Directors' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2022

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Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Legal and administrative information

The company is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is governed in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Charity number Company Number SC022403 SC172338

Business Address

28 Main Street Tobermory Isle of Mull PA75 6NU

Registered Office

28 Main Street Tobermory Isle of Mull PA75 6NU

Directors

J Gordon
P Evans
D Mollison
T Walmsley
P Cheek
L Blair
J Butler
A Melville
A Kershaw
E Hewett

Accountants

Jack MacDonald & Co Chartered Accountants Reporting Accountants Cuan Aille, 1 Aldersyde, Taynuilt, Argyll PA35 1AG

Report of the Directors For the year ended 31st December 2022

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Structure, governance and management

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited is a company limited by its guarantee and is a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is a charitable non-profit making community business run from an office in Tobermory, Isle of Mull. The company is run by a Board of Directors, elected by members of the organisation, who meet on a regular basis throughout the year. Only Directors have voting rights at these meetings.

The Directors provide guidance for the activities of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited which is intended to meet its aims and objectives.

The directors who served during the year and since the year end were:-

J Gordon

P Evans

D Mollison

T Walmsley

P Cheek

L Blair

J Butler A Melville

A Kershaw

D Meegan (resigned 8 November 2022)

E Hewett (appointed 8 November 2022)

Objectives and activities

The aims of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited are to: -

- 1) carry out research regarding cetaceans in the waters off the west coast of Scotland
- 2) increase public awareness and understanding of cetaceans in that area
- 3) undertake educational work regarding cetaceans in schools around the west coast

Achievements and performance

In 2022 we were able to reopen all our research, education and community engagement activities again post pandemic.

There were several staff changes in 2022. We welcomed a new Boat Manager, Charlie Triggs, Education Officer, Sadie Gorvett, Centre and Community Engagement Manager, Shelley Richmond and Community Engagement Officer, Caroline Willis. We were also joined by four summer volunteers, Abby, Caroline, Felix, Jess.

There were also some changes for existing members of the staff team, Jenny Hampson and Siobhan Moran started new roles as Fieldwork Research Manager and Visitor Experience & Exhibition's Officer. Hannah Lightly and Craig Mackie, both previous HWDT summer volunteers, joined our Silurian crew as seasonal Science Officers.

We also welcomed back our Science and Conservation Manager, Lauren Hartny-Mills from maternity leave, her maternity cover was provided by Laia Garrobe.

It has been a significant year for our science and data collection programmes, with investment in new systems, equipment, and infrastructure. 2022 marked 20 years since HWDT purchased Silurian and this important milestone was marked by the return of volunteer citizen scientists, the first-time volunteers have been on board since 2019.

With support from the NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund we invested in a significant upgrade to our acoustic equipment and towed hydrophone arrays. We added two new mid-frequency hydrophone elements alongside our existing high frequency elements. The system now generates four channels of full bandwidth continuous recordings for all acoustic transects. This will allow us to detect sounds at lower frequencies than we were previously able to, whilst still being able to accurately detect high frequency harbour porpoise clicks to determine the number of animals and proximity to the vessel. In addition, we can now gain calibrated recordings of biological and anthropogenic sounds. This is the first substantiative upgrade of the acoustic equipment since we started our acoustic surveys in 2002.

Despite the particularly challenging weather conditions, we have had a very successful season on board Silurian. We delivered 18 research expeditions', two of these for young people aged 16-17 and one for students from St Andrew's University's.

Following two years with no dedicated visual survey effort, we were able to conduct our full cetacean monitoring programme in 2022. Over 100 volunteer citizen scientists joined us, collectively surveying 7,942km of Hebridean Seas and collecting over 600 hours of acoustic recordings.

It was a good year for sightings. Silurian encountered almost 5,244 individual marine animals this year, from 13 species, including over 3,500 common dolphins, a sei whale, sunfish, tuna and the West Coast Community killer whales.

We were also able to welcome local volunteers back to join HWDT's winter surveys in March 2022. The data from these surveys will be analysed alongside the winter survey data collected between 2021 and 2024 and will be published in spring 2024.

Our marine mammal monitoring programme wasn't the only programme to see more face-to-face activities in 2022. Ninety-six pupils from five schools in the Tobermory and Loch Sunart area, took part in Floating Classrooms onboard Silurian. The first schools to join us on board since 2019. A further 140 pupils from six schools took part in classroom and outdoor learning activities and we attended two conservation careers events, working with almost 130 pupils.

