

The Houghton Trust Limited

(a company limited by guarantee)

Company number : 01534794
Charity Commission number : 281834

Financial Statements

- for the year ended -

31 December 2023

The Houghton Trust Limited
Report and accounts
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The Houghton Trust Limited

Legal and administrative information

Directors

Mr G N Hayes
Professor M P Stevens
Mr R M Irvine
Professor R M La Ragione
Professor A L Vervelde (Terminated 11 January 2024)
Professor F M Tomley (Chairman)

Administrative Staff

Dr S J Francis (Honorary secretary)
Professor D P Blake (Editor in Chief)
Mr G N Hayes (Treasurer)

Registered Office

The Old Police Station
Priory Road
St Ives
Cambs
PE27 5BB

Company Number 01534794

Charity Number 281834

Bankers

Cater Allen Private Bank
9 Nelson Street
Bradford
BD1 5AN

Investment Managers

Rathbones incorporating Investec Wealth & Investments (UK)
30 Gresham Street
London
EC2V 7QN

Independent Examiner

C J Dyke
The Old Police Station
Priory Road
St Ives
PE27 5BB

The Houghton Trust Limited

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2023

Company Number 01534794

Charity Number

281834

The directors present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The directors have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (FRS102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Objectives and activities for educational benefit

The purpose of the Trust is the promotion of education and research into the study of Avian Pathology through making grants to appropriate individuals and institutions. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the grant making policy for the year.

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be the editorial aspects of Avian Pathology, the official journal of the World Veterinary Poultry Association, and the provision of 'The Houghton Lecture'

Financial review

The Trust's work is reliant on royalty income generated from the publication of 'Avian Pathology' together with supplementary income and investment returns from its investment portfolio.

The net movement in funds for the year amounted to (£14,652), (2022: £33,264).

Investment policy

The Trust's investment advisors (Investec) are instructed to hold a mixed portfolio of equities, bonds, cash and other investments designed to provide a level of stable income and the possibility of investment gains.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, operational and business risks to which the charity is exposed and are aware of the performance of investments and operational risks from ineffective grant making and the capacity of the Trust to make effective grants.

Investment risks are mitigated by retaining expert investment managers and having a diversified portfolio.

Effective grant making is scrutinised by the Trustees who are experts in their field with the depth of insight to effectively evaluate grant proposals.

The Houghton Trust Limited

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2023

Company Number 01534794

Charity Number

281834

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a reserves policy of being aware of their operational commitments for the next 12 months. Anticipated free reserves in unrestricted funds are maintained for this purpose.

Directors responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and the apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company exemption

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

By order of the board

S. J. Francis

Dr S J Francis (Honorary Secretary)

07-05-24

Date

The Houghton Trust Limited

Independent examiner's report to the members of The Houghton Trust Limited.

Company number: 01534794

Charity number : 281834

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b)) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.


Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention to indicate that:

- accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- the accounts do not accord with such records:
- where accounts are prepared on an accrual basis, whether they fail to comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- any matter which the examiner believes should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts.


C J Dyke

Chartered Accountant
The Old Police Station
Priory Road
St Ives
Cambs
PE27 5BB

Date 4 - 6 - 2024

The Houghton Trust Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income				
Investment income	3	9,259	9,259	9,279
Other income	4	92,101	92,101	94,635
Total income		<u>101,360</u>	<u>101,360</u>	<u>103,914</u>
Expenditure				
<i>Cost of raising funds:</i>				
Editorial expenditure	5	12,911	12,911	12,888
Investment management fees	6	4,077	4,077	4,116
		<u>16,988</u>	<u>16,988</u>	<u>17,004</u>
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>	7			
Research		54,337	54,337	41,630
Education		25,366	25,366	9,463
Administrative expenses		12,162	12,162	16,658
		<u>91,865</u>	<u>91,865</u>	<u>67,751</u>
Total expenditure		<u>108,853</u>	<u>108,853</u>	<u>84,755</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments		<u>(7,493)</u>	<u>(7,493)</u>	<u>19,159</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	22,145	22,145	(52,423)
Net movement in funds		<u>14,652</u>	<u>14,652</u>	<u>(33,264)</u>
<i>Reconciliation of Funds</i>				
Total funds as at 1 January 2023		675,040	675,040	708,304
Total funds as at 31 December 2023		<u>689,692</u>	<u>689,692</u>	<u>675,040</u>

All transactions are derived from continuing activities

All recognised gains or losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities

The Houghton Trust Limited
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	8	6	6	6
Investments	9	441,954	441,954	412,575
Total fixed assets		<u>441,960</u>	<u>441,960</u>	<u>412,581</u>
Current assets				
Debtors	10	52,337	52,337	57,574
Cash at bank and in hand	11	205,109	205,109	217,465
Total current assets		<u>257,446</u>	<u>257,446</u>	<u>275,039</u>
Liabilities				
Creditors falling due within one year	12	9,714	9,714	12,580
Net current assets		<u>247,732</u>	<u>247,732</u>	<u>262,459</u>
Net assets		<u><u>689,692</u></u>	<u><u>689,682</u></u>	<u><u>675,040</u></u>
Funds				
Unrestricted funds		689,692	689,682	675,040
Restricted funds		-	-	-
Shareholders' funds		<u><u>689,692</u></u>	<u><u>689,682</u></u>	<u><u>675,040</u></u>

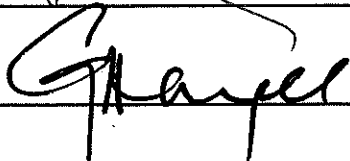
The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.


 F M Tomley (Director)


 G N Hayes (Director)

Approved by the board on

07/05/2024

The Houghton Trust Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Net cash used in operating activities	13	<u>(14,381)</u>	<u>7,167</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest and dividends		9,259	9,279
Proceeds from sale of investments		(7,234)	(19,420)
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>2,025</u>	<u>(10,141)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u>(12,356)</u>	<u>(2,974)</u>
Cash and cash equivalent as at 1 January 2023		217,465	220,439
Cash and cash equivalent as at 31 December 2023		<u><u>205,109</u></u>	<u><u>217,465</u></u>

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction values unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The most significant area of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the Trust are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and risk management sections of the directors' annual report for more information).

Funds structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Income recognition

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Royalty receipts are included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Trust. This is normally upon notification from our royalties advisor of royalties paid or payable.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable. This is upon notification of the interest paid by or payable by the bank and investment managers.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Trust to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including administrative costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the Trust. In the case of an unconditional offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. Grants awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Trust.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

Administrative expenditure

Administrative expenses for the awarding of grants and the governance of the Trust are recorded separately in the note 7.

Costs of raising funds

The costs of generating funds consist of editorial expenditure and investment management costs.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities include grants made and administrative expenses.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £250 are capitalised and valued at historic cost. Depreciation is charged on office equipment on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life of three years from the year of acquisition.

Fixed asset investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising from revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Trust is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude to investors risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those grants resulting from:

- a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustee's control; or
- a present obligation following a grant offer where settlement is either not considered probable; or
- the amount has not been communicated in the grant offer and that amount cannot be estimated

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 Related party transactions and trustee's expenses and remuneration

The trustees give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2022: £nil). Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £1039 (2022: £801).

3 Investment income	2023	2022
	£	£
Dividends - equities	7,076	7,656
Interest - fixed interest securities	1,713	1,514
Interest on cash deposits	470	109
	<u>9,259</u>	<u>9,279</u>

4 Other income	2023	2022
	£	£
Royalties receivable	82,061	86,595
Royalties agents receivable - Editorial contribution	8,040	8,040
Royalties agents receivable - Travel expenses subsidy	2,000	-
	<u>92,101</u>	<u>94,635</u>

5 Editorial expenditure	2023	2022
	£	£
Editorial assistants remuneration	12,911	12,888
	<u>12,911</u>	<u>12,888</u>

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Investment management fees	2023	2022
	£	£
Investment management fees	4,077	4,116
	<u>4,077</u>	<u>4,116</u>

7 Expenditure on charitable activities	2023	2022
	£	£
Research grants	<u>54,337</u>	<u>41,630</u>
Individual educational grants	<u>25,366</u>	<u>9,463</u>
Administrative expenses		
Postage, stationery and telephone	25	34
Travel expenses	7,197	8,366
Treasurer honoraria	1,091	1,019
Accountancy	2,142	2,040
Legal fees	-	3,604
Computer running costs	1,294	1,205
Bank charges	400	277
Sundry expenses	13	113
	<u>12,162</u>	<u>16,658</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>91,865</u>	<u>67,751</u>

8 Tangible fixed assets

Office equipment	£
Cost	
At 1 January 2023	
and 31 December 2023	<u>5,661</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2023	
and 31 December 2023	<u>5,655</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	<u>6</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>6</u>

