

**Marlen Lake Enthusiasts
(MARLENS)
Charity No. 1156426**

ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31st October 2023

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MARINE LAKE ENTHUSIASTS (MARLENS)

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st October 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

Signed

Newsham Hanson Accountants Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors

Date

14/03/2024.

Edinburgh House
1-5 Bellevue Road
Clevedon
North Somerset
BS21 7NP

Profit and Loss

Marlens

For the year ended 31 October 2023

	2023	2022
Turnover		
Bucket Collections	846.00	1,365.14
Collection Goblets	85.00	299.91
Events	1,560.00	693.00
Friends - new	1,400.00	3,350.00
Friends - renewals	3,939.00	2,999.00
Fundraisers	143.85	13,697.78
General Donations	1,145.17	1,096.54
Gift aid	3,029.75	4,860.85
Grants	-	20,012.00
Interest Income	404.13	16.35
Lakeside Boxes	1,199.40	3,130.02
Lottery income	7,575.00	7,685.00
Memberships - Clubs & Coaches	1,860.00	1,910.00
Paypal donations	20.00	-
Sales of Goods	3,116.05	6,399.38
Use of Lake - Clubs & Coaches	1,050.00	3,386.00
Use of Lake - Commercial	11,200.00	11,333.00
Website Donations	4,743.62	3,867.85
Total Turnover	43,316.97	86,101.82
Cost of Sales		
Closing Stock	(3,200.00)	(577.45)
Cost of Goods Sold	3,224.38	4,115.00
Equipment Repair	-	30.00
Event Costs	1,073.16	1,859.24
Fundraising Costs	95.06	740.58
Lake Camera & Connection	636.06	812.02
Lake Equipment (not capital equipment)	6,531.54	3,781.94
Lake Improvements	3,599.93	-
Lake Repairs & Maintenance	760.77	1,528.33
Lottery Prizes and Expenses	3,725.93	3,734.60
Opening Stock	577.45	409.45
Paypal, Sumup & Give As You Live Fees	373.96	332.67
Silt Removal	7,064.75	9,406.20
Volunteer Costs	11.30	116.37
Website	2,610.99	2,560.00
Total Cost of Sales	27,085.28	28,848.95
Gross Profit	16,231.69	57,252.87
Administrative Costs		
Audit & Accountancy fees	180.00	151.20

	2023	2022
Bookkeeping & Admin Fees	4,354.50	3,853.70
Health & Safety	240.00	-
Hive - ongoing costs	449.00	10.00
Hive Refurbishment	1,320.00	22,259.27
Insurance	862.60	1,020.30
Postage, Freight & Courier	124.40	189.11
Secretarial & Trustee Costs	369.35	-
Telephone, Printing & Stationery	127.34	360.25
Travel & Subsistence	-	560.67
Total Administrative Costs	8,027.19	28,404.50
Operating Profit	8,204.50	28,848.37
Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation	8,204.50	28,848.37
Profit after Taxation	8,204.50	28,848.37

Balance Sheet

Marlens

As at 31 October 2023

	31 OCT 2023	31 OCT 2022
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Lottery	4,992.50	872.50
Marlens Current Account	14,385.10	19,580.45
Marlens Paypal	616.50	858.19
Petty Cash Tins x 2	50.00	50.00
Reserves Account	20,000.00	20,000.00
Savings Account	63,182.58	52,778.45
Total Cash at bank and in hand	103,226.68	94,139.59
Accounts Receivable	-	1,400.00
Other Debtors	-	2,071.00
Prepayments	-	862.60
Stock	3,200.00	577.45
Total Current Assets	106,426.68	99,050.64
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accounts Payable	170.00	998.46
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	170.00	998.46
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	106,256.68	98,052.18
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	106,256.68	98,052.18
Net Assets	106,256.68	98,052.18
Capital and Reserves		
Current Year Earnings	8,204.50	28,848.37
Retained Earnings	98,052.18	69,203.81
Total Capital and Reserves	106,256.68	98,052.18

