



ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS 2014-2015



LEADING RESEARCH INTO HEAD AND NECK CANCER

Company Registration Number 7125497
Registered Charity Number 1142037

“Having been lucky enough to be looked after by both Peter Rhys Evans and Kevin Harrington when I was diagnosed with cancer in late 2008, I wanted to do something constructive to help improve treatments and survival rates for future patients.

Oracle Cancer Trust is funding some very sophisticated and promising new research so making a contribution towards that is a perfect way to say thank you and to help more patients in the future make a full recovery.”



Caroline Bogh-Henrikssen



Carole Kent-Robinson

“My family and I are honoured to support the Oracle Trust with a small regular donation towards their valuable work, helping lots of people like me get through a difficult cancer treatment with professionalism and above all kindness and care. The work they are doing for future generations is amazing - how lucky we are to have such bright, caring help forging a better way forward for us all.”

“My wife Nadine and I have been supporters of Oracle Cancer Trust since Peter Rhys Evans and his marvellous team at The Royal Marsden Hospital saved my life on at least two occasions between 1998 and 2000. We are very aware that the Charity relies heavily on donations to provide for its ground breaking research and we are delighted to be able to support it by donating and attending fundraising events whenever possible.”



Peter Johnson

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Chairman's Report



Oracle has continued to flourish under the leadership of our CEO, Anthony Sykes and his excellent management team and during the FY 2014-15 there were several notable developments as outlined elsewhere in this report which have strengthened our position as one of the UK's leading head and neck cancer research charities. Our registered office continues at The Royal Marsden Hospital, forging stronger links with The Institute of Cancer Research, but at the same time becoming more independent with the establishment of our new administrative office in Southwark.

We have welcomed two new members of the management team, Sarah Bender as Charity Operations Manager and Linda Wimble as Charity Administrator. Sarah has been voluntarily organising events for Oracle for over five years and both Sarah and Linda have considerable experience in the charity sector. Their involvement in day-to-day management of Oracle has made a great difference and has enabled us to publish our Newsletter "Speak Out" four times a year.

Fundraising remains our main objective to be able to expand our support for research projects and we are very grateful to our supporters for their generous donations which have increased in 2014-15 to £775k, almost four times the level of the previous year. A number of individual Research Fellowships have been established and we believe that it is fundamental that Oracle keeps closely engaged with our supporters so that they are kept informed about our research projects and how their financial help is being used. With this in mind Oracle held the first of its annual research events in September at the Institute of Cancer Research. Over 35 supporters joined the Oracle team to learn about the projects being funded by our generous donors. Following initial presentations outlining the main surgical, radiotherapy and chemotherapy research themes, guests were able to mingle with the research teams who talked through their projects. The evening was a great success and we plan this as an annual event each autumn.

Other events during the year included our annual Golf Day and our 9th annual Glory of Christmas Concert which was arguably the best to date, with over 600 friends and supporters enjoying a memorable start to the festive season. We are grateful to Nancy Sykes who took over the organisation of the event. Nicola Ridges-Jones also organised a very successful Gala Dinner in March, achieving her objective of raising £100,000 for Oracle over the past 10 years.

In October Oracle launched its Endowment Fund, a new initiative led by Anthony Sykes and, for the very first time in the UK charity sector, this endowment fund will be based on interest free, five year loans rather than gifts, from Oracle's benefactors. We realise that we cannot rely exclusively on our loyal supporters and must expand and explore other ways of raising funds.

I realise that there are several small head and neck cancer charities around the UK, based in different hospitals and universities, each trying their best to raise money for this vital research. It is very difficult with limited resources and numbers, and I believe that it would be a good idea if we could all somehow join together as a single UK Head and Neck Cancer Research Charity. In this way we would be able to co-ordinate research as a part of Cancer Research UK and improve representation, speaking with one stronger voice. In the meantime Oracle Cancer Trust will continue to expand the number of research projects that it supports with the aim of saving the lives of head and neck cancer patients and preserving their quality of life.

Peter Rhys Evans

Chairman and Founder, Oracle Cancer Trust

CEO's Report



Following a period of transition in FY 2013-14, as reported in the Trustees' Report, in which Oracle established its office in Southwark, and strengthened its accounting and governance processes, the focus in FY 2014-15 has been trained on:

- developing our access to suitable projects by strengthening our relationship with The Institute of Cancer Research;
- increasing our engagement with our supporters, and through them, our grant-making capability;
- making our operations more focused and accountable by putting a three year business plan in place;
- increasing the longer term visibility of our revenues, for example, by putting in place Oracle's Endowment Fund.

There were over 13,000 cases of head and neck cancer in the UK last year, accounting for over 5% of all cases of cancer. Although it is the fastest growing of all cancer groups with incidence having increased by 50% over the past 20 years, research is underfunded; only 1.6% of CRUK's research grant budget is currently allocated to the sector. The overall objective of Oracle is to become the most active funder of early stage research into new ways to preserve the lives of head and neck patients and to improve the quality of life of survivors. Oracle's target is, therefore, to raise the number of research projects that it funds from the current level of eight to eighteen projects by 2018. While aiming to increase significantly its level of grant-making activity, Oracle will develop a high level of engagement with its supporters.

