ORCA

ORGANISATION CETACEA LIMITED

(A charitable company limited by guarantee)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD

1ST JANUARY 2025 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2025

FOR

Registered Company number: 07463043 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity Number: 1141728

OSCR: SCO46090

Contents of the Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

For the year ending 31st December 2025

Contents

Chair and CEO Report	4
Organisational Overview	5
Our Achievements in 2025	7
Our work in Scotland	15
Structure, Governance and Management	18
Financial Review	23
Financial Statements	25
Partners and Supporters	39

Organisation Cetacea

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31st December 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st December 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.
The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2015).

Chair and CEO Report

In 2026, ORCA celebrates 25 years of protecting whales, dolphins and porpoises. What began in 2001 with a small group of volunteers surveying cetaceans in UK waters has grown into a truly global conservation effort, combining long-term monitoring, education and advocacy to safeguard these remarkable animals and the oceans they call home.

Over the past year, our reach has continued to grow. By expanding our international survey routes, strengthening research partnerships and training more citizen scientists, ORCA is collecting vital evidence from some of the most remote and understudied parts of the ocean. Working aboard ferries and cruise ships, our dedicated volunteers and in-house Ocean Conservationists now form the world's largest seaborne cetacean survey network.

In June, we published our ninth State of Cetaceans report. Drawing on thousands of hours of survey effort, it provides an authoritative picture of where whales, dolphins and porpoises are being seen, how their populations and distribution may be changing, and where protection is most urgently needed. Each sighting contributes to a growing body of evidence that enables ORCA to identify vulnerable populations, track changes in the marine environment and make a compelling case for conservation action.

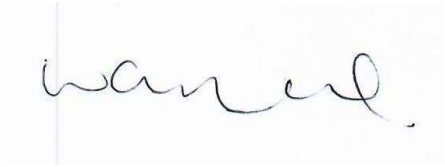
Our work to prevent ships colliding with whales has also taken important steps forward. By combining research conducted aboard commercial vessels with the observations of our survey

teams, we are building a clearer understanding of where and why vessel strikes happen - and, crucially, how they can be prevented. ORCA is taking this evidence directly to the shipping industry and international policymakers, helping to secure practical changes that can save whales' lives.

Education remains central to our mission. Our Ocean Conservationists have now inspired more than five million passengers aboard ferries and cruise ships, transforming journeys at sea into opportunities to discover the extraordinary wildlife beneath the waves. We are also working directly with professional seafarers, giving the people who spend their working lives at sea the knowledge and practical tools they need to recognise cetaceans and reduce the risks vessels pose to them. In 2025 alone, 885 seafarers received this specialist training.

As we mark ORCA's 25th anniversary, we are immensely proud of how far the charity has come. But every achievement belongs to a much wider community: our skilled and committed staff, our extraordinary volunteers, our industry and research partners, and everyone who has donated, fundraised or spoken up on behalf of whales and dolphins.

To all our supporters, thank you. Your belief in ORCA has sustained us for a quarter of a century. From a sighting recorded on the deck of a ferry to evidence presented on the international stage, your support allows us to turn observation into understanding, and understanding into meaningful protection for whales, dolphins and porpoises around the world.





Wendy Axford
Chair of Trustees

Sally Hamilton
CEO

Organisation Overview

Our Purpose

The charity's objectives ('Objects') are specifically restricted to the following:
To promote the conservation of cetaceans, seabirds and other marine wildlife, by:
(a) educating the public and raising awareness of the need for the conservation of such wildlife and its natural habitat; (b) conducting research into marine species and publishing the results for the benefit of the public, and (c) advising on measures contributing to the conservation of marine wildlife.

Our Mission

There are over 90 species of whales, dolphins and porpoises, collectively known as cetaceans. Many of these species are not adequately protected by international conventions, and their populations are being impacted by overfishing, marine pollution, destruction of their habitats and climate change. ORCA's mission is to empower people to take an active role in whale and dolphin conservation so we can create oceans alive with whales and dolphins.

What We Do

ORCA believes that the best way to protect cetaceans is to:

- Inspire people of the wonder of cetaceans to take conservation action to protect the marine environment
- Monitor and identify vulnerable whale and dolphin populations
- Help to protect threatened whale and dolphin habitats
- Address key conservation threats such as large whales being hit by vessels

The public are at the centre of all we do:

- We deliver educational programmes to raise their awareness of the cetaceans present in our oceans and the need to conserve them
- We train members of the public as Marine Mammal Surveyors and Ocean Conservationists
- We involve ORCA trained surveyors in conducting scientifically valid marine mammal surveys from ferries and cruise ships, to monitor cetacean populations
- We publish details of cetacean sightings and conservation measures to all interested parties, including the public

Details of cetacean sightings by ORCA observers are made available to the UK Government to meet its obligation under the UK Marine Strategy Framework and other commitments under the UK Habitat Regulations to monitor cetacean populations. In addition, ORCA's survey data is used by the UK Government, helping to establish a network of Marine Protected Areas; sea areas around the UK where human activity is restricted. Details of cetacean sightings by ORCA trained observers are also shared with EU Member States and the global marine conservation community, thus influencing legislation, industry standards and conservation worldwide.

