

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1086027

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2001-04-04

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 36 Greatwood Terrace
Topsham
Exeter
EX3 0EB

Phone 01392875930

Email THESEAHORSETRUST@GMAIL.COM

Website www.theseahorsetrust.org

Activities

Objects: 1. TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES OF MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL FLORA AND FAUNA AND IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, SEAHORSES AND RELATED SPECIES.2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC GENERALLY ABOUT WILD FLORA AND FAUNA.3. TO CONDUCT RESEARCH AND ENQUIRY INTO ENDANGERED SPECIES OF MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL FLORA AND FAUNA AND, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY SEAHORSES AND RELATED SPECIES, AND TO PUBLISH THE RESULTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Activities: The Seahorse Trust is an advisory, educational and research charity that looks into and studies Seahorses and the environment worldwide

Classification

- **How:** Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE WORLDWIDE
- Jordan
- Malta
- Spain
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£45,506	£43,954	-	-
2024-03-31	£38,996	£38,887	-	-
2023-03-31	£69,553	£41,887	-	-
2022-03-31	£55,919	£33,673	-	-
2021-03-31	£32,603	£32,333	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Barbara Gainswin		2021-06-25
Lydia Morrison		2022-07-25
Tim Haywood		2021-06-25

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1086027

Accounts

The Seahorse Trust End of year report

2025

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31ST MARCH 2025**

The
Seahorse
Trust



**WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH NATURE**

Registered charity no 1086027

The Seahorse Trust

Year to 31st March 2025

INDEX

Index	Page No.
Officers, advisers and details	3
Report of the Trustees	4-5
General and Financial Review	6-10
Facebook	9-11
Adoption and membership scheme	12
Website	12
Patrons	12
Financial policy	13
Statement of financial activities	14
Notes to the accounts	15

Officers, advisors and details during 2024/25

Trustees Tim Haywood (Chairman), Dr Barbara Gainswin (Treasurer), Lydia Morrison

Director Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA

Patrons Kate Humble Chris Packham
Kirsty Jones Mark Carwardine
Ellie Harrison Sir Hugo Swire MP

Registered Charity No 1086027

Registered Address 36 Greatwood Terrace
Topsham,
Devon EX3 0EB

Tel. no 07876513628

E-mail thesehorsetrust@gmail.org

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thesehorsetrust/>

Twitter https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity/with_replies

Web sites www.thesehorsetrust.org

Independent examiner Anthony Roberts FTCA
7 Totnes Road
Paignton
Devon TQ4 5JX

Bankers Lloyds TSB
234 High Street
Exeter
Devon EX4 3NL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR 2024 -2025

The Director and Trustees have the pleasure in presenting their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act and The Statement of Recommended Practice.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law 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 its financial activities for that year which properly presents the charity's income and expenditure for the year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the policies are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

ADMINISTRATION

The Charitable Trust and its property shall be administered and managed by the Trustees under the name of [THE SEAHORSE TRUST](#) or by such other name as the Trustees from time to time decide with the approval of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

There shall be at least two trustees, and future trustees shall be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a trustees meeting.

Trustees who acted during the year were: Tim Haywood, Dr Barbara Gainswin, Lydia Morrison

The Trust's bankers are: Lloyds TSB
234 High Street,
Exeter.
Devon
EX4 3NL

The Independent examiner is: Anthony Roberts FTCA.
7 Totnes Road,
Paignton,
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TQ4 5JX

OBJECTS

The Trustees shall hold the trust fund and its income upon trust to apply them for the following objects ('the objects'):

- To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and conservation of rare and endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna and in particular but not exclusively, seahorses and related species.
- To advance the education of the public generally about wild flora and fauna.
- To conduct research and enquiry into endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna, and in particular, but not exclusively, seahorses and related species and to publish the results for the benefit of the general public.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a registered charity No. **1086027** and governed by the Declaration of Trust dated 12th August 2000 as amended by a supplemental deed dated 27th January 2001.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2024/2025

Here is a summary of key events and updates from the 2024/25 year. While we couldn't include everything due to space constraints, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this year a success.

To make this report easier to read, we've listed project highlights as bullet points. For comprehensive details, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust> and our website at <https://www.theseahorsetrust.org/>

Volunteers are the backbone of The Seahorse Trust. Without their dedication and generosity, our work would not be possible. We are deeply grateful to each of them for donating their time.

Due to health challenges, our director Neil was unable to dive as frequently this year. However, our exceptional team of volunteers and licensed agents stepped up, conducting numerous surveys on behalf of The Seahorse Trust. Their efforts have solidified our position as the leading seahorse researchers in the UK.

Without a doubt Facebook is our major social media platform and this year it has risen considerably in numbers joining the platform to follow our work. As of the 20th of October 2025, when this report was being written we had 11,450 followers.

British Seahorse Survey

Again, this year we have been dogged by east winds, this is a direct result of global warming, and this has reduced the amount of diving in the early part of the year.

We now have a number of sites that fall under the British Seahorse Survey, in total we have 6 sites from Selsey Bill in Hampshire down to Torbay in Devon.

Torbay was new in 2024, and initial surveys kindly funded by the BSAC Jubilee fund. It has already been successful in finding a larger seagrass meadow than we expected and both species of Seahorse, these were found on the second and third dives.

Weymouth and The Fleet in Dorset are being overseen by Chris Brown from the Sealife Trust, his daughter Chloe and a great team of volunteers under our licence. They are having great results and have formed a large team to assist. So far, they have repeatedly seen about 20 to 30 seahorses, helping us to build our knowledge of the species in the area.

Studland Bay is being overseen by Dr Ken Collins from Southampton University under our licence. Ken has over 150 volunteers and has had approximately 46 individual seahorse sightings this year, with about 3,000 hours put into the project so far, since 2008.

Ali Mayor is overseeing Selsey Bill under our licence and will be involved in the new 3 Harbours Project.

The National, now World Seahorse Database is the largest running project of its kind and was founded in 1994 by trust founder Neil. It underpins so much of our research and has allowed us to understand so much about these elusive animals.

Media coverage

Every year we are lucky enough to get incredible coverage in the media, and this year has not been any different, below are some of the highlights.

Devon Life has done a feature on our work

<https://www.greatbritishlife.co.uk/magazines/devon/25395991.inside-seahorse-trust-based-wildwood>

Chloe took part in International Day of Woman and Girls in Science and did an interview for the BBC that was listened to by millions of girls and women. Chloe is fast becoming a figurehead for girls wanting to go into marine conservation.

Neil did an interview with BSAC about the work at Studland after receiving a grant from them.

https://www.bsac.com/news-and-blog/snorkelling-through-seagrass-searching-for-seahorses/?fbclid=IwY2xjawNi_TpleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHuKAPAGIUb28pkoorf5QkuRznZGJI1VSY2pFfgk3Wt-LC2TPtHWGVLDt5wM_aem_tdsiLMPzUrE8g24i09DPAw

Kirsty Jo who oversees the Malta Project did an interview on podcast

https://open.spotify.com/episode/1uLdGQbh4RpXhAgNMS6Eft?si=2A2OLWmERIKmEBXlwAvN_Gw&sfnsn=wa&fbclid=IwY2xjawNi_m1leHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHhRvH6XZx5tM-7Qck97qR7T-Kf_FBefhlwzXnYxfwIGtD7S7YXefn1QaFPN_aem_cuTAW8cU-gWMhvYHg33xng&nd=1&dlsi=a9d5823ddcda47d8

The Seahorse Trust is now the go to charity for the media and information about seahorses, not just here in the UK but also wider afield.

Teaching

Neil has overseen Kirsty-Jho Muddiman's Master's degree through Bournemouth University.

Becky has taught a number of Seahorse Ecology and Survey courses online.

Neil taught the Seahorse survey Course to 20 volunteers who are now listed as volunteers at Studland, helping Dr Ken Collins out.

Awards

Chloe was awarded the Young Coastal Champion by Dorset Coast Forum for her work with the trust in surveying for seahorses in Weymouth, at the time she was only 16.

Neil was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the British Naturalist Association in recognition of his work in natural history.

Fund raising

We have a number of business such as [Sea Adora](#), [Wildflower Favours](#), [Scapa Joe](#), [Sails and Canvas](#), [Bare kind](#) amongst so many others that kindly make donations to our work. These regular donations make all the difference to our work and a massive thank you to them all for this. These shops and websites can located through our website @ <https://www.theseahorsetrust.org/sponsors-page/>

Our long term relationship with [Salcombe Brewery](#) which sells [Seahorse Ale](#) (does not contain seahorses but is a finely crafted ale), raises funds for us through the sale of their bottled ale which raised just over £2,311 this year.

The Annual Studland Bay Seahorse Swim raised £1,000 for us, which is the highest yet.

The [BSAC Jubilee Trust](#) donated £2,088 to hire a boat 3 times to start our project in Torbay. This project is already a success and a massive thank you to them for this donation.

[Harbour Hounds](#) raised £5,000 from the sale of its dog products, making The Seahorse Trust a beneficiary of its donations.

We now have a QR code so that donors can donate to our work online and already we are finding people using this way of donating which is great news. A massive thank you to Ellen from Seahorse Communications for putting it together for us.



An unusual fund raiser for us was to collect Ferrero Roche boxes to keep dried seahorse specimens in, which we use for our ongoing research. We ended up with over 150 boxes and luckily some of them came with chocolates in.

The family and friends of Judith Cochrane raised £196 in her memory instead of buying flowers for the service. Thank you to them all for thinking of us, apparently The Seahorse Trust was one of her favourite charities.

Blue Reef aquariums at [Newquay](#), [Bristol](#), [Portsmouth](#) and [Hastings](#) raised just over £1,000 from their visitors for our work. Thank you for all their hard work.

Events

The Boat show in Southampton has become an annual event with our partners <https://www.boatfolk.co.uk/our-sustainable-future> Boatfolk marina and boating services company. They have been incredible in their support to us, and it is great to work with them on a variety of projects.

We attended Open day at Studland Beach where trust director Neil did a survey dive and when he came out of the water, he shared images and knowledge with members of the public.

