

The Wild Heart of Leicestershire and Rutland

Annual Review 2019-2020



**Leicestershire
& Rutland**
Wildlife Trust





This Annual Review outlines our activities and achievements for an eventful year, from April 2019 to March 2020.

In November 2019, we said goodbye to Simon Bentley, our Director of 18 years. Under Simon's leadership, we achieved major year-on-year growth in our membership and landholdings, contributing to many wonderful conservation and outreach success stories across the counties. We welcomed Tim Graham as our new Chief Executive, who held the same position at the Manx Wildlife Trust.

We worked closely with partners, communities, public bodies and our first corporate members. We continued significant work in partnership with Anglian Water at Rutland Water Nature Reserve and successfully applied for a Landscape Partnership Scheme (part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund) in Charnwood Forest. Birdfair 2019 was a triumph in adversity against the weather, being a huge community celebration of all things birding. Natural flood risk management has been piloted at Narborough Bog on the River Soar with the Environment Agency, receiving national recognition.

The unwelcome advent of COVID-19 has affected all of us and LRWT is no exception. Arriving towards the end of the reporting period, it has been enormously disruptive, and we have had to focus on ensuring our operations are COVID-secure, curtailing many activities including volunteering and cancelling the physical Birdfair.

We are grateful to everyone who contributes to our work – staff, grant-making trusts, corporate and individual donors and partners. Above all, you, our members and volunteers are the essential ingredient in enabling us to achieve so much for wildlife in Leicestershire and Rutland. Since March 2020, we have seen how much nature means to you and the wider public. Together we continue our fight for nature's recovery. These remain challenging times and your ongoing support and encouragement of others is central to delivering a wilder future. We cannot slow down in the face of continuing wildlife decline. Please find in this report the hope and optimism that together we can leave nature in a better state for future generations.



Andrew Cotton
Chair of Trustees



Tim Graham
CEO

We're supported by over **16,200** members, who champion wildlife in Leicestershire and Rutland.

From woodlands to wetlands, meadows to rivers, in towns, cities and the countryside, we manage **36** nature reserves covering **1,318** hectares.

Over **700** regular volunteers worked in the sun, wind, snow and rain, because they want to do their bit for nature.

Vision

A landscape rich in wildlife, valued and enjoyed by all.

Mission

To protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland and to engage people with nature.

Who We Are

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust works to safeguard local wildlife by:

Protecting precious wild places



Encouraging people to enjoy nature



Inspiring and educating people



Researching and surveying wildlife



Speaking out for wildlife

We are one of **46** Wildlife Trusts across the UK who are standing up for wildlife locally. Together we have over **800,000** members, manage more than **2,300** nature reserves, run thousands of projects and events, and combine to ensure that local and national policies work for wildlife and wild places.

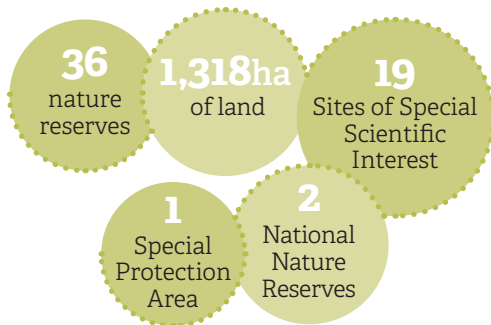


Front cover: Brown hare © Tony Clarke

Safeguarding Wild Places



Nature Reserves - Special wild places across Leicestershire and Rutland



From woodland to meadows, wetland to heaths, our nature reserves comprise some of the most important wildlife and geological sites in the counties. As well as containing varied, interesting and even rare wildlife species, they are vital places for people to visit, enjoy and appreciate wildlife.

Thanks to a generous donation from a member, we began the purchase of fourteen

hectares of land adjacent to Holwell Nature Reserves, near Melton Mowbray. This will almost double the size of these diverse nature reserves, and we are looking forward to developing the 'blank canvas' of farmland into a haven for wildlife.