We are extremely grateful to our supporters for their generous donations, which increased from £199k in FY 2013-14 to £775k in FY 2014-15. We will continue to rely heavily on this funding source for our grant-making activity and we believe that to succeed in this it is fundamental that Oracle should engage closely with its supporters by informing them about progress being made on all the current projects and about projects that, with their financial help, we would like to be able to commit to. One of Oracle's objectives is to fund its own overhead costs through its own events so that every penny of the donations that Oracle receives from its supporters can be applied to research projects.

In pursuit of its determination to establish a regular report-back event, Oracle held the first of its annual research events in September 2015. Through introducing our supporters to the researchers themselves we intend to make the work they are doing more intelligible, actual and immediate to our supporters.

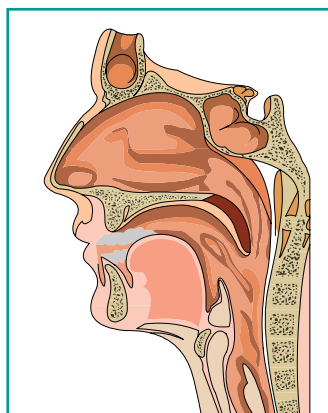
We recognise, however, that we cannot rely exclusively on our supporters' funding and must expand our funding sources in order to enable us to increase our activity. We are actively exploring ways to approach foundations and trusts, and corporate charitable giving programmes. Other fundraising initiatives include seeking to encourage our supporters to consider leaving a legacy to Oracle in their wills, and to increase the number of our supporters willing to provide regular monthly donations, which, however small, give us greater visibility of our expected income over time and allow us to fund multi-year research projects with greater confidence.

The same objective of increasing the visibility of Oracle's access to future financial resources underpinned the creation of Oracle's Endowment Fund in October 2015. This is unique in the UK charity sector in that it is based on interest free, five year loans from our supporters rather than outright gifts. Oracle places the funds with professional fund managers and receives periodic distributions from the funds invested. As the lender accepts the risk of capital loss, Oracle is protected from financial risk in the event that there is insufficient capital to repay the loan in full on maturity. The benefits to the lender include the ability to call for early repayment of the loan in the event that the lender's circumstances change or that the lender becomes dissatisfied with the progress of the research, or Oracle's overall performance. Oracle is therefore strongly motivated to report back fully and regularly to the lender on the way the lender's funding is being applied. Equally, if Oracle fulfils its obligations properly the lender may decide to convert the loan into an outright gift to increase Oracle's pool of permanent capital.

In summary, if FY 2013-14 was a year of transition, FY 2014-15 marked a promising start of Oracle's development towards its goal of becoming recognised as the most active funder of early stage research into head and neck cancer.

Anthony Sykes
CEO, Oracle Cancer Trust

Research Strategy and Achievements



Head and Neck Cancer Overview in UK

- Head and neck cancer is the seventh most commonly diagnosed type of cancer, with over 11,000 new cases of head and neck cancer being diagnosed every year¹
- Head and neck cancers cause over 3,300 deaths in the UK every year²
- An average of 31 people receive a head and neck cancer diagnosis every day in the UK³
- Around 62,530 people were living with head and neck cancer in the UK in 2010⁴
- 9 people die every day from head and neck cancer⁵
- 81% of patients undergoing treatment for head and neck cancer experience pain⁶
- Treatment for head and neck cancer can cause problems with eating, speech, breathing and swallowing⁷

While head and neck cancer used to be associated with middle-aged or older men with a history of alcohol and/or tobacco use, this demographic is changing to include a younger age group of both genders due to the sharp increase of HPV+ head and neck cancers, which are primarily cancers of the tongue and throat.

References are on page 28 of this document

Oracle's Research Strategy

Oracle is the only charity in the UK that specifically funds early stage research projects for head and neck cancer, although there is a small number of charities that are providing grants to this sector in general. Research into head and neck cancer is hugely underfunded relative to incidence: only 1.6% of CRUK's budget of £330M is spent on head and neck cancer⁸. The goal of Oracle Cancer Trust over the three year period to the end of 2018 is to become the most active funder of early stage research projects in the head and neck cancer sector in the UK.

Oracle's Funding Process

Applications for funding of research projects are rigorously assessed by peer review and submitted to Oracle's Research Committee which considers whether they are consistent with Oracle's objectives and whether they meet Oracle's project eligibility criteria. When approved by the Research Committee the applications are submitted to the Finance and Investments Committee which considers the expected costs of the project in the context of Oracle's current and expected financial resources and decides whether the project is affordable from Oracle's unrestricted reserves, or whether Oracle's commitment should be contingent on sourcing external financing.

When approved by the Finance and Investments Committee the research application is tabled at the next Board meeting and if approved by the Board, Oracle issues a Grant Award Letter to the applicant under which Oracle commits itself to funding the project for its full term subject to an annual review of progress.