Blue Wilson has walked the coast and popped into see Neil and Maxine at The Seahorse Trust. They accompanied Blue for part of her walk to help support her.

https://www.exmouthjournal.co.uk/news/24604325.blue-wilson-resumes-uk-coastline-walk-exmouth-october-19/?fbclid=IwY2xjawNjAZtleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHuKAPAGIUb28pkoorf5QkuRznZGJI1VSY2pFfgk3Wt-LC2TPtHWGVLDt5wM_aem_tdsiLMPzUrE8g24i09DPAw



[Boatfolk](#) attended the Southampton Boat Show in September and won a number of environmental awards again. [Environmental Pledge and awards](#)

Boat Folk have been incredible supporters of The Seahorse Trust and our work at Studland Bay in Dorset through the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#) that we cofounded together. This partnership has now installed [87 ecomoorings](#) into Studland Bay and the seagrass is recovering and seahorse numbers increasing.

Projects

Hydrophones were placed by student Annabelle from Southampton University into Studland Bay and initial results have shown it to be the noisiest place on earth underwater

With our partners in Denmark, we have proven seahorses are in the North Sea including in countries such as Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland and France. This was groundbreaking research and most 'experts' assume them to be tropical, whereas all of our work at The Seahorse Trust has proven this is not the case. We even have a record off Nova Scotia.

As well as our ongoing projects we started a new one last year in Torbay and have already discovered it is a larger seagrass meadow than originally thought and has both species of seahorses, congers eels, various crabs and so many others species in it. We aim to use it as a compare and contrast site to Studland for so many reasons and hope to study it for the next 5 years at least.

The Seahorse Trust formed a partnership with Susan Smillie in Greece and set up a Seahorse survey there. Susan is now the coordinator for Greece but in her specific area in the Ambracian Gulf she has an unusual number of seahorses, made especially unique because of all the other rare and endangered species in the area, such as Monk Seals and Pen Shells.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of the trust and every year we have hundreds of them working in various capacities, but a special mention should be made to Kim, Paul, Chris, Chloe and Ali in diving here in the UK and Teresa and Kim for their work on the curio trade.

Malta project

The Malta Project is going from strength to strength and volunteers Kirsty-Jo and Susie have done an incredible job in getting divers out there looking for seahorses but more crucially in getting them to report the record back to us. The Malta Seahorse Project is going to develop and become much larger over the next few years.

Curio Project

Kim and Teresa have worked hard on the Curio trade project this year and managed to get many items taken off the internet. Sadly, Facebook has failed to communicate with us for over 3 years, even though we are a Trusted Partner. Where we are failing on Facebook we are succeeding strongly on eBay and luckily now have a personalized contact who removes items for us.

Seahorse eco course

Have you ever wondered why a seahorse is like it is? What makes these ‘little horses of the sea’ so unique and so well adapted to their watery world? Are they a fish, a monkey or a chameleon? Seahorses show so many traits from so many different species, it is hard to decide exactly what they are; the Victorians thought they were insects. In this unique online course, you will find out the answers to these questions and many more. Our new online Seahorse Biology, Ecology and Conservation course allows you to learn about this enigmatic species at your own pace and includes 12 sessions on topics such as Taxonomy and Diversity, Camouflage and Colour Change, Migration, Human Impacts and Conservation Measures to name but a few, along with an online Learners Community.

The full online course costs just £65 – giving you unlimited access to 13 learning modules. The Introductory Session is free to access, so if you wish to learn more about the course and what we do at the Trust please click the image above and to get in touch with us please email [Beccy seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk](mailto:seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk)

This course was kindly funded by [Sea Changers](#),

Seahorse Survey Course

Like the ecology course above we have designed an online course to teach about how to survey for seahorses and what to do and most importantly what NOT to do, when you find one in the sea. This vital course directly helps to conserve seahorses by stopping stress and disturbance to seahorses when divers do a survey for seahorses.

In the UK it is a legal requirement to have a license issued by the Marine Management Organisation to seek out seahorses in the wild.

This course is £65 but if you choose to do both courses together it is £120.

Thanks goes to the [Postcode Local Trust](#) who kindly funded the writing of this course.

Wildwood Trust

Thank you so much to [Wildwood Trust](#) who kindly hosts our office free of charge at their centre near Ottery St Mary in Devon. [Wildwood Escot](#) has a number of native British and European species such as Wild Cat, Lynx, Red Squirrel, Boar, Fox, Beaver and now Wolves.

They are a progressive charity that supports Rewilding projects throughout the UK and are involved in bringing back former native species to our countryside, such as Red squirrel and Beavers and hopefully in the future Lynx.

Facebook

Spreading the word about Seahorses, the natural world and the work of the trust is very important and we have a website with a newsletter page The newsletter is sent out to over

2,000 people by email each time we publish one. We no longer send newsletters out by post due to costs. We also have a highly interactive Facebook page which now has over 4500 members.

Thanks go to all who kindly administer this site for us as well as holding down full time very busy job

Adoption and membership schemes (UK only)

Our adoption and membership scheme has increased considerably this year in numbers mainly because we are becoming internationally recognised now for our work with seahorses and because we have changed the format of how to adopt or become a member.

The figures for Adoption and Membership are encouraging, in 2024-2025 it was £12762.32 whereas in 2023-2024 it was £11,401.37 which is up by £1,360.95

It shows that although the scheme has been and is successful in terms of funds, but we need to increase numbers of adoptions and memberships. more work needs to be done on this.

Website

We would like to say a special thank you to Gavin who often does work for us for free and without his input we would not have such a great website. Here at the Trust, we highly recommend him, and he can be found on his website at <http://www.gslsolutions.co.uk/>

Patrons

We are very lucky here at the trust in having the support of some well-known names as patrons and I would like to thank one and all for their superb help and support over the last twelve months.

Kate Humble	http://www.katehumble.com
Chris Packham	http://www.chrispackham.co.uk
Kirsty Jones	http://www.kirstyjones.com
Mark Carwardine	http://www.markcarwardine.com
Ellie Harrison	http://www.ellie-harrison.com/
Monty Halls	http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/
Sir Hugo Swire	https://www.hugoswire.org.uk/

FINANCIAL POLICY

RESERVES POLICY

It is the intention of the Charity only to maintain reserves at the level required to fund its ongoing commitments.

RISKS ASSESSMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and consider measures have been taken to mitigate such risks.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on pages 14 to 15.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of s43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s43(7) (b) of the Act, 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 by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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 EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. That gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.
 - Have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

The Balance Sheet below and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited 7 Totnes Road **PAIGNTON** Devon

10th November 2025

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2025

- **ACCOUNTING BASIS**
These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practise, accounting and reporting by charities.
- **INCOMING RESOURCES**
Income is credited in the period it is received.
- **STAFF EMOLUMENTS**
Total cost of administrator's fees inclusive was £36,533.88
No employee received emoluments above £50,000
- **INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**
Cost £396
- **VOLUNTEERS**
No value is placed on volunteer's time.
- **TRUSTEES**
No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year.

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1086027

Accounts

The Seahorse Trust End of year report

2024

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31ST MARCH 2024**

The
Seahorse
Trust



**WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH NATURE**

Registered charity no 1086027

The Seahorse Trust

Year to 31st March 2024

INDEX

Index	Page No.
Officers, advisers and details	3
Report of the Trustees	4-5
General and Financial Review	6-10
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Officers, advisors and details during 2022/23

Trustees	Tim Haywood (Chairman), Dr Barbara Gainswin (Treasurer), Lydia Morrison	
Director	Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA	
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Registered Charity No	1086027	
Registered Address	36 Greatwood Terrace Topsham, Devon	EX3 0EB
Tel. no	07876513628	
E-mail	theseahorsetrust@gmail.org	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/	
Twitter	https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity/with_replies	
Web sites	www.theseahorsetrust.org	
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LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a registered charity No. **1086027** and governed by the Declaration of Trust dated 12th August 2000 as amended by a supplemental deed dated 27th January 2001.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023/2024

Below is a round-up of some of the news and occurrences during the 2023/24 year; there have been many more but there is just not enough space in this report to fit it all in. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved who has made this happen.

For ease of reading, we have put the highlights of the projects as bullet points, please see our Facebook page and websites for full details of our work.

British Seahorse Survey

- We now have a number of sites that fall under the British Seahorse Survey
- Torbay is new in 2024 and kindly funded by the BSAC Jubilee fund. It has already been successful in finding a larger seagrass meadow than we expected and both species of Seahorse.
- Weymouth is being overseen by Chris brown from the Sealife Trust and his daughter Chloe under our licence. They are having great results and have formed a large team to assist.
- Studland Bay is being overseen by Dr Ken Collins from Southampton University under our licence. Ken has over 50 volunteers and has had approximately 48 seahorse sightings this year.
- Ali Mayor is overseeing Selsey Bill under our licence and will be involved in the new 3 Harbours Project.
- It is the largest running project of its kind and was founded in 1994 by trust founder Neil.

Media coverage

- Every year we are lucky enough to get incredible coverage in the media and this year has not been any different.
- The BBC has featured us on radio and TV, and we have been in lots of mainstream and local programs.
- The online Scubaverse featured us online which targeted a specific audience for us.
- We have lost count of the number of newspapers and magazines we have featured in or assisted by providing information or pictures to. It is great that the trust is considered to be a reliable source for information and pictures
- We featured in Dorset Coast and Country on Channel 5 which showcased the work of the trust at Studland and Weymouth Bay.

- The Sealife Trust filmed the Seahorse Trust and Chris and Chloe in a short documentary about the work of both organisations, which will be shown throughout the world at Sealife centres.

Teaching

- Beccy taught a large group at the National Trust in Studland about our work
- Chris and Chole attended the Porcupine Conference and other events and talked about our joint work

Awards

- Chloe was awarded the Young Coastal Champion by Dorset Coast Forum for her work with the trust in surveying for seahorses in Weymouth, at the time she was only 16.

Patrons

- Lord Swire has now entered the House of Lords and is still asking questions in the House on Seahorses and Conservation.

