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SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT BAR MESS FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD TO 31 MARCH 2001

The South Eastern Circuit Bar Mess Foundation was incorporated as a private limited company with exclusively charitable objects on 13 December 1999. The members, who are the Trustees, have undertaken to contribute, to the extent set out in the Memorandum of association, to the assets of the Foundation in the event of its being wound up.

The Trustees of the Foundation are :

Michael Lawson QC
Geoffrey Nice QC
Hazel Williamson QC
The Honourable Mrs Justice Hallett DBE
Timothy Dutton QC
Simon Barker.



The trustees are the directors of the Foundation and Michael Lawson QC is the Chairman.

The Foundation's registration number as a limited company is 3892607.

The Foundation's registered office is at 2/3 Cursitor Street, London, EC4A 1NE.

The Foundation's bankers are HSBC Bank plc at 123, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1QR.

The Foundation is established for exclusively charitable objects, namely, the advancement of education and the relief of poverty and, without prejudice to these objects, (1) the promotion of excellence in (a) advocacy and representation before the courts of law and other legal services both within and outside the jurisdiction of England and Wales and (b) the administration of justice, (2) the relief of poverty and sickness among present, former and student members of the legal profession and their dependants, and (3) grant making to charities and other not-for-profit institutions providing a public benefit service of legal advice and/ or representation.

Progress and Achievements

The Foundation was established for exclusively charitable objects to address and advance education and to relieve poverty.

During its first year of activity, the Foundation received very generous support and sponsorship for its general objects and purposes from HSBC Bank plc.

The Foundation ran a specialist one week residential advocacy course, open to all advocates and would-be advocates, including members of the public at Keble College, Oxford. The course was attended principally by barristers practising on and beyond the South Eastern Circuit. In particular, five course delegates were advocates at the United Nations International War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague.

The Foundation was also pleased to support the Barristers Benevolent Association.

The Trustees will continue to address the various ways in which the foundation may achieve its objects and will continue to seek the Charity Commission's approval for registration as a charity.

Financial Statements

The attached financial statements show the state of the Foundation's finances at 31 March 2001 and for the financial period ending on that date. The Trustees are of the opinion that the state of the Foundation's finances is no less sound than it was on 31 March 2001.

All funds received by the Foundation are available for its general purposes. Accordingly, there are there are no restricted, designated, or endowed funds or resources.

The Foundation's independent financial examiner is Oscar del Fabbro, a barrister in practice at 23 Essex street, London, WC2R 3AS.

On behalf of the Trustees
Michael Lawson QC

W. J. G.
2001.
11/11/01

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN

While I was Leader of the South Eastern Circuit Bar Mess, I was concerned to address both education and poverty reaching beyond the geographical confines of my office.

Initially, I proposed that the Circuit Bar Mess itself should tackle this task by expanding the role of its successful advocacy course, held annually at Keble College Oxford, and by supporting existing charities and not-for-profit organisations such as the Barristers Benevolent Association, The Bar Pro Bono Unit and the Free Representation Unit. Since the year end the Foundation has made a contribution to the Free Representation Unit which will be reflected in the accounts to 31 March 2002.

Professional advice on the establishment of such a charity has been obtained from Horwath Clark Whitehill, chartered accountants with a specialist charities department. Horwath Clark Whitehill are still steering the foundation towards registration with the Charity Commission.

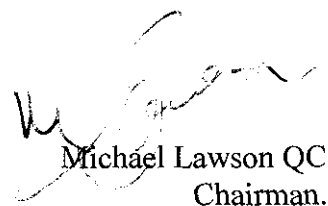
At an early stage I was able to interest HSBC Bank plc in providing an initial capital sum of £10,000 as sponsor to support the Foundation's objects. After the Foundation became established, HSBC Bank plc very generously agreed to increase the level of support by a further £10,000.

This has provided a sound platform with which to launch the Foundation, but the challenges of advancing education and relieving poverty are formidable.

In the course of the current year the Foundation will examine the possibility of funding a number of places on the Keble advocacy course for those who work in publicly funded legal advice centres or in the voluntary legal sector and who exercise advocacy functions.

The Foundation recognises that financial security for charities can be difficult to achieve, nevertheless the Trustees are committed to employing the Foundation's resources to provide assistance to those individuals and bodies in need of education and financial support. In addition to funds, the Foundation has received invaluable support from all those advocates, judges and other professionals who comprise the educational faculty for its courses and give their time free of charge.

The Foundation has reviewed and assessed the risk of the Foundation exhausting its financial resources. The Foundation's expenditure is driven by the availability of funds and bearing in mind the commitment of the South Eastern Circuit Bar Mess to the successful establishment of the Foundation, the Foundation's Trustees are confident that the Foundation is not at risk of exhausting its financial resources.


Michael Lawson QC
Chairman.

25/9/01

SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT BAR MESS FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD TO 31 MARCH 2001

Incoming Resources	£
Sponsorship for general purposes	20,300
Advocacy course fees	36,425
Interest	41
VAT refunded	<u>556</u>
	<u>57,322</u>
	<u>=====</u>
 Expenditure of Resources	
Formation advice and expenses	2,000
Advocacy course expenses	42,190
Printing	1,724
Administration and training	2,398
UN Refund	962
Bank charges	15
Charitable donations	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>50,289</u>
	<u>=====</u>
 Surplus of Incoming Resources for the period	 <u>7,033</u>
	<u>=====</u>

The Notes on page 6 form part of these accounts.

SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT BAR MESS FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2001

	£
Current Assets	
Balance at Bank	6,071
VAT recoverable	<u>962</u>
	<u>7,033</u>

Represented by :

Funds

Unrestricted Income Fund	<u>7,033</u>
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(i) For the period ended 31 March 2001 the company was entitled to the exemption under sub-section (1) of section 249A of the Companies Act 1985.

(ii) No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 249B of the Companies Act 1985.

(iii) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221 of the Companies Act 1985, (b) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its surplus of income or excess of expenditure for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 226 of the Companies Act 1985 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company, and (c) preparing the accounts in accordance with the special provisions in Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees on

2001 and signed on their behalf by


Michael Lawson QC


Simon Barker

SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT BAR MESS FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 31 MARCH 2001

1. Accounting Policies

General:

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities.

Income:

All income received by the Foundation is available for its general purposes. Income has been accounted for once its receipt is certain, save that VAT recoverable is accounted for under the accruals concept.

Expenditure:

Expenditure is accounted for under the accruals concept.

2 Expenditure

Advocacy course expenses comprise :

Keble College, Oxford	£38,192
Jurors and helpers	£ 1,410
Videos, consultancy and advertising	£ 2,588

Administration and training costs comprise:

Office and administration services	£1,200
Faculty training venue costs	£ 940
Sundry	£ 258

Charitable donations :

Barristers Benevolent Association	£1,000
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The Foundation has no employees.

The Trustees provide their services free of charge and without receiving any benefit.

The independent examination of the Foundation's accounts is also undertaken free of charge and without provision of any benefit.

The Trustees consider that the great majority of the administration costs may fairly be attributed to direct charitable expenditure. In view of the amounts involved and the fact that all funds are available for general purposes of the Foundation, it is not considered appropriate to apportion such expenditure on the face of the Foundation's Financial Statements.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the South eastern Circuit Bar Mess Foundation

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 March 2001, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

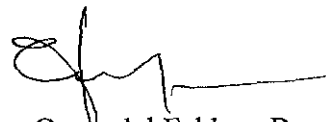
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in any audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Oscar del Fabbro, Barrister
23 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AS
2001.