

A sustainable future for wildlife and people

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust 2023-24

Impact Report



Foreword



After seven years as a Trustee and three as the Chair this will be my final Foreword to the Impact Report and Annual Accounts. I am very pleased to be handing over to the very astute Phil Heads our new Chair who will lead the Trustees well.

The last 12 months have seen another record level of investment of funds in our charitable purposes with all of the executive functions within the Trust working at full pace, you will see some of the examples on the following pages.

As we move forward under the new leadership of Jo Lewis with a refreshed Director team we have set some important foundations in delivering our strategy. We're building partnerships, leading the way in financing nature outcomes, and creating more space for nature on farms. We also continue to offer vital educational programs and support nature-based wellbeing for all ages and communities.

In the year we have been very fortunate to receive a very generous gift of a precious stretch of the River Wylve, upstream from our Langford Lakes reserve from the CH Dixon Charitable Trust. This has come at a time when we are leading on the River Wylve Chalk Stream Landscape Recovery Project. This will allow for better connectivity and management of the river ecosystem, benefiting both the new stretch and the existing reserve.

There will be some careful planning needed if we want to continue growing the scale of our delivery but I am sure that with both our 2030 goals and your ongoing support we can make Wiltshire a better place for everyone. However you contribute, thank you, you do make a difference.

Mark Street
Chairman

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Patron

Robert Floyd

Trustees

Charles Fattorini
Dagmar Junghanns
Fiona Goff
Julian Barlow
Mark Street
Matthew Jolley
Piers Maynard
Phil Heads
Richard Gantlett
Sylvia Wyatt
Tim Gilson

Chief Executive

Jo Lewis

Professional advisors

Stephens Scown - human resources and legal
Alison Hone Ltd. - VAT
Sumer Auditco Ltd - auditors
Chapel Health and Safety

Review by the Trustees

The Trustees present their review and summary financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is also a charity registered in England. It is subject to both the Companies Act and the Charities Act. The Trust is governed by a board of trustees known as Council who are elected by the Trust's members. The trustees are the directors of the company for Companies Act purposes. The Trust's Memorandum of Association sets out its objects, which may be summarised as the promotion of wildlife and its habitats and places of natural beauty, interest or value, particularly to further biodiversity; to protect the environment, particularly by reference to sustainable development and recycling waste; and to advance the education of the public in such areas.

The Trust is a corporate member of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. This consists of 46 Wildlife Trusts across the British Isles, working towards a common vision of 'a thriving natural world, with our wildlife and natural habitats playing a valued role in addressing the climate and ecological emergencies and everyone inspired to get involved in nature's recovery'. The Trust is a member of South West Wildlife Trusts Limited, a charity whose objectives are primarily to promote biodiversity and environmental policy in the south west on a regional basis and to strengthen the individual Wildlife Trusts' capacity in their activities by acting as a combined force where appropriate.



Registered Office
Elm Tree Court,
Long Street, Devizes,
Wiltshire SN10 1NJ
Tel: 01380 725670
www.wiltshirewildlife.org

Registered Charity Number 266202
Company Registration Number 730536

Front cover photo: Brendan Selwood, WWT

A word from our Chief Executive



In my first year as CEO, I have had the privilege of witnessing first-hand the positive impact the Trust has on so many special landscapes and so many people's lives across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Connecting people with nature is a big focus for the Trust. I find it so inspiring to hear the stories of how our Care Farms and Wellbeing teams offer renewed hope to those facing mental health challenges. We recognise that numbers and statistics will never do justice to such transformative impacts. This nature-based provision changes lives.

I am delighted that five new Wildlife Watch groups for families have been established this year, taking us to eight across the county. Our volunteers contributed 11,785 hours in support of our mission. Our Swindon Forest Meadows collaboration with Swindon Borough Council mobilised volunteers from all walks of life to plant a phenomenal 12,000 trees this year. All helping us to realise our ambition to encourage 1 in 4 people to take action for nature.

We were pleased that BBC Countryfile shone a spotlight in March on our two new nationally important reserves at Great Wood and Bay Meadows, safeguarding threatened ancient woodland and chalk-stream habitats for a wide range of species such as goshawks, otters, water voles and brown trout. A huge thank you to BiffaAward, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, The Hills Group, The Underwood Trust and all those who donated to our appeals.

