



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' annual report (including Directors' report) for the period

From: 6 April 2020 **To:** 5 April 2021

Charity name: Devon General Omnibus Trust

Charity registration number: 1153451

Company number: N/A

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education of the public in the history of public road passenger transport and in particular the history of the Devon General Omnibus & Touring Company and its successors through: a) establishing and preserving for posterity a representative collection of passenger service vehicles formerly operated by the Company and its successors in the county of Devon and the wider area covered by the South West of England, b) facilitating public access to the collection by providing opportunities to view and travel on the vehicles and thereby experience an earlier era of public transport in the county of Devon, c) providing a focus for retention, development and training for students of all ages in the traditional crafts and specialist skills required for the restoration and maintenance of the vehicles and associated relics, and d) enabling the raising of funds for the above purposes. In doing so, the charity must not raise any substantial permanent trading activity.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>2020/21 has been a year like no other for the Trust, due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Although physical meetings, volunteer work sessions and public events were all affected, we nevertheless managed to launch our new website and Facebook page, switch to conducting our trustees' meetings virtually, and carry out a major fundraising programme to acquire another Devon General bus.</p> <p>We suspended all work at our base at Knowstone during the three national lockdowns, as we did not consider this to be</p>

		<p>'essential' work, and mindful of their mature age profile, we did not wish to place our volunteers at risk.</p> <p>In addition, all the public events we had hoped to take our buses to were cancelled, which meant there were no opportunities for the public to view or travel on our vehicles.</p> <p>When restrictions were eased after the first lockdown in June 2020, the trustees took steps to make our volunteers' return to work as safe as possible by issuing guidance about social distancing and hygiene in the workplace and providing disposable masks and gloves and hand sanitiser. This state of affairs lasted from June to November 2020 and meant that some restoration work could continue. Several of the trustees gathered at Knowstone for a work day in October 2020.</p> <p>With the second and third lockdowns that took place over the winter, only a brief period of voluntary work took place at Knowstone during December 2020, and it was not until the end of March 2021, having by then received their first doses of the Covid-19 vaccine, that our volunteers could return to work.</p> <p>As a result of these circumstances there has inevitably been a hiatus in our plans to complete the restoration of our collection.</p> <p>Skills retention continues to rest with a relatively small group of volunteers.</p> <p>Public access to the collection has not been possible during the year, as virtually all events were cancelled. Similarly, no 'talks' were possible to local groups.</p> <p>Notwithstanding these limitations, the trustees have continued to meet, initially by telephone conference and then by 'Zoom' video conference.</p> <p>In August 2020 we launched our Facebook page, to complement our long-standing Twitter feed, and ensure we have some visibility amongst our audience even though there were no events for us to attend. We now have 540 followers.</p> <p>In September 2020 we launched a redesigned website and changed our URL from dgot.co.uk to dgot.org.uk to better reflect our charitable status. The new</p>
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		<p>website is fully responsive – meaning it works properly on mobile devices as well as on personal computers – and now includes detailed profiles on each of our buses, along with the facility to donate to DGOT by debit or credit card.</p> <p>In November 2020 we launched a fundraising appeal to help us acquire ETT 995, the unique 1953 Saunders Roe-bodied AEC Rebuild. The appeal ran until March 2021 and we received an amazing response, with donations from 70 individuals. The trustees hope to conclude the purchase in the coming months.</p> <p>We are grateful for the continued generosity of our trustees and other interested parties who support our work, including the Devon General Society which kindly allowed us to send our fundraising leaflet for ETT 995 to all of its members.</p> <p>We remain indebted to one of our trustees who has placed his own vehicle on loan to the Trust.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees are fully aware of the obligations imposed upon them by way of the Charities Act and Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the extent to which the trust is fulfilling its charitable objectives is reviewed at each trustees' meeting. These obligations remain paramount when planning activities for the forthcoming period and considering means by which the trust's other central objectives can be met.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The trustees readily acknowledge the huge contribution made by our volunteers, particularly during the increased workload created by the Devon General centenary

		year in 2019. This manifests in a variety of ways: undertaking the physical work in preparing and restoring our historic vehicles; assisting us when we attend events; assisting us in organising events; preparing and delivering presentations to interest groups and the general public; assisting with the governance of the CIO.
Other		

