

LUCKY EWE

**Annual report and accounts for the
year ended 31st March 2023**



Lucky Ewe

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Trustees' report

Board of Trustees and Administration Details

Lucky Ewe was established as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a constitution and recognised as a charity in Scotland (No. SC050034) on the 13th March 2020.

The structure of the charity consists of the members, comprising of:

- the Ordinary Members (resident in the KY and DD6 postcode);
- the Associate Members (representing organisations or residing outside the defined area);
- the Junior Members (individuals aged 12-15).

Ordinary Members have powers to elect Charity Trustees and make changes to the constitution.

The Charity trustees are elected or appointed from the pool of the Ordinary Members (otherwise known as Member Trustees) or co-opted for their specialist skills or expertise (Co-opted Trustees).

The current Trustees, who also served during the year, are Joan Brown, Mary Gibbon, Jill Dawson, Abby Doig, Alana Paterson-Brown, and Elizabeth Elliot. Richard Young, Anna Chworow and Claudia Marshall served as Trustees during the financial year.

The office of the charity is 15 Ceres Road, Cupar, Fife, KY15 5JT.

The Objects of the Charity

The purposes of the charity are:

- the advancement of Education; by fostering and promoting vocational, social, and life skills.

Lucky Ewe provides experiential learning opportunities in land-based food production for people with additional support needs.

- the relief of those in need by reason of ill-health, disability, or other disadvantage. Lucky Ewe placements are open to those with ill-health, disability, or other disadvantage such as care-leavers, history of substance misuse.

The above purposes are carried out to the extent that they are consistent with furthering the achievement of sustainable development.

Trustees' Annual Report

Introduction

Lucky Ewe has had a very full and busy year with 59 interns benefitting from placements on the farm and 18 volunteers providing both on-farm and backroom support. We have received generous funding awards, bought in new equipment, fundraised at farmers markets and other local ventures, hosted an open day, welcomed new interns, liaised with partnerships and developed a pre-entry accredited course for internees.

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Trustees' report (continued)

We are improving our Intern feedback system so we can be more flexible in tailoring placements to individual needs and in supporting transitions. Trustees aim to grow our network of referring partners, and progression partners so we can contribute more to Fife's provision for people with additional support needs.

Summary of significant events

In May we welcomed 3 new Trustees to the Lucky Ewe Board. Their diverse skills in accounting and third sector project development, business leadership, dairying and animal husbandry strengthened the team immeasurably.

All hands were needed on deck for the Fife Show, where we ran a successful awareness and fundraising stall while our Interns and sheep participated in the Young Handlers class . It was a fantastic experience for the Interns in their white coats, the sheep in their white rope halters, and our grateful thanks go to Fife Show organizers.

In June we heard that our application for a Community Asset Transfer of premises at Stratheden had been refused. Through the course of the month, trustees and consultants attended a flurry of meetings, burned the midnight oil and produced reports and robust replies to substantiate our Appeal against the decision, all submitted by the deadline, 30th of June. Cupar Now stepped up and hosted a petition for us, allowing the wider Fife community to have their say. 400 people replied, all of them supporting Lucky Ewe's asset transfer request.

In July Lucky Ewe Chair and trustee, Joan, was nominated by the family of an Intern as a Jubilee Champion, travelled to London with trustee Alana to accept the award, and attend the Party at the Palace. Such recognition of Lucky Ewe was very much appreciated. Notwithstanding the Jubilee honour, we still had a full schedule of fundraising and PR to manage.

In August and September Lucky Ewe ran stalls at Balgove Market, Cupar Farmers' Market, Cupar Celebration Weekend, and our own Open Day at Bonnyton Farm. Fruits o' the Jam, a local folk four-piece, entertained our many visitors and set a vibrant tone which everyone enjoyed, including the sheep.

In the autumn, Trustees restructured our on-farm employment posts and the new part time farm manager post was filled by a current employee. Negotiations started with Windward Education, and funders were sought, so that we could provide a pre-entry level accredited course at the farm. This provision of access level opportunities for people with additional support needs is a core strand of the Lucky Ewe vision. We created SCQF 4 Rural Skills course and recruited 12 Interns. Our webpage now shows a number of progression routes to other providers for our Interns. This is the core work of Lucky Ewe – to support transitions – and we will continue to grow and develop the network of opportunities, a 'mycorrhizal support network' for people with additional support needs.