Wiltshire is above all a farming county and farmers need support to lead nature's recovery and restore the abundance of much-loved farmland birds like skylarks, yellowhammers, lapwing and grey partridge.

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has taken on management of 200 acres of farmland at Great Chalfield Manor for the next half-century, as part of an exciting new collaboration with the National Trust and Great Western Community Forest. We plan to balance the needs of nature's recovery and climate-resilient food production at Great Chalfield. Additionally, we aim to support farmers in understanding the new incentive framework for nature-friendly farming.

This collaboration brings Wiltshire Wildlife Trust back to the family home of our former chair and current patron, Robert Floyd, whose father Charles was one of the Trust's founders. Great Chalfield has always been a special place, where space is made for nature in the farmed landscape. Our aim now is to create a learning hub for farmers that showcases how nature and trees can be an integral part of a regenerative farming system. We look forward to sharing our progress in our next Impact Report.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jo Lewis
Chief Executive

Building a Wilder Wiltshire: The Wildlife Trust's Strategic Plan

We are confronted by an ecological and climate crisis that is already affecting the three foundational elements of sustainable living: nature, people, and the economy. Our vision is to see a significant increase in the abundance of nature, which people can experience and enjoy in their everyday lives. Our 2030 strategy builds upon our previous accomplishments to restore nature at scale, and to inspire people to live in a more sustainable manner. Our goals are:

Nature will be in recovery

By 2030, Wiltshire and Swindon's habitats, species and natural processes will be in recovery and 30% of land will be managed for nature. To achieve this, we will lead by example by:

- Doubling the area of land owned and managed by the Trust to 2,400 hectares.
- Restoring species abundance and diversity across Wiltshire and Swindon.
- Restoring natural processes on our land and in rivers.



Photo: Adonis blue butterfly,
Ellie Dodson WWT

People will be taking action

By 2030, people will be taking informed and meaningful action for nature and the climate and benefitting from having nature in their lives. To achieve this, we will:

- Empower 1 in 4 people to take significant and transformative action for nature.
- Help improve the health and wellbeing of people through their engagement with nature.
- Provide opportunities for all children and young people in Wiltshire to experience the joy of nature and kindle a lasting interest in wild places.



Photo: WWT

Nature will be valued

By 2030, nature will play a central and valued role in helping to address local, national and global problems. To achieve this, we will:

- Get nature and climate at the heart of decision making.
- Create and promote nature-based solutions with partners to address the climate and nature emergencies.
- Support sustainable, healthy, productive and resilient ecosystem services across Wiltshire and Swindon.



Photo: WWT

To read our strategy in full, visit:
www.wiltshirewildlife.org/strategy

Our Reserves

A Year of progress for Wiltshire Wildlife's Conservation Land Management Team who protect over 40 nature reserves across Wiltshire.

Our nature reserves exemplify our commitment to leading by example. They provide the space and conditions for species to flourish, natural processes to re-establish, and ecosystems to become resilient. From restoring chalk grasslands for endangered butterflies to creating crucial nesting habitats for migrating birds, our reserves are not just stunning landscapes but are leading the way in nature's recovery.

The past year brought both challenges and triumphs for Wiltshire's natural landscapes. While persistent rain tested the resilience of our dedicated staff, they worked tirelessly to mitigate the impact of the weather. We've begun implementing measures to fortify our reserves against extreme weather resulting from climate change, including projects aimed at alleviating flooding risks for neighbouring communities.



North Wiltshire reserves

At Lower Moor Farm nature reserve we installed a new path to significantly improve the accessibility of the site and protect the delicate habitats. These efforts, combined with Rhododendron removal, pond expansion and restoration at Great Wood, enhance biodiversity through creating thriving habitats. Botanical surveys revealed the richness of our flora, recording 358 different species, including 29 new additions across our reserves. We actively enhanced chalk habitats on our grassland reserves, specifically targeting the needs of the Duke of Burgundy and marsh fritillary butterflies. This crucial work safeguards the future of these vital and vulnerable species.



South Wiltshire reserves

In South Wiltshire, conservation initiatives flourished. There were big changes at Langford Lakes nature reserve. We installed a new sand martin bank and hide overlooking Long Pond providing a crucial nesting habitat for these migrating birds. The bank also has viewing areas and live stream video cameras.

