



**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 December 2012**

**Company Number: 00228781**

**Charity Number: 285987**

**British Humanist Association**  
**Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2012**

The directors present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2012. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association and the *Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities* issued by the Charity Commission in March 2005.

**Legal and Administrative Details**

Status	The British Humanist Association (BHA) originated as the Union of Ethical Societies in 1896, was incorporated as the Ethical Union in 1928 and became the BHA in 1967. It is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 14 March 1928. Its governing instrument is its Articles of Association, adopted on 23 July 2011.				
	Company number:	00228781	Charity number:	285987	
Registered office	39 Moreland Street, London EC1V 8BB				
Honorary officers	Chair:	Robert Ashby			
	Vice Chair:	Patricia Rogers			
	Treasurer:	John Woolhouse			
Other directors	Paul Blanchard (from August 2012)	Alan Palmer (from August 2012)			
	John Catt (until July 2012)	Ian Paterson (until July 2012)			
	Blaise Egan	David Pollock			
	Alice Fuller	Mary Porter			
	Allan Hayes	Martin Rowson			
	Michael Imison (until July 2012)	David Savage			
	Guy Otten (from August 2012)				
President	Polly Toynbee (until December 2012) Jim Al-Khalili (from January 2013)				
Principal staff	Chief Executive:	Andrew Copson			
	Head of Operations:	Bernard Halter (until December 2012) Catriona McLellan (from January 2013)			
	Head of Ceremonies:	Ben Siegle (until August 2012)			
	Head of Public Affairs:	Pavan Dhaliwal			
	Head of Education and Promotion:	Sara Passmore			
Auditors	Messrs Knox Cropper Chartered Accountants 8/9 Well Court, London EC4M 9DN				
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc 118-120 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3BA				
Investment Managers	Barclays Wealth 23 Lower Brook Street, Ipswich IP14 1AQ				

## **Mission**

We want a world where everyone lives cooperatively on the basis of shared human values, respect for human rights, and concern for future generations.

We want non-religious people to be confident in living ethical and fulfilling lives on the basis of reason and humanity.

## **Charitable Objects**

The BHA's Objects are 'The advancement of Humanism, namely a non-religious ethical lifestance the essential elements of which are a commitment to human wellbeing and a reliance on reason, experience and a naturalistic view of the world; the advancement of education and in particular the study of and the dissemination of knowledge about Humanism and about the arts and science as they relate to Humanism; the promotion of equality and non-discrimination and the protection of human rights as defined in international instruments to which the United Kingdom is party, in each case in particular as relates to religion and belief; and the promotion of understanding between people holding religious and non-religious beliefs so as to advance harmonious cooperation in society.'

## **Public benefit**

The trustees have satisfied themselves that the BHA's activities are compliant with law and guidance for charities on public benefit. The Trustees (who are also Directors of the company for the purpose of company law) confirm that when setting the aims and objectives of the charity they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit.

The three principal areas of work (which overlap and reinforce each other) are:

- Education of the public about Humanism, providing an ethical framework for those who do not accept any religion. We seek to ensure that everyone has access to information about humanist approaches to ethical issues and about the humanist tradition; we deliver this education through our website, public lectures, and teaching materials for use in schools, and many other ways;
- The provision of non-religious or humanist ceremonies, so helping to meet a growing demand from a larger section of the public than we can currently assist for baby-naming, marriage and (especially) funeral ceremonies that accord with their own beliefs. Our aim is that all those who want a humanist ceremony should have access to one. The activity represents a net cost to the Association but we are hopeful that it will in due course cover its costs;
- Seeking to protect the human rights of humanists and other non-religious people and to combat the discrimination and disadvantages they encounter. We do this mainly by working for the implementation of the Human Rights Act, especially insofar as it forbids discrimination by public authorities on grounds of religion or belief, and by making representations to Government and others, including sometimes the need for changes in the law.

While the principal beneficiaries of the Association's work are humanists and other people who have no religious belief, the Trustees consider that the whole public benefits from our promotion of human rights and non-discrimination and from the wide range of information and educational material we offer. Our website is available to all and (sometimes subject to a small admission fee) so are our lectures and events.

## Report on progress towards our Aims

Our year's activities are reported here, as they relate to our six strategic aims.

### 1. We aim to achieve a situation where Humanism is understood as an ethical and fulfilling non-religious approach to life involving a naturalistic view of the universe.

Our Darwin Day lecture was given by Dr Adam Rutherford on *Synthetic Biology* and was attended by 500 people, with the video of the lecture then being viewed 2,368 times on YouTube. Our Voltaire Lecture given by Robin Ince on *The Importance of Being Interested* was attended by 400 people. Our Holyoake Lecture in Manchester given by Kate Pickett on *Inequality: the enemy between us* was attended by 200 people and viewed 840 times on our YouTube channel. Our Bentham Lecture given by Baroness (Onora) O'Neill, on *Perverting Trust* was attended by 230 people. An armchair discussion between Richard Dawkins and Sue Blackmore that we hosted with our affiliated society at the University of Bristol was attended by 350 people.

Centre for Inquiry UK (CFI UK), now a section of the BHA, held three one-day conferences and three lectures which attracted audiences totalling more than 700. The themes included *Blasphemy, Spirits, mediums, and ghosts, Alternative medicine, 'Churnalism', and Bayes' Theorem*. Videos from the events have been viewed over 2,000 times on YouTube.

We sponsored two panels at the sold-out Battle of Ideas, the annual weekend festival of political, cultural and social debate at London's Barbican Centre. Andrew Copson spoke at the Battle in panel sessions on *Religious or Spiritual or Neither and Atheism: what's the point?* and Pavan Dhaliwal, spoke on *Myth and reality of Free schools*. We sponsored two panels at the acclaimed HowTheLightGetsIn festival in Hay on Wye where Andrew Copson also spoke on *The Decline of Violence* with Steven Pinker, and chaired a discussion on the nature of human thought called *Everywhere and Nowhere*. CFI UK sponsored a number of panels and discussions at the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival with speakers including Stephen Law, Steve Jones and David Aaronovitch.

