Registration number: 00724133 Charity number: 218711

CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 31 MARCH 2015

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

President Lord Inglewood

Vice Presidents Mrs M E Albon

Miss K M Atkinson Mrs S P Bonner Miss M Burkett

Dr H M T Frankland (until 7th January 2015)

Dr G Halliday Mr S D Hill Dr D J Jeffray Mrs S Johnson

Board of Trustees Chairman Anne Powell Treasurer John Farmer

Company Secretary
Chairman of Conservation Group
Chairman of Development Group
Individual members
John Handley
Martin Holdgate
Judith Wallen
Jane Carson

Robin Cornah

Cressida Inglewood (from 3rd October 2014)

Mike Langley Barbara O'Connor

Anne Powell (Chairman and individual member)

David Sharrod

Peter Woodhead (from 3rd October 2014)

Registered Office Plumgarths

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Director Peter Bullard

Auditors Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Investment Advisor Baring Asset Management Ltd.

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

There are a great number of conservation organisations working to protect species and habitats at local, national and international levels. They all have different visions and missions but we summarise our purpose as 'Cumbria Wildlife Trust is the only voluntary organisation devoted solely to the conservation of the wildlife and wild places of Cumbria'. This is our vision for a Cumbria rich in wildlife, valued by all. Our mission, therefore, is to create Living Landscapes and Living Seas for future generations. We need a strategic approach because the challenge is vastly greater than what we can accomplish, especially in these times of financial stringency. Also, it is essential for the Trust to work to a Five Year Plan, where specific objectives are set against which we design policies, undertake conservation projects, create wildlife havens through the acquisition of reserves, and engage and inspire people to value nature. We not only need long term plans but must work in partnership with other organisations, land owners and agencies, and support a network of volunteers whose role is vital in achieving success and to whom we are truly grateful.

This year, an important priority has been to secure Eycott Hill as a nature reserve – which has been achieved thanks to the support of members and a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). We are now presented with an exciting opportunity to restore this special upland site between Keswick and Penrith, and demonstrate how uplands can be managed so that wildlife can flourish.

We have also been, and will remain, committed to Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) and the urgent need to establish a coherent network of these protected areas in the Irish Sea. Our objective has been to inform people and encourage them to support marine protection by responding to the Government's consultation. To receive so many letters calling for the designation of Allonby Bay and West of Walney as MCZs highlights growing public support for conservation of the sea as well as the land.

The Irish Sea Marine Conference in April was a particular highlight of the year, with inspirational speakers and delegates united in a desire to see our seas safeguarded for the future. This was made possible thanks to the Skills for the Future programme, funded by HLF, which enables up to six trainees each year to gain work-based experience in marine conservation, including organising the hugely successful conference! With two new conservation apprenticeships also starting in 2014, it is with great pleasure that I can reflect on the last year and be proud of the expansion in training across the organisation.

The variety of projects we undertake (including upland wetlands, dwarf willow and hay meadows etc.) make real contributions to large-scale restoration, mapping and habitat creation. However, there is (and will always be) much more work to be done, so I look forward to the next year knowing it will be just as exciting as the news of osprey chicks this year but aware that there is a long way to go before we can relax knowing all is safe!

Dr Anne Powell Chairman

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

The Trustees, acting as directors for the charitable activities of the company, submit their Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Objectives of the Charity

The Trust's principal activity is the conservation of wildlife in Cumbria. Cumbria Wildlife Trust was established in 1962 to look after the wildlife and wild places of Cumbria.

The Trust has established its Vision, Mission and Objects. These are:

Vision

The Trust's vision is a Cumbria rich in wildlife valued by all.

Mission

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is the only voluntary organisation devoted solely to the conservation of the wildlife and wild places of Cumbria. The Trust stands up for wildlife, creates wildlife havens, and seeks to raise environmental awareness.

Objects

The Trust's objects set out in the Memorandum of Association were modernised in 2002 and are:

- 1 For the benefit of the public to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of:
 - (i) wildlife and habitats;
 - (ii) places of natural beauty;
 - (iii) places of ornithological, botanical, geographical, zoological or scientific interest;
 - (iv) features of landscape with geological, physiographical or amenity value;

in particular, but not exclusively, in ways that further biodiversity.

- 2 To advance the education of the public in:
 - (i) the principles and practice of sustainable development;
 - (ii) the principles and practice of biodiversity conservation.
- To promote research in all branches of nature study and to publish the useful results thereof.

These objectives are translated into a development plan for the Trust. During 2014/15 the trustees reviewed the operational priorities of the Trust and decided to create a five year Plan for the period 2015-2020. It also revised its development plan format and produced a one year operational plan for 2015/16 which was agreed in January 2015.

The Trust's three objectives, as set out in its Memorandum, are inter-related and best delivered in an integrated manner through three linked, but different, strategies. For example, owning land as nature reserves is one way of conserving wildlife, its habitats and places of natural beauty. They are also places where the public can be educated and where research can take place. All staff have work plans derived from the Plan and produce detailed quarterly reports based around progress on delivering targets set out in it. The five year plan, one year operational plan and staff work plans nestle together as one strategic plan for the Trust.

As well as addressing the three main objectives of the Trust, the Plan also sets out a strategy to ensure an effective and well run organisation covering marketing, membership, fundraising, organisation, administration

TRUSTEES' REPORT

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and finance. This includes raising the Trust's profile through media coverage, recruiting new members and reducing the rate of lapse of existing members, developing a legacy campaign, and continuing to produce sound financial information.

Future Strategy

The Trust has always attached importance to the definition of its strategic priorities. Top level priorities are reviewed by the Trustees on a regular basis. As explained above, in 2014/15 the Trust revised its planning process and created two new documents, a five year plan 2015-2020 and a one year operational plan for 2015/16. Copies of these two documents are available at the Trust's head office. The majority of the Trust's work is of a long-term nature and projects and programmes continue for a number of years until they are completed and new ones implemented.

In 2015/16, creating Living Landscapes and securing Living Seas will be the main overarching priorities for the Trust. Having purchased Eycott Hill at the beginning of the year we will continue an ambitious programme to restore this wonderful upland site near Keswick. The major programme of works on Foulshaw Moss will continue with a focus on making the site more accessible to visitors especially with a new camera to monitor and protect the Ospreys which nest on the reserve. At South Walney we will review access arrangements and continue an ambitious programme of dune restoration. We will recruit six trainees to our marine training programme. We will continue to engage in the national programme to create Marine Conservation Zones and find new ways for people to understand better why the Irish Sea is a very special place. Projects to conserve red squirrels, dwarf willow and hav meadows will continue to be delivered across Cumbria and the project creating new Coronation Meadows across northern England will also continue. Funding to start two new projects will be sought and when successful new project officers will be appointed. The first will be to re-start our programme of upland wetland restoration in Cumbria. The second will be to work with the Environment Agency to create a series of new Slow the Flow projects across the North West of England. These projects will use natural processes to help communities at risk of flooding. The Trust will continue to support the Cumbria Local Nature Partnership and work hard to ensure it achieves its potential. At Gosling Sike Farm the next stage of our plans to create a training centre at the farm will focus on how to raise the funding.

Structure, Governance and Management

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is a company limited by guarantee (registered company number 0724133) and a registered charity (registered charity number 218711) and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Trust was originally formed as the Lake District Naturalists' Trust and on local government reorganisation in 1974 it changed its name to the Cumbria Naturalists' Trust. It changed its name again in 1981 to the Cumbria Trust for Nature Conservation and finally, in 1989, to Cumbria Wildlife Trust Limited. The Memorandum and Articles of Association have been modernised a number of times since 1962. During 2010 the Articles were updated to reflect changes in the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2006. As part of this process, a number of sections were made easier to understand, and minor changes were made to the terms of office of some of the Trust officers. The memorandum was not changed but was incorporated within the articles. The revised articles were approved by Members at a Special General Meeting in October 2010 and lodged with the Charity Commission and Companies House.

The Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees. A Treasurer, a Secretary and the Chairs of the Trust's two Advisory Groups are appointed, as Trustees, by the Board. Eight individual Trustees are elected by the Trust's members. The Board, which meets seven times a year, elects one of its number as Chairman.

The Trust has three committees: a Health and Safety Committee, a Salaries Review Committee, and an Investment Committee, each of which is chaired by a Trustee. Two Advisory Groups (covering Conservation and Development) meet quarterly to consider issues and policy matters, and report to the Board. Ad-hoc working groups are set up to consider particular issues and topics. The Trust also has a countywide network of Local Support Groups which are accountable to the Development Group. The Trust also works in partnership with Special Interest Groups which cover topics of special nature conservation interest.

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The Director is responsible to the Chairman and attends and reports to all meetings of the Board. Line management of staff is delegated to the Director. In addition, the relevant senior staff member reports regularly to their advisory group, strengthening the governance structure.

Trustees

The Trustees of Cumbria Wildlife Trust during the year are listed in the Legal and Administrative Section of this report. Any member of the Trust, not disqualified by law, can become a Trustee and nominations for Individual Trustees are submitted to the Annual General Meeting (AGM); those elected serve a four year term. The Trust operates an eight-year rule for both Appointed and Individual Trustees. Individual Trustees are eligible only to stand for two consecutive four-year terms before they must stand down. The Board of Trustees has discretion to extend the term of the Chairman or any Appointed Trustee by up to four additional years.

The eight-year rule results in a regular turnover of Trustees with an ongoing process of re-vitalisation and new blood. It is rare for there to be a contested election at the AGM and the normal procedure is to carry out a regular skills audit of Trustees in order to identify gaps in desirable skills arising from resignation or from operation of the eight-year rule. Vacancies for individual Trustees are often filled, initially, by the co-option of suitably skilled candidates who are then eligible for election at the following AGM.

Most new Trustees are longstanding members and active volunteers with proven understanding of the purpose of the organisation. The Trust has adopted policies and procedures for the induction of new Trustees and an on-going programme of training takes place. Quarterly activity reports are provided to the Trustees and senior staff are invited to address the Board on specific areas of activity.

The Board has continued to ensure compliance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, and has adopted some of the optional provisions. As a result of a review of the effectiveness of the Board, and consequent actions, substantial compliance with the Key Principles of Good Governance was achieved by November 2009. Opportunities for greater openness and better communication are being pursued and governance updates are included in the Trust's magazine. This review has led to improvements in the process for strategic planning and in methods of assessing risk. The Trustees regard the process of regular review and renewal as an essential part of good governance.

