



Throw A Starfish

Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021

Charity Registration number
1180888



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Reference and Administrative information

Patron	Rt Rev Peter Hill
Trustees	Mrs Alison Biggs Rev Laurence Biggs Rev Canon David Hague (Chair) Mr Thomas Salisbury
Mission Director	Rev Laurence Biggs
Registered office	16 Longcroft Braithwaite Keswick Cumbria CA12 5TE
Website	www.ThrowAStarfish.org
Email	info@ThrowAStarfish.org
Telephone	0330 229 0482
Charity registration number	1180888
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HN

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Throw A Starfish is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only members are its Trustees. It was registered on 28 November 2018.

The governing document is a Constitution dated 10th September 2018.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee is appointed, by the existing trustees, for a term of three years which can be subsequently renewed.

In selecting individuals for appointment as appointed charity trustees, the charity trustees have regard to interest in the charity and the areas where we work as well as the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

In November 2020 both Laurence Biggs and Tom Salisbury completed their term as trustees (2 years as first trustees). Both were reappointed for a further 3 years.

The Mission Director is ("ex-officio") a charity trustee, for as long as he or she holds that office.

Trustee Meetings

The trustees have met on 5 occasions during the year to plan the development of the charity and to monitor and review the financial affairs. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all meetings this year took place online and our annual all day meeting had to be postponed.

Risk management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to mitigate these risks.

Overseas travel to developing countries on Throw A Starfish business, whether by Trustees or others, will take cognizance of Foreign Office advice, and will always have medical and travel insurance which is valid for the countries and regions concerned. Consideration will also be given to input from in country partners. Service overseas risk assessments are reviewed annually.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic no overseas travel took place during the year.

The charity has a safeguarding policy and DBS checks are taken for all volunteers serving with us.

Public Benefit

Throw A Starfish operates for the public benefit through the provision of charitable relief to the poor and needy, currently mainly in Africa. No charges are made for any charitable activities. Assessment of needs and priorities as well as planning for the effective use of funds is done through visits to partners and further information gathered from telephone and email communication.

Trustees Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2006 require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the surplus of the trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Objectives and activities

Vision

We may not be able to change the world but we want to inspire and enable a wave of “starfish throwers”, to make an impact on physical and spiritual poverty – one person at a time.

Charitable objects

1. The relief of poverty, sickness and distress in all regions of the world
2. The advancement of the Christian religion throughout the world

Activities

We inspire and enable a wave of “Starfish Throwers”, to make an impact on physical and spiritual poverty one person at a time. We:

- Enable individual volunteers to use their skills, to visit trusted partners and make a difference at a time convenient to the volunteer.
- Identify and establish relationships with trusted partners, and develop projects, in situations of poverty around the world.

Achievements and performance

We reported last year at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic that “The FCO advice against all but essential travel anywhere in the world will surely put most of this [our plans] on hold for an unknown period.” At that time nobody thought that a year on travel would still be severely restricted! In the last year no trustee or volunteer has travelled overseas with the charity and in many ways it seems that a more than a year has simply been lost.

Having said that, we have used this time to further develop the charity, build our supporter base, and help the very vulnerable as they struggle with the pandemic. Main achievements include:

- We have published a book, written by our Mission Director, with the title “Throwing Starfish”. This book encourages the reader to see the potential in their lives that God sees and use it to “Throw Starfish” and be a part of changing the world one person at a time. The book will be available to purchase from Mid-April.
- Abby Chilton has joined us as volunteer Social Media Adviser. She has already made great progress with our engagement in social media particularly Facebook and Instagram.
- A leaflet introducing the work of the charity has been designed and produced.
- Work has been done to provide other ways to engage with the charity – offering skills to be used (remotely and overseas) as well as signing up to throw a defined Starfish
- A feeding programme was established in the Kibera slum of Nairobi to feed those facing starvation as they could not work and could therefore not buy food.

Future Plans

The ongoing pandemic still makes concrete planning difficult. We however hope to:

- Restart overseas travel in the last quarter of 2021 – this to be our Mission Director meeting with existing partners to review our overseas risk assessment and the impact of the pandemic on our partners.
- Throw our first four Starfish in first half of 2022
- Sign up two new partners in Africa/Eastern Europe and begin discussions with at least one more
- Undertake speaking engagements (in person) and promote the “Throwing Starfish” book with a view to signing up more starfish throwers.

Financial review

The Charity’s income comes from private donations and occasional grants. Gift Aid is claimed on most of the private donations.

This year our total income amounted to £9,206 of which £5,409 was unrestricted and £3,798 restricted. This is considerably less than last accounts which covered a longer period (16 months) however we are delighted that with all the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic we were still able to cover our operating costs from income.