Scientific Journal Acknowledgements

BRAF- and MIK-Targeted Small Molecule Inhibitors Exert Enhanced Antimelanoma Effects in Combination with Oncolytic Reovirus Through ER Stress.

Victoria Roulstone (supported by The Mark Donegan Fellowship)

Published December 2014

Research Strategy and Achievements

Oracle's world class head and neck cancer research programmes have been running for over ten years and have resulted in better treatments with improved outcomes for patients. Our renowned team of Honorary Trustees and the founder and Chairman of Oracle Cancer Trust continue to be at the forefront of developing new treatments and delivering clinical trials that are a direct result of Oracle's ongoing research funding.



Advances in Surgery

Peter Rhys Evans MB BS LRCP FRCS DCC
Chairman and Founder

Peter Rhys Evans is one of Europe's most eminent Cancer ENT Surgeons and was an early pioneer in new techniques of laser conservation surgery and reconstruction of the voice mechanism in the early 1980s. Peter and his team have developed many innovative techniques over the years and was formerly Chief of ENT/Head and Neck Surgery at The Royal Marsden Hospital in London. Currently he is involved in developing new robotic surgical techniques for tumours of the throat and is working on a training project for the Oracle Cancer Trust named "Karsten Schubert Robotic Surgery Research Fellowship".



Pioneering Radiotherapy Techniques

Professor Chris Nutting BSc MBBS MD PhD FRCP FRCR ECMO MedFIPeM
Honorary Trustee

Professor Nutting is a Professor of Clinical Oncology and medical Consultant specialising in head and neck cancers at The Royal Marsden Hospital, who has helped develop Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT), an advanced form of Radiation therapy. Professor Nutting is currently working on a new trial at The Royal Marsden Hospital, partly funded by Oracle that is looking at reducing the very common symptoms of dry mouth and swallowing difficulties following radiotherapy.



Breakthroughs in Immunotherapy

Professor Kevin Harrington BSc MBBS MRCP FRCR FRCP PhD DIC
Honorary Trustee

Professor Kevin Harrington is Joint Head of the Division of Radiotherapy and Imaging at The ICR and studies the use of biologically targeted agents, in combination with treatments such as radiotherapy and chemotherapy, to target cancer cells selectively. He is a specialist in head and neck cancer and in melanoma, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Radiologists. Professor Harrington supervises several of the Oracle funded projects at The ICR and his work on Immunotherapies is known throughout the world.

Research Strategy and Achievements



Dr Holly Barker

Dr Holly Barker is analysing ways of solving the problem of radiotherapy and chemotherapy resistance by adding radiosensitizers, enzymes and chemotherapy which may allow lower doses of radiotherapy to be used effectively. This project is being funded from Oracle's unrestricted reserves and is expected to be completed in 2016.



Dr Hind Hafsi

Dr Hind Hafsi is carrying out pre-clinical analyses of a novel anti-cancer agent aimed at enhancing the radiation response in head and neck cancer at The Institute of Cancer Research. This project which is seeking to identify a new drug combination that will be able to block the ability of cancer cells to repair themselves after radiotherapy treatment, is being generously funded by the Bender Family Trust and is expected to be completed in Autumn 2016.



Dr Joan Kyula & Victoria Roulstone

Dr Joan Kyula and Victoria Roulstone have been investigating viruses that have the ability to kill cancer cells, known as oncolytic viruses. Reovirus, a naturally occurring human virus, has shown some positive results in pre-clinical tests in a wide range of tumour types and has now reached final testing in clinical trials.

Early clinical studies have shown that when it is used alone this virus demonstrates modest effects on cancer cells but when used in combination with new anti-cancer drugs there is a potentially greater effect. It has been noted however, that in clinical trials, not all patients benefited from these treatments.

This has highlighted the need to identify which combinations of oncolytic viruses with anti-cancer drugs offer the most effective treatment for head and neck cancer patients. This project is being generously supported through the Mark Donegan Fellowship and is expected to be concluded in mid 2019.



Pictured (top) Dr Joan Kyula and below Victoria Roulstone



Professor James McCaul

Professor James McCaul is Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon at The Royal Marsden Hospital and has been working on a project that involves using a stain, Lugol's Iodine, to identify early stage pre-cancerous tumours in the mouth. The stain identifies these cells and enables surgeons to remove the minimum amount of tissue possible ensuring that the senses are preserved as much as possible. Oral cancer is one of the fastest growing groups of cancers in the head and neck and it is hoped that the trial will extend to a nationwide study. This project was funded from Oracle's unrestricted reserves and was completed in July 2015.

Research Strategy and Achievements



Professor Uwe Oelfke

Through the generous support of CHK Charities, Oracle is funding the costs of two PhD students working on the MR Linac installation programme. This project is under the supervision of Professor Uwe Oelfke who has had a varied career spanning theoretical nuclear physics and finally medical physics. MR Linac is a new machine which combines two advanced technologies: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), which uses a powerful magnetic field to acquire images of the body's internal anatomy, and a linear accelerator which converts electrons into x-rays. It is thought that this machine will revolutionise the treatment of cancer. This is a four year programme and is expected to be completed in 2019.