ORCA data also contributes towards the Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) initiative which is the major activity of the Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (MMPATF). Created by the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) the MMPATF purpose is to provide a stronger global profile for the role of marine mammals in protected areas.

Our Achievements in 2025

Inspiring people of the wonders of cetaceans and the wider marine environment

Our educational programme is delivered through several multi-layered initiatives which include;

- The Ocean Conservationist Network, trained employed experts who board ferries and cruise ships to educate and inspire passengers about the wonders of the ocean and conduct marine mammal surveys
- Our volunteer Marine Mammal Surveyor Network, highly trained volunteers conducting surveys on board the UK ferry network
- Our OceanWatcher community, individuals that wish to learn more about the marine creatures around us, choosing to undertake our online training online ID course enabling them to survey on land and sea in their own time

Ocean Conservationist Programme

Ocean Conservationists are highly trained wildlife experts who deliver unforgettable wildlife experiences on board ferries and cruise ships across the world. These passionate and dedicated individuals work to showcase the incredible diversity of wildlife that can be spotted from the decks of these ships, helping guests on board learn more about the marine environment. They allow us to not only inspire people from all walks of life but also collect vital scientific data that can be used to help protect whales and dolphins around the globe.

As in previous years, we were excited to have Ocean Conservationists inspiring guests and exploring the waters of the Bay of Biscay, the English Channel and the North Sea.

Ocean Conservationists joined Brittany Ferries ships the Pont-Aven, Salamanca, Santona and Galicia, sailing through the productive waters of the Bay of Biscay during the summer months. Eight Ocean Conservationists inspired passengers and collected vital scientific data in one of the top five places in the world to see whales and dolphins.

In the North Sea, four Ocean Conservationists travelled on board both the King Seaways and Princess Seaways between Newcastle and Ijmuiden from March to September. They inspired guests about the marine life around them during the crossing.

This year's Ocean Conservationist programme continued to be one of the busiest, with at least one person out at sea every day of the year. The year started with a new cohort of Ocean Conservationists completing our third four-month online training course, teaching them all the skills they need to deliver exceptional experiences at sea. The new cohort experienced life at sea, with many joining our experienced Ocean Conservationists during itineraries with Ambassador Cruise Lines, Explora Journeys, Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, HX-Hurtigruten Expeditions, Noble Caledonia, P&O Cruises and Windstar Cruises. They visited exciting and critical cetacean habitats, including Alaska, Greenland and Antarctica.

Ocean Conservationists continued to have a presence as part of the Expedition Teams on board HX Expeditions vessels as the marine mammal expert, helping to showcase the whales, dolphins and porpoises seen during their sailings.

Since 2007, teams of trained Marine Mammal Observers have been invited on board Saga cruise ships. Since then, we have built up a reputation for enhancing the enjoyment of guests' trips and their understanding of marine wildlife through delivering presentations, running deck watches whilst surveying, and generally being on hand to talk about any wildlife sighted. In 2025 ORCA survey teams travelled through the wildlife-rich waters of the UK and Ireland with some venturing further afield into the cold Arctic waters; Iceland and Norway, down to the Azores, the Caribbean and through the Mediterranean.

We want to say a big thank you to all our ferry and cruise partners for inviting ORCA's citizen scientists on board, allowing us to inspire guests, and helping us to continue to monitor and protect marine habitats and the amazing species that live there.

Volunteer Marine Mammal Surveyor Network

Marine Mammal Surveys are ORCA's core activity. During 2025, our Marine Mammal Surveyors participated in ferry and cruise surveys in UK and European waters, the Caribbean and the wider North Atlantic, using these ships as research platforms to identify important marine mammal hotspots and monitor population trends.

A total of 132 surveys took place across 17 ferry routes operated by five companies and resulting in 28,919 km of effort.

Our popular one-day Marine Mammal Surveyor Courses continued online. These courses train members of the public to become citizen scientists learning everything they need to know to play their part in protecting whales and dolphins. This volunteer citizen science initiative is at the core of the charity's long-running conservation programme.

The online courses have been developed to be interactive with participants voting on polls and annotating pictures to learn about whale, dolphin and porpoise identification and our scientific surveying protocol. By the end of 2025, 150 participants had taken part in Marine Mammal Surveyor courses, learning all they needed to know about cetacean biology and how they could play their role in protecting whales and dolphins.

OceanWatchers

In addition to ORCA's dedicated effort surveys used to identify critical whale and dolphin habitats, the work carried out by our volunteer network of OceanWatchers has enabled us to expand our survey effort significantly. These trained OceanWatchers conduct surveys in their own time from land or at sea. This programme was introduced in the aftermath of the pandemic when organised widespread travel was still restricted but individuals and small groups could continue to venture outside.