We carried out wildlife recording on our nature reserves and other sites, with bat monitoring an ongoing focus. Given limited knowledge of bat roosts, and the possible numbers and species of bats using woodland nature reserves in east Leicestershire and Rutland, monitoring work included checking existing bat boxes and erecting new ones, setting up passive bat detectors in various locations and analysing the recordings. Fantastically, this work confirmed that two further nature reserves are frequent foraging sites for the rare Barbastelle bat.



Rutland Water - One of the UK's best nature reserves, for wildlife and people



450ha
of
wild
habitat

25,000
winter
wildfowl

35
bird
hides

578
volunteers*

This internationally famous nature reserve is managed in partnership with Anglian Water and provides one of the most important wildfowl sanctuaries in the UK.

At Egleton Nature Reserve, we continued to re-landscape the islands on Lagoons 5, 6 and 7. This has enabled us to flood the

islands in the winter and provide gentle shelving edges for feeding wildfowl and waders. We have opened woodland rides and created microclimates that help butterflies. Kingfishers nested in an artificial nest bank. In total, volunteers contributed 14,345 hours of time.

We welcomed wildlife presenter Nick Baker to Lyndon Nature Reserve in September, who met our young Osprey Ambassadors and opened the new 'Teal' hide. The Teaching, Education and Learning hide will be an outdoor classroom. The hide was funded by a generous donation from Peter Cox, on behalf of his father, Dennis, and built by staff and volunteers. We also opened our new Shallow Water hide, overlooking Manton Bay.

**Volunteer total across all teams at Rutland Water, inc. Birdfair.*

*Rutland Water © Tony Clarke
Teal Hide opening © Pete Murray*

Living Landscapes

Working across the
wider countryside

Five
Living
Landscapes

100s
of partners
and
landowners

Protecting
1000s
of species

In 2019, we revived the Leighfield Forest Living Landscape. Our volunteer-led monitoring project completed several transects and surveys covering plants, birds and butterflies.



We continued our work with the National Forest Company to develop the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership, which was successful in its £3.9m bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in March 2020. The Trust will manage and deliver two important projects in Charnwood Forest, both of which will start later in 2020.

Funding from Aggregate Industries allowed us to employ a Charnwood Forest project officer and a seasonal surveyor. We identified nineteen Local Wildlife Sites and re-surveyed seven more. We also worked on Bardon Hill Quarry, carrying out monitoring of heathland restoration, installing bat boxes and barn owl boxes, and carrying out work for reptiles, breeding birds, peregrines and ravens. Volunteers conducted regular plant, butterfly and bird surveys on private land and nature reserves.

We continued a programme of resurveying Local Wildlife Sites, with a focus on priority Living Landscape areas, particularly the Charnwood Forest and Soar & Wreake Floodplain. This involved working closely with landowners to offer land management advice and has resulted in the reinstatement of the Local Wildlife Sites Panel.

As part of the national Jordan's Farm Partnership, we visited two farms in the winter to carry out their annual reporting.

Our advocacy work also saved a population of lizard orchids, which appeared for the second year in their second-most northerly site in the world! We worked with Leicestershire County Council to protect the site from being mown by the Highways Department.



Slowing the flow in the Soar Valley

We're working in the upper Soar Valley to protect local people from flooding and create valuable new wildlife habitats. The three-year Natural Flood Management project is part of a national pilot scheme, including 60 projects across the UK, led by the Environment Agency. We are implementing a wide range of measures to protect, restore and copy the natural functions of river catchments and floodplains. We are improving the natural function of the River Soar, helping the surrounding landscape store more water. Our involvement is centred on Narborough Bog Nature Reserve. Work started in autumn 2019 and included felling a small number of trees across the river and using fallen trees and brash piles to 'roughen up' the landscape and slow heavy rainfall. At other sites, ponds are being created and tree planting used to slow water. New habitats will attract a variety of species to existing areas of wet woodland, including aquatic plants, insects, bats, birds and amphibians.

