

Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	1st	January	2023		31 st	December 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Tissue Viability Society (TVS) known as Society of Tissue Viability
Registered charity number	1180844
Charity's principal address	c/o The Clinical Trials Research Unit, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity. Trustees are elected by the council or members.

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1.	Sarah Gardner	Chair	Since 2018, Chair since September 2023
2.	Jeannie Donnelly	Vice Chair	Since 2020, Vice Chair since September 2023
3.	David Hibbitt	Treasurer Industry representative	Since 2018, Treasurer since July 2022
4.	Kate Williams	Vice Treasurer, Legs Matter lead	Since 2018, Vice Treasurer since July 2022
5.	Srinivasa Budithi		Since 2022
6.	Ina Farrelly		Since 2019
7.	Madeleine Flanagan		Since 2023
8.	Clare Greenwood		Since 2021
9.	Natasha Levy		Since 2020
10.	Ayesha Marshall		Since 2023
11.	Victoria Murray	Industry representative	Since 2021
12.	Sharon Neill		Since 2020
13.	Frances Norman (was Spratt)		Since 2018
14.	Samantha Rooney		Since 2022
15.	Sharon Scattergood		Since 2022
16.	Joanna Swan		Since 2018
17.	Connie Traynor		Since 2018
18.	Peter Worsley		Since 2022

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	A Council of Trustees
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by Council or elected by membership depending upon number of available places and number of applicants.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives for which the Society is established are to promote learning and advance public education in the study of tissue viability and do all such things as may be conducive to improve standards in tissue viability as a multi-professional activity.

All Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have had regard to this when making decisions to undertake activities.

The first part of the Society's year was dominated as always by the build-up to our annual conference which, in 2023, was held in Peterborough. Once again organisers had to contend with forces outside their control, with escalating NHS Strikes and public sector disruption threatening to prevent delegates attending. Despite these concerns, all involved were in complete agreement to go ahead come what may and, fortunately, this confidence was justified as the Society's key event of the year went ahead without a hitch and was well attended.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

For the 2023 Peterborough conference our Education Programme Facilitator developed a new streamlined programme, offering a simpler choice of sessions for delegates and allowing more time for exhibition viewing during breaks. New workshops, repeated over the two days of the conference, were added to the programme's three streams of:

- a main plenary
- an evidence-based practice stream
- a fundamentals of wound care stream.

Across the two-day programme, high calibre speakers (many of whom are Trustees) delivered relevant presentations tailored to the needs and wants of our delegates. The sessions were full, showing a real desire among many to access the evidence base that underpins practice while at the same time, meeting the demand for practical based learning that supports theory.

New also for 2023 was a guide for delegates attending the conference for the first time, put together by our Skin Care Champions' Facilitator.

It was our greenest conference to date, with the programme booklet considerably reduced in size, re-use of pull up banners and the use of QR codes linking delegates to a wealth of information on our website.

Our Active Associates group met up face to face for the first time and, during the opening address, our Chair launched the Dan Bader Memorial Awards for practice development and for research, and opened a membership survey to help shape the future direction of the Society.

Finally, our conference was well supported by industry who provided positive feedback about the venue, level of footfall and engagement from delegates. The conference exhibition is one way for the Society to support its reciprocal agreements with many not-for-profits and small charities, providing these organisations with an opportunity to meet clinicians and industry delegates who might not be aware of their existence, and so help signpost patients to the support that they need.

Almost as soon as our conference concluded, Trustees were off to the European Wound Management Association (EWMA) 2023 conference in Milan to start the work of planning our joint conference with EWMA in London in 2024. Trustees decided to kick off the countdown to London 2024 with a sponsored walk covering the distance from Milan to London (with some energetic souls eventually walking all the way back again). This marked the beginning of a year of international partnerships for the Society as we were also the collaborating organisation for the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) 2023 conference held in Leeds in September 2023.

