Registered number: 04307833 Charity number: 1103852

# **BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

### **UNAUDITED**

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### **Trustees**

Professor R N A Henson, Chair

Dr M C Ashby, Trustee (appointed 20 May 2022)

Dr M Berners, Trustee

Professor C M Bird, Trustee (appointed 20 May 2022)

Dr T J Bushell, Trustee (appointed 20 May 2022)

Dr K P Cox, Trustee

Professor A C Dolphin, Trustee

Professor C J Harmer, Trustee (Resigned 20 May 2022)

Professor A R Isles, Trustee (resigned 20 May 2022)

Professor Z Kourtzi, Trustee

Professor A R Lingford-Hughes, Trustee (resigned 20 May 2022)

Professor A M Palmer, Trustee

Professor N Ramnani, Trustee (resigned 20 May 2022)

Professor T L Spires-Jones, Trustee

Dr V Straub, Trustee

Dr M E Walton, Trustee (appointed 20 May 2022)

#### Company registered number

04307833

#### Charity registered number

1103852

### Registered office

Dorothy Hodgkin Building Whitson Street Bristol BS1 3NY

#### **Company secretary**

Dr A Cooke

#### Chief executive officer

Dr A Cooke

#### **Accountants and Independent Examiner**

Martin Bailey FCA Goodman Jones LLP Chartered Accountants 29/30 Fitzroy Square London W1T 6LQ

(A company limited by guarantee)

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

#### **Trustees**

Professor R. Henson (President, and Officer)	appointed April 2021
Professor Z. Kourtzi (Association Secretary, and Officer)	elected January 2019
Professor C. Harmer (Treasurer and Officer)	elected June 2017 – term of office
	ended May 2022
Dr T. Bushell (Treasurer and Officer)	Elected May 2022
Professor Tara Spires-Jones (President Elect)	Appointed May 2021
Professor A. Dolphin (Immediate Past President)	Appointed May 2021
Dr V. Straub (Groups Co-ordinator)	elected May 2022
Professor N. Ramnani (Research Policy)	Elected June 2017 – term of office
	ended May 2022
Professor C. Bird (Research Policy)	Elected May 2022
Professor A. Lingford-Hughes (Professional Liaison)	Elected June 2017 – term of office
	ended May 2022
Professor A. Isles (Communications)	Elected June 2017 – term of office
	ended May 2022
Professor M.Walton (Preclinical Research)	elected May 2022
Dr M. Ashby (Credibility in Neuroscience)	elected May 2022
Dr M Berners, (Independent Trustee)	Appointed April 2017. Re-appointed
	May 2022
Dr K P Cox, (Independent Trustee)	Appointed April 2017. Re-appointed
	May 2022
Professor A M Palmer, (Independent Trustee)	Appointed April 2017. Re-appointed
	May 2022

**Company registered number:** 04307833 **Charity registered number:** 1103852

Registered office: The BNA Office, Dorothy Hodgkin Building, Whitson Street, Bristol BS1 3NY

Accountants: Goodman Jones LLP, Chartered Accountants, 29/30 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 6LQ

# (A company limited by guarantee) TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022.

The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

# Our vision and purpose:

The BNA is a membership organisation committed to preserve and protect health and advance public engagement in neuroscience, through supporting, promoting and representing neuroscientists and neuroscience research.

# Our objects:

The Association's objects (The Objects), as formulated in the Articles of the Association (Article 4) and in the Rules of the Association (Rule 1.3), both documents coming into force in April 2017, are:

To preserve and protect health and advance public education in neurosciences related to health and disease, in particular but not exclusively) by:

- (a) Promoting on a multidisciplinary basis the study of the development structure and function of the nervous system in health and disease;
- (b) Promoting the dissemination of information to all those interested in the neurosciences and related disciplines by means of lectures, discussions, meetings and reports from time to time obtained from such researchers;
- (c) Advising as far as possible on issues in neurosciences related to health and disease;
- (d) Endeavouring to increase public awareness and understanding of neuroscience research in health and disease;
- (e) Assisting in the training of neuroscientists and other professionals engaged in neuroscience teaching and research;

(f) Representing the interests of neuroscience researchers and promoting the case for the advancement of neuroscience research in the United Kingdom to government, to agencies providing research funding and to bodies engaged in science administration, regulation and standards.

All trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising powers and duties on behalf of the charity.

# Our aims:

We have three interconnected aims that are central to achieving our vision and purpose, and are the means by which we deliver our objectives: these are to **Inform, Connect, and Influence.** The aims to *Inform, Connect and Influence*, were arrived at through a series of strategic workshops and engagement with members, and they help the BNA Council and Committee to direct activities throughout the year.

# Message from the Chair and Chief Executive October 2021-September 2022

Entering into October 2021, the BNA community had substantially returned to 'normal' life in labs, schools and offices, having spent the previous 18 months navigating different levels of precautions and restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For many people, including many of the BNA members, this had been a very mixed time. Some embraced greater time at home, others struggled with isolation or separation from family, and the consequences of school closures, illness, mental wellbeing and bereavement continue to reverberate today.

Given the previous period of restrictions, the BNA's year therefore started with optimism and plans to recommence in-person meetings and embrace a post-COVID world. Before barely two months had passed, the Omicron variant put much of the UK back in lock-down. Even though this turned out to be the final lock-down, this inevitably meant that our YE2022 reporting period continued to be affected by the uncertainty and disruption experienced in YE2020 and YE2021.

