



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	09	2023		31	08	2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name	The Friends of Sun Rising
Other names charity is known by	The Friends of Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve, The Friends
Registered charity number (if any)	1181570
Charity's principal address	8 Welchman Place Tysoe Warwick Postcode CV35 0SU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Belou Fox-Furniss			
2	Bruce Chatterton	Chair		
3	David Orr	Membership Secretary		
4	Emma Restall Orr	Treasurer		
5	Dawn Short		From October 2023	
6	Jane Townsend	Secretary		
7				
8				
9				
10				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution, adopted 15 January 2019
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed by existing trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Friends of Sun Rising works closely with Nature Reserve Burial Grounds Ltd (NRBG), who owns the land.

Trustees Emma Restall Orr and David Orr are owners and directors of Nature Reserve Burial Grounds Ltd.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To provide and maintain, or assist in the provision and maintenance, of a natural burial ground at Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve for the public benefit.
2. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve, in particular by promoting biological diversity.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A key focus of many activities is fundraising, because growing a capital fund is central to achieving the charity's objects in the long term.

Main activities undertaken:

1. Management of membership **subscriptions and donations**, which make a significant contribution to fundraising.
2. Organisation and support of **events** to do one or more of the following:
 - raise funds.
 - support family and friends of those buried or remembered at Sun Rising.
 - develop the site as a nature reserve.
 - promote interest in the site as a developing nature reserve.
3. Maintenance and development of fundraising **projects**.
4. Support for **volunteer-led initiatives** to further the objects of The Friends.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We are lucky to have a strong community of volunteers, whose desire to get involved is fuelled by their connection to the site, it being the last resting place of loved family and friends.

Other volunteers are enthused by the creation, development and successes of the growing nature reserve.

Volunteers get involved to help maintain and develop the burial ground and nature reserve, to help raise funds for the long-term care of the site, and to share support and company with others who have experienced loss or are moving through grief.

Over the year, volunteers contributed about 200 hours in total, with a volunteer mailing list of 68 individuals and a general mailing list of 1550.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Overview

Below follows an abridged version of the Trustees' Annual Report, presented to the AGM on Saturday 14th September 2024. It covers the charity's main achievements and activities during the year.

A PDF copy of the full, illustrated report can be viewed at <https://sunrising.co.uk/friends-of-sun-rising/agm-2024/>, together with a video recording of the AGM presentation.

Variations in figures from those presented at the AGM or from previous year's annual return are due to ongoing improvement in the accuracy of analysis and reporting.

The Fund

With the fund growing, we have this year split up the figures to clarify holdings between cash funds and the investments portfolio.

Cash Fund: at the end of the year, the cash fund stood at £148k, compared with £112k the previous year.
Net total income for the year was £35.4k, compared with £27.7k the previous year.

Investment Portfolio:

At the end of the year, the reported value of investments was 100k, showing a lifetime increase in value of £10k, compared with £2.5k at the end of the previous year.
The reported increase for the year was £7.5k compared with £2.5k the previous year.

Subscriptions: The number of individuals who subscribe as Friends remains healthy.
At the end of the year, the total number of subscribing Friends stood at 371, compared with 370 the previous year.

Fundraising Regulator: The Friends renewed its membership of the Fundraising Regulator.

Events

Events, led by trustees and volunteers were all well received. These included:

Christmas in the Longhouse, December 2023: raised a total of £724 from the refreshments, tombola, memory tree and donations.

Winter Birds, January 2024: raised £55 by donation.

Funeral Workshops, March 2024: raised £165 by donation.

Spring at Sun Rising, April 2024: raised £46 by donation.

Spring Birdsong, May 2024: raised £75 by donation.

Open Day, June 2024: raised £297 on refreshments and by donations

Music at the Longhouse, July 2024: raised £1019 from raffle, tombola, refreshments, nature quiz and donations.

Butterfly Walk, July 2023: raised £70 by donation.

A schedule of events is in place for next year.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Product Sales and Projects

Below is a summary of funds raised from current projects, with additional notes about progress or scope.

Jams, Jellies and Chutneys: £5112 raised since 2018.

Autumn and Summer Tea Towel: £960 raised since 2018

Children's Book: £249 since 2019.

Hare Key Rings: £459 raised since 2019.

