

THE FELTMAKERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Trustees during the year:

J.S. Ray (Chairman)
M.D.A. Bentata - retired 22.02.18
R.C. Gray - retired 20.11.17
W. Horsman - retired 22.02.18
A.I. Phillips
P.C.C. Simeons
J.G. Brassington - retired 06.10.17
His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard, QC - appointed 06.10.17
N.C.L. Macdonald
Ms Anne Mannix - appointed 22.02.18

Clerk to the Trustees:

Major J .T .H. Coombs

Principal Address:

Post Cottage
Greywell
Hook
Hampshire
RG29 1DA

Bankers:

CAF BANK Ltd.
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Auditors:

Daly, Hoggett & Co.
Chartered Accountants
5-11 Mortimer Street
London
W1T 3HS

Investment Advisors:

Brewin Dolphin Securities Limited
12 Smithfield Street
London
EC1A 9BD

THE FELTMAKERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018.

Statutory Information

The Charity was established by a Trust Deed dated 2nd October 1969 by the City of London Livery Company given its full name in the Deed as "The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of the Feltmakers of London" and described in the Deed as "The Founder". The Founder is more commonly known as The Worshipful Company of Feltmakers and has the power to appoint the Charity's Trustees, which it exercises by Resolution. The original deed was replaced by a new deed dated 11th July 2008.

The Charity's name in the Register of Charities is "The Feltmakers Charitable Foundation" and its registered number is 259906. Page 1 of these Accounts also contains certain statutory information and should be regarded as an integral part of this Report.

Charitable Objects

The Trust Deed allows the Trustees absolute discretion to apply the income and, to the extent provided, the capital of the Foundation for Charitable purposes and places no restriction on the charitable areas to which their application of funds should be directed. In practice, due to the Foundation's relationship with The Founder, the Trustees have largely directed their charitable giving to objects which are either related to the Felt Hat Manufacturing Industry or are associated with the City of London where the Founder is based.

Distribution and Reserve Policy

The Trustees aim to distribute the majority of the Foundation's annual net income taking one year with another. Subject to any donor restrictions, legacies and other lump sum donations received are normally added to capital funds in order to increase future income and consequential grant making capacity. The details of donations to which restrictions apply are shown separately in the accounts.

Investment Policy

The Investment policy of the Trustees is to seek to get the greatest possible overall return on the investment portfolio irrespective of whether that return is derived as conventional income or as capital appreciation. There are no restrictions on the types of investment that the Trustees can acquire.

Management

The Trustees meet on a regular basis in order to fulfil their duties and ensure that the objectives of the Foundation are met. In the course of their duties the Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the Foundation is exposed and ensure that appropriate steps are taken to mitigate them.

Review of 2017/18

Introduction

Several changes occurred in the composition of the Board of Trustees during the year. In October 2017, the annual change in the ex-officio appointment of the Master of our Founder took place when His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard, QC succeeded Jeremy Brassington. Having reached the end of their terms as Trustees, Richard Gray retired in November 2017 and David Bentata and William Horsman retired in February 2018. The Trustees would like to record their thanks to all three for their invaluable help and guidance during their terms of office. In February 2018, Ms Anne Mannix was appointed as a Trustee.

THE FELTMAKERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES CONTINUED

Financial Information

a. Income

The Foundation's income for the year from grants and donations amounted to £43,518 compared with £33,883 in the previous year.

As predicted in last year's report, income for the year was considerably enhanced by an event organised by our then Master, Jeremy Brassington. The event consisted of workshops featuring "Assistive Listening Technologies" during the day, followed by a gala dinner in the evening. As a result of the event, the Foundation benefitted by just over £15,500. The Trustees are most grateful for his efforts.

The Trustees are also most grateful to the Estate of the Late Past Master Captain Peter Cobb for a legacy of £5,000 and to The Matthew Wrightson Charity Trust for a gift of £1,000. The Trustees would also like to thank the Haberdashers Company for their ongoing help in supporting the Pensioner Hatters.

Receipts from donors to the St Clements initiative were again higher than the previous year. The Trustees express their thanks to all Liverymen who contribute to the scheme and would encourage all those who do not currently contribute to consider making an annual contribution.