Fund raising

- Blue Reefs aquariums raised almost £1,500 through the coin collectors in four of their aquariums, which is incredible and a great ongoing partnership.
- Salcombe Brewery sells Seahorse Ale and raises funds for us through the sale of their bottled ale which raised just over £2,000 this year.
- The Annual Studland Bay Seahorse Swim raised £1,000 for us, which is the highest yet.
- Richer Sounds made a donation of £15,000 towards ecomoorings for Studland Bay which was an amazing donation, helping seahorses and conservation.
- Conservation Foundation also donated £1,000 towards the Ecomoorings and here at the Trust we managed to match fund it from smaller donations.
- Mermaid Atlantic did an incredible feat to raise money for us by rowing across the Atlantic and though doing this raised about £7,000, Xavier and his incredible team earned every penny in this grueling race.
- The BSAC Jubilee Trust donated to hire a boat 3 times to start our project in Torbay. This project is already a success and a massive thank you to them for this donation.
- We now have a QR code so that donors can donate to our work online and already we are finding people using this way of donating which is great news. A massive thank you to Ellen from Seahorse Communications for putting it together for us.
- An unusual fund raiser for us was to collect Ferrero Roche boxes to keep dried seahorse specimens in which we use for our ongoing research. We ended up with over 150 boxes and luckily some of them came with chocolates in.

Events

- The Boat show in Southampton has become an annual event with our partners Boatfolk marina and boating services company. They have been an incredible support to us and it is great to work with them on a variety of projects.
- We attended Open day at Studland Beach where trust director Neil did a survey dive and when he came out of the water he shared images and knowledge with members of the public.

Projects

- Hydrophones were placed by student Annabelle from Southampton University into Studland Bay and initial results have shown it to be the noisiest place on earth underwater
- With our partners in Denmark we have proven seahorses are in the North Sea including in countries such as Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland and France.
- As well as our ongoing projects we started a new one this year in Torbay and have already discovered it is a larger seagrass meadow than originally thought and has both species of seahorses, congers eels, various crabs and so many others species in it. We aim to use it as a compare and contrast site to Studland for so many reasons and hope to study it for the next 5 years at least.

Volunteers

- Volunteers are the backbone of the trust and every year we have hundreds of them working in various capacities but a special mention should be made to Kim, Paul, Chris, Chloe and Ali in diving here in the UK and Teresa and Kim for their work on the curio trade.

Malta project

- The Malta Project is going from strength to strength and volunteers Kirsty-Jo and Susie have done an incredible job in getting divers out there looking for seahorses but more crucially in getting them to report the record back to us. The Malta Seahorse Project is going to develop and become much larger over the next few years.

Curio Project

- Kim and Teresa have worked hard on the Curio trade project this year and managed to get many items taken off the internet. Sadly, Facebook has failed to communicate with us for over 3 years, even though we are a Trusted Partner. Where we are failing on Facebook we are succeeding strongly on eBay and luckily now have a personalized contact who removes items for us.

Seahorse eco course

Have you ever wondered why a seahorse is like it is? What makes these ‘little horses of the sea’ so unique and so well adapted to their watery world? Are they a fish, a monkey or a chameleon? Seahorses show so many traits from so many different species, it is hard to decide exactly what they are; the Victorians thought they were insects. In this unique online course, you will find out the answers to these questions and many more. Our new online Seahorse Biology, Ecology and Conservation course allows you to learn about this enigmatic species at your own pace and includes 12 sessions on topics such as Taxonomy and Diversity, Camouflage and Colour Change, Migration, Human Impacts and Conservation Measures to name but a few, along with an online Learners Community.

The full online course costs just £65 – giving you unlimited access to 13 learning modules. The Introductory Session is free to access, so if you wish to learn more about the course and what we do at the Trust please click the image above and to get in touch with us please email seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk

This course was kindly funded by [Sea Changers](#),

Seahorse Survey Course

Like the ecology course above we have designed an online course to teach about how to survey for seahorses and what to do and most importantly what NOT to do, when you find one in the sea. This vital course directly helps to conserve seahorses by stopping stress and disturbance to seahorses when divers do a survey for seahorses.

In the UK it is a legal requirement to have a license issued by the Marine Management Organisation to seek out seahorses in the wild.

This course is £65 but if you choose to do both courses together it is £120.

Thanks goes to the [Postcode Local Trust](#) who kindly funded the writing of this course.

Wildwood Trust

Thank you so much to [Wildwood Trust](#) who kindly hosts our office free of charge at their centre near Ottery St Mary in Devon. [Wildwood Escot](#) has a number of native British and European species such as Wild Cat, Lynx, Red Squirrel, Boar, Fox, Beaver and now Wolves.

They are a progressive charity that supports Rewilding projects throughout the UK and are involved in bringing back former native species to our countryside, such as Red squirrel and Beavers and hopefully in the future Lynx.

Facebook

Spreading the word about Seahorses, the natural world and the work of the trust is very important and we have a website with a newsletter page (The newsletter is sent out to over

2,000 people by email each time we publish one. We no longer send newsletters out by post due to costs. We also have a highly interactive Facebook page which now has over 6,000 members (5,400 last year).

Thanks go to all who kindly administer this site for us as well as holding down full time very busy job

Adoption and membership schemes (UK only)

Our adoption and membership scheme has increased considerably this year in numbers mainly because we are becoming internationally recognised now for our work with seahorses and because we have changed the format of how to adopt or become a member.

The figures for Adoption and Membership are encouraging, in 2022-2023 it was £9,955.21 whereas in 20223-2024 it was up to £11,401.37 which is up by £1,446.16.

It averages at £950.11 per month and the average donation per month is £7.89.

The average number of adoptees and members has risen per month to 120 from 116.

It shows that although the scheme has been and is successful in terms of funds, but we need to increase numbers of adoptions and memberships. more work needs to be done on this.

Website

We would like to say a special thank you to Gavin who often does work for us for free and without his input we would not have such a great website. Here at the Trust, we highly recommend him, and he can be found on his website at <http://www.gslsolutions.co.uk/>

Patrons

We are very lucky here at the trust in having the support of some well-known names as patrons and I would like to thank one and all for their superb help and support over the last twelve months.

Kate Humble	http://www.katehumble.com
Chris Packham	http://www.chrispackham.co.uk
Kirsty Jones	http://www.kirstyjones.com
Mark Carwardine	http://www.markcarwardine.com
Ellie Harrison	http://www.ellie-harrison.com/
Monty Halls	http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/
Sir Hugo Swire	https://www.hugoswire.org.uk/

FINANCIAL POLICY

RESERVES POLICY

It is the intention of the Charity only to maintain reserves at the level required to fund its ongoing commitments.

RISKS ASSESSMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and consider measures have been taken to mitigate such risks.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 14 to 15.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of s43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s43(7) (b) of the Act, 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 by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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 EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. That gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.
 - Have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

INCOME	2024	2023
General Fund		
Donations	23696.79	56944
Gift Aid - HMRC Recovery	1807.94	1814
Income from Adoption Scheme	11401.37	9857
Fees Received Ecology Course	430.00	705
Collections	1652.40	2388
Courses/Other Income	7.41	1710
Restricted Fund		
Restricted Fund	39500.00	
Expenses	39500.00	
	0.00	3864
TOTAL INCOME	£ 38995.91	£ 69554
LESS : EXPENSES		
Administrator Fees	35072.13	34549
Equipment	116.64	273
Stationery and General Office Costs & Leaflets	377.81	344
Accountancy Charges	348.00	348
Website and Domain Costs	194.39	2130
Telephone	170.83	485
Insurances	752.36	937
Travel and Accommodation	100.13	
Computer and Software Costs	931.21	242
Vehicle Running Costs	823.94	944
	38887.44	41353.88
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£ 108.47	£ 27666
Surplus Brought Forward		
General Fund	60270.24	58968
Restricted Funds	26363.76	
Restricted Funds distributed	26283.50	
	60458.97	86634
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	£ 60458.97	£ 86634
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2023		
REPRESENTED BY --		
Equipment	1015.33	1015
Lloyds Current Account		
- General Fund	59710.62	59602
- Malta Project	80.26	2364
- New		24000
Cash in Hand	0.76	1
Less:		
Creditors and Accrued Expenses	348.00	348
	0.00	86634
	£ 60458.97	£ 86634

The above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited
7 Totnes Road
PAIGNTON
Devon


29th July 2024

The Balance Sheet below and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited 7 Totnes Road **PAIGNTON** Devon

29th July 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

- **ACCOUNTING BASIS**
These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practise, accounting and reporting by charities.
- **INCOMING RESOURCES**
Income is credited in the period it is received.
- **STAFF EMOLUMENTS**
Total cost of administrator's fees inclusive was £35,072.13
No employee received emoluments above £50,000
- **INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**
Cost £348
- **VOLUNTEERS**
No value is placed on volunteer's time.
- **TRUSTEES**
No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year.

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1086027

Accounts

The Seahorse Trust End of year report

2023

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31ST MARCH 2023**

The
Seahorse
Trust



**WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH NATURE**

Registered charity no 1086027

The Seahorse Trust

Year to 31st March 2023

INDEX

Index	Page No.
Officers, advisers and details	3
Report of the Trustees	4-5
General and Financial Review	6-8
Facebook and Twitter	9
Fundraising	10
Adoption and membership scheme	10
Website	10/11
Patrons	11
Financial policy	12/13
Statement of financial activities	14
Notes to the accounts	15

Officers, advisors and details during 2022/23

Trustees	Tim Haywood (Chairman), Dr Barbara Gainswin (Treasurer), Lydia Morrison, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Harry Wright.	
Director	Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA	
Patrons	Kate Humble Kirsty Jones Ellie Harrison	Chris Packham Mark Carwardine Sir Hugo Swire MP
Registered Charity No	1086027	
Registered Address	36 Greatwood Terrace Topsham, Devon EX3 0EB	
Tel. no	01392 875930	07876513628
E-mail	theseahorsetrust@gmail.org	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/	
Twitter	https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity/with_replies	
Web sites	www.theseahorsetrust.org	
Independent examiner	Anthony Roberts FTCA 7 Totnes Road Paignton Devon TQ4 5JX	
Bankers	Lloyds TSB 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3NL	

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR 2022 -2023

The Director and Trustees have the pleasure in presenting their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act and The Statement of Recommended Practice.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law 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 its financial activities for that year which properly presents the charity's income and expenditure for the year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the policies are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

ADMINISTRATION

The Charitable Trust and its property shall be administered and managed by the Trustees under the name of [THE SEAHORSE TRUST](#) or by such other name as the Trustees from time to time decide with the approval of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

There shall be at least two trustees and future trustees shall be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a trustees meeting.