In 2025, outside of the scheduled ORCA surveys, volunteer OceanWatchers collected data on the ORCA OceanWatchers app from personal craft, wildlife-watching vessels, cruise ships, ferries and other pleasure boats. The majority of effort was collected onboard cruise ships followed by ferries with surveys concentrated in the Northeast Atlantic around Europe, but surveys were also carried out in all the major oceans.

Creating safe ocean spaces using citizen science

When high densities of whales and dolphins, or critical marine mammal habitats, overlap with intense human activity, the risks can be severe. Vessel strike, underwater noise, disturbance, bycatch and habitat displacement can all undermine the recovery of populations already facing cumulative pressures. Creating safe ocean spaces therefore depends on knowing where animals are, how they use those areas, and how this changes over time.

Over the last decade, there has been a major international effort to identify and map Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) around the world, led by the IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force. These areas highlight critical habitats for marine mammals and provide an evidence base for governments, regulators, industry and conservation bodies to reduce human disturbance in the places that matter most

ORCA's citizen science monitoring work is directly connected to this global effort. Since 2006, ORCA has completed 4,731 dedicated surveys and ORCA surveys cover all the world's oceans mapping critical habitats for marine mammals.

In 2025 we achieved 226,275 km of dedicated survey effort and spent 7,136 hours of actively search for whales and dolphins

Our geographical reach included Arctic Ocean (9,931km), the North Atlantic Ocean (199,982km), the North Pacific Ocean (4302km), the Indian Ocean (1,108km), the Southern Atlantic Ocean (5,775km), the South Pacific Ocean (1,043km) and the Southern Ocean (4,134 km)

In 2025 alone 40,908 individuals were recorded with 40 different species identified

This year we undertook detailed analysis of what our 25-year dataset revealed about six different species most seen around the UK. Our long time series has enabled population estimates and distribution insights for harbour porpoise, bottlenose dolphin, common dolphin, Risso's dolphin, white-beaked dolphin and minke whale. Re-emphasising the importance of citizen science to complement the once every decade UK government large surveys.

The core purpose of ORCA's monitoring is not simply to record sightings, but to ensure that evidence is available where it can make a difference. Long term, effort-based survey data allows ORCA and its partners to identify areas of persistent cetacean use, detect changes in distribution, understand seasonal patterns and provide evidence for targeted conservation measures.

Our database of cetacean sightings since 1998 is available to anyone on request: students, research organisations, other NGOs and governments. Highlights of our survey data are published in our annual State of Cetaceans report (SOC), Flukeprints (the ORCA members' magazine), and on the ORCA website and via social media.

During 2025, we continued to improve relationships and collaborations with key academic and statutory institutions. Our objective is to ensure that our data is shared with the international marine conservation community to enable long lasting and meaningful conservation benefits for cetaceans and ocean wildlife.

- Wildlife and Countryside Link (in 2021 we became chair of the Marine Mammals working group)
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (ORCA elected to be a key advisor and member of the governance working group of the Joint Cetacean Data Programme)
- ASCOBANS
- IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (IMMA) (ORCA elected as a regional coordinator for the Northeast Atlantic Ocean)
- International Whaling Commission (IWC) (ORCA has accreditation status in the Scientific Committee, Conservation Committee and the Commission)
- DEFRA
- IAATO
- Nature Scotland
- Natural England
- Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- The University of Edinburgh
- National Oceanography Centre

- La Rochelle Université
- Bangor University

Vessel strike remains one of the most immediate and preventable threats facing large whales globally. A recent large-scale analysis shows that marine shipping occurs across 92% of whale ranges, expanding vessel strike mitigation measures such as slow down and rerouting in only 2.5% of the ocean surface would protect the highest risk areas (Nisi et al., 2024). At the same time, shipping activity is intensifying, with traffic projected to grow substantially in the coming decades (Sardain et al., 2019), increasing both the frequency and geographic spread of risk.

Currently the main solutions/alternatives can be broadly grouped into main areas 1) mandatory and voluntary vessel management measures, 2) Whale detection using emerging technology such as AI.

However, there is still a massive knowledge gap between detecting a whale and what the bridge crew on board a vessel should do next. Can the ship manoeuvre in time to avoid the whale, if the vessel changes direction will it move into an area of higher density of whale, if the ship stays its course can it slowdown in time?

This is the knowledge gap we are trying to address through our work in Alaska and in the Bay of Biscay, Spain.

During 2025, ORCA research scientists in Alaska have been analysing whale and ship interactions by tracking humpback whales as they approach vessels from the horizon and calculating the closest point of approach (CPA). Any manoeuvres made by either the whales or the vessel are recorded, helping to improve understanding of how close encounters develop in real operating conditions,
Understanding how whales behave around vessels is also fundamental to reducing the risk of collision and ORCA's work is now providing some of the clearest insights to date.