Our annual conference, held this year at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff, was attended by 230 people, and received an 89% 'very good' or 'excellent' rating in evaluation. The theme was 'Beyond Tomorrow – Visions of the Future', and the event included comedy from Iszi Lawrence and Richard Herring, and lectures from Sir David King on *Human Ingenuity and the New Demand for Collective Action*; Kevin Warwick on *The Cyborg Experiments*; Polly Higgins on *Ecocide: Leadership and Law*; Greg Claeys on *Humanism and the Future*; Ben Hammersley on *Technology and our inner life*; Roger Martin on *Population Growth*; and Mark Stevenson on an *Optimist's Tour of the Future*; Paul McAuley and Greg Claeys speaking on *Imagining the Future*; and a performance from Carole Jahme on the *Better Apes of Our Future*. Richard Dawkins received the Services to Humanism award and his acceptance speech has been viewed 9,000 times online.

We developed a weekend course to train humanists to run educational courses in their local communities on Humanism, on applied ethics, and on death, dying, and meaning in their local communities. This was attended by members from 16 different local humanist groups. Three months later, 90% had read the training materials, 70% had discussed running the courses with others, and 40% had planned to use the materials for use in group meetings. 30% were intending to do something further with the materials. The training course was discussed at the Group Representatives' Annual Meeting (GRAM) six months after the first follow-up evaluation. Some participants in the training course had used the materials in colleges and University of the Third Age groups, and a number of other humanist groups expressed an interest in both the training and the materials. The course materials are available on the BHA website and we intend to run a repeat of the training weekend in the north of England.

We appointed external project facilitators to develop and pilot training to enable humanist volunteers to work more closely with teachers to increase the quantity and quality of Humanism in the curriculum. The volunteer training programme and pack began to be developed in 2012 for first training sessions to be run in 2013.

We extended our work on community dialogue, local development, and cohesion in order to help Humanism be better understood by religious people. We appointed a volunteer Dialogue Officer who worked with local groups to develop this work. Over 20 networks and groups have been contacted and encouraged to include humanists, and local humanist groups have responded to requests from these forums and networks to provide representatives.

A record number of 97 entries were received from 94 different secondary schools and colleges for the James Hemming essay prize, which we sponsor jointly with the Conway Hall Ethical Society and the Rationalist Association. The topic for 2012 was the A J Ayer quote that, 'No moral system can rest solely on authority. It can never be sufficient justification for performing any action that someone commands it'. The quality of the essays received was very high and feedback from teachers has been positive.

We exhibited at events across the UK to raise awareness of Humanism. For example, we were at UK Pride events (with over 2,000 leaflets distributed), at *Death: The South Bank's Festival of the Living*, at baby shows around the country, and at the PSHE association's education conference.

We spoke at a number of local and community events across the UK to raise awareness of Humanism. A small selection includes: our Chief Executive participating in a panel and Q&A on the theme of assisted dying following a production of *An Instinct for Kindness*, a play about accompanying someone chronically ill to Switzerland's Dignitas clinic, a rally outside Parliament against a proposal for education law to prescribe 'abstinence only' sex and relationships education, and numerous student groups.

We organised the launch of Alom Shaha's *The Young Atheists Handbook*, the story of a young Muslim man's journey to Humanism. The hugely successful event included Alom Shaha himself, Robin Ince, Samira Ahmed, Adam Rutherford, and A.C. Grayling as well as a performance by the BHA choir. The event attracted 285 guests and, following the launch, we began a fundraising campaign to send a copy of the book itself to every secondary school in England and Wales.

Throughout the year we gave our support to a number of specialist events such as Questival, a weekend event aimed at young adults, The Ancestor's Trail, an evolution-themed walk through the Quantocks, and Camp Quest, a summer camp for freethinking children.

## **2. We aim to achieve a situation where people with humanist beliefs and values are supported in identifying themselves as humanists and in expressing those beliefs and values in their lives.**

At the end of 2012, the Humanist Ceremonies™ network had 318 trained and accredited celebrants. During the course of the year we trained 22 new celebrants and 25 existing celebrants in a new ceremony for their 'portfolio'. Eighty-nine celebrants attended our annual conference in Leamington Spa.

Based on returns received by 31 March 2013, in the course of 2012 our celebrants conducted 6,563 funerals (compared with 6,775 in 2011), 412 namings (394 in 2011) and 499 weddings (507 in 2011). Including 'other' ceremonies, this represents a total of 7,565 ceremonies performed in 2012 (7,676 in 2011).

A full re-branding and redesign of all our Ceremonies marketing material was completed which resulted in excellent new materials for promoting humanist funerals, namings and weddings.

Following the final report of the working group set up to scope out the project, a pilot of humanist pastoral support for the non-religious was carried out in HMP Winchester. In light of its success, we began the development of a formal training and accreditation scheme for humanists providing pastoral support to non-religious people in prisons and health care.

We implemented a new structure and relationship with local humanist groups across England, Wales, and Northern Ireland with thirty-two becoming partner groups and eighteen remaining affiliated groups. As mentioned above, we held GRAM which was attended by forty-nine delegates from twenty-nine different local groups; the meeting included training and support in promotion and education about Humanism locally.

The United Kingdom Armed Forces Humanist Association (UKAFHA) expanded to over 200 members in the course of 2012. Posters promoting UKAFHA were sent to members, and flyers were produced to help those serving in the armed forces register as humanist on their systems.

The National Federation of Atheist, Humanist and Secular Student Societies (AHS) grew to thirty-eight student groups across the UK. Grants were offered to AHS groups to facilitate Think Weeks and Freshers' Fairs. Of the four grant applications that we received three were successful. We also provided the AHS with sponsored places for ten students at our annual conference.

The Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association (Galha) became a section of the BHA in the course of 2012. Over forty delegates attended the Galha conference and AGM in Manchester. The Chair of Galha spoke at a number of events, including the Secular Europe Rally. Galha is an affiliate of a number of networks including the International Lesbian and Gay Association and Amnesty International.

The BHA Choir appointed a new conductor and performed at a wide range of events including the annual conference, the AGM, Alom Shaha's book launch, the March and Rally for a Secular Europe, and Robin Ince's Nine Lessons and Carols for Godless People.

We ended the year with more than 24,000 people 'liking' us on Facebook and more than 20,000 following us on Twitter. We had 3,000 subscribers on YouTube, where our videos had been viewed over 450,000 times.

### **3. We aim to achieve a situation where public debate and policy are shaped by humanist perspectives.**

So far as concerns public debate, we enjoyed an increase in domestic media mentions of our work of 80% in 2012 and also saw a rise in our coverage internationally.

We gained extensive coverage in the press at the beginning of the year following the Prime Minister's remarks about Britain being a Christian country and ahead of Baroness Warsi's visit to the Vatican. This coincided with the release of research carried out for the Richard Dawkins Foundation and led to an unprecedented amount of media coverage for us. We also blogged for the first time on *The Huffington Post* on this issue.

Our campaigns work led to a front-page exclusive in the Guardian on anti-abortion groups spreading falsehoods in schools. Following on from this, we co-organised a letter to the Government from 13 prominent groups expressing concern at the situation.

We were able to capitalise on the success of the Census Campaign when the data was published towards the end of the year and showed a sharp rise in the number of non-religious people. Every mainstream media outlet covered these findings and our analysis of them.

We were quoted on the front page of the Daily Telegraph and were on Radio 4's Today programme on our allegation that Catholic schools were unlawfully promoting a campaign against same-sex marriage. We achieved a large amount of other media coverage for our campaign against 'faith' schools.

In January, the Government ruled out creationists being able to run Free Schools. This story was covered in the Guardian: in that month, our news item on the change accounted for 25% of our website's hits, gaining 77,000 views (the home page had 28,000 views in the same period).

In December 2011, the Church of England announced that it was working with the Government to allow community schools to convert to 'faith' Academies in one step. In January we organised a large campaign against this which led to the Government announcing the plans would not go ahead.

In March, we worked with the Guardian to publish new research that shows for the first time that 'faith' schools are in general more socially selective than other schools in their own areas.

In September and October we attended the party conferences. Our Liberal Democrat Party Conference fringe meeting focussed on Bishops in the House of Lords. The event was very well received, with 52 people attending the panel of Andrew Copson, Lord Palmer, Evan Harris and Arnie Gibbons. Our Conservative Party conference fringe meeting was on the theme 'Is Britain a Christian Country?' The speakers were Andrew Copson, Lord Sheikh, Anne Atkins, and Henry Bonsu. Our No Prayer Breakfast on the Labour Party Conference fringe was on the theme of 'Militant Secularism'. Speakers were Andrew Copson, with our President Polly Toynbee, journalist Sunny Hundal, Kelvin Hopkins MP and Angela Eagle MP, with Naomi Phillips of Labour Humanists in the chair. At the conferences we promoted ourselves to party delegates, MPs, peers, and political advisors. We distributed over 4,500 leaflets to interested delegates.

Section 24A, the new rule we succeeded in getting inserted into Free School funding agreements in January, states that schools "shall not make provision in the context of any subject for the teaching, as an evidence-based view or theory, of any view or theory that is contrary to established scientific and/or historical evidence and explanations." But we found out that this does not cover Collective Worship, as it is not considered to be a subject. We asked the DfE to change this, which they agreed to consider.

A further success came in November, when after pressure from us the Government announced it has added a section 24B, requiring Free Schools to teach evolution.

We secured exposés in the TES about state-funded Steiner schools giving homeopathy to students, and teaching from a text book sceptical of evolution and of 17 Exclusive Brethren groups having applied to set up Free Schools.

In 2012 we mourned the loss of Distinguished Supporters Faith Brook (1922 – 2012) and Professor Lord Wedderburn of Charlton QC FBA (1927 – 2012). We welcomed as Distinguished Supporters Richard Bartle, Geoffrey Bindman, Warren Ellis, Shappi Khorsandi, Kimberly Nixon, Adam Rutherford, Patrick Stewart, and Sandi Toksvig.

#### **4. We aim to achieve a situation where the UK is a secular state guaranteeing human rights, with no privilege or discrimination on grounds of religion or belief.**

We took advantage of the Lords Reform Bill to work on a key area in our constitutional reform agenda, namely the removal of the *ex officio* seats for Bishops in the House of Lords. We launched the hugely successful campaign 'Holy Redundant' through which resulted in record numbers of our supporters taking action to put the issue on the agenda within government. A parliamentary question revealed that, as a result of our campaign, correspondence on this single aspect of Lords reform produced the largest volume of correspondence. Despite the Bill being scrapped, we were able firmly to put the narrative around this issue at the forefront of public attention and to attract the support of many high profile figures.

Following an All-Party Parliamentary Humanist Group (APPHG) meeting on Humanist marriage which attracted many MPs, peers and researchers, we drafted a Private Members Bill on legalising Humanist marriage which was introduced to the House of Lords by Lord Harrison. The Bill had its first reading in May. We encouraged members and supporters to respond to the 'equal marriage' consultation, and to refer also to the need to use the Bill to recognise humanist marriages legally; this resulted in record numbers of responses.