Dr Malin Pedersen

Dr Malin Pedersen and Science Officer, Eva Crespo Rodriguez, are testing new drugs that can awaken the patient's immune system to fight thyroid cancer. Dr Pedersen has already shown this approach can be effective for melanoma and is confident that it can be equally successful for thyroid tumours. This project, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2016, is being generously supported by donations from the late David Peake, The Swire Charitable Trust and the Adrian Swire Charitable Trust.



Professor Caroline Springer

Professor Caroline Springer and her team are investigating a new gene therapy which uses a specific gene-directed enzyme which, for the first time, has been shown to be able to convert certain drugs into cancer-killing chemicals. These only affect the head and neck cancer cells, avoiding damage to healthy cells. This project is being funded from Oracle's unrestricted reserves and is expected to be completed by early 2016.



Dr Furrat Amen

This project involves patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the tongue treated at several leading hospitals in London between 1990 and December 2010 with, and without metastasis to the neck. Patients that present with squamous cell carcinoma of the tongue may have clinically or radiologically N0 neck (no neck lymph nodes detectable) at presentation. This presents the surgeon / oncologist with a dilemma. Do we observe these patients without treatment to the neck waiting for disease to become apparent or should they be treated with a prophylactic neck dissection or irradiation which have potential morbidity and mortality. Spread to the neck subsequently decreases survival by 50%. This project is being funded from Oracle's unrestricted reserves and is expected to be completed early 2016.

Engaging with our Supporters

Sources of funding

Events

Currently Oracle has two core events in the fundraising calendar, our Annual Golf Day and the Christmas Concert "The Glory of Christmas" which in 2015 celebrated its tenth year. We are looking to expand our fundraising through targeted fundraising events and in 2016 have planned a horseracing event and an opera evening.

Giving by Individuals

Oracle is fortunate to receive the support of a loyal group of supporters. Survivors of cancer often provide financial support to medical research into the cancer type that affected them. A large proportion of Oracle's supporters are derived from survivors of head and neck cancer, or the family and friends of those who had been afflicted with this type of cancer. Oracle has increased the regular monthly givers by 50% through more regular and consistent communication.

Oracle Endowment Fund

The Oracle Endowment Fund, as described earlier in this Report, is a loans-based fund and was launched in October 2015 with an initial funding of £320,004. Our target, as contained in Oracle's three year Business Plan is to grow the principal amount of the Fund to £800k by May 2018. In current market conditions, with interest rates at historically low levels, we expect to receive annual distributions of about four percent, thus the income that Oracle is targeting to receive will rise from nearly £13k in the current financial year to £30k in 2017/18. As the loans mature we hope that lenders will be motivated to convert their loans to gifts, which, with the additional Gift Aid, will create a pool of permanent capital within the Endowment Fund.

Legacy Programme

Oracle is increasingly looking to promote legacy giving through our existing channels of communication including our newsletter and website.

Corporates, Charitable Foundations and Trusts

Oracle is embarking on a new initiative to approach foundations, trusts and corporates with a target of securing grants of £250k in 2016/17 and £350k in 2017/18. The first step in this process will be completed in the current financial year and will identify which organisations would consider funding early stage head and neck cancer research, define specifically what funding Oracle wishes to apply for and prepare applications to the relevant organisations.

Fundraising Aims and Achievements

Communicating our Research

Throughout the year we update our supporters on progress of our research programmes via our website, regular column updates in our quarterly newsletter and our annual research event where supporters can hear from our team of researchers as well as our Chairman and Honorary Trustees. Our first event was held in September 2015 and is set to become an annual event.

Database

The administration team have completed in-house a total update and refresh of the database, and this tool is now actively used within the Charity to engage with our supporters by email and post. Oracle complies with the Data Protection Act and is a member of the Data Protection Register.

Newsletter

The quarterly newsletter has been re-designed with new content and stories to appeal to our broad supporter base. The newsletter is designed, written and produced in-house four times a year and provides an update of our latest research projects, patient stories, supporter led and Oracle fundraising events.



Social Media and Website

Social media allows Oracle to communicate in a cost effective manner to a broader audience. Oracle has also undertaken some low cost donor acquisition through Facebook, Twitter and Google+. The website currently generates approximately 500 visitors per month, with 75% of traffic new visits.

TV and Media Coverage

Oracle does not retain an external PR agency but looks to exploit media coverage where possible. The Charity has gained coverage in The Daily Express, Take a Break and The Daily Mail. Honorary Trustee, Professor Kevin Harrington has appeared on Panorama and The One Show (pictured right).



Community Fundraising Aims and Achievements

Oracle Cancer Trust is very fortunate to receive the support of individuals who generously give their time to raise funds to support our ongoing research work. Many of our fundraisers have either gone through treatment for head and neck cancer or are friends and family who are raising funds to support family or in memory of a loved one.



Walk the Test Way October 2014

Over 100 walkers joined forces in support of Oracle by walking the Test Way in Hampshire. The walk raised over £7,000 and the large team was organised by Oracle's Voluntary Management Team Member Nicola Ridges Jones, who has supported Oracle for over ten years. Nicola's father passed away from throat cancer and Nicola has been raising funds in his memory ever since, raising over £100,000. These funds have gone towards supporting our new PhD Studentship programme.