Through our partnership with Brittany Ferries, we are capturing fine-scale behavioural data on fin whales in the Bay of Biscay using a combination of direct observation and a two-tiered camera system positioned both inside the bridge and externally beneath the bridge wings. This allows researchers to record, in unprecedented detail, how whales respond as vessels approach and

pass. A consistent pattern is emerging: some species, particularly fin whales, may show limited or delayed avoidance responses to large vessels, a critical factor in understanding why collisions occur.

In the Southern Ocean, our collaboration with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) and HX is translating data into action. Using at sea observations collected by ORCA's research scientists on board expedition vessel HX MS Fram, detailed whale density maps have been developed, identifying high use feeding areas with a level of precision not previously available. These outputs are now being used to inform geofenced areas enabling expedition operators to slow down in the most sensitive habitats and reduce disturbance in this globally significant ecosystem

During this last Antarctic season (25/26) in partnership with IAATO, we trained expedition teams to use the ORCA OceanWatchers app to record their marine mammal sightings as part of International Association of Antarctica's Tour Operators (IAATO's) V-CaPS programme. This training is increasingly being reinforced by real-world monitoring on an unprecedented scale;

- 25 vessels contributed to ORCA's voluntary monitoring programme
- 12,940 marine mammals recorded between 1 November 2025 and 15 March 2026
- 4,000+ humpback whales logged
- Observations submitted across the widest geographic range yet.

Data collected through the programme is now helping refine future vessel strike mitigation training and spatial risk-reduction

In 2025, thousands of seafarers received ORCA's vessel strike mitigation training, underlining the growing recognition that crew awareness is critical to reducing collisions between ships and whales. Preventing collisions depends not just on policy, but on the decisions made at sea. Training helps bridge crews and itinerary planners understand whale hotspots, recognise risky conditions and behaviours, and take practical action, including route adjustments, increased vigilance and slower speeds where needed.

Our Work in Scotland

In 2025, we continued to work in Scotland.

Marine Mammal Surveyors once again joined Caledonian MacBrayne ferries around the Hebrides to collect distance sampling data on routes from Oban-Coll-Tiree-Colonsay, Oban-Castlebay, Ullapool-Stornoway, Uig-Lochmaddy-Tarbert, Kennacraig-Port Askaig, and Mallaig-Lochboisdale. They were also on board NorthLink Ferries on the Aberdeen- Orkney-Shetland route.

Thank you

One of our greatest achievements is our army of trained and dedicated citizen scientists, passionate about cetacean conservation. An overwhelming gratitude of thanks goes to our volunteer trained Marine Mammal Surveyors, our Ocean Conservationists, all the survey team leaders and we must not forget the office support, without whose enthusiastic support ORCA could not function. We would also like to extend our thanks to the ORCA patrons Mark Carwardine, Chris Packham, Nigel Marvin and Lizzie Daly for all their continued support over the last year.

Future Plans

ORCA is convinced that cetacean conservation is best served by raising public awareness of the species, monitoring their populations and providing scientifically valid information about their location and density to researchers, NGOs, government bodies and the shipping industry. We also consider it essential to deliver conservation initiatives that address the key threats to cetaceans identified by our research.

Our plan for 2026 is therefore, to refine and continue operating our established programmes reducing disturbance to cetaceans by creating safer ocean spaces and stopping ships colliding with whales. This involves inspiring the public, training marine mammal citizen scientists, conducting cetacean surveys in the seven oceans we operate in and providing information about cetacean populations to interested parties. We will continue our research around close encounters with whales and vessels and build on our current seafarers training programme to ensure that thousands more seafarers will have ORCA's vessel strike mitigation training, underlining the growing recognition that crew awareness is critical to reducing collisions between ships and whales.

Our 2026 plans will include the following:

- Publish the ninth annual State of Cetaceans report highlighting the survey work from 2006 – 2025 and the persistent and emerging threats cetaceans face today
- Conduct 150 plus cetacean surveys from ferries and cruise ships transiting primarily the North Atlantic, Arctic and Southern Oceans
- Continuously improve and streamline the methods used for data collection by our Ocean Conservationists and network of Marine Mammal Surveyors using technology across the fleet
- Seek additional ferry, cruise and expedition partners to expand the sea areas covered by our marine mammal surveys and thus enhance our knowledge of cetacean populations and conservation needs with a particular focus around the UK.
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- Enhance our Team Leaders Marine Mammal Surveyor training programme to continual upskill our Team Leaders and expand our Ocean Conservationist training programme
- Continue to meet all requests for information about cetacean populations
- Continue our dedicated vessel strike work the Bay of Biscay to gain a better understanding of how fin whales behave near large ships and continue to record ship and whale interactions in Alaska
- Deliver and scale up our online Seafarers training so that more shoreside and crew team in vessel strike awareness.
- Attend events that actively promote marine conservation and education