We have worked proactively with the members of the APPHG and provided them with detailed briefings ahead of debates such as those on the value of faith during the Queen's reign and on the Director of Public Prosecution's guidelines on assisted dying. APPHG members have also tabled Early Day Motions and Parliamentary Questions on

our behalf on areas relating to our 'faith' schools work, the Richmond legal challenge, humanist exclusion from the Cenotaph remembrance ceremony and House of Lords reform. We have also worked closely with the APPHG Chair and Vice Chairs on co-ordinating parliamentary strategy, enabling us to make a significant impact on the issues debated particularly in the House of Lords.

Our work on education continued to be a priority in 2012. At the beginning of the year, as a result of the *Teach evolution, not creationism!* campaign, the Government ruled out creationist Free Schools. The Government also published the new draft primary national curriculum, including – as we had asked - modules on evolution in years 4 and 6.

We supported many local campaigns against 'faith' schools, and continued to track religious and pseudoscientific Free School proposals.

We responded to the consultation on the White Paper ahead of the first ever Welsh Education Bill, and the subsequent consultation by the Bill Committee. We also responded to both phases of the Labour Party Review of the School Curriculum and had a meeting with Shadow Schools Minister Kevin Brennan to raise specific points.

We published research establishing for the first time that most new 'faith' schools by the back door, avoiding competition, and that their applications to open via this route were invariably successful. This research complemented a legal case we took with Richmond Inclusive Schools Campaign to prevent two new Catholic schools in Richmond upon Thames from opening by this route.

The legal case attracted huge attention from the broadcast media and press and led to the Secretary of State for Education intervening against us. It concerned our assertion that the Council should have complied with section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which requires a competition when a local authority decides there is a 'need' for a new school in its area. Our motivation for taking the case was the hope it would have national significance: if a wider definition of need were to be established, this would mean that religious groups would not so readily and uniquely be able to open schools without competition. Despite losing the legal case, we were able to capitalise on the coverage it generated. We organised a joint letter on the issue to Education Secretary Michael Gove, signed by thirteen other national organisations, also published in a national newspaper. This prompted Business Secretary Vince Cable to write to Education minister David Laws, accusing the Department for Education of breaking the Coalition Agreement (this also received national press attention). The Accord Coalition commissioned a well-timed opinion survey on the matter, showing that the public opposed religious selection in admissions by more than four to one. In light of that, we decided to plan a national campaign for 2013 focussing on the issue of religious selection and using our experience from the RISC campaign.

The European Commission informed us that it was formally to investigate a complaint we made against the UK Government over the exemptions for 'faith' schools from the law against religious discrimination in employment. We argued that the exemptions are broader than allowed by European law.

We won a landmark Freedom of Information (FOI) case which attracted attention from many media outlets and campaigners. This arose from a FOI request to the Department for Education, asking for a list of all proposals for Free Schools, along with their location and religion, if any. The DfE rejected our request and our appeal, and so in September we lodged a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). In July the ICO ruled in favour of disclosure but the DfE appealed to the Information Tribunal, triggering a case between the ICO and DfE. The BHA became a party to the case; between August and November the several parties made written submissions. In January 2013 the Information Tribunal ruled comprehensively in our favour.

We are on the committee of the Secular Europe Campaign and provided extensive support for the march and rally which took place in 2012. This included planning and promoting the event, setting up, and running the sound system and providing an official photographer. The committee rebranded the campaign to remove the focus from the Vatican and London and make it more generic. Speakers at the rally included Pavan Dhaliwal and Richard Norman from BHA; Terry Sanderson (National Secular Society); Antony Lempert (Secular Medical Forum); Joan

Smith; Adam Knowles (Galha); Peter Tatchell; Sue Cox (Survivors' Voice Europe); Mejindarpal Kaur (United Sikhs); Nahla Mahmoud (One Law for All); Chris French, and Robin Ince.

**5. We aim to achieve a situation where we are an expanding, financially healthy and sustainable organisation with high standards of governance and management.**

Our income from donations and subscriptions increased in 2012 by 2% on 2011 (compared with growth of 25% in 2011 on 2010); we recruited 5,228 new members and supporters (compared with 3,900 in 2011.)

Four cash appeals by post in the course of the year, the last of which was supplemented by online giving through the Big Give Christmas Challenge website, raised a total of £98,178 (compared with £119,810 in 2011.)

Online donations from visitors to our website amounted to £9,800 in 2012 and we look forward to increased revenue from this source in 2013 in response to our new website.

Last year's telephone appeal to members and supporters seeking increased monthly direct debit donations proved its worth in 2012: donations in 2012 from respondents to it amounted to £32,700 (£13,887 in 2011.)

We collected £107,112 from celebrant levies, which was up 9% from £98,308 in 2011.

We ended 2012 still needing to develop new member and supporter recruitment, having concentrated throughout the year on raising additional funds from existing supporters. This was reflected in the fundraising plan adopted for 2013.

A two-year programme to recruit new supporters and members was begun, raising £72,057 from new supporters by the end of 2012.

In a major project to update our ICT systems and resources, we rebuilt the BHA website from scratch, successfully launching the new site at the beginning of December. We also moved over to a new database, CiviCRM, and ensured this was integrated with the new website. Both website and database use open source software which is free of charge and gives us full control without requiring recourse to third parties. The new website was constructed completely in-house, and CiviCRM was customised for us by NFP Services.

The new website and database overcame many long-standing shortcomings of our ICT systems. In particular we now have social media links on all our pages, integrated and searchable celebrant and local group maps, a proper events and ticketing system, and a far superior members' forum. Moreover our online procedures for joining the BHA and making donations are much smoother and easier to follow. Substantial changes to our routine financial and membership procedures were rapidly and effectively implemented to take advantage of the improvements provided by our new database.

The governance working group, commissioned in 2011 by the Board following the introduction of new regulations on the role and duties of trustees, produced recommendations which were adopted by the Board in the form of a new *Trustees Handbook*. Following the reviews of staff management structures in 2010 and volunteer structures in 2011, a review of non-staff aspects of management in 2012 resulted in a wholesale reorganisation of the administration and management of our ceremonies work, which has resulted in huge improvements.

