

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1167746

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-06-20

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Head Mill
Umberleigh
Devon
EX37 9HA

Phone 01769580621

Email OTTERS@UKWOT.ORG

Website www.ukwildottertrust.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING THE CONSERVATION OF THE EURASIAN OTTER (LUTRA LUTRA) IN THE UK.TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE UK PUBLIC IN OTTER CONSERVATION.

Activities: Conservation organisation specialising in the European otter Lutra lutraDealing with raising awareness, education and promotion of the otterRehabilitation of orphaned or sick/injured otter cubs for eventual release back into the wild

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-02	£101,000	£84,000	-	-
2024-05-02	£100,000	£84,000	-	-
2023-05-02	£74,000	£45,000	-	-
2022-05-02	£39,643	£34,880	-	-
2021-05-02	£31,082	£27,467	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
COLIN PAUL ANDERSON	Chair	2012-04-12
Christopher Hicks		2023-04-01
DAVID RICHARD WEBB CEO		2014-05-01
IAN HUMPHREYS		2014-05-01
Ian Gardiner		2023-04-01

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

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Accounts



ANNUAL RETURN 2025

2025 saw different challenges for our organisation.

We had an upturn in the number of cubs found, more releases and more need for resources to maintain this vital conservation service. In the 2025 period, we had 37 cubs in and released 19 back into the wild (previous years cubs ready for release)

We have more volunteers and a much larger social media, TV and Radio presence than in 2024.

We were in September 2025, issued with a very unexpected “no fault section 21 eviction notice” from the landlords. This was naturally a huge shock and massive blow to our organisation given that we had 4 months to vacate our home on site and 6 months to vacate the otter rehabilitation centre. This was an uphill battle on paper as the centre took 4 years to build and get to how we needed it.

Thankfully one of our supporters bought and gifted to us a 4 acre plot of land not far from where we were operating from ... had this not of happened, then the rehabilitation centre would have closed. In October 2025, we started to dig the foundations for the enclosures and within 15 weeks, with huge thanks to our volunteer teams throughout UKWOT and a local contractor, within 15 weeks we had transformed the new site to hold brand new cubs rooms, training room, fish preparation building, solar shed with solar off grid installed, barn storage, new driveways, 27 outdoor enclosures, 1600 native trees planted to create wildlife woodlands, 40 fruit trees and a water treatment plant. The cost for this was covered by an incredible public response to our plea for help and this centre has cost in the region of £165,000 to create but its ours and its

paid for. It will also serve as a flagship rescue centre in the UK for a very special species.

This report is actually short due to our teams being fully committed to the building of the new centre.

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

HEAD MILL

UMBERLEIGH

DEVON

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

2nd MAY 2024

MEADOW BROOK ACCOUNTANCY
1 DUKE STREET
SOUTH MOLTON
DEVON

Independent Examiners Report

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement:

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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: *Carole Bament*

Date: *26 FEBRUARY 2025*

Name: *CAROLE BAMENT*

Relevant professional qualification or body:

ICPA (Fellow)

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2nd MAY 2024

RECEIPTS	2024 £	2023 £
Grants	-	3,500.00
Donations & adoptions	68,785.59	62,018.01
Sale of merchandise	9,030.01	6,063.01
Gift aid	21,468.64	1,155.68
Training	750.00	750.00
Fundraiser	-	550.00
Bank interest received	87.11	21.61

100,121.35	74,058.31
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PAYMENTS

Purchases of merchandise (adjusted for stock)	9,701.63	8,630.13
Feed and bedding	14,139.50	9,502.69
Veterinary costs	176.52	117.46
Repairs & maintenance	24,225.74	14,631.19
Equipment hire	400.00	-
Workwear	943.98	389.03
Motor expenses	14,133.30	6,167.44
Public liability insurance	306.38	528.99
Advertising	6,528.05	-
Postage & stationery	1,014.39	623.52
Computer costs	479.29	116.01
Subscriptions & sundries	4,134.87	971.88
Professional fees	2,188.00	231.00
Water charges	-	85.24
Rent	1,510.00	500.00
Light & heat	2,227.18	1,535.40
Phone costs	328.97	185.84
Donations	1,470.00	475.70
Bank fees	-	1.87

