



BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION CENTRE
Charity Registration Number: 1168059

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: Blue Acre Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre
(referred to as Blue Acre in this document)

Charity registration number: 1168059

Charity location address: Ham Island, Ham Lane, Old Windsor,
Berkshire SL4 2JT

Charity business address: 12 Priory Way, Datchet
Berkshire SL3 9JQ

Trustees

Caron Muir (previously Caron North)	Appointed January 2016
Bob Regan	Appointed January 2016
Veanne Vickers (Previously Veanne Filkins)	Appointed November 2016

Fundraising:

Sue Turner	Appointed April 2017
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Treasurer:

Sue Turner	Appointed January 2017
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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

The trustees have prepared and present their report and accounts for the period of January – December 2023.

Objectives - The charity's objectives, as set out on the Charities Commission website are:

- To rescue abused, abandoned and neglected horses, administering care and medical treatment as required, and work towards their rehabilitation and rehoming where appropriate.
- For the benefit of the public, to relieve the suffering of animals in need of care and attention through abuse, neglect or abandonment.
- To provide and maintain suitable facilities for the reception, care and treatment of such animals.
- To promote humane behaviour towards animals by providing appropriate care, protection, treatment and security for animals which need care and attention through reasons of sickness, maltreatment, poor circumstances or ill usage.
- To educate the public and raise awareness in matters pertaining to animal welfare in general and the prevention of cruelty and suffering among animals through abuse, wilful negligence or simply lack of knowledge.

To fulfil these objectives Blue Acre operates on 42 acres, accommodating and caring for elderly; abused, neglected and abandoned horses and ponies. We operate with a small team of volunteers none of whom are paid (this includes the Trustees).

Overview

Blue Acre has existed as a horse rescue operation since 2002 but has had Registered Charity status since April 2016. We are not a sanctuary, simply offering a permanent home to those we rescue, our ultimate aim is to reinstate their trust in humans and rehome where possible. This can take many months, sometimes years, but we have a wealth of knowledge and a dedicated team and we know when or if a horse/pony is ready to find a new, loving, permanent home.

The charity rescues mistreated, neglected and abandoned horses to the extent they can be cared for responsibly on the land and within the human resources we have available. We are usually alerted to potential rescues by the general public and follow all legal guidelines under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 with regard to recovering animals and often work with the RSPCA and Police services during rescue operations. Our ultimate aim is to rehabilitate rescues through step by step training and we assess each animal's situation over many months before trying to find them loving, permanent homes wherever possible given the potential or limitations of each one.

Whilst we have a good record of rehoming currently it should be understood that the majority of requests we receive are for ready made riding horses which are deemed safe, suitable for jumping or dressage of which we have few and can be difficult to guarantee. We also get requests for companion horses, where owners have lost one of their horses and want a non ridden option which is where we have had a lot of success.

Because we don't accept horses that are simply unwanted, outgrown or who haven't met the requirements of their owners, many of our rescues are difficult to rehome for riding purposes, other than hacking or as projects, due to age, long term physical issues (which often require ongoing

medication) or unpredictable behaviour due to past trauma. In such cases, the charity will provide permanent care for them at the Rescue ensuring the very best quality of life to its maximum potential until the end of their natural life. Should there come a time when this quality of life deteriorates and we have explored every feasible option, then a decision to have the horse humanely euthanised is taken.

REHABILITATION / REHOMING PROCESS

Every horse we rescue is given a wellness check by our vet and, once settled into life with our herd, after an initial quarantine period, we start a programme of working to earn their trust and bring them to a point where they can be safely led; groomed; pick their feet up willingly as a minimum. Only then do we start assessing their suitability for riding, assuming they have no age or inhibiting physical injuries preventing this. It is during this process we might identify mental issues, often due to previous trauma, which renders them as unsuitable or unsafe ridden prospects which limits their rehoming potential. In this case we evaluate their suitability as companion only horses.

Potential owners are invited to the farm to meet any suitable horses and are invited to handle and groom the animal or to ride if applicable. Following this a visit to the potential home is made to assess suitability of the new home and its facilities. If successful and all parties are in agreement a rehoming contract is signed detailing the purpose and any limitations on the use for each horse or pony. This document also states that the animal remains the ultimate property of our charity and cannot be sold under any circumstances. If the current agreement can no longer be maintained, the horse is returned to Blue Acre Horse Rescue.

SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

This is a key income stream. It gives people an opportunity to sponsor their chosen animal from our website <https://www.blueacrerescue.co.uk/sponsorship> by making a monthly donation, helping towards their living costs in return for a “meet and greet”; sponsorship certificate, and the opportunity to spend time with their animal at the rescue by appointment. This is valuable revenue for us as it's regular and therefore helps with monthly budgeting.

VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers fulfil a range of duties both at the farm and behind the scenes along with some who help at events and with street bucket collections on an “as needed” basis. During school breaks and at weekends we have some younger volunteers who work hard to learn all aspects of horse management and many have become proficient riders which is key to the whole process of rehabilitating horses and ponies for rehoming. Several of our volunteers have gone on to study equine/animal management courses at college with a view to a career with horses.

We welcome older volunteers, who may be retired but still active; or who work shifts and look for something worthwhile to do on their non work days. This can be in the form of working with the animals or helping out with general gardening or maintenance work around the farm.

We have built a valuable relationship with Centrica who encourage their staff to volunteer within local communities. They have arranged several team days at our farm undertaking the removal of ragwort from our fields – a huge and physical task which is key to our land management programme but sometimes beyond the scope of our small team of regular volunteers.

INTAKE / REHOME FIGURES

During this financial year our intake and rehoming/euthanasia figures are as follows:

Intake – Bugs Bunny

Following several calls from the public in May 2023 about a seemingly dead mare in a field. We attended and the mare was all but dead and was due to be euthanised. We were shocked to see she had a tiny, 3 week old foal with her, desperately trying to feed from his Mother. After a lot of discussion the owner was persuaded to sign the foal over to us and we rushed him back to Blue Acre.



After several hours into the night, with the support of our vets, we got him to drink substitute milk from a bucket. From this point, for several weeks, our amazing team fed him every 3-4 hours around the clock – we have no mains electricity so night feeds were often undertaken by the light of phones and with volunteers in their pyjamas!

He has thrived under our care despite a scary infection at one point. Due to the need for handling and interaction with humans at an early age he became very attached to people so we put him out with one of our older mares to learn how to be a horse and he now lives happily as part of our large herd. We have high expectations for his future as a well rounded child's pony who will never have known any abuse from humans.



We have taken the hard but ethical decision to limit any new intake of horses to those who are truly in desperate need. We've had to turn down so many requests to take in more horses from people who simply can no longer afford to keep them but we truly don't have the infrastructure; volunteers or grazing to support many more. The work involved in caring for so many horses over the winter period is phenomenal so we need to manage the resources we have in order to operate ethically, efficiently and responsibly.

Intake: 3
Rehomed: 3
Euthanised: 3

Activity and Events throughout 2023

- **January/February** brought severe flooding to our fields. This comes from the River Thames which surrounds our land and means we have to move the herd to higher ground and feed double the hay we had budgeted for due to the resulting reduced access to natural forage.
- **February** – we launched a hay appeal in order to buy additional hay to support the horses. This is usually really well supported but the response was lower than in other years, reflecting the impact of the cost of living on everyone.
- **February** - We received some funding from Windsor Lions – we support them every year in various ways – supplying transport; entering their sponsored rides and the sponsored swim each year, for which we receive an enhanced donation.
- **May** – Following local elections a new Mayor of Windsor was appointed. Mr Neil Knowles is a supporter of Blue Acre and appointed us his official nominated charity for one year. He hosted a Christmas dinner at the Guild Hall, Windsor in aid of Blue Acre. This raised much needed funds and widened our scope of new supporters.
- **June** – Millie, one of our young volunteers, has been with us since the age of 11 and has gone on to study Equine Management at a specialist college. She has had one of our rescues on loan and has worked so hard to build a true bond with him. So much so that they came 1st in their first Cross Country outing.
- **September** – we held a tombola stall at Eton College Fair with prizes donated by the local community. We have a great relationship with the college – they donate a large amount of hay to us every year, without which we would struggle to sustain the herd over winter.
- **December** – tombola stall held at the Christmas Fayre in our local village.



