions with its controlling party, Writers and Scholars Educational Trust.

9. Post balance sheet events

In January 2021, the country went into another lockdown. This has resulted in uncertainty as to whether the group's awards events now due to be held in September 2021 can take place. It not it will be held remotely. This may also affect the group's fundraising ability which takes place at the same time. Other activities and projects as well as publishing Index on Censorship have taken place remotely and are able to continue as normal.

10. Parent company

The company is a subsidiary of the Writers and Scholars Educational Trust. Group financial statements are prepared as part of the charity's financial statements. The charity's registered office is as follows:

Autograph Building,  
Rivington Place,  
London,  
England,  
EC2A 3BA