83,907.80	44,693.39
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Balance(s) brought forward (from previous year)

40,777.65	11,412.73
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Balance(s) in hand at year-end

56,991.20	40,777.65
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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

£ £

Fixed	- Trailer	purchased 29th December 2021	2,000.00	2,000.00
	- L200 Truck	purchased 10th January 2022	4,500.00	4,500.00
	- Freelander OT51 ERS	purchased 18th May 2023	2,800.00	-
	- Freelander OT58 ERS	purchased 19th June 2023	3,995.00	-
	- Nissan Crew Cab OT52 ERS	purchased 10th July 2023	6,375.00	-
	- Machinery & equipment	purchased in 2022/23	18,131.41	18,131.41
	- Machinery & equipment	purchased in 2023/24	7,423.53	-
Current	- Stock of merchandise		9,600.00	5,800.00
			54,824.94	30,431.41

Cash and Bank balances in hand

Bank	- Business account	259.69	846.24
	- Savings account	1,906.57	9,500.00
		2,166.26	10,346.24

TOTAL

56,991.20	40,777.65
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HEAD MILL

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UK WILD OTTER TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1167746

Accounts



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

The Trustees meet at monthly intervals to facilitate a better engagement with the Founder of the UK Wild Otter Trust. It was agreed that all meetings would be documented and signed off as true, with copies being distributed amongst the Trustees.

2024 was a busy year for the team due to the sheer number of orphaned otter cubs directed to UKWOT for care. For the period January 2024 to End December 2025 saw 38 orphaned animals in our care.

It was agreed that the existing facility, whilst showing a fit for purpose centre, may if numbers continue to rise be out spaced. It was therefore proposed that we look for our own piece of land to facilitate this issue before it becomes an issue. It was agreed that being proactive rather than reactive was the way to go. To that end, one of our Trustees kindly purchased a 4 acre site that is now being rented to UKWOT for creating a second site to house orphaned otter cubs.

We have therefore purchased a plot of land known as “Lee Meadow” and areas of this have started to be created for a return to wildlife, nature and biodiversity gains. It was agreed that the meadow would be restored back to nature as such we have already planted 1600 native trees, created a 40 tree orchard and a one acre wildflower meadow with more in the pipeline such as a wildlife lake, 25 enclosures and solar, off grid power to operate from in the future.

It was also declared that this accountancy period had exceeded all expectations given the fragile state of our country with less money available.

We engaged in various fundraising activities and as such, managed to gain £100,121.00 income with a £84,000 outgoing. The remaining balance was held back for general operational costs moving forward.

It was agreed that given the circumstances, this was an excellent year on performance by all involved.

Our current financial condition is strong, with approx. £20,000 in bank and assets of £54,000.

Closing the Trustees annual statement it was agreed that we continue to build on UKWOTS reputation for excellence and professionalism in 2025.

Annual statement prepared by Colin Anderson/David Webb on this day 28th February 2025 and duly signed as confirmed digitally below:

Colin Paul Anderson – Trustee/Finance Officer

David R Webb – Trustee & Founder

Dated 28/02/2025

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HEAD MILL

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Accounts



Trustees Annual Report period 2023

Overview of operations

2023 was our busiest year so far. We received, treated and cared for 32 otter cubs, releasing 24 with the remaining animals for this period being released early in 2024.

Currently in 2024 January to the end of March, we have 20 in our care. The expectation is that we will potentially receive more this year than 2023.

What we did in 2023

During this period, we re-laid our car parking, pathways and access tracks with 110 tons of type 1 aggregate. This has enabled a more user-friendly environment as it involved removing some extremely muddy areas in the process.

We have started to raise the height of all of our outdoor enclosures, again to make more user friendly in terms of operational catch ups and maintenance aspects.

We have redesigned our freezer and fish prep rooms as well as improving our indoor cub rooms.

Plans for 2024

The team are now focused on purchasing our own land which will secure our future. Currently, we enjoy the hospitality of our Hon. President the Earl of Lichfield. However, moving forward we feel the need to add security to our already fantastic organisation.

