



# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2024

Meet the  
Youth



SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY

Patron  
HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

President  
Mr H Whitbread

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2024

SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY

Established in 1878 to  
promote the Old English  
Breed of Cart Horse

Governing Document:  
Memorandum of Association and  
Articles of Association

Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered in England – Certificate of  
Incorporation 12383

Registered Charity No. 210619

Registered Office:  
The Old Dairy, Rockingham Castle & Park,  
Rockingham,  
Market Harborough, LE16 8TH

Tel:  
01536 771 611

Email:  
[info@shire-horse.org.uk](mailto:info@shire-horse.org.uk)

Chief Executive:  
Victoria Clayton

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# Chair of Board's Report

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It gives me great pleasure to wish you a Happy New Year and reflect on 2024.

Our National Show back at Stafford was a great success and being inside we were safeguarded against the bad weather. The Heavy Horse Camp continues to be well supported and is enjoyed by all that attend. I would like to thank you all for making our National Show and Camp such great events. Our Shires were well represented at the affiliated shows and of course the highlight of the year was the Horse of the Year Show.

The SPARKS breeding programme is in its first full year and the signs of take up are good, which can only be good for the needed diversity in genetics. I hope the breeders soon start to realise the benefits of such a programme.

Our vision is to be the leading global authority in the preservation, promotion, and welfare of Shire horses, fostering a vibrant community of enthusiasts dedicated to safeguarding this iconic breed for future generations.

Our Core values are.

**Heritage:** respect for the rich history and heritage of the Shire horse breed.

**Integrity:** commitment to honesty, transparency, and ethical practices.

**Excellence:** pursuit of excellence in all aspects of breed preservation, promotion, and welfare.

**Community:** fostering a supportive and inclusive community of Shire horse enthusiasts.

**Innovation:** embrace innovation and adaptability to meet the evolving needs of the breed and its community.

**The Strategic Goals of The Shire Horse Society are:**

**1. Breed Preservation and Promotion** – to enhance efforts to preserve the genetic diversity and improve the visibility of Shire horses.

**2. Member Engagement and Retention** – to strengthen member engagement and retention strategies to cultivate a vibrant community of Shire horse enthusiasts.

**3. Education and Outreach** – to expand educational initiatives to raise awareness about the history, characteristics, and care of Shire horses.

**4. Welfare and Well-being** – to prioritise the welfare and well-being of Shire horses through advocacy, research, and support services.

**5. Financial Sustainability** – to ensure the long-term sustainability and growth of the Shire Horse Society.

We are now working on a three-year plan so that we can further the aims and objectives of the Society in a planned, resourced way to ensure that we lay good, clear foundations for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board, Council Members, Committee members, Staff and Volunteers for all their hard work, dedication, and support for which the Society is very grateful.

*Helen Thomas,  
Chairman of Board*

# Chief Executive's Report

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Welcome to 2025- the 147th year of the Society. 2025 adds up to nine and I am told that it is linked to new adventures. With that in mind, we have new adventures ahead with changes to our Committee Chair personnel.

Following sixty dedicated years' service to the Society Mr Jim Yates retires from Council and his position as Chair of Council. Jim has worked in

all areas of the Society in his time, he was the first ever Chair of Council and he has seen much change. He remains the one we all look to for advice and counsel and I will miss working with him day to day enormously. Jim leaves some very large shoes to fill and will be superseded by Mr Paul Bower of Thames Oak Shires. Paul is no stranger to chairing committees as he is the Chair at South Eastern Shire

Horse Association and has a previous career in law enforcement. Paul will take the helm after the AGM in March.

We also welcome a new Editing Chair in Jane Domhill, following in the footsteps of Libby Archer. We thank Libby enormously for all her work, effort, and dedication to the breed over her seven-year tenure ship. Jane has a significant equine

background, as an elected trustee of the British Horse Society, Chair of BHS Qualifications Ltd, and on the Board of the British Equestrian Federation. She is currently Vice-Chair of The Showing Council. The Editing Committee have some very exciting plans and are working on major projects looking at breed sustainability including further developing gene banking, so Jane is hitting the ground running.

The last twelve months have had its challenges, successes, highs, and lows. We focus going forward as ever looking at breeding and breeders. The first SPARKS payments were made in December, and the result of our inaugural breeder's competition was announced. The first winner was the Cowerslane Stud, with second place going to Bewholme Shires and third to

Acle Shires. Congratulations to you all, we look forward to seeing who the winner of this award in 2025 will be.

As ever at this time of year, the office is busy and excited with the thought of the upcoming National Show. After the feeling of all competitors and exhibitors, we will return to the indoor venue of Bingley Hall, Stafford for 2025. We hope that competitors, spectators, judges, and officials all enjoy the show; and wish anyone competing the very best of luck.

The season of election is soon upon us and within this document you will see some CVs for dedicated Council members standing for re-election and those new members wishing to be elected. We have some wonderful candidates forward who would all

bring expertise, knowledge, and ideas to the table. These members will sit on Committees who in turn aid the Board in the running of the Society. Please do use your vote.

The office staff of Angela, Sue, Carol, Laura, and I are all here to help and along with Council members to encourage newcomers and new members to strive to help to preserve, promote and protect the horse that put the Great into Britain.

On behalf of the Shire Horse Society, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the members for your continued support and love of the breed.

*Victoria Clayton,  
Chief Executive*

## Chair of Council's Report

As I start to write my last report as Chair of Council my memories go back for 50 years and more. Changes have been made with new ideas coming forward. I am a firm believer that youth must come into the equation going forward.

The Council is the eyes and ears of the Society as they are representing the members who have voted for them.

Over my term there have been some fundamental introductions into the running of the Society. Sparks and the breeding programme, the

foot scheme, modernising the rules and regulations up to present day standards, bringing our Training and Education up to date, introducing the Youth Council and keeping Council more informed about the Society's finances.

All this has taken a considerable amount of time and effort by those involved and has led to extra work and meetings being held.

Thanks must go to all those who have helped bring these changes to Council.

At the Council meeting in October, I was privileged to be made an Honorary Vice-President of the Society which is something I am immensely proud of.

I wish my successor Paul Bower all the best and a big thank you to everybody who has supported me in the past.

*Jim Yates  
Chairman of Council*

# Notice of AGM

Notice is hereby given that the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Members of the Shire Horse Society will be held on Friday 7th March 2025 in the Boden Room, Staffordshire County Showground Pavilion, at 4.30pm

AGENDA:

- 1. WELCOME ADDRESS.**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**
- 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2024.**
- 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**
- 5. RECEIVE REPORT OF TRUSTEES & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.**
- 6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.**
- 7. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES.**
- 8. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER.**
- 9. ELECTRONIC AGM MAILING FROM 2026.**
- 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

*By Order of the Council  
Victoria Clayton, Chief Executive*

## AGM Minutes

Minutes of the Shire Horse Society's Annual General Meeting held on Friday 8th March 2024 in The Boden Room, Staffordshire County Showground, Stafford, at 4:30pm.