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Instrument

ORCA is registered with both the UK Charity Commission and the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), (charity number 1141728) and with Companies House as a company limited by guarantee (registered company number 7463043). ORCA is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted 7th December 2010 revised June 2015. Prior to December 2010 ORCA was governed by constitution and registered with the Charity Commission as an unincorporated charity number 1098765.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: ORCA
Other Charity name: Organisation Cetacea
Registered charity number: 1141728
Registered company number: 7463043
OSCR registration number: SCO46090

Charity Principle and Registered address

Brittany Centre
Wharf Road
Portsmouth
Hampshire
PO2 8RU

Accountants

Neon Numbers Ltd
259 Copnor Road
Portsmouth
Hampshire
PO3 5EE

Independent Examiner

Morris Crocker Ltd
Lake House
2 Port Way
Portsmouth
PO6 4TY

Trustees

The ORCA board currently comprises seven Trustees, who have legal responsibility for the efficient use of ORCA's resources consistent with the objectives of ORCA and for providing effective leadership and strategic direction. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the requirements in the Constitution.

Trustees that served during the 2025 period

Wendy Axford (Chair)

Michael Trench (Treasurer)

Emma Bachelor

Richard Bull

Stephen House

Sarah King

Elfyn Pugh

Our current Trustees are:

Wendy Axford (Chair) - *{formerly Burns}*

Wendy has been involved with ORCA since 2011 and was Chair from November 2011 until June 2014. After a period away Wendy has re-joined ORCA as a trustee and moved back into the helm in 2022. Wendy has a Master's degree in Voluntary Sector Management from Cass Business School, London. *"Growing up on the South Coast I have always had a passion for the sea and marine wildlife. I am delighted to be returning to ORCA and it is wonderful to see the impact the charity continues to make."*

Mike Trench (Honorary Treasurer)

Mike is a chartered accountant and has a BSc in Business Administration from Cardiff University. Previous experience in the voluntary sector includes a secondment working with Business in the Community as a volunteer project manager and Community and Finance director for the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Southampton. As part of these roles, he successfully organised a fundraising day showcasing several local charities, raised several thousands of pounds and

organised practical projects including renovations of two community centres and a secured housing unit run by Hampshire Autistic Society. He also spent some time volunteering in an orphanage in Kenya. Mike is the Financial and Commercial Director of a power station based near Southampton.

Emma Batchelor

Emma brings with her over 20 years of PR and marketing experience. A lover of the sea, Emma has spent the last decade working in the ferry sector and, until recently, headed up industry body Discover Ferries, promoting best practice in ESG among members as well as the benefits of travel by sea to UK travellers. A life-long believer in education, Emma has recently completed an MSc in Psychology, with her main project focussed on helping people reduce their plastic usage.

Richard Bull

Before becoming a Trustee, Richard was ORCA's Project Development Manager working on the Ship Strike Project. Richard has been an active member of ORCA since 2010, when he spent 6 months volunteering as a Wildlife Officer on the Cap Finistère. Since then, Richard has been the Senior Wildlife Officer on the MS King Seaways in 2011 and worked on the ORCA database that was sent to the JNCC Joint Cetacean Protocol. Richard has an MSc in Applied Ecology and Conservation from the University of East Anglia and over 8 years post graduate ecology and conservation experience, working in three continents.

Elfyn Pugh

Elfyn is well and truly the Welsh member of the board of trustees. He was literally born within a stone's throw of the sea in West Wales and says the sea is in his blood. His early career as a zookeeper at the renowned Chester Zoo taught him a great deal about animal behaviour. In 2004 Elfyn retired after a lengthy career in the police force and joined ORCA initially as a member in 2007 before being elected as a trustee in 2010. As well as his role as a trustee, Elfyn assists the Director in organising and running the highly successful joint venture between ORCA and Brittany Ferries operating whale and dolphin mini cruises across the Bay of Biscay to Spain on which he also acts as a wildlife guide.

Stephen House

Stephen House is an accomplished commercial leader with over 20 years of experience in marketing and business transformation. He brings a wealth of expertise in sustainability, having successfully driven impactful environmental initiatives in his current role at DFDS. Stephen has worked with ORCA since its inception, some 16 years ago, supporting maritime conservation efforts and public awareness around the protection of marine ecosystems and wildlife.

Sarah King

Sarah is a seasoned HR professional with extensive senior-level experience in both the private and public sectors, spanning various industry sectors. She is highly experienced in handling contentious employment investigations, where her knowledge of employment law coupled with an open-minded approach provide a fair and balanced outcome for her clients.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have reviewed the risks to the charity in 2025 and are in the process of taking appropriate action to mitigate any perceived risks.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing objectives and activities. ORCA is an organisation devoted to the conservation of cetaceans in the UK and European waters. This is achieved by educating the public and conducting and publishing research. This is beneficial to the public as the protection of wildlife contributes to creating a better world around us, where we live in harmony and gain enjoyment from it.

