



Throw A Starfish

Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022

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 2021 Alison Biggs completed her initial term as trustee (3 years as first trustees). She was 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 2 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 only one overseas trip took place during the year. The Mission Director visited Kenya in December 2021 to meet with some of our partners to review when sending volunteers might be possible again.

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 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The Trustees have taken advantage of the option that is available under that Act to charities with a gross income of less than £250,000 to prepare a simple receipts and payments account rather than full accounts on the accruals basis.

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to adversely affect our work. Who would have believed two years ago that travel would still be so severely restricted! In the last year only our mission director has travelled overseas with the charity and, in many ways, it seems that a second year has simply been lost.

Having said that, we have tried to be creative to allow some valuable work to be undertaken.

Main achievements include:

- We have worked with two organisations in Kenya who would like to become partners - Seed of hope counselling, training and rehabilitation centre and Azriel Counselling, Rehabilitation & Treatment Centre. We hope that both will become official partners in the next year.
- Abby Chilton, our volunteer social media administrator, moved on to a new appointment in August 2021 – we are very grateful to Abby for all her work for us – we have so far not been able to recruit a volunteer to replace her and build on the work she has done.
- We have increased our regular financial support from £150 to £650 per month.
- Working with Beacon of Hope International (BOHI), one of our partners, we have begun to build a plastic recycling centre in Makutano. The centre should become operational in the coming financial year and will process 3.5 tonnes of waste plastic per week. Our Mission Director modelled “Throwing a Starfish” by providing consultancy on Project planning, proposal writing and strategic planning. In this time where it has not been possible for people to travel this project is about changing the world not one person at a time but one plastic bottle, one plastic broken chair, one piece of discarded plastic at a time!

Future Plans

The uncertainty of the ongoing COVID-19 situation still makes travel difficult and unpredictable. We have therefore decided to suspend sending volunteers (many of whom would never have travelled alone to the African continent) overseas for another year and instead focus on getting the Makutano Plastic Recycling Centre up and running and the shallow water well in the rice slum village of Kithogondo commissioned. Plans for the latter were birthed in our 2019 pilot team and held up by covid regulations in Kenya.

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 £25,607 of which £2,720 was unrestricted and £22,887 restricted. Unrestricted income was less than in the previous year, however we are delighted that with all the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic we were still able to almost cover our operating costs from income.

The largest items of expenditure this year were:

£5,035 of restricted income for initial work on the Makutano plastic recycling facility. The total budget for this project is about £45,000 and this money will allow site construction work to begin.

£1,766 of unrestricted income for overseas travel by the Mission Director to meet with partners to review when we might be able to send volunteers overseas again. Travel was considerably more expensive due to the additional costs of travelling during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have begun to increase our income from regular giving - £650 per month from 3 regular donors of which £500 is restricted for use in the Makutano plastics recycling facility for the whole of the next financial year.

The balance at the end of the year was £41,833 (£24,649 last year) and this, together with support from donors who give by monthly standing order, will provide for on-going charitable activities through the next financial year.

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 year ended 31st March 2022 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 2022.
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: *K. I. Parkhouse*

Dated: *21 January 2023*
Keith Parkhouse BA ACA TEP

Accounts

Receipts and payments accounts

Throw A Starfish
Receipts and payments accounts
for the period from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2a	£2,720	£22,887	£0	£25,607	£9,206
Investment income	2b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total receipts		£2,720	£22,887	£0	£25,607	£9,206
Payments						
Expenditure on charitable activities	3a	£3,388	£5,035	£0	£8,423	£4,259
Governance costs	3b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Finance costs	3c	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Sub total		£3,388	£5,035	£0	£8,423	£4,259
Asset and investment						
Data Projector		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
					£0	£0
Sub total		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total payments		£3,388	£5,035	£0	£8,423	£4,259
Net of receipts/(payments)		-£668	£17,852	£0	£17,184	£4,947
Transfers between funds					£0	£0
Cash funds last year end		£22,959	£1,690		£24,649	£19,702
Cash funds this year end		£22,291	£19,542	£0	£41,833	£24,649

Signature

Laurence Biggs
David Hague

Name

Laurence Biggs (Mission Director)

David Hague (Chair of Trustees)

Date

22/9/22

17/1/23

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>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
2.a Donations and legacies				
St Paul's Church St Albans			£0	£2,000
Romania Care		£20,000	£20,000	£0
Non Gift Aid donations	£320	£2,184	£2,504	£2,288
Gift Aid donations	£2,150	£650	£2,800	£3,579
Gift Aid reclaimed	£250	£53	£303	£1,339
Total	£2,720	£22,887	£25,607	£9,206

2.b Investment income

Bank interest

Total	£0	£0	£0	£0
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3. Payments

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
3.a Expenditure on charitable activities				
Affiliations	£219		£219	£277
Website hosting	£670		£670	£80
Stationery			£0	£44
Training			£0	£0
Charity insurance	£553		£553	£459
Office supplies	£32		£32	£164
Telephone	£48		£48	£48
Website development			£0	£0
Kibera COVID-19 food relief			£0	£2,108
Kithogondo well			£0	£0
Makatanu Plastic recycling centre		£5,035	£5,035	£0
Marketing - charity leaflets	£86		£86	£100
Marketing - book "Throwing Starfish"			£0	£837
Marketing - Social media	£14		£14	£0
UK travel			£0	£0
Overseas travel	£1,766		£1,766	£144
Misc			£0	£0
Total	£3,388	£5,035	£8,423	£4,261

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

A total of £19,542 is held as restricted funds for two projects.

£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). 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 coming financial year.

£17,852 is held for the establishment of the Makutano plastic recycling centre – a joint project with our partner B.O.H.I.