We continued to make our new digital floating classroom sessions available online across Scotland. We launched brand new live online session for primary students. Over 420 pupils from 21 schools and home education families took part in live online learning about whales and dolphins and the work of HWDT.

Our Whale Track sightings community continues to grow and develop, making a huge contribution to monitoring efforts here in the Hebrides. Collectively the Whale Track sightings community have achieved another record-breaking year for community-based monitoring in the Hebrides. This year we invested in our growing Whale Track sightings community; rebuilding and expanding the data collection functionality of the app and website to enable volunteers to contribute to community photo-identification efforts, carry out land-based surveys, edit records and improve the user experience across the platform.

The number of active uses increased again in 2022. 646 people submitted sightings, a 16% increase this year compared to last and 1,259 new users registered to use the app in 2022 which is also higher than for any other year since the project started.

The number of excursions submitted via Whale Track is at its highest since the project began, over 770 excursions were submitted in 2022. Nearly half of all sightings (43%) were reported in excursion mode this year.

Sixty-nine land-based watches have been carried out and the number of reports submitted with photographs have nearly doubled since these new features were launched in April, we will be working hard to encourage more volunteers to use these features in 2023.

A total of 7,000 sightings have been reported this year. To date 4,269 users have amassed a total of 58,500 sightings since 2017.

To manage the increasing quantity of data being reported via the platform we have recruited 10 volunteers to verify sightings as they come in. We delivered talks and training workshops to encourage more people to take part and report their sightings, and photographs, 115 people attended these sessions during the year.

We have also continued to deliver responsible wildlife watching accreditation for tourism businesses. Nine new boat operators became Wise accredited operators, with 25 individuals gaining a WiSe accreditation. We have also piloted courses focused on recreational water sports, to spread the messages around best practice to a wider range of water uses.

The Discovery Centre on Main Street opened for a full season and we welcomed 10,210 visitors. Nearly half (46%) of those visitors took part in an engagement activity with our team. A full programme of events and activities was delivered from our visitor Centre including a weekly guided walk to Tobermory Lighthouse, regular weekly headland watches from Glengorm, and a new Conservation Champion's workshop for families.

We have delivered activities across 12 Whale Trail sites in the Outer Hebrides, Skye, Mull and Iona; 658 people joined us for our face-to-face activities, learnt about local marine heritage and wildlife and how to get involved.

Two new films have been created for our Centre. One of these films has been playing in our exhibition space this summer and the second was launched at the Whaley Ceilidh on 19th November in Tobermory.

In 2022 we implemented a new data management system to efficiently manage, store and query our valuable research data. At the heart of the new infrastructure, is a cloud-based database that can be accessed wherever our team are working. Forty-two million rows of data collected over the past 30 years were compiled and can now be accessed through a centralised system.

We continued to conduct conservation driven and impactful research studies, and work in partnership to ensure that our data are shared with the marine conservation community. HWDT co-published the Scottish Entanglement Alliance research report, providing an updated assessment of the scale of entanglement in Scotland. HWDT data were analysed to assess the risk and prevalence of entanglement to minke whales on the west coast of Scotland.

HWDT data are currently feeding into 7 PhDs covering a range of topics including cumulative impacts, minke whale behaviour, humpback whale distribution, white-beaked dolphin acoustics, and the development of click classifiers. HWDT data have also been used in three peer reviewed manuscripts. HWDT data was also incorporated into the new JNCC Joint Cetacean Data Programme (JCDP). HWDT have been an active member of the JCDP steering group since its inception and have helped shape the projects development to ensure data from small, charitable organisations, like HWDT, could be made accessible through the portal.

At a time of global climate emergency and biodiversity loss across the UK and globally, HWDT's mission to protect our uniquely rich Hebridean seas has never been more critical. Thank you to the staff, volunteers, trustees, partners, funders and charity's supporters for your contributions towards this mission.

Financial Review

Volunteer surveys were able to resume during 2022 and the Trust derived £136,152 of income from these surveys. Generous grant funding from various sources was received during the year. Income increased by just over £143,000.

Costs have risen by £122,000 which resulted in a surplus of just under £13,000.