Pictured: The Oracle walking team

Pen-Y-Fan Summit Walk November 2014

The Mark Donegan Fellowship was established in memory of Mark Donegan, founder of Altima Partners who passed away from cancer in early 2014. The Fellowship directly supports Oracle's Cancer Trust's research and currently funds a research fellow at The Institute of Cancer Research. The Pen-Y-Fan Summit Walk was just one of the many fundraising initiatives that friends and family of the late Mark Donegan have undertaken. The Mark Donegan Fellowship have also raised funds through an annual Clay Pigeon Shoot.

Pictured: James Badcock of Altima at the summit of Pen Y Fan



Karsten Schubert Book Launch March 2015

Well known art dealer Karsten Schubert has raised over £60,000 for Oracle Cancer Trust raised by generous donations from colleagues, friends and family. In October 2014 he launched a book about his experiences of undergoing surgery and his recovery, with all proceeds in support of Oracle Cancer Trust. All funds raised by Karsten Schubert have been designated to the "Karsten Schubert Robotic Surgery Research Fellowship" which will further the education and training surgeons in robotic surgery.

Pictured: Karsten Schubert

Gala Fashionista Ball March 2015

Oracle supporter Nicola Ridges-Jones has raised an incredible £100,000 over the past ten years for Oracle in memory of her late father, Fredrick Ridges who passed away after a two year battle with throat cancer. The "FRF Finale Ball" was held at Botley Grange Hotel in Southampton and over 150 people attended the gala event. The event hit Nicola's target of £20,000 enabling her to reach her goal of £100,000.

Pictured right: Nicola Ridges-Jones (second on left) with her family



Community Fundraising Aims and Achievements



Upping the Andes May 2015

After cycling the equivalent of five times the distance between Lands End and John O' Groats, Guthrie Fenton, Thomas Lawson, Toby MacKean and Archie Innes had conquered the Andes and in doing so, had raised in excess of £100,000 for their chosen charities. Guthrie Fenton has raised £20,000 to date for The Mark Donegan Fellowship that directly supports Oracle Cancer Trust.

Pictured: Guthrie Fenton, Thomas Lawson, Toby MacKean and Archie Innes

Oracle Fundraising Events

Two direct fundraising efforts were organised for supporters, being the Annual Golf Day and the Christmas supporters event "Glory of Christmas". This was fewer than in previous years, but in the 2015-16 year this will be increased to six events, many of which have been in a long term planning process. Oracle's fundraising events are managed by the Events Committee that is chaired by Sarah Bender. The committee is formed of active volunteers, who meet on a quarterly basis to assess and assist with the organisation and management of events. All events are presented to the Finance and Investments Committee and the Board with an event proposal income and expenditure forecast. The Charity actively seeks sponsorship for events to cover overheads.



Annual Golf Day

Oracle recently held its sixth Annual Golf Day and is a popular event for all supporters. The 2014 event raised £5,900 and proceeds are generated from team entries as well as the live and silent auction during the day.



The Glory of Christmas

The Glory of Christmas is a moving evening and a firm favourite in Oracle's calendar. Held in the concert venue, St John's Smith Square, music is provided by Thames Chamber Orchestra and the Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge. The evening features festive carols with readings by former patients and is an event where all supporters come together to remember loved ones and celebrate the festive season. The 2014 event raised £8,689.78 in donations.

Oracle's Objectives for 2015-2016

Financial Year 2015 marks the first year of Oracle's new three year Business Plan under which Oracle is seeking to build on the firm foundation now established, to achieve a target of eighteen current research projects, contrasted with the eight projects funded during FY 2014. At present, most of these projects are sourced from the Institute for Cancer Research (ICR), and Oracle is aiming to strengthen this relationship with the ICR in order to increase the flow of suitable opportunities.

Oracle has recently initiated the Oracle ICR Studentship with the appointment of one PhD student to join Dr Simon Robinson's team at the ICR which will use advanced imaging technologies (such as MRI, PET, CT), and a state-of-the-art radiation research platform within the new Centre for Cancer Imaging at the ICR, to develop ways of assessing tumour response to new targeted agents that can influence the tumour oxygen levels for radiotherapeutic gain. This Oracle ICR Studentship is being funded by the many smaller donations that Oracle receives regularly from its supporters, for which Oracle is extremely grateful. Oracle is aiming to increase the number of such Studentships that it funds each year, since the fact that the work is carried out under the aegis of the ICR ensures its quality and relevance.

Over the past year, Oracle has increased to five the number of Fellowships that have been established, and the success of this initiative attests to the fact that our major donors have responded positively to the opportunities to fund individual projects which have been presented to them by Oracle. We will continue to bring such projects to the attention of our major donors in the hope of further increasing the number of these Fellowships over the next three years.

