

Company Number: 1998621

Charity Number: 517391

DISABILITY WALES/ANABLEDD CYMRU

AUDITED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

**KEANE & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
& REGISTERED AUDITORS**



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

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OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**TRUSTEES:**

Mr J E Carr
Mr L Clark
Mrs E Edwards
Mr J A Edwards OBE
Mrs E Evans
Ms J Hambridge
Mr M Harper
Miss N Hughes MBE
Mr J Hutchinson
Mr B John
Mr G Johnson
Mr P J Lewis
Mrs J Marsh
Mr D Morris
Mr D Phillips
Mr R Taylor
Mrs S Weaver
Miss C M Williams
Mrs J Williams
Mr S Wood
Mrs Y Farmer
Mrs S Davies-Jones
Ms A John (appointed 27:10:96)
Cllr W R Edwards (appointed 27:10:96)
Cllr T D M John (appointed 27:10:96)
Cllr P Saunders (appointed 27:10:96)
Cllr E R Harries (appointed 27:10:96)
Mr M Bricknell (appointed 26:10:96)
Mr J McKeen
Mr D W Evans
Mr L Parks

REGISTERED OFFICE: Llys Ifor
Crescent Road
Caerphilly
CF83 1XL

AUDITORS:

Keane & Co
Perch Buildings
20 West Bute Street
Cardiff
CF1 6HE

BANKERS:

The Co-Operative Bank
37 Park Place
Cathays Park
Cardiff

Natwest Bank Plc
19 Cardiff Road
Caerphilly
CF8 1WF

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 1997.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Trustees 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 surplus or deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:-

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- c) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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. The trustees 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.

REVIEW OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The reports of the Chairman, Director and Treasurer follow on pages 4 to 9.

AUDITORS

Keane & Co have expressed their willingness to continue in office and a resolution proposing their re-election will be put before the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Trustees

DE Mene

Trustee

...D.O.G.L.A.C. EDWARDS..MORAY(Name)

Chairman's Foreword

Challenge and Change are needed for a dynamic organisation, but this year has provided more than enough of both. Some good, some not.

We were advised at an early stage, like many other organisations, that our core grant from the Welsh Office would be significantly reduced in the next financial year. Our regular review of policies therefore had to anticipate this. As the grant made possible our main services relating to information, access, consultation and development (for example: as a consequence of the Disability Discrimination Act), we had to consider how best we could maintain these. Other grant sources these days are for special projects of limited period, and other fund raising has been unsuccessful.

Our services are at different stages of their development. Over the past decade, with the appointment of our Access Officer, we have seen the number of access groups in Wales increase from one to twenty seven covering the whole of Wales, with members trained to advise local interests and conduct audits. Local authorities began to appoint Access Officers and these now have their

own association which we helped establish. The role of the Access Unit has developed to provide information and support, and a channel for consultation and co-ordination.

The provision of advice and information has changed. In 1990, to develop the service for the whole of Wales, especially rural areas, a vehicle was bought with help from British Gas and the Welsh Office. DAI (Disability Advice and Information) in one year dealt with 15,000 enquiries with people queuing to talk to our staff. Over the years, with the development of local groups

and their increasing knowledge, as well as the demands of professionals such as social workers and Consumer Advice Bureaux staff for information, our focus has changed. Our staff meet people in accessible venues they frequent and also provide seminars for those who advise others. We support these and encourage those who offer a local service to network with other agencies. As a result, the mobile unit was little used and was sold.

These services and many others are detailed in this Report. As a result of the review, we decided that we would continue to offer our specialist services but more focused. To do this, we needed to retain the expertise of officers, and so it was with great regret that we had to make three posts redundant at the end of the year to meet the cut in our grant. This has meant that from April 1997, we have had to reduce our activities, and no longer have the back-up which the assistants provided.

However, our applications for grants from the National Lottery Charity Board Wales for the Independent Living Project, and to the Volunteering in Wales Fund for a Volunteer Co-ordinator to support local volunteers and set up a Helpline, were successful. After some delay, the Welsh Office agreed we could appoint a Training and Development Officer to replace our former Development Officer. There has been a considerable expansion

in this work largely due to the Disability Discrimination Act. We have therefore co-ordinated training in Access, Information and Equality and retitled the post as Disability Equality Officer.

After twenty five years, Disability Wales is now well established. Having fostered the development of knowledgeable local groups of disabled people, these can now deal with local issues previously referred to us. As I have already noted, our role is to ensure that we provide support for our members and a channel for the information they need from government, and other statutory and voluntary agencies. We must ensure too that consultation is effective and responses co-ordinated. The media now turn to us as a prime source for comment on disability issues and we provide them with information and publicity.

