

Accounts at 31 March 2023

Income and expenditure for year Ending 31 March 2023

Income

Sales

6th Ed Guide Book Sales	13.00	
7th Ed Guide Book Discount	-1,150.80	
7th Ed Guide Book Sales	4,575.00	
Other Book Sales	119.50	
200 Years of the Lancaster Canal	253.50	
Plaque Sales	35.50	
Post & Packing Sales	46.00	
		<hr/>
		3,891.70

Fundraising & Interest on Balances

Buy a Block	110.00	
Fund The Bund Total	3,538.50	
Interest	1,190.21	
Talks	150.00	
		<hr/>
		4,988.71

Membership and Donations

Membership Subscriptions	3,849.00	
100 Club Subscriptions	622.00	
Other Income	860.00	
Donations	1,555.33	
Donations - Howard Broomby	520.00	
		<hr/>
		7,406.33

Trip Boat

Chartered Trips	458.50	
Trip Boat Tickets	2,360.42	
		<hr/>
		2,818.92

Total Income

19,105.66

Expenditures

Promotion & Events

Westmorland Show	282.60	
Web Site	2,104.80	
		<hr/>
		2,387.40

Memberships & Subscriptions

Subscriptions Paid	129.00	
		<hr/>
		129.00

Restoration and Working Parties

Miscellaneous	400.00	
Equipment	33.65	
Working Party Materials	47.40	
		<hr/>
		481.05

Trip Boat Expenses

Boat Licence (C&RT)	766.03	
Boat Refurbishment	477.90	
Boat Training	1,050.34	
		<hr/>
		2,294.27

Waterwitch Magazine

Distribution	348.23	
Printing	1,128.00	
		<hr/>
		1,476.23

Governance Costs

Accountancy	316.80	
AGM	123.34	
Insurance	2,004.96	
Bank Charges	108.51	
		<hr/> 2,553.61

Running Costs and Costs Of Fundraising

Millness Building & Wharf	70.11	
Repairs and Maintenance	8.99	
Small Tools and Equipment	2,005.35	
100 Club Prizes & Costs	135.00	
Cost of Sales	1,152.97	
Postage	283.97	
		<hr/> 3,656.39

Total Expenditure**12,977.95****Surplus/(deficit) for the year****6,127.71****Balance Sheet**

	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2023
Fixed Asset		
Total Fixed Asset	12,000.00	12,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand		
CAF Bank	31,369.93	28,654.88
NatWest	916.30	1,629.30
PayPal	777.33	456.28
United Trust Bank	84,665.38	85,817.76
Total Cash at bank and in hand	117,749.33	116,558.22
Debtors		
Accounts Receivable	1,055.00	0.00
Total Debtors	1,055.00	0.00
Current Assets		
Stock	0.00	4,720.03
Total Current Assets	0.00	4,720.03
Net current assets	117,749.33	121,278.25
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Creditors		
Accounts Payable	3,436.86	117.01
Total Trade Creditors	3,436.86	117.01
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3,436.86	117.01
Net current assets (liabilities)	114,312.47	121,161.24
Total assets less current liabilities	126,312.47	133,161.24
Total net assets (liabilities)	126,312.47	133,161.24
Charity funds		
Share Capital Account	154,981.16	154,981.16
Unrestricted Net Assets	-60,084.41	-60,084.41
Surplus/(Deficit)	31,415.72	38,264.49
Total Charity funds	126,312.47	133,161.24

Treasurer's Report – Year Ending 31 March 2023

Overall, a good year with the trust recording a surplus of £4,936.

Income was boosted by the release of the 7 th Edition of the guide Book resulting in sales of 559 Copies and generating income of £4,575. Other book sales added a further £373 to this and overall sales of books were up 191% on comparative sales in the prior year. Fundraising and interest on Balances was largely static at £4,989 though this includes £3,838 in respect of Fund the Bund (bringing the total for this to £8,425) and included 3 separate donations of £1,000. Membership brought in £3,849, which was down on last year (£5,583). We recovered £1,000 from a previous donation to a Regeneration Partnership that has ceased to function which has been recorded as a donation and inflates the donation figure somewhat to £1,553. We are very grateful to have been nominated as the charity for donations in memory of our benefactor Howard Broomby which resulted in £520 in donations at the year end. The trip boat Bought in £2,819 in the year which was about £1,000 more than last year.

In terms of expenditure there was less spent on Restoration and Working Parties this year following completion of the first furlong and pending confirmation of stillage. This is expected to increase again in the next year as work begins on F2&3. Waterwitch Magazine costs fell by £1,000 to £1,476 compared to last year reflecting the reduced membership. Governance costs were largely static with the exception of insurance which rose 33% compared to the prior year at £2,005 (£1,500). Running Costs and Cost of Fundraising were substantially higher this year with large expenditure on Small Tools and Equipment (replacement brush cutter etc), the costs of publishing the new edition of the guide book and the costs of despatching 559 copies of it.

