

LAKE DISTRICT MOUNTAIN RESCUE SEARCH DOGS ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1015934

Details

Other names	SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG ASSOCIATION (ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT), LAKE DISTRICT MOUNTAIN RESCUE SEARCH DOGS, S A R D A (LAKES)
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1992-12-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	1 Collin Road Kendal LA9 5HN
Phone	01539 732905
Email	treasurer@lakes-searchdogs.org
Website	www.lakes-searchdogs.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE CHARITY SHALL BE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO TRAIN SEARCH DOGS AND HANDLERS TO ASSIST IN THE SEARCH AND RESCUE OF MISSING PERSONS, PREDOMINANTLY IN A MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENT, BUT ALSO IN OTHER AREAS WHERE OUR SKILLS MAY BE OF BENEFIT.

Activities: We are a voluntary organisation dedicated to the training and use of mountain rescue search dogs to assist in the search for and rescue of missing persons, predominantly in a mountainous environment, but also in other areas where our skills may be of benefit.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Animals, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Scotland
- Cumbria
- Lancashire

Finances

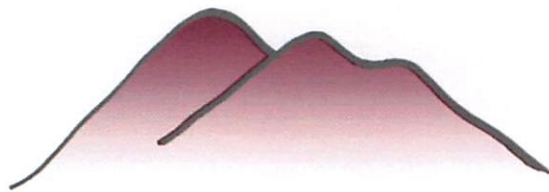
Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£52,224	£68,663	-	-
2023-12-31	£55,656	£76,717	-	-
2022-12-31	£66,091	£69,450	-	-
2021-12-31	£90,281	£72,836	-	-
2020-12-31	£89,771	£42,743	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Robert Dunstan Grange	Chair	2017-04-10
Anthony Michael Guy		2019-01-28
Emma Louise Atherton		2020-03-15
Gavin Stuart Grimsey		2025-09-01
John Dunbavin		2024-06-15
Martin John Bell		2025-09-01

Accounts

LDMR Search Dogs Association
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2024



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

LDMR Search Dogs Association

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for the year ended
31 December 2024**

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LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Charity Information
for the year ended
31 December 2024**

Trustees

Ms E L Atherton : Secretary
Mr M Evans
Mr J Dunbavin
Mr R Grange : Chair
Mr M Gullen
Mr M Guy
Mr D Houldridge: Treasurer
Ms E Whiteford
Mr R Wilson
Mr T Woolley-Wildgoose

**Principal and
Registered Office**

c/o 1 Collin Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5HN

Charity Number

1015934

Independent Examiner

Helen Holmes
Stables Thompson & Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal LA9 4DX

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd
34 Lisbon Street
Leeds
LS1 4LX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the accounting practices required by law and the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Governing Document

The Charity is an Unincorporated Charity, governed by a Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The only body with the power (within the Terms of the Constitution) to appoint a Trustee is the full membership of the Charity. The Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting, (AGM) and hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. The Trustees must be members of the charity, and are made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Callout Co-ordinator, Training Officer, Equipment Officer and two Committee members elected from the general membership. There is no bar on a Trustee standing for office on successive terms. Candidates for positions conferring trusteeship must be nominated not less than 21 days prior to the AGM, and notified to the membership not less than 14 days prior thereto.

Constitution and objects

The Association is governed by its Constitution, which was revised in 2001, amended in 2011, and is a registered charity no. 1015934. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and early 2015, and again in late 2015 at the request of the Charity Commission. It was approved by members in early 2016. The primary function of the charity is as follows: *"The main object of the charity shall be, for the public benefit, to train search dogs and handlers to assist in the search and rescue of missing persons, predominantly in a mountain environment, but also in other areas where our skills may be of benefit."* To further this, the Association:

Promotes the development of Search Dogs through running training and assessment courses;
raises funds for training, assessment, equipment, and the meeting of running expenses;
assists organisations with similar objects where this enhances the work of the Association.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

2. Organisation

The trustees who have served during 2024 were:

Rob Grange, Chair

Emma Louise Atherton - Secretary

David Houldridge - Treasurer - appointed 20 April 2024

Eleanor Gwendoline Whiteford - Training Officer

Michael Gullen - Callout Co-ordinator - appointed 20 April 2024

Anthony Michael Guy

Christopher Francis - resigned 08 July 2024

Michael Evans

Tom Woolley-Wildgoose

Richard Wilson

David Benson - resigned 20 April 2024

J Dunbavin - appointed 20 April 2024

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Organisation (cont)

The Trustees are elected annually, and met 7 times as a Committee during the year. Members may attend any Committee meeting. A sub-committee of training assessors also meets regularly and advises the Trustees about progress of search dog teams.

3. Relationship with other charities with similar objectives

The Association works closely with mountain rescue teams in the Lake District, with its local umbrella body, the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, and Mountain Rescue(England and Wales), the national body. Association members are drawn from individual Lake District mountain rescue teams. It also liaises closely with sister organisations in this country and abroad, in order to disseminate knowledge and learn from others, and is an associate member of the ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue).

The Association is not reliant on any team or Governing Body for its funding, but receives contributions towards its running costs from the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association each year.

4. Activities and achievements

2024 has been a challenging year in many ways, but developments have been made in how we run the association, including changes to assessment of dogs, and improved connections with neighbouring search dog associations, following a number of searches where the associations combined to support Lake District Teams. On one of these, a visiting searchdog, Bramble from the north east, found a missing vulnerable woman in forestry near Keswick. Search Dog Broch (Keswick) located a missing man in Borrowdale early in the year, and also assisted SARDA Wales with a big search in the Carneddau. Search Dog Jess (Wasdale) continues to support Wasdale MRT and has been instrumental in either finding or locating a number of mispers in the Scafell area. In total, the teams responded to 33 requests for assistance with locating missing persons.

Two new searchdogs, Ceilidh, an English Shepherd, and River, a Border Collie have been added to the operational team, now numbering 8. This has at times been reduced by illness or injuries. Three more teams are currently in training – something of a drop by comparison with previous years. We have also lost Search Dog Lewis to forced early retirement because of injury, and Search Dogs Isla and Fern at the end of long and distinguished careers. Our Trailing dog Brock has also stood down – which has left us with a much depleted callout list.

Training continues, both monthly and weekday evenings, but has been affected by the availability of assessors & trainers at times- often caused by the huge demand on local rescue teams from where our personnel are drawn. We are indebted to our volunteers who come out in all weathers to act as casualties, and local landowners who make land for training available. The retirement from assessing by Laura Connolly and Joy Grindrod, two experienced trainers had an impact, whilst overall the monthly programme has continued to suffer because of the pressure of increasing visitor numbers on accommodation, parking and congestion. The Scottish winter course was run, though winter conditions this year were not ideal for the type of training planned.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2024

4. Activities and achievements (cont)

Another pressure has been that of income falling, whilst costs such as dog insurance and veterinary care continue to rise sharply. The Association has been given great support from our parent body, Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, but like many charities, this year we have had to run a deficit. This has led to a reduction in expenditure in various areas of operation. We welcome any support from the public to continue our life saving work, and measures are in hand to try and boost income this year, in addition to the Open Day, talks to groups and attendances at various public shows which we already undertake.

5. Financial Review

During the year, the Association had a total income of £52,224 (2023 - £55,656), and an expenditure of £68,663 (2023 - £76,717), resulting in net outgoing resources for the charity of £16,439 (2023 net outgoing resources of £21,061) before revaluation of investments. In addition to income and expenditure, there were unrealised gains in the value of investments of £19,455 (2023 - gains of £17,483). The closing reserves at 31 December 2024 were £480,016. (2023 - £477,000). Of the total closing reserves, £2 are restricted funds and the balance are unrestricted.

6. Reserves policy

The Trustees have had regard to both the short and long-term needs of the Association in reviewing this policy. As the pandemic has changed our revenue streams, we will need to rely on more online and direct appeal fundraising. If our future operations continue unchanged from previous years, and the costs of training, equipment and travel are subject to high levels of inflation, trustees will need to consider how that challenge can be met.

After reviewing the position, the Trustees consider that it is prudent to try to maintain a general income reserve of approximately four times average annual expenditure, at least for the short term. In doing so, they seek to ensure that the provision of the charity's primary objective will not be impaired by a short-term shortfall in fundraising. This is of particular concern in the current economic climate, with its potential negative implications for charitable donations.

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually, or as necessary, in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the charity's objective.

7. Investment policy

The Association provides support to vital emergency services, and needs to ensure that funding for its training operations is secure. Consequently, the expenditure budget for the forthcoming year is based on the estimated requirements of the communications and equipment needs and the training officer's budget in a normal year, against the income from the current year.