**6. We aim to achieve a situation where we are respected as an organization for our expertise and professionalism and recognised as the national voice of Humanism and a leading national voice for the non-religious and for secularism.**

Organisations and media outlets as diverse as Channel 4 News, *The Guardian*, *The Express*, BBC, *The Sun*, *The Independent*, the Cambridge Union, the Department for Education, the Equality and Human Rights Commission,

Premier Christian Radio, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Religious Education Council for England and Wales, National Council for Faith and Belief in Further Education, RE Online – and many more – looked to the BHA during the year to provide a non-religious, secularist, or humanist perspective on a range of issues.

Our Head of Public Affairs Pavan Dhaliwal was elected onto the board of the European Humanist Federation and Andrew Copson was elected as First Vice President of the International Humanist and Ethical Union.

We attained consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council which, in cooperation with colleagues in New York, enabled us to intervene in the UN Human Rights Council on several issues.

Feedback from clients of our ceremonies work showed a 5/5 satisfaction rate from 96% of respondents during the course of the year.

### **Financial Review**

The Trustees approved a budget for 2012 with an overall deficit of £120,100, funded by legacies received during 2011, in accordance with our new approach to managing legacy income, which provides for it to be made use of in the year following receipt.

We ended the year on a positive note with a deficit on unrestricted funds of £118,617, some £1,500 less than allowed for by the budget. This reflected the improved control over financial planning consequent upon our new approach to managing legacies and allowed us to approach 2013 with confidence.

Our ‘faith’ schools campaign continues to be well supported and we carried forward into 2013 sufficient funds to support our full time faith schools campaigner until 31st March 2014.

Expenditure by the United Kingdom Armed Forces Humanist Association (UKAFHA) and the National Federation of Association of Atheist and Humanist Student Societies (AHS) exceeded donations to their restricted funds by £337 and £1,782 respectively. The excess of expenditure over restricted income was met by the general fund.

Our investments continue to be managed by Barclays Bank under a discretionary arrangement with an overall investment policy to be socially responsible, avoiding investments in armaments, tobacco, and pornography, and to avoid undue fluctuations in value.

### **Reserves**

Our reserves are defined as the funds available to be spent at the Trustees’ discretion in the furtherance of the objectives of the Charity (thus excluding restricted funds donated for specific purposes).

The trustees reviewed the reserves policy after the 2012 AGM and adopted a new approach in which a target range for reserves was established by a calculation of close-down costs and any potential sudden demands for cash. The calculation will be reviewed annually and the policy will be reviewed triennially. In 2012 the policy dictated that we held no less than £284,000 and no more than £484,000.

At the end of the year our reserves were £395,879, well within the reserves policy target.

### **Risk**

The Trustees have developed a comprehensive risk management policy to ensure that all important risks are evaluated and appropriate mitigating action taken. Financial, legal, governance, personnel, and other risks are reviewed on an annual basis, with actions determined on the basis of the likelihood of particular events occurring and how critical the consequences would be. Annual risk reviews include operating plan activities, finance, insurance, trademark, office building, fire, health and safety, and terms and conditions of employment of staff.

### **Statement of Directors' Responsibilities**

Company law requires the Directors (the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association and of the surplus or deficit of the Association for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the principles of the Charity SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue to operate.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Association 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 Association and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors confirm that, in the case of each of the persons who are Directors at the date of this report, the following applies:

- so far as each Director is aware there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the Company's auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- each Director has taken all the steps necessary to make herself/himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

### **Auditors**

In accordance with S485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution proposing the reappointment of Knox Cropper as auditors will be put to General Meeting.

**On behalf of the Board: Robert Ashby, Chair, 11 May 2013**

**British Humanist Association**  
**Independent Auditors' Report to the members of the British Humanist Association**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2012**

## **Independent Auditors' Report to the members of the British Humanist Association**

We have audited the financial statements of The British Humanist Association for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Summary Income and Expenditure Account, the Note of Historical Cost Surpluses and Deficits, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

### **Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditor**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the Directors (who are also the trustees of the charitable company for the purpose of charity law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### **Scope of the Audit of the Financial Statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **Opinion on Financial Statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Opinion on Other Matter Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

### **Matters on which we are Required to Report by Exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

8/9 Well Court  
London EC4M 9DN

Duncan Jones MA, ACA  
Senior Statutory Auditor  
For and on behalf of  
Knox Cropper  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors

11<sup>th</sup> May 2013

British Humanist Association  
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2012

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2012**

		<b>2012</b>		<b>2011</b>	
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Total £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Incoming Resources from generated funds</i>					
<u>Voluntary Income</u>					
- Legacies and donations	2	154,611	452,545	607,156	579,640
<u>Investment Income</u>					
- Rent and service charges	3	-	5,280	5,280	18,112
- Dividends and interest	4	-	6,180	6,180	5,791
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>	5	<u>8,135</u>	<u>460,644</u>	<u>468,779</u>	<u>501,799</u>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<u>162,746</u>	<u>924,649</u>	<u>1,087,395</u>	<u>1,105,342</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Costs of generating funds	6	-	( 99,857)	( 99,857)	( 135,889)
Costs of charitable activities	7	( 155,828)	( 936,738)	( 1,092,566)	( 891,310)
Governance costs	9	-	( 7,542)	( 7,542)	( 10,089)
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u>( 155,828)</u>	<u>( 1,044,137)</u>	<u>( 1,199,965)</u>	<u>( 1,037,288)</u>
<b>Net Incoming Resources/(Resources Expended)</b>		6,918	( 119,488)	( 112,570)	68,054
Realised gains/(losses) on investments	12	-	871	871	1,729
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		6,918	( 118,617)	( 111,699)	69,783
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	12	-	16,037	16,037	( 1,482)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		6,918	( 102,580)	( 95,662)	68,301
Balances brought forward at 1 January		<u>91,447</u>	<u>498,459</u>	<u>589,906</u>	<u>521,605</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER</b>		<u>98,365</u>	<u>395,879</u>	<u>494,244</u>	<u>589,906</u>

