



Lucy's UK
Donkey Foundation
Supporting the Rescue & Care
of Donkeys in the Holy Land

Lucy's UK Donkey Foundation CIO

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**for the year ended
31 March 2023**



UK Registered Charity No. 1174959
www.lucysdonkeyfoundation.org.uk

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION PAGE

Trustees:	Mr James Duck Sian Wedgbury John Wedgbury
Charity No:	1174959
Registered office:	1-7 Station Road Crawley West Sussex RH10 1HT
Independent Examiners:	Darren Harding ACA FCCA DChA Richard Place Dobson Services Limited 1-7 Station Road Crawley West Sussex RH10 1HT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Committee presents its report and the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023.

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Foundation Model Constitution dated 3 October 2017. The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1174959.

PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

To promote a humane behaviour towards animals by providing appropriate care, protection, treatment, and security for animals which are in need of care and attention by reason of sickness, maltreatment, poor circumstances or ill usage and to educate the public in matters pertaining to animal welfare in general and the prevention of cruelty and suffering among animals by the support of the charitable work of Lucy's Sanctuary for Holy Land Donkeys.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

ORGANISATION

The organisation is run by the trustees, helped by volunteers all of whom are unpaid.

The charity financially directly supports a donkey sanctuary in Israel (Lucy's Sanctuary for Holy Land Donkeys).

It pays for the upkeep of the animals and the premises as well as partly financing volunteers/part time workers who have accommodation on site at the sanctuary, as part of their package. In addition, it pays Lucy Fensom's husband, Adi Zahor, to act, for the time being, as the manager. He is paid by the charity via an agency in order to comply with Israeli law. This all enables somebody to be on site most of the time and for things to be as flexible as possible.

The trustees would like to whole heartedly thank Lucy Fensom, her husband Adi, and the volunteers for the huge amount of incredibly backbreaking, exhausting work they do day and often night at the sanctuary. The work is both physically and emotionally exhausting and can only be described as a dedicated labour of love and compassion.

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

The charity tries to keep costs to a minimum, and so has no physical office, but relies on trustees and volunteers to fulfil certain roles. The trustees and volunteers often contribute to some of the costs themselves. This year admin costs have amounted to 2% of income which means that 98% of money raised goes to support the sanctuary and outreach work directly. The 2% is for mandatory costs such as insurance, regulator/independent examiner fees and website costs.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

General Costs

Currently at the end of the year we are supporting the care of 54 donkeys (22 female and 32 male), 2 male horses, 3 sanctuary guard dogs, 8 cats and assorted chickens.

Examples of general everyday monthly sanctuary costs were:

- Food (hay and oats) = £ 3,411, increased by 31% compared to last year
- Rent, Water and electricity = £ 1,022, increased by 15%
- Sawdust for bedding = £899, only 4% increase
- Material and labour = £696, increased by 170%

Overall Average cost of **£ 8,189 per month**

Sanctuary matters

- The landlord has agreed verbally to put an agreement about the rent into writing and so secure the more long-term future of the sanctuary.
- There has been a lot of running repairs on the boundary fencing as the donkeys lean on the railings and get into the neighbouring fields. It is planned to replace it.
- Horses have been stolen from a neighbouring field, so CCTV and alarms have been installed and there are 3 guard dogs (cost £2,730)
- A major power cable needed replacement (cost £1,481).

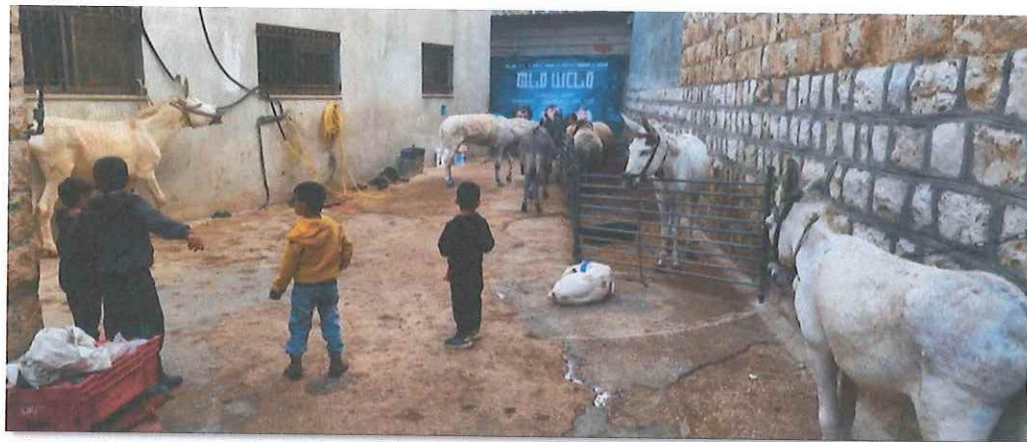
Rescues and medical needs

- In mid-June there was a call from the police about 2 donkeys running free. Adi went out to take them into the sanctuary. Appeals were made and eventually, they were reunited with their owner.