The trustees have adopted a cautious, risk-averse approach to investment. Apart from the immediate access funds which make up about 25% of assets, a further 25% is invested in medium term accounts or investments which can be called upon swiftly, and the remainder in a growing longer term investment with Brewin Dolphin which acts as a reserve, but which also can provide income if required. In that way, the capital is secure and additional income accrues from interest. The value of funds is reported to the Trustees at each meeting, so all are aware of the current position.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2024

7. Investment policy (Cont)

This policy is kept under review, but unless, or until, substantial excess funds become available for investment to provide guaranteed income against annual running costs, the trustees remain of the opinion that their relatively cautious approach to investment is justified.

8. Grants policy

The Association does not make grants to outside bodies, as all its operations are organised internally. Accordingly, last year, we made no grants to other charitable organisations, and all expenditure was geared to supporting its own charitable objectives.

9. Risk management & trustee indemnity insurance

The trustees have considered the major risks which the charity faces, and confirm that its system of regular meetings to review progress, expenditure and costs provides a robust mechanism to lessen those risks. Those funds not invested are held in UK banks and building societies, within the £85K limit of financial compensation, with a requirement of two signatories for any transaction. The Trustees continue to invest in indemnity insurance to protect them against legal action. The Charity continues to be registered with the Data Commissioners Office to comply with the requirements of GDPR. Documentation is stored in the Cloud via Microsoft Office 365.

Trustees Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Robert Grange
Chairman

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Independent Examiners Report
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(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 accord 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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



15 July 2025

Helen Holmes FCA
Chartered Accountant
Stables Thompson and Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 December 2024**

		31 December 2024			31 December 2023	
	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	Total
				Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2	597	38,526	-	39,123	46,966
Other trading activities	3	-	467	-	467	292
Investment income	4	-	12,634	-	12,634	8,398
Total income		597	51,627	-	52,224	55,656
Expenditure						
Costs of raising funds	5	-	3,496	-	3,496	2,591
Charitable activities	6	595	64,572	-	65,167	74,126
Total expenditure		595	68,068	-	68,663	76,717
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers and investments		2	(16,441)	-	(16,439)	(21,061)
Net gains /(losses) on investments		-	19,455	-	19,455	17,483
Net income / (expenditure)		2	3,014	-	3,016	(3,578)
Total funds brought forward		-	477,000	-	477,000	480,578
Total funds carried forward	14	2	480,014	-	480,016	477,000

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative
for the year ended
31 December 2023**

	31 December 2023			
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds	£
			£	
INCOME				
Donations and legacies	-	46,966	-	46,966
Other trading activities	-	292	-	292
Investment income	-	8,398	-	8,398
Total income	-	55,656	-	55,656
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	-	2,591	-	2,591
Charitable activities	-	74,126	-	74,126
Total expenditure	-	76,717	-	76,717
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer and investments	-	(21,061)	-	(21,061)
Net gains /(losses) on investments	-	17,483	-	17,483
Net income / (expenditure)	-	(3,578)	-	(3,578)
Total funds brought forward	-	480,578	-	480,578
Total funds carried forward	-	477,000	-	477,000

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	31 December 2024		31 December 2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		1,496		2,563
Investments	10		274,981		253,649
			276,477		256,212
Current Assets					
Stock		3,605		3,605	
Debtors	11	6,683		13,847	
Cash at bank and in hand		193,251		203,336	
		203,539		220,788	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	12	-		-	
Net Current Assets			203,539		220,788
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			480,016		477,000
NET ASSETS			480,016		477,000
Funds					
Restricted funds	13		2		-
Designated funds	13		-		-
Unrestricted funds			480,014		477,000
			480,016		477,000

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

Approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of compliance

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Cash flow Statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 for the SORP and therefore did not include a cash flow statement in these financial statements

Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are confident that the charity has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Income in the form of grants and donations have been maintained and costs are reduced due to a reduction in the training opportunities and number of call outs. The charity also has substantial reserves.

Fund accounting policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Designated funds are those set aside by the trustees out of general funds for a specific purpose. Further details of each fund are in Note 13.

Income

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administer/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs of generating funds include investment management fees. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments

Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the date of the balance sheet. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the period of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the end of the year.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.'

	31 December 2024				1 December 2023
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
2 Donations and legacies (incl Grants)					
Legacies	-	5,000	-	5,000	7,283
Donations	597	30,569	-	31,166	33,525
GASDS	-	815	-	815	3,667
Gift aid	-	2,142	-	2,142	2,491
	<u>597</u>	<u>38,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,123</u>	<u>46,966</u>
3 Fundraising					
Merchandise sales	-	467	-	467	292
	<u>-</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>292</u>
4 Investment income					
Listed investments	-	4,911	-	4,911	4,556
Bank interest received	-	7,723	-	7,723	3,842
	<u>-</u>	<u>12,634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,634</u>	<u>8,398</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

	31 December 2024			Total	1 December 2023
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	£	£
5 Costs of raising funds					
Investment management fees	-	2,566	-	2,566	2,375
Merchandise purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Other fund raising expenses	-	930	-	930	216
	-	3,496	-	3,496	2,591
6 Charitable activities					
Vet and dog costs	-	15,966	-	15,966	9,945
Team equipment, clothing & suppli	-	4,053	-	4,053	9,923
Courses and training	-	35,209	-	35,209	40,614
Incident costs	-	1,534	-	1,534	1,456
Travel	-	842	-	842	3,243
Insurance	-	1,243	-	1,243	1,816
Telephone and communications	-	1,214	-	1,214	1,179
Computer expenses	-	1,263	-	1,263	2,300
Printing, stationery and postage	-	540	-	540	172
Social fund expenses	595	-	-	595	-
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy costs	-	1,690	-	1,690	1,944
Bank charges	-	(49)	-	(49)	467
Depreciation equipment	-	1,067	-	1,067	1,067
	595	64,572	-	65,167	74,126

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

Travelling expenses totalling £7,474 were paid out to Trustees. This includes for travel in relation to their roles as Trustees as well as amounts paid out in relation to travel for training and incidents in their roles as active members of the team.

8 Net income / (expenditure)

Net income / (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,067	1,067
Independent examiner's fee	390	370

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
COST		
At 1 January 2024	69,819	69,819
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>69,819</u>	<u>69,819</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2024	67,256	67,256
Charge for year	1,067	1,067
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>68,323</u>	<u>68,323</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,496</u>	<u>1,496</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,563</u>	<u>2,563</u>

10 Investments held as fixed assets

Market Value	
At 1 January 2024	253,649
Additions	36,464
Disposals	(34,587)
Revaluation	19,455
At 31 December 2024	<u>274,981</u>

11 Debtors	31 December 2024	31 December 2023
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	4,866	10,681
VAT reclaimable	1,249	1,416
Gift aid due	568	1,750
Payments on account	-	-
	<u>6,683</u>	<u>13,847</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2024	31 December 2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2024**

13 Funds

Restricted and Designated Funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
Restricted					
Social Fund	-	597	(595)	-	2
	-	597	(595)	-	2

14 Net Assets by fund

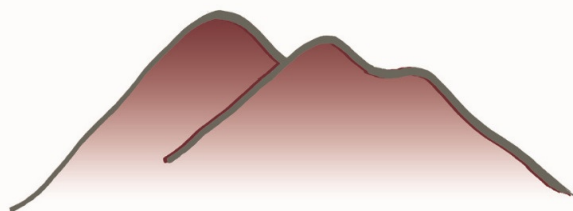
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,496	-	1,496
Investments	-	274,981	-	274,981
Current assets	2	203,537	-	203,539
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	2	480,014	-	480,016

Net Assets by fund - Comparative 2023

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	2,563	-	2,563
Investments	-	253,649	-	253,649
Current assets	-	220,788	-	220,788
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	477,000	-	477,000

Accounts

LDMR Search Dogs Association
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2023



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

LDMR Search Dogs Association

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LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Charity Information
for the year ended
31 December 2023**

Trustees

Ms E L Atherton : Secretary
Mr D Benson
Mr M Evans
Mr C Francis
Mr R Grange : Chair
Mr M Guy : Treasurer
Ms E Whiteford
Mr R Wilson
Mr T Woolley-Wildgoose

Principal and Registered Office

c/o 1 Collin Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5HN

Charity Number

1015934

Independent Examiner

Helen Holmes
Stables Thompson & Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal LA9 4DX

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd
34 Lisbon Street
Leeds
LS1 4LX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the accounting practices required by law and the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Governing Document

The Charity is an Unincorporated Charity, governed by a Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The only body with the power (within the Terms of the Constitution) to appoint a Trustee is the full membership of the Charity. The Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting, (AGM) and hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. The Trustees must be members of the charity, and are made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Callout Co-ordinator, Training Officer, Equipment Officer and two Committee members elected from the general membership. There is no bar on a Trustee standing for office on successive terms. Candidates for positions conferring trusteeship must be nominated not less than 21 days prior to the AGM, and notified to the membership not less than 14 days prior thereto.

