

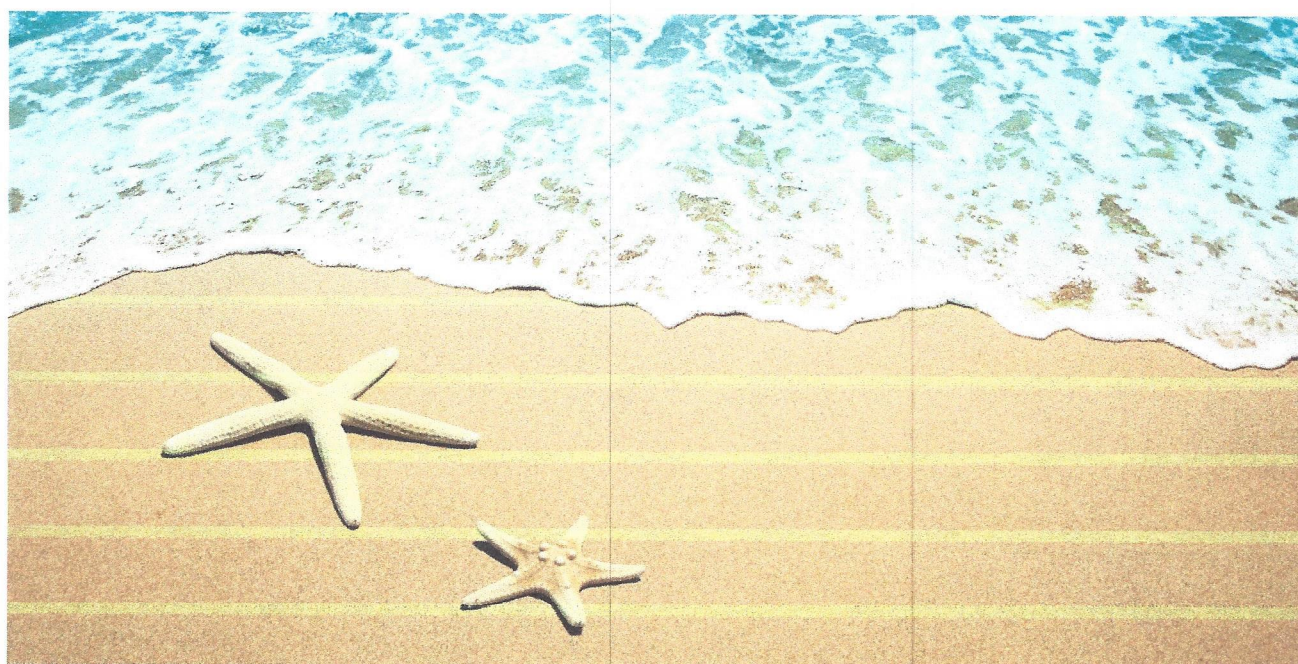


Throw A Starfish

Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

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.

There has been no change in trustees this year.

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 1 occasion during the year to plan the development of the charity and to monitor and review the financial affairs. The number of meetings each year is expected to rise to 6 in the coming year with the norm being to meet online.

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.

Again this year, the only person to travel overseas was the Mission Director who visited Kenya in October 2022.

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”, people who volunteer their skills, to make an impact on physical and spiritual poverty - one person, one family, one group of people, or even one plastic bottle 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:

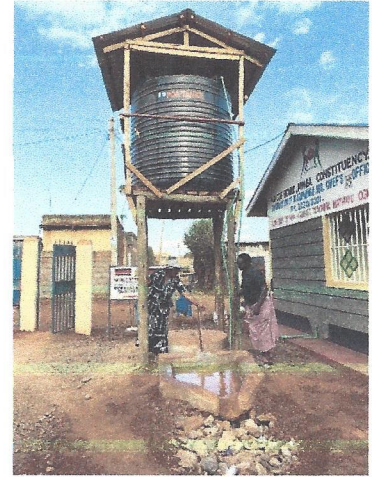
- Enable individual volunteers to use their skills, to visit trusted partners and make a difference at a time convenient to the volunteer.
- Identify and establish relationships with trusted partners, and develop projects, in situations of poverty around the world.

Achievements and performance

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to adversely affect our work with once again this year no volunteers travelling to Africa. We have however made progress on two projects

Kithogondo well

This was a project initiated from the visit of our pilot team in 2019 but much delayed by Covid. We are pleased to report that the well is now operational and making a huge difference in the lives of those who live in the village.