Regardless, the year has plenty of activities to report. Highlights include the growth of the BNA Scholars Programme; bringing together the European neuroscience community to keep European neuroscience collaboration open post-Brexit; and even launching a podcast. As described in the following report, our meetings included both in-person and online, with a high degree of responsiveness and flexibility continuing to be the norm.

A major panacea to any uncertainty was receiving a second substantial grant from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation. The first grant allowed us to significantly expand the BNA's activities and impact. With the grant coming to an end during YE2022, securing further funding was a top priority for the year. We are very grateful to the Gatsby for awarding another three year grant, taking us to September 2025. This will enable us to embed progress made to date, and lead us into the next phase of creating 'an exciting and sustainable future for 21st century neuroscience'.

# Report of the Board of Trustees

#### Aim 1: Inform

**Scientific Journal**: The Association's scientific journal, *Brain and Neuroscience Advances*, is the platform through which we inform the profession about the latest neuroscience research. Following the Journal's successful indexing in PubMed Central (PMC) in April 2020, all articles are included on PMC's searchable database, giving wide visibility and availability worldwide. In addition, the fact that the Journal is Gold Open Access means all content is completely accessible by readers free of charge. The journal is published by Sage and wholly owned by the BNA, and continues to benefit from excellent leadership by Editor-in-Chief Jeff Dalley along with an international editorial board.

Highlights over the reporting period include:

- Publication of 'Climate crisis and ecological emergency: Why they concern (neuro)scientists, and what we can do' by (https://doi.org/10.1177/23982128221075430)do' by Charlotte L Rae, Martin Farley, Kate J Jeffery and Anne E. Urai (https://doi.org/10.1177/23982128221075430), an important paper for the neuroscience community on how to respond to the climate crisis
- A special collection on 'Negative Urgency as a Driver for Psychopathology' (Guest Editors: Donald R. Lynam and Jeffrey W. Dalley)
- In October 2021, the journal became a member of the 'Peer Community In Registered Reports' initiative.

The number of articles published in the journal between 1st Oct 2021 – 30th Sept 2022 was as follows:

- 12 Original Research articles
- 4 Review articles
- 1 Editorial

**Informing members:** Keeping our members informed is an essential role performed by the BNA, whether that's informing each other about the BNA community's 'internal' activities or informing them about external factors that are relevant to the field as a whole.

Our printed members' newsletter, The *BNA Bulletin*, is sent out three times a year and informs members about events, prizes, news from the BNA, funders or regulators, and activities across the BNA community, as well as highlighting research undertaken by UK neuroscientists. *Brain Insights* is a section within the *Bulletin* written by and for students and Early Career Researchers, offering a valuable opportunity for early career scientists to gain writing experience. The Bulletin now also includes a regular feature on policy, written by the BNA's Head of Policy and Campaigns, which ensures members are kept up to date with issues such as European Union funding negotiations, and changes in UK government that impact science.

Alongside the *Bulletin* members receive a monthly email newsletter, the eBulletin. This provides more frequent updates on BNA activities, jobs, events and funding.

Social media platforms are also now very important ways to keep our members informed, as they enable immediate, specific and direct interaction between the BNA office and our wider community (see more below).

During this reporting period a new communications route was launched for BNA members, namely a BNA 'Slack' group. This was established due to the desire of members to have an easy and instant way to contact each other and keep each other informed about research, jobs, teaching or anything else relevant to their roles in neuroscience. The Slack group is exclusive to BNA members, creating another membership benefit.

**External communications**: The website and the BNA's social media platforms are increasingly well-used resources for informing people about neuroscience, reaching both members and non-members. These digital communication channels make the BNA readily accessible to members of the public, and the office is kept busy answering enquiries from journalists, patients, prospective students and anyone else wanting to know about neuroscience.

During 2021-2022 the website attracted 161.6k users and 459k page views. This compares to 154k users and 486k page views in the period 2020-2021. Pages with information on jobs, careers and courses consistently remains the most visited of the site, showing how the BNA is used as a way to find out how to study and pursue a career in neuroscience.

By the end of this reporting period, the BNA had 34k (Twitter), 13.3k (Facebook), 14.6k (LinkedIn), 2.8k (Instagram) and 3.4k (YouTube) followers across social media channels.

**Public engagement of neuroscience**: The BNA's main public engagement activity takes place every other year, via the Festivals of Neuroscience. This reporting period does not include a Festival, but a number of public-facing activities still took place.

The BNA's annual Festive symposium is always designed to be accessible by members of the public as well as neuroscientists. Due to ongoing travel restrictions and disruption caused by COVID-19, the 2021 event was held online for the second year running. However, being online has the benefit of increasing accessibility to a wider audience, both geographically and to those working outside of neuroscience.

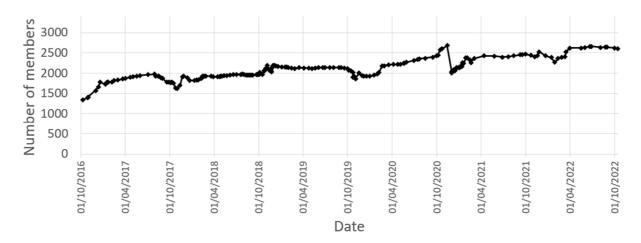
This year's Festive symposium was entitled "Ding Dong Merrily on AI", launching the BNA's annual theme for 2023 - the neuroscience of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

During the global 'Brain Awareness Week' campaign (March 2022) we again picked up on the AI theme, via a series of articles and social media posts.

In a first for the BNA, we also forayed into podcasts. 'Embodied Al' is a podcast developed and run by one of the BNA's placement students, featuring interviews with leading researchers in the field. It hosted three episodes during the reporting period, bringing a new audience to the BNA.