- A mamma dog and 5 puppies were taken in from a rescue organisation in Bethlehem that could not cope. 4 pups were quickly rehomed, and the mother stayed at the sanctuary.
- All the animals need regular worming every 4 months as well as tending minor injuries. Eyes are routinely cleaned and anti-fly ointment put on, legs are routinely sprayed with anti-fly ointment and all animals are regularly groomed.

Outreach

- Dr Nour conducted 5 outreach clinics during the year at a cost of £881.



- Typical cases that he dealt with are malnutrition, dehydration, parasite infection and skin problems.



- Nose chain covers made by volunteers in the charity and sent out to Israel were given out to put around the animal's noses. Owners were encouraged in ways to better show love and care for their animals.
- The political situation and often volatile circumstances in the West Bank make it increasingly difficult to hold clinics and there are noticeably fewer donkeys.

The vet felt that it may also be partly due to a link with the increase in the donkey hide trade. As a result, the charity has been trying to link up with other organisations to establish the facts about this horrific trade.

- One donkey who came to a clinic had stopped eating and the owner decided to use a file to remove the sharp bits of its teeth. This damaged the mouth and skin as well as causing an infection. Thankfully with remedial action and medication the donkey survived.

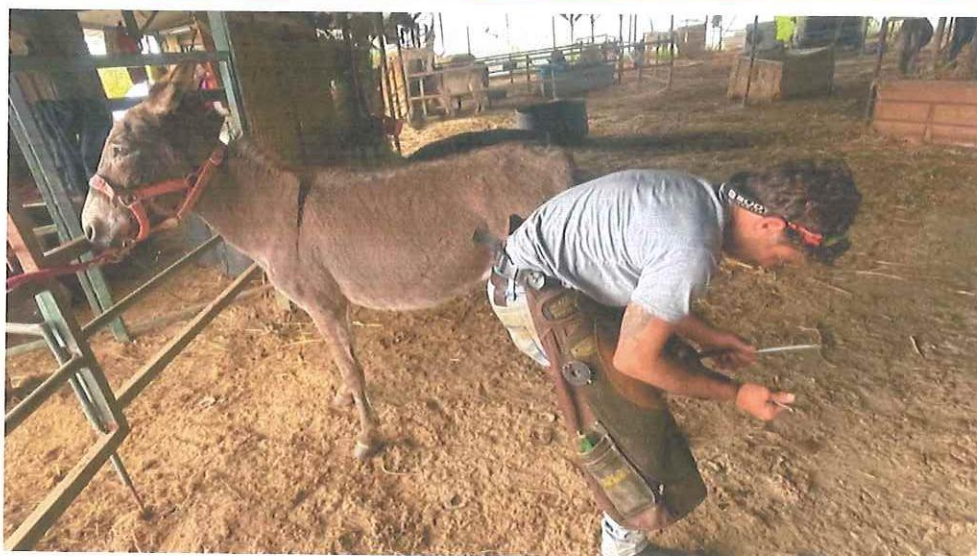


Veterinary Activity

- Katy, an elderly donkey who had a stroke, was euthanised.
- Ben Hur needed treatment for his damaged eye socket and was given a tetanus injection and antibiotics. The vets wanted to take him to hospital for an operation but a second opinion from a specialist horse vet enabled the problem to be dealt with on site. He has fully recovered.
- During the year there were 5 vet visits at a total cost of £1,763.

Farrier

- The farrier came 4 times to tend to 56 animals each time at a total cost of £4,256.



Staff

- During the year there have been on average 2 part time staff/volunteers on site, managed by Adi who lives off site.
- Issa has remained throughout the year. Chevy left in September and Hannah came for a short time (the accommodation was upgraded at a cost of £439). Goel came in January and was still settling in at the time of this report (March 2023).
- Early in the year Adi had an urgent full knee replacement operation which did not succeed, leaving him partially disabled and unable to walk properly. In January he had an operation with a specialist and things are much better. Gerhard Katstaller, a supporter from Austria, very kindly came out for 4 weeks to help out.
- Staff costs, including Adi the acting manager, were £2,249 per month, an increase of 68%. This has been due to global increases, the changes in the exchange rate and the need to have more help during Adi's illness.
- There has been an ongoing recruitment drive to try to get a full-time sanctuary worker.