Over the next three years Oracle is also seeking to broaden its reach to other head and neck cancer centres in London and the Home Counties in order to reduce its reliance on the ICR. In addition, Oracle has created the Research Innovation and Advisory Committee, comprising members who are pre-eminent in the fields of virus therapies, radiotherapy and surgery whose task it is to guide Oracle's research focus, develop a stronger pipeline of projects and act as a project filter to ensure that Oracle's resources are always optimally targeted.

The funding of the projected increase in Oracle's activity over the next three years will need to be significantly raised and will rely on developing a significant level of funding from Foundations, Trusts and Corporates, while maintaining the level of donations from Oracle's major individual donors and from its supporters. This may require the recruitment of a professional fundraiser.

Oracle will continue to hold its popular annual events such as the Golf Day and the Glory of Christmas concert, as well as organising larger, one-off events. In 2016 Oracle is hoping to stage a race day at Windsor and an opera evening, which we hope will appeal to a large number of our supporters.

Oracle, with its office now well established in Southwark, has greatly improved its administration and accounting over the period under review. Its use of the powerful Donor Strategy database software will allow the charity to service its supporters in a much more tailored way, and the current objective is to expand its list of supporters either organically by making itself known to a larger number of former head and neck cancer patients and their families, or by entering into collaborative partnerships with other similar charities in London and the Home Counties. This would increase the number of potential supporters, which would make events easier to stage and more productive in terms of income generated.

Oracle's accounting processes have also been significantly enhanced which will result in much better management information and a more efficient production of statutory accounts. This strengthened basis of accounting will help management to monitor closely the implementation of the Business Plan.

Review of Financial Position

The year to 31st May 2015 has been a successful one for Oracle Cancer Trust, building on the foundations referred to in last years Trustees' Report.

The surplus of £239k reflects the impact of four fellowships that have been awarded on the basis of generous financial support received which in turn have enabled three major new projects to be started as well as other minor ones undertaken during the year.

Another impact of last year's reorganisation is a reduction in support costs as Oracle Cancer Trust recognises the need to make best possible use of the resources contributed by its supporters. The financial position has been additionally strengthened by the release from restricted to general reserves of the Shaw Legacy. Oracle Cancer Trust very much appreciates this gesture.

Since the year end there have been exciting financial developments. There has been the launch of the Oracle Endowment Fund, the legal fees for which have been borne in the current year, but the benefit of which will increase over time as the Oracle Endowment Fund grows and as its access to the yield from a pool of permanent capital develops. We would welcome expressions of interest from any new potential lenders who would be willing to join the current participants in this first-of-a-kind fund.

There has been the creation of the Oracle Supporters' Fellowship to recognise the contribution of both those who undertake major projects and events to support Oracle Cancer Trust, as well as smaller donors all of whose gifts will now be able to be directed towards a single, identifiable research project which will be sourced from The Institute of Cancer Research, and help to strengthen the relationship that Oracle has developed with the ICR. Oracle will provide a full feed-back on the progress of this project, and all its other projects at the next Annual Research Event in the Autumn of 2016

Going Concern

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's financial position, taking into the account the levels of reserves, cash, committed income that has not been included in the accounts, future plans and its systems of financial and risk management. The Trustees believe that the Charity is well placed to manage operational and financial risks successfully. Accordingly, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and therefore adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual accounts.

Reserves Policy

Oracle Cancer Trust has defined and adopted a robust reserves policy which is tightly monitored on an ongoing basis. This monitoring process has the additional benefit of providing continuous visibility and comfort to the Trustees of Oracle Cancer Trust's ability to continue to operate as a going concern.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed and reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Charity faces and confirm that systems are established to mitigate the Charity's exposure to those risks.

Structure, Governance and Management

i. Objects and Activities

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard for the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives of Oracle Cancer Trust as set out in its Articles of Association are research into all matters connected with or bearing upon the causes, prevention, treatment and care of cancer to include research into, and to advance the art and science of, surgery as applied to cancer of the head and neck and for the publication and dissemination of the results of such researches.

ii. Corporate Structure

Oracle Cancer Trust was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 14th January 2010 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered by the Charity Commission on 20th May 2011 to continue the activities previously carried out by the unincorporated charity called the Head and Neck Cancer Research Trust (HNCRT), which had been established in 1979. The assets of the HNCRT were transferred to the Trust on 1st June 2011.

iii. The Board of Trustees

The Trustees of Oracle Cancer Trust (who are also Directors for purposes of Company Law) are listed on page 17. The Board is chaired by Peter Rhys Evans who is an eminent and highly experienced head and neck cancer surgeon. Honorary Trustees include Professor Chris Nutting, who is a Professor of Clinical Oncology at The Royal Marsden Hospital, and Professor Kevin Harrington, who is a Professor of Biological Cancer Therapies at The Institute for Cancer Research. Other Trustees have a business and finance background. Oracle's Trustees are sufficiently knowledgeable and experienced in their respective fields to provide the required governance and oversight of the Trust's activities.