#### Aim 2: Connect

Connecting the neuroscience community through BNA membership: over the course of YE2022 we saw membership make a modest but important increase from 2,466 to 2,621 (+155). To put this increase in context, the graph below shows total membership over the previous six years (total increase 1,344 to 2,621, or 195%).



The membership types with greatest percentage increase growth over YE2022 were those at earlier career stages, particularly student/undergraduate (119%) and career starter (153%, see table below). Having a growing community of early career members is one reason why the Association is making career development one of its priority areas, as this is clearly an area of need for our members and one where the BNA can have a positive impact on developing the sector.

	YE2021	YE2022	Change	%
Full Members	594	592	-2	100%
<b>Early Career Researchers</b>	311	307	-4	99%
Career starter	19	29	+10	153%
Postgraduate	615	623	+8	101%
Student/Undergraduate	749	894	+145	119%
Industry member	47	50	+3	106%
Associate member	73	70	-3	96%
Retired member	52	50	-2	96%
Honorary member	6	6	0	100%
TOTAL	2,466	2621	+155	106%

**BNA Local Groups:** The BNA has a national network of Local Groups (LGs) each headed by a Local Group Representative (LGR). Many groups also have one or more Local Group Student Representatives (LGSRs). This network enables two-way communication between members and the BNA Council, provides local hubs for members, and an important way for members to connect with colleagues near and far. The LGRs do a great deal to help the BNA connect and support neuroscientists, and the Association is very grateful for their work.

During YE2022, the LG network received a boost thanks to appointing a new full time member of staff as 'BNA Community and Inclusion Officer', with a particular focus on supporting the BNA community of members. In September 2022, the LGRs and LGSRs met in Leicester for a Local Group Forum, the first time they were able to meet in-person for since before the pandemic. Amongst other activities, the day enabled a discussion on the teaching of neuroscience, something which has changed radically over the last two years. sharing experience and best practice in this way is hugely valuable for the community. aAlongside the in-person meeting, the online monthly meetings of LGRs have also continued.

LGs can apply for BNA funding to support local activities which help promote the aims and objectives in the BNA. LG activities taking place during YE2021 included:

- Cambridge: Science communication workshop
- Imperial College London: Online seminar series 'Corpus Curiosum'
- Liverpool: Christmas symposium 'The gut-brain axis'
- Nottingham: Special meeting held at the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies Forum in Paris, France
- Open University: Seminar funding
- Strathclyde: European Neuroscience Conference by Doctoral Students

In addition, special funding was made available to LGs in this reporting period, following the last-minute cancellation of the large Society for Neuroscience (SfN) meeting in the United States. This meeting is extremely important for, in particular, students and early career neuroscientists, and its late cancellation was detrimental for them both financially and for career development. The BNA therefore made funds available so that LGs could hold group gatherings and enable those who had been affected by the cancellation to at least have a local audience for posters and talks. A number of these special meetings were held across the UK and proved very popular, with some LGs in Northwest England now planning to hold a regional meeting annually.

Connecting with industry ('Building Bridges Between: Industry and Academia' (BBB)): Our strategic programme to increase connections between neuroscience in these two sectors continues to strengthen and grow. Four highlights of this programme of work during the reporting period are as follows:

- 1) Improving translation in neuroscience workshop 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 | London, UK This was the first in-person event held by the BNA since March 2020. In a quirk of circumstance, both last and first meetings were held in the same place: the Sainsbury Wellcome Centre in London, with whom the BNA has a strong collaboration.
  The workshop saw over 100 people come together to discuss how to build bridges that enable successful translation of research between industry and academia. Talks, breakout sessions, chaired panel discussion and all-important socialising facilitated valuable interaction of research neuroscientists at all career stages with people working in the commercial sector, as well as funders such as Wellcome and the UK Dementia Research Institute.
- 2) Webinar series: Building bridges along the psychiatric drug discovery pipeline
  Held in collaboration with The Psychiatry Consortium, this series of five online webinars looked at how to make psychiatric drug discovery a truly collaborative process. All too often industry and academia work in isolation of each other and only building alliances at a later stage when necessary. Building cross-disciplinary partnerships earlier in the process can take a project in a whole new direction. The series brought together multiple different voices and perspectives to explore how to do this better.
- 3) Publication of 'Guiding Principles for Robust Target Validation in Psychiatry'
  Published in partnership with the Psychiatry Consortium, this seven-page document helps
  people navigate the early stages of drug discovery target identification and target validation -

and improve understanding of, and treatment of, psychiatric disorders.

#### 4) Annual partnership models

During YE2022, the BNA built on learnings from the previous year about how best to work with commercial partners, and both developed and launched an 'annual partnership' model. Annual partnerships consist of bespoke packages of promotional opportunities, joint webinars and other activities that are mutually beneficial for BNA members and the specific partner, such as career development events or data hackathons. Importantly, the annual partnerships have also generated a new income stream for the BNA.

**BNA Meetings**: Bringing people together via events is essential for the BNA to fulfil its aim to connect. Through our meetings we enable neuroscientists to connect with each other, across disciplines and geographies, and goes towards meeting our object to "disseminate information to all those interested in the neurosciences and related disciplines".

YE2022 continued to be affected by COVID-19, and so all but one of the meetings in the reporting period were held online. However, the first post-pandemic in-person meeting was held in May 2022 at the Sainsbury Wellcome Centre in London (the 'BBB' workshop on improving translation in neuroscience, see above).