Protecting local wildlife

We put wildlife at the heart of everything we do



85
badgers
vaccinated*

100
disease-
resistant elms
planted

12
barn owl
chicks
at Cossington

**since 2013*

From ospreys to otters, badgers to bumblebees, wildflowers to wildfowl and red kites to red foxes, thousands of species make their home in our two counties.

In 2013, we began a programme of vaccinating badgers against Bovine Tuberculosis (bTB), partially funded by DEFRA. Over six years we have vaccinated 85 badgers at several sites across 200 hectares in the north of Leicestershire and in Charnwood Forest, including sixteen in the summer of 2019.

In 2019, we discovered a sizeable population of water voles near to Wing, Rutland. Both the landholder and the Trust are delighted to have found such a healthy population and the landowner is determined to ensure the site remains a haven.

We hosted a project planning workshop for common swifts, with key input provided by local partners and stakeholders, including the Leicestershire and Rutland Swift Partnership.

We planted 100 disease-resistant elm trees to provide future habitat for white-letter hairstreak butterflies and marbled whites have been recorded on the recently created Sharples Meadow at Rutland Water Nature Reserve.



Water vole ©
Terry Whittaker/2020Vision
Marbled White © David Foulds
Osprey webcam still © LRWT

Celebrating the 150th osprey chick at Rutland



10 breeding pairs of ospreys

23 chicks fledged

2019 was a milestone year for the Rutland Osprey Project. Maya and 33(11) partnered up for the fourth year in Manton Bay. They are often the first pair to breed and this year was more important than ever. The third chick to hatch would be the 150th chick for the Rutland Osprey Project. Maya laid four eggs in early April. The first two chicks hatched on 11th May and **on 13th May, the 150th osprey chick arrived!** The fourth chick arrived five days later, and all successfully fledged. In 2019 there were ten breeding pairs in the area, a tribute to the hard work of the staff and volunteers and to the thriving partnership with Anglian Water. The Osprey Education team visited nineteen schools and colleges and welcomed 25 educational groups to Lyndon Nature Reserve. That's over 2,000 young people connecting with nature!

Inspiring People

Education:
bringing children closer to nature



Over
3,500
children
inspired

38
families
attended
home-education
sessions

88
children visited
Wildlife Watch
groups



We are passionate about inspiring everyone to love and care for wildlife and wild places. We work across Leicestershire and Rutland with all communities and cultures, because nature should be accessible to all. We offer a range of exciting Outreach Education programmes: Wild Forest School; Wildlife Watch Junior membership; the Osprey Education programme and many more activities, events and courses.

“Forest School has really helped her confidence and she is now more likely to share her opinions and ideas.” – Teacher, Leicester

In 2019, we continued our popular Wildlife Watch groups in two areas, as well as introducing monthly family events around the country for members to attend, Wild Play sessions in the holidays and Wild Tots for younger children.

Our Woodland Workshops helped pupils experience elements of Forest School such as woodwork, shelter building and fire lighting. We also created a Wild About Learning pack for teachers. Our Grow Wild team continue to transform community spaces and school grounds. In 2019, they created eight new areas, including Forest School sites, barefoot trails, ponds and raised beds.

Wild Forest School © Alex Hannam/Plumb Images

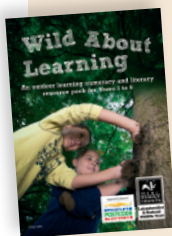
Wild Forest School

Over
1,500
schoolchildren
engaged

39
primary
schools

7
wild areas
created

Over
100
teachers
trained



We received valuable funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery, enabling us to run our Wild Forest School project since

January 2015. We provide fun, engaging opportunities for children in Leicester to experience the natural world.

Activities included Forest School sessions with Leicester primary pupils and with groups of home-educated children, including specific groups supporting home-educating Muslim families. We ran Wild Tots pre-school groups, created wild areas in school grounds and delivered teacher training sessions about our Wild About Learning teachers' pack. We also ran a story-writing competition for Leicester city primary pupils. Top prize was a bespoke storytelling area for the school and the winner was Phoebe from Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy.

Teachers say that Forest School helps with regulating emotions, communication, listening and physical skills. It boosts children's confidence, enabling them to become more independent and build friendships.