We also acquired Dixon Meadows which sit adjacent to Langford Lakes and provides walking access to the River Wylde, a rare and ecologically important chalk stream. At Blackmoor Copse nature reserve we employed a different type of worker. A heavy horse was used to create a 400 metre clearing; horses are an ideal alternative to machinery as they can help protect ancient woodland soils.

Five woodlands in North Wiltshire were improved.

5 hectares were replanted with native broadleaved trees to combat ash dieback. 5 hectares of conifers were replaced with **4,600 native saplings.**



Photo: Duke of Burgundy butterfly

Photos: A group at Great Wood, WWWT, The sand martin bank and hide at Langford Lakes, WWWT

Green Lane Wood and Biss Wood Complex

At Green Lane Wood and Biss Wood, a **10-year management programme is underway to enhance and protect the natural habitat.** This integrates community engagement projects, ecological monitoring, habitat surveys, and infrastructure improvements, ensuring a holistic approach to conservation. The programme also looks to create buffer zones around the reserves, further safeguarding the biodiversity within the woodland.

The local community were invited to join a talk and walk about woodpeckers and bats in Green Lane Wood. This drew in an enthusiastic crowd who actively contributed to the project by searching for woodpecker holes in Green Lane Wood. These holes could potentially become future roosts for the rare Bechstein's bat. This demonstrates the success of the Trust's efforts to involve the community in monitoring and conservation activities.

Swindon Forest Meadows Project and Swindon Reserves

The Swindon Forest Meadows Project, in partnership with Swindon Borough Council, engaged **175 volunteers who dedicated over 5,000 hours** to conservation efforts. A collaboration with the Great Western Community Forest and Trees for Climate, saw an amazing **12,000 trees planted across 11 sites.** This, coupled with the establishment of a new tree nursery at Westcott Allotments, helps secure a sustainable future for our woodlands in Swindon.

The formation of a new self-led volunteer group at Clouts Wood nature reserve to monitor and record at the site, led to the discovery of new populations of the nationally scarce rugged oil beetle. This underscores the growing community involvement in safeguarding local wildlife.

175 volunteers
dedicated over **5,000**
hours to the Swindon
Forest Meadows
project



12,000
trees planted
across **11** sites

Farming

In Wiltshire, a county deeply rooted in farming, conservation grazing helps us balance the relationship between agriculture and environmental stewardship. Our practices create thriving habitats that support a greater variety of wildlife. We have made several improvements including updating the fencing at Lower Moor Farm which facilitated smoother calving operations by splitting the cows into two groups during calving season.

The farm team helped with our ambition to connect 1 in 4 people to nature by hosting an educational visit from Hardenhuish school, allowing young people to learn about the key activities our farming and estates team undertakes.

Water Team

Our Water Team is dedicated to the health and vitality of Wiltshire's rivers, chalk streams, and wetlands. From restoring natural river flows to improving water quality and creating thriving habitats, this team works to ensure Wiltshire's waterways are resilient and teeming with life.

West Chisenbury Wetland

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Water Team have been conducting pioneering work at West Chisenbury. This involved restoring a section of the River Avon, re-establishing its natural course and reconnecting it to its floodplain to create a thriving wetland ecosystem rich in diverse plants and animals. Crucially this is a first of its kind project on a chalk stream creating a natural braided river system, specifically designed to capture phosphates without the need for manmade materials or hard engineering.

We estimate that the three wetlands created at West Chisenbury will remove 18 kilos of phosphates per year. Removing phosphates significantly improves water quality as it prevents harmful algal blooms, protecting aquatic life and maintaining a balanced ecosystem. This project built on the team's successes at Smallbrook Meadows, which created a network of wetland areas that provide breeding grounds, feeding areas, and refuge for numerous chalk stream species such as wild brown trout and water vole.

Together, the West Chisenbury Wetland and the restored wetlands at Smallbrook Meadows represent a major achievement in habitat restoration and conservation, benefiting local wildlife populations and contributing to the broader ecological health of the region.