The largest meeting of the year was also a first for the BNA: a members-only event, intentionally exclusive to BNA members to encourage open sharing in a supportive and safe online environment. Held over two days, an astonishing 42 speakers took part, talking about everything rom learning in worms to gambling addiction, and from brain organoids to developing drugs for migraines. There was also a special session on women in neuroscience. The Members' Meeting was warmly received, and we plan to hold again in years between the biennial Festival of Neuroscience.

A list of all meetings held through the reporting period is as follows:

- 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Embracing digital transformation without alienating the membership
- 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Brain Gain: How world-leading UK neuroscience research can meet tomorrow's societal challenges (an event held for the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee)
- 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021; 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March Building bridges along the psychiatric drug discovery pipeline (a series of five webinars for the BBB initiative see more above)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 FORUM Networking event: Understanding chronic pain a joint event
  that brought together researchers, clinicians, regulators, and people with lived experience.
  Recommendations from the event were subsequently written up as report by the Academy of
  Medical Sciences.
- 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Festive symposium, 'Ding dong merrily on Al'
- 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 BNA Members' Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Improving translation in neuroscience (a BBB workshop, see above)
- 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Using stem cells to explore the genetics underlying brain disease (joint with Biotechne/Tocris)
- 9th June 2022 Introduction to multicell patch clamp recordings (joint with Scientifica)
- 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Introduction to in vivo multiphoton microscopy (joint with Scientifica)

- 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Careers for neuroscientists in AI (with Arca Blanca)
- 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> July Credibility lunchbox: in vivo neuroscience (series of webinars)

**Membership of societies:** The BNA is a member of three organisations which make sure the BNA membership is part of a larger voice. Membership of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) connects us with all the life sciences across the UK. The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) enables the BNA and BNA members to be part of European neuroscience, and membership of the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO) connects the BNA with the global community.

Of the three organisations, the BNA is most actively involved in FENS. The BNA is a member of the FENS Governing Council, and was represented at FENS meetings through the year. This included attendance of the 2022 FENS Forum, in Paris, France. The BNA president and president-elect both took part and a large gathering of BNA members got together for a members' social. BNA CE represented the Association at the Governing Council and spoke on the BNA Scholars Programme (see more in Aim 3).

#### Aim 3: Influence

As the largest UK-based organisation representing neuroscience and neuroscientists, the BNA is in position to influence the sector, decision-makers, and neuroscientists themselves. Having influence is central in fulfilling two of the Association's objects: (c) Advising as far as possible on issues in neurosciences related to health and disease; and (f) Representing the interests of neuroscience researchers and promoting the case for the advancement of neuroscience research in the United Kingdom to government, to agencies providing research funding and to bodies engaged in science administration, regulation and standards.

Our main areas of activity in the area of 'influence' are listed below.

**Credibility in neuroscience**: We are now three years into our core campaign to, "support the neuroscience sector to increase the transparency, reproducibility, replicability and reliability of neuroscience research". The credibility in neuroscience campaign requires the BNA to influence both ways: to influence neuroscientists and how neuroscience is done, but also to influence the organisations and environment in which neuroscientists operate, so that the way neuroscience is done is able to change. Some key achievements during the reporting period:

- Parliamentary enquiry on the Future Research Assessment Programme (FRAP): This piece of work was initiated at the request of government ministers and funding bodies in order to 'explore possible approaches to the assessment of uk higher education research performance'. The current approach is via REF (Research Excellence Framework) which has been widely criticised for how it can set up goals and rewards that work to counter credible practices. It was therefore key to our credibility in neuroscience campaign to provide evidence for FRAP. Views were sought and data collected through the summer of 2022 and submitted to the enquiry late in the reporting period.
- Westminster enquiry into research reproducibility: The BNA credibility campaign responded to
  this enquiry by highlighting some of the reproducibility challenges within neuroscience, and
  made recommendations on tackling them with practices such as preregistering studies, creating
  new publishing models so that the emphasis moves away from novel results and more towards

complete reporting free from biases, changing incentive structures in research, and changing hiring practices so that they value reproducibility and Open Science.

- Credibility in neuroscience events: In YE2022 these included
  - o 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021: Workshop 'Using R'
  - o 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021: BeIncredible with the Credibility prize winners
  - 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021: Factor Friction How do we move away from Journal Impact Factor whilst it remains valued by neuroscientists?
  - 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021: Reproducible research using stem cell derived neurons and organoids
  - o 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021: How we can make 3D models more reproducible
  - o 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021: Careers in neuroscience (and beyond!)
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021: Human stem cell models of neurodegeneration: complex, relevant and robust
- <u>Awarding Credibility in Neuroscience prizes</u>: One way to change how neuroscience is done is to change what is recognised and celebrated in neuroscience, and for this purpose we run the BNA Credibility in Neuroscience prizes. The prize has three categories: student, researcher and team.
- BNA journal, *Brain and Neuroscience Advances*: Our journal is one of only a handful of journals worldwide to cover the full range of open science practices being Gold Open Access, offering Registered Reports, CRediT taxonomy, Transparency and Openness Promotion (TOP) Guidelines and Badges for Open Practices in addition to being open access itself. In October 2021, the journal also became a memer of the 'Peer Community In Registered Reports' initiative.

**Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in neuroscience:** The role the BNA has in this space continues to grow, and the Association is committed to influencing and increasing EDI in our sector.