iv. Management

The day-to-day management of Oracle is carried out by a four person Management Team comprising Oracle's Chief Executive (Voluntary), Anthony Sykes, who was appointed in January 2013, the Operations Manager, Sarah Bender, the Accountant, Michael Illingworth, and the Supporters' Fundraising Manager (Voluntary), Nicola Ridges-Jones. The Management Team meets approximately bi-monthly, and has prepared a three year Business Plan covering the period to 31st May 2018, which targets a significant growth of Oracle's activities over that period.

v. Finance and Investments Committee

The Finance and Investments Committee, which is chaired by an independent member, is responsible for scrutinising and approving all significant expenditures and commitments of the Trust, principally its research funding commitments, prior to ratification by the Board.

vi. Research Committee

The Research Committee, which, to ensure good governance, is chaired by a non-medical Trustee, is responsible for considering and approving all new applications for research funding, as well as monitoring the performance of existing research funding commitments.

vii. Events Committee

The Events Committee is chaired by the Operations Manager and is responsible for developing and co-ordinating Oracle's annual programme of events, notably the Golf Day in the summer, the Glory of Christmas concert and the Research Event. The events' budgets are submitted to the Finance and Investments Committee for approval, before being submitted to the Board.

viii. Office and Administration

The day-to-day administration of Oracle Cancer Trust, which is headed by Sarah Bender on a permanent, part-time, freelance basis, with two part-time assistants, is conducted from Oracle's offices at 32-36 Loman Street, London SE1 0EH. Oracle has no employees.

Legal and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Oracle Cancer Trust
Trustees	Mr Peter Howell Rhys Evans FRCS Prof Kevin Harrington FRCS (resigned October 2015) Prof Christopher Nutting FRCS (resigned October 2015) Sir Michael Lockett KCVO Mr Keith Jones Mr Anthony Sykes
Honorary Trustees	Prof Kevin Harrington FRCS (appointed December 2015) Prof Christopher Nutting FRCS (appointed December 2015)
Royal Patron	HRH Princess Alexandra
President	Jimmy Mulville
Vice Presidents	Nigella Lawson Tony Matharu Jenny Pitman OBE Sir Adrian Swire James Filmer-Wilson
Charity Number	1142037
Company Number	07125407
Principal Office of Charity	32-36 Loman Street London SE1 0EH
Registered Office	The Royal Marsden Hospital Fulham Road London SW3 6JJ
Independent Examiner	Kingston Smith LLP, Chartered Accountants Devonshire House 60 Goswell Road London EC1M 7AD
Bankers	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 1BE
Solicitors	Dorsey & Whitney LLP 199 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3UT

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Oracle Cancer Trust 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 trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities, in accordance with the charity's governing documents, and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on **19th January 2016** and signed on their behalf:



Mr P H Rhys Evans
Chairman & Trustee

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2015 which are set out on pages 20 to 27.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

The Charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

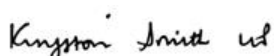
To keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;

and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Sandra De Lord
for and on behalf of
Kingston Smith LLP, Chartered Accountants
Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AD

Date: 19th January 2016

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 May 2015 (Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Unrestricted Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income - donations		481,206	293,504	774,710	198,798
Activities for generating funds: fundraising events		28,227	58,773	87,000	83,491
Investment income	2	-	1,592	1,592	3,260
Total incoming resources		509,433	353,869	863,302	285,549
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary and fundraising income	3	-	148,254	148,254	217,519
Costs of charitable activities	4	227,617	222,754	450,371	136,981
Governance costs	5	-	25,935	25,935	15,567
Total resources expended		227,617	396,943	624,560	370,067
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers		281,816	(43,074)	238,742	(84,518)
Gross transfers between funds		(222,000)	222,000	-	-
Net movements in funds		59,816	178,926	-	-
Total funds brought forward 1 June 2014		256,898	729,737	986,635	1,071,153
Total funds carried forward at 31 May 2015		£316,714	£908,663	£1,225,377	£986,635

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year

The notes on pages 22 to 27 form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet at 31st May 2015

	Notes	2015		2014	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	151,422		132,078	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,407,608		943,904	
		<u>1,559,030</u>		<u>1,075,982</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	333,653		89,347	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,225,377		986,635
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			£1,225,377		£986,635
Funds					
Restricted funds	11		316,714		256,898
Unrestricted funds	12		908,663		729,737
Total funds			£1,225,377		£986,635

The directors state:

For the year ended 31 May 2015 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on the **19th January 2016** and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr P H Rhys Evans
Chairman and Trustee

Company registration No: 07125497

The notes on pages 22 to 27 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

a) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued March 2005, applicable accounting standards and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income: Legacies are accounted for when the conditions of entitlement, certainty and measurement are satisfied.

Bank interest is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Voluntary income by way of donations and gifts is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

c) Resources expended

Resources expended including grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which is not recoverable by the charity.

The majority of costs are attributable to specific charitable activities.