In October we offered additional information to the Reporter to Scottish Ministers to support our appeal and participated in a farm walk at Stratheden with him, so he could see the asset and understand in practical terms what Lucky Ewe is requesting.

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Trustees' report (continued)

In November, Trustees, Libby and Mary, undertook training in the management of volunteers which proved very helpful when applying for funding through Fife Voluntary Action. FVA need to see charities promoting and supporting volunteering. As a result, Lucky Ewe now has a system to pay volunteers' travel expenses and provides clothing and equipment for them, making our charity more inclusive of adult volunteers.

In December, with the generous support of Howe of Fife Rotary, sales of tatties got underway as a start to our Winter Fundraiser. Our main event was a Christmas Market - an evening of music, fun and face painting at which local crafters and producers offered their unique and affordable stocking fillers. Everyone remarked on the convivial atmosphere of the market and vendors made good sales. Amazingly, we secured a rare visit from the real Santa, who gave out presents from his sparkling grotto. With support from Fife Events, Albert Bartlett and countless hours generously given by our volunteers, especially cheesemaker, Mary Ellen Robertson, we exceeded our previous year's winter fundraising total (£1,400 compared to £1,100 last year).

Despite being busy with fundraising events, Trustees also had to settle to the task of reporting on the spending of grants received during the preceding year. National Lottery, Robertson Trust, Gannochy Trust, Fife Voluntary Action, Foundation Scotland, St Andrews University amongst others, all need individually formatted reports on spend and explanations for any underspend. These are onerous tasks, (and thanks to Mary Gibbon for handling the bulk of it) and Lucky Ewe is working on simplifying funder reporting systems.

After such a busy time, we streamlined our committee work by creating three development groups; one for Learning, another for Farming and the third for Fundraising, thus making more efficient use of volunteer trustees' valuable time and abilities.

It goes without saying, Lucky Ewe is massively grateful for all the various grants we receive. We could not do this valuable transition support work without the generous help of our funders. The tugging season completed successfully with all ewes scanning pregnant, and no triplets expected, thankfully. Winter at the farm included work to weed and mulch the baby trees planted in previous seasons, and the construction of field shelters, bird boxes and planters. Interns have been preparing for the growing season and are looking forward to utilizing an expanded planting area this year. The 6 - point milking parlour has arrived and is being commissioned by a local dairy technician to begin use in May.

The lambing season is going really well and is providing rich, varied and sometimes challenging experiences on the farm for our interns. We now have 10 successful Rural Skills achievers. They will receive their awards through the post from Scottish Qualifications Authority in the summer, and we are developing our candidates for the next course offering, later this year.

Equally important, however, is that our appeal for community asset transfer of land and a building at NHS Stratheden has been upheld. This is a major milestone, in light of all the obstacles we have had to overcome, and makes worthwhile all the tenacity and effort of Lucky Ewe trustees, volunteers and our wider community of supporters. This successful appeal is the start of the next stage of realizing the Lucky Ewe vision.

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Trustees’ report (continued)

Looking forward

Our next step is to negotiate the 25 year lease with NHS Fife, plan the removal to new premises and the expansion of activities and opportunities for our core beneficiaries and volunteers. It is, therefore, unsurprising that Board of Lucky Ewe is seeking additional experienced and energetic trustees to help us follow through on this rewarding work. So, I appeal for volunteer trustees. Please get in touch to discuss what you could do to support us, and whether trusteeship with Lucky Ewe would be right for you.

Conclusion

The past year has been full to over-flowing for Lucky Ewe. We have substantiated our core vision by creating a successful ‘pre-entry level’ course rural skills, in an ethos of positivity and non-judgemental support of our interns. We have welcomed new adult volunteers in a spirit of community support and action. We have stuck to our guns and achieved the right to expand our work on the publicly owned farmland at Stratheden. To all those people, too numerous to mention individually, who have helped and supported Lucky Ewe in the last year, please accept the grateful thanks of the Chair and Trustees of Lucky Ewe .