The most significant piece of work in terms of resources (financial, staff, and volunteer time) is running the BNA Scholars Programme. Going into its second year during YE2022, the programme welcomed a further seven scholars meaning that it supported fourteen students and Early Career Researchers from under-represented ethnic groups to flourish in neuroscience. With more momentum, supporters and being able to meet in person, activities for the scholars were able to expand and included: a bespoke careers day at COMPASS Pathways; attendance of the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) Forum in Paris; one-to-one mentorship of all scholars.

It is important to also advocate for change in the institutions and systems that can continue to discriminate against individuals due to sex, ethnicity, disability, wealth, background or other characteristics that make up who we are, and the BNA will continue to contribute to change in neuroscience wherever it can. In response to an inquiry of the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee, asking about the implications of a lack of diversity in research and considering measures taken to improve diversity within the field thus far, the BNA therefore submitted in which we presented data collected in recent years on diversity within neuroscience research. These were particularly informed by our 2021 Festival which, having been held online, gave us a much larger and comprehensive snapshot sample of the neuroscience research community.

The data we presented indicate an underrepresentation of black groups in neuroscience research compared to the general population, and that representation of ethnic minority groups, women and people who identify as non-binary decreases with seniority of research role. We also supported evidence submitted by our Trustee for Research Policy, Narender Ramnani, in which data from Freedom

of Information requests enabled a deep and thorough analysis of ethnic minority representation on Research Councils' committees, revealing persistent underrepresentation over the last five years.

Other EDI activities included a spotlight on 'Women in Neuroscience' at the Members' Meeting via a dedicated panel session, and we have continued to award 'Carer Grants' (supported by the Guarantors of Brain) which enable those with caring responsibilities to participate in neuroscience activities by e.g. paying for childcare or help for elderly relatives.

A voice in Parliament: The BNA is a member of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee (P&SC). This committee is an interface between scientists and parliamentarians and provides opportunities for the BNA to inform decision-making that takes place in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and enables us to raise awareness of issues that we feel are important for neuroscientists. The BNA was represented at P&SC meetings throughout the year.

A highlight of the year was holding an event for parliamentarians, members, funders and other stakeholders. Entitled, "Brain Gain: How world-leading UK neuroscience research can meet tomorrow's societal challenges" the online event raised the profile of neuroscience, and highlighted to decision-makers its importance in helping tackle the UK's big health challenges. The event was very well-attended and subsequently reported in the publication for MPs 'Science in Parliament'.

Post-Brexit neuroscience - bringing together the European neuroscience community on UK membership of Horizon Europe: In response to the ongoing delays in the UK and EU agreeing UK associate membership of the EU's world-leading research and innovation Horizon Europe programme, the BNA coordinated a letter from 34 presidents of member organisations of FENS urging the President of the European Commission, Dr Ursula von der Leyen, to confirm UK membership to help keep European neuroscience collaboration open. This represented a united message highlighting concerns the European neuroscience community have over the current delay of UK association to Horizon Europe. The letter, while not resolving the UK Horizon Europe issue, helped add to the pressure exerted by the research sector around Horizon Europe during a period of significant political uncertainty at a UK level.

**Green neuroscience:** A new policy area for the BNA is that of the environmental sustainability of neuroscience research, or 'green neuroscience'. Following discussions at the BNA2021 Festival of Neuroscience, a new Green Neuroscience Working Group was formed with four main areas of activity: (1) making sure the way the BNA itself is as environmentally responsible as possible; (2) reducing the impact of neuroscience research;(3) encouraging change at institutional level and (4) supporting individuals to make changes to reduce their own environmental impact.

Animals in Research: The BNA continues to be committed to openness on the use of animals in research and is a signatory of the Concordat on Openness on Animal Research in the UK. We are an active member of the RSB Animal Science Group, a special interest group representing the broad spectrum of UK bodies actively involved in supporting, funding, or formulating policy on research involving animals.

**BNA prizes:** Last but by no means least, another way of influencing neuroscience is by recognising and celebrating its achievements. Winners of the BNA's annual prizes in YE2022 were as follows:

• Outstanding Contribution to Neuroscience 2021: Professor Joanna Wardlaw at the UK Dementia Research Institute at University of Edinburgh.

- Public Engagement of Neuroscience 2021: The BrainBus team, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, University of Cambridge
- Postgraduate award 2021: Alberto Lazari, University of Oxford
- Undergraduate Award 2021: Sioned Williams, University of Leeds
- Credibility in Neuroscience Prize (student): Fiona Ramage (University of Dundee)
- Credibility in Neuroscience Prize (researcher): Matthew Grubb (King's College London)
- Credibility in Neuroscience Prize (Team): Experimental Design Assistant development team (NC3Rs)
- Honorary Membership: Awarded to Professor Narender Ramnani, in recognition of his many years of service to the BNA

# Plans for 2022/23 (YE2023)

The strategic pillars of the BNA remain 'Inform, Connect, Influence', with the 'Credibility in Neuroscience' continuing as our core 5-10 year commitment underlying all our activities.