Throughout the year the Society runs online study days, complemented by sponsored and Society-led webinars. As a Society, we try to target education based on need and also try to identify service areas that find it difficult to access education, such as mental health or children's services. We strive to develop our educational programme so that it is collaborative and multidisciplinary, something which is very much reflected in the wide range of clinicians attending our education sessions.

Approaching the end of the year the Society collaborated with the National Wound Care Strategy Programme (NWCSP) and all four nations of the UK for STOP the Pressure week in November. The theme for 2023 was 'Every Contact Counts', be that contact with a clinician or healthcare professional, contact with a surface like a bed or a chair, contact with leaders in healthcare, or contact on social or traditional media, all of which have a major role to play in preventing pressure ulcers. The week of activity was not only supported by funding from NWCSP but also by 12 of our industry partners.

Finally, the impact of our rebrand carried out in 2022 was strongly felt throughout 2023 and its continuing success has led to a marked increase in membership numbers, increased attendance at our educational sessions and increased traffic to our website and greater engagement with our social media channels.

Below is a short summary providing further detail of the main activities the Society has undertaken in 2023 in support of its strategic objectives.

1. Membership

Being a member of the Society of Tissue Viability means joining a community of some of the world's best clinical experts and helping to shape and contribute to the science and research of skin health and

wound healing. The Society was set up for all those who are passionate about solving skin and wound challenges and we welcome anyone who is interested in skin health and wound healing – whether professionally or personally.

Over the course of 2023 our membership has grown strongly and by the close of the year stood at over 1,000 members, our highest ever number of members. Many members are nurses, but our community also includes doctors, pharmacists, bioengineers, podiatrists, other allied health professionals, academics, researchers, clinical scientists and healthcare industry professionals and it is this diversity in our community that is one of our main strengths.

In 2022 we launched a new initiative for members, called Active Associates as an opportunity for members to become more involved in the work of the Society. Together with our Alumni (former Trustees who remain actively engaged with the Society), Active Associates make up our Associate Forum. For 2023, we set up the Associate Forum's own WhatsApp group and project on Basecamp and held our first face-to-face meeting at the Society's stand at our Peterborough conference. The number of Active Associates continues to grow, and some have now become involved in the Society's work streams and educational programmes and we hope that in time the initiative will prove a stepping stone onto taking up a role on the Council of trustees.

During 2023 we also launched a members' only area of the Society's website where there is a wealth of fantastic information, including:

- Recorded presentations from our conference
- Recorded presentations from our advanced, specialist and service specific study days
- Direct online access to the *Journal of Tissue Viability*
- An opportunity to share members' stories
- A member's journey from joining the Society to becoming its chair
- Member benefits including discounted membership of international organisations and exclusive offers

We now send out member only newsletters so that members are the first to hear about new events and Society initiatives. Open rates range between 40 and 60% demonstrating an incredibly high engagement rate from our committed audience.

A new initiative that is again only available to members of the Society is the Dan Bader Memorial Award, set up in memory of Professor Dan Bader, Emeritus Editor of the *Journal of Tissue Viability* and launched at the Peterborough conference. The award is intended to support a healthcare worker, or an early career researcher to develop knowledge or best practice within the field of tissue viability, with members invited to apply for either a practice development award or a research award. The first awards were judged in January 2024 and the winners invited to attend the Society's stream at EWMA 2024 in London.

A survey of our membership was launched at the 2023 conference. As a member-led charity we strive to use the power of collaborative thinking and action to solve skin health and wound healing challenges together. As part of this, we are constantly trying to improve our membership offering and the survey was a way of asking members for their honest feedback and thoughts on how well the Society of Tissue Viability was performing. Highlights from the overall positive results showed that members had a good idea of the benefits of membership and rated it

excellent value; the conference and educational events were rated excellent and our website easy to navigate with a good brand identity. The responses indicated that since our previous survey there had been a shift towards most people knowing about the Society and the educational events we offered.

Every year we offer bursaries to members to attend the EWMA and EPUAP European conferences. There was a huge jump in applications this year to attend EWMA 23 in Milan and we received 41 applications for two funded places. Since EPUAP's 2023 conference was being held in the UK, we increased the number of funded places available to members from two to four.