With three Trustees retiring due to rotation in October 2015 the Trustees have started a skills audit process to look as skills and knowledge gaps in the Board after the 2015 AGM.

Health, Safety and Welfare

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for the health, safety, welfare and safeguarding of staff, volunteers and others. As part of a re-structuring of the administration department the Trust strengthened its attention to Health and Safety by replacing an Administration and Safety Officer with a Senior Facilities Officer who has responsibility for buildings and vehicles and for Health and Safety issues for the whole organisation. The Board delegates day-to-day responsibility to the Director who, with the Senior Facilities Officer, reports through the Health & Safety Committee. Codes of Practice regulating specific activities, and risk assessments, both site and activity specific, continue to ensure an excellent safety record.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Policies

The Board of Trustees has established a suite of policy statements. These cover nature conservation topics, such as Nature Reserve Acquisition and Disposal, Wildlife Sites, Reserve Management, Education, and operational policies covering Monetary and Financial Reserves, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, and Ethical Fundraising. Policies are updated on a three or five-year basis and new policies added where necessary. In the interests of openness, policies are available on request to members and the public.

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Financial Reserves Policy

The need for conservation of wildlife in Cumbria has grown steadily as have the Trust's activities. The area of land the Trust manages is increasing progressively as is the number of staff the Trust employs and expenditure has been rising accordingly. The Trust's income sources are diverse, giving some stability, but most are short term and new sources of income need to be located each year. During 2004 the Board considered and agreed an updated Financial Reserve and Investment Policy. This was reviewed and amended by the Board in October 2014. The policy recognises the need for a financial reserve to manage the risks and fluctuating financial needs of the Trust. The agreed target for this reserve is reviewed annually by the Investment Committee based on an analysis of the financial risks to the Trust's cash flow. Following the most recent review, in 2014, the Board has accepted the Committee's recommendation that the target going forward should be £660,000. At 31 March 2015 the Trust's free reserves (those which were readily available, thus excluding fixed assets, and not restricted or designated to particular purposes) were £589,209 (£530,776 at 31 March 2014).

Investment Policy and Performance

The Trust's investment powers are set out in its Memorandum of Association which enables it to invest monies not immediately needed for its purposes in such investments as may be thought fit, subject to conditions and consents required by law. The Trust will not knowingly invest in entities whose activities may reasonably be perceived to be contrary to the objects of the Trust. The value of investments administered for the Trust by Barings grew by 9.6% in the year. The accumulation fund, which holds most of the investment, grew by 9.8% over this period giving a growth of 7.4% on a rolling three year basis. This was slightly better than the target of 7.1% (CPI plus 5%) and significantly above returns available from cash held in banks and building societies which, with no change in the Bank of England base rate, continued to be at a low level.

Risk Management

The Trustees have continued to consider the risks to which the charity is exposed. This is an on-going process rather than a one-off action. The Trust has put systems in place to minimise or manage the risks that have been identified. The Risk Management Register is revised by staff and Trustees every second year and areas of risk, and strategies to manage those risks, are then determined. The register and strategy were reviewed in 2014 and no major risks were identified. The next biennial review of the risk will take place in 2016.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have had regard to Charity Commission Guidance in preparing this statement of public benefit.

The advancement of environmental protection and improvement is recognised as a charitable purpose and is regarded universally as producing a public good. The Trust exists to promote the care and protection of the environment and therefore provides a clear public benefit.

The Trust's philosophy is based on the belief that the natural world deserves conserving for its own sake and, since this is widely perceived to be a worthy aim of public policy, it may fairly be regarded as a benefit to the public at large. However, the public benefit provided by the Trust goes much further.

Firstly, thirty four of the Trust's nature reserves are open to the public, and many have way-marked routes and interpretation boards to provide information for visitors. In some areas there may be a conflict between conservation requirements and unfettered access but, where this occurs, the Trust endeavours to keep such restrictions to a minimum.

Secondly, Education is also recognised as a charitable activity in its own right and the Trust's programmes are designed for the benefit of education in schools, colleges and adult groups; and, through the media, of the wider public.

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Thirdly, the Trust's gathering of information for the provision of expert advice and opinion to local authorities and others helps to ensure that planning decisions are made on a rational basis taking full account of the public benefit of wildlife.

Fourthly, the Trust exerts influence, locally through its substantial membership (currently 3% of the population of Cumbria), and nationally through its membership of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. The Trust believes that the involvement of many volunteers in its work provides an outlet for altruistic endeavour which is of special benefit to those involved as well as delivering benefit to the wider public.

Promoting the enjoyment of the natural world is an important part of what the Trust does: contact with the natural world and the appreciation of wildlife and wild places provides great pleasure to many people and contributes towards wellbeing and health. Its nature reserves and activities are available to all and it makes special provision for the disabled and disadvantaged wherever possible.

Associated Organisations

The Wildlife Trusts

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is an independent autonomous charity. Each county, or in some instances a group of counties, in England and Wales has a similar charity which, together with sister charities in Scotland and Northern Ireland, come together to form The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), known collectively as 'The Wildlife Trusts'. As an autonomous umbrella charity established to conserve nature nationally and support individual Wildlife Trusts, RSWT represents the individual Wildlife Trusts on a national basis and employs staff with national responsibilities. Its Trustees are proposed by individual Wildlife Trusts and elected at the Annual General Meeting. During the year Dr Anne Powell retired as Chairman of TWT England, a body to represent all English wildlife trusts, and from November 2014 ceased to be a Trustee of RSWT. David Sharrod was appointed as a Trustee and Honorary Secretary of RSWT in November 2011 but in his individual capacity and not as a representative of any other Trust.

North and North West Wildlife Trusts

The individual Wildlife Trusts agree to work together both nationally and regionally to benefit wildlife although each Trust retains its independence and autonomy. The three Wildlife Trusts in the northwest region: Cumbria, Lancashire and Cheshire; work together as 'The North West Wildlife Trusts', in partnership but not as a legal entity. Examples of such collaboration are in the preparation of the 'Living Landscapes' strategy and the formation of the three counties' marine conservation project. With the disappearance of English Regions discussions have developed on holding northern meetings of Wildlife Trusts covering eight Trusts. The eight northern Trusts now meet four times a year to discuss mutual benefit and collaboration. The three north western Trusts meet when situations require a discussion or decision.

Other Related Parties

The Trust works with a large number of organisations in pursuing its aims and objectives. Partnerships with local authorities, statutory agencies and other voluntary bodies are a hallmark of the Trust's way of working. The Trust acts as the lead partner in the Cumbria Local Nature Partnership and employs a co-ordinating project officer to help support and co-ordinate the Partnership. The Trust is a major partner in Red Squirrels Northern England, a project to conserve red squirrels, led by Northumberland Wildlife Trust, which employs a number of people who work in Cumbria, and one of them is housed in the Trust's Northern Office. Many of the Trust's conservation projects, such as Upland Wetlands, are operated in partnership with others. During the year the Trust continued to lead the Cumbria Peat Partnership, a non-legal entity which seeks to conserve peatland in Cumbria.

The Trust's wholly-owned trading subsidiary is Wildlife Cumbria Ltd. Although active in the past, the company remained dormant throughout the year.

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Members

The Trust is a membership organisation and its members provide support, advocacy, expertise and volunteer effort. Membership subscriptions provide a very significant part of the Trust's income. Over the longer term the Trust seeks to increase its total membership striving to recruit more new members than the natural losses. This year for the Trust's membership increased from 14,398 last year to 14,699 as at 31 March 2015.

The nine Local Support Groups across the county were as busy as ever – organising walks and talks, fundraising and surveying. An annual Liaison Day provides the opportunity for interaction between local group committee members, staff and Trustees. To strengthen links between the Local Groups and the Trust centrally each group is now linked to a member of staff who attends their meetings and creates a two way flow of information.

Corporate Membership

At the end of the year the Trust had 35 Corporate Members (2013/14, 33). Seven businesses chose to show their support of wildlife during the year by joining the Trust for the first time. These are the Lakes Distillery and Nestlé UK and Ireland at platinum level; at bronze level Arnison Heelis Solicitors, Holiday Cottages.co.uk and Twisted Tree Games; and at standard level Carrs Milling and Fortis Remote Techonology.

Furness Building Society presented us with a cheque for £11,437.53 towards red squirrel protection and £1,405.60 towards the wider work of the Trust. Center Parcs continued supporting the Wildlife Trusts as one of their two charities of the year, and we received a donation of £2,000 in addition to their corporate membership donation.

Vine House farm donated £1,382.53 being 5% of their sales to people living in Cumbria. Choice Hotels donated a weekend in a hotel as a prize, Grasmere Gingerbread raised £225 with their dipper Iollies and Booths donated hampers for prizes.

Volunteers

Cumbria Wildlife Trust began in 1962 as an entirely voluntary organisation but employing staff has enabled it to achieve its charitable objectives better and to involve more volunteers in its work. Volunteers are essential to the organisation and integrated into nearly every area of operation. Local Groups operate across the county and are run entirely by volunteers. Special Interest Groups, such as the Mammal Group, comprise volunteers interested in a particular area of the Trust's work. Each nature reserve has a volunteer Honorary Manager and volunteer parties carry out much work on the reserves. Volunteers monitor the reserves and carry out surveys of habitats such as hay meadows and mires, and of species such as red squirrels, juniper and dwarf willow. Volunteers have planted junipers and helped restore hay meadows. They are involved in fundraising, looking after the Trust's properties and co-ordinating and entering data.

Over 600 volunteers are active with us, many of whom regularly contribute at least one day a month to the Trust and some give considerably more time than this. It is not possible at present to put an accurate financial value on this work but it is equivalent to many full time members of staff. The numbers vary from month to month and year to year as volunteers are recruited and volunteers retire. To reflect the importance of volunteering within the organisation a senior member of staff has 'volunteering' incorporated into their core work priorities.

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Review of Activities

Creating Living Landscapes

Standing up for Wildlife

With considerable help from volunteers the Meadow Life project has restored 48ha of hay meadow during the year. This included planting 41,346 plug plants, 20,000 of which were supplied by Haverigg prison. After the training of volunteers, surveyors have surveyed and monitored 40 meadow sites and 22 roadside verges. Education workshops and other events have been delivered throughout Cumbria and guided walk leaflets have been produced to enable people to experience some of our best hay meadows for themselves. A short film was produced highlighting the importance of hay meadows. 'To the End We Will Go' was launched in Zeffirellis Cinema in Ambleside and can be viewed on the internet.