Hare Purses: £983 raised since 2018.

Sun Rising Jute Bags £589 since 2022.

Sun Rising Perennial Calendar: £2580 raised since 2020.

Sun Rising Honey: £7383 raised since 2012.

Hare Lapel Pins: £1244 since 2015.

Sun Rising Cards: £5565 since 2012.

Scott's Bowls: £207 raised this year.

Birdboxes: £56 raised this year.

Candles: £135 raised this year.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Friends' current policy on reserves:

- (a) keep a balance of around £5,000 in unrestricted funds in the current account.
- (b) transfer amounts over £5,000 into an easy access deposit account in order to earn some interest.
- (c) once the amount in the deposit account reaches an appropriate sum, invest safely in a financial product such as a fixed term bond in order to earn higher interest.
- (d) ensure that funds are always held with financial organisations that are covered by the FSCS, and that funds held with any one organisation does not exceed the FSCS limit of £85,000.

The purpose is to grow a capital fund to ensure an income for the management of the site as a nature reserve once it is no longer generating an income as a burial ground.

This fund must be sufficient to provide protection for the site, continuing to develop and maintain it as an ecologically valuable nature reserve, and a place which continues to honour those who have been laid to rest there.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Investment Policy:

The Friends has a policy of investing only in organisations with an explicit ethical policy. At this point, safe investments are favoured, even at the expense of higher interest.

Ethical Investors in Cheltenham continued to provide investment advice.



Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
	Full name(s) Emma Restall Orr	Jane Townsend
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	Secretary
Date		



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Friends of Sun Rising

1181570

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/09/2023

To

31/08/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation from NRBG	10,520	-	-	10,520	-
Donations	11,644	-	-	11,644	-
Events	2,988	-	-	2,988	-
Gift Aid	2,059	-	-	2,059	-
Subscriptions	3,415	-	-	3,415	-
Projects	5,428	-	-	5,428	-
Interest	2,561	-	-	2,561	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	38,615	-	-	38,615	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	38,615	-	-	38,615	-
A3 Payments					
Bank Charges (Zettle)	68	-	-	68	-
Events: 2022/2023 AGM Speaker	70	-	-	70	-
Events: Fundraising Xmas in the LH	103	-	-	103	-
Events: Gambling Licence	20	-	-	20	-
Events: Village Hall (AGM)	86	-	-	86	-
Overheads: Domain Registration	14	-	-	14	-
Overheads: External Examinaton	510	-	-	510	-
Overheads: Fundraising Regulator	60	-	-	60	-
Overheads: Leaflets	370	-	-	370	-
Overheads: Liability Insurance	206	-	-	206	-
Overheads: Postage and Admin	60	-	-	60	-
Projects: Honey, Jars & Labels	672	-	-	672	-
Projects: Open Day Flower Costs	30	-	-	30	-
Projects: Postage & Packing	8	-	-	8	-
Projects: Scotts Ash Wood	28	-	-	28	-
Projects: Summer /Winter Cards Stock	896	-	-	896	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,201	-	-	3,201	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,201	-	-	3,201	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	35,414	-	-	35,414	-
A5 Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	112,041	285	-	112,326	-
Cash funds this year end	147,455	285	-	147,740	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account 1	4,284	285	-
	Current Account 2	282	-	-
	Deposit Account 1	-	-	-
	Bond 1	-	-	-
	Bond 2	62,227	-	-
	Deposit Account 2	8,647	-	-
	Deposit Account 3	60,000	-	-
	Deposit Account 4	12,015	-	-
	Total cash funds	147,455	285	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Investment Fund 1		45,000	-
	Investment Fund 2		45,000	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	


Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees
CCXX RZ accounts (SS)

Signature

2

Print Name

Date of approval
03/09/2025

Jane Townsend.	Jane Townsend	
	Emma Restall-Orr	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

The Friends of Sun Rising

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1181570

Set out on pages

3 - 4

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2020.

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 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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:

Date:

28/03/25

Name:

Frederick William Buxton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales
Membership # 1623631

Address:

5 Granby Road, Honington

Shipston-on-Stour

Warwickshire, CV36 5AB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No items to be disclosed.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

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		-	-	-
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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
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			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Jane Townsend		
		Emma Restall-Orr	28/03/2025	
CCXX R2 accounts (SS)	2			