### PRESENT:

Mrs H Thomas (Chair of Board)  
Mr T J Yates (Chair of Council)  
Mr D Clarke (Honorary Treasurer)

Mr S J Peacock (Chair of Show  
Committee)  
Mr D Baker CFW (Accountants LLP)

### MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Mr N Andrews, Mrs D Badger, Mr H Bardsley, Mr D Beardmore, Mr W Bedford, Mr D Billingsley, Mr P Bower, Mr P Bowyer, Mr A H Brown, Miss R Burgess, Mr M Butterworth, Miss A Chetwood, Mr J Clarke, Miss J-A Clubley, Mr P J Cockcroft, Mrs S Cockcroft, Mr C Dawson, Miss C Eagle, Mrs L Froggatt, Mr T Froggatt, Mrs V A Giles, Mr J Goodwin, Mrs H Gordon, Mr R Greenwood, Mrs S L Greenwood, Mr R Griffith, Mr E

Groen, Mr J Hick, Mr C Horler, Mr M Horler, Mrs T Horler, Mr D Iles, Miss S Jones, Mr S Kerswell, Mr S Ledsham, Mr S Leedham, Mr E Leverett, Mrs S Leverett, Mr S Leverett, Mr G Livesey, Mr S Livesey, Mrs C Martin, Mr M J Martin, Mr B Masters, Mrs B Moore, Mr D Mouland, Mr H T Murphy, Mrs D E Nulty, Mr A J Peacock, Mrs H Preece, Mr G J Rawlins, Mr F M Richardson, Mr F W Richardson, Mr C Rink, Mr J Robinson, Mr H Roetgerink, Mr

D Shardlow, Mr P Shipman, Mrs B Silverwood, Mr J Silverwood, Miss C M Threlfall, Miss L Trotter, Mr N Turner, Mrs M Ward, Mr A Wareing, Mr A J Wass, Miss M Webster, Mrs J R Wells, Mr T E Whittaker, Mr C Wilkins, Mr P Williams, Mr P Willis, Mr B A Winn, Mrs J Wordsworth, Mr D Worthington, Mrs A Worthington, Mr J Worthington, Mr D J Yates and Miss C Young.

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss V L Clayton (Chief Executive)  
Mrs C Coles (Accounts)

Mrs S M Fox (Administration)  
Miss A Whiteway (Registrations)

## 1. WELCOME ADDRESS

In the absence of the President, Mr J Robinson, the Chair of the Board, Mrs H Thomas welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting.

## APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Miss E Archer, Mr B Banham, Mr H Bedford, Mr M Bedford, Mr P Bedford, Mr Wm Bedford, Mr M Burks, Mr J C Etches, Mr L M Fountain, Mr K Hasemore, Mr B Morgan, Mrs B Morgan, Mr P Ryder-Davies, Mr P Simmons, Mrs Y Simmons, Miss M A J Swinley, OBE, Mrs W Toomer-Harlow, Captain C Trenchard Jarrett, Mrs P Wass and Miss E Worthington.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2023.

The Minutes had been circulated to all members in the Annual Report and Accounts 2023.

## 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair asked if there were any matters arising from the Minutes. There were no matters arising and Mr F M Richardson proposed the Minutes should be signed as a true and correct record. Mr P Bower seconded the proposal. Members agreed.

## 4. RECEIVE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Honorary Treasurer, Mr D Clarke took Members through the accounts for the year ending September 2023 as set out in the Annual Report & Accounts.

Mr Clarke highlighted that legacy income was down in 2023 to £463,287 (2022: £489,874) but on a positive note membership had increased from £41,555 to £42,484 and investment income rose from

£24,355 to £28,636.

Total Income and Endowments: £673,406 (2022: £732,078)

Expenditure on raising funds had increased from £53,051 to £67,064 and the cost of staging the National Shire Horse Show from £77,871 to £103,767. Other charitable activities which increased expenditure included attendance at shows around the country, demo teams and passports.

Total net gain on investments: £29,056 - 2022: (£121,162)

Net Income: £268,883 (2022: £256,960)

Balance Sheet: Total funds £1,421,023 (2022: £1,152,140).

The Chair of Board, Mrs H Thomas invited members to ask questions.

Mrs D Badger said the accounts looked pleasing and in 2016 the Society had £740,000 and now the accounts have increased to £1.4m and as a Society we should be pleased by the work of the Board, Chief Executive and staff as the Shire Horse Society is in a stronger position than before.

Mr S Ledsham asked why the professional and consultancy fees had risen from £15,795 to £29,755. Mr D Baker from CFW Accountants responded that this is owing to advice and work relating to the governance, policies and Articles of Association and Regulations. This has now been completed.

Mr S Ledsham added that the Memorandum and Articles of Association has now cost a further £20,000 and he thought that this work had been completed. The Chair confirmed that this figure was

spent on legal advice, governance packs and policies.

Mr D Beardmore raised a question relating to the Society's investments and asked if the Society's money is being invested correctly. The Honorary Treasurer replied that James Sharp Investments looks after the Society's investments and believes they are working in its favour. Mr Beardmore questioned whether the company is looking to invest in different funds. The Chair and Hon. Treasurer confirmed this will be done.

There being no further questions Mrs D Badger proposed that the Accounts for the year ending 2023 should be adopted, and Mr P Bower seconded the proposal. All agreed.

## 5. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The Chair reported that two new Trustees had been co-opted to the Board, Mr Huw Murphy, and Mr John Robinson (Robinsons Brewery).

Mr Murphy is seventh generation owner of Dyfed Shire Horse Farm, a Shire Horse Society approved visitor centre in Wales. The farm supports local charities and organisations. Dyfed Shires are well-known for their success in supplying Shire horses to the Household Cavalry for use as drum horses.

The Chair of the Board, Mrs H Thomas proposed that Mr H Murphy is appointed to the Board of Trustees. Mr S Ledsham seconded the proposal.

The Society's current President, Mr John Robinson's family run Robinsons Brewery in Stockport and are great supporters of the Shire horse and Society, so much they have had Shire horses in their business for over one hundred years. Robinsons Brewery embarked on

their own breeding programme to help preserve and promote the breed.

The Chair of the Board, Mrs H Thomas proposed that Mr J Robinson is appointed to the Board of Trustees. Mr C Horler seconded the proposal.

Both Mr H Murphy and Mr J Robinson were successfully appointed to the Board of Trustees.