2. Conference

The Society's annual conference was held in Peterborough on the 26–27 April 2023.

We again held two industry sponsored breakfast symposia, and the two-day programme included lectures, discussion forums, an evidence-based practice stream as well as a fundamentals in wound care stream. The popularity of the evidence-based practice stream underlined a real desire among members to access the research that underpins everything that we do in practice. Conversely the fundamentals stream attracted those new to wound care, such as those working in a care home setting and (not only nursing) students. The stream was delivered by trustees as a part of what we do as a Society – our education is not just aimed at people with advanced skills but also encourages those new to the specialty, looking for stepping stones to improving their skills.

Following feedback from our members, we extended the length of the lunch break and streamlined the programme in order that we could introduce additional industry sponsored workshops that ran concurrently across both days, with topics covered including debridement, advanced bandaging, and vascular assessment, all three of which proved extremely popular.

Over the two days, 373 Clinical delegates attended the conference, which had 47 speakers and 53 companies exhibiting (a much higher figure than achieved in 2022); 110 industry personnel also attended.

The event was a great success and gave us a platform to build on for our collaboration with EWMA (European Wound Management Association) for 2024. The Society was the cooperating organisation for EWMA's annual conference which was held from 1–3 May 2024 in London. There were Society streams as part of the overall programme plus a free day for community healthcare professionals and a free day for students.

3. Study sessions and online educational events

In 2023 we made some changes to enhance the experience of our online events for both attendees and our industry supporters. We moved to using Zoom Webinar in order that we could offer industry dedicated time within the programme during which they took over the 'main stage' and presented to the whole audience about their products and services. Also, by making the switch to Zoom Webinar, the attendee reporting and accessing of online meetings was made easier and more accessible.

Online educational event subjects in 2023 included:

- Fundamentals of lower limb and foot care, pressure ulcer care, and wound assessment and management

- Advances in lower limb and foot care, and in pressure ulcer care and management
- Advanced surgical wound management and reducing surgical site infection
- Service specific/specialist: skin health and wound care for children
- Service specific/specialist: burns, trauma and plastic surgery approaches to care
- Service specific/specialist: dermatology awareness for wound care practitioners

During 2023, across all our online events (fundamentals, advanced and service specific/specialist) we educated a total of 1,709 healthcare professionals (HCPs), which is a 25% increase on 2022. From January to June 2024, we have so far educated a total of 886 HCPs.

Webinars

The Society continues to run webinars both independently and in partnership with companies. Both options have resulted in extremely lively sessions with a valuable learning experience for all delegates and lots of questions. Webinars in 2023 included:

- Sponsored by Accel-Heal – Wound pain, can we do better? Transforming our patient’s quality of life, using non-pharmacological approaches in wound pain management. This webinar has received 270 views by July 24
- Sponsored by Healthy.io – Unlocking the potential of wound care: strategies for successful digital transformation projects; 104 views
- From the SoTV in partnership with National Wound Care Strategy Programme (NWCSP) for Stop the Pressure – What makes babies and children so much at risk of pressure ulcers? 195 views
- From the SoTV in partnership with NWCSP for Stop the Pressure – Preventing pressure ulcers in people with spinal injury – every contact counts; 210 views
- From the SoTV – How to write an inspiring abstract, poster or free paper presentation, an interactive guide for healthcare professionals; 327 views

All webinars continue to get views on the Society’s website and YouTube channel and the Society is hoping to collaborate with other organisations to continue providing this valuable learning opportunity.

Skin Care Champions

The Society created the Skin Care Champions programme to provide people working in care homes and home care agencies with trusted, cost-effective and easily accessible education that supports skin health and wound healing. Our ambition is to create and empower a Skin Care Champion for every care home or agency that joins the programme – someone who can help to make sure that excellent care is provided to their clients and residents and be seen as a source of information and knowledge for their peers.

