



MAHSEER TRUST

RIVERS - FISH - PEOPLE

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1st	April	2024		31st	March	2025

SECTION A: REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name	The Mahseer Trust
Other names charity is known by	N/A
Registered charity number (if any)	1167056
Charity's principal address	Capel Saron
	School Road
	Fairbourne
	Gwynedd
	LL38 2RQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted, if not for the whole year	Mechanism of appointment
Adrian Pinder	Chair	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Ian Pett	Treasurer	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Andrew Harrison	Secretary	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Derek D'Souza	India Regional Lead	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (For example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted, if not for the whole year
N/A	

Names and addresses of advisors (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Freshwater ecosystem services	Dr Mark Everard	Associate Professor of Ecosystem Services, University of the West of England (UWE Bristol)

Name of Chief Executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

SECTION B: STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts	
Type of governing document (e.g. Trust Deed, Constitution)	Constitution, last amended 12/05/2016
How the charity is constituted (e.g. Trust, Association, Company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Majority vote by existing trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>The charity is run entirely on a voluntary basis, with no paid employees. The organisational structure comprises a number of positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustees ('Members' of the CIO) Responsible for management of the charity and all decisions. Only trustees having voting rights at board level. • Officers Support the charity's objectives and closely involved with planning, but no voting rights at board level. • Advisors Support the charity's objectives and provide advice on planning and other matters, but no voting rights at board level. • Patrons Support the charity's objectives and assist with raising the profile of Mahseer Trust, but no voting rights at board level. • Honorary Members Formally recognised by the trustees as contributing significantly to the charity's objectives, but no voting rights at board level. • Supporters Individuals who pay an annual or one-off (lifetime) subscription to the charity to support the charity's objectives, but no voting rights at board level. <p>Trustees receive a 'Trustee Induction Pack', including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT Governing Document • MT Data Protection Policy • MT Policy on the Acceptance and Refusal of Gifts and Donations • MT Trustee Code of Governance • MT Conflict of Interest Policy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MT Vulnerable People Policy ● Charity Commission 'The Essential Trustee' ● Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit ● MT Trustee Declaration (Sign and return) ● MT Trustee Induction Table (Sign and return)
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SECTION C:	OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
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Summary of the Objects of the charity set out in its Governing Document.	<p>The Objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit, to advance education, and environmental protection and improvement;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in countries where mahseer species are present by promoting, sustaining and increasing individual and collective knowledge and understanding of mahseer species, and skills and expertise in conservation and aquaculture; (b) in the wider world, to carry out and contribute to research to add to the collective knowledge and understanding of the mahseer species, their life cycle, habitat and their conservation; (c) to contribute to the education and development of young people by training them in conservation; (d) to contribute to the conservation of mahseer species in their natural environment and to encourage and assist international knowledge transfer.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these Objects.	<p>With reference to the key objectives defined above:</p> <p><i>Capacity building</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing: Continued attempts to plan an International Mahseer Conference (IMC) 4. <p><i>Research</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 2024: Research project to sequence whole genome of the Critically Endangered hump-backed mahseer, <i>Tor remadevii</i> discussions ongoing. ● May 2024: Discussions on mahseer of Sri Lanka with Gayan Nadeela Hirimuthugoda, University of Peridenya. ● June 2024: Project planning discussions with Vidyadhar Atkore, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON). ● July 2024: Steve Lockett initiates discussion on common habitat needs of mahseers, otters and freshwater crabs and steps to raise funding for research. Team includes SL, Gopakumar Menon (River Otter Conservancy), A Biju Kumar (University of Kerala) and Smrithy Raj (University of Kerala).

- August 2024: Ian Pett and Adrian Pinder arrange for a cased mahseer specimen to be sent to Rupert Collins of Natural History Museum to begin a speculative ancient-DNA (aDNA) sampling attempt.
- September 2024: Rajeev Raghavan, Adrian Pinder and Steve Lockett begin Green Listing the hump-backed mahseer under the first phase of this IUCN initiative.