Trustees who acted during the year were: Tim Haywood, Dr Barbara Gainswin, Lydia Morrison
Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Harry Wright

The Trust's bankers are: Lloyds TSB
234 High Street,
Exeter.
Devon
EX4 3NL

The Independent examiner is: Anthony Roberts FTCA.
7 Totnes Road,
Paignton,
Devon.
TQ4 5JX

OBJECTS

The Trustees shall hold the trust fund and its income upon trust to apply them for the following objects ('the objects'):

- To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and conservation of rare and endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna and in particular but not exclusively, seahorses and related species.
- To advance the education of the public generally about wild flora and fauna.
- To conduct research and enquiry into endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna, and in particular, but not exclusively, seahorses and related species and to publish the results for the benefit of the general public.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a registered charity No. **1086027** and governed by the Declaration of Trust dated 12th August 2000 as amended by a supplemental deed dated 27th January 2001.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2022/2023

Below is a round-up of some of the news and occurrences during the 2022/32 year; there have been many more but there is just not enough space in this report to fit it all in. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved who has made this happen.

Trust founder awarded the David Bellamy Award for Conservation

Trust founder Neil was awarded the David Bellamy Award for distinction as a field naturalist by the [British Naturalist Association](#). at an event at the Natural History Museum in London

The award was set up by the late David Bellamy and it was awarded to Neil for his work with seahorses for the last 48 years.

In accepting the award Neil thanked his wife Maxine for her incredible support and also the thousands of volunteers who have helped over the years with [The Seahorse Trust](#) and its survey work.



The [British Naturalist Association](#) is the longest-running association of its kind and is the National Body for Naturalists and has some amazing people in it such as Sir David Attenborough and Chris Packham. It was founded in 1905 with the sole aim of promoting the study of all branches of Natural History.



New adoption and membership scheme online

When we set up our adoption and membership scheme several years ago it was of its day and quite modern. However, we have come to realise it is old-fashioned now and so we commissioned a software company to redesign it to be online and we have done away with the old-style paper forms. Click on the image to the left to have a look at the new format.

Studland Bay Marine Partnership and ecomoorings

It is amazing how much is going on, in and underwater at Studland Bay. These last 12 months have been a whirlwind of activity for everyone involved. To help bring all this together the [Studland Bay Mariner Partnership](#) was formed and it has so many organisations and individuals in it, that it would be impossible to name them all. However, the founder members were ourselves, [Boatfolk](#), [the National Trust](#), [Southampton University](#), the [RYA](#), [Natural England](#) and others. The [SBMP](#) is coordinated by Sara Parker from [Dorset Coastal Forum](#).

A big event for us was an in-person meeting at Studland Village Hall and a large team from the [Marine Management Organisation](#) (MMO) attended (See picture). This was fantastic to see that MMO are now actively engaged in this project and they are looking to see how it works as a possible blueprint for future marine conservation projects.



[Boatfolk](#), the [National Trust](#), [The Seahorse Trust](#) and the [SBMP](#) have now been granted our licence from the [MMO](#) to bring the total number of ecomoorings into the bay up to 100.

We have installed 21 more ecomoorings into Studland Bay and we have more to put in later this year or early next. At the moment they are free to use, however, we are asking users to make a donation for their upkeep and for any future ones we are putting in.

I have to say a massive thank you to Skipper Ian from [Skin Deep diving](#), and his amazing crew who worked so hard getting the ecomoorings in.





During the installation of the ecomoorings [The Seahorse Trust](#) undertook seahorse surveys prior to installing each ecomooring which was a condition of our installation license from the [Marine Management Organisation](#).

This was a wise precaution as it turned out because we found a large transient female Spiny Seahorse where we had intended to install an ecomooring. After finding her we moved on to the next spot and then came back the

next day and she had moved on by this point and so we could install the ecomooring.

The terms and conditions in all our licences have been designed by us, MMO and NE to ensure that seahorses are with us into the future.

Studland's Ocean Meadows

[STUDLANDS OCEAN MEADOWS](#) is a film put together by Sue Western for the [Planet Purbeck festival](#) and is being used by the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#) to show the public how amazing and fragile Studland's seagrass meadows are.

It explores the use of the bay by humans and how they interact with nature, especially seahorses and the seagrass meadow.

Southampton boat show

[Boatfolk](#) invited The [Seahorse Trust](#) to the [International Boat Show](#) at Southampton to do a talk on seahorses, ecomoorings and the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#).

We so pleased to say that they received the show's award for the being the most [environmental in the show](#). Well done, Boatfolk and well deserved.

None of the ecomooring project would have been possible without [Boatfolk marina and boating services](#). This amazing forward-thinking company and their incredible staff have made the installation of the Ecomoorings a reality. They believed in our project and backed us in every way, and we owe them a massive debt of gratitude for all their hard work.



GoFundMe Appeal Ecomoorings

With our many partners in the project we hope to set up a not-for-profit company to oversee all the work with the Ecomoorings to increase the number and conserve this amazing bay for all. With this in mind we have set up a [GoFundMe](#) appeal to raise £100,000.

This will allow us to set up the not-for-profit company, employ staff to run it and crucially to buy and install more Ecomoorings.

The not-for-profit will be overseen by a board made up of interested parties and those with expertise to make this project happen.

Memorial Ecomoorings

If you or a loved one love the sea, seahorses and nature, what better way of being remembered than by having an Ecomooring installed in your memory? We have started to do this at Studland Bay. Why not join the growing number of Ecomoorings that make a difference and remember someone?

Please contact us on theseahorsetrust@gmail.com to find out more details.



Malta Research Project



Picture copyright Adrian Tolliday

The [Malta Research Project](#) is run by Kirsty-Jo Muddiman on behalf of The Seahorse Trust and at the beginning of May, Trust executive Director Neil went out to meet up with Kirsty-Jo and to have meetings with Vincent Attard from [Malta Nature Trust](#) about working together on the protection of seahorses and the marine environment in Malta.

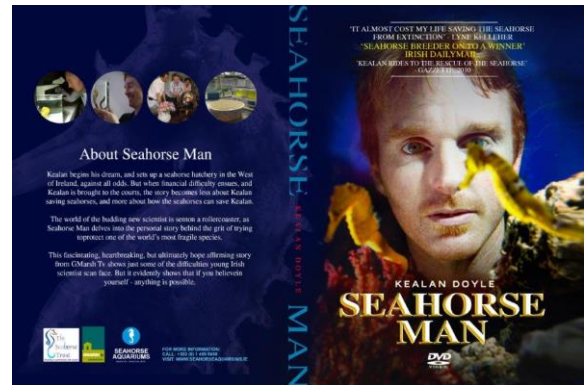
If you want to know more about our [project](#) please email Kirsty-Jo on maltaseahorseproject@gmail.com

World Seahorse Database

The work in Malta is part of our overall [World Seahorse Database](#) which was kindly funded by Sealife Trust. We are looking to build the largest database of its kind in the world to understand more about how seahorses are distributed and behave around the world. The information is also used to conserve seahorses and their fragile habitat. At present we have data from approximately 50 countries and this is building everyday as word spreads about our work. If you find a seahorse or know of areas where seahorses are found, then please let us know, through our website or email worldseahorsesurvey@gmail.com

Seahorse Man

This autumn (2022) has seen the launch of [SEAHORSE MAN](#) on Netflix. This groundbreaking, award-winning documentary shows the behind-the-scenes investigations by marine biologist Kealan Doyle that he conducted into the illegal [traditional medicine trade \(TCM\)](#).



Originally aired in 2015 this documentary, narrated by the late John Hurt and [Seahorse Trust](#) founder Neil Garrick-Maidment, follows Kealan as he journeys around China, trying to understand more about this all-consuming trade.

Through his behind-the-scenes investigations, he soon realizes that it is considerably worse than the official figures show and there are in excess of 150 million seahorses fished for the medicine trade each year. However, that figure is dropping rapidly as more locations are completely depleted of seahorses; time is running out to save seahorses in the wild.

Here at the trust, we have investigated the [curio and medicine trade](#) for many years and we have two amazing volunteers, Teresa and Kim who, without their tireless work, we would never have made such progress. Between us and crucially you, we managed to get Amazon, Facebook, Twitter, and so many others to ban the sale of seahorses alive or dead through their sites.

Some occasionally get through, so if you see any seahorses for sale on any of the online platforms report them to us, and please also report them to the platforms themselves.

Time is running out for the seahorses in the wild and if you need more confirmation of this either look at [SEAHORSE MAN](#) on NETFLIX or have a look at our [Stop the Curio campaign video](#) on YouTube,

Pig on the Beach

THE PIG



The Pig on the Beach Hotel at Studland Bay has kindly sponsored one of our ecomoorings (see ecomoorings below) and to help fund others and the work we are doing in Studland Bay they have also added a voluntary donation on their menu which will go towards the work we are all doing in Studland Bay.

As part of our education programme, Sara from the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#) (which we are a Founder member of) and Neil from [The Seahorse Trust](#) spent the day running courses about the work in Studland and crucially about the Spiny Seahorses and other species that live there to The Pig's staff. These training sessions are crucial to pass on the message to their guests about how important the bay is.



Springwatch

It was amazing to see Megan McCubbin from Springwatch showcase our ecomoorings. Megan did an amazing job in explaining how they work and why they are better than traditional swing moorings. Thanks, Megan, for your brilliant support and for doing such a great job.

Picture courtesy of Helping the Rhinos which Megan is a Patron of.

Teeny Tiny Creatures

[Chantelle](#) from [Teeny Tiny Creatures](#) on Cbeebies filmed at Studland Bay during the year and with help from local [Seahorse Trust](#) volunteers, Gabriel and Joss revealed the seahorses of the bay and all the special creatures that live there.

This program then featured in [Cbeebies proms](#) whose theme this year was Ocean Adventure.