Inspiring People



**Volunteers:
celebrating our unsung heroes**

700+
regular
volunteers

Contributed
over
28,700
hours

Worth over
£250,000*

With hundreds of committed volunteers, we are achieving great things. They protect threatened wildlife, have fun and meet people who share their interests - and benefit from feeling happier, healthier and more connected to nature!

Our volunteers work across all areas of our work. They carried out surveys, did practical land management and restored

habitats, monitored reintroduction programmes, ran events and welcomed people to Rutland Water Nature Reserve. They sorted recycling at Birdfair, ran lecture marquees and managed the entrances. They assisted with governance and provided important financial, technical and administrative advice. They contributed to our education work. In Leicestershire alone, there were nearly 300 conservation task sessions.

Conservation tasks undertaken have included: green-winged orchid counts at Merry's Meadows and Cribb's Meadows; scrub removal to restore and maintain limestone grassland; restoration work on the heathland at Ulverscroft and wildlife surveys and clearing bracken at Charnwood Lodge. At Rutland Water, volunteers built

**if paid a living wage*



new hides, managed our grasslands and woodlands for butterflies and birds and engaged thousands of people with the Rutland Osprey Project.

Autumn 2019 saw the launch of our 'Time in Nature' project, aimed to give those living with Dementia and their carers an opportunity to spend time out in nature. We worked with Dementia Adventure, with support from Rutland County Council Admiral Nurse Service and Age UK. The sessions ran twice a month at the Volunteer Training Centre and included walks; willow weaving; birdsong and birdwatching; sing-alongs and nature-based crafts, which could be taken home as 'memories'. Thirteen volunteers helped run each session and around 25 people attended, with more on a waiting list.

Volunteers © LRWT
Time in Nature © LRWT

Celebrating 31 years of the British Birdwatching Fair

This year, Birdfair raised £168,719 for our 2019 BirdLife International project, 'Conserving Cambodia's Big Five', boosting their conservation work at the Western Siem Pang Reserve. We can be proud of the impact Birdfair has had on global conservation, raising directly more than £5 million and a further £35 million through match funding and other sources.

The team overcame new challenges, from complicated travel regulation changes to the last-minute costs of hiring trackway to cope with the deluge of rain. Despite the conditions, over 22,700 visitors attended, boosting the local economy and community by an estimated £800,000.

The Events Marquee and Lecture Theatres saw a record year, with a footfall of nearly 28,500. Friday's *State of the Earth Question Time* brought together leading figures from the world of broadcasting, writing, campaigning, business and politics.



Birdfair photo © Eric Renno

Inspiring People

Events, local groups and engagement



171
people
went on
Wild Walks

8
Local
Groups

1,000+
took part
in
30 Days Wild!

Over 1,500 people took part in over 80 events at Rutland Water Nature Reserve, including those based at Volunteer Training Centre and Lyndon nature reserve. In addition, 14 Wild Walks were held across our nature reserves, and our popular Wild Play activities for children and young people were run in the school holidays. Other events included a Peregrine Falcon family event at Leicester Cathedral.

In spring 2020, we were delighted to launch our new website, designed as part of a national project with The Wildlife Trusts across the UK. Stylish, easy to use and mobile responsive, this new platform brings together several strands of our work into one place, including the Rutland Osprey Project, Rutland Water Nature Reserve and all our education work.



Fungi Foray event Oct 2019 © Sara Zielonka
Pond making © Martha Rose

LOCAL GROUPS

One of our greatest strengths is our network of Local Groups, who represent us in their communities. This year, they donated £4,700 to our work. They welcomed nearly 2,000 attendees to over 90 events, including guided walks and reserve open days, slide talks, plant sales and pub visits!

Highlights included Great Bowden's coach trip to Lackford Lakes in Suffolk; talks by Jim Graham to several groups about the Leicester Cathedral Peregrines; an open day and over twenty badger watches at Holwell Nature Reserves thanks to the Melton group and an open day at The Brand in Woodhouse Eaves, where the Charnwood Local Group welcomed over 200 visitors. Their contribution of over £2,000 will be spent on improvements to Charnwood Lodge Farm.

