

Children and War-UK Supporters Executive Committee

Annual Report for 2020 to May 2021

Children and War(UK) became a registered Charity in England and Wales on 17 May 2021 (Reg No. 1194478). This report is the last as a supporters group to the Norwegian based Children and War Foundation registered in Bergen, Norway.

Introduction

The CAW(UK) supporters executive committee has continued with its work despite its activities being severely curtailed by the lockdown restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic from March 2020. Meeting and events have been held via Zoom.

A major focus was on the status of the UK group and the need to resolve the problems that arose as a consequence of banking issues. CAWF and CAW(UK) agreed that the only realistic solution was for CAW(UK) to register as a Charity in the UK so an application was made.

We were also able to do some training and fundraising.

Committee membership and meetings

CaW-UK supporters committee members were: Bill Yule, Patrick Smith, Laura Timms, Helen Likierman, Julian Hale, Kim Ehntholt and Maria Callias.

Office holders: Maria Callias continued to chair the committee; Bill Yule continued as UK Treasurer, and Laura Timms as UK Secretary and coordinator of training. Helen Likierman and Julian Hale as editors of the Newsletter, and leads on fundraising. The Fundraising group was chaired by Helen Likierman and included volunteers.

In addition, Maria Callias continued on the Norwegian Board of Directors until 31 December 2021. Bill Yule and Patrick Smith continued to be on the CAWF Board of Research and Implementation, providing important links between CAWF and the UK supporters' group.

Meetings: The CaW-UK committee held nine meetings in 2020 and 4 four in 2021. Many additional working meetings (attended by relevant committee members including from CAWF chair and solicitors) were held to work on the process of becoming a registered charity and the subsequent cooperation agreement between CAWF and CAW(UK), as well as for specific training and fundraising events.

Fundraising

Despite the Pandemic, Helen Likierman and Julian Hale organised one fundraising event during this period. On 25 February 2020, Lydia Bauman, an Art Historian, gave a wonderful talk on Zoom on Childhood in Art which was well attended and a successful

fundraiser. which also raised awareness and interest in the work of Children and War Foundation.

We also received generous donations directly and through our JustGiving page.

We warmly thank all our fundraisers and donors for their generous contributions of time and effort as well as the funds raised.

Training

Although the pandemic disrupted some planned training events, the following advertised and requested training events were held as distance learning over Zoom in UK by members of the UK group.

A two-day training, Teaching Recovery Techniques for Unaccompanied Minors was taught on 20 and 25 November 2020 via Zoom by Bill Yule, Kim Ehntholt and Sara Marquez.

A two day course on Teaching Recovery Techniques was taught by Laura Timms, David Trickey and Maria Callias on 29 and 30 October 2020.

In July 2020, Teaching Recovery Techniques training was carried out in 4 sessions (6, 10, 13 and 14 July) over Zoom with colleagues in Australia who wanted these skill to enable them to help children traumatised by the Bush fires. Bill Yule, David Trickey and Laura Timms carried out this training.

These trainings were warmly appreciated and valued by delegates from many countries and international organisations who planned to use the training in their work. We are very grateful to the trainers for their commitment and hard work.

Publications and Conferences

It was not possible to publish our Newsletter during this period.

On 5 September 2020, Bill Yule gave a very well received presentation on work with unaccompanied minors to the European Association of Behaviour and Cognitive Therapy Conference organised by Greece and held over Zoom (<https://www.eabct2020.org/>).

Several members of the UK committee have continued to be actively involved in their personal and professional capacity in national and international organisations focussing on trauma in children.

Relationship between CAWF and CAW(UK).

Our UK DNB account was closed by the bank in November 2019. After exploring several avenues to find a way of continuing to work with CAWF as a supporters group, both CAWF and CAW(UK) agreed that CAW(UK) should apply for Charitable status in the UK

The application to the Charity Commission and the negotiations to clarify the implications of this independent legal status for our future relations were very time-consuming over this period, for the CAW(UK) committee and especially Bill Yule and Maria Callias.

We were very pleased that we successfully achieved charitable status on 17 May 2021 and that ongoing negotiations have resulted in a formal Agreement of Cooperation between CAWF and CAW(UK). This Cooperation agreement was formally signed by all Directors Of CAWF and Trustees of CAW(UK) on 27 September 2021. We look forward to continuing to have mutually beneficial collaboration over our common aims of helping children overcome trauma from wars, disasters and other conflicts and adversities.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all the committee members for their dedication and generous time commitment throughout this period. Grateful thanks too to everyone else mentioned in this report who have also given so generously of their time, expertise and funding.

Maria Callias
Chair, CaW-UK Supporters Executive Committee

10 March 2022