The Foundation's investment income also increased during the year to £18,532 from £17,898 in the previous year.

b. Outgoing Grants

During the period under review, grants totalling £35,150 (2017: £46,249) were made. In addition to providing support to Pensioner Hatters of £14,100 and £5,550 for the Feltmaker Awards, grants totalling £15,500 (2017: £27,399) were made to 11 (2017: 12) other charitable bodies.

We continue to support our regular beneficiaries such as the Lord Mayor's Appeal and the armed forces and increasingly assist charitable ventures undertaken by our Liverymen.

The Feltmaker Award Competition continues to attract a great deal of interest in the millinery world and we were pleased to be able to maintain the prize for the Feltmaker Award at £3,050.

c. Investment Portfolio

The year under review was again a volatile year, both politically and in the financial markets. However, the Trustees are pleased to report that at the year end the Charity's investments had appreciated in value by £26,151, an increase ahead of markets generally. We remain largely invested in Investment Trust companies which, because of their ability to dip into reserves to maintain, and in some cases increase, their dividends, has meant our investment income has risen during the year. Since the year end, the Investment Committee has adopted a slightly more defensive stance by reducing large positions in some investments and reinvesting the proceeds in other companies. The Trustees would like to thank the Investment Committee for their help and advice in managing the Foundation's investments.

THE FELTMAKERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES CONTINUED

Outlook

Our current Master is organising an event at the Old Bailey in July and our Learned Clerk will be undertaking another sponsored row in August. It is anticipated that the Foundation will benefit from this in the next financial year.

As reported last year, a working group was looking at ways of engaging members more in the activities of both the Charity and the Livery and subsequently a questionnaire was sent to all Liverymen seeking their views. Resulting from this, a Charity Committee has been formed with the role of raising more funds for the Charity and of selecting major beneficiaries either by way of grants or mentoring. However, we will continue to support our traditional outlets with priority being given to trade related activities, the City of London, the armed forces and cadets, and to ventures involving our own Liverymen. As always, the Trustees will be receptive to any new suggestions for grant-making opportunities made by our Liverymen.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees have resolved that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Foundation and of its income and expenditure for that period. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Trustees to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Foundation will continue in business;
4. Confirm that the Accounts comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Foundation's Trust Deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities, as far as applicable.

The Trustees are responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Foundation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Foundation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 2nd July 2018 and signed on their behalf by:

J S Ray - Trustee

His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard, QC -
Trustee

THE FELTMAKERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
FIVE YEAR SUMMARY

(FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY)

		March 2018 £	March 2017 £	March 2016 £	March 2015 £	March 2014 £
Income						
Legacies & Donations						
Unrestricted	St Clements	14,925	14,475	12,300	11,025	10,775
	Fundraising	21,712	11,198	10,452	22,798	20,986
	Gift Aid	3,881	4,210	3,128	3,732	2,861
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total Unrestricted		40,518	29,883	25,880	37,555	34,622
Restricted	Haberdashers	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
		43,518	33,883	30,880	42,555	39,622
Investment Income & Interest		18,532	17,898	16,693	15,910	15,574
Total Income		62,050	51,781	47,573	58,465	55,196
Expenditure						
	Pensioner Hatters	13,600	12,800	11,025	11,945	11,050
	Other Donations	21,550	33,449	23,300	37,950	30,975
	Administration	3,840	2,744	2,704	2,454	2,000
	Other	1,300	1,080	1,044	1,108	1,067
Total Expenditure		40,290	50,073	38,073	53,457	45,092
Net Operating Incoming/(Outgoing)		21,760	1,708	9,500	5,008	10,104
Investment gains and losses		26,151	109,620	(25,953)	51,241	40,901
Net Movement in Funds		47,911	111,328	(16,453)	56,249	51,005
Balances Brought Forward		698,257	586,929	603,382	547,133	496,128
Balances Carried Forward		746,168	698,257	586,929	603,382	547,133
of which Unrestricted		700,977	658,521	556,211	571,797	519,048
Restricted/Endowment		45,191	39,736	30,718	31,585	28,085
REPRESENTED BY						
Investments	Unrestricted	659,974	638,688	537,515	557,850	501,643
	Endowment	42,936	38,071	29,624	31,078	23,416
	Total	702,910	676,759	567,139	588,928	525,059
Debtor		3,881	-	-	-	2,861
Cash		40,827	22,598	20,890	15,964	20,213
Other		(1,450)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,510)	(1,000)
Total		746,168	698,257	586,929	603,382	547,133