Support costs include central functions and are allocated to cost categories on the basis of staff time spent on those cost categories.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

d) Tax status

The Charity is not subject to corporation tax on its charitable activities.

e) Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted General Funds - these are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated Funds - these are funds that are set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted Funds - these are funds that are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

f) Grant Making Policy

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient, except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

2. Investment Income

	2015	2014
	£	£
Bank interest receivable		
Restricted funds	-	674
Unrestricted funds	1,592	2,586
	1,592	3,260

3. Costs of Generating Voluntary Income

	2015	2014
	£	£
Fundraising costs	32,514	86,867
Support Costs allocated (Note 6)	115,740	130,652
	148,254	217,519

4. Charitable Activities

	2015	2014
	£	£
Research grants	448,371	111,815
Research costs	2,000	25,166
	450,371	136,981

All grants are payable to The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and The Institute of Cancer Research to cover salaries and expenses of researchers.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

5. Governance Costs

	2015	2014
	£	£
Fees and bank charges	-	76
Bookkeeping and external scrutiny	22,923	14,884
Support costs allocated (Note 6)	3,012	607
	25,935	15,567

6. Support Costs

	2015	2014
	£	£
Sub-contractors (incl. Chief Operating Officer 2014)	59,017	79,494
PR Consultancy	26,514	40,185
Printing, postage, stationery and website	14,291	8,584
Other office, travel and sundry	11,659	2,996
Legal and professional fees	7,270	-
	118,752	131,259

7. Net income/Expenditure for the Year

	2015	2014
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Fees payable to the Independent Examiner	6,375	6,600

8. Staff Costs

	2015	2014
	£	£
Salaries	7,138	-
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs	-	-
	7,138	-

During the year two employees were employed on a part-time basis (2014: no employees). Additional support has been provided throughout the year in administering and running the Charity by individuals who are contracted on a self employed basis.

No employee earned more than £60,000 in the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

9. Debtors

	2015	2014
	£	£
Grants and Events debtors	111,475	131,820
Other debtors and prepayments	2,900	-
Accrued income:		
- Investment income	-	258
- Gift Aid recoverable	37,047	-
	151,422	132,078

10. Creditors

	2015	2014
	£	£
Grant accruals	250,022	27,744
Other accruals	12,020	11,355
Trade creditors	71,611	50,248
	333,653	89,347

11. Restricted Funds

	Balance 1 June 2014	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance 31 May 2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Shaw Legacy	222,000	-	-	(222,000)	-
Bender Family Trust	-	100,000	(50,000)	-	50,000
Mark Donegan Fellowship	34,898	28,227	(42,782)	-	20,343
The Swire/Adrian Swire Charitable Trusts	-	130,000	(72,462)	-	57,538
CHK Charities	-	251,206	(62,373)	-	188,833
	256,898	509,433	(227,617)	(222,000)	316,714

The Bender Family Trust funds research work at The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) by Dr Hind Hafsi
The Mark Donegan Fellowship funds research work at The ICR by Miss Victoria Roulstone and Dr Joan Kyula
The Swire/Adrian Swire Charitable Trusts fund research work at The ICR by Dr Malin Pedersen
CHK Charities funds MR Linac research at The ICR under the supervision of Professor Uwe Oelfke

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

12. Unrestricted Funds

	Balance	Movement in Resources			Balance
	1 June 2014	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	31 May 2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds					
Blair Hesketh Memorial	69,532	-	-	-	69,532
General unrestricted funds	660,205	353,869	(396,943)	222,000	839,131
	729,737	353,869	(396,943)	222,000	908,663

The Blair Hesketh Memorial Fund has been set up to provide funds for the Blair Hesketh lectures.

The transfer of £222,000 into General Unrestricted Funds from Restricted Funds results from the release by the donor's family of the restrictions previously imposed by the Henry Shaw Legacy.

13. Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of the current year or preceding period.

14. Related Party Transactions

The three medical Trustee Directors also sit on the Research Sub-Committee. Consequently they make recommendations upon the direction of the research, allocation of funding and related appointments. There is potential for indirect benefit to accrue to these medical Trustee Directors, for example, where the funded appointee delivers a partial clinical role which may alleviate their own clinical responsibilities. To mitigate this risk of related party benefit, the Research Sub-Committee is chaired by an independent Non Executive Director and it formally passes any funding proposals to the Finance & Investment Sub-Committee (whose members are non-medical) for review and necessary approval before onwards submission for a final Board decision.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

15. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Other Net Assets £	Total £
Restricted funds:		
The Bender Family Trust	50,000	50,000
Mark Donegan Fellowship	20,343	20,343
The Swire/Adrian Swire Charitable Trusts	57,538	57,538
CHK Charities	188,833	188,833
Unrestricted funds:		
Designated	69,532	69,532
General	839,131	839,131
	1,225,377	1,225,377

16. Control Relationships

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees under the terms of the Trust Deed.

17. Commitments

At the year end the charity has agreed to provide research grants as follows:

2016/17	£160,538
2017/18	£104,809
2018/19	£93,767
2019/20	£28,283

Since the year end the following grants have been approved in addition to the above

2015/16	£80,871
2016/17	£104,375
2017/18	£90,212
2018/19	£89,657
2019/20	£51,473

These amounts are not provided for in the financial statements as they are subject to annual financial and scientific review.

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Registered Charity Number 1142037

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