The largest items of expenditure this year were £2,108 of restricted income to fund food for vulnerable residents of Kibera and £837 of unrestricted income to publish the book, Throwing Starfish, written by our mission director.

We have begun to establish some regular giving - £150 per month from 2 regular donors.

The balance at the end of the year was £24,649 (£19,702 last year) and this, together with support from donors who give by monthly standing order, will provide for on-going charitable activities through 2020/21.

A bank account is held with Lloyds Bank, but Throw A Starfish has no investments or investment policy.

The Charity does not have a formal reserves policy, but we look to keep a bank balance to cover 6 months' operation and there are no plans to incur expenditure beyond the current level of bank balances.

Throw A Starfish will continue to raise funds from a mixture of personal applications and applications to grant-making bodies.

Any Volunteers to serve overseas with Throw A Starfish are expected to cover their own costs.

Independent Examiners report on the accounts

Report to the Trustees of Throw A Starfish on the accounts for the period ended 31st March 2020 is set out on pages 8 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

1. I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2020.
2. 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").
3. I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting 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.

Signed:



Dated:

13 October 2021.

Derek Tyler

Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales : Membership Number 7409928

Anglo Secretaries, The Great House, 1 St Peter Street, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6AY

Accounts

Receipts and payments accounts

Throw A Starfish Receipts and payments accounts for the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2a	£5,409	£3,798	£0	£9,206	£31,108
Investment income	2b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total receipts		£5,409	£3,798	£0	£9,206	£31,108
Payments						
Expenditure on charitable activities	3a	£2,152	£2,107	£0	£4,259	£11,091
Governance costs	3b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Finance costs	3c	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Sub total		£2,152	£2,107	£0	£4,259	£11,091
Asset and investment						
Data Projector		£0	£0	£0	£0	£315
					£0	£0
Sub total		£0	£0	£0	£0	£315
Total payments		£2,152	£2,107	£0	£4,259	£11,406
Net of receipts/(payments)		£3,257	£1,690	£0	£4,947	£19,702
Transfers between funds	4				£0	£0
Cash funds last year end		£19,702			£19,702	£0
Cash funds this year end		£22,959	£1,690	£0	£24,649	£19,702

Signature

L. Biggs
D. Hague

Name

Laurence Biggs (Mission Director)

David Hague (Chair of Trustees)

Date

1st Nov 2021

4th Nov 2021

Notes on accounts

- The accounts have been prepared under the Income and Expenditure basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners, and they meet the appropriate legal requirements.

2. Receipts

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
2.a Donations and legacies				
St Paul's Church St Albans		£2,000	£2,000	£1,500
Good Shepherd Collier Row			£0	£1,000
Romania Care			£0	£15,000
Non Giftaid donations		£960	£960	£2,332
Giftaid donations	£3,129	£450	£3,579	£8,385
Giftaid reclaimed	£1,251	£88	£1,339	£1,621
Donations through CAF	£708	£300	£1,008	£870
Donations through Stewardship	£320		£320	£400
Total	£5,409	£3,798	£9,206	£31,108

2.b Investment income

Bank interest

Total	£0	£0	£0	£0
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3. Payments

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
3.a Expenditure on charitable activities				
Affiliations	£277		£277	£120
Website hosting	£80		£80	
Stationary	£44		£44	£27
Training			£0	£50
Charity insurance	£459		£459	£456
Office supplies	£164		£164	
Telephone	£48		£48	
Website development			£0	£2,757
Pilot team			£0	£2,381
Kibera COVID-19 food relief		£2,108	£2,108	
Kithogondo well			£0	
Marketing - charity leaflets	£100		£100	
Marketing - book "Throwing Starfish"	£837		£837	
UK travel			£0	£285
Overseas travel	£144		£144	£3,796
Advanced travel purchases			£0	£501
Grant materials for Mwea Maternity ward			£0	£700
Misc			£0	£18
Total	£2,152	£2,108	£4,260	£11,091

3.b Governance costs

Independent examination

Total	£0	£0	£0	£0
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3.c Finance costs

Bank charges

Total	£0	£0	£0	£0
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4. Restricted funds

This year we have established two projects which continued to help those most in need at a time when nobody was able to travel from the UK due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

£2,108 was donated to provide food to residents of the Kibera slum who were unable to work and hence had no income. All of this money was distributed through Pastor Evans at Soweto Baptist church and school who is well known by two of our trustees and is a potential future partner.

£1,690 was donated to build a well for the residents of Kithogondo (A rice slum near to where the pilot team visited in 2019). This will be built by our Partner Anglican Development Service for Mount Kenya East. Residents of the settlement currently drink river water which is contaminated and causes frequent illness. Due to the pandemic, construction has been delayed but is hoped to take place in the first half of 2021 provided there are no further restrictions caused by the pandemic.