Constitution and objects

The Association is governed by its Constitution, which was revised in 2001, amended in 2011, and is a registered charity no. 1015934. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and early 2015, and again in late 2015 at the request of the Charity Commission. It was approved by members in early 2016. The primary function of the charity is as follows: *"The main object of the charity shall be, for the public benefit, to train search dogs and handlers to assist in the search and rescue of missing persons, predominantly in a mountain environment, but also in other areas where our skills may be of benefit."*

To further this, the Association:

Promotes the development of Search Dogs through running training and assessment courses;
raises funds for training, assessment, equipment, and the meeting of running expenses;
assists organisations with similar objects where this enhances the work of the Association.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

2. Organisation

The trustees who have served during 2023 were:

Rob Grange, Chair

Emma Louise Atherton - Secretary

Anthony Michael Guy, Treasurer

Christopher Francis, Callout Co-ordinator

Eleanor Gwendoline Whiteford, Training Officer

Christyne Judge - Resigned April 2023

Mike Gullen - Resigned April 2023

Joy Grindrod - Resigned April 2023

Michael Evans

Tom Woolley-Wildgoose

Richard Wilson - Appointed April 2023

David Benson - Co-opted June 2023

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Organisation (cont)

The Trustees are elected annually, and met 7 times as a Committee during the year. Members may attend any Committee meeting. A sub-committee of training assessors also meets regularly and advises the Trustees about progress of search dog teams.

3. Relationship with other charities with similar objectives

The Association works closely with mountain rescue teams in the Lake District, with its local umbrella body, the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, and Mountain Rescue(England and Wales), the national body. Association members are drawn from individual Lake District mountain rescue teams. It also liaises closely with sister organisations in this country and abroad, in order to disseminate knowledge and learn from others, and is an associate member of the ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue).

The Association is not reliant on any team or Governing Body for its funding, but receives contributions towards its running costs from the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association each year.

4. Activities and achievements

Perhaps the standout moment for the Association at the end of this year, was the award of the MBE to handler Penny Kirby of Wasdale MRT for services to Mountain Rescue, which has included training 5 successful searchdogs over a 40 year period. The latest, Jess, started off her year with three finds of missing persons in three days last January.

The Association continues to train and assess search dogs. The newest addition to the graded dogs list is Search Dog Roxy, a Springer spaniel who made the grade on 31st July after a footpath search on Cat Bells. She was in action right away, turning out for a search for a missing person in Ennerdale the following night! The 6 other graded air scenting searchdogs continue to support their local rescue teams, and from time to time respond to calls outside our local patch as well. In total, the dogs attended 36 incidents ranging from Southern Scotland to North Wales, but with the majority in the Lakes. Our trailing dog, Brock, has been in demand frequently by teams to give a "direction of travel" for missing persons, and had a successful trail to locate a missing vulnerable misper in the west of the county. Two dog teams retired from service this year.

There are five more dogs now in the group just below assessment level, and we're working hard to get them on the active list; three more teams are at the beginning of their training, but making good progress.

The Association is in process of reviewing its training and assessment practice. Dogs are getting used to working in conjunction with drones, and the number and types of assessments are being recalibrated. There is still a need for intensive winter training, assessor training and instruction of our "dogsbodyes" – the volunteers who act as casualties for our dogs, and to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude for all the time and effort they put in.

The difficulties posed by a huge increase in visitors to the Lake District has led to traffic congestion, increased costs for accommodation at training weekends, and a big increase in workload for the rescue teams, from which handlers are drawn. All these factors have led to an increase in costs, without a consequent rise in funding; this has resulted in some difficult decisions about expenditure being made for the coming year.

The Association is still in a sound place financially, but trustees are very aware of the need to maintain adequate income to support high quality training.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2023

4. Activities and achievements (cont)

The Association maintains an active role in liaising with other search and rescue interests, not just Mountain Rescue England and Wales in the UK, but also with ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue) in Europe. Members have contributed to seminars on a variety of subjects, all of which broaden our own practice, and disseminate our methods to others abroad. Handlers and instructors from Norway, Iceland, and Ireland have joined us at some of our courses this year.

We make no apologies for acknowledging the generosity of landowners and graziers in allowing us access to areas for training, particularly in the light of increased pressures from visitors, and the support of local business, and visitors to the area in our fundraising efforts.

5. Financial Review

During the year, the Association had a total income of £55,656 (2022 - £66,091), and an expenditure of £76,717 (2022 - £69,450), resulting in net outgoing resources for the charity of £21,061 (2021 net outgoing resources of £3,359) before revaluation of investments. In addition to income and expenditure, there were unrealised gains in the value of investments of £17,483 (2022 - losses of £37,025) The closing reserves at 31 December 2023 were £477,000 (2022 - £480,578) All reserves remain unrestricted.

6. Reserves policy

The Trustees have had regard to both the short and long-term needs of the Association in reviewing this policy.

As the pandemic has changed our revenue streams, we will need to rely on more online and direct appeal fundraising . If our future operations continue unchanged from previous years, and the costs of training, equipment and travel are subject to high levels of inflation, trustees will need to consider how that challenge can be met.

After reviewing the position, the Trustees consider that it is prudent to try to maintain a general income reserve of approximately four times average annual expenditure, at least for the short term. In doing so, they seek to ensure that the provision of the charity's primary objective will not be impaired by a short-term shortfall in fundraising. This is of particular concern in the current economic climate, with its potential negative implications for charitable donations.

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually, or as necessary, in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the charity's objective.

7. Investment policy

The Association provides support to vital emergency services, and needs to ensure that funding for its training operations is secure. Consequently, the expenditure budget for the forthcoming year is based on the estimated requirements of the communications and equipment needs and the training officer's budget in a normal year, against the income from the current year.

The trustees have adopted a cautious, risk-averse approach to investment. Apart from the immediate access funds which make up about 25% of assets, a further 25% is invested in medium term accounts or investments which can be called upon swiftly, and the remainder in a growing longer term investment with Brewin Dolphin which acts as a reserve, but which also can provide income if required. In that way, the capital is secure and additional income accrues from interest. The value of funds is reported to the Trustees at each meeting, so all are aware of the current position.

**Report of the Trustees, contd.
for the year ended
31 December 2023**

7. Investment policy (Cont)

This policy is kept under review, but unless, or until, substantial excess funds become available for investment to provide guaranteed income against annual running costs, the trustees remain of the opinion that their relatively cautious approach to investment is justified.

8. Grants policy

The Association does not make grants to outside bodies, as all its operations are organised internally. Accordingly, last year, we made no grants to other charitable organisations, and all expenditure was geared to supporting its own charitable objectives.

9. Risk management & trustee indemnity insurance

The trustees have considered the major risks which the charity faces, and confirm that its system of regular meetings to review progress, expenditure and costs provides a robust mechanism to lessen those risks. Those funds not invested are held in UK banks and building societies, within the £85K limit of financial compensation, with a requirement of two signatories for any transaction. The Trustees continue to invest in indemnity insurance to protect them against legal action. The Charity continues to be registered with the Data Commissioners Office to comply with the requirements of GDPR. Documentation is stored in the Cloud via Microsoft Office 365.

Trustees Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 21st April 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Rob Grange (Chair)

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(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 accord 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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Helen Holmes FCA
Chartered Accountant
Stables Thompson and Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 December 2023**

	Notes	31 December 2023			31 December 2022	
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2	-	46,966	-	46,966	61,000
Other trading activities	3	-	292	-	292	44
Investment income	4	-	8,398	-	8,398	5,047
Total income		-	55,656	-	55,656	66,091
Expenditure						
Costs of raising funds	5	-	2,591	-	2,591	2,641
Charitable activities	6	-	74,126	-	74,126	66,809
Total expenditure		-	76,717	-	76,717	69,450
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers and investments		-	(21,061)	-	(21,061)	(3,359)
Net gains /(losses) on investments		-	17,483	-	17,483	(37,025)
Net income / (expenditure)		-	(3,578)	-	(3,578)	(40,384)
Total funds brought forward		-	480,578	-	480,578	520,962
Total funds carried forward	13	-	477,000	-	477,000	480,578

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative **for the year ended** **31 December 2022**

	31 December 2022			
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds £	£
INCOME				
Donations and legacies	-	61,000	-	61,000
Other trading activities	-	44	-	44
Investment income	-	5,047	-	5,047
Total income	-	66,091	-	66,091
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	-	2,641	-	2,641
Charitable activities	-	66,809	-	66,809
Total expenditure	-	69,450	-	69,450
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer and investments	-	(3,359)	-	(3,359)
Net gains /(losses) on investments	-	(37,025)	-	(37,025)
Net income / (expenditure)	-	(40,384)	-	(40,384)
Total funds brought forward	-	520,962	-	520,962
Total funds carried forward	-	480,578	-	480,578

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Balance Sheet

as at

31 December 2023

	Notes	31 December 2023		31 December 2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		2,563		1,913
Investments	10		253,649		231,979
			256,212		233,892
Current Assets					
Stock		3,605		3,608	
Debtors	11	13,847		3,456	
Cash at bank and in hand		203,336		239,622	
		220,788		246,686	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	12	-		-	
Net Current Assets			220,788		246,686
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			477,000		480,578
NET ASSETS			477,000		480,578
Funds					
Restricted funds	13		-		-
Designated funds	13		-		-
Unrestricted funds			477,000		480,578
			477,000		480,578

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

Approved by the Trustees on 21st April 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Rob Grange (Chair)

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of compliance

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Cash flow Statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 for the SORP and therefore did not include a cash flow statement in these financial statements

Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are confident that the charity has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Income in the form of grants and donations have been maintained and costs are reduced due to a reduction in the training opportunities and number of call outs. The charity also has substantial reserves.

