



Breacc – Brazilian Educational and Cultural Centre

UK Registered Charity No.: 1087726

Office: Office: 92, Whitton Dene Hounslow UK TW3 2JU

<http://www.breacc.org.uk>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

OBJECTIVES OF BREACC

The objectives of Breacc are to disseminate the Brazilian culture by teaching Portuguese and help children to understand and respect other cultures and different ways of living.

Breacc is a secular, voluntary organisation funded by members of the Brazilian community in the UK. The school meets at the St Mary's Junior School 131, Richmond Road, TW1 3BA, on Saturday mornings during school term times. Since 2015, it has also opened a new branch in Bournemouth, at the Littledown Youth Centre, Chaeside, Littledown, Bournemouth BH7 7DX. A full prospectus, in Portuguese, is available from Breacc's website or from the School on class days. Breacc's official site provides information in English as well as in Portuguese.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF BREACC

The following served as Committee Members, and hence as Trustees in the year ended 31 August 2017.

Graciano de Santana Soares – Chairman

Fabiana Teixeira - Treasurer

Katia Fonseca Peixoto – Secretary

All the above may be contacted c/o Breacc info@breacc.com or by post: Breacc, 92, Whitton Dene Hounslow UK TW3 2JU.

After holding the Chair for seven consecutive years, Graciano de Santana Soares decided not to run for re-election as Chair. He has agreed to stay on until the next election and help with the transition into the new Committee.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS REPORT

The financial health of Breacc remains stable with a noticeable year-on-year increase. The financial condition has been strengthening consistently since 2014. 2017 has seen Breacc's income reach its highest levels. Given the parallel increase in Breacc's costs, it is important to control expenditures to keep its financial stability.

Membership has continued to grow in both the Richmond and Bournemouth centres offsetting departures of a few members. Our community engagement and fund-raising events have helped generate extra income to counter the rises in cost.

OPEN DAYS

Our termly Open Days continue to provide an effective way of attracting new members. The effective utilization of Breacc's online system (Salesforce) has streamlined the process and facilitated administration activities before, during and after the actual new members' visits. Each open day has on average thirty children from new families interested in joining. Over half of this number attend and about one third decide to join.

OUR OFFER

Continuing with its approach based on Piaget's vision of constructivism, Breacc has furthered its commitment to developing a sense of identity in its children. This year, the annual theme was *Viva o Povo Brasileiro* (a celebration of the Brazilian culture based on Brazilian writer Guimarães Rosa's acclaimed namesake book). The theme gave Breacc an opportunity to show to our children living in the UK different expressions of the Brazilian cuisine, popular music, art and culture present in all the different regions of the country.

CARNIVAL PARTY (FEB 2017)

This year, the party in Richmond coincided with Breacc's exploration of the Northern and Centre-North regions of Brazil. For the first time, Breacc brought the celebration of Parintins, a party unique to central Brazil, to our hall. Despite the celebrations in Brazil happening in June, we used it as the theme for our Carnival celebrated on 25th February. The party, which was closed to members only, allowed the groups to show their learning and hard work about the music and food celebrated in south Brazil. At Breacc Bournemouth, the theme of the party was the Northeast region. It featured readings of Cordel poetry and Capoeira dance.

SUMMER FARE (JUN 2017)

Once again, we held our Breacc Richmond summer fare on the school premises in Twickenham. The party was held on 26th June 2017 and over 300 people attended the event. The party which celebrated the culture of South Brazil was an opportunity to celebrate the mixture of cultures that formed the region, including indigenous inhabitants, Africans and Europeans. A key fund-raising activity was the presence of various Brazilian-run businesses and the sale of drinks and Brazilian feijoada. The group "Banda Pé de Jurema" was the main attraction playing traditional Brazilian music to entertain the public and as backdrop for the traditional 'quadrilha' (square dance). Breacc's June Party is a three-time award winning event that caters mostly for children. It attracts the Brazilian community and the local communities alike. Children had lots of chances to win prizes in the many games and activities available throughout the day.

On the week that followed, Breacc Bournemouth held its own Summer Fair on 1st July 2017. The group "Banda Som Brasil" provided high-quality entertainment throughout the day. Similarly, to the model in Richmond, the fare featured games and activities for the children, sale of traditional Brazilian foods and drinks and helped promote the work done by the local community. The event is also a chance to attract new families to join Breacc.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our communication channels continue to work well in connecting with existing and prospectus members. Our Breaccbook has passed two thousand followings. An increase of 20% since last year's report. Breacc Bournemouth's Facebook has grown by 0.9% to 215 followers. Through our website (www.breacc.org.uk), prospectus families subscribe to attend our open days. Registered members are kept informed via the weekly newsletter bringing them information about events, calendar activities and homework tasks for the children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS

In this last report which I sign, I would like to welcome Katia Fonseca as new Chairperson of Breacc, alongside the new Board of Trustees. Katia has been at the Centre as long as I have and has had an enormous impact in the way Breacc looks and feels today. I am sure she will continue to put her artistic skills to the task and enhance our position both internally and externally.