Financial Review

Financial Overview

2025 saw income return to a level more in line with the levels seen in 2023 after a significant spike last year. However, significant work on streamlining expenditure means that bottom line performance was significantly ahead of expectations and showed that the dip in revenue was well managed despite a landscape of increasing costs and fluctuations in corporate income having a significant impact.

Looking forward to 2026, the positive performance of the last two years in growing the charity's reserves to reflect its larger expenditure will provide security given the expectation that costs will continue to outpace income in terms of growth. In particular, corporate partnerships are providing diminishing returns as employment costs grow and so work will be done to start to grow other revenue streams to diversify the charity's fundraising portfolio and prevent ORCA becoming too reliant on one source of income. Individual giving and major donor income are a particular focus, as is continuing the strategic targeting of trusts and foundations.

This strategic view bodes well for the long-term financial security of the charity, allowing revenue streams to grow in a sustainable and manageable way without compromising the important conservation work ORCA are delivering globally.

Investment Policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running the charity on a day-to-day basis, have kept available funds in an easy access interest-bearing deposit account. After considering longer term investments, they concluded that the available interest rates did not justify the additional administration cost.

Reserves Policy and going concern

Total Balance Sheet Funds	£236,942
Represented by:	
Restricted Funds	£12,959
Designated Reserves	-
Unrestricted 'Free' Reserves	£223,983

Designated

There were no designated funds for 2025

Unrestricted (Free)

The remaining funds are to support the general expenditure of ORCA. The trustees review the level of free reserves on an annual basis to ensure that funds are spent in a way that will provide the best return possible. This may be to meet any one of ORCAs strategic goals, such as providing funding for a specific science project or be used to fund the cost of obtaining grants for larger projects.

This objective is balanced with the need to ensure that ORCA has a level of free reserves that are available to meet any emergency expenditure requirements. In the worst-case scenario, it will enable the charity to be wound up in a responsible and ethical manner. To this end the trustees have decided that an appropriate level would be between three to six months cover on expenditure not covered by project related restricted grants. Based on the 2025 anticipated expenditure this is set between £100k to £150k. Whilst the charity is in a period of growth, it is the aim of the trustees to keep this at the minimum level. This is to ensure that all surplus funds are reinvested into the work of the charity and in fulfilling its strategic goals.

The trustees have reviewed the financial circumstances of the charity and consider that there continues to be adequate resources available to fund the activities of the charity during 2025 and beyond, therefore the trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern.

Financial Statements

Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of the Organisation Cetacea for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK accounting standards (UKGAAP)
Company law requires that the director/trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

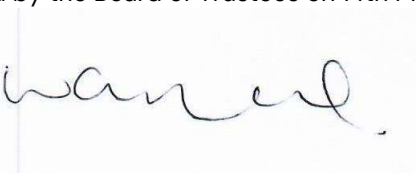
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.
Trustees who are also directors for the purposes of company law, in accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- as the directors of the company, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's examiner is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th March 2026 signed on its behalf by



Wendy Axford (Chair)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Organisation Cetacea

I report to the charity trustee on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustee of the Company (and also its director for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

P J Underwood

Signature Date: 28 September 2026

Paul Underwood ACA
Morris Crocker Ltd
2 Port Way
Portsmouth
PO6 4TY

Organisation Cetacea
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	362,839	12,306	375,145	305,675
Charitable activities:					
Educating the general public		457,201	-	457,201	649,686
Other trading activities	4	5,623	-	5,623	4,259
Investments	5	3,576	-	3,576	2,155
		829,239	12,306	841,545	961,775
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	7	(207,250)	-	(207,250)	(160,696)
Charitable activities:	7				
Educating the general public		(548,888)	(156)	(549,044)	(680,948)
Scientific Research		(35,716)	(1,517)	(37,233)	(25,977)
		(791,854)	(1,673)	(793,527)	(867,621)
NET INCOME		37,385	10,633	48,018	94,154
Transfers between funds	18	(1,517)	1,517	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		35,868	12,150	48,018	94,154
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward		188,115	809	188,924	94,770
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	18	223,983	12,959	236,942	188,924