Makutano plastic recycling centre



A lot of progress has been made here, and the granulator which will cut the plastic into small pieces is in situ. The main obstacle to starting processing is a lack of power. An order was placed with Kenya Power in April 2022 and it has still not been provided due to a lack of suitable meters in the country.

We are working with our Partner, BOHI Clean Green, and several potential suppliers to see if solar power would be feasible for this project. If it would, it would obviously have further environmental benefits too.

Future Plans

Covid 19 changed everything! The coming year will see a number of changes in the charity

Two of our founding trustees have indicated that they would like to stand down in the year ahead and work is underway to find suitable replacements.

We are about to embark on a major review of our vision and strategy which will we think see us focusing on a smaller area to work in terms of geography and skillsets.

Work will continue with our partner BOHI Clean green on the plastic recycling centre in Makutano looking at the possibility of using solar power to drive the machinery.

Part of our original vision was to develop projects in situations of poverty – we will be seeking to look for further projects – work can carry on with these even when people cannot travel.

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 £13,094 of which £3,294 was unrestricted and £9,800 restricted. Unrestricted income increased this year from £2,720 to £3,294 which covered our operating costs.

The largest items of expenditure this year were:

£25,338 of restricted income for continued work on the Makutano plastic recycling facility. This covered the cost of purchase and shipping equipment to Kenya as well as a contribution to further construction work on site.

£1,518 of restricted income to build a well in Kithogondo. It was very encouraging to visit the site and see the well in operation and the happy faces on the villagers who were eager to tell of the difference this has made to their health.

£1,873 of unrestricted income for overseas travel by the Mission Director which includes purchase of a plane ticket to Kenya which will be used in the next financial year. It was encouraging to see travel costs begin to reduce again this year post COVID-19.

The balance at the end of the year was £24,919 (£41,833 last year) but back at the same level as the year before (£24,649). 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 2023 is set out on pages 9 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 2023.
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:

6 January 2024

Keith Parkhouse BA ACA Retired TEP

Accounts

Receipts and payments accounts

Throw A Starfish
Receipts and payments accounts
for the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2a	£3,294	£9,800	£0	£13,094	£9,206
Investment income	2b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total receipts		£3,294	£9,800	£0	£13,094	£9,206
Payments						
Expenditure on charitable activities	3a	£3,152	£26,856	£0	£30,008	£4,259
Governance costs	3b	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Finance costs	3c	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Sub total		£3,152	£26,856	£0	£30,008	£4,259
Asset and investment						
Data Projector		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
					£0	£0
Sub total		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total payments		£3,152	£26,856	£0	£30,008	£4,259
Net of receipts/(payments)		£142	-£17,056	£0	-£16,914	£4,947
Transfers between funds					£0	£0
Cash funds last year end		£22,291	£19,542		£41,833	£19,702
Cash funds this year end		£22,433	£2,486	£0	£24,919	£24,649

Signature

Laurence Biggs
Irma Mullins

Name

Laurence Biggs (Mission Director)

Irma Mullins (Chair of Trustees)

Date

6/1/24

6/1/24

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

2.a Donations and legacies

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Current year</u>	<u>Previous year</u>
Romania Care			£0	£20,000
Non Giftaid donations	£854	£9,800	£10,654	£2,504
Gift aid donations	£1,900		£1,900	£2,800
Gif taid reclaimed	£540		£540	£303
Total	£3,294	£9,800	£13,094	£25,607

2.b Investment income

Bank interest

Total	£0	£0	£0	£0
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3. Payments

3.a Expenditure on charitable activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Previous Year</u>
Affiliations	£129		£129.00	£219
Website hosting	£400		£400.00	£670
Charity insurance	£654		£654.00	£553
Office supplies			£0.00	£32
Telephone	£96		£96.00	£48
Kithogondo well		£1,518	£1,518.00	
Makatanu Plastic recycling centre		£25,338	£25,338.00	£5,035
Marketing - charity leaflets			£0.00	£86
Marketing - Social media			£0.00	£14
Overseas travel	£1,873		£1,873.00	£1,766
Total	£3,152	£26,856	£30,008	£8,423

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 £2,486 is held as restricted funds for two projects.

£2,486 is held for the establishment of the Makutano plastic recycling centre – a joint project with out partner B.O.H.I. Clean Green.