Wylye Valley Landscape Recovery

In Autumn 2023 the team were successful in securing the highly competitive and prestigious Landscape Recovery Funding from Government for the ambitious Wylye Chalk Stream Project. Collaborating closely with Wessex Rivers Trust, landowners and farmers, the project aims to restore and protect 22km of this vital chalk river, a globally rare and threatened habitat.

The project aims to develop new ways to fund projects that will improve the health of this iconic river. This includes restoring the river's natural flow and improving water quality, which will help to create better habitats for wildlife along its banks.

Volunteer action

Throughout the year, **80 active volunteers dedicated their time to monitor and protect our rivers through the Riverfly and Water Guardians projects.** We were also grateful to a team of volunteers who assisted with the removal of non-native invasive species from our waterways through Himalayan balsam bashing. Their contributions were also vital during a busy spring of tree planting, an initiative that enhances water storage and alleviates pressure on rivers during periods of peak flow.

Delivered habitat restoration advice across **9,000ha** and **500km** of river

Conducted restoration work on **64ha** and **15km** of river.

15 ponds created or restored providing habitats for **Great Crested Newts**



Photo: Smallbrook Meadows, BD Westby, WWT



Photo: Great Crested Newt

The Bristol Avon Catchment Market

The Bristol Avon Catchment Market (BACM), a partnership between Avon Wildlife Trust, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and EnTrade, has achieved a remarkable milestone: launching the UK's first two online biodiversity markets. This demonstrates how private investment can play a crucial role in restoring nature.

In March 2024, the BACM hosted its first conference, bringing together a diverse group including landowners, conservation experts, local authorities, and businesses. The aim of the conference was to explore how to make these nature markets work for everyone, ensuring that both nature and communities benefit.

The BACM team is actively helping landowners develop projects that will enhance wildlife habitats. In addition, training has been provided to support 8 ecology trainees, all of whom have now found jobs in the conservation sector. This means more skilled professionals are working to protect and restore our natural world. You can read more about the Bristol Avon Catchment Market at www.bristolavoncatchment.uk

Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Record Centre

The Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Record Centre (WSBRC) collects, manages, and shares vital information about wildlife in Wiltshire and Swindon, supporting conservation efforts and informed decision-making. Last year they supported many local and national monitoring and analysis initiatives, including a National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme.

Working with the People's Trust for Endangered Species, WSBRC is supporting an innovative pilot project, part of a 3 year National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme. This has attracted a team of enthusiastic volunteers, working across **5 survey areas using 30 camera traps to record hedgehog and other wildlife sightings.** The project will aid our understanding of Hedgehog distribution and inform future projects to help reverse the decline of this species. Other species partnership projects focused on learning more about our threatened tree sparrows and lapwings, which will inform projects to help them recover.

The Nurturing Nature project which WSBRC played a key part in, collaborating with Cranbourne Chase National Landscape, won the Wiltshire Life Awards Conservation Project of the Year and was highly commended in the New Forest Nature Awards. The project saw over 100 events and **233 volunteers contributing 6,884 hours of work**, the project recorded **215 species and 1,000 species records.**

The ongoing Ancient Woodland Inventory Update Project has identified over **7,300 wood parcels in Wiltshire**, more than six times the previous data of 1,200. This provides extremely valuable information for working with landowners to achieve better woodland management.

WSBRC fulfilled 418 data search requests, providing verified species, habitat, and site data to a variety of clients. Additionally, full county data was provided to four clients, and partial coverage to another four, enabling them to make better-informed decisions about nature in their work. Excitingly, as a result of its proven leading expertise, WSBRC won consultancy contracts from The North Wessex Downs National Landscape and The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts.

**Supporting
a National
Hedgehog
Monitoring
Programme**



**71% increase
in nature
connectedness
among
participants**

Photo: Wellbeing Participants, WWWT

Adult Wellbeing Team

The Swindon Wellbeing and Wild Transitions Groups delivered a range of engaging and inspiring activities including creating wild areas in gardens, creating habitats for insects and feeding local wildlife. Results from our participant survey show that there has been a 71% increase in nature connectedness among participants, reflected in improved well-being, a deeper appreciation for the natural world, and increased pro-environmental behaviour.

Groups are also making changes at home. Participants have adopted sustainable practices, reducing food waste, reducing energy use, and choosing sustainable travel.