The notes on pages 7 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

Organisation Cetacea
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

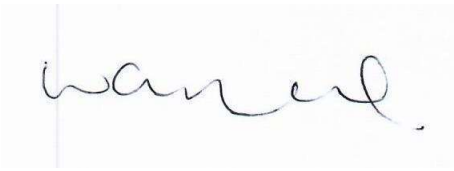
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds
		£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Donations and legacies	3	272,085	33,590	305,675
Charitable activities:				
Educating the general public		649,686	-	649,686
Other trading activities	4	4,259	-	4,259
Investments	5	2,155	-	2,155
		928,185	33,590	961,775
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Raising funds	7	(157,993)	(2,703)	(160,696)
Charitable activities:	7			
Educating the general public		(661,731)	(19,217)	(680,948)
Scientific Research		(6,229)	(19,748)	(25,977)
		(825,953)	(41,668)	(867,621)
NET INCOME		102,232	(8,078)	94,154
Transfers between funds	18	4,663	(4,663)	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		106,895	(12,741)	94,154
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		81,220	13,550	94,770
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	18	188,115	809	188,924

The notes on pages 7 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

Organisation Cetacea
Statement of Financial Position
As At 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	12	6,924	-	6,924	852
		6,924	-	6,924	852
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	13	3,224	-	3,224	3,113
Debtors	14	12,004	-	12,004	81,572
Cash at bank and in hand		216,539	12,959	229,498	139,852
		231,767	12,959	244,726	224,537
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	15	**(14,708)**	**-**	**(14,708)**	**(36,465)**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		**217,059**	**12,959**	**230,018**	**188,072**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**223,983**	**12,959**	**236,942**	**188,924**
NET ASSETS		**223,983**	**12,959**	**236,942**	**188,924**
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds				12,959	809
Unrestricted Funds				223,983	188,115
TOTAL FUNDS	18			236,942	188,924

For the year ending 31 December 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
On behalf of the board



Date: 14th March 2026

The notes on pages 7 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

1. General Information

Organisation Cetacea is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 07463043 and registered charity number 1141728 . The registered office is .

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

2.2. Incoming Resources

Grants are recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the grant.
Donations and gifts are included in full upon receipt. Any gift aid reclaimable is included at the time the donation was received.
Donated Services and facilities are included in the accounts where the value of the service can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.
Income from investments is included when it becomes due.
Income from services provided is included on the date the service was performed.
Unpaid holiday has been accrued in the year of entitlement.

2.3. Resources Expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on the accrual basis, inclusive of VAT. VAT is not recoverable.

2.4. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer Equipment	33% Straight line

2.5. Stocks and Work in Progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out method. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Work in progress is reflected in the accounts on a contract by contract basis by recording turnover and related costs as contract activity progresses.

At the end of each reporting period stocks are assessed for impairment. If an item of stock is impaired, the identified stock is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell and an impairment charge is recognised in the statement of financial activities. Where a reversal of the impairment is required the impairment charge is reversed, up to the original impairment loss, and is recognised as a credit in the statement of financial activities.

2.6. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

2.7. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

2.8. Foreign Currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the statement of financial position date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating surplus.

2.9. Pensions
The charitable company operates a defined pension contribution scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

2.10. Creditors
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

2.11. Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

3. Income from Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £
Donations and gifts	171,274	-	171,274
Member subscriptions and sponsorships	99,045	-	99,045
Gift aid	27,472	-	27,472
Grants	65,048	12,306	77,354
	362,839	12,306	375,145

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Donations and gifts	129,154	-	129,154
Member subscriptions and sponsorships	93,852	-	93,852
Gift aid	13,079	-	13,079
Grants	36,000	33,590	69,590
	272,085	33,590	305,675

4. Income from Other Trading Activities

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £
Sale of donated and bought in goods	5,623	4,259

5. Investment Income

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £
Bank interest receivable	3,576	2,155

6. Net Income/(Expenditure)

The net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned	1,340	5,408

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs (see note 8) £	2025 Total £
Raising funds	87,669	119,581	207,250
Educating the general public	294,440	254,604	549,044
Scientific Research	37,233	-	37,233
	419,342	374,185	793,527

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs (see note 8) £	2024 Total £
Raising funds	77,062	83,634	160,696
Educating the general public	442,796	238,152	680,948
Scientific Research	25,977	-	25,977
	545,835	321,786	867,621

8. Support Costs

	Raising funds £	Educating the general public £	2025 Total £
Employee costs	-	254,604	254,604
Premises expenses	12,187	-	12,187
General administration	86,837	-	86,837
Depreciation	1,340	-	1,340
Governance costs	19,217	-	19,217
	119,581	254,604	374,185

	Raising funds	Educating the general public	2024 Total
	£	£	£
Employee costs	-	238,152	238,152
Premises expenses	13,881	-	13,881
General administration	52,641	-	52,641
Depreciation	4,138	-	4,138
Governance costs	12,974	-	12,974
	83,634	238,152	321,786

9. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	260	260

10. Staff Costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	428,725	677,190
Social security costs	38,827	32,752
Other pension costs	7,475	7,741
	475,027	717,683

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

11. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Fundraising	1	-
Charitable Activities	11	27
Administration	7	2
	19	29