The Upland Wetland Restoration project came to end in this year having undertaken the restoration of approximately 383ha of upland wetlands. During the four year project a total of 63 sites were identified as having the potential to benefit from restoration management. This led to a total of 320 site visits leading to the writing of 25 detailed management plans. In addition to the 2 newsletters and 2 videos produced to promote the work of the project the Westmorland Show was attended in the first three years to raise the profile of this important work. The final restoration at Ireland Moss is currently underway and is expected to be completed in autumn 2015.

A key outcome of the Wetland Restoration Project has been the instigation of the Cumbria Peat Partnership. 2014 has seen the development of the Partnership with 14 organisations from across Cumbria coming together to share knowledge, develop best practice and actively support the restoration, stewardship and long-term future of the wide range of valuable peat habitats in Cumbria. The Cumbria Peat Partnership will actively support the restoration and better stewardship of peatland habitats with the aim of delivering Flood Risk Management, Biodiversity, Water Resources, Water Quality, Carbon Storage and Water Framework Directive benefits. The early work of the Partnership, led by Cumbria Wildlife Trust, has seen applications made to funding bodies to continue work of the wetland restoration project for another 5 years. In addition, funding has been secured to employ a Peatland Restoration Trainee to help address the recognised skill shortage in this area.

March 2015 saw the end of the successful Morecambe Bay Limestone and Wetlands Nature Improvement Area Project. As one of three key partners Cumbria Wildlife Trust delivered the limestone grassland work stream of the project. Over the three year life of the project the Grassland Adviser has provided bespoke advice and support to landowners and managers to enable the restoration and enhancement of priority limestone grassland habitat covering 457.99ha. We have given advice and developed habitat management work for a total of 8 SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest), 3 of which (Far Arnside, Barker Scar and Silverdale Golf Course) had compartments in unfavourable condition at the start of the project. This is in addition to advice and developed habitat management work within 8 County Wildlife Sites and Biological Heritage Sites benefiting a mosaic of limestone grassland, limestone pavement, woodland and scrub.

Coronation Meadows got off to a flying start. A Biffa Award grant of £999,000 has been secured for the project which is a partnership of Plantlife, Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts and the Rare Breed Survival Trust. Coronation Meadows is Prince Charles' vision to halt the loss of wildflower meadows and reverse the trend by creating new ones in each county. Cumbria Wildlife Trust is co-ordinating the project from the north of Oxfordshire to Northumberland. Together with the Project Manager for Cornwall to Kent the Trust worked with partners to seed 147.8 ha of meadow over 21 counties. A further 20 counties will be starting their restoration in 2015, totalling 74.74ha. Discussions are underway with the remaining counties to start their restoration in 2016. The survey methodology for monitoring receptor sites has been developed, trialled and disseminated to all counties restoring in 2014. Meadow survey, monitoring and land manager training days are also being delivered. Coronation Meadow plaques are being displayed at the newly created meadows to identify the meadows and acknowledge the funders.

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The Coronation Meadows project partners organised a conference 'Reversing the Trend: the future of meadows' in 2014 led by Prince Charles and attended by academics, policy makers and land managers. The aim was to explore how to reverse the decline in flower-rich meadows. An event to celebrate meadow management was held at the Sussex Coronation Meadow and attended by Prince Charles.

During 2014/15 the Trust has continued to play a leading role in the further development and implementation of Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) in Cumbria. As part of Cumbria LNP's Board and through the provision of secretariat services the Trust has contributed to the development of the Partnership's vision for Cumbria's environment and its strategy. The Trust's involvement is now focused on building the delivery plan for the Partnership, implementing initiatives and building strategic relationships with the Local Enterprise Partnerships and others.

This year saw the employment of the first Apprentice Conservation Officer within the Wider Countryside. Working closely with the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust the apprentice has been given the opportunity to develop skills in a wide range of conservation tasks. These include practical habitat management skills such as chain sawing and brush cutting as well as office based work with Geographical Information Systems. 2015/16 will see the Trust continue to develop the apprentice's survey and identification skills.

The biggest development facing Cumbria during this year has been the ongoing North West Coastal Connections project. This major infrastructure project has the capacity to impact negatively on the natural environment and so the Trust has continued to liaise with the developers in helping them to understand the environmental constraints present on both land and sea. Scrutiny of the planning lists continues with 120 planning applications reviewed during the year, comments being made on 17 and objections made to one proposal. Much of this work continues to be carried out by a student placement from the University of Cumbria. The department continues to scrutinise strategic documents wherever possible with the major pieces of work this year being work on the Environment Agency's North West River Basin District Management Plan 2nd cycle as well as submitting evidence to the Houses of Parliament Environment Audit Committee enquiry into Local Nature Partnerships.

The department has once again been active in standing up for nature in a wide variety of meetings across the county. These include the Lake District National Park Partnership, Regional Flood and Coastal Defence Committee, Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership, Local Catchment Partnerships, and Regional Forestry Advisorv Committee.

The Apprentice Conservation Officer has led the department's drive to answer wildlife queries from the general public and all staff continue to answer questions and queries from local and national media. With the general election occurring in May 2015 the final quarter of the year has also been spent preparing the Trust's engagement materials and raising the profile of nature amongst our members and the electorate as a whole.

Creating Wildlife Havens

The highlight of 2014 has to be the successful breeding of ospreys on our Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve for the first time. Having spent the last few years scoping out the site, it was only going to be a matter of time before the birds decided to lay. Very luckily, they chose the platform that the Trust had erected for them and we were able to keep a watchful eye on them via a remote camera on the nest. Careful planning and work on the site infrastructure meant that the reserve was able to cope with the huge amount of interest and the surge of additional visitors. Road signs were installed and large banner on the reserve entrance meant that the reserve was easily located. Over 6,000 people visited the reserve from June to September. A wooden cabin was erected in the car park to house information boards and to facilitate visitor reception and membership recruitment. 111 new members were recruited at Foulshaw during this period. The ospreys successfully reared three chicks which were ringed at the end of the season.

Ospreys aside, a fine summer meant a fantastic year for the newly reintroduced white-faced darter dragonfly at Foulshaw, with many adults on the wing in the early summer. Further bunding work was completed in the fields around both Foulshaw and Meathop, allowing these fields to be wet up with the ultimate aim of creating fen and carr habitat around the edges of both bogs. Large 15m² deer-fenced plots were then erected in the fields and

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these were planted up with reeds. Recognition of the immense work that has gone into the restoration of the Witherslack Mosses came when the project was selected as a finalist in the Large-Scale Nature Conservation category of the CIEEM (Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management) Best Practice Awards.

The second major achievement of the year was the purchase of 520acres of Eycott Hill. March saw the culmination of months of hard work as Eycott Hill was eventually purchased by the Trust on 2nd April 2015. The purchase of the Trust's first upland reserve and our first major land holding within the Lake District National Park was a very worthy highlight for the year. Much work had taken place over the year to draw together the funds to enable the purchase of the site from The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and to improve the site for wildlife. Fencing for woodland creation has been erected and numerous trees were planted within these exclosures. The ancient hedge in Berrier Meadows was restored and the first Coronation Meadow site was harrowed and re-seeded to begin the restoration process. Newton Rigg, partners in the Eycott Hill project, purchased a herd of 17 in-calf Luing heifers that were introduced to their new home before Christmas. These hardy rare breed cattle will form the mainstay of our conservation effort in the future. Further good news came when the planning permission for the new car park was granted!

Major restoration works have also been undertaken at our South Walney Nature Reserve. Here, under the Wren-funded Dunes of Barrow Project, 1.3 ha of dune grassland restoration took place. Stripping off nutrient-rich soil to expose bare sand will encourage duneland species and recreate flower rich grassland over ground now abandoned by the breeding gull colony. Further wetland habitat in the form of scrapes and pools has been created around Gate Pool and material from both of these schemes has been used to form bunds, shielding wildlife from disturbance while allowing greater visitor access to the wonderful bird life. Last year saw an increase in visitors to the reserve, despite the problems with inundation of the road by certain high tides. A large sluice, erected by the neighbours, now allows water to drain away quickly, alleviating any lasting problems.

After many years of frustration and inaction by others, this year saw the total removal of sea buckthorn from the wonderful coastal habitats of our Eskmeals Dunes Nature Reserve. Funded by Natural England and with a window of opportunity from the restrictions imposed by the neighbouring gun range, our contractors were able to cut, burn and poison all of this very destructive, invasive alien species. Follow up work will be needed to ensure that regrowth is controlled but the work will allow the flower rich rare dune habitats to flourish. Four new natterjack toad ponds were also created over the winter, hopefully giving further breeding sites for Cumbria's rarest amphibian.

At Orton Moss, we were able to cut scrub and secondary woodland over all the historical grassland areas of our reserve. We then reinstated grazing infrastructure, including fencing and water for stock, and re-introduced cattle grazing over the winter. These damp grassland areas will hopefully soon be home to the marsh fritillary butterfly that was once present on the site and has recently been reintroduced nearby.

Much work goes on continually, year-in year-out on all our reserves. Further bunding was completed on Drumburgh Moss to try and ensure as much water as possible is kept on the main mire area. Completion of the purchase of the railway line at Drumburgh meant we were able to fill in the missing piece of the jigsaw, allowing greater management control. Coppice rotations carried on apace with another 0.5 ha being cut at Howe Ridding and a further 3 coupes being cut at Hutton Roof. A special mention also has to go to Latterbarrow where appropriate grazing and a fantastic volunteer effort have got on top of the bramble problem to leave the reserve in fantastic condition for the coming flowering season.

Volunteers play an integral role in the management of our reserves, much of which would not happen without them. Special mention must go to our Honorary Reserve Managers who put in a huge amount of time and effort in making our reserves the fabulous places for wildlife that they are.

Securing Living Seas

Over the past decade, Cumbria Wildlife Trust has continued to increase its focus and efforts on restoring and securing Living Seas with marine issues continuing to move up the Trust's priorities. A further three years of the North West Living Seas programme commenced in April 2014 with a grant from the Esmée Fairbairn

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Foundation and a successful marine appeal to members. A second three year project offering marine traineeships through the Marine and Coastal Heritage Programme also started in 2014 with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to offer 16 training placements for recent graduates and non-graduates to gain work based experience in marine and coastal conservation and community engagement.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust continues to fight hard to ensure the designation and adequate management of Marine Protected Areas in the Irish Sea, alongside the national initiative throughout English and non-devolved waters led by the Wildlife Trusts.

