



The Magic of Life Trust

Charity Number 1159917

Accounts for the year ended

31st December 2024

The Magic of Life Butterfly House

CwmRheidol

Aberystwyth

Ceredigion

SY23 3NB

Reference and administration

Charity Name: The Magic of Life Trust

Other names: The Magic of Life Butterfly House

Registered Charity Number: 1159917

Charity's address:

The Magic of Life Butterfly House,
CwmRheidol,
Aberystwyth,
Ceredigion,
SY23 3NB

Names of Trustees who manage the Charity:

Dr Peter Jenkins - Chair - whole year

Tim Allman - whole year

Sacha Bush - whole year

Lewis Richards - whole year

Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Entity:

The Magic of Life Butterfly House is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. In the event of the Trust being wound up, any assets of the Trust remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred by the charity trustees to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the charity, as the charity trustees may decide.

Funds

Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Trust and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Type of Governing Document: Constitution

How the Charity is constituted: Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee Selection Methods: Elected by Trustees

Objectives and Activities

- 1) to promote the conservation and protection of the natural environment by promoting biodiversity*
- 2) to advance the education of the public in matters concerning the natural world for the mutual benefit of both people and nature*
- 3) to establish and maintain breeding programs of rare species of plants and animals*

The Charity was registered as a CIO on 13th January 2015. Before that, *The Trust* operated as a not-for-profit organisation constituted on 5th May 2002. All profits are invested back into the Charity. Income is through visitor admission fees and grant-making bodies.

The Trust oversees the running of The Magic of Life Butterfly House. The butterfly house is an educational visitor centre in the Rheidol Valley, Ceredigion. It is open to the public from mid-February to the start of December.

Public Benefit Statement

In 2024 the Magic of Life Butterfly house was open to all members of the Public from the 15th of February to the 1st of December. We had a successful year with a total of 17,500 visitors. This was though down slightly on the previous year (-5%). The income (excluding Gift Aid) for the year was

£184,171, down -3.5% vs. 2023 (£190,948).

The Trust is dedicated to the promotion of education and the conservation of both tropical and indigenous wildlife. This mission is accomplished through maintaining high-quality exhibits of plants and insects that are open to the Public. Our team, comprised primarily of trained biologists, actively engages the public through informative talks on all days that we are open. These presentations are tailored to individual families, with a core emphasis on the ecology and conservation of butterflies and other insects. Ultimately, our aim is to inspire a deep sense of wonder for the Natural World.

This year we consolidated our butterfly breeding programme. We reared 3,260 of our own pupae, including 39 different species of butterflies and moths.

In terms of butterfly conservation, the Manager made a trip out to record and film *The Aesacus Birdwing*, one of the rarest butterflies in the world. This is known from just a few villages in Indonesia and is in grave danger of going extinct. A 28-page document was written on this trip and sent to contacts in the Government in Jakarta as well the Natural History Museum, London. The idea is to promote awareness and the future conservation of this species. The second trip in December was more successful, with at least three females being spotted and filmed.

Other conservation projects continue such as our Pied Flycatcher Breeding Project in the neighbouring Rheidol woods. The *Cynarina* project is still being established where we are trying to develop a method for successfully breeding this rare coral.

In this way, the trustees are complying with their duty to pay due regard to the guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties (Section 4 Charities Act 2006).

Declaration

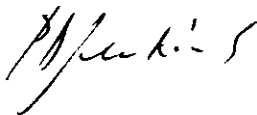
The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed by two trustees on behalf of the Trustees.