We ran a third cohort of the programme in 2023 with 84 champions (including one group of personal assistants who obtained funding via Skills For Care) from 21 provider organisations enrolled. To help fund the Skin Care Champions programme for 2023 the Society applied for and was awarded a grant from 3M which helped to cover 50% of the programme’s running cost for the year.

Attendance at monthly meetings improved from the previous year with an average of 37% attendance rate (9 champions attended 86% or 100% of

meetings). Meeting recordings and module information continued to be viewed and downloaded regularly. The programme was once again very well evaluated with participants particularly appreciating the supportive community of like-minded people and the opportunity to share experiences with the network.

There were several quality improvement projects run by the champions during this cohort and one champion (a registered nurse in a nursing home) submitted their work to the *Journal of Wound Care* Innovations in home care and care home award 2024, which they went on to win!

Qualitative feedback from champions was positive and included:

- *I have enjoyed this programme. Loved sharing what I have learnt. At first I thought I am not a nurse, but this has been so helpful to me. Thank you.*
- *Shared knowledge through supervisions with staff which has greatly reduced the number of fungal infections and skin tears in our home.*
- *It's been a great experience and I will continue to use the learning in everyday life.*
- *It's been cool doing this course even though I was very worried about it.*

A fourth cohort of Skin Care Champions started in May 2024 and so far the programme has 50 champions registered from 20 providers including our first home care provider since the pilot in 2021. In addition, three organisations have rejoined for a second year. Most of the providers are care homes both residential and nursing.

Education Endorsement

A core part of the Society's mission is to make sure that the best new thinking and practice in skin health and wound healing reaches the people it needs to. Our offering of Education Endorsement is a part of fulfilling this. We are proud to work with our industry partners and other not-for-profit organisations to help bring more high-quality, independent education to people with an interest in skin health and wound healing. During 2023 we endorsed 3 educational modules for 1 organisation and 1 webinar/course for a different organisation. For 2024, we have several renewals and new materials to be endorsed in the.

4. Collaborations / consultations

The Society is regularly approached by external organisations nationally to offer opinion or consultation on work they may be doing. Largely this kind of work is undertaken without consulting the membership, but we are always mindful that we represent our membership when we respond. Collaborations and consultations this year have included:

- ❖ *Legs Matter:*
Legs Matter operates under the governance of the Society of Tissue Viability and is a coalition of healthcare organisations that work together to increase awareness, understanding and prevent harm for lower leg and foot conditions.
- ❖ Legs Matter's website (legsmatter.org) is of central importance to the campaign and work begun in 2022 to make the website more accessible to a wider range of people continued throughout 2023 with coalition members working hard on updating its pages.
- ❖ 2023 saw the return of Legs Matter Week 12–16 June, where the focus for the week was to raise the alarm on the hidden harm

crisis in the treatment of leg and foot conditions. The week saw a programme of events including:

- Launch of the Legs Matter 10-point plan
- Webinar on the hidden harm crisis in leg ulcer management – round table discussion by a panel of experts
- Fundamentals of lower limb and foot care online educational session
- Webinar on compression in heart failure: what does best practice look like?
- Launch of the brand-new Legs Matter where's the harm expert quiz
- Advances in lower limb and foot care online study day
- Launch of the Legs Matter Changemaker Award

The theme of raising the alarm on the hidden harm crisis has continued through to 2024