Fund accounting policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Designated funds are those set aside by the trustees out of general funds for a specific purpose. Further details of each fund are in Note 13.

Income

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administer/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs of generating funds include investment management fees. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment	15% - 25% straight line basis
-----------	-------------------------------

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2023**

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments

Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the date of the balance sheet. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the period of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the end of the year.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.'

31 December 2023					
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	1 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Donations and legacies (incl Grants)					
Legacies	-	7,283	-	7,283	12,742
Donations	-	33,525	-	33,525	41,891
GASDS	-	3,667	-	3,667	3,744
Gift aid	-	2,491	-	2,491	2,623
	-	46,966	-	46,966	61,000
3 Fundraising					
Merchandise sales	-	292	-	292	44
	-	292	-	292	44
4 Investment income					
Listed investments	-	4,556	-	4,556	3,617
Bank interest received	-	3,842	-	3,842	1,430
	-	8,398	-	8,398	5,047

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

	31 December 2023				1 December 2022
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
5 Costs of raising funds					
Investment management fees	-	2,375	-	2,375	2,461
Merchandise purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Other fund raising expenses	-	216	-	216	180
	-	2,591	-	2,591	2,641
6 Charitable activities					
Vet and dog costs	-	9,945	-	9,945	11,745
Team equipment, clothing & suppl	-	9,923	-	9,923	8,328
Courses and training	-	40,614	-	40,614	34,970
Incident costs	-	1,456	-	1,456	1,002
Travel	-	3,243	-	3,243	1,915
Insurance	-	1,816	-	1,816	-
Telephone and communications	-	1,179	-	1,179	759
Computer expenses	-	2,300	-	2,300	5,201
Printing, stationery and postage	-	172	-	172	371
Accountancy costs	-	1,944	-	1,944	1,250
Bank charges	-	467	-	467	630
Depreciation equipment	-	1,067	-	1,067	638
	-	74,126	-	74,126	66,809

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

Travelling expenses totalling £7,474 were paid out to Trustees. This includes for travel in relation to their roles as Trustees as well as amounts paid out in relation to travel for training and incidents in their roles as active members of the team.

8 Net income / (expenditure)

Net income / (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,067	638
Independent examiner's fee	444	300

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
COST		
At 1 January 2023	68,102	68,102
Additions	1,717	1,717
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>69,819</u>	<u>69,819</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2023	66,189	66,189
Charge for year	1,067	1,067
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>67,256</u>	<u>67,256</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,563</u>	<u>2,563</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,913</u>	<u>1,913</u>

10 Investments held as fixed assets

Market Value	
At 1 January 2023	231,979
Additions	40,048
Disposals	(35,861)
Revaluation	17,483
At 31 December 2023	<u>253,649</u>

11 Debtors

	31 December 2023 £	31 December 2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	10,681	-
VAT reclaimable	1,416	1,818
Gift aid due	1,750	1,638
Payments on account	-	-
	<u>13,847</u>	<u>3,456</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2023 £	31 December 2022 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

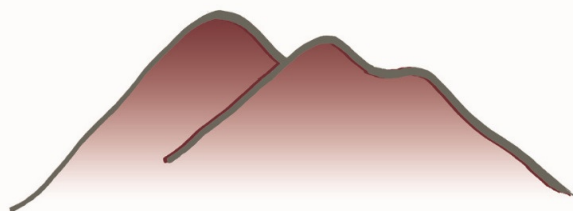
13 Net Assets by fund	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	2,563	-	2,563
Investments	-	253,649	-	253,649
Current assets	-	220,788	-	220,788
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	477,000	-	477,000

Net Assets by fund - Comparative 2022

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,913	-	1,913
Investments	-	231,979	-	231,979
Current assets	-	246,686	-	246,686
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	480,578	-	480,578

Accounts

LDMR Search Dogs Association
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2022



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Charity Information
for the year ended
31 December 2022**

Trustees

Ms E L Atherton : Secretary
Mr M Evans
Mr C Francis
Mr R Grange : Chair
Ms J Grindrod
Mr M Gullen
Mr M Guy : Treasurer
Ms C Judge
Ms E Whiteford
Mr T Woolley-Wildgoose

Principal and Registered Office

c/o 1 Collin Road
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Helen Holmes
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Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd
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LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the accounting practices required by law and the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

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To further this, the Association:

- Promotes the development of Search Dogs through running training and assessment courses;
- raises funds for training, assessment, equipment, and the meeting of running expenses;
- assists organisations with similar objects where this enhances the work of the Association.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

2. Organisation

The trustees who have served during 2021 were:

- Rob Grange, Chair
- Emma Louise Atherton - Secretary
- Anthony Michael Guy, Treasurer
- Christopher Francis, Callout Co-ordinator
- John Dunbavin, Equipment Officer - resigned April 2022
- L Connolly - resigned April 2022
- Eleanor Gwendoline Whiteford, Training Officer
- Christyne Judge, Committee member
- Mike Gullen, Committee member
- Joy Grindrod - appointed April 2022
- Michael Evans - appointed April 2022
- Tom Woolley-Wildgoose - appointed April 2022

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2022

2. Organisation (cont)

The Trustees are elected annually, and met 7 times as a Committee during the year. Members may attend any Committee meeting. A sub-committee of training assessors also meets regularly and advises the Trustees about progress of search dog teams.

3. Relationship with other charities with similar objectives

The Association works closely with mountain rescue teams in the Lake District, with its local umbrella body, the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, and Mountain Rescue(England and Wales), the national body. Association members are drawn from individual Lake District mountain rescue teams. It also liaises closely with sister organisations in this country and abroad, in order to disseminate knowledge and learn from others, and is an associate member of the ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue).

The Association is not reliant on any team or Governing Body for its funding, but receives contributions towards its running costs from the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association each year.

4. Activities and achievements

A year on, and the return to “normality” after Covid has not been as easy as one might have thought. Whilst the Association has resumed its intensive training programme to bring on new dog teams, and continued to support rescue team on searches, we have had to contend with a number of difficulties posed by a huge increase in visitors to the Lake District. This has led to traffic congestion, increased costs for accommodation at training weekends, and a big increase in workload for the rescue teams from which handlers are drawn. These rescues seem in many cases to have resulted from more inexperienced members of the public taking on challenges which were outside their abilities, or poorly planned.

Demand for search dogs on rescues has declined slightly, partly because of improved methods of detection of mobile phone locations using Phone Finder and Sarloc, (which are authorised by the police) and relatively benign weather conditions of a fairly mild winter, followed by a long hot summer. The Association responded to 20 requests for assistance in the year. Of these, Search Dogs located casualties on 6 occasions. There were a number of other incidents which might have benefited from Search Dog involvement.

The Association has managed to run a full year’s training programme, which included a seminar day for our volunteer dogsbodies, a week’s winter training in Scotland, monthly training weekends, and weekly evening sessions. Senior figures from within the Association attended the ICAR Conference in Switzerland in October, where they contributed to the Training programme, and benefited by learning from other Search Dog Associations in Europe.

Of the rake of new dog teams with which we started the year, two have graded as search dog teams, four teams have been withdrawn from training, and there are currently 10 teams in training. Regrettably, two of our senior dogs have passed away during the year, Skye and Bracken.

As is customary each year, we need to acknowledge the generosity of landowners and graziers in allowing us access to areas for training, particularly in the light of increased pressures from visitors. We are indebted to the amount of time and effort put in by our volunteer “dogsbody”, who act as casualties for training, and become our dogs’ second best friends - after the handlers, of course.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2022

4. Activities and achievements (cont)

We were concerned that, following the pandemic, our financial position would be weakened, but a number of legacies and generous donations have meant that that we are currently in a sound position.

5. Financial Review

During the year, the Association had a total income of £66,091 (2021 - £90,281), and an expenditure of £69,450 (2021 - £72,836), resulting in net outgoing resources for the charity of £3,359. (2021 net incoming resources of £17,445) before revaluation of investments. In addition to income and expenditure, there were unrealised losses in the value of investments of £37,025 (2021 - gain £26,338) The closing reserves at 31 December 2022 were £480,578 (2021 - £520,962) All reserves remain unrestricted.

6. Reserves policy

The Trustees have had regard to both the short and long-term needs of the Association in reviewing this policy.