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The trustees believe that the main achievements of the trust during the year may be summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We maintained our secure financial base despite the coronavirus pandemic. This has again been based upon significant donations from our trustees and volunteers, and Gift Aid relief thereon, but in April 2020 we also applied for, and received, a £10,000 grant from North Devon Council under the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund. • Whilst there were no public events for us to attend, we maintained our public profile by launching a Facebook page and a new website. • We carried out further significant restoration work on our vehicles, particularly Reliance '798' which is now largely complete. • We continued to establish links with other groups where relationships can ultimately be of mutual benefit. • We continued our good relationship with the Devon General Society, ensuring that they remain fully supportive of the trust's activities (the DGS has 200+ members, all of whom share a common
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		<p>interest in the Devon General company and its activities). The work of the trust is totally independent of the Society, but it is important that good relations are maintained. The Society is wholly supportive of the trust's objectives and assists on a regular basis by keeping members informed of our activities and publicising forthcoming events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our social media presence through Facebook and Twitter are actively used to inform followers (and the wider community) of progress on restoration activities as well as upcoming events, etc. Our Twitter feed has 171 followers; our Facebook page has 540 followers. • We are pleased with the ongoing relationships with key personnel within Stagecoach South West (the modern-day successors of Devon General) who are fully supportive of our aims and objectives.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end	Para 1.21	Our fundraising campaign to acquire ETT 995, plus the grant received from North
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of the period		<p>Devon Council, has this year resulted in the highest level of income the Trust has ever achieved, notwithstanding the lack of opportunity to fundraise at events. Coupled with a lower level of expenditure on restoration work due to the pandemic these factors have resulted in a surplus of £19,915 for the year 6/4/20 – 5/4/21.</p> <p>The trustees are conscious that this surplus will largely be committed to the purchase of ETT 995 during the 2021/22 financial year and are acutely aware that the £10,000 grant is a one-off.</p> <p>We foresee that the majority of outgoings will switch from restoration work to maintenance in future years, the costs of which should be less onerous.</p> <p>However, we remain very conscious of the need to increase our regular income to cover our overheads and we will look to attract greater 'outside' funding (i.e. beyond that provided by the trustees and recognised supporters).</p> <p>As we have seen with our fundraising for ETT 995, any major one-off expenditure would best be met by an appeal for specific project funds.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our policy is that, whilst significant vehicle restoration is ongoing, working capital of up to £10,000 is required to fund regular expenditure. Beyond this, surplus funds would be placed on low-risk bank deposit.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£10,000 as at 5 April 2021
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	N/A
Investment policy and objectives including any	Para 1.46	N/A

social investment policy adopted		
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		N/A

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document: for example, trust deed, memorandum and articles of association etc.	Para 1.25	Constitution dated 6 April 2013.
How is the charity constituted? for example limited company, unincorporated association, CIO	Para 1.25	CIO.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Potential new trustees are identified by the existing trustees in accordance with Charity Commission guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	N/A
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	N/A
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Relations with the Devon General Society and with other bus-related groups remain active and strong.

Other		N/A

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Devon General Omnibus Trust
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1153451
Charity's principal address	22 Sandstone Road, Swindon SN25 2FE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Peter Murnaghan	Chairman		
2	Iain Tucker			
3	Paul Jenkins	Treasurer		
4	Graham Bailey		Vice Chairman 18/1/21 to 5/4/21	
5	Martin White			
6				
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19				
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	
None	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

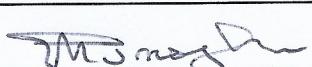

None

Declarations

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Peter Murnaghan	Iain Tucker
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc.)	Chairman	Trustee

Date

18/6/21



Devon General Omnibus Trust		1153451		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	06-Apr-20	To	05-Apr-21	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations (trustees)	1,165	-	-	1,165	4,040
Donations (unrestricted)	2,449	-	-	2,449	8,702
Donations (restricted)	-	10,808	-	10,808	200
Grant	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Refund of Business Rates	461	-	-	461	-
Events	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Interest	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of Items	-	-	-	-	-
Tax reclaimed from Gift Aid	2,209	-	-	2,209	75
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	16,283	10,808	-	27,091	15,445
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	16,283	10,808	-	27,091	15,445
A3 Payments					
Bank Charges	72	-	-	72	60
Meeting Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	536	-	-	536	341
Business Rates	-	-	-	-	460
Postage	82	-	-	82	-
Stationery & Printing	83	-	-	83	21
Sundry Expenditure	410	-	-	410	55
Trustees' Expenses	509	-	-	509	2,911
Vehicle Expenditure - 503RUO	1,034	-	-	1,034	1,010
Vehicle Expenditure - VDV798	830	-	-	830	3,502
Vehicle Expenditure - VDV817	1,591	-	-	1,591	1,067
Vehicle Expenditure - NTT661	779	-	-	779	1,188
Volunteers' Expenses	583	-	-	583	4,304
Website	667	-	-	667	13
Sub total	7,176	-	-	7,176	14,932
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	6
Sub total	-	-	-	-	6
Total payments	7,176	-	-	7,176	14,938
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,107	10,808	-	19,915	507
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,558	-	-	5,558	5,051
Cash funds this year end	14,665	10,808	-	25,473	5,558

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Bank Account	4,665	10,808	-
	CAF 12 month Fixed Rate Saver	10,000	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	14,665	10,808	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

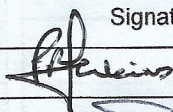
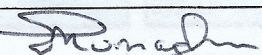
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Debtors	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Vehicle - 503RUO	Unrestricted	4,500	7,000
	Vehicle - VDV798	Unrestricted	5,000	5,000
	Vehicle - VDV817	Unrestricted	8,500	8,500
	Vehicle - NTT661	Unrestricted	12,000	12,000
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Creditors	N/A	-	
	Loans	N/A	-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	P R Jenkins	10-May-21
	P Murnaghan	10-May-21



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Devon General Omnibus Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

5 April 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1153451

Set out on pages

1 - 10

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 5 April 2021.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent
examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

12 June 2021

Name:

Terence Bennett

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

N/A

Address:

16 Manor Close. Bradford Abbas, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6RN