Future Plans

- Increase the open hard standing area we have started between the yard and various field entrances. This is a mammoth task in terms of cost and logistics. The materials themselves are difficult to get hold of and are expensive at £420 per load. Once delivered we need to hire a heavy duty excavator to spread the material and a roller to flatten the surface. We rely on friends of the farm who are able to operate these machines to carry out the work in order to save costs so have to coordinate all of these things to make it happen.
- Continue to promote our Sponsorship programme which gives us a valued, guaranteed monthly income which allows us to budget.
- Find a resource to manage and update our website. We currently lack the talent to do this within our current team.
- Continue to grow our Facebook following (currently 3,500) to engage with a wider audience and showcase the work we do
-

- Replace broken or rotting fence lines around the yard and divide the land to enable better management of grazing – this is a continual piece of work.
- Repair the roofing on the barn stable block – still to be achieved.
- Create an additional covered area to enable the vets, farrier to work with the horses away from the main yard. This is an enormous project needing a concrete base but would make a huge difference to how we operate

Financial Review

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

01 January to 31 December 2023

Below is the income statement for year ended 31 December 2022. Full accounts have been submitted and can be viewed on the Charity Commission website.

	2023 £
Cost of Sales	
Purchases	28,188
Subcontractor Costs	3,552
Other direct costs	5,234
Gross Loss	(36,974)
Administration expenses	12,625
Other operating income	<u>53,720</u>
Operating Profit	<u>4,121</u>
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>4,121</u> =====

**BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
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**BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
(COMPANY NO: 1168059 ENGLAND AND WALES)
DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Directors

The following directors held office during the whole of the period:

Ms Caron North
Mr Bob Regan
Ms Veanne Filkins

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these accounts, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the board of directors

.....
Ms Caron North
Director

Approved by the board on: 5 August 2024

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THE
PREPARATION OF THE UNAUDITED STATUTORY ACCOUNTS OF BLUE ACRE HORSE
RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059 FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out on pages 5 - 7 from the company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at [icaew.com/membershandbook](https://www.icaew.com/membershandbook).

This report is made solely to the Board of Directors of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1 May 2019. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059, as a body, in this report in accordance with AAF 07/16 as detailed at [icaew.com/compilation](https://www.icaew.com/compilation). To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 and its Board of Directors as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059. You consider that Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.

Chartered Accountants

5 August 2024

BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cost of sales	(36,974)	(30,648)
Gross loss	(36,974)	(30,648)
Administrative expenses	(12,625)	(22,629)
Other operating income	53,720	72,915
Operating profit	4,121	19,638
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	4,121	19,638
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	-	-
Profit for the financial year	4,121	19,638

BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	13,854	18,808
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		22,513	13,438
Net current assets		22,513	13,438
Net assets		36,367	32,246
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		36,367	32,246
Shareholders' funds		36,367	32,246

For the year ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - Small Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 5 August 2024 and were signed on its behalf by

Ms Caron North
Director

Company Registration No. 1168059

BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Statutory information

Blue Acre Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Charity Number 1168059 is a private company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales, registration number 1168059. The registered office is Ham Island, Ham Lane, Old Windsor, SL4 2JT.

2 Compliance with accounting standards

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities. There were no material departures from that standard.

3 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have remained unchanged from the previous year, and also have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Presentation currency

The accounts are presented in £ sterling.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives:

Plant & machinery	20%
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4 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant & machinery £
Cost or valuation	At cost
At 1 January 2023	26,269
Additions	300
At 31 December 2023	26,569
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2023	7,461
Charge for the year	5,254
At 31 December 2023	12,715
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	13,854
At 31 December 2022	18,808

5 Average number of employees

During the year the average number of employees was 15 (2022: 15).

BLUE ACRE HORSE RESCUE & REHABILITATION CENTRE, CHARITY NUMBER 1168059
DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cost of sales		
Purchases	28,188	22,804
Subcontractor costs	3,552	3,695
Other direct costs	5,234	4,149
	<hr/> 36,974	<hr/> 30,648
Gross loss	<hr/> (36,974)	<hr/> (30,648)
Administrative expenses		
Motor expenses	3,056	3,955
Light and heat	560	209
Subscriptions	107	-
Bank charges	-	496
Repairs and maintenance	2,281	11,268
Depreciation	5,254	5,254
Sundry expenses	232	40
Advertising and PR	947	1,369
Other legal and professional	188	38
	<hr/> 12,625	<hr/> 22,629
Other operating income		
Other operating income	53,720	72,915
	<hr/> 4,121	<hr/> 19,638
Operating profit		
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- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
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Small company provisions

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Signed on behalf of the board of directors

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Ms Caron North
Director

Approved by the board on: 5 August 2024

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PREPARATION OF THE UNAUDITED STATUTORY ACCOUNTS OF BLUE ACRE HORSE
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