Update on issues faced last year

- Adi's operation has been a great improvement for him, and we were able to cover whilst he was off sick.
- The need to find a full-time worker is ongoing and several people have had trial periods during the year.
- The electrics have been upgraded and the donkey feeders built.

- Plans are in place to get the fencing sorted out during the coming financial year as the owner has given a verbal guarantee that we will have at least 5 years, if not more, using his field.
- Replacement trustees have been found and there is improved communication with the sanctuary. It is hoped that one trustee will go out to visit in the coming year.
- Despite efforts by several people, we have not been able to link up with other charities to try to counter the donkey hide trade.

Forthcoming issues

- To get the fencing sorted out and get a written contract with the owner.
- To support Adi by increasing the money he is given so that he and Lucy can stay in the rented accommodation that they currently have near the sanctuary.
- To continue to try to recruit a full-time worker.
- To continue to link up with other charities to strengthen the long-term sustainability of the sanctuary as well as work to combat the donkey hide trade.
- To better use GAYL (Give as You Live) to raise awareness and generate income.
- To upgrade the website to raise awareness and increase giving.
- To encourage more people to gift aid.

Fundraising

- We are very grateful for all those supporters who give regularly, as well as those who have made much bigger one-off donations, often in response to urgent need.
- Funds are raised primarily by supporters giving directly through the charity bank accounts or through *Pay Pal*, *Go Fund Me* or *Give as you Live (GAYL)*.
- Gift Aid has proved a valuable source of income but less than 40 supporters at present gift aid.
- Some volunteers also fundraise by having a stall in their local area or putting a donation box in a shop.
- The charity has been producing a quarterly newsletter. It has been decided to reduce it to three times a year. It is paid for privately by volunteers and supporters give stamps to save costs. As and when there is a need, a short bulletin will be sent out by email and to a reduced mailing list by post.

Financial Review, Reserves and Risk Management

- (a) Net incoming resources for the period amounted to £620 (2022: £15,490) as shown on page 10 of the financial statements. All of the charity's assets are held in the furtherance of the charity's objectives and are adequate and sufficient to meet the charity's needs.
- (b) It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, that is free reserves of the charity at a level that will enable the charity to continue its operations while it looks for alternative funding if it suffers a significant reduction in income.
- (c) The committee has identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed and has produced a Risk Assessment Policy to put systems into place to mitigate those risks. This policy will be regularly reviewed by the trustees and updated when necessary.

Trustees

The following trustees have served throughout the year and up to the date of signing the financial statement:

- James Duck (appointed 14 July 2022)
- Birgit Ziello (resigned 14 July 2022)
- Sian Wedgbury (appointed 7 September 2022)
- John Wedgbury (appointed 7 September 2022)
- Alan Beasley (resigned 7 September 2022)
- Heather Wright Fensom (resigned 5 October 2022)
- Lily Beasley (resigned 5 October 2022)

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Trustee: John Wedgbury

Date: 18 January 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LUCY'S UK DONKEY FOUNDATION FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 10-11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Darren Harding ACA FCCA DChA

Richard Place Dobson Services Limited

1-7 Station Road

Crawley

West Sussex

RH10 1HT

Dated: 22-1-2024

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY
OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 2023 £	Total Funds Year ended 2023 £	Total Funds Year ended 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations	90,235	90,235	99,794
Charitable Activities (Gift Aid)	25,071	25,071	910
Interest	83	83	2
Total Received	115,389	115,389	100,706
Expenditure on:			
Donations for Support of Sanctuary	111,247	111,247	81,166
Fundraising			
Support Costs	3,522	3,522	4,050
Total Paid	114,769	114,769	85,216
Reconciliation of Funds			
Net Income	620	620	15,490
Funds at 1 April 2022	50,436	50,436	34,946
Funds at 31 March 2023	51,056	51,056	50,436

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Assets:			
Bank and Cash	51,056	51,056	50,436
Bank and Deposit Accounts	51,056	51,056	50,436
Net Assets:	51,056	51,056	50,436

Liabilities:

At the year end the following estimated liabilities existed (all to be paid from unrestricted funds).

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	1,500	1,584
	1,500	1,584

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st March 2023 was approved by Lucy's UK Donkey Foundation and signed on its behalf by John Wedgbury.



Date: 18 January 2024

NOTE:

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis as permitted by, and in accordance with, the Charities Act 2011.