Our Local Groups

- * Charnwood
- * Great Bowden
- * Humberstone
- * Melton Mowbray
- * North West
- * Oadby & Wigston
- * Rutland
- * Leicestershire & Rutland Badger Group

Get involved
with a
Local Group
[lrwt.org.uk/
local-groups](http://lrwt.org.uk/local-groups)

Inspiring People



Campaigns, appeals and fundraising

1,556
campaigners

Over
200
MPs
lobbied

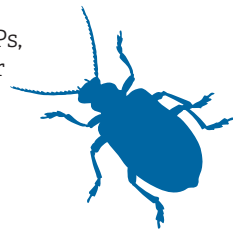
£29,000
donated to
appeals

Thanks to the generosity of our members and supporters, we raised £29,000 from our fundraising appeals, across 457 individual donations. Our Nature Reserves Fund Appeal raised £25,000, which will cover some of the increasing financial costs in managing our nature reserves.

In June 2019, staff and volunteers attended The Time is Now Lobby in London along with other Wildlife Trusts and environmental organisations from across

the country. Over 200 MPs, including seven from our region, were lobbied and listened to our message that The Time is Now to act for nature and our planet. We attended the climate strike in Leicester city centre and stood alongside young people fighting for action against climate change.

In March 2020 we joined with other Wildlife Trusts to launch the Action for Insects campaign, encouraging people to help reverse the decline of insects at home and in their community. In January we asked you to write to your MP and stand up against the construction of HS2. 1,556 people signed up to support our online campaigns.



The Time is Now Lobby, London © LRWT



Partnerships

Together we're stronger

We are hugely grateful to all businesses and organisations who work with us to help nature recover across Leicestershire and Rutland.

Grants and trusts

People's Postcode Lottery
Rooks
Leicestershire & Rutland
Community Foundation
Dementia Adventure
The Cameron Bespolka
Trust
Rutland Trust
Nene Park Trust
Central England
Co-operative
Banister Charitable Trust
Grantscape / Auegan

Companies

Anglian Water plc
Aggregate industries
Melton Mowbray Building
Society
Jordans Farm
Vine House Farm
Pets Corner
Waitrose Blaby
Zeiss
Amazon Smile
TK Maxx and Neighbourly
Swarovski Optik
Landsend
Wildlife Travel
Opticron
Tesco 'Bags of Help' Scheme
Hanson Cement

Corporate members

Rutland Online
Morgan Sindall

Community groups & other organisations

Burbage Women's Institute
Civil Service Pensioners'
Alliance – Leicestershire &
Rutland Branch
Friends of Charnwood
Forest
Wigston Women's Institute
Leicestershire and Rutland
Bat Group
Leicestershire and Rutland
Badger Group
Rutland Natural History
Society
University of Leicester
NatureSpot
Environment Agency
Trent Rivers Trust
National Forest Company
Leicestershire Partnership
Trust (LPT)
University Hospitals of
Leicester NHS Trust
Age UK
Admiral Nurses
Welland Valley Rivers Trust
Royal Society of Wildlife
Trusts
DEFRA

Local authorities

Leicester City Council
Rutland County Council
Charnwood Borough
Council
Hinckley and Bosworth
Borough Council

Birdfair main sponsors

In Focus
Viking Optical Ltd

Birdfair associate sponsors

Anglian Water
BBC Wildlife Magazine
Birdwatch magazine
Kowa
Leica Sport Optics
Naturetrek
Nikon
Panasonic
Park Cameras
Swarovski Optik
South Africa Tourism
Zeiss

Birdfair supporting sponsors

Belize Tourism Board
Bloomsbury Publishing
Heatherlea
Falkland Islands Holidays
Olympus UK
Princeton WILDguides
The Taiwan Tourism Board
Wildlife Worldwide
Wild Sounds and Books
World Land Trust
Paramo

Governance

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is managed by a Council of Trustees (elected from its members) who oversee governance and strategic direction. You can find out more about them, their skills and expertise on our website.

