

Directors' Report 2023 and AGM Notice

Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society

153rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the AGM and receipt of the Directors' Report for the year 2023 will be held in the David Sweet Hall at East Croydon United Reformed Church – Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon, on Thursday 25th April 2024, commencing at 19:45.

Online and postal voting will be also be available – please see page 4 for details and closing dates.

**In this Document
Agenda for the Annual General Meeting
Directors' Report for 2023
The Society's Accounts and Accountant's Report**

**For a full programme of walks and talks
please visit our website on
www.cnhss.co.uk**

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
A company limited by guarantee registered in London No. 922278
Registered Office: 96a Brighton Road, South Croydon, CR2 6AD
Registered Email address: information@cnhss.co.uk
Registered charity No. 260739

For ways of contacting the Society online see box on back cover

**Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)**

**Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the directors, who are also the trustees, of Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society (Charity Number 260739; Company Number 922278)

I report to the charity's directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2023, as set out on Accounts pp 2 to 7.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's directors and trustees of the Company you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement


Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.....



Donald Iain MacLeod
FCA
Member of the Institute of Chartered
Accountants in England and Wales

Date 13th March 2024..

22 Bowes Wood
New Ash Green
Longfield
Kent DA3 8QJ

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)

Statement of financial activities (including summary income and expenditure account)
For The Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	2023	Fund	2022
Income — unrestricted funds		£		£
Investment income		4,980	1/3G=B=F	4,500
Interest income		1,160	1/3G=B=F	112
Subscriptions		2,701	General	3,509
Donations		292	General	40
Book sales		2,232	Fagg	724
Exhibition Grants		300	General	2,100
Bequest	[2]	261,447	Legacy	50,052
Gift Aid	[3]	0	General	546
Lectures		80	General	310
Royalties		409	Fagg	699
		273,601		62,592
Expenditure — unrestricted funds		£		£
Website and computer sundries		185	General	341
Meetings		2,337	General	2,840
Postage and telephone		881	General	696
Printing and stationery		276	General	108
Rates and rent		424	B/L 1409/-985	B 1,365
Electricity		3,021	B/L 2544/477	B 1,084
Depreciation		35	General	47
Repairs and Renewals		1,676	B/L 236/1440	B 297
Proceedings		0	Fagg	655
Subscriptions		223	General	350
Professional fees		27,272	G/L 820/26452	0
Bank charges		0	General	0
Examiner's remuneration		300	General	290
Insurance		1,905	G/L 1277/628	G 1,541
Programmes		771	General	845
Bulletins		1,480	General	1,360
Exhibitions		100	General	0
Donations and Grants		200	General	100
Sundries		9	General	194
		41,095		12,113
Excess of income over expenditure		232,506		50,479
Of which Legacy Fund		233,435		50,052
Of which balance		- 929		427
Fund Balances		2023		2022
Balance at 1st January 2023		£202,165		£151,686
Excess of income over expenditure		232,506		50,479
Balance at 31st December 2023		£434,671		£202,165
of which General Fund		£53,108		£56,583
of which Bennett Fund		£49,812		£51,954
of which Fagg Fund		£48,264		£43,576
of which Legacy Fund		£283,487		£50,052

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	[5]	1,152	1,187
Fixed Asset Investments	[6]	124,638	74,638
		125,790	75,825
Current Assets			
Stocks		2,000	2,000
Debtors		0	624
Bank and cash	[7]	334,682	128,544
		336,682	131,168
Other creditors	[8]	– 27,801	– 4,828
Net current assets		308,881	126,340
Total assets less current liabilities		434,671	202,165
NET ASSETS		£434,671	£202,165
Financed by — unrestricted funds			
General Fund		53,108	56,583
Bennett Memorial Fund		49,812	51,954
C C Fagg Memorial Fund		48,264	43,576
Legacy Fund		283,487	50,052
		£434,671	£202,165

**Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023 (continued)

The company is entitled to exemption from audit for the year ended 31st December 2023 under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

These financial statements have been approved by Council.

Treasurer  B.J. Hawkins

Company Secretary  I.G. Payne

23 February 2024

**Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with: Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), SORP FRS102, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

INCOME

- i. Recognition of income – Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:
 - The charity becomes entitled to the resources;
 - It is more than likely that the trustees will receive the resources;
 - The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- ii. Offsetting There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS102 SORP or FRS 102.
- iii. Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income criteria are met.
 In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognized to the extent that the charity has provided the specific goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.
 Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are in the control of the charity or have been met.
- iv. Tax reclaims on donations and gifts Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be a part of that gift and is treated as part of the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
- v. Income from interest, royalties and dividends. These are included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.
- vi. Income from membership subscriptions Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognized in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to

buy services or other benefits are recognized as income earned from the provision of goods or services as income from charitable activities.

EXPENDITURE

- i. Liability Recognition- Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable accuracy.

ASSETS

- i. Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity – These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost.
- ii. Depreciation – Depreciation is calculated to spread the cost of the following assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:
 - Furniture and equipment – 25% of written down value;
 - Computer equipment – 25% of purchase value.
- iii. Fixed Asset Investments have been valued at cost.
- iv. Stocks – Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.
- v. Debtors – Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount.

2. Legacy Fund

During the year, the Society received monies from the bequest of Paul Sowen via the estates of his family which had hereunto not been realised. The monies less expenses are shown as income in the Income and Expenditure Account but are allocated to the Legacy Fund. Further amounts are expected from the bequest when legal ownership of various assets is settled.

3. Gift Aid

Gift Aid has been claimed for the year ending 31 December 2019 but has not yet been received. Gift aid has yet to be claimed for the years ending 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2021. The deadlines for making these claims are 31 December 2024 and 2025 respectively.

4. Related Party Transactions

Where it has proved difficult for the Society to make prompt one-off payments, some expenses have been paid online by individual trustees. All such expenses have subsequently been reimbursed upon proof of payment. There were no other related party transactions during the year (2022 – nil).

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

5. Tangible Fixed Assets	Freehold 96a Brighton Road	Furniture and Equipment	Total
At cost Jan 1	1,046	14,011	15,057
Additions			
At cost Dec 31	<u>1,046</u>	<u>14,011</u>	<u>15,057</u>
Depreciation at January 1	0	13,870	13,870
Charge for year 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>
At 31 Dec 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>13,905</u>	<u>13,905</u>
Net Book Value:			
31 Dec 2023	£1,046	£106	£1,152
31 Dec 2022	£1,046	£141	£1,187

The freehold premises are stated at cost as, in the directors' opinion, market value would not be appropriate.

6. Fixed Asset Investments	Market value 31 Dec 2023	Cost 2023	Cost 2022
19913 M & G Charibond	22,270	25,000	25,000
8378 Charifund units	120,221	94,638	44,638
(3484 units purchased Dec 2023 for £50,000)			
National Savings Bond	5,000	5,000	5,000
	£147,491	£124,638	£74,638

7. Cash at bank	2023	2022
Santander deposit account	67,310	66,926
Bank current account	185,257	20,128
Bank deposit account	81,995	41,370
Cash in hand	120	120
	£334,682	£128,544

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
Subscriptions in advance	328	352
Sundry creditors	27,473	4,476
	£27,801	£4,828