Click on the image to go to [Cbeebies proms](#).



Seahorse eco course

Have you ever wondered why a seahorse is like it is? What makes these ‘little horses of the sea’ so unique and so well adapted to their watery world?

Are they a fish, a monkey or a chameleon? seahorses show so many traits from so many different species, it is hard to decide exactly what they are; the Victorians thought they were insects. In this unique online course, you will find out the answers to these questions and many more. Our new online Seahorse Biology, Ecology and Conservation course allows you to learn about this enigmatic species at your own pace and includes 12 sessions on topics such as Taxonomy and Diversity, Camouflage and Colour Change, Migration, Human Impacts and Conservation Measures to name but a few, along with an online Learners Community.

The full online course costs just £65 – giving you unlimited access to 13 learning modules. The Introductory Session is free to access, so if you wish to learn more about the course and what we do at the Trust please click the image above and to get in touch with us please email [Beccy seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk](mailto:seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk)

This course was kindly funded by [Sea Changers](#),

Seahorse Survey Course

Like the ecology course above we have designed an online course to teach about how to survey for seahorses and what to do and most importantly what NOT to do, when you find one in the sea. This vital course directly helps to conserve seahorses by stopping stress and disturbance to seahorses when divers do a survey for seahorses.

In the UK it is a legal requirement to have a license issued by the Marine Management Organisation to seek out seahorses in the wild.

This course is £65 but if you choose to do both courses together it is £120.

Thanks goes to the [Postcode Local Trust](#) who kindly funded the writing of this course.

Mermaid Atlantic

Mermaids and seahorses, what a brilliant combination. The Mermaid Atlantic crew are going to row across the Atlantic in 2023 to raise awareness and money for three marine charities and we are lucky they have chosen us as one of them.

Three friends from the Isle of Wight, all alike in ambition, are undertaking the ultimate ocean encounter in 2023 to row across the Atlantic. Their mission is two-fold, firstly to communicate the detrimental effect of waste items on the ocean, polluting the water, damaging ecosystems and threatening marine life. The second is to raise awareness of the power of seagrass and the role it plays in combating the climate crisis as well as providing habitats to marine life. These three amazing people have kindly offered to support The Seahorse Trust in their travels and you can help to support them by clicking on the picture to go to their GoFundMe page

<https://mermaidatlantic.com/donate/>



Seahorse Alliance

Only by working collectively together can we hope to make a difference and crucially understand the problems facing the natural world, especially seahorses.

The Seahorse Trust is part of the Seahorse Alliance which includes [Save our Seahorses](#), [Asociación Hippocampus](#), Ireland, the Balearic Islands amongst others including our [Malta project](#),

It is a loose group of interested parties but already we are making a difference, collectively.



Blue Reef Aquariums

The Newquay, Bristol, Hastings, Tynemouth and Portsmouth Blue Reef aquariums, kindly host our money spinners where visitors to the aquariums can support our work through donations. Over the year they have

raised over £1,000 towards the research and conservation projects that we undertake. A massive thank you to General Manager Steve and all the Managers and teams in each of the aquariums and especially their guests who kindly make donations.

CICK ON THE LOGO TO GO



In brief.....

- Conservation is about working together and one of our conservation partners is [Wildflower Favours](#). In partnership with Fire Lily Studios, they have put together an amazing video on Saving pollinators but planting wildflower seeds, (Click on the image to see the video)



- How do you keep your toes warm and save seahorses? Why not buy a pair of bamboo socks from [Bare Kind](#). These amazing bamboo socks have great designs of seahorses on them and Bare Kind kindly donate 10% to the work of The Seahorse Trust (Click on the image to go to their site)
- Did you know we have a fantastic [Sponsors Shops](#) page on our website, with offers and products from so many organisations that help fund our work. Without them we could not do what we do, so whether you want beauty products from [Beauty Kitchen](#), or a Christmas tippie, from [Salcombe Brewery](#), [Maritime](#), [Sea Arch](#) or [Greenwich](#) gins, art from our arts shops, to clothes from [Brian Davies SCUBA](#) or jewellery from [Aquamarine](#) or [Honu](#). They all have it and know that you are helping to conserve and preserve seahorses at the same time. Check out the [Sponsors Shop](#) page as there is so much more on there, too many to list here.
- Don't forget your 4 legged friends with seahorse related gifts from [Harbour Hounds](#).
- As a partner of [10% for the Ocean](#) we really were grateful for their kind donation in the Autumn of £1,000 as part of their ongoing commitment to our work.
- Sea Adora run by Magi and her incredible team has raised funds for our work this year through their shop in Exmouth, Devon. Why not pay them a visit or go online to their FB page <https://www.facebook.com/seaadoraexmouth>
- We have been helping a lot of A Level and graduate level students this year and even helped whole classes of primary school age students. We are so pleased to help future generations.
- Trust Director Neil is an external supervisor for Bournemouth University and he oversees Kirsty from Malta as she embarks on her Masters
- Chris Brown one of our surveyors who is on our wildlife license has been helped by volunteer Chloe, his daughter this year, who has just also been added to our wildlife license. Chloe has been Chris's eyes and ears on their survey work when he has looked for seahorses under our license from the MMO. Chris hopes to solve a few gaps in our knowledge about seahorses during the winter and aims to start his PhD in the future as well.
- We have featured in lots of magazines, online and in newspapers this year and seem to be the go-to charity for people wanting to know more about seahorses, especially here in the UK.
- The October half term was a busy one at Studland Beach and Sarah from National Trust organized with us and Southampton University and others some events on the beach which

were attended by well over 5 to 6 hundred people. Thanks, Sarah, for inviting us and setting this up.

- Here at the trust, we hold a collection of dead seahorses that have been washed up on the beach and these are used to help us study and research these amazing animals. Our collection is kept in Ferraro Rocher boxes and recently we put out an appeal for more boxes and we have been inundated with them including ones that had chocolates in them!

Volunteers

The backbone of the charity are our volunteers, without them we could not exist or function. Five volunteers that need a special mention again this year are Kim McNeil and Teresa Sinclair who monitor and form our Illegal trade team, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts who runs most of our educational programmes (and is now one of our trustees) and oversees our social media platforms and Kim Maidment and Paul Lott who spend many hours underwater surveying for seahorses (Under licence from the MMO). All of them hold down full-time work as well as helping the trust but without them we could never achieve the things that we do.

Selsey Bill and Hounds Seahorse Survey Project

Trust volunteer Ali Mayor set up a seahorse survey project at Selsey Bill and Hounds in West Sussex. She has gathered a team of volunteers to help her and they come under The Seahorse Trust license to survey for seahorses here in the UK. Ali and some of the team, have been on our Seahorse Survey Course and they started work in spring 2021 and are now into their second year.

Selsey Bill and Hounds was chosen because they have had a number of seahorse sightings there in the past and Ali had kindly sent them into the trust to be added to the World Seahorse Database.

Devon Environment Foundation

Trust Director Neil now sits on the advisory panel of the Devon Environment Foundation. He was asked to sit on this panel to look into projects for conserving the coast, sea sand countryside of Devon. It is a great honour to sit on this team and it makes a major difference to his native Devon.

E-bay and the illegal trade

Our work with the illegal trade is ongoing and is an uphill battle but thanks mainly to volunteers Kim and Teresa, we are making a difference and have achieved the banning of the sales of seahorses on all of the major online platforms

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Thank you so much to [Wildwood Trust](#) who kindly hosts our office free of charge at their centre near Ottery St Mary in Devon. [Wildwood Escot](#) has a number of native British and European species such as Wild Cat, Lynx, Red Squirrel, Boar, Fox, Beaver and now Wolves.

They are a progressive charity that supports Rewilding projects throughout the UK and are involved in bringing back former native species to our countryside, such as Red squirrel and Beavers and hopefully in the future Lynx.

Facebook

Spreading the word about Seahorses, the natural world and the work of the trust is very important and we have a website with a newsletter page and also a highly interactive Facebook page which now has over 5,400 members (4,900 last year), almost double again on the last year, which was double of the previous year and goes from strength to strength.

Thanks go to all who kindly administer this site for us as well as holding down full time very busy jobs.

Twitter

The Seahorse Trust is now into its fourth year of Twitter and already we have well over 1192 followers (up from 1154 last year) thanks to Beccy who kindly monitors the site. This is a relatively new technology for us and it will take some time to get used to it but like all new technologies it has its place and has proven to be a very useful form of communication already.

Fund raising

Following several years of low income and intense competition for the few grants available, like so many charities we took a completely different approach to fund raising in 2022/2023 and set up a [SPONSORS SHOPS](#) page on our website.

This page is comprised of commercial organisations that either donate a small percentage to our work from sales of their products or offer services free of charge for us and to date we have quite a number signed up, such as Beauty Kitchens, Wildflower Favours and Salcombe Brewery to mention just a few.

This combined with the Sea Changer grants has seen a more positive direction in the funds of the charity and we look forward to the future with more confidence than we have for many years.

General donations have been up again this year but only by a small amount considering all the problems with COVID and we managed to generate £56,846.41. We think this rise in our donations is directly in correlation with the extra publicity and improved website we now have and are receiving.

Adoption and membership schemes (UK only)

Our adoption and membership scheme has increased considerably this year in numbers mainly because we are becoming internationally recognised now for our work with seahorses and because we have changed the format of how to adopt or become a member.

The figures for Adoption and Membership are encouraging, in 2021-2022 it was £6369.79 whereas in 2022-2023 it was up to £9,955.21 which is up by £3,585.42.

It averages at £829.60 per month and the average donation per month is £7.14 however the average number of adoptees and members has dropped per month to 116.

It shows that although the scheme has been and is successful in terms of funds, but we need to increase numbers of adoptions and memberships. more work needs to be done on this.

Website

- GLS kindly switched our website to a different system in 2020 which gives us more control over it and they have continued to be supportive of our work.
- It is now brighter and more modern looking and certainly easier to use and we get lots of compliments about it.
- The different look of the site seems to have generated more interest in it and feedback seems to be positive

We would like to say a special thank you to Gavin who often does work for us for free and without his input we would not have such a great website. Here at the Trust, we highly recommend him and he can be found on his website at <http://www.gslsolutions.co.uk/>

PATRONS

We are very lucky here at the trust in having the support of some well-known names as patrons and I would like to thank one and all for their superb help and support over the last twelve months.