It was with great regret that Clive Curtis, our benefits expert who had been appointed in 1990 to develop the work of DAI, decide for personal reasons to leave at the end of March. We will, however, still be able to use his specialist knowledge as a consultant. His service has been greatly appreciated and we thank him for all he has done. We wish him well as we do for the other staff who have perforce had to leave due to our reduced grant from 1st April.

We were able, nevertheless, to continue our usual services during

this year despite the impending changes and the unsettling effect on staff. We thank the Welsh Office for their continued support and other sources of funding which support us. Our fund raising has dwindled in recent years, but although much less we are grateful to those who continue to help us. This is especially true of the fundraising efforts over fifteen years of Sheila Mountjoy and her loyal group of ladies who have now decided on an honourable retirement.

During the year, the Anniversary Committee met to consider how best to celebrate our twenty five years and we are grateful to the Lord Mayor and City of Cardiff for hosting a reception and buffet at County Hall on 11th July 1997. The Anniversary Year will be fully reported in next year's Annual Report.

As always, we are grateful to our staff for their commitment, especially this year with uncertainty over the effects of the cut in grant. Our thanks, too, to the members of our committees and panels. Usually, most attending have a disability, and for some, organising transport and carers as well as the distant to a meeting, makes attendance more demanding in time and effort.

We welcome our new project staff in the belief that we can all meet, successfully, the challenge of our Anniversary Year and the new millennium.

Director's Report

I have only known Disability Wales for around a half of its twenty five years, but in that time it has changed and changed again, weathering financial and political storms, changes in local and national government and the changing demands of our main constituency - disabled people in Wales.

Some things are out of our control, leaving us to negotiate our course as best we can through sometimes uncharted waters. Shifts in political priorities, funding cuts, loss of key staff at crucial times are the sort of thing all organizations have to deal with at some time or another, and it can be painful and exasperating to have to look yet again for new ways of meeting increasing demands with limited resources. On the other hand, many changes are the direct result of our own successes. Over the past three decades, we and other members of the disability movement in the UK and Europe have worked hard to change attitudes and expectations, with considerable success, especially among disabled people - and we should not be surprised if we have to change in response.

Looking back through the archives for our anniversary, I was struck by the constant evolution of disabled peoples' ambitions. In 1972, for instance, the main mobility battle was for a safe replacement for the unstable and highly inflammable "trike". Once that fight was won, the Motability scheme came under scrutiny. Now it is about accessible public transport - something that was not even a distant dream 25 years ago.

Sometimes it is a slow, patient campaign to stretch our horizons. Campaigns for inclusive education, accessible housing and open employment are still undersubscribed in Wales. But sometimes the change in attitude can be swift. The introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act, however weak it is, has raised expectations in any number of areas.

Disabled people are demanding access to services and events that, even a few years ago, might have remained unchallenged. And that affects us, constantly asking harder questions about the way we do things. For instance do we refuse to use conference and training venues that are not perfectly accessible, even if this means there are very few venues we can use? If we don't, are we conniving with the status quo and delaying progress - or are we simply being pragmatic? What compromise is acceptable when a guide-dog user

needs to work with someone whose impairment includes an allergy to dogs?

These arguments can only be good for the disability movement in Wales. A vibrant movement needs to challenge its own ideas as much as those of others - as long as we remember the ultimate goal - to remove the barriers in society that define disabled people as unequal citizens. Healthy, if occasionally heated, debate allows us to identify the issues on which there is an informed consensus among disabled people. Those are the issues on which we can all work together.

This is especially important when we are working with new audiences. In the business community, for instance, there is commonly a real commitment to the principle of inclusion, matched by an equally real lack of knowledge about disability issues. Previous propaganda on the difficulty and costs of employing and providing services to disabled people has been too successful and we have had to work hard to introduce a realistic notion of the cost-benefits as well as the ethical imperative of inclusive practice. Too often disability is still seen as a "special needs" "caring" issue - assumptions that our presentation and DET programmes are constantly challenging. To present such organizations with the impression of a divided sector plays too easily into the hands of those looking for an excuse to ignore

disability issues. The doors are open and people are listening - but they need to hear the right message in their own language.

Our achievements speak for themselves. In the fields of access, information, disability equality and policy development we have programmes that are unique to Wales - and set to be replicated in other areas of the UK. Time and again we are being approached to collaborate on new and exciting projects, and we have to make hard choices about our priorities.