The plan moving forward is to purchase our own land and rent out for a period of up to 5 years to generate another income stream. The land would be a large extension of our existing facility but would also incorporate a large woodland which would be returned to wildlife. We would be looking to secure a building project that would see a potential for 30 enclosures, a purpose-built barn that would hold a minimum of 12 cubs plus associated storage with running water to each enclosure with purpose-built ponds and drainage facilities within the complex. In addition to this, the area would be ring fenced.

Finances

2023 has seen an upturn in our donations, largely due to generous donation from Oban along with some smaller bequeaths. Our operational costs have risen as expected due to cost demand on fish for the cubs.

As an organisation, we still do not pay anyone within UKWOT and we currently have no requirement for this however, in the long term plan we would be looking to secure at least one full time paid staff member and 1 part time staff member to assist in and help with the anticipated growth of the organisation and its needs moving forward.

END OF REPORT

Dated: 18/03/2024

Signed Digitally: **Dave Webb**

Founder/CEO/Trustee

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2nd MAY 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
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Donations & adoptions	62,018.01	33,715.41
Sale of merchandise	6,063.01	5,275.00
Gift aid	1,155.68	152.90
Training	750.00	-
Fundraiser	550.00	-
Bank interest received	21.61	0.13
	74,058.31	39,643.44

PAYMENTS

Purchases of merchandise (adjusted for stock)	8,630.13	5,159.72
Feed and bedding	9,502.69	4,562.64
Veterinary costs	117.46	346.86
Equipment	-	849.86
Repairs & maintenance	14,631.19	20,263.27
Workwear	389.03	153.00
Motor expenses	6,167.44	2,314.51
Public liability insurance	528.99	144.20
Advertising	-	141.48
Postage & stationery	623.52	164.63
Computer costs	116.01	80.74
Subscriptions & sundries	971.88	289.79
Van hire	-	105.00
Professional fees	231.00	263.20
Water charges	85.24	41.22
Rent	500.00	-
Light & heat	1,535.40	-
Phone costs	185.84	-
Donations	475.70	-
Bank fees	1.87	-

44,693.39	34,880.12
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Accounts



2022 UK WILD OTTER TRUST ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

NEW REHABILITATION CENTRE:

We moved premises to a larger, easier to manage site of 2 acres by kind permission of our Hon: President The Earl of Lichfield.

The site now comprises of 20 purpose built otter cub rehabilitation enclosures, 1 site hospital room, 4 indoor cub monitoring rooms with water & electric on site for such purposes.

REHABILITATION OF OTTER CUBS/ADULTS:

2022 saw an upturn in the number of orphans needed our help. 2021 saw us deal with 22 in with 18 released back to the wild. 2022 saw us receive 32 in and release 26 back to the wild. All of our rehabilitation work is carried out with the support of public funding. We are of the opinion that more are being found and brought to us as a result of people still working from home as a result of Covid.

FISHERY INVESTIGATION WORK:

We had several calls regarding the alleged, suspected wrongdoings or illegal persecution of otters. Fisheries were visited and illegally set traps were removed under Police presence and destroyed. The owners of the fisheries were educated on the law and are unlikely to replace traps at these sites. No prosecutions were brought forward in these cases.

PLANS FOR 2023:

Our goals for 2023 are to install a 2nd cub hospital room on site with a 2nd weighing shed. Once this has been completed, we will have reached our goal in terms of the rehabilitation unit. This work will increase our capacity to 40 animals.

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

HEAD MILL

UMBERLEIGH

DEVON

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

2nd MAY 2022

MEADOW BROOK ACCOUNTANCY

1 DUKE STREET

SOUTH MOLTON

DEVON

Independent Examiners Report

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement:

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and 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 the 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 presented a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements 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.