At the start of YE2023, priorities are as follows:

- 1. <u>Appointing a new Chief Executive (CE)</u>: At the time of writing, the current CE (Anne Cooke) will leave the position after 7.5 years in the role. A major priority for the BNA is therefore managing the transition to the new CE (who has recently been identified) and taking advantage of new leadership to capitalise on the BNA's secure position to facilitate greater growth and success.
- 2. Professionalising the sector: At present, there are no agreed, universal standards for undergraduate or postgraduate neuroscience courses to meet, making the quality of courses range widely and meaning future neuroscientists have no way of identifying ones that will provide a good grounding for their career. As the leading professional organisation for neuroscience, we plan to establish a way of assessing and endorsing neuroscience courses.
- 3. <u>Including and catering for clinical neuroscientists</u>: We wish to improve how we include those individuals who are both clinically trained and have research interests in neuroscience, across the three main specialities of neurology, psychiatry and psychology.
- 4. <u>Providing career development advice and opportunities:</u> with an ever-growing membership of students and early career researchers, the BNA is in a unique position to provide them with connections and opportunities beyond their own institutions and across the sector.
- 5. <u>Reaching a wider audience</u>: We know from surveys and anecdotally that many people who could be a member of the BNA, do not know about the Association nor what we do. We will seek to address this by investing in marketing and communications during YE2023.
- 6. <u>Further strengthening collaboration between academic and commercial sectors</u>: The BNA has taken great strides in building links between the sectors via its 'BBB' programme. It is now poised and ready to take this to the next level, as well as broaden into more medtech as well as pharmaceutical areas of industry.

# Review of financial position

# a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

#### b. Financial review

During the financial year ending 30th September 2022 the BNA's total income was £407,416. Expenditure, which was wholly on charitable activities to advance education in neuroscience, was £319,236; after taking account of net losses on investments, the net movement in funds was a surplus of £54,121.

The net reserves carried forward was £597,731. Of this, around £85,000 is held in restricted funds, committed largely to (1) delivering activities associated with funding from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, and (2) supporting the BNA's equity, diversity and inclusion work.

Funding has and will continue to be used to support the BNA Trustees' ten-year strategic plan, in particular the 'Credibility in Neuroscience' campaign, but also other activities which meet the aims to 'Inform, Connect and Influence'.

The BNA remains in a stable financial position to sustain itself and to meet its charitable objectives.

# .c. Reserves policy

The BNA's reserves policy states that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to one year's expenditure, where one year's expenditure is calculated on the basis of:

- 12 months' overheads of British Neuroscience Association Ltd
- 12 months' direct expenses of British Neuroscience Association Ltd, where direct expenses include bursaries and grants, Bulletin production, subscriptions, and education/outreach work
- 12 months' overheads of BNA Events Ltd (averaged over a two-year period.)
- 12 months' direct expenses of BNA Events Ltd, where direct expenses relate to costs of the biennial Festival of Neuroscience (averaged over a two-year period.)

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in revenue, they will be able to continue the Association's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised and/or costs can be reduced. The level of this reserve will be maintained throughout the course of each accounting year.

# d. Principal funding

The main sources of income for the BNA in Year End 2022 were membership subscriptions (£100k), dividend received from the BNA's subsidiary company, BNA Events Ltd (£98.5k) and grants and donations (£207.7k, with £150k of this from The Gatsby Charitable Foundation). Overall, around half the BNA's principal funding is from membership and events, and half from donations.

# e. Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees' investment powers are governed by Article 5 in the Articles of Association. This permits the Charity to deposit or invest funds in securities or property as may be thought fit in order to further its Objects, or is conducive or incidental to doing so, subject to conditions and consents as laid down in the Association's governing documents.

During YE2022, the Trustees made the decision that the BNA should not invest in activities associated with gambling. This is in addition the previous year's decision to not hold more than a total of 5% investments in tobacco, alcohol, or firearms (combined). The target is to reduce such investments to 0%.

The Trustees' policy for YE2022 will be to continue to optimise income on temporarily invested funds and to maintain a balanced portfolio of long-term investments, and continue to manage the charity's investments in conformity with our policy and Trust Deed.

# Structure, governance and management

#### a. Constitution

British Neuroscience Association Limited is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The Company is registered as a charity under the registration number 1103852.

The BNA is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and accompanying set of Rules. These were revised during the period of the previous report, and the new documents approved by the Charity Commission in June 2017. No changes have been made to governing articles since then.

# b. Organisational structure

The British Neuroscience Association is a membership organisation, with seven membership categories (defined in the Rules), plus a number of Honorary members. With the exception of Associate members, all members have voting rights on the principle of "one member, one vote", which is exercised at the Annual General Meetings (detailed in Articles 15-27).

The association has 39 Local Groups (Rule 5), that provide for a national network between members and the Association's governance team.

The BNA is governed by a Council of Trustees, comprising between seven and twelve members of the Association (Article 29). Non-Trustee positions on the Council include the Meetings Secretary, other coopted members for specific functions and other invited observers or advisors, for example the Neurology Advisor. The specific procedures for the appointment and retirement of the Trustees are detailed in the Articles (32-35).

To help with discharging the activities of the Association, the BNA has also a National Advisory Committee (formerly "The National Committee") whose role is to represent different demographics and interests within the Association's membership (Rule 4).

Supporting all activities and needs of the Council, Committee, and general membership is the BNA Executive. During the year this consisted of one full time and three part-time staff members.

# c. Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Potential risks, once identified, will be monitored and controlled to mitigate any impact that they may have on the Association in the future.

To help with this the BNA has a Risk Register. Conflict of Interest (Rules 8 and 9) and a Register of Interests. BNA has a specific Declaration of Interests form, that is completed by all members of the Council and Committee of the BNA.

# Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of British Neuroscience Association Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- 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 charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Reference and administrative details

# Members of BNA Council (on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022)

•	*Professor R. Henson (President, and Officer)	appointed April 2021
•	*Professor Z. Kourtzi (Association Secretary, & Officer)	elected January 2019
•	*Dr T.Bushell (Treasurer and Officer)	elected May 2022
•	*Professor T. Spires-Jones (President Elect)	appointed April 2021
•	*Professor A. Dolphin (Immediate Past President)	appointed April 2021
•	*Dr V. Straub (Groups Co-ordinator)	elected May 2020
•	*Professor C.Bird (Research Policy)	elected May 2022
•	*Professor M.Walton (Preclinical neuroscience)	elected May 2022
•	*Dr M.Ashby (Credibility in Neuroscience)	elected May 2022
•	*Dr M Berners, (Independent Trustee)	appointed April 2017
•	*Dr K P Cox, (Independent Trustee)	appointed April 2017
•	*Professor A M Palmer, (Independent Trustee)	appointed April 2017
•	Professor S Guthrie (Meetings Secretary)	appointed October 2019

<sup>\*</sup> Trustee position

#### Members of the National Committee

Professor D Beccano-Kelly (Meetings Secretary)

•	Dr C Winlove (Education & Outreach Secretary)	Elected Sept 2018
•	E Soopramanien (Students & Early Career Representative)	Elected June 2020
•	Dr E Yhnell (Equal Opportunities & Diversity Representative)	Elected February 2019
•	Dr C. Carroll - Clinical Scientist Representative for Neurology	Appointed May 2022
•	Professor S Abrahams - Clinical Scientist Rep for Psychology	Appointed May 2022
•	Dr L Sinclair - Clinical Scientist Representative for Psychiatry	Appointed May 2022

appointed October 2021

# Executive

- Alex Campbell (Head of Marketing and Communications)
- Joseph Clift (Head of Policy and Campaigns)
- Anne Cooke (Chief Executive)
- Sophie Jerrold (Development Director)
- Hannah Thurgur (Executive Officer) resigned January 2022
- Louise Tratt (Head of Meetings and Events)
- Dani Wijesinghe (Community and Inclusion Officer) appointed March 2022

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Professor R N A Henson

Chair

Date: 04-05-23

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of British Neuroscience Association Limited ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2022.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Signed: Martin Bailey

Dated: 04-05-23

Martin Bailey FCA Goodman Jones LLP 29/30 Fitzroy Square London W1T 6LQ

# BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	4,558	203,143	207,701	65,046
Charitable activities	5	101,222	-	101,222	98,224
Investments	6	98,493	-	98,493	227
Total income		204,273	203,143	407,416	163,497
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	149,939	169,297	319,236	250,750
Total expenditure		149,939	169,297	319,236	250,750
Net income/(expenditure) before net (losses)/gains on investments		54,334	33,846	88,180	(87, 253)
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(34,059)	-	(34,059)	62,111
Net movement in funds		20,275	33,846	54,121	(25,142)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		491,954	51,656	543,610	568,752
Net movement in funds		20,275	33,846	54,121	(25, 142)
Total funds carried forward		512,229	85,502	597,731	543,610

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 23 to 37 form part of these financial statements.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 04307833

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Note		2022 £		2021 £
Fixed assets			~		
Tangible assets	11		1,353		1,803
Investments	12		329,220		363,279
		_	330,573	_	365,082
Current assets			·		
Debtors	13	57,722		82,895	
Cash at bank and in hand		229,129		106,995	
	_	286,851	_	189,890	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(19,693)		(11,362)	
Net current assets	<del>-</del>		267,158		178,528
Total assets less current liabilities		_	597,731	_	543,610
Total net assets		=	597,731	=	543,610
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	15		85,502		51,656
Unrestricted funds	15		512,229		491,954
Total funds		_	597,731	_	543,610

The Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 04307833

#### BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED) AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

**Professor R Henson** 

President

Date: 04-05-23

The notes on pages 23 to 37 form part of these financial statements.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 1. General information

British Neuroscience Association Limited is a Charitable Company Registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is Dorothy Hodgkin Building, Whitson Street, Bristol BS1 3NY.

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

#### 2. Accounting policies

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

British Neuroscience Association Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### 2.2 Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have considered the future plans of the Charity and expected income, and it is deemed that the Charity can meet its commitments and liabilities and can continue for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### 2.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.4 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service. Membership fees are recongised in the period to which they relate.

Grant income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants, including government grants, are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

#### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

#### 2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.7 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

#### 2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, on a reducing balance basis.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Computer equipment - 25% on reducing balance

#### 2.9 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

#### 2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### 2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

#### 2.13 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### 2.14 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

#### 3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. No estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year have been identified.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

### 4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	4,558	203,143	207,701	63,312
Government grants	-		-	1,734
	4,558	203,143	207,701	65,046
Total 2021	44,880	20,166	65,046	

Government grants in the prior year represents monies received under the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Support Scheme.

#### 5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Subscriptions and Bulletin advertising	101,222	101,222	98,224
Total 2021	98,224	98,224	

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6.	Investment income				
			Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
	Dividend income Bank interest		98,275 218	98,275 218	- 227
			98,493	98,493	227
	Total 2021		227	227	
7.	Analysis of expenditure on charitable ac	ctivities			
	Summary by fund type				
		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	Advance education in neuroscience	149,939	169,297	319,236	250,750
	Total 2021	115,690	135,060	250,750	
8.	Analysis of expenditure by activities				
8.	Analysis of expenditure by activities	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
8.	Analysis of expenditure by activities  Advance education in neuroscience	undertaken directly 2022	costs 2022	funds 2022	funds 2021

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

# 8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

# **Analysis of direct costs**

	Advance education in neuroscience 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	126,108	126,108	122,302
Bulletin production	24,513	24,513	27,797
Bursaries and sponsorship	8,151	8,151	2,436
Gatsby project costs	34,692	34,692	4,407
Subscriptions and membership	7,556	7,556	5,054
Advertising	1,600	1,600	1,750
Travel	1,653	1,653	1,153
Printing, postage and stationery	768	768	811
Journal production	4,476	4,476	4,637
	209,517	209,517	170,347
Total 2021	170,347	170,347	