The Chair explained that as per the Articles of Association, one third of the Trustees retire on an annual basis. Mrs H Thomas informed the members that it was now her time to tender her resignation and offer herself for re-election if members so wished.

Mrs Thomas said she had enjoyed working for the Society and that the Board is making progress in governance matters. She added there is a great team in place – in the office, our committees and on Council and the passion for the breed is infectious.

Mr J Hick proposed that Mrs H Thomas is re-elected to the Board of Trustees. Mr J Clarke seconded the proposal.

A show of hands in the meeting took place and proxy voting for the election of Trustees and all were duly elected to the Board.

## **6. ELECTION OF TRUSTEE & HONORARY TREASURER**

The Chair said the Society were introduced to Mr David Clarke, and subsequently he agreed to be the Society's Honorary Treasurer.

Mr Clarke's family is from a farming business which has always had horses and from an early age he has had a love of the Shire horse. Mr

Clarke is pleased to be part of the Shire Horse Society and will do all he can to further the charity and help meet its objectives.

Mr Clarke is a chartered accountant who qualified in 2008 and made a Fellow in 2018. Mr Clarke's experience of audit and accounting for companies and charities gained through a practice training contract with clients ranging from farmers, landowners, local charities, and trading companies.

His work experience covers not-for-profit organisations to large, listed companies. Mr Clarke works in a manufacturing business overseeing all elements of the business reporting and risk.

The Chair of the Board, Mrs H Thomas proposed that Mr D Clarke is appointed a Trustee and Honorary Treasurer. Mr J Clarke seconded the proposal.

A show of hands in the meeting took place and proxy voting for the election of Mr D Clarke as a Trustee and the Society's Honorary Treasurer and he was duly elected to the Board.

## **7. ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mr D Baker from CFW Accountants LLP who act as the Scrutineers confirmed they had received 235 voting papers of which 234 were counted.

The Candidates duly elected were:

Mr M Burks (170)  
Mrs D E Nulty (157)  
Mr J C Etches (133)  
Mr C Malkin (133)  
Mr L E Harrison (131)  
Mr T E Whittaker (122)  
Mr P Bower (120)  
Mr D Roberts (118)

Mr B A Winn (108)  
Mr R Clarke (101)  
Mrs W Toomer-Harlow (101)  
Mrs H Preece (78)

The Council members were duly elected and congratulated. Grateful thanks were recorded to Mr D Baker and CFW Accountants LLP for their assistance.

## **8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Mr J Hick proposed that CFW Accountants LLP should be re-appointed as the Society's Independent Examiners. Mr P Shipman seconded this. All approved and Mr D Baker was thanked for his help.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no further matters relating to the accounts and the Chair formally closed the Annual General Meeting at 4:50pm. An Open Meeting followed the Annual General Meeting.

# Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

## For Shire Horse Society

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CFW Accountants LLP  
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisers  
3 Weekley Wood Close  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN14 1UQ

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00012383 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 210619

# Report of the Trustees

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The Board of Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) as applicable to charities in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, in accordance with the applicable law and the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice - UK GAAP), including FRS102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OBJECTIVES AND AIMS**

The Society's principal objective is the improvement and promotion of the English Cart Horse, more particularly, the Shire Horse, and to this end, maintaining a Stud Book in which are entered the names of all registered Shire Horses complying with the conditions for the time being applied by the Society.

To meet the objective the Society has established an expert Judging Panel, introduced a comprehensive system of DNA testing for all Pedigree animals and devised a Stallion inspection scheme in order to ensure that male animals used for breeding meet strict conformation and health criteria and introduced training courses.

The Society is generously assisted in its breeding policies by a grant from the Horserace Betting Levy Board which itself sets strict conditions for grant payment. The grant aided work is regularly reviewed by both parties in order to ensure its effectiveness.

The Charity has due regard during the year to the guidance published by the Charities Commission on public benefit.

## **NATIONAL SHIRE HORSE SHOW 2024**

The National Show returned to an indoor venue, at the familiar venue of Bingley Hall, Stafford. The venue has been historically very popular with the exhibitors and the members. The 2024 show saw increase on visitor numbers and horse numbers from the show of 2022 and 2023. In 2025 the show will again be held indoors at Stafford.

## **EXPORTS**

Specific numbers of horses exported are no longer recorded. Records from Stud Book entries and overseas attendance at the National Show indicate that the demand for quality horses abroad continues to be strong. Society members do not always notify the Society of exports therefore it is difficult to maintain accurate export figures.

## **MERCHANDISING AND MARKETING**

The Society attended 30 events and shows including the two foals shows and three demonstration events in 2024. There has been significant promotion where possible and use of the website for sales of merchandise where possible. The Society is deeply indebted to the help of its volunteers and very much hope those and others wish to be a part of the marketing of the Society this coming year.

## **STALLION PREMIUM SCHEME**

The Editing Committee have removed the premium scheme in its entirety. Other funding and grants will be given to breeders from 2023 onwards.

## **SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY APPROVED CENTRES**

The approved centres offer visitor experience and training facilities. The Trustees continue to consider the options available and develop a programme of activities that yield the maximum educational, training and promotional benefits for the Society and supporters.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES NATIONAL SHIRE HORSE TRUST FUND**

The financial objective of the Society remains to increase the accumulated fund at a rate not less than inflation for the current year thus ensuring that the purchasing power of the fund is maintained. The financial attitude of the Society remains to pursue a break even position financially, without the historic dependence on donations or legacies. By

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doing so, any excess income can be utilised in a more beneficial way for the breed generally.

The Trust Fund is used firstly and most importantly to further the Society's charitable objectives including the promotion of the Shire Horse both at home and overseas and to also meet the Society's operating costs. In addition, the Society is required to contribute to the Stallion Fund at a level of 20% of the funding received from the Horserace Betting Levy Board. The Society's contribution is taken from the Trust Fund.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The financial statements show an overall increase in net funds of £45,590 (2023: increase £268,883) as shown on the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Society received legacy income totalling £182,017 (2023: £395,528). This source of revenue remains important to the Society in improving the capital base and investment income. The Board of Trustees has agreed it is not appropriate to rely on legacy income.

During the year the Society changed investment fund managers to a fully managed service, which should result in improved income and growth. The Society realised gains of £6,070 during the year, and at the balance sheet date had unrealised losses of £5,115, a net gain of £955 (2023: £29,056). The market value of the Society's investments at the end of the year was £688,811 (2023: £682,703).

Investment returns saw a slight increase in the year at £27,954 (2023: £25,970). Additionally interest received on the investments increased to £21,863 [2023: £2,666].

## **FUTURE PROSPECTS**

Prospects, as ever for 2025 remain increasingly challenging, but with net assets valued at £1,466,613 (2023: £1,421,023) the Society is well placed to continue to assist Shire Breeders and encourage new owners.