Financial review

At the year end cash funds stood at £66,224, of which £53,342 were restricted. The charity’s policy is to hold reserves equivalent to 6 months running costs. The Board aims to build up sufficient unrestricted funds in line with this policy.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed  Date: 30th October 2023
Dr Joan Brown

Lucky Ewe SC050034

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Lucky Ewe

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31s March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

Signed... *K. Gregory*

Date..... *30/10/23*

Katherine Gregory
Chartered Management Accountant
9 St Marks Close
Bramley
Tadley
Hampshire RG26 5XE

Lucky Ewe Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31st March 2023

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
<u>Receipts</u>				
Grants	63,519	750	64,269	55,799
Donations	-	1,563	1,563	1,850
Fundraising	-	1,737	1,737	1,138
Produce sales	-	2,740	2,740	-
Other income	-	-	-	800
Total receipts	<u>63,519</u>	<u>6,790</u>	<u>70,309</u>	<u>59,587</u>
<u>Payments</u>				
Fundraising expenses:				
Administrative costs	-	-	-	5,278
Fundraising events	299	-	299	-
Payments for charitable activities:				
Staff salaries	38,121	-	38,121	16,391
Accessibility costs	995	-	995	1,829
Consultancy	-	-	-	5,214
PPE	661	-	661	-
Equipment	3,975	-	3,975	2,900
Farm consumables	4,297	-	4,297	2,929
Farm rent	270	-	270	-
Insurance	800	-	800	772
Office costs	546	-	546	112
Volunteer costs	165	-	165	-
Intrn qualification	1,520	-	1,520	-
Miscellaneous costs	107	-	107	-
Total payments	<u>51,756</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,756</u>	<u>35,425</u>
Transfers between funds	(261)	261	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for year	11,502	7,051	18,553	24,162
Cash funds brought forward	41,840	5,831	47,671	23,509
Cash funds carried forward	<u>53,342</u>	<u>12,882</u>	<u>66,224</u>	<u>47,671</u>

Lucky Ewe Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31st March 2023

Bank and cash on hand

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Opening balances	47,671	23,509
Surplus / (deficit) for year	<u>18,553</u>	<u>24,162</u>
Closing balances	66,224	47,671

Assets

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Estimated gift aid	-	800
Farm equipment and livestock	7,107	4,080
Grants due	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	10,107	4,880

Liabilities

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Liabilities	1,200	-

Funds movement

	Balance at 01/04/2022	Received	Paid	Transfer	Balance at 31/03/2023
Foundation Scotland (1)	905	-	(905)	-	-
Foundation Scotland (2)	814	-	(618)	-	196
Scottish Children's Lottery	1,636	-	(1,636)	-	-
Robertson Trust	8,100	1,500	(4,723)	-	4,877
University of St Andrews	1,063	-	(1,063)	-	-
National Lottery	8,490	28,092	(17,794)	-	18,788
Fife Voluntary Action	8,969	5,000	(8,223)	-	5,746
Gannochy Trust	3,136	-	(3,136)	-	-
Bank of Scotland	6,750	2,220	(3,600)	-	5,370
Cooperative	1,977	-	-	-	1,977
Fife Voluntary Action (2)	-	19,300	(8,538)	-	10,762
FVA Capital Grant	-	4,870	-	-	4,870
Nineveh Trust	-	2,276	(1,520)	-	756
Fife Council	-	261	-	(261)	-
	<u>41,840</u>	<u>63,519</u>	<u>(51,756)</u>	<u>(261)</u>	<u>53,342</u>
General fund	<u>5,831</u>	<u>6,790</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>12,882</u>
Total funds	47,671	70,309	(51,756)	-	66,224

Foundation Scotland (1)

A grant awarded to cover salary and running costs.

Foundation Scotland (2)

Funding awarded to construct a polytunnel and improve outdoor facilities.

Scottish Children's Lottery

Funding to cover salary costs.

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Receipts and payments account for the year ended
31st March 2023**

Funds movement (continued)

Robertson Trust

A grant awarded to cover salary and running costs.

University of St Andrews

A grant awarded to improve accessibility of the farm (evening our paths etc)

National Lottery

A grant awarded to cover salary and running costs.

Fife Voluntary Action

A grant awarded to cover salary and running costs.

Gannochy Trust

A grant awarded to improve access to accredited training and learning.

Bank of Scotland

Funding for the purchase of a milking trailer.

Fife Voluntary Action (2)

A grant awarded to cover volunteer expenses, salaries and running costs.

FVA Capital Grant

A grant from Fife Voluntary Action toward the costs of buying an all terrain utility vehicle.

Nineveh Trust

A grant awarded to deliver SCQF4 in Rural Skills.

Fife Council

Fife Council Community Events grant towards the costs associated with Christmas Market.

Related party transactions

The members of the Board did not receive any remuneration in the year. A total of £14 was paid for volunteer expenses for one Board member (2022: nil)

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf

Signed 

Dr Joan Brown

Date: 30th October 2023