Trustees

Chair of Trustees - Andrew Cotton
Hon. Treasurer - Ann Tomlinson
Hon. Secretary - Maggie Morland
Vice Chairman - Anthony Biddle
Vice Chairman - Tony Clarke
Trustee - Bob Bearne
Trustee - John Bleby
Trustee - Linda Jones
Trustee - Andrew Moffat
Trustee - Ray Morris
Trustee - Ian Selmes
Trustee - Helen Nott
Trustee - Peter Williams

Patrons

Sir David Attenborough, CH, FRS
Lady Gretton DCVO, JP
Sir Lawrence Howard KVCVO, OBE

Vice Presidents

Hugh Dixon FCA
Peter Ward MA, LLB



It's all thanks to you

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is the leading wildlife conservation charity working to protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland. For over 60 years we have been saving wildlife and engaging people with nature.

For the first time, we have more than 16,000 members. This year, our membership grew by 3%!

We believe Leicestershire and Rutland should be rich in wildlife for the benefit of everyone. Your support makes that possible. Without your membership, donations, legacies and campaigning support, we couldn't achieve a fraction of this. You take action in your own lives to help nature thrive. Thank you.

Gifts in Wills

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of those supporters who choose to leave a gift for wildlife in their Will. In the last year, we have received gifts from the late **Michael Kingsland, Anne Lane, Alan Parker, Marion Vincent, Kathleen Ward, and George Woods.**

We would also like to thank those who have chosen to remember their loved ones in a special way by giving donations in memory. Gifts in Wills and In Memoriam donations enable us to continue our vital work, protecting the threatened species and fragile places we all love.



You can leave a gift in your Will for wildlife lrwt.org.uk/legacy



We would like to extend our warmest thanks to Simon Bentley, who finished his 18-year tenure as Director of Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust in December

2019. Simon joined us in 2001. To name just a few of his achievements, Simon oversaw: a major project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore eighteen nature reserves; the expansion of Rutland Water Nature Reserve; the growth of our volunteer capacity; the improved management of the River Soar floodplain, including the purchase of Cossington Meadows; the construction of our Volunteer Training Centre and the launch and expansion of our outreach and education work.

We would also like to offer our thanks to Birdfair founder Tim Appleton MBE who worked with Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust for 45 years, first as Rutland Water Nature Reserve Manager and latterly as Birdfair Organiser. Tim left us in spring 2020. LRWT, the British Birdwatching Fair and the international nature conservation movement owe him a debt of gratitude for his long-term commitment, hard work and innovation.



Our Staff

Director (Chief Executive Officer)

Simon Bentley (to November 2019)

Tim Graham (from November 2019)

Head of Conservation

John Clarkson

Leicester Office

Senior Conservation Officers

Claire Install

Neil Pilcher

Conservation Officers

John Bristow

Nathalie Cossa

Uta Hamzaoui

Chris Hill

Andy Lear

Andy Neilson

Ben Devine

Senior Education Officer

Martha Rose

Education Officers

Rachel Ibbotson

Corinne Clark (to December 2019)

Membership Officer

Josephine Taylor

Membership Assistant

Julie Burnside

Supporter Development Officer

Harriet Hickin

Communications Officer

Beverley Heath (to November 2019)

Senior Finance & Support Services Officer

Georgina Boonham

Finance Assistant

Jeein Hong

HR Officer

Azrin Alimahomed (from October 2019)

Rutland Water Nature Reserve

Reserve Manager

Mat Cottam (to February 2020)

Senior Reserve Officer (Habitats)

Joe Davis

Senior Reserve Officer (Projects)

Rebecca Pitman (to January 2020)

Reserve Officers

Frances Payne

Paul Trevor

Lloyd Park

Assistant Reserve Officer

Matt Taylor (to February 2020)

VTC and Events Coordinator

Holly Hucknall (to November 2019)

Amelia Woolford (from February 2020)

Osprey Information Project Officer

Marie Dipple (to August 2019)