Signed: Carole Bament

Date: 26 FEBRUARY 2023

Name: CAROLE BAMENT

Relevant professional qualification or body:

ICPA (Fellow)

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2nd MAY 2022

RECEIPTS	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants	500.00	-
Donations & adoptions	33,715.41	24,477.02
Sale of merchandise	5,275.00	5,362.27
Gift aid	152.90	-
Membership	-	25.00
Fundraiser	-	1,217.73
Bank interest received	0.13	0.16
	39,643.44	31,082.18

PAYMENTS

Purchases of merchandise (adjusted for stock)	5,159.72	4,407.60
Feed and bedding	4,562.64	2,176.00
Veterinary costs	346.86	421.74
Equipment	849.86	1,328.50
Repairs & maintenance	20,263.27	14,260.36
Workwear	153.00	230.99
Motor expenses	2,314.51	659.42
Public liability insurance	144.20	144.20
Advertising	141.48	109.59
Postage & stationery	164.63	834.20
Computer costs	80.74	341.61
Subscriptions & sundries	289.79	486.52
Van hire	105.00	-
Professional fees	263.20	-
Water charges	41.22	-
Phone costs	-	10.00
Travel costs	-	257.41
Donations	-	1,797.65
Interest paid	-	2.03

34,880.12	27,467.82
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Balance(s) brought forward (from previous year)

6,649.41	3,035.05
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Balance(s) in hand at year-end

11,412.73	6,649.41
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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

£ £

Assets

Fixed	- Truck	sold 5th July 2021 sale proceeds £3,400	-	3,400
	- Trailer	purchased 29th December 2021	2,000	-
	- L200 Truck	purchased 10th January 2022	4,500	-
Current	- Stock of merchandise		2,500	2,500
			9,000	5,900

Cash and Bank balances in hand

Bank	- Business account	412.53	49.34
	- Savings account	2,000.20	700.07
		2,412.73	749.41

TOTAL

11,412.73	6,649.41
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UK WILD OTTER TRUST

HEAD MILL

UMBERLEIGH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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Date: 26 FEBRUARY 2023

Name: CAROLE BAMENT

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ICPA (Fellow)

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

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Workwear	153.00	230.99
Motor expenses	2,314.51	659.42
Public liability insurance	144.20	144.20
Advertising	141.48	109.59
Postage & stationery	164.63	834.20
Computer costs	80.74	341.61
Subscriptions & sundries	289.79	486.52
Van hire	105.00	-
Professional fees	263.20	-
Water charges	41.22	-
Phone costs	-	10.00
Travel costs	-	257.41
Donations	-	1,797.65
Interest paid	-	2.03

34,880.12	27,467.82
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Balance(s) brought forward (from previous year)

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			2,412.73	749.41

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UK WILD OTTER TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1167746

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CONTENTS:

1: TRUSTEE GENERAL OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

2: REHABILITATION

3: PROGRESSIVE EXTENTIONS TO CENTRE

4: YEARLY CONCLUSION



1: TRUSTEES GENERAL OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The Trustees have had a busy year with managing extensions, organisational growth and our rehabilitation centre, now the largest in the country.

Expenditure has seen a growth as have donations bearing in mind that no member of the team receives any financial gain from the organisation.

Year on year, we see a large growth in our donations, and this is due to extended and prolonged awareness of what we do within the core business of the Trust. This has undoubtedly been increased via the use of our website and social media channels with many new offers being sourced and added to enhance our followers experience of the UK Wild Otter Trust.

The Trustees have more growth plans in place for 2022 at start with an aim for these to be implemented and completed no later than Spring 2023. This will be dependent on donations and grants that are being applied for (detailed information in **3**:

We are of the opinion that UKWOT will grow further and has already established itself as the leading specialist Eurasian otter organisation in the country.

This report has been produced by David Webb, Founder & Trustee February 2022

2: REHABILITATION

The orphaned cub rehabilitation has been a huge part of the organisation's operations during 2021.

During this period, we moved sites, dismantled and reused materials where possible and rebuilt the new centre from a baseline field. The centre boasts 12 purpose built rehabilitation enclosures, each of varying sizes but all of the same construction and design.

We have a large storage shed, tool shed and cub weighing room at the facility to ease the movement of the animals within our care. From January 2021 to January 2022, we had 35 animals through the centre with 22 being released and to date (February 2022) have 11 in care currently with a double release planned for this month weather dependent.

UKWOT have pioneered a very successful method of rehabilitation and releases (separate paper being produced to reflect this) and are able to provide a 100% release success rate to date.

Currently, the number of orphaned cubs coming in has slowed to an acceptable rate which is good news.