As the pandemic has changed our revenue streams, we will need to rely on more online and direct appeal fundraising . If our future operations continue unchanged from previous years, and the costs of training, equipment and travel are subject to high levels of inflation, trustees will need to consider how that challenge can be met.

After reviewing the position, the Trustees consider that it is prudent to try to maintain a general income reserve of approximately four times average annual expenditure, at least for the short term. In doing so, they seek to ensure that the provision of the charity's primary objective will not be impaired by a short-term shortfall in fundraising. This is of particular concern in the current economic climate, with its potential negative implications for charitable donations.

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually, or as necessary, in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the charity's objective.

7. Investment policy

The Association provides support to vital emergency services, and needs to ensure that funding for its training operations is secure. Consequently, the expenditure budget for the forthcoming year is based on the estimated requirements of the communications and equipment needs and the training officer's budget in a normal year, against the income from the current year.

The trustees have adopted a cautious, risk-averse approach to investment. Apart from the immediate access funds which make up about 25% of assets, a further 25% is invested in medium term accounts or investments which can be called upon swiftly, and the remainder in a growing longer term investment with Brewin Dolphin which acts as a reserve, but which also can provide income if required. In that way, the capital is secure and additional income accrues from interest. The value of funds is reported to the Trustees at each meeting, so all are aware of the current position.

This policy is kept under review, but unless, or until, substantial excess funds become available for investment to provide guaranteed income against annual running costs, the trustees remain of the opinion that their relatively cautious approach to investment is justified.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2022

8. Grants policy

The Association does not make grants to outside bodies, as all its operations are organised internally. Accordingly, last year, we made no grants to other charitable organisations, and all expenditure was geared to supporting its own charitable objectives.

9. Risk management & trustee indemnity insurance

The trustees have considered the major risks which the charity faces, and confirm that its system of regular meetings to review progress, expenditure and costs provides a robust mechanism to lessen those risks. Those funds not invested are held in UK banks and building societies, within the £85K limit of financial compensation, with a requirement of two signatories for any transaction. The Trustees continue to invest in indemnity insurance to protect them against legal action. The Charity continues to be registered with the Data Commissioners Office to comply with the requirements of GDPR. Documentation is stored in the Cloud via Microsoft Office 365.

Trustees Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by

Robert Grange
Chairman

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

I report on the accounts for the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 6 - 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 examiners report is needed.

The charity's gross income is less than £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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.

Helen Holmes FCA
Chartered Accountant
Stables Thompson and Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 December 2022**

		31 December 2022			31 December 2021	
	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2	-	61,000	-	61,000	86,499
Other trading activities	3	-	44	-	44	22
Investment income	4	-	5,047	-	5,047	3,760
Total income		-	66,091	-	66,091	90,281
Expenditure						
Costs of raising funds	5	-	2,641	-	2,641	2,190
Charitable activities	6	-	66,809	-	66,809	70,646
Total expenditure		-	69,450	-	69,450	72,836
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers and investments		-	(3,359)	-	(3,359)	17,445
Net gains /(losses) on investments		-	(37,025)	-	(37,025)	26,338
Net income / (expenditure)		-	(40,384)	-	(40,384)	43,783
Total funds brought forward		-	520,962	-	520,962	477,179
Total funds carried forward	13	-	480,578	-	480,578	520,962

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative
for the year ended
31 December 2021

	31 December 2021			
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds £	£
INCOME				
Donations and legacies	-	86,499	-	86,499
Other trading activities	-	22	-	22
Investment income	-	3,760	-	3,760
Total income	-	90,281	-	90,281
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	-	2,190	-	2,190
Charitable activities	-	70,646	-	70,646
Total expenditure	-	72,836	-	72,836
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer and investments	-	17,445	-	17,445
Net gains /(losses) on investments	-	26,338	-	26,338
Net income / (expenditure)	-	43,783	-	43,783
Total funds brought forward	-	477,179	-	477,179
Total funds carried forward	-	520,962	-	520,962

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	31 December 2022		31 December 2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		1,913		-
Investments	10		231,979		271,555
			233,892		271,555
Current Assets					
Stock		3,608		3,608	
Debtors	11	3,456		7,036	
Cash at bank and in hand		239,622		238,763	
		246,686		249,407	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	12	-		-	
Net Current Assets			246,686		249,407
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			480,578		520,962
NET ASSETS			480,578		520,962
Funds					
Restricted funds	13		-		-
Designated funds	13		-		-
Unrestricted funds			480,578		520,962
			480,578		520,962

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

Approved by the Trustees on 19 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of compliance

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Cash flow Statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 for the SORP and therefore did not include a cash flow statement in these financial statements

Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are confident that the charity has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Income in the form of grants and donations have been maintained and costs are reduced due to a reduction in the training opportunities and number of call outs. The charity also has substantial reserves.

Fund accounting policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Designated funds are those set aside by the trustees out of general funds for a specific purpose. Further details of each fund are in Note 13.

Income

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administer/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs of generating funds include investment management fees. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment	15% - 25% straight line basis
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**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2022**

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments

Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the date of the balance sheet. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the period of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the end of the year.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.'

	31 December 2022				1 December 2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
2 Donations and legacies (incl Grants)					
Covenants	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	-	12,742	-	12,742	42,500
Donations	-	41,891	-	41,891	39,182
GASDS	-	3,744	-	3,744	3,134
Gift aid	-	2,623	-	2,623	1,683
	-	61,000	-	61,000	86,499
3 Fundraising					
Merchandise sales	-	44	-	44	22
	-	44	-	44	22
4 Investment income					
Listed investments	-	3,617	-	3,617	3,338
Bank interest received	-	1,430	-	1,430	422
	-	5,047	-	5,047	3,760

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

	31 December 2022				1 December 2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
5 Costs of raising funds					
Investment management fees	-	2,461	-	2,461	2,010
Merchandise purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Other fund raising expenses	-	180	-	180	180
	-	2,641	-	2,641	2,190
6 Charitable activities					
Vet and dog costs	-	11,745	-	11,745	11,163
Team equipment, clothing & suppl	-	8,328	-	8,328	27,964
Courses and training	-	34,970	-	34,970	19,265
Incident costs	-	1,002	-	1,002	2,162
Travel	-	1,915	-	1,915	509
Insurance	-	-	-	-	307
Telephone and communications	-	759	-	759	577
Computer expenses	-	5,201	-	5,201	3,373
Printing, stationery and postage	-	371	-	371	326
Accountancy costs	-	1,250	-	1,250	1,300
Bank charges	-	630	-	630	130
Depreciation equipment	-	638	-	638	3,570
	-	66,809	-	66,809	70,646

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

Travelling expenses totalling £7,474 were paid out to Trustees. This includes for travel in relation to their roles as Trustees as well as amounts paid out in relation to travel for training and incidents in their roles as active members of the team.

8 Net income / (expenditure)

Net income / (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	638	3,570
Independent examiner's fee	300	300

LDMM Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
COST		
At 1 January 2022	65,551	65,551
Additions	2,551	2,551
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>68,102</u>	<u>68,102</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2022	65,551	65,551
Charge for year	638	638
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>66,189</u>	<u>66,189</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,913</u>	<u>1,913</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10 Investments held as fixed assets

Market Value	
At 1 January 2022	271,555
Additions	27,188
Disposals	(29,739)
Revaluation	(37,025)
At 31 December 2022	<u>231,979</u>

11 Debtors

	31 December 2022	31 December 2021
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
VAT reclaimable	1,818	6,108
Gift aid due	1,638	928
Payments on account	-	-
	<u>3,456</u>	<u>7,036</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2022	31 December 2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2022**

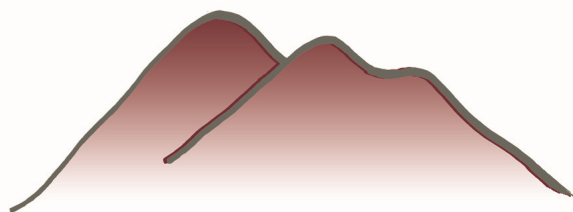
13 Net Assets by fund	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,913	-	1,913
Investments	-	231,979	-	231,979
Current assets	-	246,686	-	246,686
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	480,578	-	480,578

Net Assets by fund - Comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	271,555	-	271,555
Current assets	-	249,407	-	249,407
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	520,962	-	520,962

Accounts

LDMR Search Dogs Association
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2021



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

LDMR Search Dogs Association

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LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Charity Information
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

Trustees

Ms E L Atherton - Secretary
Ms L Connolly
Mr J Dunbavin
Mr C Francis
Mr R Grange - Chair
Mr M Gullen
Mr M Guy - Treasurer
Ms C Judge
Ms E Whiteford

**Principal and
Registered Office**

c/o 1 Collin Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5HN

Charity Number

1015934

Independent Examiner

Helen Holmes
Stables Thompson & Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal LA9 4DX

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd
34 Lisbon Street
Leeds
LS1 4LX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the accounting practices required by law and the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Governing Document

The Charity is an Unincorporated Charity, governed by a Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The only body with the power (within the Terms of the Constitution) to appoint a Trustee is the full membership of the Charity. The Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting, (AGM) and hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. The Trustees must be members of the charity, and are made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Callout Co-ordinator, Training Officer, Equipment Officer and two Committee members elected from the general membership. There is no bar on a Trustee standing for office on successive terms. Candidates for positions conferring trusteeship must be nominated not less than 21 days prior to the AGM, and notified to the membership not less than 14 days prior thereto.

