

AUTISMCONNECT

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST OCTOBER, 2002**

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For the year ended 31st October, 2002

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AUTISMCONNECT

COMPANY INFORMATION

For the year to 31st October, 2002

DIRECTORS

J.R. Kinder
Ms E. Hopkins
Dr. M. Smith

SECRETARY

J.R. Kinder

REGISTERED OFFICE

66 Northfield End,
Henley on Thames
Oxfordshire, G9 2BE

REGISTERED NUMBER

4061039

CHARITY REGISTERED NO.

1084254

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT

David Lowe FCA
Priors Court School
Hermitage, Thatcham,
Berkshire, RG18 9NU

AUTISMCONNECT
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
For the year ended 31st October, 2002

Objects of the Charity

The object of the charity is to provide an international information resource focused on autism in the form of a website known as autismconnect.

Governing Document

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated on 29th August, 2000. The Registered Number of the company is 4061039. The company was registered as a charity with the Charity Commissioners on 22nd December, 2000 and its Charity Number is 1084254.

The Trustees of the charity and the directors of the company are one and the same. Throughout this report they are referred to as the Trustees.

Achievements and activities during the year

On 31st October, 2000 the charity took over the website called autismconnect from The Shirley Foundation. The site had been developed since 1st January, 2000 by The Shirley Foundation in partnership with The National Autistic Society and software company RMR plc with funds provided by The Shirley Foundation. During this period considerable amounts of content had been identified, checked and loaded on to the site. On 1st November, 2000 the charity commenced to trade by launching the website to the public using the internet address www.autismconnect.org. The National Autistic Society and RMR plc provided services to autismconnect and the charity was funded by The Shirley Foundation.

During the year ended 31st October 2002 the charity operated the website with increasing success. Visitors to the site are required to register. Registrations have increased consistently through the period and now number over 25,000.

From January 2001 a chat facility was launched and regular discussions are held led by eminent personalities within the world of autism.

Facilities on the site include a database of links to websites concerned with all aspects of autism. These sites are manually linked to a hierarchy of keywords which allow quick and easy access by the user to relevant information relating to autism throughout the web. Other facilities include a database of support agencies throughout the world, a database of events, and an assembly of news items from the world's press.

By agreement funding by the Shirley Foundation ceased in May 2002. Intensive efforts were made to find alternative funding for the Charity's operations. These efforts did not immediately bear fruit and on 30th September, 2002 the Charity's two employees were made redundant.

Subsequent to the date of these accounts, in December, 2002 a two year agreement was reached with Autism Cymru (a sister charity involved with autism) that they provide, pro bono, the day-to-day management of the autismconnect website and also fund all hosting charges. This agreement secured the future operations of the website. In the meantime a substantial grant of £10,000 was received for further software development of the site to ensure that it retains its status as an innovative and high quality site.

Organisational Structure

The direction, funding and expenses of the charity are decided upon by the Trustees at regular monthly ~~Trustee~~ meetings.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have decided that autismconnect should carry reserves of £30,000 in order to provide an adequate cushion for normal cash fluctuations.

Major Risks

The major risk to the charity is that they fail to acquire sufficient funding from Grant-making Trusts before sufficient income is generated from other sources.

Directors and Trustees

J.R. Kinder MA FCA – chair
Eileen Hopkins
Mark Smith PhD, BSc Hons

Registered Office


North Lea House, 66 Northfield End, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 2BE

Offices

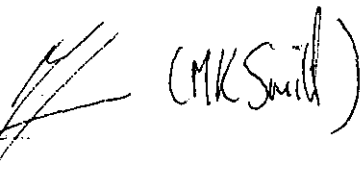
The charity does not have any offices since all the Trustee work from home. Inquiries should be made by e-mail to info@autismconnect.org.

Approval

The Trustees' report and the financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

J.R. Kinder 

Eileen Hopkins 

Mark Smith  (MK Smith)

AUTISMCONNECT
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
For the year to 31st October, 2002

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year to 31st October, 2002.

INCORPORATION

The company was incorporated on 29th August 2000 and commenced trading on the same date.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of a charity. The Charity Registered Number is 1084254. The Company is limited by Guarantee. The objects of the charity are detailed in the Trustees' Report.

DIRECTORS

The directors during the period under review were:-

J.R. Kinder	appointed 29.8.00
Eileen Hopkins	appointed 29.8.00
Dr. Mark Smith	appointed 29.8.00

All the directors, being eligible, offer themselves for election at the forthcoming second Annual General Meeting.