The Society continues to invest heavily in the National Show as it is viewed by Trustees as an essential tool to promote the Shire both at home and overseas.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Board of Trustees will continue to review the systems that are in place to mitigate the Society's exposure to major risks.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

The Society maintains a prudent level of reserves to generate income to help fund the activities that further the Society's charitable aims and objectives. This income is intended to counter large fluctuations in irregular income such as legacies and help fund the National Show.

The Trustees continue to maintain a greater proportion of reserves in short term cash deposits to protect the Society from the volatile nature of equity and bond markets.

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The Society is no longer required to undertake a full audit, CFW Accountants LLP have undertaken an independent examiner's review and their report is enclosed.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT** **SOCIETY GOVERNANCE**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Society's governing document was reviewed and the adoption of new Articles of Association took place on 14th December 2021.

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The Charity is governed by Board of Trustees who meet at least four times a year. The Board with the support of the Council has established a committee structure to deal directly with specific aspects of the Society's affairs. These Board and committees currently are:

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES dealing with financial matters and the day to day operation of the Society along with the CEO.

The EDITING COMMITTEE are responsible for all matters relating to the Stud Book, breeding programme and pedigrees.

The TRAINING AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE are responsible for the education of the public about the Shire Horse, running training events and programmes for the membership and the appointment, training and maintenance of an expert and active panel of Judges.

The SHOW COMMITTEE are responsible for all matters relating to the running of the National Show.

The STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE identify areas of strength and weaknesses within the Society. It is to promote and deliver new initiatives that provide for succession within the Society, including youth schemes and its sustainability for the long term.

The DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE deal with all matters concerning the conduct of Members.

All Council and Committee members are volunteers who receive no payment for their services. The National Show in March, is also run, in part, by Stewards who give their time in a voluntary capacity.

# Council, Committees and Officials

## RETIRE 2025

**Mrs D Badger**, Tamworth  
**Wm Bedford**, Yorkshire  
**J Burks**, Lincolnshire  
**Miss C Eagle**, Suffolk  
**Mrs S Flintham**, Nottinghamshire  
**R Griffith**, Wales  
**C Horler**, Somerset  
**S Ledsham**, Shropshire  
**G Rawlins**, Tamworth  
**F M Richardson**, Yorkshire  
**J Worthington**, Cheshire  
**T J Yates**, Derbyshire

## RETIRE 2026

**W Bedford**, Yorkshire  
**M Bedford**, Yorkshire  
**A Chetwood**, Cheshire  
**J Fairbairn**, Northumberland  
**L M Fountain**, Derbyshire  
**J Holder**, Gloucestershire  
**S J Peacock**, Essex  
**D Shardlow**, Cheshire  
**P Shipman**, Lincolnshire  
**Mrs Y Simmons**, Shropshire  
**D Worthington**, Cheshire  
**D Yates**, Derbyshire

## RETIRE 2027

**P Bower**, Essex  
**M Burks**, Lincolnshire  
**J C Etches**, Derbyshire  
**L E Harrison**, Co. Durham  
**M A Horler**, Somerset  
**C Malkin**, Shropshire  
**Mrs D E Nulty**, Cheshire  
**Mrs H Preece**, Cheshire  
**D Roberts**, Devon  
**Mrs W Toomer** Harlow, Essex  
**B A Winn**, Lincolnshire

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mrs H Thomas (Board Chair), Mr T J Yates (Chairman of Council), Mr Simon Livesey, Mr James Hick, Mr H Murphy, Mr J E Robinson.

## EDITING COMMITTEE

Miss L Archer (Chairman) Mr P Ryder-Davies & Mr B Ryder-Davies (Honorary Veterinary Surgeons), Mr W Bedford, Mr M Burks, Mr J Holder, Mr D Roberts, Mr P Shipman, Mr C Malkin.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs Y Simmons (Chair), Mrs D Badger, Miss C Eagle, Mr R Griffith, Mr M Richardson, Mr M Bingham (co-opt).

## SHOW COMMITTEE

Mr S J Peacock (Chairman), Mr A Peacock (Chief Steward), Mr M Bedford, Miss A Chetwood, Mr C Horler, Mr M Rendle (co-opt), Mrs S Flintham, Mr M Fountain, Mr T Brown (co-opt).

## STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs W Toomer-Harlow (Chair), Mrs H Preece, Mr G Rawlins, Miss M Langley (co-opt), Mr D Shardlow.

## DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The President, two Past Presidents or past deputies, two past chairs, a solicitor.

## HONORARY TREASURER

Mr D Clarke.

## BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc, Church Street, Peterborough.

## ACCOUNTANTS AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

CFW Accountants LLP, 3 Weekley Wood Close, Kettering, NN14 1UQ

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Victoria Clayton MRICS FAAV

## STUD BOOK AND REGISTRATIONS

Miss Angela Whiteway

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number: 00012383 (Eng and Wales)

Registered Charity number: 210619

Registered Office:

The Old Dairy  
Rockingham Castle and Park  
Rockingham  
Market Harborough  
LE16 8TH

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## TRUSTEES

**T J Yates**  
**Mrs H Thomas**  
**S Livesey**  
**J Hick**

**H Murphy None** (appointed 8.3.24)  
**J Robinson None** (appointed 8.3.24)  
**D Clarke Accountant** (appointed 8.3.24)

## COMPANY SECRETARY

**Miss V Clayton**

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Independent Examiner** David Ian Baker FCCA, CFW Accountants LLP, Chartered Accountants & Business Advisers, 3 Weekley Wood Close, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN14 1UQ

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

*Victoria Clayton*  
*Secretary*  
*21st January 2025*

# Independent Examiner's Report

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## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY ('THE COMPANY')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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.