Constitution and objects

The Association is governed by its Constitution, which was revised in 2001, amended in 2011, and is a registered charity no. 1015934. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and early 2015, and again in late 2015 at the request of the Charity Commission. It was approved by members in early 2016. The primary function of the charity is as follows: *"The main object of the charity shall be, for the public benefit, to train search dogs and handlers to assist in the search and rescue of missing persons, predominantly in a mountain environment, but also in other areas where our skills may be of benefit."*

To further this, the Association:

- Promotes the development of Search Dogs through running training and assessment courses;
- raises funds for training, assessment, equipment, and the meeting of running expenses;
- assists organisations with similar objects where this enhances the work of the Association.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

2. Organisation

The trustees who have served during 2021 were:

Rob Grange, Chair

Emma Louise Atherton - Secretary

Anthony Michael Guy, Treasurer

Christopher Francis, Callout Co-ordinator

John Dunbavin, Equipment Officer

Eleanor Gwendoline Whiteford, Training Officer

Christyne Judge, Committee member

Mike Gullen, Committee member - appointed 24 March 2021

Andrew James Peacock, Training Officer - retired 24 March 2021

The Trustees are elected annually, and met 7 times as a Committee during the year. Members may attend any Committee meeting. A sub-committee of training assessors also meets regularly and advises the Trustees about progress of search dog teams.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2021

3. Relationship with other charities with similar objectives

The Association works closely with mountain rescue teams in the Lake District, with its local umbrella body, the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, and Mountain Rescue(England and Wales), the national body. Association members are drawn from individual Lake District mountain rescue teams. It also liaises closely with sister organisations in this country and abroad, in order to disseminate knowledge and learn from others, and is an associate member of the ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue).

The Association is not reliant on any team or Governing Body for its funding, but receives contributions towards its running costs from the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association each year.

4. Activities and achievements

The Covid pandemic continued to make this a very challenging year for Lake District Mountain Rescue Search Dogs. Further lockdowns inhibited training for long periods, and the continued need for PPE and sanitisers incurred extra expense, while social distancing obviously affected how members were able to carry out their roles. However, with some strategic planning we managed to grade another two search dog teams – Tom Woolley (Cockermouth MRT) with Bess, and Rob Grange (Keswick MRT) with Broch. Another team is getting close, and another three are approaching the pre-assessment threshold. The puppy contingent has also expanded with dogs from Penrith, Keswick and Duddon teams now starting in training. We were devastated to lose an experienced searchdog, Cuillin, to a seizure during the year; Search Dog Skye stood down after long career with Kendal team; and Search Dog Beck (Keswick) retired as well. All three handlers are now training young dogs, which is a tribute to their commitment to the cause.

The work of the dedicated “dogsbodies” who help to train our dogs by acting as casualties has been radically curtailed this year, but they have been steadfast in turning up and assisting when we have been able to train, and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

During the year, between 9 and 11 dog teams were available to assist rescue teams or police with searches for overdue walkers, or missing persons who were at risk. Lakes Search dogs were requested to assist on 24 occasions, and located or found the missing persons on 4 occasions. Brock, our trailing dog found a missing vulnerable woman after a prolonged trail.

For a second year we had to cancel most of our public appearances or talks, which raise our public profile, and form an important part of our fundraising. However, the reduction in training costs and travel, the response of our loyal supporters, and a share of legacies meant that finances are still sound, despite the changes in donation patterns. This has been underlined by the almost complete collapse of collecting box revenue and street collections, due to the change in how the public spends. The Association has invested in a contactless donation device to use at talks and public events.

5. Financial Review

During the year, the Association had a total income of £90,281 (2020 - £98,771), and an expenditure of £72,836 (2020 - £42,743), resulting in net income for the charity of £17,445 (2020 – £47,028) before revaluation of investments. In addition to income and expenditure, there were unrealised gains in the value of investments of £26,338 (2020 - gain £12,625) The closing reserves at 31 December 2021 were £520,962 (2020 - £477,179) All reserves remain unrestricted.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2021

6. Reserves policy

The Trustees have had regard to both the short and long-term needs of the Association in reviewing this policy.

As the pandemic has changed our revenue streams, we will need to rely on more online and direct appeal fundraising. If our future operations continue unchanged from previous years, and the costs of training, equipment and travel are subject to high levels of inflation, trustees will need to consider how that challenge can be met.

After reviewing the position, the Trustees consider that it is prudent to try to maintain a general income reserve of approximately four times average annual expenditure, at least for the short term. In doing so, they seek to ensure that the provision of the charity's primary objective will not be impaired by a short-term shortfall in fundraising. This is of particular concern in the current economic climate, with its potential negative implications for charitable donations.

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually, or as necessary, in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the charity's objective.

7. Investment policy

The Association provides support to vital emergency services, and needs to ensure that funding for its training operations is secure. Consequently, the expenditure budget for the forthcoming year is based on the estimated requirements of the communications and equipment needs and the training officer's budget in a normal year, against the income from the current year.

The trustees have adopted a cautious, risk-averse approach to investment. Apart from the immediate access funds which make up about 25% of assets, a further 25% is invested in medium term accounts or investments which can be called upon swiftly, and the remainder in a growing longer term investment with Brewin Dolphin which acts as a reserve, but which also can provide income if required. In that way, the capital is secure and additional income accrues from interest. The value of funds is reported to the Trustees at each meeting, so all are aware of the current position.

This policy is kept under review, but unless, or until, substantial excess funds become available for investment to provide guaranteed income against annual running costs, the trustees remain of the opinion that their relatively cautious approach to investment is justified.

8. Grants policy

The Association does not make grants to outside bodies, as all its operations are organised internally. Accordingly, last year, we made no grants to other charitable organisations, and all expenditure was geared to supporting its own charitable objectives.

**Report of the Trustees, contd.
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

9. Risk management & trustee indemnity insurance

The trustees have considered the major risks which the charity faces, and confirm that its system of regular meetings to review progress, expenditure and costs provides a robust mechanism to lessen those risks. Those funds not invested are held in UK banks and building societies, within the £85K limit of financial compensation, with a requirement of two signatories for any transaction. The Trustees continue to invest in indemnity insurance to protect them against legal action. The Charity continues to be registered with the Data Commissioners Office to comply with the requirements of GDPR. Documentation is stored in the Cloud via Microsoft Office 365.

Trustees Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 19 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by



Robert Grange
Chairman

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

I report on the accounts for the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019 which are set out on pages 6 - 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 examiners report is needed.

The charity's gross income is less than £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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.

Helen Holmes
Director
Stables Thompson and Briscoe
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

	Notes	31 December 2021			31 December 2020	
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2	-	86,499	-	86,499	83,357
Other trading activities	3	-	22	-	22	289
Investment income	4	-	3,760	-	3,760	6,125
Total income		-	90,281	-	90,281	89,771
Expenditure						
Costs of raising funds	5	-	2,190	-	2,190	1,839
Charitable activities	6	-	70,646	-	70,646	40,904
Total expenditure		-	72,836	-	72,836	42,743
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers and investments		-	17,445	-	17,445	47,028
Net gains /(losses) on investments		-	26,338	-	26,338	12,625
Net income / (expenditure)		-	43,783	-	43,783	59,653
Total funds brought forward		-	477,179	-	477,179	417,526
Total funds carried forward	13	-	520,962	-	520,962	477,179

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative
for the year ended
31 December 2020

	31 December 2020			
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds £	£
INCOME				
Donations and legacies	-	83,357	-	83,357
Other trading activities	-	289	-	289
Investment income	-	6,125	-	6,125
Total income	-	89,771	-	89,771
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	-	1,839	-	1,839
Charitable activities	-	40,904	-	40,904
Total expenditure	-	42,743	-	42,743
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer and investments	-	47,028	-	47,028
Net gains /(losses) on investments	-	12,625	-	12,625
Net income / (expenditure)	-	59,653	-	59,653
Total funds brought forward	-	417,526	-	417,526
Total funds carried forward	-	477,179	-	477,179

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Balance Sheet

as at

31 December 2021

	Notes	31 December 2021		31 December 2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		-		3,570
Investments	10		271,555		224,727
			271,555		228,297
Current Assets					
Stock		3,608		3,608	
Debtors	11	7,036		2,201	
Cash at bank and in hand		238,763		243,073	
		249,407		248,882	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	12	-		-	
Net Current Assets			249,407		248,882
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			520,962		477,179
NET ASSETS			520,962		477,179
Funds					
Restricted funds	13		-		-
Designated funds	13		-		-
Unrestricted funds			520,962		477,179
	14		520,962		477,179

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

Approved by the Trustees on 19 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of compliance

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Cash flow Statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 for the SORP and therefore did not include a cash flow statement in these financial statements

Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are confident that the charity has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Income in the form of grants and donations have been maintained and costs are reduced due to a reduction in the training opportunities and number of call outs. The charity also has substantial reserves.