Kate Humble	http://www.katehumble.com
Chris Packham	http://www.chrispackham.co.uk
Kirsty Jones	http://www.kirstyjones.com
Mark Carwardine	http://www.markcarwardine.com
Ellie Harrison	http://www.ellie-harrison.com/
Monty Halls	http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/
Sir Hugo Swire	https://www.hugoswire.org.uk/

FINANCIAL POICY

RESERVES POLICY

It is the intention of the Charity only to maintain reserves at the level required to fund its ongoing commitments.

RISKS ASSESSMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and consider measures have been taken to mitigate such risks.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 14 to 15.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILTIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of s43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s43(7) (b) of the Act, 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 by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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 EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. That gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.
 - Have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

INCOME	2023	2022
General funds		
Donations	56944.10	18976.00
Gift Aid-HMRC recovery	1813.64	3760.00
Adoption/Membership	9857.52	9914.00
Ecology Course	705.00	1015.00
Collections	2387.63	2634.00
Course/other income	1710.17	
Restricted		
Specific funds-Moorings/Malta Expenses	3864.50	3750.00
	3864.50	
TOTAL INCOME	£69553.56	£55919.00
Less : Expenses		
Administrator fees	34549.30	29208.00
Equipment	272.64	
Stationary and general Office	343.71	667.00
Course admin costs		240.00
Accountancy costs	348.00	348.00
Website costs	2129.58	72.00
Telephone	484.88	379.00
Insurances	937.41	749.00
Sponsoring Gifts		380.00
Travel and accommodation		79.00
Computer and software costs	242.11	426.00
Repairs and renewals		117.00
Vehicle running costs	943.60	579.00
Fraud costs	1635.85	130.00
	£41887.08	
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£27666.48	£22245.00
Surplus brought forward	£58967.52	£36722.00
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	£86634.00	£58967.00
Balance sheet as of 31st March 2023		
Represented by –		
Equipment	£1015.33	£1015.33
Lloyds Current Account-General fund	£59602.15	£58299.00
Malta Project	£2363.76	
Ecomoorings	£24000.00	
Cash in hand	£0.76	
Less: Creditors and accrued expenses	£348.00	£348.00
	£86634.00	£58967.00

The Balance Sheet below and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited 7 Totnes Road **PAIGNTON** Devon

28th September 2023

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2023

- **ACCOUNTING BASIS**
These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practise, accounting and reporting by charities.
- **INCOMING RESOURCES**
Income is credited in the period it is received.
- **STAFF EMOLUMENTS**
Total cost of administrator's fees inclusive was £34,549.30
No employee received emoluments above £50,000
- **INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**
Cost £348
- **VOLUNTEERS**
No value is placed on volunteer's time.
- **TRUSTEES**
No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year.

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1086027

Accounts

The Seahorse Trust



**TRUSTEES REPORT AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31ST MARCH 2022**



**WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH
NATURE**

Registered Charity No. 1086027

The Seahorse Trust

Year to 31st March 2022

INDEX

	Page No.
Index	2
Officers, advisers and details	3
Report of the Trustees	4-5
General and Financial Review	6-8
Facebook and Twitter	9
Fundraising	10
Adoption and membership scheme	10
Website	10/11
Patrons	11
Financial policy	12/13
Statement of financial activities	14
Notes to the accounts	15

Officers, advisors and details during 2021/22

Trustees	Dr David Gibson (Chair), Allie Clark, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Dr Barbara Gainswin, Tim Haywood.	
Director	Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA	
Patrons	Kate Humble Kirsty Jones Ellie Harrison Sir Hugo Swire MP	Chris Packham Mark Carwardine Monty Halls
Registered Charity No	1086027	
Registered Address	36 Greatwood Terrace Topsham, Devon	EX3 0EB
Tel. no	01392 875930	07876513628
E-mail	theseahorsetrust@gmail.org	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/	
Twitter	https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity/with_replies	
Web sites	www.theseahorsetrust.org	
Independent examiner	Anthony Roberts FTCA 7 Totnes Road Paignton Devon	TQ4 5JX
Bankers	Lloyds TSB 234 High Street Exeter Devon	EX4 3NL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR 2021 -2022

The Director and Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act and The Statement of Recommended Practice.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law 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 its financial activities for that year which properly presents the charity's income and expenditure for the year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

ADMINISTRATION

The Charitable Trust and its property shall be administered and managed by the Trustees under the name of [THE SEAHORSE TRUST](#) or by such other name as the Trustees from time to time decide with the approval of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

There shall be at least two trustees and future trustees shall be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a trustees meeting.

Trustees who acted during the year were: Dr David Gibson (Chair), Allie Clark, Tim Haywood, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Dr Barbara Gainswin

The Trust's bankers are: Lloyds TSB
234 High Street,
Exeter.
Devon
EX4 3NL

The Independent examiner is: Anthony Roberts FTCA.
7 Totnes Road,
Paignton,
Devon.
TQ4 5JX

OBJECTS

The Trustees shall hold the trust fund and its income upon trust to apply them for the following objects ('the objects'):

- To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and conservation of rare and endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna and in particular but not exclusively, seahorses and related species.
- To advance the education of the public generally about wild flora and fauna.
- To conduct research and enquiry into endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna, and in particular, but not exclusively, seahorses and related species and to publish the results for the benefit of the general public.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a registered charity No. **1086027** and governed by the Declaration of Trust dated 12th August 2000 as amended by a supplemental deed dated 27th January 2001.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2021/2022

Below is a round-up of some of the news and occurrences during the 2021/22 year; there have been many more but there is just not enough space in this report to fit it all in. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved and who have made this happen.

3C's project - Studland Bay Marine Partnership

Following on from our amazing success installing 10 Ecomoorings into Studland Bay in 2021 (funded and partnered with [Boatfolk](#)), we have had a very busy autumn/winter which saw the start of the 3C's funded Ecomoorings plan which led to the formation of the Studland Bay Marine Partnership.

Boatfolk (see below) and ourselves have partnered with the National Trust, Southampton University and RYA to name just a few of the amazing organisations that have joined together in equal partnership to make this site a specially preserved conservation zone for the future.

We are producing an ecomoorings plan for Studland Bay by bringing stakeholders together to get agreement on location and timescale. We will create a draft 10-year management strategy for the bay, that incorporates, an eco-mooring management plan, transitioning away from anchoring and conventional moorings, there will be seagrass restoration projects and future governance options for the Bay including roles and responsibilities to deliver the strategy.

This work is funded by the [Championing Coastal Coordination](#) (3Cs) project which is an Environment Agency initiative with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities.

Boatfolk

None of this would have been possible without [Boatfolk marina and boating services](#). This amazing forward-thinking company and their incredible staff have made the installation of the Ecomoorings a reality. They believed in our project and backed us in every way and we owe them a massive debt of gratitude for all their hard work.

GoFundMe Appeal Ecomoorings

With our many partners in the project we hope to set up a not-for-profit company to oversee all the work with the Ecomoorings to increase the number and conserve this amazing bay for all. With this in mind we have set up a [GoFundMe](#) appeal to raise £100,000.

This will allow us to set up the not-for-profit company, employ staff to run it and crucially to buy and install more Ecomoorings.

The not-for-profit will be overseen by a board, made up of interested parties and those with expertise to make this project happen.

Malta Research Project PADI Grant

Our Malta Research Project got a major boost in early 2022 with a [PADI Project AWARE grant](#). This grant will help fund equipment, leaflets and crucially Kirsty-Jo Muddiman in her master's degree, which she is doing as she runs the project, which is vital to our overall knowledge of seahorses and their habitat in Malta.

It is also part of our educational commitment and trust director Neil is acting as an external supervisor for Bournemouth University to oversee Kirsty-Jo's studies.

We are working in partnership with the people of Malta, to learn more about the 2 seahorse species around the islands, their distribution, behaviour and whether there are other non-native species of seahorse in the area and we are licensed by the Maltese government to do our research.

World Seahorse Database

The work in Malta is part of our overall [World Seahorse Database](#) which was kindly funded by [Sealife Trust](#). We are looking to build the largest database of its kind in the world to understand more about how seahorses are distributed and behave around the world. The information is also used to conserve seahorses and their fragile habitat. At present we have data from approximately 50 countries and this is building everyday as word spreads about our work.

Steve Backshall Deadly Predators

Education is really important to us here at the trust and this takes many forms, from teaching classes, running online courses, to providing educational material on our website. Recently we had the chance to work with TV presenter Steve Backshall on his Deadly Predators series. We contributed to the programme where Steve explains how deadly seahorses are as predators to shrimp and other small creatures. There is a brilliant animated piece in the programme showing how a seahorse captures and eats its food with no teeth and scaled up it gives Steve a bit of a shock. You can see [Deadly Predators on BBC](#).

Seahorse Eco Course

Our Seahorse Eco Course asks questions like why a seahorse is like it is? What makes these 'little horses of the sea' so unique and so well adapted to their watery world?

Are they a fish, a monkey or a chameleon? seahorses show so many traits from so many different species, it is hard to decide exactly what they are; the Victorians thought they were insects.

Due to the problems with socialising due to COVID, we have now made this course online and in it are the answers all to these questions and many more.

Our online Seahorse Biology, Ecology and Conservation course is fully inclusive and allows students from all backgrounds and levels of education to learn about this enigmatic species at their own pace and it includes 12 sessions on topics such as Taxonomy and Diversity, Camouflage and Colour Change, Migration, Human Impacts and Conservation Measures to name but a few, along with an online Learners Community.

The full online course costs just £65 – giving students unlimited access to 13 learning modules, the Introductory Session is free to access.

This course was kindly funded by [Sea Changers](#)

Seahorse Survey Course

Like the ecology course above we have designed this as an online course to teach about how to survey for seahorses and what to do and most importantly what NOT to do, when you find one in the sea.

This vital course fulfills two of our primary objectives, education and conservation. It directly helps to conserve seahorses by stopping stress and disturbance to seahorses when divers do a survey for seahorses.