During the year, significant progress has also been made to protect areas designated under European legislation from damaging fishing activities. A byelaw to protect the seagrass meadows, rocky reefs and honeycomb worm reefs in areas such as Morecambe Bay and the Solway Firth finally came into place in May 2014. These measures to protect our most vulnerable habitats will be followed by on-going work to protect other species and habitats from fisheries-related damage over the coming years. Stakeholder discussions have already made some progress in achieving similar protection for two more politically complex offshore sites in the Irish Sea. Following stakeholder negotiations with Defra, NGOs, and the fishing industry, proposals for the management of European protected areas in offshore areas of the Irish Sea have been taken to Member States for approval.

This year, progress has also been made with Marine Conservation Zones, nationally important sites that will contribute to our Marine Protected Area network. In January 2015, the Government launched a second round of public consultation, this time on 23 areas that will be considered for protection as MCZs. The 12 week consultation included two sites in the Irish Sea, Allonby Bay and West of Walney, both of which lie off the coast of Cumbria. Disappointingly, five further sites that were under initial consideration have been postponed at this time due to the potential impact on Northern Ireland's fishing sector. Following a successful campaign in Tranche 1, Cumbria Wildlife Trust ran a further public campaign to generate responses to the consultation. A new Irish Sea website was launched, newsletters and media releases were sent out, a new campaign video was produced and a direct mailing was sent to all members. In total, over 1,200 responses to the consultation were generated with a higher proportion of members writing personal letters compared to during the previous consultation.

Community engagement has also continued played a big role in securing Living Seas over the past 12 months. A total of 66 events and activities have been organised, delivered or contributed to by the marine trainees and the Marine Conservation Officer including educational workshops, guided walks, painting days, sea watches, shore surveys, mud-dipping and wildlife watches. Two large-scale events, Beached Art and the second Irish Sea Marine Conference, were also held.

North West Living Seas has continued to drive forward the Wildlife Trusts' Shoresearch project over the past year despite the fact that this volunteer-based rocky shore survey programme has been suffering from a lack of staff capacity and reduced volunteer participation over the past year. It is hoped that with some recently secured funding from Natural England's Partnership and Innovation Fund volunteer participation and thus the number of surveys being undertaken can be increased over the coming year.

In the first quarter of the year the final phase of the Marine Graduate Training Programme came to an end and the new Marine and Coastal Heritage Programme began. The first marine training programme was tremendously successful with all 12 of the trainees securing paid employment or further training in the sector. Four new graduate trainees started their training placements on the Marine and Coastal Heritage Programme in June 2014 for nine months and one local trainee began a 12-month, part-time traineeship in January 2015. The trainees have undertaken a range of training throughout the year including wading bird ID, outdoor first aid, QGIS, volunteer management, marine spatial planning, campaigning and communications, professional behaviours and ecological survey methodologies.

Each graduate trainee also began and completed personal projects for the Trust and project partners, including the continuation of the long-term monitoring of honeycomb worm reefs in Morecambe Bay; monthly surveys of the grey seal population at South Walney; investigating stakeholder engagement and the process behind setting up voluntary marine reserves; and a study of coastal bird disturbance at South Walney Nature Reserve.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Three out of four graduate trainees had already secured employment in the sector by the end of the year moving onto positions with organisations such as the RSPB and the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities. One trainee has secured interviews for several posts in the marine conservation sector and continues to apply for positions. The local trainee remains in post and has begun concentrating heavily on her personal project, organising this year's Beached Art festival at St Bees. Four more graduate trainees have already been recruited and they will start their placements in May 2015.

Inspiring People about the natural world

This past year has been one of consolidating and supporting the separate areas of education, training and volunteering. We furthered our HE/FE links by working with Kendal, Morecambe and Blackpool Colleges as well as Cumbria and Lancaster Universities this year and continued to host work experience students and graduate placements. We now have eight young adults involved in various schemes from apprenticeships to postgraduate training.

At Gosling Sike Farm we worked closely with Susan Aglionby. Her educational programme remains the largest in Cumbria with over 300 groups visiting annually, ranging from primary and secondary schools to groups supervised by the probation service and others linked to health issues. Gosling Sike also supports a BTEC Agriculture course, an essential route for students aiming at further agricultural studies. We are continuing to work on plans for a new purpose for this site complementing the current programme by providing a regional skills training centre to support adult conservation volunteers and those seeking related work.

We provided education services for schools and youth groups via projects such as Meadow Life and for the National Park Authority. 63 visits were delivered during the year for in excess of 1,000 children. We developed new links with the Freshwater Habitats Trust and The Millennium Seed Bank at Kew which will create excellent volunteering opportunities from 2015 onwards. We ran 11 training sessions for Trust staff ranging from media interview training to bumblebee identification.

Volunteering

The work of volunteers enables the Trust to look after so much more wildlife and communicate effectively with so many more people than we could do alone. If it were not for volunteers, Watch clubs and local support groups would not function; our reserves would be desperately in need of management; and our projects would not be fully supported. Indeed, our volunteering office is itself supported by three volunteers whose year-round work in 2014/15 included processing over 200 volunteer registrations (mostly submitted online) and supporting all our projects and reserve staff as well as our volunteering and education officer. We currently have about 600 active volunteers of which around 50% also support us as members. Our eight Wildlife Watch groups are all led by skilled volunteers providing fun educational activities for children every month in Kendal, Torpenhow, Muncaster, Grange-over-Sands, Barrow, Ulverston, Skelton and Kirkoswald.

Our eight local support groups have again provided nearly 100 engaging public events during 2014/15, ranging from illustrated talks to wildlife walks and contributed significantly towards our fundraising.

Increasing Recognition and Respect for our Role and Work

2014/15 has been a great year for raising our profile mainly due to the expansion of the marketing team from two to three people to create additional time for our digital marketing activity. This has made quite an impact despite the expansion only starting half way through the year, and has not only improved our digital marketing work but has also allowed for more offline promotion.

The number of visitors to our website increased dramatically, increasing by around 30 per cent from 216,335 to 312,599. This was driven by extra activity on Facebook which prompted people to click web links to read further information on our website, doubling the number of click-throughs compared to last year. Our profile also grew online this year with more followers on Facebook (up from 1,761 followers to 2,366) and on Twitter (up from 6,944 followers to 8,928). Increased social media followers and visits to the website were also influenced by public interest in the first ospreys to nest and raise chicks at Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve, with the Foulshaw Moss Opsrey Blog being one of the most popular pages on the website. All this extra activity

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

online meant we were able to successfully run a half price membership campaign online in January resulting in 88 new memberships. This was also made possible by the collection of warm contact details over the last few years. The offer was promoted to Facebook and Twitter audiences and by email.

News and articles in media publications also rose in quantity and quality this year, in part down to time freed up by the new member of staff. The total number of clippings collected rose modestly from 238 to 268. However, the advertising value equivalent of those clippings rose by £61,039 from £129,265 to £190,302 partly because we were successful in securing larger features in local newspapers but also because we placed more articles, written by the Senior Marketing Officer, in local magazines.

This year we continued to develop our brand in line with RSWT guidelines, resulting in brighter and more modern publications which appeal to a wider range of people. We continued to produce our membership magazine, *Cumbrian Wildlife*, and events guide, *What's On*, distributing them three times in the year. Many additional publications were produced throughout the year including a calendar, Meadow Life project newsletter, My Wild Life banners, Annual Review, Discovery Day flyers, Thank You leaflet, Foulshaw Moss gate banner, volunteering leaflet, Involve newsletter, Dunes of Barrow posters and much more. Much time was spent developing and costing up interpretation and access for Eycott Hill including putting this out to tender. This information was then included in a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Carbon Footprint

A biomass boiler was installed at the Trust's head office in September 2014 to replace the night storage heaters and oil fired boiler. It is estimated that this will reduce the Trust's carbon footprint by about 36 tonnes of CO2 and that savings in fuel costs plus the subsidy from the renewable heat initiative scheme will more than fund the cost of the installation. In 2008 the Trust introduced a target to reduce its carbon foot print by 3% a year. Initially it made steady progress but in recent years the organisation has grown in size and so has the carbon used. In a typical year we have used about 80 tonnes of Carbon with the lowest total recorded figure being 77 tonnes in 2011/12. The 36 tonne impact of the biomass boiler therefore represents a 45% reduction in our footprint.

Growing Our Resources

The fundraising focus continued throughout the year for the purchase and restoration of Eycott Hill. Our members contributed generously in their hundreds, which not only gave a huge boost to the fundraising efforts but also demonstrated to grant funders an overwhelming support for the project from local people. This support enabled grants from Heritage Lottery Fund, WREN, Garfield Weston and others to be secured. Our fundraising for the Eycott project concluded at the end of the financial year when we met our target to purchase the site and undertake a programme of activity and restoration over the coming years.

Grants were also secured to continue the Coronation Meadows project into a second year, to undertake lag fen habitat creation at Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve and begin a Green Highways project to connect good quality habitat along Cumbria's main transport routes. Development funding was secured to undertake consultation work focussed on South Walney Nature Reserve from which plans will be developed for some new visitor spaces on the reserve. A large proportion of fundraising staff time is spent on ensuring the relationships with our funders are maintained and that all reporting and claiming is carried out accurately and on schedule.

Members and pubic appeals during the year focussed on Eycott Hill, Marine and the Ospreys at Foulshaw Moss. Our appeals have met or exceeded their targets and we are hugely grateful for every donation that has been received. Other fundraising initiatives which continue to generate income include the Win For Wildlife lottery, our corporate membership scheme and the Cross Bay Walk.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Legacies and In Memory

A gift in your will is the final and often the most significant gift any of us leave. During the year, the Trust was grateful to receive gifts from George Woods, George Wilson, Marian Page, Tessa Wilson, Christine Jones, Ronald Graydon, Dorothy Barnes and Elsie Seggar. Legacy donations contribute to the Trust's conservation work either on our nature reserves or in the wider countryside on habitat creation or restoration projects. They all contribute to conserving wildlife for the future.

Sadly a number of well-known members died during the year:

Helga Frankland of Ravenstonedale. Helga was one of Cumbria Wildlife Trust's founder members. She was instrumental in the first meetings, chaired by Cannon Hervey in establishing the Lake District Naturalists Trust (now Cumbria Wildlife Trust). She was active throughout the 52 years the Trust has existed, was a trustee for 40 years and became a Vice President of the Trust in 1981. Helga had deep roots in the countryside and believed that hill farming was only sustainable if you work with nature. Helga trained herself to become an excellent field botanist, a knowledge which she freely shared with Trust members who valued her skills, experience, vision and judgement. Cumbrian Conservation owes her a great deal.