Fund accounting policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Designated funds are those set aside by the trustees out of general funds for a specific purpose. Further details of each fund are in Note 13.

Income

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administer/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs of generating funds include investment management fees. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment	15% - 25% straight line basis
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**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments

Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the date of the balance sheet. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the period of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the end of the year.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.'

	31 December 2021				1 December 2020
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
2 Donations and legacies (incl Grants)					
Covenants	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	-	42,500	-	42,500	13,086
Donations	-	39,182	-	39,182	64,687
GASDS	-	3,134	-	3,134	1,967
Gift aid	-	1,683	-	1,683	3,617
	-	86,499	-	86,499	83,357
3 Fundraising					
Merchandise sales	-	22	-	22	289
	-	22	-	22	289
4 Investment income					
Listed investments	-	3,338	-	3,338	4,103
Bank interest received	-	422	-	422	2,022
	-	3,760	-	3,760	6,125

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

	31 December 2021				1 December 2020
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
5 Costs of raising funds					
Investment management fees	-	2,010	-	2,010	1,659
Merchandise purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Other fund raising expenses	-	180	-	180	180
	-	2,190	-	2,190	1,839
6 Charitable activities					
Vet and dog costs	-	11,163	-	11,163	10,015
Team equipment, clothing & suppli	-	27,964	-	27,964	4,369
Courses and training	-	19,265	-	19,265	15,638
Incident costs	-	2,162	-	2,162	1,277
Travel	-	509	-	509	737
Insurance	-	307	-	307	307
Telephone and communications	-	577	-	577	564
Computer expenses	-	3,373	-	3,373	2,191
Printing, stationery and postage	-	326	-	326	304
Accountancy costs	-	1,300	-	1,300	500
Bank charges	-	130	-	130	17
Depreciation equipment	-	3,570	-	3,570	4,985
	-	70,646	-	70,646	40,904

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

Travelling expenses totalling £3,335 were paid out to Trustees. This includes for travel in relation to their roles as Trustees as well as amounts paid out in relation to travel for training and incidents in their roles as active members of the team.

8 Net income / (expenditure)

Net income / (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,570	4,985
Independent examiner's fee	300	300

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
COST		
At 1 January 2021	65,551	65,551
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>65,551</u>	<u>65,551</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2021	61,981	61,981
Charge for year	3,570	3,570
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>65,551</u>	<u>65,551</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>3,570</u>	<u>3,570</u>

10 Investments held as fixed assets

Market Value	
At 1 January 2021	224,727
Additions	44,080
Disposals	(23,590)
Revaluation	26,338
At 31 December 2021	<u>271,555</u>

11 Debtors

	31 December 2021 £	31 December 2020 £
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
VAT reclaimable	6,108	1,424
Gift aid due	928	777
Payments on account	-	-
	<u>7,036</u>	<u>2,201</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2021 £	31 December 2020 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2021**

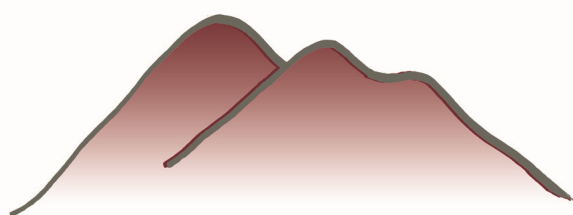
13 Net Assets by fund	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	271,555	-	271,555
Current assets	-	249,407	-	249,407
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	520,962	-	520,962

Net Assets by fund - Comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,570	-	8,555
Investments	-	224,727	-	211,194
Current assets	-	248,882	-	197,777
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	477,179	-	417,526

Accounts

LDMR Search Dogs Association
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2020



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Index to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

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LDMR Search Dogs Association

Charity Information
for the year ended
31 December 2020

**Directors and
Trustees**

Ms E L Atherton - Secretary
Mr J Dunbavin
Mr C Francis
Mr R Grange - Chair
Mr M Guy - acting Treasurer
Ms C Judge
Mr A Peacock
Ms E Whiteford

**Principal and
Registered Office**

c/o 1 Colin Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5HN

Charity Number

1015934

Independent Examiner

Frances Clark FCA CTA
Keswick Accountants
4 Leonard Street
Keswick CA12 4EJ

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd
34 Lisbon Street
Leeds
LS1 4LX

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the accounting practices required by law and the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Governing Document

The Charity is an Unincorporated Charity, governed by a Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The only body with the power (within the Terms of the Constitution) to appoint a Trustee is the full membership of the Charity. The Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting, (AGM) and hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. The Trustees must be members of the charity, and are made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Callout Co-ordinator, Training Officer, Equipment Officer and two Committee members elected from the general membership. There is no bar on a Trustee standing for office on successive terms. Candidates for positions conferring trusteeship must be nominated not less than 21 days prior to the AGM, and notified to the membership not less than 14 days prior thereto.

Constitution and objects

The Association is governed by its Constitution, which was revised in 2001, amended in 2011, and is a registered charity no. 1015934. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and early 2015, and again in late 2015 at the request of the Charity Commission. It was approved by members in early 2016. The primary function of the charity is as follows: *"The main object of the charity shall be, for the public benefit, to train search dogs and handlers to assist in the search and rescue of missing persons, predominantly in a mountain environment, but also in other areas where our skills may be of benefit."*

To further this, the Association:

- Promotes the development of Search Dogs through running training and assessment courses;
- raises funds for training, assessment, equipment, and the meeting of running expenses;
- assists organisations with similar objects where this enhances the work of the Association.

2. Organisation

The trustees who have served during 2020 were:

Rob Grange, Chair

Alastair James Burns - resigned 7th March 2020

Emma Louise Atherton - Secretary - appointed 7th March 2020

Anthony Michael Guy, Treasurer

Andrew James Peacock, Training Officer

Christopher Francis, Callout Co-ordinator

John Dunbavin, Equipment Officer

Eleanor Gwendoline Whiteford, Committee member

Christyne Judge, Committee member

The Trustees are elected annually, and met 7 times as a Committee during the year. Members may attend any Committee meeting. A sub-committee of training assessors also meets regularly and advises the Trustees about progress of search dog teams.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2020

3. Relationship with other charities with similar objectives

The Association works closely with mountain rescue teams in the Lake District, with its local umbrella body, the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association, and Mountain Rescue(England and Wales), the national body. Association members are drawn from individual Lake District mountain rescue teams. It also liaises closely with sister organisations in this country and abroad, in order to disseminate knowledge and learn from others, and is an associate member of the ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue).

The Association is not reliant on any team or Governing Body for its funding, but receives contributions towards its running costs from the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association each year.

4. Activities and achievements

As experienced by many other charitable institutions, the Covid pandemic has made this a very challenging year for Lake District Mountain Rescue Search Dogs. Training has been drastically curtailed by the need to socially distance, use PPE, and the privations caused by lockdowns. For some 6 months in total, we were unable to train at all, and even after that, we have had random short periods where training was stood down for local reasons. On the positive side, we now have three trainee dogs who are close to being assessed for search dog grade, a further six who are developing their stamina and experience just below that level, and a number of new entrants who will be able to join the Pre Stage 1 Novice group once things open up.

The work of the dedicated “dogsbodies” who help to train our dogs by acting as casualties has been radically curtailed this year, but they have been steadfast in turning up and assisting when we have been able to train, and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

During the year, between 9 and 11 dog teams were available to assist rescue teams or police with searches for overdue walkers, or missing persons who were at risk. Lakes Search dogs were requested to assist on 26 occasions, and located or found the missing persons on 5 occasions. There was a significant demand for the services of our now upgraded trailing dog team, from both inside and outside the Lake District. Towards the end of the year, two dog teams retired, two trainee teams withdrew, and two new Stage 1 dogs were accepted on to the formal training list.

Regrettably we had to cancel most of our public appearances or talks, which raise our public profile, and have formed an important part of our fundraising. However, the reduction in training costs and travel, and the response of our loyal supporters meant that finances have held up reasonably well. We were also fortunate to benefit from a legacy which boosted funds, and consequently the Association ends the year in reasonable financial health, but challenges still to face.

5. Financial Review

During the year, the Association had a total income of £98,771 (2019 - £97,992), and an expenditure of £42,743 (2019 - £87,354), resulting in net income for the charity of £47,028 (2018 – £10,638) before revaluation of investments. In addition to income and expenditure, there were unrealised gains in the value of investments of £12,625 (2019 - gain £21,904) The closing reserves at 31 December 2020 were £477,179(2019 - £395,622) All reserves remain unrestricted.