Our participants are actively involved in benefitting their community, from advocacy and influencing to promoting sustainable shopping and engaging in habitat conservation activities.

“

I like noticing the little things, the patterns in nature. We need reminding of these things, that it is not our planet, that we are guests here.”

Adult Wellbeing Participant.

The Adult Wellbeing team supported
144 participants across five wellbeing groups, contributing over **2,570** volunteer hours to supporting our nature reserves.



5,000
children became
stewards of their
local environment



Care Farms

The Lakeside and Willows Care Farms worked with 167 students last year, providing not only therapeutic support but also a long lasting connection with nature and the environment. Across the Care Farms, we supported 60% of students to transition fully back in to mainstream or special school education, equipping them with valuable life skills and a heightened appreciation for the environment. Attending the Care Farm on a weekly basis enabled the remaining 40% to maintain their places in school or formed part of home education packages, offering them a unique learning experience grounded in the natural world and sustainable horticulture.

Attending the Care Farm has an impact beyond our provision, with one class teacher stating,

“attending the alternative provision has [an] overwhelming positive impact on his wellbeing and learning overall. On return to school, there is a notable improvement in concentration, engagement and attitude to learning.”

Our innovative Day 6 Provision programme, for students who have lost a school placement is run in partnership with Wiltshire Council. This has been a remarkable success. We have enabled a child who was permanently excluded from school to reintegrate into mainstream education with peers of a similar age. Through these interactions and their experiences in nature, students gain not only social skills but also develop a sense of environmental stewardship that will benefit them and the planet for years to come.

‘This is the only place I can be myself!’

Care Farm student.

Youth Education and Wellbeing Team

The Youth Education and Wellbeing Team’s (YEW) dedication to environmental education has empowered over 5,000 children to become stewards of their local environment. Our YEW Team delivered a range of engaging activities including interactive workshops, and hands-on experiences at Blakehill and Coombe Bissett Down which have provided children with a deeper understanding of the natural world. They have been inspired to take action, such as planting trees in their school grounds, contributing to a greener and healthier future. Notably, the Children’s Parliament at Pembroke Park Primary School led a school-wide assembly on climate change, demonstrating the ripple effect that this type of education can achieve.

The team’s commitment to nurturing well-being extends beyond formal environmental education.

We continue to provide tailored support for individual young people with complex needs through alternative provision programmes. These programmes, along with our nurture groups, create safe and supportive spaces for young people to experience personal growth and a connection with nature.

Working in partnership with Wessex Archaeology the team delivered Project Rejuvenate - a series of 12 sessions based around connecting nature and heritage. Following the sessions 9 out of 10 students recorded a positive shift in their wellbeing.



Connecting nature and heritage: Watch the video for Project Rejuvenate here www.bit.ly/projectrejuvenate

Thank you to our supporters



Over 2,000
volunteers gave
11,785 hours of
their time

We are incredibly grateful to our dedicated community of supporters, comprising of our generous donors, passionate volunteers, and engaged members. Each one plays a crucial role in enabling our conservation work across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Volunteers

Our amazing volunteers are vital to our work. In 2023-24, we had 704 new volunteers join our cause, a testament to the enthusiasm for protecting Wiltshire's wildlife. Their remarkable contribution of 11,785 hours is equivalent to 6 full time staff and this allowed us to achieve so much more.

Our volunteers are the leaders of our Wildlife Watch Groups, igniting a passion for nature in the next generation of conservationists. They are the dedicated stewards of our reserves, ensuring habitats flourish. And they are the champions of Wiltshire's green spaces, safeguarding their beauty for all to enjoy.

Their commitment makes a real difference, and we are immensely grateful for everything they do.

If you're inspired to join our volunteer community, please visit www.wiltshirewildlife.org/support-us

Our Members

We are thankful for our members for their support and dedication to our cause. Feedback is invaluable to us, which is why we recently conducted a member survey to better understand our member's experiences and priorities. The survey showed that a remarkable 92% of respondents rated their membership experience as excellent or good, with many specifically mentioning the invaluable role of our nature reserves with Langford Lakes and Lower Moor Farm getting a special mention.

Members join us not only to support local conservation, but also to spend time in nature with friends and family while experiencing Wiltshire's rich wildlife. Their passion fuels our dedication to making a lasting difference for both nature and the people of Wiltshire.