Treasurer's report for the financial year ending 31st October 2023

2022/2023 saw a drop in funds coming into Marlens overall. Going into this year we thought that we may see a reduction in donations due to the cost of living crisis and increases in costs. Due to the wet summer, we saw one of our biggest fundraisers cancelled which had an impact. We invested in new signage lake side towards the end of the summer with QR codes for people to make donations using their phones, this is slowly gaining traction and recognition as we are seeing an increase in donations coming in this way. We are hopeful that we will see an increase of donations this way over 2024. Despite increases in costs and the drop in donations via our physical donation boxes and the website, we have maintained our earnings via commercial hire and lake usage and some fundraisers. We have finished the year with £106,256.68 in capital and reserves, (£98,052.18 in 2022) with a decrease on last year for receipts against expenditure, 2023 £8,204.50 compared to 2022 £28,848.37. Of these reserves, £8,000 has been designated as restricted. The remaining reserves are unrestricted and have been designated as follows: £25,000 held to protect the charity against a significant drop in income; £10,000 held for licence costs, a replacement hoist, utility charges and capital expenditure liabilities.

The major sources of income and expenditure in the Profit and Loss with any significance to 2022 are:

Receipts:

-Bucket, goblet and Lakeside Donation boxes decreased with 2023 standing at £2130.40 compared to £4795 in 2022. However, the donation activity via the website saw an increase, £4743.62 for 2023 and £3867.85 for 2022.

- Fundraisers saw a drop in income, largely due to a cancellation due to poor weather of our biggest fundraiser. £143.85 was taken in 2023 compared to £13,698 being taken in 2022.

- Lottery income has remained consistent, with £7,575 in 2023 and £7,685 in 2022.

- Membership has decreased, we lost someone from an administration role half way through the year who chased renewals and I believe that this has seen us see a drop in membership. This financial year sees friends income at £5,339 for 2023 compared to £6,349 in 2022. Clubs and coaches remained pretty level, £1,860 in 2023 and £1,910 in 2022.

- Events income is £1560 for 2023, which is up on 2022 (£693) with most of the income coming from the return of Winterfest at the Salthouse.

- Lake hire, commercial & clubs is very healthy for 2023 as we had a repeat filming booking and the yearly revenue was £11,200 compared to £11,333 in 2022. For clubs and coaches, we took £1,050 in 2023 against £3,386 for 2022. This was another category that got hit by the lake admin and also the wet summer.

-Sale of goods, again this year we sold Marine Lake bobble hats, however the stock paid for in 2023 did not arrive and we could not sell it until after the end of year, therefore this revenue will appear in the 2024 accounts. The revenue was £3,116.05 in 2023, compared to £6,399.38 2022.

Expenditure:

-The largest expenditure for 2023 was the silt removal at £7,064 which is a decrease from 2022 which was £9,406.20, this however was higher due to the timings of the invoices.

-Event costs were lower at £1,073.16 for 2023 compared with £1,859.24 in 2022.

-Lake equipment & improvements are both higher this year as we invested in some new large floor signage to ask patrons to not bring dogs lakeside. We also invested in some new handrails as part of our promise to keep the lake fit for use and accessible. 2023 costs are £6,531.54 in equipment and £3599.93 in improvements. We have changed the way we report on this for this year splitting the two categories. In 2022 the costs were £3781.94.

Aged Creditors and Debtors:

-At the end of the financial year there was 1 creditor which was 1 cheque for £170 which is an uncashed lottery winning.

As a board of trustees, we are aware we are very lucky with the donations and generosity that we see a good level of donations coming in. We are going to focus on seeking out opportunities to host additional fundraisers, apply for grants and funding and look at less weather reliant fundraisers. We also need to look into the costs of hiring an administrator to manage memberships and fees against what we potentially would earn. We are hopeful that as the weather warms our new signage will see the online donations increase over the falling cash donations. We also have our big summer swim fundraiser booked in and are hopeful for good weather. Marlens will continue to promote the lake and do our best to seek new fundraising opportunities and maintain the lake to make sure it is accessible and safe, whilst remaining within our financial capabilities.

Lilyblue Southam

Treasurer

4/4/24