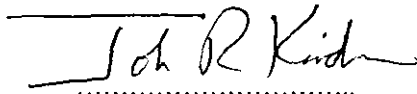
STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the income and expenditure of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements 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 financial statements on a 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 which 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 1985. 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.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


.....
J.R. Kinder – DIRECTOR

Dated:


AUTISMCONNECT

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES AUTISMCONNECT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 I have examined the income and expenditure and the balance sheet of autismconnect set out on pages 3 to 10 relating to the year ending 31st October, 2002. This examination did not extend to a comprehensive audit of such accounts and balance sheet. I confirm that the accounts and balance sheet accord with the accounting records of the Trust and that such records satisfy the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention needs to be drawn in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts

Going Concern

Since the balance sheet date the company has concluded a two year agreement with another charity operating in the field of autism under which the operating costs of the company's website are underwritten by that charity. The company will therefore be able to continue trading until December 2004.



David Lowe FCA
Priors Court School
Hermitage, Thatcham,
Berkshire, RG18 9NU

Dated: 23. 7. 2003

AUTISMCONNECT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year to 31st October, 2002

	Notes	£ Year to 31.10.02	£ Period 29.08.00 to 31.10.01
INCOME			
Operating income		77,647	254,233
EXPENSES			
Administrative and operating expenses		79,596	256,217
OPERATING LOSS	2	(1,949)	(1,984)
Interest receivable and similar income		479	273
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(1,470)	(1,711)
Tax in loss on ordinary activities	5	-	-
LOSS FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAXATION		(1,470)	(1,711)
DEFICIT CARRIED FORWARD		£(1,470)	£(1,711)

The notes form part of these financial statements

AUTISMCONNECT
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year to 31st October, 2002

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Period 29.8.00 To 31.10.01
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Donations received		76,016	-	76,016	254,220
Income resources from operating activities					
Of the Charity					
Activities for Generating Funds					
Commission on the Sale of Books	31		-	31	13
Income from recruitment	1,600		-	1,600	-
Investment Income					
Bank Deposit Interest	479		-	479	273
Total Incoming Resources		<u>78,126</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,126</u>	<u>254,506</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charity Expenditure					
Activities in furtherance					
of the Charity's objects	3	77,685	-	77,685	252,183
Management and					
administration of the Charity	4	1,911	-	1,911	4,034
Total Resources expended		<u>79,596</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,596</u>	<u>256,217</u>
Net Expended Resources		(1,470)	-	(1,470)	(1,711)
Total Funds brought forward		(1,711)		(1,711)	-
Total Funds carried forward		<u>(3,181)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,181)</u>	<u>(1,711)</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

AUTISMCONNECT

BALANCE SHEET

31st October, 2002

Notes	2002 £	2001 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Computer Equipment	1,098	-
Less depreciation	365	-
	<u>733</u>	<u>-</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	708	55
Cash at bank	593	60,305
	<u>1,301</u>	<u>60,360</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	5,215	62,071
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(3,914)</u>	<u>(1,711)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>£(3,181)</u>	<u>£(1,711)</u>
RESERVES:		
Profit and loss account	<u>£(3,181)</u>	<u>£(1,711)</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard of Smaller Entities (effective March 2000).

For the year ended 31st August, 2002 the company was entitled to exemption under section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 249b(2). The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:-

- I) Ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221; and
- II) Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with section 226, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far applicable to the company.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



J.R. Kinder – DIRECTOR

Approved by the Board on 3.7.03

AUTISMCONNECT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year to 31st October, 2002

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000)), the Companies Act 1985, and follow the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, issued in October, 2000.

2. OPERATING LOSS

	£ 2002	£ 2001
The operating loss is stated after charging:-		
Auditor's remuneration	-	823
Independent accountant's remuneration	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Directors' emoluments and other benefits	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

3. ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS

Website maintenance and development	77,320	252,183
	<hr/>	<hr/>

4. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY

Postage and Stationery	1,855	2,372
Auditor's remuneration	-	823
Accountancy	-	588
Sundry expenses	56	251
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,911	£4,034
	<hr/>	<hr/>

5. TAXATION

No liability to UK corporation tax arose on ordinary activities for the period. The directors do not consider that the company will be subject to corporation tax due to its charitable status.

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Tax Reclaim	83	55
Trade Debtors	625	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	708	55
	<hr/>	<hr/>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade Creditors	5,215	60,661
Accrued Expenses	-	1,410
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,215	£62,071
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year there were no related party transactions.

9. GUARANTEE

The liability of the members is limited by guarantee. Each member undertakes to pay an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up. This guarantee ceases one year after he or she ceases to be a member.