Audrey Smith of Underbarrow. Audrey moved to Cumbria in 1985 with her husband Edward. They wasted no time in getting involved with the Trust as volunteers and over the years that followed they were instrumental in setting up the Windermere local support group. Audrey and Edward also became honorary managers for Barkbooth Lot Nature Reserve and served on various committees within the Trust for many years. Sadly Edward died in 2004 but Audrey continued all the good work they had started together. Audrey was presented with a Badger's Paw award in 2007 for her contribution to conservation in Cumbria and her dedication to the activities of the local group.

Mary Burkett of Isel near Cockermouth. In the 1980's Mary supported our local groups and chaired the fundraising committee. She later became a Vice President of Cumbria Wildlife Trust. Mary was a true conservationist looking after wildlife on her estate and being thrilled by the orchids which appeared spontaneously on her drive and in her lawn. Mary often encouraged others to recognise the inspiration that the natural world gave through the arts movement, and therefore our responsibility to look after it.

Jean Aldred of Penrith. Jean retired to Cumbria with her husband in 1990 and they immediately became involved with the Trust. Jean was a member of the Penrith & Ullswater Support Group committee for over 20 years and for a number of these she arranged the group's summer field trips.

Jean Scott of Askam-in-Furness. Jean was very active with the Badger Group, mammal group, her local group, and was a Trustee for many years as the Barrow/Furness representative. Awarded a Badger's Paw in 1994, she was committed to conserving wildlife and always found the time to help with local wildlife surveys and planning applications and particularly enjoyed watching her local badgers come out to feed.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust also thanks all those who have given donations in memory of a loved one. During the year we received legacy income totalling £116,956 with an additional £1,754 given through 'in memory' donations. Every gift is gratefully received.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Financial Review

Cumbria Wildlife Trust (including Wildlife Cumbria Ltd)

The total funds of the Trust increased during 2014/15 by £316,512 (2013/14 - £119,822) to £5,481,543. Total incoming resources increased slightly to £2,385,647 (£2,311,699). This included grants received for the purchase of land at Eycott Hill which contributed to total restricted grants of £780,403 (£916,706). Legacy income was a little higher at £116,956 (£103,863) and investment income also improved to £14,123 (£13,262). During an encouraging year for membership recruitment, subscriptions, including corporate memberships, increased to £495,686 (£476,362).

Expenditure decreased to £2,146,810 (£2,210,559) reflecting a reduction in work carried out by subcontractors on the Trust's nature reserves.

The Trust's portfolio of long-term investments which gained in value by £77,675 (£18,682) giving a balance of £886,321 at 31st March 2015. The larger portion of the Trust's cash and investments continues to be held in deposit accounts.

The Trust's restricted funds, including grants and donations towards the purchase of Eycott Hill, increased in 2014/15 by £269,208 (£55,045). These will be expended in future years on the purposes to which they were restricted. Other "one-off" donations and legacies received without any absolute restriction on their use were designated by the Trustees in accordance with the donors' general preferences. After taking such income into account, the net expenditure of designated funds in the year was £22,078 (2013/14, net income of £74,441).

At the year-end, the Trust held £1,851,738 in cash deposits accessible within one year. Of this, approximately £1.4million is in restricted funds, £0.5million of which is for the purchase of Eycott Hill. These restricted amounts are generally expected to be expended within one year of receipt.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust Environmental Body

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is registered as an 'Environmental Body' which enables it to receive and distribute funds made available by landfill operators through the landfill tax credit scheme. Income for the year was £429,898 (2013/14 - £230,673).

Wildlife Cumbria Ltd

Active trading by Wildlife Cumbria Ltd ceased at the end of 2003. The subsidiary company remained dormant.

Overview

2014/15 has been another successful year for the Trust during which a number of projects have been completed and funds raised for new ones due to commence in 2015/16. Honorary Officers, staff, and volunteers, have all worked hard to keep expenditure under control and to continue to bring in income. The Trustees acknowledge the collective effort required to produce another solid year and congratulate the Director and his staff and many volunteers for this continued achievement.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Trustees, as company directors, to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and the group; and of the surplus or deficit of the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and for ensuring their proper application under charity law and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- a) there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware, and
- b) the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided in Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees on 9th July 2015

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

John Farmer Registered office: Plumgarths Crook Road Kendal Cumbria LA8 8LX

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

We have audited the financial statements of Cumbria Wildlife Trust Limited for the year ended 31 March 2015 set out on pages 21 to 23 and the related notes numbered 1 to 27.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2015 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

- · certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Vicky Szulist, ACA

Statutory Auditor 3rd Floor The Lexicon Mount Street Manchester M2 5NT

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds	Endowment funds £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Incoming resources from generated funds:							
Voluntary income	2	633,796	-	106,158	-	739,954	714,485
Activities for generating funds	3	31,159	-	-	-	31,159	30,964
Investment income	4	11,800	-	-	2,323	14,123	13,262
		676,755	-	106,158	2,323	785,236	758,711
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	5						
Inspiring people		5,324	-	107,531	-	112,855	144,527
Creating wildlife havens		361,844	-	556,593	-	918,437	749,721
Standing up for wildlife		11,234	-	552,211	-	563,445	651,172
		378,402		1,216,335	-	1,594,737	1,545,420
Other incoming resources	6	5,674	-	-	-	5,674	7,568
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		1,060,831	-	1,322,493	2,323	2,385,647	2,311,699
RESOURCES EXPENDED	7						
Charitable activities:							
Inspiring people		61,358	6,096	107,531	-	174,985	262,328
Creating wildlife havens		234,269	28,452	448,827	-	711,548	807,300
Standing up for wildlife		75,622	60,822	496,927	-	633,371	630,756
		371,249	95,370	1,053,285	-	1,519,904	1,700,384
Costs of generating funds:							
Costs of generating voluntary income		503,629	29,813			533,442	477,882
Governance costs		30,516	29,013	_	-	30,516	25,666
Other resources expended		62,948	-	-	-	62,948	6,627
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		968,342	125,183	1,053,285	-	2,146,810	2,210,559
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE							
TRANSFERS		92,489	(125,183)	269,208	2,323	238,837	101,140
Transfers between funds	10, 19 to 21	(100,782)	103,105	-	(2,323)	-	-
Gains/ losses on investment assets	15	73,528	-	-	4,147	77,675	18,682
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		65,235	(22,078)	269,208	4,147	316,512	119,822
Fund balances at 1 April		726,241	1,699,070	2,667,944	71,776	5,165,031	5,045,209

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above. All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 24 to 42 form part of these financial statements

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
Gross income of continuing operations	2,385,647	2,311,699
Non-charitable trading activities: net income	-	-
Total income of continuing operations	2,385,647	2,311,699
Total expenditure of continuing operations	(2,146,810)	(2,210,559)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers and investment asset disposals	238,837	101,140
Transfer from/(to) endowment funds	2,323	5,443
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	241,160	106,583

Total income comprises £1,060,831 for unrestricted, including designated funds, £1,322,493 for restricted funds and £2,323 for endowment funds. A detailed analysis of income by source is provided in the Consolidated Summary Statement of Financial Activities and notes 2 to 6.

Net income before gains and losses on revaluations and disposals of investment assets for the year of £238,837 comprises £92,489 of unrestricted funds, £269,208 of restricted funds, £2,323 of endowment funds and £125,183 net expenditure of designated funds, as shown in the Consolidated Summary Statement of Financial Activities. Detailed analyses of the expenditure are provided in the Summary Statement of Financial Activities and note 7.

The Summary Income and Expenditure Account is derived from the Consolidated Summary Statement of Financial Activities on page 20 which, together with the notes to the accounts on pages 23 to 42, provides full information on the movements during the year on all the funds of the charity.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESOURCES APPLIED FOR FIXED ASSETS FOR CHARITY USE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Net movement in funds for the year Resources used for net acquisitions of tangible fixed	65,235	(22,078)	269,208	4,147	316,512	119,822
assets and heritage assets for charity use	(14,500)	(10,150)	(4,150)	-	(28,800)	(21,701)
Net movement in funds available	50,735	(32,228)	265,058	4,147	287,712	98,121

The notes on pages 24 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED (Registered number: 00724133)

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

		0		-	.4
	Natas	Consolidated		Tru	
	Notes	2015 £	2014 £	2015 £	2014 £
		Z.	L	L	L
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	519,882	506,660	519,882	506,660
Heritage Assets	12 to 14	1,991,670	1,991,670	1,991,670	1,991,670
Fixed asset investments	15	886,321	808,646	886,421	808,746
	-	3,397,873	3,306,976	3,397,973	3,307,076
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	16	330,829	405,221	330,829	405,221
Cash at bank and in hand	-	1,851,738	1,573,125	1,851,738	1,573,125
		2,182,567	1,978,346	2,182,567	1,978,346
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within		(00.00=)	(100.004)	(00.00=)	(100.00)
one year	17	(98,897)	(120,291)	(98,997)	(120,391)
NET CURRENT ACCETS		2 002 670	1 0E0 0EE	2 002 570	1 057 055
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,083,670	1,858,055	2,083,570	1,857,955
NET ASSETS	-	5,481,543	5,165,031	5,481,543	5,165,031
	=		<u> </u>		, ,
FUNDS					
Unrestricted:					
Designated	19	1,676,992	1,699,070	1,676,992	1,699,070
General		791,476	726,241	791,476	726,241
Restricted	20	2,937,152	2,667,944	2,937,152	2,667,944
Permanent endowment	21	75,923	71,776	75,923	71,776
	_				
	-	5,481,543	5,165,031	5,481,543	5,165,031
	=				

These financial statements, and the notes on pages 24 to 42, were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 9th July 2015 and are signed on their behalf by:

Anne Powell
Chairman
Treasurer

The notes on pages 24 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of fixed asset investments which are valued at their market value at the balance sheet date. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards.

Going concern

The Trustees have considered the appropriateness of the going concern assumption and believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on this basis due to the Trust's level of reserves and agreed funding.

Basis of Consolidation

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly-owned subsidiary Wildlife Cumbria Limited on a line by line basis. They also include, on a line by line basis, the results of the Trust's support groups and affiliate groups, as detailed in note 18. A separate Statement of Financial Activities, or income and expenditure account, has not been prepared for the charity itself as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Cash flow Statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 for not including a cash flow statement on the grounds that the charity is small.

