

Way of the Wharves CIO (Charity No 1188912) Report 2022

Aims and Purposes

The aims and purpose of Way of the Wharves CIO (WOTW) is to advance the education of the public in the maritime and industrial heritage of the Wharves at East the Water and the Torridge Estuary.

Objectives and Activities

WOTW is researching and promoting the maritime and industrial heritage of the Torridge Estuary and especially the wharves and immediate surrounding area of East the Water.

The book 'A History of East the Water, Bideford' was published in December 2021 and during 2022 considerable time and effort has been spent on promotion and sales. The main focus of charity activity in 2022 has continued to be on the wharves site on Barnstaple Street, East the Water

Achievements and Performance

Way of the Wharves CIO (WOTW) was registered as a charity on 6 April 2020 with first trustees Michael Teare, Louise Boulter, Anthony Burt, Angus Harper, Simon Whittam.

Website and newsletters

The updated website www.thewharves.org with shopfront for book sales has worked well. Red Earth allowed WOTW to host the archaeology report about the wharves site in Barnstaple Street on the website.

The regular email newsletter has continued at a frequency of about 6-8 weeks. It contains updates on maritime heritage news from along the Torridge as well as progress on works at the wharves site Barnstaple Street. The mailing list is now over 300 and FB posts regularly continue to get engagements of over 100. There is an archive at <https://phoneeastthewater.co.uk/archive-newsletters-and-publications/>

Phone Box

Work on the adopted the phone box in Torrington Street (adopted 2021) has proceeded slowly. Bideford Men's Shed have undertaken some repairs and installed a notice board and artwork of phone apparatus. It is now ready for the information and links for audio archives of phone box stories. See www.phoneeastthewater.co.uk for more information.

Walks, Talks and Community Events

During 2022 WOTW gave guided walks to: Torrington History Society and Devonshire Association AGM and made presentations to Bideford Probus Group, Bideford Library, Torrington History Society, Bideford Parkinson's Group, Bideford Bridge Rotary, Devon Rural Archive and at Appledore Book Festival. WOTW supported local schools with the donation of a copy of their book, cost of which was covered by a grant from Bideford Bridge Trust. WOTW were invited to give talks to St Mary's First School and provided material to Bideford Library for a creative writing event for East the Water First School. WOTW had stands at Bideford Fair, Bideford Water Festival and Cardboard Boat Race and Chudleigh Fort Picnic and supported the Fun Palaces event at Bideford Library with photographs and a quiz.

Heritage Maps and Reprint Article

The very successful 'Walk the Wharves Heritage Maps' have continued to be made available, free of charge, through Tourist Information and other outlets.

The article 'Wool wharves and water' was edited, updated and reprinted. Available to download at <https://thewharves.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/WoolwharveswaterA4.pdf>

Book 'A History of East the Water, Bideford'

The major achievement for 2022 has been to increase sales of the book 'A history of East-the-Water, Bideford.' (published 14 December 2021). The objective was to cover costs of printing by end of 2022 and with sales now at 393 books and £3,500 since launch that has very nearly been achieved. The most important sales channels have been through local bookshops followed by cash sales at talks and events and through the website.

In October 2022 WOTW received the Devon History Society 'Book of the Year Award' in the Local History Society category. The award was presented by Prof French at the Devon History Society AGM.

A Maritime Heritage Centre for Bideford

Working with representatives from The Burton, Local Councils and members of the community WOTW has established a steering group campaigning for a maritime heritage centre for Bideford. A presentation was made to Bideford Town Council and the steering group has compiled a list of sites that might be suitable/available. The website <https://maritimeheritagebideford.org> gives more details. The cost of website and publicity for this campaign has been supported by a councillor grant from Torridge DC.

Financial Review 2022

Way of the Wharves CIO Statement of Financial Activities

Financial year 1 January - 31 December 2022

Way of the Wharves CIO registered as a charity April 2020

	2022
Income	
Grants	£ 1,750.00
Trading	£ 2,585.13
Donations	£ 290.00
Personal loan	
TOTAL INCOME	£ 4,625.13
Expenditure	
Suppliers	£ 1,480.77
Travel / Delivery costs	£ -
Office costs	£ -
Advertising	£ -
Website development	£ 88.00
Insurance	£ -
Other	£ -
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£ 1,568.77
Closing balance at Bank	£ 3,504.72

Grants received in 2022

Bideford TC	£ 500.00
Bideford Bridge Trust	£ 1,000.00
Torrige DC	£ 250.00

Assets

August 2021 Way of the Wharves adopted the phone box in Torrington Street

Stock and Equipment

Stock 600 books at £3.70	£ 2,220.00
Gazebo and benches	£ 320.00

Notes to accounts

2022 income was principally made up of book sales. Together with the grant which allowed for donations to local schools, library and other history groups book sales are now £3,500. This is just short of the £3,700 cost of typesetting and printing. It will allow for repayment of personal loan (taken out in 2021 to cover production costs) in 2023.

The other major items of expenditure were photography for an installation 'Past, present future' to be completed in 2023 (supported by a grant from Bideford TC), repairs to the phone box, photocopying and printing pictures, reprints and promotional materials for events.

WOTW set up a deposit account for funds to be used for the Bideford Maritime Heritage Centre (BMHC) campaign. The £250 grant from Torridge DC was used to cover publicity costs associated with the BMHC campaign. WOTW made a donation of half the cost of printed material to this campaign fund.

Reserves Policy

At year end 2021 WOTW had a balance of £3,504 in the bank. There are no outstanding invoices to be paid and one invoice due (£16). As book sales are almost at breakeven on production costs further sales will contribute to funds in future. To achieve other objectives in 2023 WOTW will continue to apply for relevant grants and to fund raise.

Volunteers

In addition to Trustees others have supported our activities - especially with engagement on the Facebook page. Currently the charity runs with five trustees and has a supporters/followers list of 200+ on Facebook and 300+ signed up to the newsletter (mailchimp).

Structure Governance and Management

The running of WOTW is laid out in its governing document

The trustees are:

Michael Teare Chair

Louise Boulter

Anthony Burt

Simon Whittam

Kim Jones

Administrative Information

Address for correspondence

Way of the Wharves

c/o Michael Teare

26 Westcombe Lane

Bideford EX39 3JQ

Website: www.thewharves.org

Facebook @BrunswickWharf

Email wotw.wharves@gmail.com

Prepared by M Teare.

Michael Teare Chair WOTW



Approved at AGM of WOTW Trustees 15/06/23

Proposed: *Anthony Burt*

Seconded: *Louise Boulter*