All recognised gains and losses are included in the income and expenditure account

British Humanist Association  
Summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2012

**Summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2012**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Total Incoming resources from continuing operations	1,087,395	1,105,342
Total expenditure on continuing operations	<u>( 1,199,965)</u>	<u>( 1,037,288)</u>
	( 112,570)	68,054
Realised gains on disposal of Investments	871	1,729
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	<u>( 111,699)</u>	<u>69,783</u>

**Note of historical cost surpluses and deficits for the year ended 31 December 2012**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
(Deficit)/surplus for the year as reported above	( 111,699)	69,783
Difference between historical costs gain/(loss) on disposal of investments and gain/(loss) reported above	1,049	1,416
Historical cost (deficit)/surplus	<u>( 110,650)</u>	<u>71,199</u>

**British Humanist Association  
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2012**

**Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2012**

	Notes	2012	2011
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Office equipment	11	506	2,329
Investments	12	<u>270,657</u>	<u>250,801</u>
		271,163	253,130
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	13	126,904	159,313
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>180,223</u>	<u>217,819</u>
		307,127	377,132
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>( 84,046)</u>	<u>( 40,356)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>223,081</u>	<u>336,776</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>494,244</u>	<u>589,906</u>

Represented by

**FUNDS :**

Unrestricted	15	395,879	498,459
Restricted	16	<u>98,365</u>	<u>91,447</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u>494,244</u>	<u>589,906</u>

Approved by the directors on 11 May 2013

R Ashby ..... Chair

JT Woolhouse ..... Hon Treasurer

Company Registration No: 00228781

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2012

### 1. Accounting policies

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial reporting framework adopted in the preparation of these financial statements is United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. They have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) issued by the Charity Commissioners in March 2005 and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Prepayments and Accruals

Prepayments and accruals less than £100 have not been taken into consideration.

#### Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

All tangible assets costing more than £500 were capitalised and all tangible assets are valued at historic cost. Provision is made for depreciation on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life.

Office Equipment: 20% p.a. straight line

Computer equipment: 33½% p.a. straight line

#### Value Added Tax

The Charity is registered for VAT and where applicable, amounts are included net of VAT.

#### Cash Flow Statement

The Charity has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement for the year as required by Financial Reporting Standard No.1 because the Charity has relied on the exemption available for small undertakings.

#### Funds

Unrestricted funds are those funds which can be used at the trustees' discretion. Restricted F funds are those funds where application is restricted by conditions set by the donor. Designated Funds are those funds, which have been earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

#### Grants Receivable

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier of when they are received or when they are receivable, unless they relate to a specific future period, in which case they are deferred. Capital grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when they become receivable. Depreciation on the related fixed assets is charged against the restricted fund.

#### Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include direct expenditure and an apportionment of overhead and support costs as shown in note 7.

#### Governance Costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These include costs related to statutory audit.

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**Allocation of Overhead and Support Costs**

Overhead and support costs are incurred centrally across the range of our activities throughout the year. They have been apportioned between charitable activities on the basis of staff time or office space depending on the nature of the cost. The directors consider this to be a reasonable reflection of the utilisation of resources.

**Pensions**

The Charity contributes to various defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of employees and, as the charity's liability is limited to paying amounts across as they fall due, the pension charge reflected in the accounts represents the amount payable for the year.

**2. Legacies and donations**

	2012			2011
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Donations and Gift Aid	144,611	320,533	465,144	462,651
Legacies	10,000	132,012	142,012	116,989
	<u>154,611</u>	<u>452,545</u>	<u>607,156</u>	<u>579,640</u>

**3. Activities for generating funds**

	2012			2011
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Rents	-	5,280	5,280	15,802
Charges to tenants	-	-	-	2,310
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,280</u>	<u>5,280</u>	<u>18,112</u>

**4. Investment income**

	2012			2011
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Interest	-	436	436	187
Dividends	-	5,744	5,744	5,604
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>5,791</u>

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**5. Incoming resources from charitable activities**

	2012			2011
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	£	£
Subscriptions	-	254,444	254,444	241,880
Group affiliation fees	-	2,115	2,115	2,050
Celebrants levies	-	107,112	107,112	98,308
Celebrants training fees	-	30,479	30,479	72,802
Celebrants accreditation fees	-	1,791	1,791	3,597
Events & activities	8,135	41,307	49,442	56,362
Sales of literature	-	12,454	12,454	12,101
Sales of videos and merchandise	-	3,281	3,281	2,243
Lottery grant for Resolution Revolution	-	-	-	9,925
Sundry income	-	7,661	7,661	2,531
	<u>8,135</u>	<u>460,644</u>	<u>468,779</u>	<u>501,799</u>

**6. Cost of generating funds**

	2012			2011
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	£	£
Fundraising costs	-	( 95,184)	( 95,184)	( 131,981)
Investment manager's fees	-	( 1,630)	( 1,630)	( 1,250)
Purchase of merchandise	-	( 3,043)	( 3,043)	( 2,658)
	<u>-</u>	<u>( 99,857)</u>	<u>( 99,857)</u>	<u>( 135,889)</u>

**7. Analysis of costs of charitable activities**

	2012			2011
	Direct	Support Costs	Total	Total
Education and Promotion	( 293,263)	( 73,599)	( 366,862)	( 250,805)
Ceremonies	( 182,071)	( 99,250)	( 281,321)	( 266,571)
Community Services (excluding Ceremonies)	( 6,631)	( 10,128)	( 16,759)	( 2,185)
Public Affairs	( 205,896)	( 84,490)	( 290,386)	( 211,166)
Membership	( 54,724)	( 82,514)	( 137,238)	( 160,583)
	<u>( 742,585)</u>	<u>( 349,981)</u>	<u>( 1,092,566)</u>	<u>( 891,310)</u>

The reduced expenditure on Membership is largely due to the shifting focus of staff as explained in the Trustees' report.