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 December 2020

6. Reserves policy

The Trustees have had regard to both the short and long-term needs of the Association in reviewing this policy.

The Association does not have a clearly defined “home” of its own within Cumbria unlike the regional rescue teams, and has until now endeavoured to secure a regular income from collecting boxes, street collections, covenants and gift-aided donations. The pandemic has changed much of that, and more online and direct appeal fundraising will need to take its place. If our future operations continue unchanged from previous years, the costs of training, equipment and transport cannot be guaranteed to be entirely sustained by current income.

After reviewing the position, the Trustees consider that it is prudent to try to maintain a general income reserve of approximately four times average annual expenditure, at least for the short term. In doing so, they seek to ensure that the provision of the charity's primary objective will not be impaired by a short-term shortfall in fundraising. This is of particular concern in the current economic climate, with its potential negative implications for charitable donations. Annual expenditure is estimated as £60k so the Trustees aim to have reserves of at least £240k. Current reserves are in excess of this, but much uncertainty remains about future levels of donations and income.

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually, or as necessary, in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the charity's objective.

7. Investment policy

The Association provides support to vital emergency services, and needs to ensure that funding for its operations is secure. Consequently, the expenditure budget for the forthcoming year is based on the estimated requirements of the communications and equipment needs and the training officer's budget in a normal year, against the income from the current year.

The trustees have adopted a cautious, risk-averse approach to investment. Apart from the immediate access funds which make up about 25% of assets, a further 25% is invested in medium term accounts or investments which can be called upon swiftly, and the remainder in a growing longer term investment with Brewin Dolphin which acts as a reserve, but which also can provide income if required. In that way, the capital is secure and additional income accrues from interest. The value of funds is reported to the Trustees at each meeting, so all are aware of the current position.

This policy is kept under review, but unless, or until, substantial excess funds become available for investment to provide guaranteed income against annual running costs, the trustees remain of the opinion that their relatively cautious approach to investment is justified.

8. Grants policy

The Association does not make grants to outside bodies, as all its operations are organised internally. Accordingly, last year, we made no grants to other charitable organisations, and all expenditure was geared to supporting its own charitable objectives.

**Report of the Trustees, contd.
for the year ended
31 December 2020**

9. Risk management & trustee indemnity insurance

The trustees have considered the major risks which the charity faces, and confirm that its system of regular meetings to review progress, expenditure and costs provides a robust mechanism to lessen those risks. Those funds not invested are held in UK banks and building societies, within the £85K limit of financial compensation, with a requirement of two signatories for any transaction. The Charity continues to be registered with the Data Commissioners Office to comply with the requirements of GDPR. Documentation is stored in the Cloud via Microsoft Office 365.

Trustees Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 24th March 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Robert Grange
Chairman

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

I report on the accounts for the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019 which are set out on pages 6 - 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 examiners report is needed.

The charity's gross income is less than £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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.

Frances Clark FCA CTA
Keswick Accountants
Appleside
4 Leonard Street
Keswick
Cumbria
CA12 4EJ

LDMR Search Dogs Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 December 2020**

		31 December 2020				31 December 2019
	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2	-	83,357	-	83,357	90,300
Other trading activities	3	-	289	-	289	867
Investment income	4	-	6,125	-	6,125	6,825
Total income		-	89,771	-	89,771	97,992
Expenditure						
Costs of raising funds	5	-	1,839	-	1,839	7,200
Charitable activities	6	-	40,904	-	40,904	80,154
Total expenditure		-	42,743	-	42,743	87,354
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers and investments		-	47,028	-	47,028	10,638
Net gains /(losses) on investments		-	12,625	-	12,625	21,904
Net income / (expenditure)		-	59,653	-	59,653	32,542
Total funds brought forward		-	417,526	-	417,526	384,984
Total funds carried forward	13	-	477,179	-	477,179	417,526

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative for the year ended 31 December 2019

	31 December 2019			
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds £	£
INCOME				
Donations and legacies	-	90,300	-	90,300
Other trading activities	-	867	-	867
Investment income	-	6,825	-	6,825
Total income	-	97,992	-	97,992
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	-	7,200	-	7,200
Charitable activities	-	80,154	-	80,154
Total expenditure	-	87,354	-	87,354
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer and investments	-	10,638	-	10,638
Net gains /(losses) on investments	-	21,904	-	21,904
Net income / (expenditure)	-	32,542	-	32,542
Total funds brought forward	-	384,984	-	384,984
Total funds carried forward	-	417,526	-	417,526

The notes form part of these financial statements

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Balance Sheet

as at

31 December 2020

	Notes	31 December 2020		31 December 2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		3,570		8,555
Investments	10		224,727		211,194
			228,297		219,749
Current Assets					
Stock		3,608		3,233	
Debtors	11	2,201		4,453	
Cash at bank and in hand		243,073		190,091	
		248,882		197,777	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	12	-		-	
Net Current Assets			248,882		197,777
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			477,179		417,526
NET ASSETS			477,179		417,526
Funds					
Restricted funds	13	-		-	
Designated funds	13	-		-	
Unrestricted funds		477,179		417,526	
	14	477,179		417,526	

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

Approved by the Trustees on 24th March 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of compliance

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Basis of preparation

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Cash flow Statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 for the SORP and therefore did not include a cash flow statement in these financial statements

Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are confident that the charity has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Income in the form of grants and donations have been maintained and costs are reduced due to a reduction in the training opportunities and number of call outs. The charity also has substantial reserves.

Fund accounting policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Designated funds are those set aside by the trustees out of general funds for a specific purpose. Further details of each fund are in Note 13.

Income

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administer/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs of generating funds include investment management fees. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment	15% - 25% straight line basis
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**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 December 2020**

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments

Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the date of the balance sheet. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the period of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the end of the year.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.'

	31 December 2020				1 December 2019
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
2 Donations and legacies (incl Grants)					
Covenants	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	-	13,086	-	13,086	20,000
Donations	-	64,687	-	64,687	47,906
GASDS	-	1,967	-	1,967	15,932
Gift aid	-	3,617	-	3,617	6,462
	-	83,357	-	83,357	90,300
3 Fundraising					
Merchandise sales	-	289	-	289	867
	-	289	-	289	867
4 Investment income					
Listed investments	-	4,103	-	4,103	4,932
Bank interest received	-	2,022	-	2,022	1,893
	-	6,125	-	6,125	6,825

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

	31 December 2020				1 December 2019
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
5 Costs of raising funds					
Investment management fees	-	1,659	-	1,659	1,680
Merchandise purchases	-	-	-	-	5,304
Other fund raising expenses	-	180	-	180	216
	-	1,839	-	1,839	7,200
6 Charitable activities					
Vet and dog costs	-	10,015	-	10,015	9,201
Team equipment, clothing & suppl	-	4,369	-	4,369	10,081
Courses and training	-	15,638	-	15,638	36,157
Incident costs	-	1,277	-	1,277	-
Travel	-	737	-	737	4,731
Insurance	-	307	-	307	4,852
Telephone and communications	-	564	-	564	472
Computer expenses	-	2,191	-	2,191	4,491
Printing, stationery and postage	-	304	-	304	2,402
Accountancy costs	-	500	-	500	1,490
Bank charges	-	17	-	17	(67)
Depreciation equipment	-	4,985	-	4,985	6,344
	-	40,904	-	40,904	80,154

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

Travelling expenses totalling £1,627 were paid out to Trustees. This includes for travel in relation to their roles as Trustees as well as amounts paid out in relation to travel for training and incidents in their roles as active members of the team.

8 Net income / (expenditure)

Net income / (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,985	6,344
Independent examiner's fee	300	300

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
COST		
At 1 January 2020	65,551	65,551
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2020	<u>65,551</u>	<u>65,551</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2020	56,996	56,996
Charge for year	4,985	4,985
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2020	<u>61,981</u>	<u>61,981</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2020	<u>3,570</u>	<u>3,570</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>8,555</u>	<u>8,555</u>

10 Investments held as fixed assets

Market Value	
At 1 January 2020	211,194
Additions	24,378
Disposals	(23,470)
Revaluation	12,625
At 31 December 2020	<u>224,727</u>

11 Debtors

	31 December 2020 £	31 December 2019 £
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
VAT reclaimable	1,424	3,331
Gift aid due	777	1,122
Payments on account	-	-
	<u>2,201</u>	<u>4,453</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2020 £	31 December 2019 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

LDMR Search Dogs Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

13 Net Assets by fund	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,570	-	3,570
Investments	-	224,727	-	224,727
Current assets	-	248,882	-	248,882
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	477,179	-	477,179

Net Assets by fund - Comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	8,555	-	8,555
Investments	-	211,194	-	211,194
Current assets	-	197,777	-	197,777
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	-	0	-	0
Total net assets	-	417,526	-	417,526