For more information about becoming a member visit www.wiltshirewildlife.org/membership

Fundraising and Engagement

Our Fundraising and Engagement team play a vital role in connecting the work of the trust with our stakeholders and inspire them to take action by supporting events, volunteering, or donating to our cause.

Online Engagement

Our social media efforts have ignited a strong connection with our community. We've seen a surge in engagement across our channels, with several posts generating a lot of reactions and comments. This enthusiastic response has not only expanded our reach but also fuelled a healthy growth in followers.

Our top posts included:

The opening of Bay Meadows in November 2023.

A picture of an adder at Jones' Mill in June 2023.



LinkedIn followers increased 91%



YouTube subscribers increased 15%



Instagram followers increased 11%



Facebook followers increased 5%

Expanding Engagement

Our Wildlife Watch groups grew to 8 groups in 2023-24 from 3 in 2022-23 and they continue to go from strength to strength, including new groups in the north and the south of the county giving a really a good geographical spread.

In 2023, we took a big step forward by launching the first digital edition of our magazine. This initiative has been well-received, providing a more sustainable way for our members and supporters to stay connected with our work. If you'd like to change the way you receive our magazine email

comms@wiltshirewildlife.org



Photo: Head of Freshwater, Alice Eley being filmed for BBC Countryfile

Fundraising

Our **Saving Critical Critters** appeal made a real difference for Wiltshire's wildlife. Thanks to the generous donations from our supporters, we were able to raise enough funds to create special habitats for wild bees and oil beetles, helping these important species thrive in our county.

We are pleased to have garnered support from a range of Trusts and Foundations whose funding has enabled us to achieve so much including enhancing natural spaces and inspiring and training young conservationists.

Our Corporate Membership programme now includes 20 companies, reflecting a growing commitment from the business community to safeguard our environment.

Media Coverage

Media coverage of the Trust's campaigns and projects skyrocketed by an impressive **61%** compared to the previous year. This surge included a remarkable **48** radio and television appearances, notably the BBC Countryfile episode in March 2024, which shone a spotlight on our work to create our newest Bay Meadows and Great Wood nature reserves. This amplified media presence has allowed the Trust's positive impact on nature's recovery to reach a wider audience, inspiring more people in Wiltshire and Swindon to engage with nature, adopt sustainable practices, and actively support the Trust's work.

Carbon Footprint

To help limit climate change and support actions to adapt to it, WWT has committed to balance its carbon emissions. The Trust aims to reduce emissions from its operations as far as possible while increasing carbon captured and stored through land management of our nature reserves.

Using calculation tools developed by The Wildlife Trusts, WWT completes a detailed, annual carbon footprint to measure and take responsibility for its impact. Gathering the carbon emissions data helps focus and inform our actions to reduce emissions, alongside consideration of other factors for WWT to meet its objectives as a conservation charity.

During 2022-23 travel and transport formed 89% of our emissions – the higher figure is partly due to improved staff

commute data and also reflects the size of Wiltshire as a county and the spread of our nature reserves.

Energy consumption is a large contributor to our carbon footprint, and monitoring electricity use across our sites is crucial for identifying opportunities to reduce emissions. Actions that followed include re-organising our main office space in Devizes to help save over 15,000 kWh electricity. Our energy use data also supported a renewable energy audit to explore opportunities to install additional schemes across our sites.

The Wildlife Trusts have led on research and development of a tool to calculate emissions from livestock used for **conservation grazing** (an essential tool for managing our northern reserves) which gives WWT an emissions

total for 2022-23 of 759 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO₂e) using a widely accepted method.

Adding Great Wood to our nature reserves in 2023 resulted in a higher figure for carbon removed during that year but it's difficult to quantify carbon captured and emitted annually by a variety of habitats with massive variation so we've used conservative estimates.

While the calculations are sometimes an imperfect measure and can improve over the years, they do provide a baseline to help us reduce our carbon. We're grateful for the support from our fantastic volunteers to help collate the details for the calculation.