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**8. Support costs**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Staff costs	( 148,869)	( 123,615)
Rent and rates	( 79,166)	( 74,632)
Repairs and maintenance	( 26,725)	( 44,916)
Postage and stationery	( 21,832)	( 21,494)
ICT excluding telecoms	( 13,699)	( 10,070)
Utilities & telecoms	( 10,569)	( 6,901)
Irrecoverable VAT	( 19,852)	( 1,658)
Subscriptions	( 1,254)	( 88)
Bank charges & interest	( 12,404)	( 13,375)
Depreciation	( 1,823)	( 1,808)
Other costs	<u>( 13,788)</u>	<u>( 23,073)</u>
	<u><u>( 349,981)</u></u>	<u><u>( 320,630)</u></u>

Support costs have been apportioned between Membership, Promotion of Humanism, Public Affairs, Ceremonies and Community Services (excluding ceremonies) according to whether they are overheads or centrally incurred expenditure on charitable activities. Overheads have been apportioned in relation to the office space occupied by each area of activity, and centrally incurred expenditure on charitable activities has been apportioned in relation to the staff time employed in each area of activity. The Directors consider this provides a reasonable approximation to the utilisation of resources.

**9. Governance costs**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Audit fees	( 4,699)	( 4,650)
Other professional expenses	( 71)	( 2,236)
Trustee meeting expenses	<u>( 2,772)</u>	<u>( 3,203)</u>
	<u><u>( 7,542)</u></u>	<u><u>( 10,089)</u></u>

**10. Staff costs**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Wages and salaries	( 423,097)	( 352,253)
Social security costs	( 44,225)	( 36,520)
Pension contributions	<u>( 13,786)</u>	<u>( 10,542)</u>
Total payroll costs	<u>( 481,108)</u>	<u>( 399,315)</u>
Staff recruitment	( 4,280)	( 6,563)
Temporary staff	<u>( 1,164)</u>	<u>( 676)</u>
	<u><u>( 486,552)</u></u>	<u><u>( 406,554)</u></u>
Average number of employees	<u><u>13</u></u>	<u><u>12</u></u>

No employee earned in excess of £70,000 (2011: Nil)

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**11. Tangible assets**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost at 1 January	64,280	63,480
Additions	-	800
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 December	<u>64,280</u>	<u>64,280</u>
Depreciation at 1 January	( 61,951)	( 59,261)
Charge for the year	( 1,823)	2,690
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation at 31 December	<u>( 63,774)</u>	<u>( 61,951)</u>
Net book value at 31 December	<u>506</u>	<u>2,329</u>

**12. Investments**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Market value at 1 January	211,479	239,907
Additions	53,702	52,227
Disposal proceeds	( 18,968)	( 80,902)
Realised gains/(losses)	871	1,729
Unrealised (losses)/gains	<u>16,037</u>	<u>( 1,482)</u>
Market value at 31 December	263,121	211,479
Cash with brokers	<u>7,536</u>	<u>39,322</u>
Total investments at 31 December	<u>270,657</u>	<u>250,801</u>
Investments at cost 31 December	<u>227,907</u>	<u>191,253</u>

Investments with a market value in excess of  
10% of the portfolio were:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
M&G Securities corporate bond	25,346	23,435
M&G Securities recovery fund	38,667	35,567
Fidelity Investments UK bond fund	<u>29,210</u>	<u>27,194</u>

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**13. Debtors**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Rent deposit	35,000	35,000
Prepayments	17,449	28,118
VAT refunds	2,719	32,509
Legacies receivable	29,035	17,500
Gift Aid	6,800	24,774
Other accrued income	32,432	20,801
Other debtors*	3,469	611
	<u>126,904</u>	<u>159,313</u>

\* This includes interest free season ticket travel loans to staff.

**14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	£	£
Accruals	( 23,728)	( 10,856)
Other creditors	( 60,318)	( 29,500)
	<u>( 84,046)</u>	<u>( 40,356)</u>

**15. General reserves**

	Revaluation	Accumulated	Total
	Reserve	Income	£
	£	£	£
Balance b/f at 1 January 2012	20,226	478,233	498,459
Net expenditure for the year	-	( 118,617)	( 118,617)
Unrealised (losses)/gains on investments	16,037	-	16,037
Transfer on realisation	( 1,049)	1,049	-
Balance c/f at 31 December 2012	<u>35,214</u>	<u>360,665</u>	<u>395,879</u>

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**16. Restricted funds**

	<b>Balance at 1 January 2012</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Balance at 31 December 2012</b>
	£	£	£	£
Promotion of Humanism (formerly Education)	15,074	4,585	( 19,659)	-
Public Affairs (formerly Campaigns)	-	942	( 942)	-
Ceremonies	-	439	( 439)	-
AHS	604	2,851	( 3,455)	-
Music (including the BHA choir)	2,881	2,254	( 3,317)	1,818
Voltaire Lecture	9,353	-	( 1,471)	7,882
Faith Schools	50,405	60,398	( 63,243)	47,560
Accord	788	33,567	( 33,398)	957
Centre for Inquiry	3,389	3,393	( 2,327)	4,455
Resolution Revolution	8,786	-	( 8,786)	-
UKAFHA	167	392	( 559)	-
Cumbria Group	-	10,000	( 4,081)	5,919
GALHA	-	28,745	( 7,519)	21,226
Community Services excluding Ceremonies	-	9,300	( 6,632)	2,668
Young Atheists' Handbook for Schools	-	5,880	-	5,880
	<b><u>91,447</u></b>	<b><u>162,746</u></b>	<b><u>( 155,828)</u></b>	<b><u>98,365</u></b>

**Promotion of Humanism (formerly Education)**

This fund results from legacies and donations given to support the BHA's work in education and other areas promoting the understanding of Humanism.