- ❖ From July 2023 a thorough overhaul of Legs Matter's organisational structure was conducted, with the aim of clearly defining expectations of its coalition members and so helping to ensure its sustainability. The focus of Legs Matter switched to being a year-round event, not just an awareness week and the campaign was charged with three aims: raising awareness, providing education, taking action. An annual work plan was drawn up, utilising the 10-point plan as a base to work from.
- ❖ Legs Matter continues to receive excellent support from Industry through corporate sponsorship and their contribution to the campaign's strategy. Legs Matter is fortunate to have this financial support, since without it the campaign would not be able to continue. At the time of writing this report, the Legs Matter campaign is in a positive financial position.
- ❖ *SToP the Pressure:*
In November 2023, the Society once again collaborated with the National Wound Care Strategy Programme (NWCSP) and all four nations of the UK for Stop the Pressure week with representatives from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our media partners Mark Allen Group and Wounds UK also supported the campaign, with our theme and focus being around #EveryContactCounts.
- ❖ Here are some of the key elements:
 - We ran a month-long social media campaign with a full 'social media pack' of downloadable assets and ideas to enable everyone to join in
 - We produced some short films ranging from messages from the Chief Nurse Offices in all four nations as well as C-O-N-T-A-C-T and industry videos
 - We ran virtual events including a full day of Advanced pressure ulcer management, a Fundamentals of pressure ulcer care training, a What makes babies and children so much at risk of pressure ulcers? and Preventing pressure ulcers in people with spinal injury webinars
 - We provided a range of activities and competitions including a #STOPTHEPRESSURE quiz and word search
 - We designed a range of downloadable assets including posters, banner stands and PowerPoint presentationsThe videos and assets were uploaded to the Resource section of the Society's website and continue to be available on an ongoing basis.

- ❖ Work has already commenced on the 2024 campaign. Again, it is a #4Nation collaboration, and we have also reached out to our industry partners and already gained some industry support.
- ❖ Wounds Research Network (WReN):
The format of WReN's annual meeting changed in 2023 from being a standalone meeting held concurrently with the Society's annual conference, to transforming into a more pared-back evidence-based practice research stream run within the overall Society conference programme. This was a very successful development, making research more accessible to conference delegates. Numbers on the day were encouraging, with around 60 to 80 people attending the stream. The Society continues to place a great deal of importance on research and developments in wound care and skin health and a new initiative for 2024 will look at encouraging early-career researchers to stimulate their interest in researching the subject.
- ❖ NHS England:
The Society continues to work with NHS England Improvement to lead a programme of change for the wound care population of England.
- ❖ In 2022 the National Wound Care Strategy Programme (NWCSP) approached the Society to investigate developing a piece of work seeking to explore students' experience of wound care. Students are the future of wound care and, at the moment, their undergraduate experience seems to be unequitable and dependent on clinical placement. Following the NWCSP's request, the Society developed a survey for newly qualified healthcare professionals to understand how the level of education students receive correlates with their level of preparedness and confidence at the start of their practice.
- ❖ Despite the survey being extended to run throughout 2023 and promoted via a range of media, sadly the response rate was low and not representative of the group being surveyed. It was decided to discontinue the survey, however, this is an important topic and the Society will continue to look at other ways to engage with students and newly qualified professionals in future.
- ❖ Also during 2023, the Society continued to engage with NHS Supply Chain, using the proper channels to raise clinicians concerns around sourcing specialist products. To ensure that the views of our members and other healthcare professionals were represented in a clear and unbiased way, in 2022 we developed a survey around the procurement of wound care products and therapies and the evidence for their use. The survey remained open into 2023, however, during this time Supply Chain itself went through a major reorganisation, with NHS England taking the procurement process back in house. The reorganisation was an opportunity for the NWCSP work on developing a standardised approach to the categorisation of wound care products. This work was not intended as an exercise in reducing choice of dressings at point of care, which was driving concern among members. Therefore, the decision was taken to close the Society's survey as it was felt to be no longer relevant.
- ❖ The Society received with interest the NWCSP's Wound Care Knowledge and Skills Core Capabilities Framework document and looked at adopting the section detailing the Core Capabilities Framework to help differentiate between our own educational study days. This was a useful exercise which helped us

appreciate the importance of defining our educational activities to help participants differentiate between different levels of knowledge and expertise and make an informed choice before engaging with our Fundamental, Advanced and Specialist education events.