David Ian Baker FCCA  
CFW Accountants LLP  
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisers  
3 Weekley Wood Close  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN14 1UQ

# Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	244,081	35,000	279,081	463,287
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Membership subscriptions	5	42,186	-	42,186	42,484
Direct charitable purpose		150,725	-	150,725	131,790
Other trading activities	3	17,131	-	17,131	7,209
Investment income	4	49,817	-	49,817	28,636
<b>Total</b>		<b>503,940</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>538,940</b>	<b>673,406</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	6	80,881	-	80,881	67,064
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Shire horse show	7	142,382	-	142,382	103,767
Stud book fees, sales and service books		132,867	-	132,867	125,266
Membership subscriptions		38,945	-	38,945	36,135
Support costs		62,068	-	62,068	57,062
Direct charitable purpose		-	26,521	26,521	30,730
Shire/Heavy horse camp		10,641	-	10,641	13,555
<b>Total</b>		<b>467,784</b>	<b>26,521</b>	<b>494,305</b>	<b>433,579</b>
Net gains on investments		955	-	955	29,056
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>37,111</b>	<b>8,479</b>	<b>45,590</b>	<b>268,883</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>1,299,427</b>	<b>121,596</b>	<b>1,421,023</b>	<b>1,152,140</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>1,336,538</b>	<b>130,075</b>	<b>1,466,613</b>	<b>1,421,023</b>

# Balance Sheet

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	13	19,336	-	19,336	21,983
Investments	14	558,736	130,075	688,811	682,703
		<u>578,072</u>	<u>130,075</u>	<u>708,147</u>	<u>704,686</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stocks	15	10,938	-	10,938	8,412
Debtors	16	23,718	-	23,718	28,894
Cash at bank and in hand		751,139	-	751,139	700,700
		<u>785,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>785,795</u>	<u>738,006</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(27,329)	-	(27,329)	(21,669)
		<u>758,466</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>758,466</u>	<u>716,337</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,336,538</u>	<u>130,075</u>	<u>1,466,613</u>	<u>1,421,023</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>1,336,538</u>	<u>130,075</u>	<u>1,466,613</u>	<u>1,421,023</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	19			1,336,538	1,299,427
Restricted funds				130,075	121,596
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>1,466,613</u>	<u>1,421,023</u>

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The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue and were signed on its behalf by:

T J Yates - Trustee  
H Thomas - Trustee  
J Hick - Trustee  
S Livesey - Trustee

# Cash Flow Statement

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Cash generated from operations	21	(5,127)	210,267
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(5,127)</u>	<u>210,267</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,889)	-
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(1,172,147)	-
Sale of fixed asset investments		1,179,785	-
Interest received		21,863	2,666
Dividends received		27,954	25,970
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>55,566</u>	<u>28,636</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		50,439	238,903
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>700,700</u>	<u>461,797</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>751,139</u></u>	<u><u>700,700</u></u>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### GENERAL INFORMATION AND BASIS OF PREPARATION

General information and basis of preparation  
Shire Horse Society is a private company, limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 12 of these financial statements.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

### INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income is shown within four main categories in the Statement of Financial Activities:

Voluntary income

Activities for generated funds

Investment income

Incoming resources from charitable activities

Voluntary income includes bequests and donations, and are accounted for at the time of arising.

Gifts in kind are accounted for by recognising as an incoming resource at a reasonable estimate of their fair value. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the

charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Activities for generated funds include proceeds from commercial trading activities.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares. Dividend income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

Incoming resources from charitable activities include membership subscriptions, proceeds relating to the Shire Horse Show and income from the maintenance of a Shire Horse database.

### EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Paintings	2% on cost less residual value
Motor Vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Office equipment	25% on reducing balance

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

### STOCKS

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

### TAXATION

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

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## FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes, and include the following:

The Farriery Fund is established to promote farriery skills and improve animal welfare.

The Stallion Fund is established to encourage stallion ownership, the purpose of which is appropriate genetic diversity.

## FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

## PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

## DONATED SERVICES

No income or expense is recognised in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP 2019, however further detail is included in the Trustees' Annual Report.

## DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Debtors receivable / creditors payable within one year are measured at transaction price (less any impairment losses on debtors for bad and doubtful debts). Loans and other financial assets / liabilities are initially measured at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method (less any impairment losses on debtors) for bad and doubtful debts.

## INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at their fair value. Unrealised gains on the revaluation of investments are included on the

Statement of Financial Activities.

## GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Government grants are recognised on an accrual basis and are classified as either 'revenue-based' grant or a 'capital-based' grant.

The grants relating to revenue are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. The grant which becomes receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the entity with no future related costs is recognised in income in the period that it become receivable.

## 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
Legacies	182,017	-	182,017	395,528
Grants	-	35,000	35,000	35,000
Sponsorships and donations	62,064	-	62,064	32,759
	<u>244,081</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>279,081</u>	<u>463,287</u>

In 2024 the income from donations and legacies was £279,081 (2023: £463,287) of which £35,000 (2023: £35,000) was attributable to restricted income funds, with the balance of £244,081 (2023: £428,287) adding to unrestricted funds.

Included in sponsorships and donations is Gift Aid of £1,366 (2023: £1,212).

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	<b>2024</b> £	<b>2023</b> £
Horserace Betting Levy Board Grant	<u>35,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>

## 3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
Sale of goods	<u>17,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,131</u>	<u>7,209</u>

## 4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
Listed investments	27,954	-	27,954	25,970
Bank interest received	<u>21,863</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,863</u>	<u>2,666</u>
	<u>49,817</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,817</u>	<u>28,636</u>

## 5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Membership subscriptions £	Direct charitable purpose £	<b>2024</b> Total activities £	<b>2023</b> Total activities £
Shire horse show	-	82,453	82,453	60,134
Stud book fees, sales and service books	-	46,097	46,097	44,110
Sundry sales and other income	-	7,117	7,117	11,154
Stallion fund	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Membership subscriptions	36,751	-	36,751	35,380
Life membership subscriptions	5,435	-	5,435	7,104
Shire/Heavy horse camp	-	13,058	13,058	14,392
	<u>42,186</u>	<u>150,725</u>	<u>192,911</u>	<u>174,274</u>

## 6. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	<b>2024</b> Total funds £	<b>2023</b> Total funds £
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>				
Marketing and merchandise costs	14,711	-	14,711	11,516
Attendance at shows and events	22,207	-	22,207	15,126
Support costs	43,963	-	43,963	40,422
	<u>80,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,881</u>	<u>67,064</u>

## 7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Shire horse show	142,382	-	142,382
Stud book fees, sales and service books	13,907	118,960	132,867
Membership subscriptions	5,326	33,619	38,945
Support costs	-	62,068	62,068
Direct charitable purpose	26,521	-	26,521
Shire/Heavy horse camp	10,641	-	10,641
	<u>198,777</u>	<u>214,647</u>	<u>413,424</u>

In 2024 the expenditure on charitable activities was £413,424 (2023: £366,515) of which £26,520 (2023: £30,730) was expenditure from restricted funds and £386,903 (2023: £335,785) was from unrestricted funds.

## 8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Administration charge	Professional fess	Shire horse of the year championship	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Raising donations and legacies	38,946	3,569	1,448	43,963
Stud book fees, sales and service books	105,384	9,657	3,919	118,960
Membership subscriptions	29,782	2,729	1,108	33,619
Support costs	54,984	5,039	2,045	62,068
	<u>229,096</u>	<u>20,994</u>	<u>8,520</u>	<u>258,610</u>

## 9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	4,536	5,415
	<u>4,536</u>	<u>5,415</u>

## 10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2024 nor for the year ended 30 September 2023.

### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 September 2024 nor for the year ended 30 September 2023.

