

The World of Owls
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 July 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The World of Owls
Charity registration number	NI100938
Company registration number	NI041189
Principal office and registered office	World of Owls Centre 32 Mountshalgus Lane Randalstown Co Antrim BT41 3LE Northern Ireland

The trustees

Mr Michael Gibb
Mrs Charlene Gibb
Ms Christine Palmer
Mrs Paula Sawyer
Ms Allison Sutherland

Company secretary	Elaine Gibb
Independent examiner	Gary Martin FFA/FIPA 4 Newtown Crescent Newtownards BT23 7GP

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. It is recognised as a charity by HM Revenue and Customs.

The World of Owls

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2024

Structure, Governance, and Management

The World of Owls Animal Sanctuary (WOO), located in Northern Ireland, operates as a charitable organisation aimed at the welfare, conservation, and rehabilitation of birds of prey and other exotic animals. The governance of the sanctuary is carried out by a Board of Trustees, in compliance with its constitution and relevant legislation.

World of Owls (Woo) is the only animal sanctuary of its kind in Northern Ireland and as such is the premier Owl, Birds of Prey and Exotic Animals conservation center in the country.

The organisations core objectives include:

- Rescue and rehabilitation of birds of prey and other animals in distress.
- Public education through workshops, presentations, and interactive experiences.
- Conservation of endangered species, with a particular focus on native wildlife.
- Collaboration with wildlife experts and veterinarians to ensure the best care for the animals.

The majority of animals in our care have been rescued due to sickness, maltreatment, homelessness and neglect. In caring for them, we also provide a large range of benefits to the public at large, including education on animal welfare, and the prevention of cruelty as well as broader environmental and ecological issues. For our younger visitors, the education program is clearly linked to the NI Revised Curriculum taught in their schools.

We provide employability training and volunteering opportunities to a number of different welfares, and community-based organisations province wide. We also work with the Social Security Agency, the Education Authority, schools, colleges, universities, and disability groups in providing work experience placements, education and training in an ecological and environmental framework. Woo therefore operates with volunteers from so many different walks of life providing opportunities and enrichment through many different activities.

When planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There is absolutely no private benefit and no potential harm from any of Woo objectives.

Achievements and performance

World of Owls continues its strong links with the Education Authority, other education bodies and providers across Northern Ireland and continues to deliver services under the conditions and aims of our Mission Statement. This is growing annually, allowing us to demonstrate the work we carry out and help deliver our message to a wider and younger audience.

We have now, after a lot of negotiations, secured a lease extension on our premises from Jan 2024 to Jan 2034. This will provide the stability needed for us to plan for continued growth at the site and enhance our ability to welcome increased visitor numbers as well as a greater capacity for housing animals in distress.

Fundraising activities continued throughout the year and in the opinion of the trustees, were successful.

Challenges Faced:

Despite these successes, the sanctuary faced several challenges, including:

- Financial pressure due to increased costs in animal care and facility maintenance.
- A rise in the number of injured or orphaned animals requiring rehabilitation.
- Unpredictable weather conditions impacting wildlife release and outdoor activities.

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Conclusion:

In conclusion, World of Owls continues to play a vital role in the rescue, rehabilitation, and conservation of wildlife in Northern Ireland including our work in educating the general public about the important issues involved. The Trustees are proud of the sanctuary's achievements over the past year and remain committed to ensuring its growth and sustainability in the years to come.

Financial review

The deficit for the year and the manner in which it has been dealt with, are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies' exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 11/11/2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Mr Michael Gibb
Trustee