Reserves Policy

The Trust aims to hold an amount equal to 50% of its expected annual operating expenditure as unrestricted cash. At the year-end unrestricted reserves showed a balance of £233,046. Of the unrestricted reserves £58,497 has been allocated by the trustees for a designated boat fund and agreed match funds designated for the Gateway to the Trail project, leaving £174,549 of free unrestricted reserves. This reserve is additional to the Trust's two main fixed assets of boat and visitor centre/shop.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company and charity law requires the directors 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 surplus or deficit of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to: -

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any
 material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board on I fapte Mg 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Melville

Closeta Melule

Director

Date: 4 Tertenter 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited

I report on the accounts of Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 8 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of directors and independent examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company under company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

4th September 2023

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jack MacDonald ACA Jack MacDonald & Co

Reporting Accountants

Cuan Aille 1 Aldersyde

Taynuilt Argyll

PA35 1AG

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account) For the year ended 31st December 2022

Income	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Year to 31st
		£	£	Funds	December 2021
				£	£
					~
Donations		21,880	11,276	33,156	62,986
Activities for generating funds		31,185	<u> </u>	31,185	24,637
Charitable activities - grants	2 3	39,820	237,725	277,545	250,460
Charitable activities - other	3	157,972		157,972	18,115
Total Income		250,857	249,001	499,858	356,198
					Annual Control of the
Evenon dituno	N7 .				
Expenditure	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold		16 295		16004	
Charitable activities	1	16,385	246.266	16,385	9,508
Support costs	4	222,012	246,266	468.278	353,056
Depreciation Depreciation	5 8	816	1.500	816	720
Depreciation	0		1,500	1,500	1,500
Total expenditure		239,213	3ATT TICE	40C 050	261 501
2 Out Oxponenture		233,213	247,766	486,979	364,784
Net income		11,644	1,235	10.970	(0.500)
		11,044	1,233	12,879	(8,586)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		221,402	64,366	285,768	294,354
		Moder I. S. 1 V list	07,300	205,100	424,334
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED		233,046	65,601	298,647	285,768
FORWARD		200,010	05,001	270,047	203,700

Balance sheet as at 31st December 2022		Company Number	SC172338
	Notes	2022	2021
Fixed Assets		£	£
Tangible assets	8	45,005	46,505
Current Assets			
Stocks		4,382	6,476
Debtors	9	19,746	17,255
Cash in bank and in hand	version of the second	366,274	308,793
		390,402	332,524
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(136,760)	(93,261)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		253.642	239,263
Total Assets less current liabilities		298,647	285,768
NET ASSETS		298,647	285,768
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	13	233,046	221,402
Restricted funds	14	65,601	64,366
Total funds		298,647	285,768

Directors' statements required by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2022

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company we hereby confirm:

- a) that for the year ending 31st December 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006:
- b) that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st December 2022
- c) that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
- 1) ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with Section 386 & 387 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 1 5 eptember 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Melville

Director:

Date: 4 September 2023

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements

Notes to financial statements
For the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102) effective January 2016, and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and Liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction values unless otherwise stated.

Incoming recognition policies

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:-

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Directors. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which the Directors have decided to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Silurian - 10% on cost.
Shop Fittings 10% on cost
Shop 2.5% on cost

Notes to financial statements For the year ended 31st December 2022

2 Charitable activities – grants (income)

	Unrestricted	Rest	ricted	2022	2021
	Funds	I	Funds	Total	Total
	£		£	£	£
Swire Charitable Trust	25,000			25.000	
People's Postcode Trust	23,000			25,000	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	•	7	1 7711		20,000
Visit Scotland Visitor Attraction Fund			1,711	71,711	93,160
visitor Pitter i tind			6,800	6,800	8,000
NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund	_	6	8,426	68,426	22.661
Nature Scot - Creeling for Sound		O.	0,720	00,420	32,661
NatureScot - Green Recovery Fund					1,298
NatureScot (project grant 2018-2021)				•	3,025
NatureScot (project funding 2021-2024)		2.	5,000	25 000	17,625
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund		۶.	3,000	35,000	25,000
William Grant Foundation		4'	7 527	177.507	889
World Wildlife Fund	13,000	4	7,537	47,537	
Argyll & Bute Council Shop Front Grant	13,000		075	13,000	20,500
Sea Changers			875	. 875	3,000
JNCC	1.000			•	1,200
Small Business Support Grant	1,820			1,820	•
	•			•	15,000
Co-op's Local Community Fund Job Retention Scheme					4,061
			•	•	5,041
CAOLAS/FF1			2,587	2,587	
Q Charitable Trust	20.000		1,789	4,789	
	39,820	237	7,725	277,545	250,460
3 Charitable activities - other					
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021	
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total	
	£	£	£	fotal £	
Supporters	11,792	~	11,792	11,920	
Events and Training Courses	4,858		4,858		
Silurian Survey Payments	136,152		136,152	4,590	
Other	5,170			1.005	
- Curci	157,972	-	5,170	1,605	
	131,912		157,972	<u>18,115</u>	
4 Charitable activities - expenditure					
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021	
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total	
	£	£	£	£	
Salaries, wages and contract staff	150,428	125,789	276,217	219,255	
Professional fees	383	31,727	32,110	29,300	
Equipment	1,314	65,684	66,998	41,245	
Marketing and publications	2,916	1,034	3,950	3,574	
Travel and subsistence	2,227	2,864	5,091	1,544	
Events and training courses	90	915	1,005	1, 026	
Centre maintenance and operation	2,807	-	2,807	2,681	
Boat maintenance and operation	41,554	4,015	45,569	22,970	
Administration	5,592	10,382	15,974	15,973	
Utilities	6,665	2,319	8,984	5,726	
Insurance	5,337	397	5,734	5,169	
Organisational memberships and training	2,699	1,140	3,839	4,593	
	222,012	246,266	468,278	353,056	
	===\ <u>V.1~</u>	2.0.200	100,410	223,030	

