

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053912**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
FOR  
GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL**

Bevan Buckland LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Ground Floor Cardigan House  
Castle Court  
Swansea Enterprise Park  
Swansea, Wales  
SA7 9LA

# **GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL**

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**GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Legal and administrative information**

Gower Bird Hospital is based at and operated from Valetta, Sandy Lane, Pennard, Swansea, SA3 2EW, the home of Simon Allen and Karen Kingsnorth.

Gower Bird Hospital was established by a Deed of Trust made on 8 March 1996. The objectives of the charity are to relieve the suffering of birds and animals which are in need of care and attention, in particular by the provision of a hospital for the care and rehabilitation of such birds and animals; and to return to their natural habitat those which are fully cured.

**Achievements in 2023:**

Gower bird hospital continued to provide a high standard of care and rehabilitation for all wildlife casualties brought to the Hospital.

The charity does not keep any disabled wild bred bird or animal in permanent captivity as we believe this causes unnecessary suffering and is not in the interest of the individual's welfare or best use of public funds.

1156 wildlife casualties were brought to Gower Bird Hospital in 2023 - a breakdown of admissions can be seen below.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Birds</b>	Laridae (gulls)	105	9%
	<b>79%</b> Turdidae (thrushes, blackbirds, robins)	87	8%
	<b>909</b> Corvidae (crows, magpies, jackdaws, jays)	108	9%
	Columbidae (doves and pigeons)	263	22%
	Anatidae (ducks geese, swans)	58	5%
	Birds of prey (owls, buzzards, kites, sparrowhawks)	43	4%
	Paridae (tits)	24	2%
	Others	221	19%
<b>Mammals</b>	Erinaceidae (hedgehogs)	204	18%
	<b>21%</b> Vespertilionidae (bats)	38	4%
	<b>247</b> Others (other mammals, amphibians, reptiles)	5	1%

19 domestic birds (racing pigeons and domestic doves) were brought to Gower Bird Hospital. Domestic birds were reunited with their owners or referred to RSPCA approved facilities.

Allowing for birds and animals that did not survive the first 48 hours after admission, 71% of wildlife casualties were successfully released back into the wild.

## **Research, Education and Collaboration**

### **National Conservation Strategy for the European hedgehog in Britain:**

Gower Bird Hospital was asked to be part of the main group of stakeholders. The group were responsible for leading the process of strategy design and ensuring a balanced representation of perspectives on hedgehog conservation and management. The strategy report will be published in 2024.

### **Swansea University Hedgehog Gene Flow Project:**

Gower Bird Hospital supplied material for DNA and data for geographic analyses. The work has now been completed and we hope to see a scientific paper published from the work in 2024.

### **Liverpool University:**

The collaboration with Liverpool paper "A non-invasive feather-based methodology for the detection of blood parasites (Haemosporida)" has been published in Scientific Reports journal and is currently available from DOI

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-43932-y>

### **The Sanger Institute and The Darwin Tree of Life Project:**

Processing of hedgehog tissue and lugworms is ongoing and we hope to see results in 2024.

### **British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (BWRC)**

Simon Allen, one of Gower Bird Hospital's trustees was appointed co-chair of the BWRC.

## **Facilities**

The aviary block which encompasses aviaries four to eight was refurbished.

One of our aquapens had a new roof fitted.

Aviaries one and two were rebuilt completely.

## **Goals for 2024**

To benefit the public and wildlife welfare by providing advice and a wildlife rehabilitation service.

To continue providing a high standard of care for displaced wildlife, whether it is accidental, deliberate or natural. We hope to renew and enlarge our biggest flight aviary which is used for the rehabilitation of larger birds such as raptors. We also need to renew two more aviaries needing an upgrade.

Gower Bird Hospital will also continue with its collaborations to improve working relationships in research, standards and education.

Update and amend our current constitution to better reflect the work carried out by the charity.

## **Reserves policy**

The trustees' policy is to maintain cash reserves sufficient to cover about 12 months of normal activity.

At 31st December 2023 unrestricted cash reserves amounted to £113,691 and restricted reserves amounted to £2,500. The trustees have also designated £65,000 towards a new wildlife rehabilitation centre.

This report was approved by the trustees on.....and signed on their behalf by

Simon Allen- **Trustee**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL**

I report on the accounts of Gower Bird Hospital (charity number 1053912) for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 5-7.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report**

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 examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In 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:

- (a) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- (b) To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Henry Lloyd Davies  
Bevan Buckland LLP  
Chartered Accountants

Date.....

Ground Floor Cardigan House  
Castle Court  
Swansea Enterprise Park  
Swansea, Wales  
SA7 9LA

# GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and similar income	54,549	-	-	54,549	66,028
Fund raising		-	-	-	-
Fees for charitable services	6,021	-	-	6,021	6,820
Bank Interest	822	-	-	822	221
Government Grants	-			-	10,000
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>61,392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,392</b>	<b>83,068</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Cost of fund raising	-	-	-	-	722
Cost of charitable activities	9,900	-	-	9,900	12,856
Wages and salaries	34,559	-	-	34,559	28,147
Establishment costs	17,426	-	-	17,426	6,139
Administration expenses	4,516	-	-	4,516	4,268
Professional fees	1,068	-	-	1,068	966
	67,470	-	-	67,470	53,098
Purchase of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	1,180
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>67,470</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,470</b>	<b>54,278</b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments) for the year</b>	<b>(6,078)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6,078)</b>	<b>28,790</b>
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	120,023	65,000	2,500	187,523	158,733
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>113,945</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>181,445</b>	<b>187,523</b>

# GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash funds</b>		
Bank Accounts	180,872	186,972
Cash in hand	394	744
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	181,265	187,716
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>		
Debtors	352	461
Inland Revenue (Gift Aid)	5,000	7,000
Donations in advance	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,352	7,461
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Assets retained for charity's own use</b>		
Buildings, aviaries, pens, runs, CCTV systems, radio tracking, computers, cameras, research, surgical & sundry equipment, mobile phone, Medical Fridge Nilfish Powerhouse, at a cost, including donated labour and materials of £58,386 (2020: £56,106)		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Suppliers	249	366
Professional fee for independent examination	1,128	1,044
Accrual		
PAYE & NI		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,377	1,410
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These accounts were approved by the trustees on.....  
and signed on their behalf by

.....

Simon Allen

**Trustee**

## **GOWER BIRD HOSPITAL**

### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Karen Kingsnorth, an employee, and Simon Allen, a trustee, are joint owners of the premises from which the charity operates.

No rent is charged to the charity for the use of the accommodation but electricity, heating oil and telephone which are all metered separately for the charity's use of £4,897 (2022: £3,740), initially met by Ms Kingsnorth and Mr Allen, are reclaimed.

During the year a gross wage of £22,325 (2022: £20,800) was paid to Ms Kingsnorth.

None of the trustees received any remuneration nor expenses during the year.

#### **DESIGNATED FUNDS**

The charity has designated £65,000 towards a new wildlife rehabilitation centre.