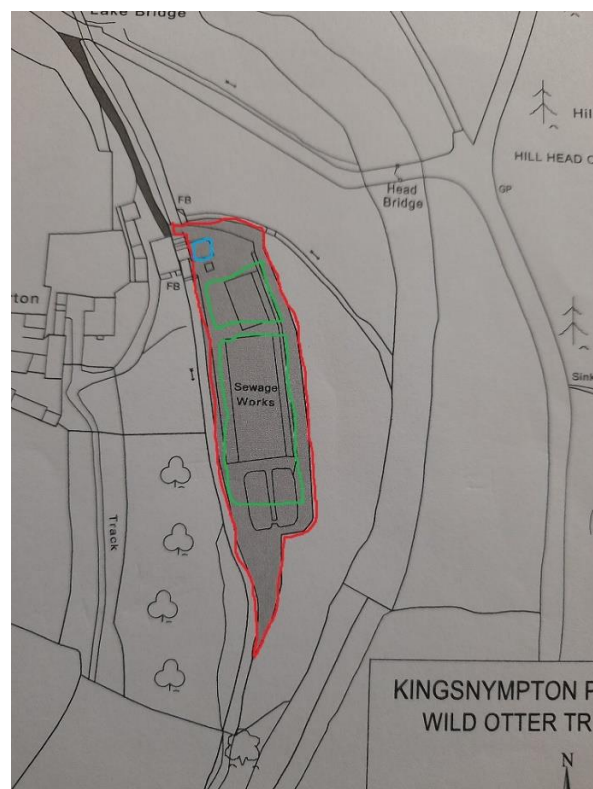


3: PROGRESSIVE EXTENTIONS TO CENTRE

Moving forward through 2022, our plans are to further extend the centre to hold 26 separate enclosures. This will be dependent on the success of grant applications and funding.

The demand for our services has been unusually high in 2021 and we do not want to have to refuse admissions of any animals. As such, we intend to have a complete centre that will have 26 enclosures.

The ongoing installation of enclosures is cost dependent for materials as currently we are experiencing a higher premium for this. The centre currently has 12 enclosures with another 4 currently in progress and another 10 in the planning stages.



4: YEARLY CONCLUSION

2021 has been our busiest to date. We have moved our rehabilitation centre due to various issues at the old centre and at the same time have expanded into the largest specialist rehabilitation centre in the country. We advise different countries on Eurasian otter rehabilitation methods including Poland, Sweden and the UK.

Our growth has been quick, but methodical and as an organisation, we are in a very good place with plans for extension in progress as covered in 3:

It has been a successful year for us with a very high success rate of rehabilitating orphaned cubs. 89% of cubs have got to the rehab stage, 100% of cubs that reached that stage have gone on to be released and the post release monitoring demonstrates a 100% success rate.

The volunteers have been instrumental in this success and are an integral and important part of our organisation.

Dave Webb

Founder

DAVE WEBB

Signed on behalf of the Trustee Team UKWOT

UK WILD OTTER TRUST

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2nd MAY 2021

RECEIPTS	2021 £	2020 £
Grants	-	1,200.00
Donations & adoptions	24,477.02	17,625.94
Membership	25.00	575.00
Sale of merchandise	5,362.27	3,195.85
Fundraiser	1,217.73	2,117.35
Bank interest received	0.16	0.20
	31,082.18	24,714.34

PAYMENTS

Purchases of merchandise (adjusted for stock)	4,407.60	5,155.36
Feed	2,176.00	1,143.75
Veterinary costs	421.74	115.25
Equipment	1,328.50	1,653.38
Repairs & maintenance	14,260.36	10,811.75
Workwear	230.99	1,525.03
Public liability insurance	144.20	144.20
Advertising	109.59	431.64
Postage & stationery	834.20	268.69
Computer costs	341.61	122.87
Phone costs	10.00	40.00
Travel costs	257.41	454.65
Donations	1,797.65	962.45
Subscriptions & sundries	486.52	468.50
Interest paid	2.03	2.28
Motor expenses	659.42	-

	27,467.82	23,299.80
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Balance(s) brought forward (from previous year)

	3,035.05	1,620.51
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Balance(s) in hand at year-end

	6,649.41	3,035.05
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Signed: *Carole Bament*

Date: *16 FEBRUARY 2022*

Name: *CAROLE BAMENT*

Relevant professional qualification or body:

ICSA (Fellow)