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

9 Fixed asset investments	2023	2022
	£	£
Movement in fixed assets listed investments:		
Market value at 1 January 2023	412,575	445,578
Add: additions to investment at cost	198,068	181,523
Disposals at carrying value	(190,834)	(162,103)
Add: net gain/(loss) on revaluation	22,145	(52,423)
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>441,954</u>	<u>412,575</u>

Net cash released from investments in the year was £7234 (2022: £19,420)

Investments at fair value	2023	2022
Comprised:	£	£
Equities	356,947	340,279
Fixed interest securities	85,007	72,296
Total	<u>441,954</u>	<u>412,575</u>

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investments in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets, primarily the London Stock Exchange. Holdings in common invested funds, unit trusts and open-ended investment companies are at the bid price. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value, using the bid price. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

10 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Royalties receivable	52,061	56,595
Prepayments	276	979
	<u>52,337</u>	<u>57,574</u>

11 Cash at bank	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank current account	200,668	210,972
Investment advisors deposit account	4,441	6,493
	<u>205,109</u>	<u>217,465</u>

The Houghton Trust Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

12 Creditors due within 1 year	2023	2022
	£	£
Research grants	-	7,000
Individual educational grants	7,572	1,800
Accruals	2,142	3,780
	<u>9,714</u>	<u>12,580</u>
 13 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities	 2023	 2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds	14,652	(33,264)
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(9,259)	(9,279)
Deduct gains/add back losses on investments	(22,145)	52,423
Decrease (increase) in debtors	5,237	(12,399)
Increase (decrease) in creditors	(2,866)	9,686
 Net cash used in operating activities	 <u>(14,381)</u>	 <u>7,167</u>

**Report of the Committee of Management to the Annual General Meeting of the
Houghton Trust Ltd, for the year 2023
(7th May 2024)**

The Journal (*Avian Pathology*), volume 52. The Journal continues to be published for The Houghton Trust by the Taylor & Francis Group (T&F). It was published in six parts in alternate months. The journal published 37 original research papers, 3 reviews and 1 book review in volume 52, the lowest number of articles per year in more than 10 years. The current journal Impact Factor (IF) is 2.8 (2022) and the CiteScore is 4.9 (2022), placing the journal 52nd of 456 in the 'Animal Science and Zoology category'. The IF for 2023 is not yet available. The 5-year IF was 3.2.

Editorial matters. Professor Damer Blake continued as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal. During 2023, 194 manuscripts were submitted for consideration for publication, compared with 182 in 2022, the comparative numbers for the previous three years being 208, 214 and 235. The acceptance rate was 23%, the lowest figure in more than 10 years.

Subscriptions. The journal circulation (number of institutions worldwide with access – via either subscription, sales deal, or subject collection) was 2845. There were 475,263 article downloads in 2023, which is comparable with, but slightly lower than, the previous 3 years.

Royalties. A total of £82,060 was paid by T&F for the year ending 31st December 2023. This is a decrease of £4.5K compared with 2022.

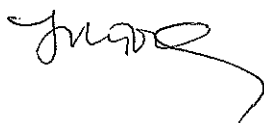
Grants awarded. The Houghton Trust offers three types of research grant (Small Project Research Grant, Researcher Mobility Grant, and Vacation Studentship) to fund specific projects related to avian diseases in UK universities and research institutions. In 2023, the Grants Subcommittee awarded seven research grants totalling £54,337, the highest annual amount ever awarded (compared with £41,630 in 2022, and £41,900 in 2021). The Grants Subcommittee offered 35 international Travel Grants totalling £25,366K, marking a return to pre-pandemic level number of submissions and the highest annual amount ever awarded (average amount offered annually for 2014 – 2022 inclusive: £20K).

Finance. The Company had an excess of income over expenditure (£22,775.74) in 2023. This is approximately £27K lower than the 2022 excess. Compared with 2022, income was slightly (£4.3K) lower, consistent with the lower royalties. Expenditure was greater by £24.1K (Travel Grant funding increased by £15.9K; Research Grant funding increased by £12.7K; but there were no legal fees in 2023 [£3.6K in 2022 for solicitor to update the Trust's Articles of Association]). Total reserves now stand at £699,406, of which £441,954 is investments at market value, as of 31st December 2023.

The Company's bankers are Cater Allen Private Bank, Bradford, Yorkshire. The Trust's investments continue to be managed on behalf of the Company by Investec Wealth & Investment, 30 Gresham Street, London.

Approved by the Committee of Management on 7th May 2024.

Signed:



Professor Fiona Tomley (Chair of the Houghton Trust)