Notes to financial statements
For the year ended 31st December 2022

5 Support costs

	Unrestricted	2022	2021
	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's Fees	816	816	720
	<u>816</u>	816	720

6 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees (excluding the Directors) during the year, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Core staff	10	10

7 Taxation

As a charity the Company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to Corporation Tax on income or gains falling within these exemptions.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Heritable Property	Shop Fittings	Boat .	Total
Cost or Valuation	£	£	£	£
At 1st January 2022	60,000	6,078	141,000	207,078
Valuation Additions in year	<u>.</u> -	-	-\ -\ -	-
At 31 December 2022	60,000	6,078	141,000	207,078
Depreciation				
At 1 st January 2022 Charge for the year	13,500 1,500	6,073	141,000	160,573 1,500
At 31 December 2022	15,000	6,073	141,000	162,073
Net book values				
At 31 December 2022	45,000	<u>5</u>	=	45,005
At 1st January 2022	46,500	<u>5</u>	Σ	46,505

The shop premises in the Main Street, Tobermory had been gifted by the previous owners to the Trust. The Directors considered the valuation of the property at 31st December 2013 to be £60,000 and an equivalent amount was taken to a restricted Capital Reserve. The market value of the Silurian is currently estimated to be between its insurance value of £170,000 and £100,000.

Notes to financial statements For the year ended 31st December 2022

9 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	19,746	17,255

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
Trade creditors	1,293	£
Accruals and deferred income	135,467	93,261
	136,760	93,261

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31st December 2022 as represented by:	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed assets Current assets Current liabilities	5 369,801 (136,760) 233,046	45,000 20,601 65,601	45,005 390,402 (136,760) 298,647

12. Company limited by guarantee

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

Notes to financial statements For the year ended 31st December 2022

13. Unrestricted funds

	At	Incoming	Outgoing	At
	1st January			st December 2022
	2022 £	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	155,559	250,857	(231,867)	174,549
Designated Fund: Silurian Maintenance	50,000			50,000
Designated Fund: Gateway to the Trail	15,843	•	(7,346)	8,497
Total unrestricted funds	221,402	250,857	(239,213)	233,046
14. Restricted funds				

	At	Incoming	Outgoing	At
	1st January			31st December 2022
	2022	£	£	£
	£			
Capital asset	46,500		1,500	45,000
Visit Scotland Visitor Attraction Fund	•	6,800	6,800	·
People's Postcode Trust	2,714		2,714	
NatureScot (project funding 2021-2024)	4,583	35,000	39,583	-
William Grant Foundation	1,879	47,537	40,433	8,983
National Lottery Heritage Fund	247	71,711	71,711	247
World Wildlife Fund	5,500		_	5,500
Q Charitable Trust	-	4,789	4,789	
NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund	-	68,426	68,426	<u>-</u>
CAOLAS/FF1	-	2,587	2,587	-
Co-op's Local Community Fund	2,943		2,943	-
Argyll & Bute Council Shop Front Grant		875	875	
Big Give Green Match Fund	-	10,377	4,506	5,871
Donations	-	899	899	-
Restricted funds	64,366	249,001	247,766	65,601

15. Trustee Expenses

Trustees were not reimbursed any travel expenses. (2021-Nil). No Trustee received any remuneration (2021-Nil).