There are always things we would love to do but simply can not. Staff, time and cash restrictions all conspire to ensure that we will never do all that we could; made worse by the fact that every project we can get funding for yields a host of brilliant ideas for which we can't. Frustration

is a feeling you must learn to live with in this game and I would like to pay tribute to Disability Wales staff who usually manage to remain positive and enthusiastic whatever torments are thrown our way.

When we look back in 25 years' time, we will be able to see clearly what our real achievements have been. Hopefully many of the things we are fighting for - or perhaps can not even imagine - will be taken for granted. And perhaps the activists in 2022 will recognise that, however far they have gone down the road to inclusion, all their achievements and ambitions will have been built on the successes, failures, anger, frustration and celebrations of those that have gone before. We have a lot to celebrate - and a long way to go.

Howard John

Treasurer's Report

The statement of financial activities shows incoming resources of £372,567 as against resources expended of £367,458 thus leaving £5109 as net incoming resources. Some £344,050 of the incoming resources was the Welsh Office grant other income generated being £31,517.

Added to the net incoming resources of £5,109 was £3,000 representing Welsh Office slippage provisions no longer required of £1544 and net gains on investments of £3318.

The net movements in funds of £13,471 increased total funds carried over to £245,534.

Although the overall financial situation is considered satisfactory, once again I have to report that income from fundraising was extremely disappointing and a future fundraising strategy will require careful consideration.

Turning to the balance sheet it will be seen that the assets are adequate and available to fulfil present obligations. Fixed assets totalled £203,891 of which £184,481 represented investments which are periodically reviewed by our

investment advisors whilst net current assets were £60,421. The general Charity fund was £245,534, which is in effect the net worth of the organisation. This fund represents some two-thirds of the expenditure for the year and is thus not considered excessive. These assets generate income to the organisation of some £16,500 per annum, without which there is a real danger of deficits being incurred.

AUDITORS' REPORT

**REPORT OF THE AUDITORS
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
DISABILITY WALES/ANABLEDD CYMRU**

We have audited the financial statements set out on pages 12 to 21 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set on page 15 and 16.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Auditors

As described on page 3 the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentations of information in the financial statements.

AUDITORS' REPORT CONT...**Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 1997 and of its surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to small companies.

Keane & Co

KEANE & CO

Chartered Accountants
& Registered Auditors

Perch Buildings
20 West Bute Street
Cardiff
CF1 6HE

26 October 1997

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

	NOTES	1997	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS 1996
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Welsh Office Grants		341050	351050
Training Fees		4098	15372
Conference Fees		3543	3790
Membership Fees		3733	2945
Donations		1359	2128
Sales of Publications		451	916
Investment Income		10353	10865
Bank interest		6019	7458
Other Income		1961	3378
Total Incoming Resources		372567	397902
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Direct Charitable Expenditure	2	227801	260673
Management and Administration	3	139657	127110
Total Resources Expended		367458	387783
Net Incoming Resources		5109	10119
Exceptional Item	4	3500	10756
Provisions No Longer Required		1544	9000
Gains/(Losses) on Investments:			
- Realised		8149	-
- Unrealised		(4831)	3942
Net Movement in Funds		13471	33817
Balances Brought Forward		232063	198246
Balances Carried Forward		245534	232063

SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

	NOTES	1997 £	1996 £
Gross Income from Continuing Operations		372567	397902
Total Expenditure of Continuing Operations		(367458)	(387740)
Interest Payable	14	-	(43)
Net Income for the Year		5109	10119
Exceptional Income	4	3500	10756
Provisions No Longer Required		1544	9000
Realised Gains on Investments		8149	-
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	6	18302	29875

A detailed analysis of income by source is provided in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Detailed analyses of expenditure by source are provided in the Statement of Financial Activities and notes 2 and 3.

The summary Income & Expenditure Account is derived from the Statement of Financial Activities on page which, together with the notes to the accounts on pages 15 to 21 provides full information on the movements for the year on all the Charity's funds.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 1997

	NOTES	1997		1996	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	7		19430		21853
Investments	8		184461		131743
			203891		153596
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Prepayments	9	5281		3250	
Cash at Bank & in Hand		119658		125138	
		124939		128388	
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN LESS THAN 1 YEAR					
Creditors and Accruals	10	60421		30701	
		60421		30701	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			64518		97687
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
			268409		251283
Provisions	11	(22875)		19220	
		245534		232063	
CAPITAL & RESERVES					
General Charity Fund			245534		232063
	12		245534		232063

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 26 OCTOBER 1997

DE Mams Trustee DOUGLAS EDWARDS MORRIS (Name)
 J. Edwards Trustee JOHN ASHTON EDWARDS (Name)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

1 . ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Accounting Convention

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention.

b) Income

Income represents all monies received by the Charity during the year from every source.

c) Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each assets over its estimated useful life or, if held under a finance lease, over the lease term, whichever is the shorter.