- ❖ Following the mapping exercise, trustees concluded that we were unable to adopt the Wound Care Workforce Framework (Domains and Capabilities) in its current format and offered feedback to the NWCSP as to why we had made this decision. The NWCSP was grateful for the feedback, and we will continue to support the NWCSP with similar work in the future.
- ❖ *Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada (NSWOCC)*: In 2023 the Society continued collaborative working with NSWOCC around producing a joint consensus document on best practice in relation to sharp debridement. 15 primary statements produced at the start of the collaboration were approved and sent out to a variety of health professionals across UK and Canada.
- ❖ In July 2024, the SoTV published open access in the *Journal of Tissue Viability* the article *The development of international Wound Debridement Best Practice Recommendations: Consensus between Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada and the Society of Tissue Viability* making it freely open for all to share.
- ❖ *International Skin Tear Advisory Panel (ISTAP)*: The Society has a memorandum of understanding with the International Skin Tear Advisory Panel to form a partnership to raise awareness about the prevention and management of skin tears and skin breakdown. In 2023 ISTAP approached our Skin Care Champions Facilitator about the possibility of contributing to the programme and went on to present a talk to our 2023 cohort on skin tears.
- ❖ *European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP)*: The Society was the local collaborator for EPUAP's 2023 conference in Leeds 13–15 September. The conference's theme was Innovations in Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment, and the Society put together a symposium divided into two one-hour sessions. The first session covered repositioning in complex situations to complement EPUAP's workshop on repositioning, while the second session looked at the UK's four nations approach to activity for International Stop the Pressure Day.

5. Journal of Tissue Viability

The Society's journal, the *Journal of Tissue Viability* (JTV), is a high quality, peer reviewed journal that has an international readership.

For the 5th year running, the JTV continued to see a healthy increase in article submissions. 394 articles were submitted to the journal in 2023, an increase of 34% compared to 2022. Looking forward at 2024, the journal has already received over 200 submissions in the first half of the year. In terms of geographical performance, as has been the trend since 2019, submissions from Asia dominate and the gap between Asia and Europe widens year by year.

The JTV's usage increased 30% in 2023, with over 271,000 article views/downloads on ScienceDirect with 48% of users originating in the

United States. In addition, downloads from ClinicalKey (Elsevier's database for clinicians) increased by 7% in 2023, peaking at 12,699.

The journal received a 2023 Impact Factor (IF) of 2.4, a minor decrease from the 2022 IF of 2.5. Many journals experienced a small decrease or stabilisation in IF score in this year following a spike owing to COVID-19. Impact Factors are a measure of the number of times an average paper in a journal is cited during a year. They are used to measure the importance of a journal, and the IF is often used for the evaluation of research and researchers. In some countries and institutions, Impact Factors are used as a tool in the process of deciding on promotion and tenure of academics. The JTV remained a first quartile ranked journal in the Nursing category (35th/191); and is ranked second quartile in the Dermatology category (39th/94).

At the start of 2024 the Society explored the possibility of transforming the Journal to online only and to full open access in pursuit of the Society's aim of sharing information and research as freely as possible. Open access means that all articles are immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. A growing number of journals and societies are making the switch to full open access to increase the reach and impact of the content their journals are publishing.

6. Wider public engagement and public benefit

The Society contracts PINK Marketing to support its wider administrative needs including conference organisation, involvement in strategy and projects and managing the Society's digital presence. For the Society's corporate sponsorship year (1 June 2023 to 31 May 2024) PINK Marketing secured support from 15 industry sponsors to provide financial support as corporate partners for the Society.

The PINK team manages the Society's social media accounts. By 31 December 2023, followers of the Society's X (formerly Twitter) account had increased to 7,224 (up by 5.7%), Facebook to 5,694 followers (up by 4.8%), LinkedIn to 2,451 (up by 25.4%) and Instagram increased to 374 followers (up by 26.8%). In addition, at the end of 2023 there were 4,979 people subscribed to receive the Society's informative e-newsletter. Our e-newsletter consistently had open rates approaching 30% with our highest open rate for 2023 being 49.8% during Stop the Pressure week.