## 11. STAFF COSTS

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Wages and salaries	119,284	89,867
Social security costs	4,532	2,818
Other pension costs	2,446	1,917
	<u>126,262</u>	<u>94,602</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Administrative staff	5	4
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

## 12. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

Included in the accounts is a charge of £3,890 (2023: £3,680) in respect of the Independent Examiner's remuneration.

## 13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Paintings £	Motor Vehicles £	Office equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 October 2023	5,765	48,311	17,639	71,715
Additions	-	-	1,889	1,889
At 30 September 2024	5,765	48,311	19,528	73,604
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 October 2023	-	35,417	14,315	49,732
Charge for year	-	3,226	1,310	4,536
At 30 September 2024	-	38,643	15,625	54,268
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 30 September 2024	5,765	9,668	3,903	19,336
At 30 September 2023	5,765	12,894	3,324	21,983

## 14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 October 2023	682,703
Additions	1,172,147
Disposals	(1,173,715)
Revaluations	7,676
At 30 September 2024	688,811
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 30 September 2024	688,811
At 30 September 2023	682,703

Listed investments includes £nil (2023: £16,558) held outside the UK. All investments are held primarily for an investment return.

The Additions and Disposals noted above (and on the Cash Flow Statement) occurred on the transfer of investment fund managers as noted in the Trustees Report.

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## 15. STOCKS

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	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Goods held for resale	10,938	8,412

## 16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,770	4,690
VAT	-	334
Prepayments and accrued income	18,948	23,870
	<u>23,718</u>	<u>28,894</u>

## 17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,421	9,268
Social security and other taxes	2,612	1,314
VAT	609	-
Other creditors	3,205	1,146
Accruals and deferred income	14,482	9,941
	<u>27,329</u>	<u>21,669</u>

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## 18. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Within one year	9,375	12,500
Between one and five years	-	9,375
	<u>9,375</u>	<u>21,875</u>

## 19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.10.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	1,299,427	37,111	1,336,538
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Farriery Fund	3,389	-	3,389
Stallion Fund	118,207	8,479	126,686
	<u>121,596</u>	<u>8,479</u>	<u>130,075</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,421,023</u>	<u>45,590</u>	<u>1,466,613</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	503,940	(467,784)	955	37,111
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Stallion Fund	35,000	(26,521)	-	8,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>538,940</u>	<u>(494,305)</u>	<u>955</u>	<u>45,590</u>

### Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.10.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	1,034,813	264,614	1,299,427
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Farriery Fund	3,389	-	3,389
Stallion Fund	113,938	4,269	118,207
	<u>117,327</u>	<u>4,269</u>	<u>121,596</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,152,140</u>	<u>268,883</u>	<u>1,421,023</u>

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Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	638,406	(402,848)	29,056	264,614
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Stallion Fund	35,000	(30,731)	-	4,269
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>673,406</u>	<u>(433,579)</u>	<u>29,056</u>	<u>268,883</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.10.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	1,034,813	301,725	1,336,538
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Farriery Fund	3,389	-	3,389
Stallion Fund	113,938	12,748	126,686
	<u>117,327</u>	<u>12,748</u>	<u>130,075</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,152,140</u>	<u>314,473</u>	<u>1,466,613</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
National Shire Horse Trust Fund	1,142,346	(870,632)	30,011	301,725
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Stallion Fund	70,000	(57,252)	-	12,748
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,212,346</u>	<u>(927,884)</u>	<u>30,011</u>	<u>314,473</u>

## 20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2024.

## 21. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	45,590	268,883
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	4,537	5,415
Gain on investments	(955)	(29,056)
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(12,792)	-
Interest received	(21,863)	(2,666)
Dividends received	(27,954)	(25,970)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(2,526)	2,307
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	5,176	(8,682)
Increase in creditors	5,660	36
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<u>(5,127)</u>	<u>210,267</u>

## 22. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.10.23	Cash flow	At 30.9.24
	£	£	£
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>700,700</u>	<u>50,439</u>	<u>751,139</u>
	<u>700,700</u>	<u>50,439</u>	<u>751,139</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><u>700,700</u></u>	<u><u>50,439</u></u>	<u><u>751,139</u></u>

# Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Legacies	182,017	395,528
Grants	35,000	35,000
Sponsorships and donations	62,064	32,759
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	279,081	463,287
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Sale of goods	17,131	7,209
<b>Investment income</b>		
Listed investments	27,954	25,970
Bank interest received	21,863	2,666
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	49,817	28,636
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Shire horse show	82,453	60,134
Stud book fees, sales and service books	46,097	44,110
Sundry sales and other income	7,117	11,154
Stallion fund	2,000	2,000
Membership subscriptions	36,751	35,380
Life membership subscriptions	5,435	7,104
Shire/Heavy horse camp	13,058	14,392
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	192,911	174,274
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	538,940	673,406
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Marketing and merchandise costs	14,711	11,516
Attendance at shows and events	22,207	15,126
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36,918	26,642
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Shire horse show	142,382	100,537
Studbook, sales and service book costs	13,907	15,889
Silver spoons and membership recruitment costs	5,326	5,224
Stallion premiums	15,860	9,115
Carried forward	177,475	130,765

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>		
Brought forward	177,475	130,765
Stallion approvals	5,786	5,032
Stallion travelling	3,214	3,702
Stallion premium foals	350	6,500
Stallion semen storage	-	1,078
Shire/Heavy horse camp	10,641	13,555
Judges assessments and seminars	1,311	8,533
	<u>198,777</u>	<u>169,165</u>
<b>SUPPORT COSTS</b>		
<b>Administration charge</b>		
Salaries	119,284	89,867
Social security	4,532	2,818
Pensions	2,446	1,917
Postage	8,933	8,272
Printing and stationery	7,550	7,751
Meeting expenses	10,602	5,745
Bank charges	5,926	5,593
Promotion, advertising and website	6,530	5,818
Establishment costs	30,800	29,096
Sundry expenses	5,258	1,967
Irrecoverable VAT	22,678	28,988
VAT interest	20	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,537	5,415
	<u>229,096</u>	<u>193,247</u>
<b>Professional fees</b>		
Accountancy charges	9,705	3,815
Professional and consultancy fees	7,399	29,755
Independent examiner's remuneration	3,890	3,680
	<u>20,994</u>	<u>37,250</u>
<b>Shire horse of the year championship</b>		
Net deficit	8,520	7,275
	<u>494,305</u>	<u>433,579</u>
Total resources expended		
	<u>44,635</u>	<u>239,827</u>
Net income before gains and losses		
	<u>6,070</u>	<u>-</u>
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments		
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u><u>50,705</u></u>	<u><u>239,827</u></u>

