# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| From | Period start date | | | To | Period end date | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 02 | 12 | 2022 | | 01 | 12 | 2023 |

## Section A Reference and administration details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Charity name** | FATHOMS FREE |
| **Other names charity is known by** | N/A |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Registered charity number (if any)** | 1196183 |
| **Charity's principal address** | 16 LOWER CLICKER ROAD, |
| | MENHENIOT |
| | LISKEARD |
| | **Postcode** PL14 3PJ |

**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 | John Kent | Chair of Trustees | | |
| 2 | Julian Collison | Treasurer | | |
| 3 | Luke Bullus | Diving Officer | | |
| 4 | Eleanor Speirs | Secretary | | |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | |
| 10 | | | | |
| 11 | | | | |
| 12 | | | | |
| 13 | | | | |
| 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | |
| 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | |
| 18 | | | | |
| 19 | | | | |
| 20 | | | | |

**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)**

| |
|---|
| |

## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

| | |
|---|---|
| Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution) | **Constitution** |
| How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company) | **CIO** |
| Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by) | **Appointed on initial creation of charity - any changes by election** |

**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.

**Written Risk assessments in place for diving activities and boat usage with site and conditions specific risk assessments completed at each event.**
**All personnel suitably trained and qualified for the activities they are engaged in.**

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

**To preserve and improve the marine environment around the coast of the United Kingdom & to to conserve, relieve the suffering of and promote the bio-diversity of marine wildlife with the use of volunteer divers and surface supporters by, but not limited to:**

**1. Locating, documenting, retrieving and responsibly disposing of Abandoned, Discarded and Lost Fishing Gear (also known as Ghost Gear), releasing and where possible returning entrapped marine wildlife to its natural habitat.**

| | |
|---|---|
| | **2. Locating, documenting, retrieving and responsibly disposing of underwater, floating and coastal marine litter, focussing on but not limited to Marine Plastics**<br>**3. Supporting the local resident population, the significant coastal tourism industry and the resident fishing communities by minimising the litter and ghost gear hazards to make the beaches and coastal seas a safer place to enjoy and minimising unnecessary damage to local fish stocks killed by ghost gear.**<br>**4. Collecting and distributing data on the distribution, nature and quantity of marine litter and ghost fishing gear and its environmental impacts**<br>**5. Spreading awareness of the presence of underwater marine litter and ghost fishing gear along with the environmental threats it poses**<br>**6. Educating water users and the public so as to reduce the input of debris to the sea** |
| **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)** | ***Our activities for the reporting period can be summarised into three categories.***<br><br>***1. Retrieval - Retrieving matter from the sea which shouldn't be there, this is our raison d'etre. This was most often done by diving but there was a significant quantity of recovery from beaches.***<br><br>***2. Awareness - We took multiple opportunities to inform the public of the very serious matter of ghost nets and marine litter. This was done by talks, meeting the public at awareness events, social media and mainstream media eg. TV news. If we can educate people to prevent marine pollution then it makes our retrieval job less arduous. A little known fact is that 75% of marine litter starts on land as street litter, reaching the sea via drains and rivers.***<br><br>***3. Maintenance, training and fund raising - These activities are the enabler for the 2 above. The divers become maintenance personnel or teachers/students for these activities. The maintenance work covered work on; a boat, a boat trailer, a truck, navigation equipment and dive gear. One of our number has attended a specialist dive course and she will then train the rest of the team with her new skills. Our fund-raising is dependent upon our exposure in various media forms, without funds no recoveries would take place. We have a website and an integral shop. Many of the goods in the shop are made by our volunteers from recovered ghost nets and ropes. We have also invested this year in out own scuba diving compressor and bank cylinders for the generation and storage of diving gas (air and Nitrox). It has become sadly very clear that dive centres are becoming few and far between and that the logistical challenges of getting cylinder fills before and between dives is becoming significant. To enable us to operate reliably and to maintain a swift response to reports of ghost gear made to us, teh trustees agreed to purchase, commission and maintain our own filling station. This has already proved extremely useful to the charity.*** |

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

**All persons engaged with Fathoms Free are volunteers ,including the trustees. The charity has no paid staff.**

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

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

## Section D Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

***Last year the Fathoms Free team recovered 1100 kg of marine debris from the seas around Devon and Cornwall. This activity took 350 man hours, in direct effort. This recovery was accomplished during 6 dives and 6 beach recoveries.***

***During the same year, severaL awareness events were undertaken, this included a Radio news item and participation in the Cornwall Wildlife Trusts Your Shore Conference.***
***We were also an active participant in the Lostwithiel Environmental Action Forum, to highlight how abandoned fishing gear and other debris becomes a marine issue locally and hence the need for our work.***

***Our funding has been secured for the forthcoming year by donations from both personal and corporate donors and the sale of goods in our online shop.***
***This was augmented over the Christmas period when a Crowdfunding campaign secured match funding from the Cornwall Council Grow Nature Fund.***