In the UK it is a legal requirement to have a license issued by the Marine Management Organisation to seek out seahorses in the wild and MMO have recognized this course as the right path for those who want to survey for seahorses.

Thanks goes to the [Postcode Local Trust](#) who kindly funded the writing of this course.

Volunteers

The backbone of the charity are our volunteers, without them we could not exist or function. Five volunteers that need a special mention again this year are Kim McNeil and Teresa Sinclair who monitor and form our Illegal trade team, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts who runs most of our educational programmes (and is now one of our trustees) and oversees our social media platforms and Kim Maidment and Paul Lott who spend many hours underwater surveying for seahorses (Under licence from the MMO). All of them hold down full-time work as well as helping the trust but without them we could never achieve the things that we do.

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This combined with the Sea Changer grants has seen a more positive direction in the funds of the charity and we look forward to the future with more confidence than we have for many years.

General donations have been up again this year but only by a small amount considering all the problems with COVID and we managed to generate £18,975.81 We think this rise in our donations is directly in correlation with the extra publicity and improved website we now have and are receiving.

Adoption and membership schemes (UK only)

Our adoption and membership scheme has increased considerably this year in numbers mainly because we are becoming internationally recognised now for our work with seahorses.

The figures for Adoption and Membership are encouraging, in 2020-2021 it was £7,506.11 whereas in 2021-2022 it was up to £9,913.74 which is up by £2,407.63.

It averages at £826.15 per month (up from £712.13 in 2020-2021) and the average donation per month is £6.76 (down by 18p from £6.94), however the average number of adoptees and members has risen per month to 122 (up from 103)

It shows that although the scheme has been and is successful and we need to look at increasing the financial turnover per month, more work needs to be done on this.

Website

- GLS kindly switched our website to a different system in 2020 which gives us more control over it and they have continued to be supportive of our work.
- It is now brighter and more modern looking and certainly easier to use and we get lots of compliments about it.
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Kirsty Jones	http://www.kirstyjones.com
Mark Carwardine	http://www.markcarwardine.com
Ellie Harrison	http://www.ellie-harrison.com/
Monty Halls	http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/
Sir Hugo Swire	https://www.hugoswire.org.uk/

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. That gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.

Have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ANTHONY ROBERTS FTCA

**7 Totnes Road
Paignton
Devon.**

The Balance Sheet below and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited 7 Totnes Road **PAIGNTON** Devon

7th July 2022

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

INCOME	2022	2021
General Fund		
Donations	18975.81	21634
Gift Aid	3760.25	1524
Income from Adoption Scheme	9913.74	8546
Fees Received Ecology Course	1015.00	465
Collections	2634.08	334
Courses/Other Income	36298.88	100
Restricted Fund		
Specific Funds - Mooring/Malta	23369.79	5600
Paid to Software writers	3749.77	5600
	19620.02	
TOTAL INCOME	£ 55918.90	£ 32603
LESS : EXPENSES		
Sea Horses	0.00	70
Administrator Fees	29507.81	28833
Book-Keeping		240
Stationery and General Office Costs & Leaflets	667.45	360
Course Administration Costs	240.00	
Accountancy Charges	348.00	348
Website Costs	71.98	273
Telephone	378.48	309
Insurances	749.21	822
Sponsoring Gifts	380.00	217
Travel and Accommodation	78.99	
Computer and Software Costs	425.97	440
Repairs and Renewals	116.64	117
Vehicle Running Costs	579.32	218
Sundry Expenses	129.50	87
	33673.35	
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£ 22245.55	£ 269
Surplus Brought Forward	36721.97	36453
	£ 58967.52	£ 36722
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2021		
REPRESENTED BY --		
Equipment	1015.33	1015
Lloyds Current Account	58299.43	36054
Cash in Hand	0.76	1
Less:		
Creditors and Accrued Expenses	348.00	348
	0.00	£ 36722

The above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited
7 Totnes Road
PAIGNTON
Devon


7th July 2022

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2022

- **ACCOUNTING BASIS**

These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, accounting and reporting by charities.

- **INCOMING RESOURCES**

Income is credited in the period it is received.

- **STAFF EMOLUMENTS**

Total cost of administrator's fees inclusive was £29507.81
No employee received emoluments above £50,000

- **INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**

Cost £348

- **VOLUNTEERS**

No value is placed on volunteer's time.

- **TRUSTEES**

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year.

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

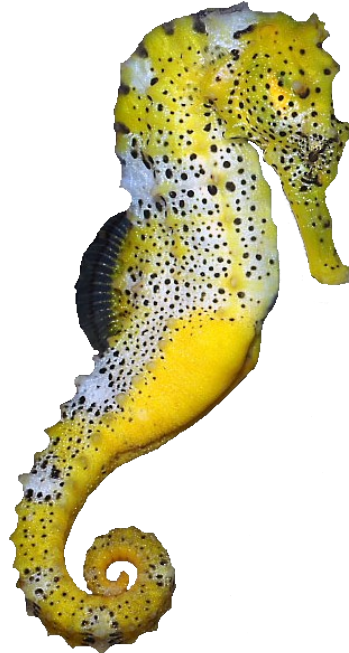
England & Wales - Charity number 1086027

Accounts

The Seahorse Trust



**TRUSTEES REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE
YEAR
TO 31ST MARCH 2021**



**WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP
WITH NATURE**

**Registered Charity No.
1086027**

The Seahorse Trust

Year to 31st March 2021

INDEX

	Page No.
Index	2
Officers, advisers and details	3
Report of the Trustees	4-5
General and Financial Review	6-8
Facebook and Twitter	8
Fundraising	9-10
Adoption and membership scheme	10
Website	10
Patrons	10
Financial policy	11/12
Statement of financial activities 13/14	
Notes to the accounts	15

Officers, advisors and details during 2020/21

Trustees	Dr David Gibson (Chair) Allie Clark	
Director	Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA	
Patrons	Kate Humble Kirsty Jones Ellie Harrison Sir Hugo Swire MP	Chris Packham Mark Carwardine_ Monty Halls
Registered Charity No	1086027	
Registered Address	36 Greatwood Terrace Topsham, Devon	EX3 0EB
Tel. no	01392 875930	07876513628
E-mail	theseahorsetrust@gmail.org	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/	
Twitter	https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity/with_replies	
Web sites	www.theseahorsetrust.org	
Independent examiner	Anthony Roberts FTCA 7 Totnes Road Paignton Devon	TQ4 5JX
Bankers	Lloyds TSB 234 High Street Exeter Devon	EX4 3NL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR 2020 -2021

The Director and Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act and The Statement of Recommended Practice.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law 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 its financial activities for that year which properly presents the charity's income and expenditure for the year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

ADMINISTRATION

The Charitable Trust and its property shall be administered and managed by the Trustees under the name of [THE SEAHORSE TRUST](#) or by such other name as the Trustees from time to time decide with the approval of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

There shall be at least two trustees and future trustees shall be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a trustees meeting.

Trustees who acted during the year were: Dr David Gibson (Chair)
Allie Clark

The Trust's bankers are: Lloyds TSB
234 High Street,
Exeter.
Devon
EX4 3NL

The Independent examiner is: Anthony Roberts FTCA.
7 Totnes Road,
Paignton,
Devon.
TQ4 5JX

OBJECTS

The Trustees shall hold the trust fund and its income upon trust to apply them for the following objects ('the objects'):

- To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and conservation of rare and endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna and in particular but not exclusively, seahorses and related species.
- To advance the education of the public generally about wild flora and fauna.
- To conduct research and enquiry into endangered species of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna, and in particular, but not exclusively, seahorses and related species and to publish the results for the benefit of the general public.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a registered charity No. **1086027** and governed by the Declaration of Trust dated 12th August 2000 as amended by a supplemental deed dated 27th January 2001.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2020/2021

Lockdown has had a major impact on us like so many other charities and it has affected our operations and fund raising at the same time, however we seem to have weathered it and are going forward with many projects in particular the Ecomoorings into Studland Bay with our partners at Boatfolk.

Below is a round-up of some of the news and occurrences during the 2020/21 year; there have been many more but there is just not enough space in this report to fit it all in. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved and who have made this happen.

Volunteers

The backbone of the charity are our volunteers, without them we could not exist or function. Five volunteers that need a special mention this year are Kim McNeil and Teresa Sinclair who monitor and form our Illegal trade team, Beccy MacDonald-Lofts who runs most of our educational programmes and oversees our social media platforms and Kim Maidment and Paul Lott who spend many hours underwater surveying for seahorses. All of them hold down full-time work as well as helping the trust but without them we could never achieve the things that we do.

British Seahorse Survey

We extended our license from the Marine Management Organisation in 2019 so that we can expand surveys throughout the country. We still continue our main projects in Studland Bay, Weymouth Bay, Torbay now Selsey Bill and Hounds. By having this wider license, it allows us to do so much more and crucially we can react quickly to reports of seahorses in different areas as we have done several times since the license was extended.

The extended license is already helping as we now monitor 4 main sites and dive on others.

World Seahorse Survey Database

The World Seahorse online portal and database is fully funded by the Sea Life Centres and it is now up and running and already gathering sightings from around the world. There is an online portal so that we can receive sightings directly into the database and it has been used by CEFAS to analyse the sightings for the effects on global warming and a second project to look at predicting habitats for seahorses.

Studland Bay Seahorse Project

We can happily announce that the Studland Bay is now formally a Marine Conservation Zone as a direct result of the work and campaigning The Seahorse Trust has undertaken with its partners, A notable success for all our volunteers since 2008 and many thanks to Michael Gove and especially our patron Hugo Swire for all their help.

As part of the MCZ we hope to be invited to sit on the management committee that will be set up to monitor this site.

Following our success in getting Studland Bay made into an MCZ, the Marine Management Organisation are planning on taking action to conserve this unique site and they intend to form a stakeholder's group to gauge public feedback on it.

Studland Bay Ecomoorings

Trust founder Neil has been in conversations with Michael Prideaux the MD of Boatfolk marina and boating services about installing Ecomoorings onto the site. They met in August 2020 and Michael has kindly offered to underwrite the cost of installing 10 Ecomoorings onto the site.