12. Tangible Assets

	Computer Equipment £
Cost	
As at 1 January 2025	18,375
Additions	7,412
As at 31 December 2025	25,787
Depreciation	
As at 1 January 2025	17,523
Provided during the period	1,340
As at 31 December 2025	18,863
Net Book Value	
As at 31 December 2025	6,924
As at 1 January 2025	852

13. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Stock	3,224	3,113

14. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	8,878	73,803
Other debtors	3,126	7,769
	12,004	81,572

15. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	3,483	-
Other creditors	2,067	16,429
Accruals and deferred income	9,158	20,036
	14,708	36,465

16. Deferred Income

Deferred income movements in the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance at the start of the period	1,920	2,880
Income deferred in the current period	3,840	1,920
Amounts released in income from previous periods	(1,920)	(2,880)
Balance at the end of the period	3,840	1,920

17. Pension Commitments

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

During the year the charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of defined contribution schemes was £7,475 (2024: £7,741).

At the statement of financial position date contributions of £1,275 (2024: £1,314) were due to the fund and are included in creditors.

18. Movement in Funds

	As at 1 January 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
General unrestricted fund	188,115	829,239	(791,854)	(1,517)	223,983
Restricted funds					
Hurtigruten Foundation	-	-	(1,517)	1,517	-
Tesco Grant	809	-	(156)	-	653
Sea-Changers	-	7,000	-	-	7,000
Simon Gibson Trust	-	5,306	-	-	5,306
Total restricted funds	809	12,306	(1,673)	1,517	12,959
Total funds	188,924	841,545	(793,527)	-	236,942

	As at 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
General unrestricted fund	81,220	928,185	(825,953)	4,663	188,115
Restricted funds					

...CONTINUED

General Restricted	13,550	33,590	(41,668)	(5,472)	-
Tesco Grant	-	-	-	809	809
Total restricted funds	13,550	33,590	(41,668)	(4,663)	809
Total funds	94,770	961,775	(867,621)	-	188,924

19. Transactions with Trustees
No trustee expenses have been incurred.

20. Related Party Disclosures
There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure, except for those disclosed in the Transactions with Trustees note.

21. Company limited by guarantee
The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

Organisation Cetacea
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	115,828	73,708
Gifts in kind	55,446	55,446
Membership subscriptions	99,045	93,852
Gift aid	27,472	13,079
Grants	77,354	69,590
	375,145	305,675
Charitable Activities:		
Educating the general public		
Raising awareness	414,391	611,219
Training	42,810	38,467
	457,201	649,686
Other trading activities		
Sale of donated and bought in goods	5,623	4,259
	5,623	4,259
Investments		
Bank interest receivable	3,576	2,155
	3,576	2,155
	841,545	961,775
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Raising funds		
Opening stock and work in progress	(3,112)	-
Purchases	(2,780)	(4,363)
Wages and salaries	(51,000)	(49,260)
Travel and subsistence expenses	-	(9,639)
Marketing and advertising costs	(24,356)	(12,802)
Foreign exchange (deficit)/surplus	(4,447)	501
Closing stock and work in progress	3,224	3,112
Bank charges	(5,198)	(4,611)
Rent	(12,187)	(13,881)
Computer software, consumables and maintenance	(38,068)	(8,512)
Insurance	(15,053)	(12,603)
Printing, postage and stationery	(3,096)	(3,211)
Telecommunications	(1,665)	(1,504)
Website costs	(28,607)	(26,425)
Bank charges	(346)	(386)
Sundry expenses	(2)	-
Depreciation	(1,340)	(4,138)
Trustees' expenses	-	(817)
Independent examiner's fees	(260)	(260)

...CONTINUED

Accountancy fees	(6,698)	(7,735)
Legal fees	(12,259)	(4,162)
	(207,250)	(160,696)
Charitable Activities:		
Educating the general public		
Subcontractor costs	(57,766)	40,493
Wages and salaries	(167,110)	(376,067)
Employers NI	(17,268)	(32,752)
Employers pensions - defined contribution schemes	(1,705)	(7,741)
Travel and subsistence expenses	(43,509)	(56,892)
Computer software, IT consumables and maintenance	(156)	-
Repairs, renewals and maintenance	(3,897)	(9,202)
Depreciation	-	(635)
Bank charges	(3,029)	-
Wages and salaries	(210,615)	(238,152)
Employers NI	(21,559)	-
Employers pensions - defined contributions scheme	(5,770)	-
Travel and subsistence expenses	(16,660)	-
	(549,044)	(680,948)
Scientific Research		
Subcontractor costs	(22,954)	-
Wages and salaries	-	(13,711)
Travel and subsistence expenses	(4,166)	(1,500)
Repairs, renewals and maintenance	(7,411)	(6,578)
Subscriptions	(2,641)	(3,553)
Depreciation	-	(635)
Foreign exchange deficit	(61)	-
	(37,233)	(25,977)
	(793,527)	(867,621)
NET INCOME	**48,018**	**94,154**

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