The SoTV's website continues to have increased page views since its re-launch in February 2022. Pre-website change, we typically had 100–200 page views per day and now we regularly have over 500–1,000, rising to more than 2,000 during our conference and to almost 4,000 during Stop the Pressure week. Our top 10 pages visited during 2023 were:

1. Home page
2. Member log in
3. Stop the Pressure
4. Education and learning
5. What's on
6. Free educational sessions
7. Member account
8. Research and resources
9. SoTV 2023 Annual Conference
10. EWMA/SoTV 2024 Joint Conference

During 2023, Google Analytics upgraded from 3 to 4 and we therefore can only report figures between 10 April – 31 December 2023.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Highlights of the Society's achievements in 2023:

- **Membership:** the Society's membership has grown to over 1,000 members, our highest ever; our Active Associates have started to become involved in the Society's work streams and educational programmes; a new members' only area was created on the Society's website; the Dan Bader Memorial Awards were launched; a membership survey was carried out.
- **2023 conference:** our annual conference in Peterborough was a resounding success attracting over 450 delegates. The programme was streamlined, and we introduced new workshops alongside the main plenary session, an evidence-based practice stream and a fundamentals of wound care stream.
- **Study sessions:** we enhanced the experience of our online events by transitioning to Zoom webinar, which improved both our industry partners' and attendees' experience.
- **Webinars:** a range of webinars was put together both industry sponsored and Society-led. Topics ranged from wound pain and what makes children so much at risk of pressure ulcers, to digital transformation projects and writing an inspiring abstract.
- **Skin Care Champions** A third cohort of Skin Care Champions was launched to support and provide trusted, easily accessible skin health and wound healing education to carers in domiciliary and care home settings; 84 champions took part.
- **Education Endorsement:** in 2023 our Education Endorsement service, which aims to review generic educational materials provided by our industry partners to ensure quality for users across the UK, endorsed modules from 2 organisations.
- **Legs Matter:** detailed background work on the campaign's website to increase its accessibility to a wider range of users continued into 2023; the Legs Matter awareness week returned with a new focus to raise the alarm on the hidden harm crisis in the treatment of leg and foot conditions.
- **SToP the Pressure:** working again in collaboration with the National Wound Care Strategy Programme and supported by media partners Mark Allen Group and Wounds UK, the focus for the 2023 campaign was Every Contact Counts.
- **Wounds Research Network (WReN):** WReN put together an evidence-based practice stream as part of the Society's annual conference in Peterborough.
- **Journal of Tissue Viability (JTV):** the JTV saw a healthy increase in article submissions (up 34%) and usage (up 30%); along with other journals in the sector, the JTV saw a fall in its Impact Factor to 2.4 as the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on research diminished.
- **Wider public engagement:** at the end of 2023 there were 4,979 people subscribed to receive our e-newsletter which consistently had open rates approaching 30% with our highest open rate for 2023 being 49.8% during Stop the Pressure week; the relaunched website regularly achieved over 1,000 page views per day, rising to over 2,000 during the conference and nearly 4,000 during Stop the Pressure week.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Credit and thanks must go to the Society's dedicated Trustees and all those associated with our Council including PINK Marketing (Sue Simmonds, Kerry Wiles and Dawn Rush) and administrator Charlotte Hurdman, all of whom work consistently hard and passionately for the charity. Not forgetting our enthusiastic members, partners in industry and *Journal of Tissue Viability* without whom the Society would not be what it is today. The Council of Trustees and Society of Tissue Viability is comprised of people united in their passion for wound care and skin health and their drive to help solve the challenges of wound care as part of a much wider collaborative approach.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees are committed to maintaining financial reserves equivalent to one year's running costs.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Society is not currently in deficit

Section F

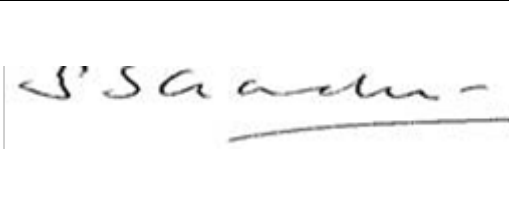
Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Sarah Gardner	
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc.)	Chair of the Council of Trustees	
Date	11/09/2024	