# Election of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer

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## MARY FOSTER

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Mary Foster has spent her career in investment banking, specialising in equities, based in the City of London. She now farms with her husband in Suffolk where they have a diversified enterprise ranging from arable to holiday accommodation. She enjoys supporting the Mid Suffolk Light Railway, which is on their land. She also works as a trustee for various

charities, helping devise and manage investment portfolios to ensure and grow the funds available. The overall aim being to make certain the activities which are carried out are able to continue and that its longer-term needs are provided for within a clear governance framework, to ensure that ethical and sustainable goals are also met. Elsewhere she

divides her time between Suffolk and London and is a keen liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Farmers and also the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars, where she also chairs the finance committee. She is also a keen supporter of the arts and music



## ANNA SOROKO

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Anna Soroko is a solicitor and a Texas qualified US Attorney at Law and has lived in several countries around the world. She has worked as an energy lawyer internationally for over 40 years in both private practice and industry. Anna was also an elected director of the East of England Energy Group for 12 years and a member of the advisory board of the University of East Anglia business school for several years.

Anna has also had several articles and papers published and spoken at numerous conferences on various energy matters, including LNG, gas quality, carbon capture and storage and M&A.

She has had a lifelong interest in, and love of horses, and has competed at dressage, showjumping, and eventing in both the US and UK. Anna has also

kept horses at livery in both the US and UK and, for a short while, helped break-in the Sheik of Abu Dhabi's racehorses.

She owns three eventers competing from BE100, to advanced level. She currently sits on a BE committee.



## DAVID CLARKE

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An accountant, with over 20 years' experience working in both practice and in-house. I have experience of audit and accounting for a wide range of clients including farmers, landowners, local charities, and trading companies. I have worked across the full spectrum of organisations, from charities, public sector, listed companies and private companies. I currently work in a

manufacturing business overseeing all elements of the business, reporting and risk. I am delighted to have acted as honorary treasurer for the last two years and would value your support in being re-elected to the post. I have had connections with horses from a very early age, both in my family farming business and from friends and colleagues. My fascination with

Shire horses started when visiting a Shire breeder as a child. Volunteering my time to support this charity enables me to ensure the breed continues to fascinate many more generations to come.



# Election of Council Members

Council members who retire in 2025 and have confirmed their intention to stand for re-election this year:

**Mrs D Badger**, Tanworth in Arden, West Midlands

**Wm Bedford**, York, North Yorkshire

**J Burks**, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

**Miss C Eagle**, Sudbury, Suffolk

**Mrs S Flintham**, Newark, Nottinghamshire

**R Griffith**, Caernarfon, Gwynedd

**C Horler**, Bath, Somerset

**S Ledsham**, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

**G Rawlins**, Tamworth, Staffordshire

**F M Richardson**, Driffield, Yorkshire

**J Worthington**, Macclesfield, Cheshire

**New members standing for elections:**

**M Martin**, Askam-in-Furness, Cumbria

**Mrs J Muntz Torres**, Solihull, West Midlands

**S Roper**, Battle, East Sussex

There are 12 spaces within the Council available.

Please find on the following pages a brief introduction of existing and new members putting themselves forward for the 2025 Shire Horse Society Council Elections.

Please vote for your preferred candidates on the voting papers enclosed and return to the address shown in advance of the deadline.

For the avoidance of doubt, members can vote for up to twelve candidates. Members do not have to use all twelve votes. A member may only vote for one candidate once.



Batley Pepper Gray - photo credit 1st Class Images



Photo credit Peter Nixon

## EXISTING COUNCIL MEMBERS STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION



Mrs D Badger



Mr W M Bedford



Mr J Burks



Miss C Eagle



Mrs S Flintham



Mr R Griffith



Mr C Horler



Mr S Ledsham



Mr G Rawlins



Mr F M Richardson



Mr J Worthington

### MRS D BADGER

**Meetings attended 8 of 8**

I have now been on Council for three years and would like to stand for re-election. My family and I have a long history of breeding Shire horses at Bickers Court, which we continue to do so. We are breeding and using the SPARKS scheme as we believe in its value to increase the diversity of the gene pool to protect the Shire horse for future generations. During my time on Council, I have been a proactive member of the Training and Education committee, supporting training days and Heavy Horse Camp. I continue to support the Demo Team in their work promoting the versatility of the Shire horse breed to both the general public and wider membership. It would be an honour to be re-elected to Council and I would continue to work hard to represent Society members.

### MR W M BEDFORD

**Meetings attended 5 of 8  
(3 apologies received)**

I have been a member of Council for many years and have previously served on the Editing Committee, the former Executive Committee, and the Judges Assessment Panel. My main interest is upholding breeding standards and breeding quality show horses. I stand a number of champion stallions each year at stud and next year is no different.

### MR J BURKS

**Meetings attended 6 of 8  
(2 apologies received)**

I have been a great supporter of the Shire breed for the last 65 years, in that time I have been honoured to serve the members on Council, the judges panel as well as breeding and showing. I wish to stand for re-election and ask for your vote. I am a strong supporter of the next generation as well as new disciplines for the Shire and want to make sure the breed has a healthy future so future generations can enjoy them. Whilst not a political monster I do have an opinion and am prepared to stand up and be counted.

### MISS C EAGLE

**Meetings attended 6 of 8  
(2 apologies received)**

Helping to promote the Shire to the public and raising the profile of the breed is very important to me. I would really like to be voted back on to the Council this year to continue to be part of the Training and Education Committee. I am actively involved in projects which will invest in the breed's future to ensure longevity. I am passionate about helping people and ensuring that members feel inclusive, with access to any help required. I am involved with Heavy Horse Camp, which helps a considerable amount of people with confidence, improving knowledge and creating a network of new friends. I take part in demonstrations for the Society, to help promote the breed, raise awareness, and show its versatility. I am a rider and breeder but having been involved in

Society events and training days, I now do some agricultural classes at shows and occasionally drive.

### MRS S FLINTHAM

**Meetings attended 7 of 8  
(1 apology received)**

I am a Shire breeder and farmer in Nottinghamshire, alongside my father and two daughters. I am passionate about encouraging new people into the Shires and keeping the history alive too. I specialise in breeding horses and have been breeding with our Shire stallions, via artificial insemination, for a number of years. I have held a breeding training day for the Youth Council and a show training day for Lincolnshire Shire Horse Association and plan to do more days like these in the coming years. I have been on the Council for three years and I am now on the Show Committee, I would like to continue to help keep up the integrity of the Shire horse and support the breeders and owners of these fantastic horses.