I am also indebted to the contribution Carla Silveira has had over the years in supporting our administration, our PR communications and, most significantly, organising the running of our award-winning "Festa Junina" with Katia, which is our biggest fundraising activity. As I depart, I will always be grateful to Carla for managing to find time to dedicate to Breacc on top of a hectic work and family life.

I would also like to thank Fabiana Teixeira for the methodical support she has given to monitor our accounts and prepare the information for our financial reports over the last three years. Her work has made mine a lot easier. I am extremely happy she has agreed to carry on into the new Board as Treasurer.

I have been inspired by the dedication of Catia Leite and her group of teachers who embraced Breacc in Bournemouth and were able to mobilise the local community in a promising way to Breacc's aspirations. Their passion and dedication to our ideals are the reasons for our continuous potential growth in the region.

Our records show that there is a growing number of new families interested in Breacc and when they attend an Open Day, most of them decide to join. This is testament to the high quality of the work that our group delivers.

My main goals when I became Chair in 2011 was to protect and expand Breacc's financial health and profile. The creation of Group Cerrado (2012) offering preparation for Portuguese GCSE was an attempt to ensure Breacc did not lose students that, when approaching puberty, felt Breacc did not have much more to offer them; the launch of Grupo Jardim in 2015 to deal with a long-standing problem of the usually large Cante e Brinque, whose students' age spanned from just under 2 to 6, creating a challenge for the group and the parents; and the opening of Breacc Bournemouth in 2015 have given enormous impetus and a powerful contribution to grow our standing.

Moreover, the way we now use our systems such as our website, Salesforce (for customer relationship management), Google Apps (for emails and document management), Breaccbook (our Facebook) and CAF Bank for online payments provide the appropriate infrastructure to streamline our key processes. My belief was always that a well-connected online infrastructure, could give Breacc a substantial competitive advantage, compared to other schools in the region. As I bid farewell, I am grateful that Breacc now has everything at its disposal to continue to thrive.

Thank you everyone who contributed to our projects and events in this and in previous years, small or large, because every contribution has been extremely important to Breacc.

FUTURE PLANS

Breacc will continue to organise the most popular parties, such as Carnival and Festa Junina (the Summer Fare), as usual, while continuing to investigate new ways of raising funds to ensure our financial health so that our plans can be delivered.

RESERVES

At 31 August 2017 Breacc had reserves of £22,028 equivalent to 6 months of recurring expenditure (2016 figures: £16,177: 6 months). All funds raised and contributed are held for the benefit of the pupils of the school.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The process of identifying the major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Officers and Trustees, continues. The Officers and Trustees are committed to continuing this review of risks identified, and to making sure that their systems established to mitigate those risks are improved, where necessary.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Breacc's activities are open to all. The Trustees are of the opinion that everyone may benefit from a greater understanding of Brazilian culture, of the Portuguese language, and from an increased understanding of different cultures and ways of living.

Graciano Soares

Chairman

25 May 2018

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Breacc –

Brazilian Educational and Cultural Centre (registered charity 1087726)

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of Breacc – the Brazilian Educational and Cultural Centre for the year ended 31 August 2017.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 154(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not comply with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a “true and fair” view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Robert Ashdown

Chartered Accountant

75 Brookville Road, London, SW6 7BH

25 May 2018

Statement of Financial Activities

	NOTES	2017 (unrestricted)	2016 (unrestricted)
Income from			
Charitable activities		44,863	37,551
Total incoming resources		44,863	37,551
Resources expended			
Charitable activities	2	39,012	32,009
Total resources expended		39,012	32,009
Net income		5,850	5,542
Reconciliation of funds			
Net funds brought forward at 01/09/2016		16,177	10,635
Total funds carried forward at 31/08/2017		22,027	16,177

Balance Sheet

	NOTES	31/08/2017	31/08/2016
Current assets			
Cash at bank and petty cash	3	21,949	16,131
Cash		79	46
Total current assets		22,028	16,177
Liabilities falling due within one year	4	0	0
Net assets		22,028	16,177
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds		22,028	16,177
Total charity funds		22,028	16,177

The Notes to the Accounts form part of these Financial Statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 25/05/2018 and signed on their behalf by:

Graciano Soares

Trustee

Fabiana Teixeira

Trustee

Notes to the accounts

1. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014, and the Charities Act 2011.

2. Charitable activity expenditure includes:

	2017	2016
Faculty Fees	24,182	20,472
Fund raising	4,506	3,566
Brazilian Project	180	0
Rents	5,745	3,450
Materials and travel	1880	1,350
Insurance	527	519
Teacher's training	56	365
Storage	1,693	1,854
Advertising	0	0
Events	0	312
Other	243	121
	39,012	32,009

3. Cash at Bank

CAF Bank	21,949	16,131
	21,949	16,131

4. Liabilities falling due within one year:

No unpaid liabilities were known at the end of each year.