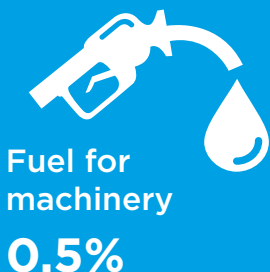
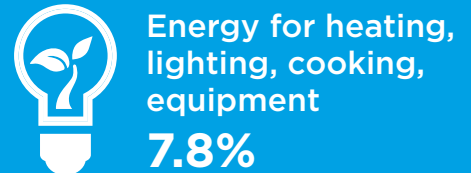
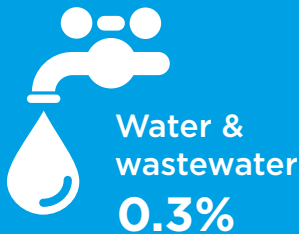
To see our full report and further information, please visit www.wiltshirewildlife.org/sustainability

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's carbon emissions

	2019 – 2020	2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022	2022 – 2023*
Tonnes Carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO₂e)				
Day-to-day operations	234	215	244	269
Conservation Grazing	801	823	462	759
Total	1,035	1,038	706	1,028
Estimated Flux (minimum carbon removed or emitted by nature reserves)	-1,419	-1,565	-2,490	-2,237
Carbon Footprint (balance of carbon emitted and captured)	-384	-527	-1,784	-1,209

* Our carbon footprint reporting period is aligned to The Wildlife Trusts. The data for 2023/24 is currently being analysed.

2022-23 Carbon Emissions from Day to Day Operations by Category



Independent auditors' statement to the members of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Limited

We have examined the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the auditor

The trustees are responsible for preparing full annual financial statements in accordance with the recommendations of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2019 (FRS 102) and for extracting information from the full annual financial statements into the summarised financial statements.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Impact Report. We also read the other information contained in the Impact Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with guidance issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Impact Report of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Limited for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Sumer Auditco Ltd
Statutory Auditor
County Gate
County Way, Trowbridge
Wiltshire BA14 7FJ

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible assets	2,445,033	2,517,121	2,445,033	2,517,121
Heritage assets	9,733,253	9,073,253	9,733,253	9,073,253
Investments	354,577	358,322	364,577	368,322
Mixed motive investments	2,933,641	2,876,580	2,933,641	2,876,580
	15,466,504	14,825,276	15,476,504	14,835,276
Current Assets				
Stocks and work in progress	227,830	199,420	227,830	199,420
Debtors	1,841,647	1,047,244	1,841,647	1,047,270
Cash at bank and in hand	1,622,217	1,764,471	1,602,709	1,744,222
	3,691,694	3,011,135	3,672,186	2,990,912
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(549,495)	(303,107)	(549,492)	(302,947)
Net current assets	3,142,199	2,708,028	3,122,694	2,687,965
Total assets less current liabilities	18,608,703	17,533,304	18,599,198	17,523,241
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	(40,529)	-	(40,529)
Total net assets	18,608,703	17,492,775	18,599,198	17,482,712
Charity Funds				
Capital Fund				
Restricted nature reserves	11,114,884	10,496,081	11,114,884	10,496,081
Other Funds				
Restricted funds	1,580,266	1,062,766	1,580,266	1,062,766
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	1,580,997	1,543,585	1,571,492	1,533,522
Designated capital funds	2,847,336	2,876,580	2,847,336	2,876,580
Designated other funds	1,485,220	1,513,763	1,482,220	1,513,763
	18,608,703	17,492,775	18,599,198	17,482,712

Financial summary 2024

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) shows total income of £7,468,851 and revenue expenditure of £6,319,934.

There was a loss on investments of £32,989 resulting in a net movement in funds of £1,115,928. The year-end balance sheet increased with total net assets in excess of £18.6 million and we were delighted to acquire land at Bishopstone and Dixon Meadows.

The Trust ends the year with cash available to fund our Strategic and Restricted Projects. We are well placed to deliver the 2030 Strategy to ensure that Nature is in Recovery and People are Taking Action, this will include exploration of nature-based solutions and showcasing the fantastic work we do.

Matt Jolley

Treasurer, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Trustees' Statement

The Summary Financial Statement is only a summary of the information in the Trust's full annual financial statements (on which the auditors gave an unqualified report) and may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The Trustees' Annual Report does not form part of the annual financial statements and no information from the Trustees' Annual Report is included in this summary.