In early 2021 a great deal of work has been undertaken to design the Ecomoorings and the graphics that will go onto the mooring buoys, Licenses have been applied for and a long-term plan of action is being put into place.

This will mean that a not-for-profit (NFP) organisation will be established with an advisory board overseeing its work. The NFP will be tasked with fund raising for the installation of up to 100 Ecomoorings in Studland Bay (including the existing 10), alongside these licenses and permissions will need to be sought and

Selsey Bill and Hounds Seahorse Survey Project

Trust volunteer Ali Mayor is setting up a seahorse survey project at Selsey Bill and Hounds in West Sussex. She has gathered a team of volunteers to help her and they come under The Seahorse Trust license to survey for seahorses here in the UK. Ali and some of the team, have been on our Seahorse Survey Course and we wish them luck as they start work in spring 2021

Selsey Bill and Hounds was chosen because they have had a number of seahorse sightings there in the past and Ali had kindly sent them into the trust to be added to the World Seahorse Database.

Devon Environment Foundation

The trust Director Neil now sits on the advisory panel of the Devon Environment Foundation. He was asked to sit on this panel to look into projects for conserving the coast and sea of Devon. It is a great Honour to sit on this team and it makes a major difference to his native Devon.

Seahorse City builder

Our work stretches into many countries and one of note is Roger Hanson and his Seahorse city building in California. Roger has been a friend and colleague of the trust for 5 years and we have been advising him and overseeing his research work during this time. Crucially he makes a massive difference by building habitats under the sea for seahorses. It is a great project and is being copied all over the world.

Steve Backshall

Steve Backshall, adventurer and TV presenter came down to Studland Bay in the autumn of 2020 to film a piece about Studland Bay for the One Show, when it was aired it attracted about 5 million viewers and Steve has since shown a great deal of interest in our work since.

Online courses

Beccy and trust director Neil have been busy writing and developing an online Seahorse Ecology Course, which was kindly funded by Sea Changers marine charity. They also funded a number of free places on the course for people that would not normally be able to afford to undertake this type of education. A massive thank you goes to Sea Changers for making this happen.

Beccy has also adapted our Seahorse Survey Course to be online and we envisage that both courses will continue to stay online as we come out of lockdown, due to the COVID crisis.

E-bay and the illegal trade

Due to the hard work and persistence of trust volunteers Theresa, Kim and trust Director Neil they were successful in persuading E-bay to ban the sale of seahorses on its site (in line with country-by-country legislation). We estimate that tens of thousands of seahorses have been saved because of this.

Although E-bay has been joined by Amazon, Spock, Preloved, Facebook and a host of others, frustratingly other sites still allow the sale, if we can shut down all avenues of trade online this will give seahorses a much better chance of survival.

We now have a direct contact in the Metropolitan Police who is assisting us in getting various companies and individuals prosecuted for trading in Seahorses here in the UK and they are assisting us in working with other police forces to try and stop this trade.

Wildwood Trust

Thank you so much to [Wildwood Trust](#) who kindly hosts our office free of charge at their centre near Ottery St Mary in Devon. [Wildwood Escot](#) has a number of native British and European species such as Wild Cat, Lynx, Red Squirrel, Boar, Fox, Beaver and now Wolves.

They are a progressive charity that supports Rewilding projects throughout the UK and are involved in bringing back former native species to our

countryside, such as Red squirrel and Beavers and hopefully in the future Lynx.

Facebook

Spreading the word about Seahorses, the natural world and the work of the trust is very important and we have a website with a news page and also a highly interactive Facebook page which now has over 4,000 members, almost double again on the last year, which was double of the previous year and goes from strength to strength.

Thanks go to Beccy, Dave and others who kindly administer this site for us as well as holding down full time very busy jobs.

Twitter

The Seahorse Trust is now into its fourth year of Twitter and already we have well over 1116 followers (up from 900 last year) thanks to Beccy who kindly monitors the site. This is a relatively new technology for us and it will take some time to get used to it but like all new technologies it has its place and has proven to be a very useful form of communication already.

Fund raising

Following several years of low income and intense competition for the few grants available, like so many charities we took a completely different approach to fund raising in 2018/2019 and set up a [SPONSORS SHOPS](#) page on our website.

This page is comprised of commercial organisations that either donate a small percentage to our work from sales of their products or offer services free of charge for us and to date we have quite a number signed up, such as Beauty Kitchens, Wildflower Favours and Salcombe Brewery to mention just a few.

This combined with the Sea Changer grants has seen a more positive direction in the funds of the charity and we look forward to the future with more confidence than we have for many years.

These are a few of the key funds we have received money from.

Beauty Kitchen	£13,000
Sea Changers	£1,250
Sealife Centres	£5,000
Donation tins	£334.41
GoFundMe	£85.90
CAF	£103
Amazon Smile	£57.76
Ecology Course	£450

Gift Aid	£1,523.88
PayPal	£1,966.79
General Donations	£12,309.93

General donations have been up again this year and we managed to generate £12,309.33 (£4,487.71 in the previous year). We think this rise in our donations is directly in correlation with the extra publicity and improved website we now have and are receiving.

Adoption and membership schemes (UK only)

Our adoption and membership scheme has increased considerably this year in numbers mainly because we are becoming internationally recognised now for our work with seahorses.

The figures for Adoption and Membership are encouraging, in 2018-2019 it was £7,316 whereas in 2020-2021 it was up to £8,545.51 which is up by £1,229.51.

It shows that it averages at £712.13 per month (up from £609.67) and the average donation per month is £6.94 (down by 13p from £7.12), however the average number of adoptees and members has risen per month to 103 (up from 86)

It shows that although the scheme has been and is successful and we need to look at increasing the financial turnover per month, more work needs to be done on this.

Website

- o GLS have kindly switched our website to a different system which gives us more control over it and they have continued to be supportive of our work.
- o It is now brighter and more modern looking and certainly easier to use

- o The different look of the site seems to have generated more interest in it and feedback seems to be positive

We would like to say a special thank you to Gavin who often does work for us for free and without his input we would not have such a great website. Here at the Trust we highly recommend him and he can be found on his website at <http://www.gslsolutions.co.uk/>

PATRONS

We are very lucky here at the trust in having the support of some well-known names as patrons and I would like to thank one and all for their superb help and support over the last twelve months.

Kate Humble
Chris Packham
Kirsty Jones
Mark Carwardine
Ellie Harrison
Monty Halls
Sir Hugo Swire

<http://www.katehumble.com>
<http://www.chrispackham.co.uk>
<http://www.kirstyjones.com>
<http://www.markcarwardine.com>
<http://www.ellie-harrison.com/>
<http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/>
<https://www.hugoswire.org.uk/>

Poem by Gabrielle (aged nine)

If Stars Were Fish

by Gabriela Cunha-Molina

**If stars were seahorses
they would be so special!
They would travel from planet
to planet gliding, riding.**

**It would be so much fun to watch
them blend with the skies
Through black holes in the black
sea**

**If stars were seahorses they
would
never stop, I know!
They would keep on riding,
gliding**

FINANCIAL POICY

RESERVES POLICY

It is the intention of the Charity only to maintain reserves at the level required to fund its ongoing commitments.

RISKS ASSESSMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and consider measures have been taken to mitigate such risks.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 13 to 14.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILTIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of s43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s43(7) (b) of the Act, 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 by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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 EXAMINER’S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1. That gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.

Have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ANTHONY ROBERTS FTCA

**7 Totnes Road
Paignton
Devon.**

The Balance Sheet below and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop Limited 7 Totnes Road **PAIGNTON** Devon
28th June 2021

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

THE SEAHORSE TRUST

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

INCOME	2021	2020
General Fund		
Donations	21633.52	37305
Gift Aid	1523.88	
Income from Adoption Scheme	8545.51	7511
Fees Received Ecology Course	465.00	575
Collections	334.41	112
	32602.38	
Restricted Fund		
Other Income	100.06	
Specific Funds - Specialist Software	5600.00	13397
Paid to Software writers	5600.00	-13397
	0.00	
	-	
	-	
TOTAL INCOME	£ 32602.38	£ 45503
LESS : EXPENSES		
Sea Horses	70.00	450
Administrator Fees	28832.76	27726
Book-Keeping	240.00	
Stationery and General Office Costs & Leaflets	359.93	827
Advertising		
Accountancy		
Charges	348.00	348
Website Costs	273.10	287
Telephone	308.52	358
Insurances	821.94	840
Computer and Office Repairs		844
Sponsoring Gifts	217.20	475
Travel and Accommodation	0.00	120
Replacement		
Computer	440.00	
Repairs and		
Renewals	116.64	107

Vehicle Running Costs	217.69		313
Sundry Expenses	87.03		216
	<u> </u>	32332.81	
	-	<u> </u>	
		-	<u> </u>
DEFICIT OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	£ 269.57		£ 12592
Surplus Brought Forward	36452.40		23860
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	-		
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	£ 36721.97		£ 36452
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	-		
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2021 REPRESENTED BY --			
Equipment	1015.33		1015
Lloyds Current Account	36053.88		35784
Cash in Hand	0.76		1
Less: Creditors and Accrued Expenses	348.00		348
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	-		
	0.00	£ 36721.97	£ 36452
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		-	

The above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records information and explanations supplied to us are in accordance therewith

Anthony Roberts FCPA - Chartered Accountant for
The Tax Shop
Limited
7 Totnes
Road
PAIGNTON
Devon

28th June 2021

The above Balance Sheet and annexed income and Expenditure Account for the year have not been audited but are prepared from the records, information and explanations supplied to us and are in accordance therewith.

Chartered Accountant for;
Anthony Roberts FCPA
The Tax Shop Limited
7 Totnes Road
PAIGNTON
Devon
28th June 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2019

□ **ACCOUNTING BASIS**

These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention, applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, accounting and reporting by charities.

□ **INCOMING RESOURCES**

Income is credited in the period it is received.

□ **STAFF EMOLUMENTS**

Total cost of administrator's fees inclusive was £28832.76
No employee received emoluments above £50,000

□ **INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**

Cost £348

□ **VOLUNTEERS**

No value is placed on volunteer's time.

□ **TRUSTEES**

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year.