Office Equipment	written off in the period of acquisition
Motor Vehicles	25% on cost

d) Hire Purchase and Leasing Commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts or finance leases are capitalised in the balance sheet. Those held under hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Those held under finance leases are depreciated over their estimated useful lives or the lease term, whichever is shorter.

The interest element of these obligations is charged to the profit and loss account over the relevant period. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability.

d) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the profit and loss account.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT...

e) Investments and Investment Income

Investments are included in the accounts at market value in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice. This represents a change in accounting policy over that previously operated.

Gains and losses arising on disposal are recognised in the income and expenditure account. Unrealised gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Dividends, including the associated tax credits, are credited to the income and expenditure account when they are received.

f) Grants

Grants where applicable, are credited to the financial statements in the year in which they are received.

g) Public Relations and Information Expenditure

Public relations and information expenditure comprises costs incurred in informing people of the work of the charity and the needs it meets. The income from the sale of these publications are credited to the income and expenditure account.

2 . DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	1997	1996
Salaries and Staff Costs	158037	195889
Provision of Advisory Service	34726	21137
Newsletter and Other Publications	32097	20151
Conference Costs	7497	3502
Training Costs	-	10052
Depreciation	(4556)	9942
	227801	260673

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

3 . MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION COSTS

	1997	1996
Salaries and Staff Costs	57466	54528
Office Costs	56141	46769
Bank Charges and Interest	942	1390
Professional Fees	6425	4944
Audit Fee	3378	2500
Cost of Trustee Meetings	7505	5130
Depreciation	7800	11849
	139657	127110

4 . EXCEPTIONAL ITEM

The amount of £3500 (1996 £10756) was awarded by the Welsh office as slippage for 1996.

5 . STAFF COSTS

	1997	1996
Salaries	171427	195653
Social Security Costs	16199	18894
Pension Contributions	14577	17871
	202203	232418

No employee earned more than £40000

Average number of employees:

Direct Charitable	9	10
Management & Administration	3	3
	12	13

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

6 . NET INCOME

The net income for the year is stated after charging:-

	1997	1996
Depreciation	7800	18424
Loss/(Profit) on Disposal of Fixed Assets	(4556)	3367
Auditors Remuneration	2938	2500
Directors' Emoluments	nil	nil

7 . TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	TOTAL £	OFFICE EQUIPMENT £	MOTOR VEHICLES £
COST			
As at 01:04:96	70295	14646	55649
Additions	15320	-	15320
Disposals	(54415)	(14646)	(39769)
As at 31:3:97	31200	-	31200
DEPRECIATION			
As at 01:04:96	48442	14646	33796
Charge for Year	7800	-	7800
Released on Disposal	(44472)	(14646)	(29826)
As at 31:3:97	11770	-	11770
NET BOOK VALUE			
As at 31:03:97	19430	-	19430
As at 31:03:96	21853	-	21853

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

8 . INVESTMENTS

	1997	1996
Listed Investments at Market Value	184461	131743
Original Cost of Investments	181755	124206

The inclusion of investments at market value and not cost represents a change in accounting policy in 1996 (see note 1).

9 . DEBTORS

	1997	1996
Debtors	5281	3250
Prepayments	-	-
	5281	3250

10 . CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE IN LESS THAN ONE YEAR

	1997	1996
Tax and Social Security Costs	4587	5265
WD Winters Fund	1520	1520
Other Creditors and Accruals	54314	23916
	60421	30701

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

11 . PROVISIONS

	1997	1996
Assertion Training	8761	9446
Recruitment Costs	5000	5000
Bursary Fund	3114	4774
Anniversary Activities	6000	-
	22875	19220

12 . GENERAL CHARITY FUND

	1997	1996
Balance as originally stated	232063	194651
Adjustment	-	3595
Balance as restated	232063	198246
Net Income for Year	13471	33817
Balance carried forward	245534	232063

13 . TAXATION

There is no liability to UK Corporation Tax as the company is a registered charity.

14 . INTEREST PAYABLE

	1997	1996
Bank Loans and Overdrafts	-	9
Hire Purchase Interest	-	34
	-	43

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997 CONT...

15 . PENSIONS PAYABLE

The company operates a defined contribution scheme on behalf of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in a separately administered fund. Contributions are paid based on a percentage of gross salary. The total paid to this scheme was £15260 (1996 £17871) and the sum of £5063 (1996 £2109) was due at 31:03:97. This is included in current creditors.