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

### 8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

# **Analysis of support costs**

	Advance education in neuroscience 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	82,735	82,735	67,390
Depreciation	450	450	450
Advertising	866	866	605
Travel	6,727	6,727	72
Printing, postage and stationery	110	110	131
Telephone	600	600	635
Website development	3,872	3,872	(1,870)
Professional fees	7,693	7,693	7,267
Insurance	1,090	1,090	707
Bank charges	2,825	2,825	3,086
Sundry	751	751	355
Governance	2,000	2,000	2,000
Bad debt	-	-	(425)
	109,719	109,719	80,403
Total 2021	80,403	80,403	

Governance costs represent accountancy and independent examination fees.

### 9. Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries 18	35,282	169,913
Social security costs	14,850	12,158
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	8,711	7,621
20	08,843	189,692

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 9. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Employees	6	6

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Total remuneration, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions, in respect of key management personnel totalled £58,717 (2021: £56,546).

#### 10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2021 - £NIL).

During the year ended 30 September 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL to 0 Trustees).

#### 11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2021	4,355
At 30 September 2022	4,355
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2021	2,552
Charge for the year	450
At 30 September 2022	3,002
Net book value	
At 30 September 2022	1,353
At 30 September 2021	1,803

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

12. Fixed ass	et investments
---------------	----------------

	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Other investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 October 2021	100	363,179	363,279
Revaluations	-	(34,059)	(34,059)
At 30 September 2022	100	329,120	329,220
Net book value			
At 30 September 2022	100	329,120	329,220
At 30 September 2021	100	363,179	363,279

### **Principal subsidiaries**

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Charity:

Name	Company number	Class of shares	Holding	Included in consolidation
BNA Events Limited	07784689	Ordinary	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Profit/(Loss) for the year £	
BNA Events Limited	41,304	41,621

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

13.	Debtors		
		2022 £	2021 £
	Due within one year		
	Trade debtors	13,342	32,409
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	41,742	48,376
	Other debtors	11	496
	Prepayments and accrued income	2,627	1,614
		57,722	82,895
14.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2022 £	2021 £
	Trade creditors	5,962	601
	PAYE and social security	1	-
	Accruals and deferred income	13,730	10,761
		19,693	11,362

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1				Balance at 30
	October			Gains/	September
	2021	Income	•	(Losses)	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds - all funds	491,954	216,873	(149,939)	(34,059)	524,829
Unallocated amounts	-	(12,600)	-	-	(12,600)
	491,954	204,273	(149,939)	(34,059)	512,229
Restricted funds					
Wolstencroft fund	6,500	-	-	-	6,500
Journal fund	-	4,776	(4,476)	-	300
Gatsby Charitable Foundation	35,364	150,000	(134,287)	-	51,077
Guarantors of Brain	9,792	-	-	-	9,792
Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)	-	48,367	(30,534)	-	17,833
	51,656	203,143	(169,297)	-	85,502
Total funds	543,610	407,416	(319,236)	(34,059)	597,731

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

# 15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds - all funds	402,202	143,331	(115,690)	62,111	491,954
Restricted funds					
Wolstencroft fund	6,500	-	-	-	6,500
Journal fund	3,104	4,637	(7,741)	-	-
Society for Neuroscience	506	-	(506)	-	-
Roche Products	5,855	-	(5,855)	-	-
Gatsby Charitable Foundation	150,585	-	(115,221)	-	35,364
Guarantors of Brain	-	10,000	(208)	-	9,792
Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)	-	5,529	(5,529)	-	-
	166,550	20,166	(135,060)	-	51,656
Total funds	568,752	20,166	(250,750)	62,111	543,610 

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 15. Statement of funds (continued)

Wolstencroft fund - for expenses in regard to a lecture on 'Outstanding Neuroscience' at the biennial BNA Festival.

Journal fund - for editing and general running of the journal.

Society for Neuroscience - for the Core Concepts education project.

Roche Products - to support the continued teaching of neuroscience in UK schools.

Gatsby Charitable Foundation - to support the implementation of the BNA's new strategic plan.

Guarantors of Brain (2021) - funding for Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in neuroscience education

Guarantors of Brain (2020) - funding for BNA's Brain Carer grants programme. The transfer represents expenditure incurred in the prior year in advance of the income being received but originally allocated to unrestricted funds.

Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) - funding to support Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in neuroscience education from IBRO, MSD, and Wellcome.

**Thriplow Trust** 

#### 16. Analysis of net assets between funds

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,353	-	1,353
Fixed asset investments	329,220	-	329,220
Current assets	211,088	75,763	286,851
Creditors due within one year	(16,832)	(2,861)	(19,693)
Difference	(12,600)	12,600	-
Total	512,229	85,502	597,731

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

#### 16. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,803	-	1,803
Fixed asset investments	363,279	-	363,279
Current assets	133,334	56,556	189,890
Creditors due within one year	(6,462)	(4,900)	(11,362)
Total	491,954	51,656	543,610

#### 17. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £8,711 (2021: £7,621). Contributions of £nil (2021: £nil) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

#### 18. Related party transactions

At 30 September 2022, British Neuroscience Association Limited was owed £41,742 (2021: £48,376) by BNA Events Limited, its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Other than disclosed above or elsewhere in these financial statements, there were no other transactions with related parties requiring disclosure.