Fund Accounting

Cumbria Wildlife Trust's accounts are an amalgamation of over one hundred individual funds. These divide into legally distinct categories which are defined as follows:

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted or general funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Designated Funds

Designated funds have been set aside out of unrestricted funds and are designated by the Trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific trusts or conditions which are declared or made by the donor, or with the authority of the donor (e.g. an appeal). Details of the funds and of the restrictions are given in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

Endowment funds are capital funds which the Trust is legally prevented from spending and must retain intact as part of the Trust's capital. These endowment funds are held in Fixed Asset Investments and High Interest Bank accounts to provide income for the Trust's activities.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Incoming Resources

Life and annual membership subscriptions are included in full in the period they are received.

Restricted income is included in the restricted income and expenditure account when receivable.

Where the donor requires the sum to be invested to provide income for the Trust's purposes, it is treated as an endowment gift. Endowments are credited to income when receivable.

Donations under deed of covenant or Gift Aid, together with the associated income tax recovery are recognised as income when the donation is made.

Each legacy and bequest entitlement is recognised as an incoming resource once a reasonably reliable estimate of its value can be made and when it is reasonably certain of ultimate receipt. Where the Trust is left part of the residue of an estate, recognition is normally the date when payment or a letter of notification from the solicitor advising of the likely amount is received.

Grants receivable for activities are credited to income upon entitlement.

Incoming resources in the form of donated assets (other than cash) are included in income at market value and, where appropriate, they are capitalised.

Income from the Trust's lottery is recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

Contract income comes from a number of sources, including income from companies who request data and information, and from government bodies. Payments generated from an invoice are treated as contract income and are recognised in the year in which they are earned rather than received.

Cash in transit is included as income where it was in the post or was being transferred to the Trust's bank account at year end.

Deferred Income

Where lottery income is received in advance of the period to which it relates, that income is recognised on the balance sheet as deferred income until such time as it is receivable.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Cost of generating funds comprises the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of other income generation.

Charitable expenditure comprises direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the Charity's activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources as detailed below.

Governance costs include those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity's assets and are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include the central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis of staff numbers.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is not provided on freehold and long leasehold land or land acquired by the Trust for nature reserves.

Nature reserves are considered to be heritage assets.

Long leasehold is considered to have a useful life of more than 50 years.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than land and nature reserves, at rates calculated to write off the cost or fair value less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:-

Freehold Buildings 2% per annum straight line Computer Equipment 33% per annum straight line Plant & Equipment 20% per annum straight line Motor Vehicles 25% per annum straight line

Freehold buildings are depreciated to write down the cost less estimated residual value over the remaining useful life in equal annual instalments.

Donated assets, other than nature reserves, are included at fair value at the date of acquisition. It is the policy of the Trustees to expense minor additions to fixed assets, defined as those costing less than £2,000, in the year in which they are incurred.

Heritage Assets

The nature reserves held by the Trust for the furtherance of its charitable activities are disclosed as heritage assets within the balance sheet. Nature reserves that have been acquired recently have been recognised at cost where the Trust has purchased the asset or market value where the land has been gifted to the Trust. Nature reserves acquired before 1990 were not capitalised at the time of acquisition and are recognised at market value ascertained by the Trustees with reference to current agricultural land values. The Trust's management policy in respect of its heritage assets is summarised in Note 14. The costs of maintaining the heritage assets are expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred, as part of the Trust's charitable activities.

Further information on heritage assets is given in Notes 12, 13, 14 and 26 to the accounts.

Fixed Asset Investments

Investment assets are stated at their market value at the balance sheet date with any gain or loss on revaluation being recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in period.

Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Costs of providing pensions are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account in the period in which contributions are made, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 17 Retirement Benefits.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2015	2014
	£	£
Donations	125,812	127,123
Legacies	116,956	103,863
Grants	1,500	7,137
Membership subscriptions	495,686	476,362
	739,954	714,485
Membership subscriptions		
Subscriptions received	471,684	459,990
Business support scheme	24,002	16,372
	495,686	476,362
	,	
Legacies		
The Trust received legacies during the year as follows:	2015	
	2015 £	
Evelyn Allday	3,206	
Dorothy Barnes	10,000	
Madge Donnelly	5,000	
Ronald Graydon	1,000	
Andrew Holliday	8,323	
Christine Jones	1,000	
Audrey Lambert	301	
Adrienne Nicholson	2,982	
Marian Page	16,500	
William Poole	251	
Elsie Seggar	100	
Elizabeth Wilson	6,425	
George Wilson	20,000	
George Woods	41,868	

The Trust has been notified to expect further distributions from the wills of Helga Frankland, Marian Page and George Wilson the amounts of which have yet to be determined and have not been included as income of the year to 31 March 2015.

116,956

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2015	2014
	£	£
Trading income	5,269	3,928
Lottery income	19,871	20,266
Fundraising events	3,491	3,945
Income from Plumgarths (room hire)	2,528	2,825
	31,159	30,964

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

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	2015	2014
	£	£
Interest	11,824	11,594
Dividends	2,299	1,668
	14,123	13,262

5. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Grants £	Donations £	Landfill tax credit income £	Other income £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Inspiring people	107,531	677	_	4,647	112,855	144,527
Creating wildlife havens	547,881	7,804	348,019	14,733	918,437	749,721
Standing up for wildlife	467,218	12,472	73,281	10,474	563,445	651,172
	1,122,630	20,953	421,300	29,854	1,594,737	1,545,420

The following grants were receivable during the year and any residual balances are included in debtors or cash in hand and at bank as appropriate:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Unrestricted grants		
Natural England	239,338	217,077
DEFRA	102,889	110,271
	342,227	327,348
Restricted grants	780,403	916,706
	1,122,630	1,244,054

6. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	2015	2014
	£	£
Local support groups	4,895	5,515
Other miscellaneous income	779_	2,053
	5,674	7,568

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

7. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Charitable activities:				
Inspiring people	150,984	24,001	174,985	262,328
Creating wildlife havens	603,127	108,421	711,548	807,300
Standing up for wildlife	495,547	137,824	633,371	630,756
Total charitable activities	1,249,658	270,246	1,519,904	1,700,384
Cost of generating funds	432,154	101,288	533,442	477,882
Governance costs	30,516	-	30,516	25,666
Other resources expended	62,948	-	62,948	6,627
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	1,775,276	371,534	2,146,810	2,210,559
			2015 £	2014 £
ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DIRECTLY Charitable activities			L	£
Personnel costs			759,530	734,314
Contractors			319,925	592,420
Nature reserve improvements			35,497	16,071
Equipment			42,174	33,137
Printing and magazines			16,563	25,537
Depreciation			5,205	21,915
Other costs			70,764	60,055
		-	1,249,658	1,483,449
Costs of generating funds				
Trading costs			1,663	2,362
Membership scheme costs			220,736	185,540
Publications and information			85,128	62,602
Lottery costs			11,310	12,163
Fundraising costs			113,317	119,623
-		-	432,154	382,290
Governance costs				
Wages and salaries			16,112	13,612
Trustees' expenses			981	26
Trustee training			483	1,071
Trustees' indemnity insurance			1,029	1,004
Auditors' remuneration			9,723	8,678
Other governance costs		-	2,188	1,275
		-	30,516	25,666
Other resources expended				
Payments made to Environmental Bodies		-	62,948	6,627
Total cost of activities undertaken directly		=	1,775,276	1,898,032

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

7. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)

	2015 £	2014 £
SUPPORT COSTS		
Personnel costs	230,211	166,728
Property expenses	87,784	40,617
Depreciation	10,373	14,550
RSWT levy	26,810	23,700
Printing, postage and stationery	(355)	4,068
Computer costs	(1,867)	7,866
Consultancy	10,157	27,981
Other costs	8,420	27,017
	371,533	312,527
MEMBERSHIP SCHEME COSTS		
Personnel costs	130,076	115,642
Printing and postage	65,428	53,423
Membership recruitment and upgrade fees	11,925	1,939
Other costs	13,307	14,536
	220,736	185,540

8. NUMBERS AND EMOLUMENTS OF STAFF

Staff costs are broken down as follows:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Gross salaries	1,045,217	951,191
N.I. costs	85,262	77,285
Pension contributions	73,893	62,222
Training	26,969	19,447
Recruitment	11,062	10,149
Health and safety	3,473	3,172
Staff travel and subsistence	43,861	48,690
Trust vehicles	21,446	19,758
Volunteers	6,474_	3,984
	1,317,657	1,195,898

The number of employees at the year-end, calculated on a full-time basis and analysed by function, was:

	2015	2014	
	No.	No.	
Charitable activities:			
Inspiring people	2	3	
Creating wildlife havens	8	7	
Standing up for wildlife	11	11	
Fundraising	10	10	
Support	8	6	
	39	37	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

8. NUMBERS AND EMOLUMENTS OF STAFF (continued)

No members of staff have received emoluments totalling more than £60,000. A stakeholder pension scheme with Aviva is available to Trust staff. The Trust is also a member of the money purchase section of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme but no longer offers membership of this scheme staff. Some current and former members of staff have deferred benefits under this scheme.

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The Trustees of the Charity did not receive any remuneration during the period (2013/14: £nil)and no travel and subsistence expenses were claimed by them (2013/14: £26).

10. TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

Transfers have been made from unrestricted funds to designated funds to safeguard funds for specific purposes identified by the Trustees. In 2014/15 the Trustees transferred £103,105 from unrestricted funds to designated funds for future expenditure.