## Section E Financial review

| | |
|---|---|
| **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves** | **The charity does not currently have a policy on reserves since it was created from very humble beginnings. The trustees realise that the charity is growing and whilst at the moment it is in a comfortable financial position, the trustees will during the next financial year develop a reserves policy in order to prepare for unexpected and schedules repairs or replacement to key assets, namely the boats (Casper & Shadow) and pickup truck** |
| **Details of any funds materially in deficit** | **There are no funds in deficit** |

**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.

**The charity, in common with others operating in the same conservation arena, does not receive any government funding and relies on the generous donation of members of the public and corporate donors.**

**The charity does not currently have an investment policy - monies raised are used to fund ghost gear recoveries including charter boat hire where necessary, fuel and maintenance of charity assets and maintaining a balance available for repairs as and when necessary.**

**The funds of the charities are fairly modest, having raised £16717 in the last financial year (2nd December 2022 to 1st December 2023).**

**Of these £7662 were raised by personal donations, £822 by corporate donation, £6690 from grant funding (including match funding), £1510 from Gift Aid and £33 from the online shop.**

**Expenditure for the year was £19472 with the largest expense being £5042 on boat, trailer and truck maintenance, followed by £3901 on the purchase and setup of the gas system which allows us to fill dive cylinders without travelling to dive centres which are getting fewer and farther apart..**

**All expenditure has been directly connected to the ongoing objects of the charity, particularly the ghost gear recovery.**

## Section F Other optional information

## 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)** | John Kent | Julian Collison |
| **Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)** | Chair | Treasurer |
| **Date** | 06/09//24 | |

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

| Charity Name | No (if any) |
|---|---|
| Fathoms Free | 1192613 |

# Receipts and payments accounts

**CC16a**

| For the period from | Period start date | To | Period end date |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 02/12/2022 | | 01/12/2023 |

## Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Last year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| **A1 Receipts** | | | | | |
| Personal Donations | 7662 | - | - | 7,662 | 5,623 |
| Company ./ Sponsor Donations | 822 | - | - | 822 | 8,513 |
| Sales of items in web shop | 33 | - | - | 33 | 71 |
| HMRC Gift Aid Payments | 1,510 | - | - | 1,510 | 1,753 |
| Grant payments | 6,690 | - | - | 6,690 | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** *(Gross income for AR)* | 16,717 | - | - | 16,717 | 15,960 |
| **A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).** | | | | | |
| NONE | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total receipts*** | 16,717 | - | - | 16,717 | 15,960 |
| **A3 Payments** | | | | | |
| Boat, Truck & Trailer Storage | 1,560 | - | - | 1,560 | 1,395 |
| Hardboat charter | 660 | - | - | 660 | 2,475 |
| Insurance & Vehicle Tax | 1,866 | - | - | 1,866 | 1,776 |
| Truck & Boat repair & upgrades | 5,042 | - | - | 5,042 | 6,257 |
| Fuel | 1,513 | - | - | 1,513 | 1,469 |
| Gear recovery equipment | 2,936 | - | - | 2,936 | 1,903 |
| Gas system | 3,901 | - | - | 3,901 | - |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Training | 1,389 | - | - | 1,389 | - |
| Charity admin (website etc) | 605 | - | - | 605 | 472 |
| ***Sub total*** | 19,472 | - | - | 19,472 | 15,747 |
| **A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)** | | | | | |
| NONE | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total payments*** | 19,472 | - | - | 19,472 | 15,747 |
| ***Net of receipts/(payments)*** | - 2,755 | - | - | - 2,755 | 213 |
| **A5 Transfers between funds** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **A6 Cash funds last year end** | 19,932 | - | - | 19,932 | 19,719 |
| ***Cash funds this year end*** | 17,177 | - | - | 17,177 | 19,932 |

## 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** | **NatWest Bank Account** | 16,490 | - | - |
| | **Soldo prepaid debit card balance** | 687 | - | - |
| | **PayPal Account** | - | - | - |
| | ***Total cash funds*** | 17,177 | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK | OK | OK |

| | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B2 Other monetary assets** | NONE | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |

## B3 Investment assets

| Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| NONE | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |

## B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

| Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6.5m Humber RHIB with engine,trailer & electronics | Unrestricted | - | 14,000 |
| Mitsubishi L200 Pickup Truck | | - | 7,000 |
| Twin axle van trailer | | - | 1,000 |
| Gazebo & display equipment | | - | 2,500 |
| Ghost gear recovery equipment | | - | 6,000 |
| Compressor and gas filling panel | | - | 4,500 |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |

## B5 Liabilities

| Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| None | | - | |
| | | - | |
| | | - | |
| | | - | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | - | |

| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|---|---|---|---|
| |  | **Julian Collison (Treasurer)** | **21/01/2024** |
| | | **John Kent (Chair)** | **21/01/2024** |