Abigail Mustard (from February 2020)

Osprey Education Officers

Ken Davies (seasonal)

Jackie Murray (seasonal)

Peter Murray (seasonal)

Visitor Centre Events Coordinator

Laura Brady (from February 2020)

Visitor Centre Events Assistant

Libby Smith

AWBC Administrator

Julia Fisher- Robbins (to January 2020)

Information and Retail Assistant

Sarah Box (to January 2020)

Birdfair

Tim Appleton MBE (to May 2020)

Carole Allen

Nicola Brown

Sarah Marsh



Our Finances

Leicestershire And Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited Financial Report

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st March 2020 and the Balance Sheet at that date are a summary of information extracted from the Trust's financial statements for the year comprising the 12 months ended 31st March 2020, which include the financial statements of the subsidiary company, Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited.

The consolidated SOFA shows a net movement in funds for the year of £391,765 surplus (2019: £11,603) and total charity funds of £5,231,262 (2019: £4,839,497). Additional costs meant that the activities of the subsidiary company contributed a loss for the year of £3,020 (2019: £25,576 profit). A sum of £168,719 (2019: £320,236) was raised through Birdfair, operated by the subsidiary. This was donated to support the BirdLife International project "Saving Cambodia's Big Five".

The charts reflect the Trust's different income sources and the ways in which that income is spent, indicating the enormous amount of work carried out by the Trust during the year in fulfilling its charitable objects.

With subscription income static, the increase in this year's income is largely the result of an increase in donations received. Membership recruitment costs increased significantly, but the benefits of this will not be seen until subsequent years.

A change in the disclosure requirements for the Pension Scheme liability has resulted in an actuarial gain of £263,616. This amount, released from the balance sheet provision, will be held within the designated funds, to support the Trust's development and bolster its financial resilience.

All the Trust's activities have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting restrictions. The Trust is planning carefully for difficult times ahead and their necessary impact on its financial position. However, careful management of the charity's net assets, and especially its cash holdings, means that at the year-end the Trust has a robust level of retained reserves with which to support its future activities, and ensure it can progress its charitable work. →



Our Finances (continued)

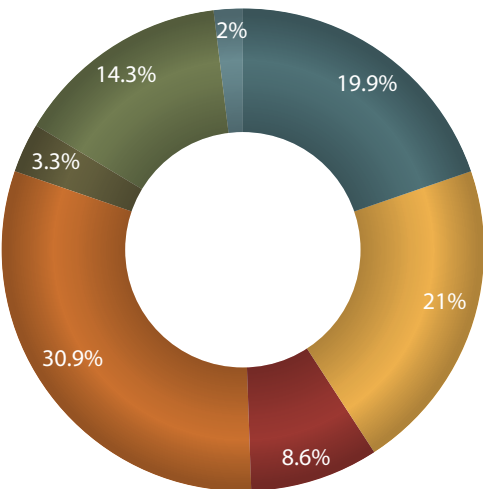
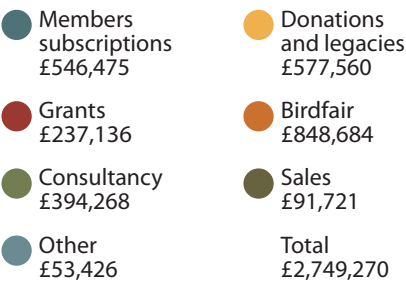
The auditor issued an unqualified report on the full annual financial statements, and their statement under section 496 of the Companies Act 2006 regarding the consistency of those financial statements with the Annual Report of the Council was also unqualified. The Annual Report of the Council, summarised accounts, and supplementary material presented here are only a part of the full Annual Report and financial statements of the Trust. Copies of

these, and those of the subsidiary company, can be obtained from the Trust office at The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE.

