LONE BUFFALO

Trustees' annual report for the period ended 31 December 2025

Registered charity number 1169163; registered on 13 September 2016

Principal address 7 Mount Harry Road
SEVENOAKS
TN13 3JH

Trustees during the period to 31 December 2025 were

Jackie Thomas
Andrew March
Jeremy Richens
Richard John
Gillian Charlton
Gary Rolfe

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and its constitution was adopted on 23 June 2016.The charity is managed by the chief operating officer, who is based in Laos, with local staff and guidance from the charity's trustees and other volunteer support. All trustees and volunteers give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits. In the event of a vacancy arising for a trustee, one will be sought from the present supporters of and donors to the charity.

Objectives

Each year the charity reviews its objectives with reference to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The charity's objectives for 2025 were to advance the education and improve the life chances of the young people in and around Phonsavan, Laos through the provision, maintenance and support of the Lone Buffalo English Development Centre. The charity intends to continue to pursue these objectives for 2026 and for the foreseeable future by raising funds and supporting the centre financially.

Activities

The objectives are achieved by providing to students in Phonsavan:

(a) English language education and training;
(b) Sport and leisure activities to promote health and social wellbeing;
(c) Activities and other opportunities to develop skills, capabilities and resilience of young people, so they can participate in society as mature and responsible individuals;
(d) Presentations and field trips to inform young people about their local community and country; and
(e) Assistance with volunteer placements in local services and further education opportunities.

The main term runs for ten months from September to June although the Lao teachers do continue beginners classes through the summer for those students who can study in July and August.

Main achievements

2025 saw the project complete or make significant progress on all key objectives. Overall school attendance was a record high of 91%, a significant achievement given students are expected to attend three lessons (6 hrs) weekly after regular state school. 2025 finished with 241 students (52% female) receiving structured English language lessons taught by qualified teaching professionals at four levels. 107 new students were offered places for the 2025/26 term and three new Beginner classes began during 2025. A record 95% of students completing High School in 2025 started tertiary studies with six receiving scholarships to study in Vietnam or China – including our first ever United World Colleges student. Electronic tablets funded during Covid provide higher level students with an enhanced learning experience.

The Community Teacher Development Programme has successfully prepared two more graduating teachers from the local teacher training college to teach at Lone Buffalo. Two more programme graduates are currently being used as back up teachers. The 5th Develop Together life skills programme was completed, delivering up to 28 workshops for senior students. Significant gains in confidence, dealing with stress, parent support etc were reported in post project data analysis. The 6th programme began in Q4 with 112 participants. 94% of students attended Green Buffalo environment workshops, facilitated by the student led Green Team. The Student Coffee Co-operative continued to develop basic business skills which promote local produce. The Lone Buffalo Girls Football Club continued its development with female students/alumnae managing the coaching, management, promotion and accounts and up to 25% of female students participating. Two alumna coaches are now working with Lao Football Federation and ten more female players completed a basic coaching skills course. 17 more short creative or promotional film were completed by the Media Crew, with two more students participating in a professionally taught summer film making course.

Financial review

The charity receives donations from individuals and corporate bodies and sponsorship from the US and UK and other embassies in Vientiane, Laos, and others, towards the cost of specific activities. All funds received, except for some minor costs of governance, are used to support the school.

The charity maintains a cash reserve within unrestricted funds which is sufficient to cover at least six months regular support for the school. However because donations and sponsorship, especially from corporate bodies and embassies, are not received on a regular basis during the year and remittances to support the school are made only when needed by the

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

J Thomas.
.....
Jackie Thomas

Date 12.10.2026

LONE BUFFALO

Receipts and payments account for the year to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 12 months Total funds £
Receipts				
Corporate donations	29,605	-	29,605	25,340
Personal donations	53,100	-	53,100	29,869
US Embassy	-	1,357	1,357	1,562
NZ Embassy	-			11,413
Gift Aid recovery	3,580	-	3,580	3,511
	86,285	1,357	87,642	71,695
Payments				
Support for school	82,568	1,357	83,925	65,030
Cost of generating funds	216	-	216	216
IT costs	4,850	-	4,850	2,648
Bank charges	297	-	297	217
Other	99	-	99	-
	88,030	1,357	89,387	68,111
Net of receipts and payments	(1,745)	-	(1,745)	3,584
Funds at 1 January 2025	79,220		79,220	75,636
Funds at 31 December 2025	**£77,475**		**£77,475**	**£79,220**

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 December 2025

Cash at bank	**£77,475**		**£77,475**	**£79,220**

Approved by the Trustees on 21 July 2026 and signed on their behalf by

.....J Thomas..... Date 12.10.2026

Jackie Thomas

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LONE BUFFALO

Charity No. 1169163

I report to the trustees on the Accounts of the Lone Buffalo Charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this period (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act) Act).
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's report

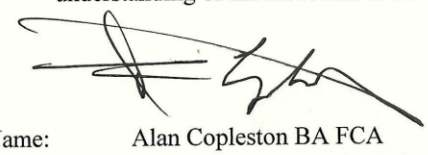
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trust and a comparison of the Accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I confirm that no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the following requirements have not been met:
   a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act
   b) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and
   c) to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act and the regulations made thereunder

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



Name: Alan Copleston BA FCA
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Address: The White Cottage, 29 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6TG

Date: 12th October 2026