**Public Affairs (formerly Campaigns)**

This fund results from legacies and donations given to support BHA lobbying and campaigning work.

**Ceremonies**

This fund results from legacies and donations given to BHA specifically for ceremonies work.

**AHS**

This fund is used to manage the financial affairs of the National Federation of Atheist Humanist and Secular Student Societies.

**Music**

This fund was initiated in 2010 by a donation from Alec Reed to fund a composer for two years and to establish the BHA choir on a secure footing. Current income derives directly from the activities of the choir.

**Voltaire Lecture**

This fund was created some years ago to continue the work of another charity (The Voltaire Lectures Fund), which was wound up; its residual funds were transferred to BHA with the agreement of the Charity Commission. Capital may be spent as income on public lectures as a memorial to Voltaire.

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

**Faith schools**

Faith schools appeal funds are restricted to BHA lobbying and campaigning work relating to faith schools and other related education campaigns. Funds raised by appeal in excess of the target sought are restricted to the public affairs fund.

**Accord**

Donations to cover the payroll costs of one member of BHA staff to work for the Accord Coalition.

**Centre for Inquiry UK**

This fund was created in 2012 to manage income and expenditure by the Centre for Inquiry UK, which joined the BHA as a new section during the year

**Resolution Revolution**

A National Lottery grant used to fund our 'Resolution Revolution' project in schools.

**UKAFHA**

This fund was created in 2012 to manage income and expenditure by the UK Armed Forces Humanist Association (UKAFHA), which joined the BHA as a new section in 2011.

**Cumbria Group**

This fund was created in 2012 to manage the expenditure of Nona Murray's legacy to be used for support of a Cumbria Humanist Group.

**GALHA**

This fund was created in 2012 to manage income and expenditure by the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association (GALHA), which joined the BHA as a new section in 2012.

**Community Services excluding Ceremonies**

This fund was created in 2012 to collect donations supporting our new initiative directed towards providing pastoral support to non-religious people imprisoned or in hospital.

**Young Atheists' Handbook for Schools**

This fund was created in 2012 to collect donations supporting our initiative to place a free copy of the Young Atheists' Handbook for Schools in every secondary school in Britain.

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

### **17. Operating leases**

At 31 December 2012 the Company had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	<b>Land and buildings</b>		<b>Other</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Renewal date less than one year	14,000	-	615	-
Renewal date between one and two years	-	70,000	-	2,816
Renewal date between two and five years	-	-	-	-
	<b><u>14,000</u></b>	<b><u>70,000</u></b>	<b><u>615</u></b>	<b><u>2,816</u></b>

The Association held a head lease from the freeholder of 1 Gower Street, the Bedford Estate which terminated on 28 February 2013. A sub-lease for two desk spaces was granted by the BHA to the International Humanist and Ethical Union. The Association has, in the new year, taken a ten year lease on new premises with a break clause option after five years with annual rent of £66,638.

### **18. Taxation**

The BHA is a registered charity and is potentially exempt from tax in respect of income and capital gains received within the categories covered by Part II of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are exclusively applied to charitable purposes.

### **19. Termination of Lease**

Upon expiry, in February 2013, of the lease for its premises at 1 Gower Street, the BHA became liable for the cost of making good such dilapidations as had occurred during the term of its occupancy.

These remedial works included all necessary structural repairs, the replacement of all carpets, and complete internal and external redecoration and in anticipation of this a preliminary allowance of £48,000 was made in last year's accounts. In the event we successfully negotiated Bedford Estates' initial claim of £102,000 down to agreed settlement of £60,000 and the additional £12,000 has been accrued this year.

### **20. Directors' remuneration and expenses**

No remuneration, directly or indirectly, out of the funds of the charity was paid or is payable for the year to any director or to any person known to be connected with any of them.

Directors were reimbursed a total of £ 1,232 (2011: £1,488) for travel expenses to attend meetings in connection with their duties.

**British Humanist Association**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012**

## **21. Capital commitments**

There were no capital commitments at 31 December 2012.

## **22. Pension commitments**

The charity contributed to individual defined contribution pension schemes for several employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Total employer's contributions paid in the year were £ 13,786 (2011: £10,542).

## **23. Net assets**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>Net Current Assets</b>
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	395,879	271,163	124,716
Restricted funds	98,365	-	98,365
	<b><u>494,244</u></b>	<b><u>271,163</u></b>	<b><u>223,081</u></b>

## **24. Reversionary interest**

The BHA has been bequeathed a reversionary interest in a Trust established under the terms of the Will of Christine Cotton, who died on 24 January 2000. The Trust assets comprise a property (occupied by the Life Tenant), investments and bank accounts. The value of the investments as at 5 April 2012 (the date of the annual valuation by the trustees) was £56,539 (2011: £69,176) (including cash in the trustees bank account).

The trustees have indicated to the BHA that the property (bought in 2002 for £85,000) had a value in 2012 of between £145,000 and £158,000, by comparison with similar properties in the locality.

Because the Charity cannot predict when it will become entitled to the receipt of this legacy, no accrued income has been reflected in the accounts.

## **25. Related party transactions**

Directors are not remunerated but are able to recover out of pocket expenses for attendance at Board meetings the total amount reimbursed being disclosed in Note 20.

The Chief Executive of British Humanist Association is also a director of International Humanist and Ethical Union. International Humanist and Ethical Union sub lets part of British Humanist Association's office accommodation with the rent charged in 2012 amounting to £5,280.

The Head of Public Affairs of British Humanist Association is also a member of the Executive of the Accord Coalition. The Accord Coalition uses desk space at British Humanist Association's premises for no charge.