Transfers are made to unrestricted funds from endowment funds where the income earned on the fund is not subject to any restrictions.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS Group and Trust

		Motor			
	Property	Equipment	vehicles	Total	
	£	£	£	£	
Cost					
At 1 April 2014	536,191	243,374	57,262	836,827	
Additions	-	14,300	14,500	28,800	
Disposals	-	(33,717)	(15,934)	(49,651)	
At 31 March 2015	536,191	223,957	55,828	815,976	
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2014	40,800	242,056	47,311	330,167	
Charge for the year	5,100	4,178	6,300	15,578	
Depreciation on disposals	-	(33,717)	(15,934)	(49,651)	
At 31 March 2015	45,900	212,517	37,677	296,094	
Net book value					
At 31 March 2015	490,291	11,440	18,151	519,882	
At 31 March 2014	495,391	1,318	9,951	506,660	
At 31 March 2015 Depreciation At 1 April 2014 Charge for the year Depreciation on disposals At 31 March 2015 Net book value At 31 March 2015	40,800 5,100 - 45,900 490,291	223,957 242,056 4,178 (33,717) 212,517	55,828 47,311 6,300 (15,934) 37,677	330 15 (49 296	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

The net book value at 31 March 2015 represents tangible fixed assets used for:

	Motor			
	Property	Equipment	vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities				
Inspiring people	-	-	-	-
Creating wildlife havens	-	3,320	12,375	15,695
Standing up for wildlife		-	-	
	-	3,320	12,375	15,695
Generating funds	_		_	
Fundraising	-	-	-	-
Membership		-		
		-		
Headquarters	490,291	8,120	5,776	504,187
	490,291	11,440	18,151	519,882

12. HERITAGE ASSETS Group and Trust

	£
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2014	1,991,670
Additions	, , , <u>-</u>
At 31 March 2015	1,991,670
At 31 Maich 2013	1,991,070
Not book value	
Net book value	
At 31 March 2015	1,991,670_
At 31 March 2014	1,991,670

On 2 April 2015 the Trust acquired 216 hectares of land at Eycott Hill between Keswick and Penrith. This land was held under a lease at the balance sheet date.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

13. FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF HERITAGE ASSET TRANSACTIONS Group and Trust

	2015 £	2014 £	2013 £	2012 £	2011 £
Additions:					
Purchases	-	11,000	14,481	736	3,609
Donations		-	-	50,000	45,000
Total		11,000	14,481	50,736	48,609

Donations during this five year period were of parts of the land known as Gosling Sike gifted to the Trust by Ms S Aglionby. An independent valuation of this land was prepared for the Trust by Penrith Farmers' & Kidd's plc as at 7 July 2009 and each donation has been capitalised as an addition at the value attributed in their report. There were no disposals during this period.

14. HERITAGE ASSETS ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT POLICY

Cumbria Wildlife Trust owns some of the finest wildlife habitats in Cumbria and many of these are of national and European importance. Twenty two of the Trust's nature reserves are scheduled as Sites of Special Scientific Interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Fourteen of the Trust's nature reserves are also of international importance being designated as Special Areas of Conservation and four of these are also Special Protection Areas and or Ramsar Sites. The Trust manages two of the finest limestone pavements in Europe at Hervey Reserve on Whitbarrow and at Hutton Roof Crags, four of the finest lowland raised mires in Europe at Drumburgh Moss, Foulshaw Moss, Meathop Moss and Nichols Moss and five internationally important coastal sites at South Walney, Eskmeals, Rockcliffe Marsh, Humphrey Head and Foulney Island. Many of the Trust's other reserves are nationally significant such as Clints Quarry, a former limestone quarry; Orton Moss, Newton Reigny Moss, Burnsbeck Moss, and Hale Moss are all important mossland sites; woodland and grassland at Smardale are also of national interest. Other reserves contain important examples of ancient woodland such as at Barkbooth, Grubbins Wood and Brown Robin, or flower rich grassland as at Latterbarrow and Waitby Greenriggs.

The Trust has for many years operated a detailed Nature Reserves Acquisition Policy which is regularly reviewed and updated. This requires that land proposed for acquisition by purchase or to be accepted as a gift is itself of significant wildlife benefit or enhances the wildlife benefit derived from land already managed by the Trust. Other matters taken into account include access, ease of management and funding for the purchase and annual management costs. Some of the Trust's existing reserves do not meet the current acquisition criteria. However, there is a presumption against disposal of such sites except where the costs of continued essential management are likely to be considerable or the Trust is not the owner of the land but holds it on a lease or management agreement, or if it is abundantly clear that the site is never likely to meet the criteria of ecological quality and integrity.

The Trust's Nature Reserves Management Policy is directed towards maintaining and/or enhancing features identified as important for wildlife. This entails keeping up-to-date management plans, which are implemented by specialist staff, honorary reserves managers and volunteers, and monitoring the effectiveness of work carried out. Where appropriate, monitoring activities include counting bird populations, annual butterfly transects and assessing plant populations. The policy includes endeavouring to ensure safe access to reserves for quiet enjoyment and educational use in accordance with the Trust's Reserves Access Policy which presumes in favour of open access where practicable. Further information is contained in Note 26 and in the Trust's Nature Reserves Guide which is available from the registered office.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS Analysis of investments at 31 March 2015 by fund

Group

	Subsidiary companies	Investment Portfolio	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or market value at 1 April 2014	-	808,646	808,646
Net investment gains/(losses)		77,675	77,675
Market value at 31 March 2015		886,321	886,321
Cost at 31 March 2015		700,166	700,166

Trust

	Subsidiary companies £	Investment Portfolio £	Total £
Cost or market value at 1 April 2014	100	808,646	808,746
Net investment gains/(losses)	_	77,675	77,675
Market value at 31 March 2015	100	886,321	886,421
Cost at 31 March 2015	100	700,166	700,266

Subsidiary Companies

The charity held the following subsidiary company, registered in the UK, which was dormant in the period.

	Main Trading Activity	% share held
Wildlife Cumbria Limited	Dormant	100

The surplus of the unconsolidated parent is the same as the consolidated entity, being £316,512.

Analysis of investments at 31 March 2015 by category of holding

	Group 2015	Trust 2015	Group 2014	Trust 2014
	£	£	£	£
Unit trusts	886,321	886,321	808,646	808,646
Total listed investments	886,321	886,321	808,646	808,646
Unlisted investments	-	100	-	100
Cash held as part of the portfolio		<u>-</u>		
	886,321	886,421	808,646	808,746

The market values of the Trust's investments at 31 March 2015 were as follows:

		% of total
	£	holding
Barings Targeted Return Fund - Accumulation Units	815,399	92
Barings Targeted Return Fund - Income Units	70,922	8
	886,321	100

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

16. DEBTORS

	Group 2015 £	Trust 2015 £	Group 2014 £	Trust 2014 £
Trade debtors	8,169	8,169	26,372	26,372
Grants receivable	266,946	266,946	333,496	333,496
Prepayments and accrued income	50,307	50,307	38,946	38,946
VAT receivable	5,322	5,322	6,274	6,274
Other debtors	85	85	133	133
	330,829	330,829	405,221	405,221

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

2014 £	2014 £
55,094	55,094
22,578	22,578
12,702	12,802
29,917	29,917
120,291	120,391
_	55,094 22,578 12,702 29,917

18. LOCAL AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Trust has 9 local support groups based across Cumbria which raise money for the Trust. The Trust operates five special interest groups comprised of individuals interested in a particular aspect of nature conservation. Those groups which raised or spent funds using separate bank accounts during 2014/15 have prepared accounts to 31 March 2015. These figures are summarised below and have been incorporated into the Trust's financial statements within cash at bank and in hand.

	At 1 April 2014 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2015 £
Local support groups	2,200	4,717	4,596	2,321
Special interest groups	9,112	178	458	8,832
	11,312	4,895	5,054	11,153

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

19. DESIGNATED FUNDS

The unrestricted income funds of the Trust include the following designated funds which have been put aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2014				At 31 March 20		
	Current assets £	Fixed assets £	Designated this year £	Utilised/ realised £	Current assets £	Fixed assets £	
Designated for: Buildings, Vehicles and							
Equipment	134,040	503,092	27,630	51,701	116,995	496,067	
Creating Wildlife Havens	619,420	302,407	24,473	17,348	626,545	302,407	
Standing up for Wildlife	132,060	-	51,002	55,330	127,732	-	
Life membership fund	8,050	-	-	805	7,245	-	
	893,571	805,499	103,105	125,184	878,517	798,474	

The Trust has a policy of designating part of the legacies received each year to provide for future land purchases and other planned improvements. Additionally, where a donor has not restricted a donation but has indicated a preference for the way in which a legacy or other donation is to be spent, the Trust designates such amounts to specific purposes in accordance with the donor's wishes. The Trust's numerous designated fund balances at the end of the period, as summarised above, are held for the following purposes:

Buildings, Vehicles and Equipment - for the purchase or maintenance of the Trust's buildings and equipment. Funds held as current assets are expected to be expended during the next two years.

Creating Wildlife Havens - for the purchase and management of the Trust's nature reserves. Current assets will be expended as suitable opportunities arise.

Standing up for Wildlife - for the Trust's conservation work other than the purchase and management of the Trust's nature reserves. Expenditure of these funds is planned to take place over the next three years.

Life membership fund - life membership income received each year is added to this fund to be released over ten years.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS

At 1 April 2014					At 31 March 2015	
Fund name	Current assets	Fixed assets	Income	Expenditure	Current assets	Fixed assets
runu name	£	£	£	£	£	£
Creating Wildlife Havens	662,138	1,497,366	622,466	411,621	859,538	1,510,811
Standing Up for Wildlife	201,459	-	552,069	446,668	306,860	-
Living Seas	61,581	-	30,604	50,259	41,926	-
Inspiring people	3,012	-	107,531	107,531	3,012	-
Conservation Legacy Fund	234,117	-	8,323	35,706	206,734	-
Other Funds	8,271	-	1,500	1,500	8,271	-
Restricted funds total	1,170,578	1,497,366	1,322,493	1,053,285	1,426,341	1,510,811

The Trust's restricted funds have been received from a variety of donors as grants or donations to support the Trust's work of protecting or enhancing wildlife species and habitats and educating others to do the same. Except where anonymity has been requested, the principal donors in this financial period are listed on page 42 and the activities to which the grants are restricted are as listed in the table above. Where funds have been received in advance of expenditure, it is expected that they will be expended within one year of receipt and they are therefore held by the Trust in readily accessible interest-bearing accounts. Where funds have been applied to purchase land or equipment, the value at the balance sheet date is shown in the column headed Fixed Assets. The Creating Wildlife Havens fund includes £141,994 donated for the purchase of Eycott Hill.

Further details of individual funds are available from the Trust's registered office.

21. PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUNDS

At 1 April 2014 £	Incoming endow- ments £	Investment Income £	Gain/(Loss) on reval'n £	Transfers to general funds £	At 31 March 2015 £
5,001	-	25	-	(25)	5,001
66,775	-	2,298	4,147	(2,298)	70,922
71,776	-	2,323	4,147	(2,323)	75,923
	2014 £ 5,001 66,775	At 1 April endow- 2014 ments £ 5,001 - 66,775 -	At 1 April 2014 endow-ments ments Investment Income £ £ £ 5,001 - 25 66,775 - 2,298	At 1 April 2014 ments endow-ments lncome on reval'n £ f. £	At 1 April 2014 ments endow-ments lncome funds Gain/(Loss) on reval'n funds general funds 5,001 - 25 - (25) 66,775 - 2,298 4,147 (2,298)

Transfers are made to unrestricted funds from endowment funds where the income earned on the fund is not subject to any restrictions.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

22. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUNDS

Group	Unrestricted funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets Investments	202,267 411,657	798,474 403,742	1,510,811	- 70,922	2,511,552 886,321
Current Assets	276,450	474,775	1,426,341	5,001	2,182,567
Current Liabilities	(98,897) 791,477	- 1,676,991	- 2,937,152	75,923	(98,897) 5,481,543
	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds

	funds	Funds	funds	funds	funds
Trust	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	202,267	798,474	1,510,811	_	2,511,552
Investments	411,757	403,742	-	70,922	886,421
Current Assets	276,450	474,775	1,426,341	5,001	2,182,567
Current Liabilities	(98,997)	-	-	-	(98,997)
	791,477	1,676,991	2,937,152	75,923	5,481,543

23. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The Trust is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of each member is limited to a maximum of £1.

24. TRADING SUBSIDIARY - WILDLIFE CUMBRIA LIMITED

The Trust has one wholly-owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in England.

2015	2014
£	£
100_	100
100_	100
100	100
100_	100
	100 100 100

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

25. ENVIRONMENTAL BODY

The Trust has been approved as an Environmental Body (reg. no. 093225) for the purpose of handling and distributing funds made available by landfill operators under current legislation. Under that legislation a government agency, 'ENTRUST', oversees the operations of Environmental Bodies and applies a lewy to fund its own operations. The movement of funds (including opening balances) is included in the SOFA and Consolidated Balance Sheet. Details of the income and expenditure on a cash basis for the year, before consolidation, are summarised below:

Income & Expenditure Account	2015 £	2014 £
Transfers in from other Environmental Bodies	429,898	230,670
Interest earned on deposits		3
	429,898	230,673
Grants distributed	479,898	186,095
Contract fees to Cumbria Wildlife Trust Ltd.	200	200
Audit fee	200	200
	480,298	186,495
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure	(50,400)	44,178
Balance Sheet	2015	2014
	£	£
Bank balances	51,026	51,424
Debtors		
Current assets	51,026	51,424
Creditors due within one year		
Net assets	51,026	51,424
Paper contact by		
Represented by:		
Accumulated revenue surplus brought forward	51,424	7,246
·	51,424 (50,400)	7,246 44,178

Movement in funds held for expenditure on projects by Cumbria Wildlife Trust during the Year

	Biffa £	CWMET £	SITA £	Wren £	Total £
Income received from other environmental bodies Income available from previous	46,180	43,200	20,949	319,569	429,898
years	_	50,000	-	-	50,000
Total income available	46,180	93,200	20,949	319,569	479,898
Expenditure on projects by	(46,180)	(93,200)	(20,949)	(319,569)	(479,898)
Funds held at 31st March	-	-	-	-	-

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

25. ENVIRONMENTAL BODY (continued)

Projects funded by landfill operators during the Year

Funder/Project	Entrust No.	Expended £	Allocated £
Biffa:			
Coronation Meadows	386 to 420	46,180	
Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust:			
Eycott Hill Nature Reserve - land purchase	093225.074	50,000	-
Rockcliffe Marsh Nature Reserve Officer	093225.075	11,200	
Gosling Sike Farm - footpath improvements	093225.075	32,000	-
SITA:			
Juniper Project	503230.2666	4,057	
Upland Wetlands	503230.2765	16,892	
Wren:			
Eycott Hill - creating an upland exemplar	093225.076	65,243	-
Eycott Hill - land purchase	093225.076	232,200	
Juniper Project	566176.5216	22,126	
		479,898	_

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

26. NATURE RESERVES AT 31 MARCH 2015

Cumbria Wildlife Trust started managing nature reserves as early as 1963 and has continued acquiring reserves ever since. It currently manages 43 reserves extending to 3,120 hectares. 866 hectares are owned by the Trust whilst 2,254 hectares are held under lease, licence or management agreement. The reserves are distributed across the county and cover most Cumbrian habitats including raised mires, limestone pavements, coastal sites, woodlands, grasslands and wetlands. The following table includes details of all of the Trust's nature reserves.

RESERVE	Tenure	Purchase or Gift	Date of Acquisition	Area	Grid Reference	Main Habitat
	O Owned		Acquisition	(nectares)	Reference	
		P Purchase				
Allan Willson	0	Р	1987	1.8	NY457526	Woodland
Argill Woods	0	Р	1984/1986	7.4	NY844141	Woodland
Augill Pasture	L		1998/2000	2.8	NY817147	Grassland
Barkbooth Lot	O/L	G/P	1975/2004/07/08/09	27.3	SD415906	Grassland/Woodland
Boathouse Field	0	G	1979	0.7		Carr
Bowness-On-Solway	0	G	1966/1976	7.3	NY207618	Scrub/Open Water
Brown Robin	0	G	1977		SD415790	Woodland
Burns Beck Moss	0	P	1995		SD595880	Mire
Christcliff	0	G G	1984 1996	2.0	NY185007 SD535781	Mire Grassland
Clawthorpe Clints Quarry	0	P	1984	9.2		Quarry
Dorothy Farrers	0	P/G	1969/95/2000	4.6	SD480983	Woodland
Drumburgh Moss	0	P	1981/2013		NY256590	Mire
Dubbs Moss	Ö	Р	1972		NY104288	Grassland
Enid Maples	Ö	G	1970	2.8	SD526897	Woodland
Eskmeals	Ĺ		1971	67.0	SD087944	Sand Dune
Eycott Hill	L		2013	216.0	NY387295	Upland Mosaic
Foulshaw Moss	0	Р	1998/2000	360.0	SD460820	Mire
Foulney Island	L		1974	145.7	SD243655	Shingle Island
Gosling Sike Farm	0	G	2009 to 2012	14.6	NY416039	Grassland/Woodland
Grubbins Wood	L		1975		SD445780	Woodland
Hale Moss	0	Р	1972	2.9	SD510776	Fen
Hervey	O/L	Р	1970		SD442871	Grassland/Pavement
Howe Ridding Wood	L		1998		SD435876	Woodland
Humphrey Head	L	D/O	1992		SD391738	Cliff/Grassland
Hutton Roof	0	P/G	1977/1992		SD550780	Grassland/Pavement
lvy Crag Wood Juniper Scar	0	G G	1969 1986		NY245265 NY475012	Woodland Scrub
Latterbarrow	0	P	1986	4.0		Grassland
Meathop Moss	O/L	r P	1963/1998/2000		SD440020 SD445820	Mire
Newton Reigny	0	G	1969		NY478312	Fen
Next Ness	Ö	P	1991	2.0	SD302787	Woodland
Nichols Moss	Ö	P	2000	7.1	SD430830	Mire
Orton Moss	O/L	G	1979/1997/2009	18.1	NY338543	Woodland
Park Wood	L		1998		SD567781	Woodland/Grassland
Rockliffe Marsh	L		1969	1,120.0	NY340637	Saltmarsh
Smardale Gill	0	Р	1978/1991	44.6	NY703054	Woodland/Grassland
South Walney	L		1963	487.0	SD215620	Shingle
Tarn Sike	0	Р	1981		NY665076	Grassland/Scrub
Thacka Beck	L		2011		NY507307	Woodland
Waitby Greenriggs	0	Р	1981		NY757086	Grassland
Willow Pond	0	G	1982		NY346082	Pond
Wreay Woods	L		1990	17.7	NY444500	Woodland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

27. SUPPORTERS OF CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST

The many achievements in the year would not have been possible without generous and wide-ranging financial assistance from the Trust's supporters. Thanks go to individual members, corporate members, donors, grant-giving organisations and legators. Below are details of some of those who have supported the Trust's various projects.

Contributors of grants, donations, etc. during the year:

Coronation Meadows

Arcadia
Biffa Award
Natural England

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

Eycott Hill

Banister Charitable Trust

Cumbria Waste Management Environment

Trust

Cumbria Wildlife Trust members Garfield Weston Foundation Heritage Lottery Fund

WREN

Grasslands NIA

Arnside and Silverdale AONB

Green Transport Corridors

Natural England

Irish Sea

Esmée Fairbairn

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

Local Nature Partnership

Cumbria Farmer Network Ltd Eden District Council Marine Heritage Skills for the Future

Heritage Lottery Fund

Meadow Life

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

Heritage Lottery Fund The Wildflower Society

Nature Reserves

Arts Council England North West Barrow Borough Council Cumbria Wildlife Trust members

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

Defra

Environment Agency Forestry Commission Heritage Lottery Fund Keswick to Barrow

Low Wood Bay Resort Hotel & Marina

Natural England The Old School House SITA Trust

WREN

North West Living Seas Esmée Fairbairn Foundation Wildlife Trust members

Red Squirrel project

Furness Building Society

Uplands for Juniper Cumbria Wildlife Trust members

SITA Trust WREN

Unrestricted

Furness Building Society

Wetland Restoration

Environment Agency Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Natural England RSPB

SITA Trust

Donations were also received from many individuals towards a large number of projects and nature reserves. Many members generously supported a number of special appeals including one to raise match funding used to secure grants at a multiple of ten times the match funding contributed.

Legators:

New legacies were received from Dorothy Barnes, Madge Donnelly, Ronald Graydon, Christine Jones, Audrey Lambert, Marian Page, Elsie Seggar, Elizabeth Wilson, George Wilson and George Woods.

Corporate members during the year:

Platinum members The Lakes Distillery Nestle UK & Ireland **Gold members** Lyon Equipment Silver members H&H Reeds Printers Ltd Studsvik UK Ltd Bronze members
Arnison Heelis Solicitors
Center Parcs
The Cumbria Grand Hotel
Eco-Tech Systems
Greg Thompson Quality
Landscapes and Treecare
HolidayCottages.co.uk
Rathbone Brothers plc

Tarmac Twisted Tree Games Complimentary members

Cumbria Waste Management Furness Building Society James Cropper Vine House Farm

Standard members

Aggregate Industries, Carrs Milling, The Castle Green Hotel, Choice Hotels, English Lakes Ice Cream, Fortis Remote Technology, Highgate Veterinary Clinic, Holker Hall, Lakeland Limited, Langdale Hotel and Spa, LightBringer Essences, Pure Leisure Group, Stringers Brewery, Sykes Cottages, Wildroof Landscapes.