Education and Outreach

- April 2024: Steve Lockett met Loknath Behera, Managing Director – Kochi Metro Rail Ltd., to discuss the commission of a conservation mural inside Edappally Metro Station, Kochi, India.
- April 2024: Printing of The Tiger of the River in Malayalam translation.
- July 2024: Roger Tilbrook (volunteer) sources and distributes information handout leaflets in north India.
- September 2024: Steve Lockett gets confirmation that his essay “Why Mahseer Matter” is to be included in the HarperCollins India forthcoming release in honour of Romulus Whitaker.
- November 2024: Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, India once again uses Mahseer Trust’s EM2 river modelling table for education during the Mountains of Life one-week festival.
- January/February 2025: Steve Lockett assists Jeevitnadi, Pune, India with river outreach for 80 Class 7 students from Dr Erin Nagarwala school. Followed by meetings with Jeevitnadi staff and supporters at the Ram-Mula confluence: a former mahseer habitat now threatened by development.

International knowledge transfer

- April 2024: Steve Lockett sends letter of support to Prakash Bhusal of consortium fighting legal case in Kathmandu High Court to prohibit dam building on Karnali River until correct approvals are agreed.
- July 2024: Adrian Pinder and Steve Lockett write letters of support for local researchers Elisha Ghimire and Dencin Rons Thampy to apply for EDGE funding.
- August 2024: Report from Prakash Bhusal that dam building works on Karnali River have been halted by the High Court of Kathmandu.

We confirm the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on Public Benefit

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy on grant making; • policy programme related investment; • contribution made by volunteers. 	<p>April 2024: agreed a timetable of internal policy review</p>

SECTION D:	ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	
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SECTION E:	FINANCIAL REVIEW
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Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves.	<p>The Mahseer Trust maintains an operational reserve of £5,000 (five thousand pounds), which is deemed sufficient to meet any terminal liabilities that might arise on the closure of the Trust.</p> <p>These funds are held in a bank account. Future levels of reserves will be determined in accordance with any changes in the Trust's liabilities arising from changes in its levels of activity and expenditure.</p>
Details of any funds materially in deficit	N/A



Further financial review details (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted. 	<p>Income in the Trust's operational year 2024-25 totalled £998.10. This comprised one Donation of £20.00, £60.00 from an ongoing Supporter Subscription, bank interest of £840.36 and reimbursed Gift Aid of £77.74.</p> <p>Expenditure in the Trust's operational year was predominantly in India and totalled £5,663.05, comprised of £3,872.47 on the Genetic Sequencing Project, £667.86 on translating, publishing, printing and distributing the Malayalam edition of The Tiger of the River children's book in Kerala, £349.75 for expenses incurred in participating in the 4th Odisha Rivers Conference, £282.60 for expenses incurred in participating in the Pune Education/ Awareness events and the Goa Book Festival, £153.40 for the crating and delivery of our cased 19th century Humpbacked Mahseer Specimen donated to The Natural History Museum to extract DNA samples for their Ancient DNA project (in partnership with Bournemouth University), £59.99 for the annual license for Microsoft Office software, payments of £242.86 for maintaining our domain name and web hosting, £4.12 in PayPal fees and £30.00 in Lloyds Bank charges for international transfers.</p>

	<p>In budgetary terms, this amounted to a spend of £336.97 on Administration, £4,025.87 on Conservation Projects and £1,300.21 on Outreach Projects.</p> <p>Our current total assets are, therefore, £38,348.00. There are no known outstanding credits or debits.</p>
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SECTION F:	OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION
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N/A

SECTION G:	DECLARATION
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<p>The trustees below declare that they have approved the trustees report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.</p>		
	Trustee 1	Trustee 2
Signatures		
Full names	Dr Andrew Harrison	Dr Adrian Pinder
Position	Secretary	Chair
Date	20/01/2026	20/01/2026





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name The Mahseer Trust		No (if any) 1167056		CC16a
Receipts and Payments Accounts				
For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2024	To	Period end date 31/03/2025	

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	20	-	-	20	55
Supporter subscriptions	60	-	-	60	280
Reimbursement	78	-	-	78	-
Income	840	-	-	840	650
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	998	-	-	998	985
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	998	-	-	998	985
A3 Payments					
Marketing	-	-	-	-	-
Administration	337	-	-	337	268
Conservation	4,026	-	-	4,026	831
Outreach	1,300	-	-	1,300	1,074
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,663	-	-	5,663	2,173
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,663	-	-	5,663	2,173
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,665	-	-	- 4,665	- 1,188
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	43,013	-	-	43,013	44,201
Cash funds this year end	38,348	-	-	38,348	43,013

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	Paypal Account	630	-	-
	Lloyds Bank Accounts	37,718	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	38,348	-	-
	(Agree balances with R&P account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature 	Print Name Ian Pett (Treasurer)	Date of approval 03/01/2026	
		Adrian Pinder (Chair)	03/01/2026	