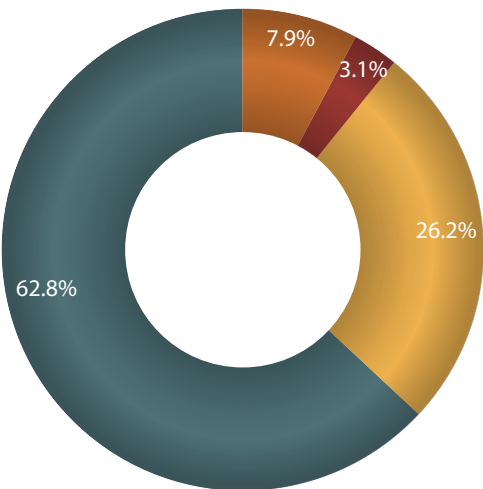
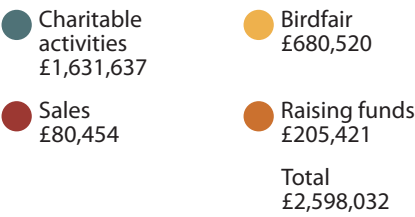
The financial statements of the Trust were approved by the Trust Council on 28th September 2020, and a copy of these financial statements has been filed with the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission.

Ann Tomlinson MA FCA
Hon Treasurer

Where our income came from



How it was spent



Statement Of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st March 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Income		
Members subscriptions including Gift Aid	546,475	532,436
Donations and legacies	577,560	253,180
Grants	237,136	392,279
Birdfair	848,684	917,064
Rent receivable	35,347	34,144
Shop sales	91,721	82,794
Consultancy fees	394,268	388,031
Investment income and interest	12,562	10,703
Livestock	5,517	7,387
Total income	2,749,270	2,618,018
Expenditure		
Raising funds	205,421	147,269
Expenditure relating to sales	80,454	70,148
Expenditure on Birdfair	680,520	597,304
Charitable activities	1,631,637	1,791,591
Taxation charge	-	5,397
Total expenditure	2,598,032	2,611,709
Net (losses)/gains from investments	(17,239)	3,204
Net income	133,999	9,513
(Losses)/gains on revaluation of fixed assets	(5,850)	2,090
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension scheme	263,616	-
Net movement in funds	391,765	11,603

Balance Sheet

as at 31st March 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	1,334,871	1,416,936
Heritage assets	1,932,586	1,932,586
Investments	721,935	735,701
	3,989,392	4,085,223
Current assets		
Stocks	7,022	27,044
Debtors	190,740	323,588
Cash at bank and in hand	1,709,039	1,487,395
	1,906,801	1,838,027
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(529,749)	(641,225)
Net current assets	1,377,052	1,196,802
Total assets less current liabilities	5,366,444	5,282,025
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	(135,182)	(442,528)
Total net assets	5,231,262	4,839,497
The funds of the charity		
Unrestricted accumulated charitable fund	282,088	317,965
Designated funds	2,472,717	2,259,708
Restricted charitable funds	2,476,457	2,261,824
Total charity funds	5,231,262	4,839,497

The 64th Annual General Meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited

will be held online on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7.00pm.

Please go to lrwt.org.uk/AGM to register your place.

AGM Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Notice of the meeting
- 3) Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting held at Trinity Church, Oadby on Wednesday 20th November 2019.
- 4) Report of the Council 2019/2020
- 5) The Trust Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2020
- 6) Election of members to Council to service for a three-year term.
The following members of Council have completed their three-year term of office but have indicated their wish to stand for re-election:
Anthony Biddle
Tony Clarke
Andrew Cotton
Linda Jones
Helen Nott
Maggie Morland
Ann Tomlinson
- 7) The appointment of RSM UK Audit LLP as Auditors to the Trust
- 8) Meeting closes



The meeting will be followed by a webinar presented by our guest speaker Jeremy Purseglove, ecologist, landscape architect and author of *Taming the Flood*

and *Working with Nature*. His career has taken him around the globe, finding innovative natural solutions to issues of water supply, flood prevention, sustainable agriculture and nature conservation. His talk, 'Working with Nature', will explain how working with natural processes is more effective than attempting to constrain them. He will link this to the work that LRWT has undertaken at Narborough Bog Nature Reserve.

Stay in touch

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