The full statutory financial statements, including the Trustees' Annual Report and the unqualified auditors' report, can be obtained from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Elm Tree Court, Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NJ. A member wishing to receive full financial statements and reports in place of summary financial statements can request these in writing to the company secretary at the above address. The full financial statements were approved on 12 September 2024 and will be submitted to the Charity Commission in the near future.

Mark Street

Chairman, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year ended 31.3.24 £	Year ended 31.3.23 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies (including membership income and GiftAid)	1,211,673	333,287	1,544,960	841,256
Charitable activities	2,397,765	3,193,316	5,591,081	5,956,842
Other trading activities	154,769	-	154,769	197,365
Investments	124,344	98	124,442	97,533
Other	48,977	4,622	53,599	27,721
Total income	3,937,528	3,531,323	7,468,851	7,120,717
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds				
Recruiting new members	134,274	-	134,274	151,514
Fundraising, donations and legacies	159,380	-	159,380	113,541
Charitable activities				
Nature is in Recovery	1,608,588	2,070,429	3,679,017	2,589,453
People are taking action	1,915,596	144,196	2,059,792	2,177,866
Nature is valued	59,018	-	59,018	298,296
Member support	228,453	-	228,453	244,677
Total expenditure	4,105,309	2,214,625	6,319,934	5,575,347
Net gains/(loss) on investments	(32,989)	-	(32,989)	152,045
Net income/(expenditure)	(200,770)	1,316,698	1,115,928	1,697,415
Transfers between funds	180,395	(180,395)	-	-
Net movement in funds	(20,375)	1,136,303	1,115,928	1,697,415
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward:				
As previously reported	5,933,928	11,558,847	17,492,775	15,795,360
Total funds carried forward	5,913,553	12,695,150	18,608,703	17,492,775

The statement of financial activities contains all gains and losses recognised during the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.



Will You Leave a Wilder Future?

After taking care of your family and friends, will you consider leaving Wiltshire Wildlife Trust a gift in your Will?

We are delighted to offer our supporters a FREE Will either to write a simple Will or update an existing one:

Connect with Wiltshire-based solicitor Batt Broadbent for a one-to-one meeting at their Salisbury or Chippenham offices.
OR

Use Octopus Legacy's quick and easy online service for a free certified Will.

Get in touch with our Fundraising Team to find out more:
fundraising@wiltshirewildlife.org

Photo: Morgans Hill, Owain Shaw

With thanks to our funders and corporate members

Donors and corporate members:

1st Aid 4 Fencing Ltd
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Bruce Wake Charitable Trust
Buglife
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Cranborne Chase National Landscape
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
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Evergreen Insurance
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Quartet Community Foundation
Quick Move Now Ltd
Peoples Postcode Lottery via Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
Rural Payment Agency
Salisbury Borough Council
Salisbury Cathedral School
Science Museum Group Wroughton
Sovereign Housing Association Ltd
St Thomas Church
St James's Place
Swindon Borough Council
The Clive Richards Foundation
The Environment Agency
The Ernest Cook Trust
The GD Herbert Charitable Trust
The Hills Group
The John Swire Charitable Trust
The Scott (Eredine) Trust
The Underwood Trust
Travel Chapter Ltd
Wavin Ltd
West of England Rural Network
Wessex Water Services Ltd
Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation
Wiltshire Council
Wiltshire Council Public Health
Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy Ltd
Wilton Estate
Woodland Trust
Xtreme Mowing

We are grateful to those who have chosen to support Wiltshire Wildlife Trust with a special gift in their wills or in memoriam during 2023-24.

Legacies and In Memory gifts received from or on behalf of:

Joyce Andrews
Karen Baxter
David Lawrence Booth
Ida Joyce Broadway
Dorothea Brass
Jessica Bright
Angela Bryant
Mrs Butler
Katy Dalley
Julie Ann Dyson
Russel Fordham
Tim James
Gillian Mary King
Berice Large
Sue Lemmon
May Sheila Loveless
George Medley
David Moore
Alan Mooring
Cleo Moren Brown
David Parsons
Krista Reddell
Jean Rudd
Janette Ruskin
Mary Woodward

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www.wiltshirewildlife.org

Registered Charity Number 266202 Company Registration Number 730536

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