Trustee 1:

Full Name: PETER DONNA JENKINS

Signature:



Date:

7/6/25

Trustee 2:

Full Name:

TIMOTHY PETER AULMAN

Signature:



Date:

7 JUNE 2025

Charity Number 1159917

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charity's 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 Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

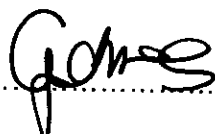
Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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


Gareth Jones ACMA
26 Bridge Street
Aberystwyth
SY23 1QB

16/5/2025
Date:

Magic of Life Trust

Statement of financial activities 31 December 2024

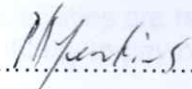
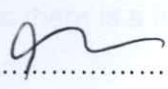
	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming Resources			
Donations, legacies and grants	313	313	127
Membership subscriptions	59,307	59,307	60,658
Gift aid	-6,627	-6,627	26,970
Admission fees	124,551	124,551	127,142
Bank Interest Income	0	0	3,001
Fundraising	0	0	20
Total incoming resources	<u>177,544</u>	<u>177,544</u>	<u>217,918</u>
Resources expended			
Livestock, horticulture and display	32,665	32,665	24,396
Shop goods	12,842	12,842	11,992
Wages and national insurance	118,487	118,487	92,892
Marketing	2,993	2,993	2,372
Rent	1,814	1,814	1,780
Heating	5,348	5,348	6,565
Insurance	999	999	922
Office and travel costs	13,311	13,311	7,600
Bank charges	1,037	1,037	1,902
Sundries	0	0	0
Write-offs	709	709	0
Depreciation	10,842	10,842	9,917
Total resources expended	<u>201,047</u>	<u>201,047</u>	<u>160,338</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>-23,503</u>	<u>-23,503</u>	<u>57,635</u>
Total funds brought forward	<u>193,784</u>	<u>193,784</u>	<u>136,149</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>170,281</u>	<u>170,281</u>	<u>193,784</u>

Trustees' Annual Report 2024
The Magic of Life Trust

Magic of Life Trust
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 24

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	<u>75,393</u>	<u>73,862</u>
Total fixed assets		
Current assets		
Debtors	6,237	13,227
Cash at bank and in hand	97,740	114,148
Total current assets	<u>103,976</u>	<u>127,375</u>
Creditors: due within one year	<u>9,088</u>	<u>7,452</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>170,281</u>	<u>193,784</u>
Creditors: due after one year	0	0
Net assets	<u>170,281</u>	<u>193,784</u>
Funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted funds	170,281	193,784
Total funds	<u>170,281</u>	<u>193,784</u>

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all of the trustees

.....  

Date of approval

..... 7/6/25

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Note 1. Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);
- And with the Charities Act 2011

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Note 2. Accounting policies

This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity.

2.1 Incoming resources

- Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- I. The charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- II. The trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- III. The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

- Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

2.2 Expenditure and liabilities

- Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

2.3 Assets

- Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Note 3. Details of certain items of expenditure

3.1 Fees for examination

	This year	Last year
	£	£
• Independent examiner's fee	<u>640</u>	<u>625</u>

Note 4. Paid employees

4.1 Staff costs

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	114,055	89,154
Pension costs	<u>4,432</u>	<u>3,738</u>
	<u>118,487</u>	<u>92,892</u>

Note 5. Tangible fixed assets

5.1 Cost

	Balance brought forward	Additions	Balance carried forward
	£	£	£
Plant & machinery	14,794	473	15,267
Butterfly house	33,412	1,932	35,344
Computers	17,806	5,574	23,380
Equipment	74,200	4,393	78,593
Gardens	7,146	0	7,146
Landscaping	8,458	0	8,458
Miscellaneous	1,174	0	1,174
Fixtures & fittings	<u>7,961</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,961</u>
	<u>164,950</u>	<u>12,372</u>	<u>177,322</u>

5.2 Accumulated depreciation

	Balance brought forward	Depreciation for the year	Balance carried forward
	£	£	£
Plant & machinery	11,701	534	12,235
Butterfly house	21,636	1,371	23,007
Computers	13,181	3,060	16,241
Equipment	34,314	4,428	38,742
Gardens	3,310	384	3,694
Landscaping	4,344	411	4,755
Miscellaneous	542	63	605
Fixtures & fittings	<u>2,060</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>2,650</u>
	<u>91,088</u>	<u>10,841</u>	<u>101,929</u>

5.3 Net book value

	£
Brought forward	73,862
Carried forward	75,392