Jim Mayes BSc (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Treasurer

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the Lancaster Canal Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 2011 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the Trust's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages 1 to 3

Scrutineer's Statement

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Name: CHAS ADAMS
Address: 8 MOIRAN AVENUE
..... MOLECOMBE
..... LANCASTER
..... LA5 6SB
Date: 7/6/22

Trustees Report for the year 2022/23

Website

We hope members use the website, which is packed with all our activities and useful information, and have noticed it has had a revamp. We commissioned Xtensive to do a thorough update and it is now brighter and more 'user friendly'. Alan continues to tweak the SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) rating and it is increasingly higher up in Google searches. Any comments about the site Alan will be pleased to hear.

Waterwitch magazine

The Spring edition was produced and edited by Gill Mayes. The company that mailed the 300 + copies out informed us at the last minute that they were closing down so the task of filling envelopes, producing address label and mailing them was bravely taken on by the Mayes family for which our heartfelt thanks!

An Autumn edition will go to press in October and if you have anything to share with fellow members, a boating/walking/cycling/volunteering experience or a profound thought on the future of canals we'll be very glad to hear from you.

Guide Books

The revised, updated and extended 7th Edition of The Complete Guide to the Lancaster Canal was published and launched in April 2022.

Sales have been steady and at the end of June 2023 there had been 27 (bulk) Invoiced sales amounting to 512 copies together with a further 120 copies sold via our on-line book shop.

It is sad to report that owing to Local Government cut backs the visitor centre in Garstang has closed down and the Lancaster and Morecambe centres are due to close in September. Both Garstang and Lancaster Visitor Centres were good supporters of the Trust stocking and selling our Guide Book.

Also available via our on-line bookshop are the following books:

200 Years of The Lancaster Canal

The Lancaster Canal Walk Book

nb Waterwitch

On the boating front, all is going reasonably well in terms of the Sunday trips and the upturn in charters is proving lucrative. The Country Fest was one of the best we have had due to the fantastic weather with the boat full on most trips on both days, a great effort from the crew! We have a small problem with reed islands drifting about and we will be discussing with CRT the possibility of doing some vegetation management ourselves.

The Boat was lifted out onto the quay at Millness at the end of the last season for its three yearly overall and is now safely back in the water and operating well . The hull has been painted with 2 x red oxide primer coats and 2 x Intertuf blacking . The interior bilges have been de-rusted and primed followed by a coat of specialist bilge paint (kindly donated by Teamac Ltd along with a large tin of grey primer for the upper works plus some tins of white primer and gloss) There is still the cabin roof and rear deck / gunnels to paint but this will be done as soon as time and weather permits. Thanks are due to all the other crew members who gave their time over the winter and spring to help, notably Chas Mathews and Ken Trimmer.

The training program went well and the current crews all passed their refresher with one exception. Five candidates successfully passed the full 2 day COBM course and we now have 5 new skippers on the schedule which is a useful bonus

Restoration

First Furlong is complete subject to CRT accepting a loss rate slightly above their original requirement. We have hit a snag with the bund however as it's been discovered that there is a water pipe running through it that doesn't appear on any of the plans we have had access to. There will be an 'easement agreement' between CRT and the water company and CRT's legal department are working on this now. The delay is a disappointment to all who have put so much effort into the FF but it will be sorted out at some point then we can have our long overdue party !

In the meantime, work has started on the next section, Sellet Hall bridge to Well Head lane, which has been named F2an3 as it is very roughly another two furlongs. Ascertaining the condition of the bed is important to guide planning the design for this length and so we will be clearing a corridor between the banks, ensuring that no work is done on the banks themselves to minimise environmental damage.

Towpath Trail Project

This project, led by Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership, has gained momentum in recent months with the commitment of some £300,000 from two local authorities and a funding bid going to the SPF, part of the governments 'levelling up' money. As a reminder, the aim is to have a hard surface path, suitable for a wide range of users, from Kendal to Lancaster. The first length, from Well Head lane to Field End bridge and funded by Sports England, was completed nearly two years and is much appreciated by the many users. The next section will continue south towards Crooklands. All being well, work will start early next year.

Volunteering

The Trust needs more volunteers!

The Trust runs entirely on volunteers whatever role we have in the organisation. Now in particular we need a Secretary, plus someone with Fundraising experience and a Press/Publicity person. These are interesting jobs that make a significant contribution to the Trust. Talk with any one of the existing Trustees to better understand what's involved.