### MR R GRIFFITH

**Meetings attended 8 of 8**

I have been around the Shire breed all my life and am the third-generation breeder and exhibitor at the Trem y Wyddfa Stud, North Wales. I have been a life member from the age of fifteen and have been fortunate to show in-hand across the country from a young age, including at young handlers and HOYS. I enjoy the breeding side of the Shires, running multiple stallions in order to preserve and develop the breed. What I breed and

how I show is a good representation of what I stand for as I promote Shires and showing in and around Wales. Standing for my second term, I am now an in-hand panel judge and the Chairman of the North Wales Shire Horse Society. I am a strong voice to represent members of the Society and the only Welsh representative on Council.

### **MR C HORLER**

#### **Meetings attended 8 of 8**

My name is Colin Horler of Radford Shires, I have been a member of the Society for over 40 years and have been around and showing Shire horses for more years than I care to remember. If I were lucky enough to be re-elected back onto Council, I would do my utmost to make sure that the members voices and opinions are heard at Council Meetings. I feel it is down to the members and the Shire Horse Society to guide the magnificent Shire horse in the right direction for the future, I think it is important to have a mixture of the modern ways of the Shire world working alongside the traditional ways.

### **MR S LEDSHAM**

#### **Meetings attended 6 of 8 (2 apologies received)**

I originally stood for Council to promote, protect, and preserve the Shire breed. Whilst on Council I have expressed my views on issues I feel have been important to achieve those goals. I have faced much opposition to my views on correct shoeing practices and on hock conformation. I know there are Council Members who agree with my opinions

but are reluctant to express their views. I also believe that many of the general membership are of similar views to myself. I have failed to convince Council of the need to investigate the issues of conformation further and therefore I need to show that I have some support within the general membership. You can show your support by casting a vote for me in this election. If I am unable to increase the number of votes I had at the last election, I intend, with much regret, to step down from Council.

### **MR G RAWLINS**

#### **Meetings attended 8 of 8**

I have enjoyed my time on the Council, and I have attended all the meetings, taking a great interest in what has been discussed. I am particularly passionate about keeping up the number of foals born each year and encouraging more mares to be used for breeding. I have been an active member of the Strategy and Development committee for the past three years, during which time we have supported the setting up of the Youth Council. I have also enjoyed taking part in several Shire Horse Society demonstrations and fundraising events that have helped raise the profile of the Shire horse breed. Finally, I lead the Shire breeding and showing programme for my family business, which continues the Rawlins family tradition in the Midlands, dating back nearly 100 years. I feel strongly that as a member of Council, I have the preservation of the Shire and interests of the members of Society at my heart.

### **MR F M RICHARDSON**

#### **Meetings attended 8 of 8**

I have been a part of the Council for the last 17 years; I have fully embraced this to help my aim of keeping the Shire horse in the forefront of the equestrian breeds. Alongside of the Council I am also on the full judges panel keeping the quality of the Shire standard upmost throughout Europe. Breeding and the showing of Shires throughout the summer promotes our great horses whilst carrying on the breed. Listening to the members and reporting this to the Council, so that continuous development can be made, whilst tradition is maintained.

### **MR J WORTHINGTON**

#### **Meetings attended 7 of 8 (1 apology received)**

I am willing to be considered for another term on Council taking forward opinions of other members and my own to keep the breed being promoted and exhibited all over the globe. I am the fourth generation of breeding the Shire horse. The Shire is in my blood, and I hope that the love and appreciation of them passes down to my own children along with other families. My priority is to encourage others to breed Shires so they can be used in whatever discipline they want and show their versatility.

## NEW CANDIDATES STANDING FOR ELECTION



Mr M Martin



Mrs J Muntz Torres



Mr S Roper

### MR M MARTIN

In my relative to some, short 10 years working with the Shire horse, I have developed a great passion for all aspects of showing and breeding of our great breed. Starting as a young handler, to owning, showing, and breeding my own horses. I have been lucky enough to learn from some of our great breeders and show men/women, and I believe it is imperative to pass on the knowledge and experience I have consumed to others. As a previous newcomer myself I recognise how overwhelming the Shire horse world could be and pride myself on being approachable and will always offer advice and support to others just as I have previously received. If elected I would be a voice for the great lovers of showing our magnificent horses,

with a passion for maintaining our breed traditions for future generations to come.

### MRS J MUNTZ TORRES

I am putting my name forward for Council 2025: I support the working Shire and the younger generation. I bought my first unbroken Shire in 1997. The Horlers broke him in and trained me, so I achieved an NVQ level 3 in Working and Driving Horses. I was driving from 1998 and started ploughing regularly from 2008. I have been a member of the MHHA since 1983 and Secretary from 2014-2023. I showed in harness, agricultural vehicle and implement classes: I started horse-boating in 2014. I was a contributor to Heavy Horse World until recently producing show reports.

### MR S ROPER

I was four when we got our first Shire, and I have not been without one at any time since. I am an active breeder under the prefix 'Horsmans.' I am an avid follower of pedigrees and favour horses with depth, power, and good movement. I aim to breed to the standard, but it is growing increasingly difficult, I am concerned that there is a decline of these qualities. I have a dozen Shires and show regularly during the season, I believe in fairness and transparency for all exhibitors, again I am concerned that these fundamentals are sometimes lacking. I would like to support the Society's members in upholding equality and preserving breed standards.

# Shire Horse of the Year Qualifying Shows



2024 Driven Champion Landcliffe Glassia

## 2025 HOYS Qualifiers

National Stallion  
National Mare  
Driffield Show  
South Wales Shire Horse Show  
Royal Cheshire Show  
Royal Norfolk Show  
Bakewell Show  
Great Ecclestone Show  
Newport Show  
Derbyshire County Show  
Penistone Show  
New Forest County Show  
Suffolk County  
Nottinghamshire County Show  
Staffordshire County Show  
Royal Welsh Show  
Devon County Show

## Demonstrations

Grateful thanks are recorded to the following members who helped the Society organise demonstrations promoting the Shire horse across the country in 2024.

Neil Andrews, Denise Badger, Mike Bingham, Rob Clarke, Jo-Ann Clubley, Caroline Eagle, Jono Fryer, Callum Fuller-Shapcott, Gayle Fuller-Shapcott, Joanne Grant, Deb Green, Stuart Green, Kelly Holder, Brett Masters, Hook Norton Brewery, Sally Jones, Greg Rawlins, Mark Richardson, Yvonne Simmons, Colin Stokes, Carolyn Truss, Rita Wells.

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# Notes

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Registered Charity No 210619

# Shire Horse Society

To preserve, promote and protect the horse that put the Great into Britain



## National Shire Horse Show

7th-9th March 2025

Bingley Hall, Staffordshire Showground, ST18 0BD



Photos credit: Real Time Imaging

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**SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY**

**(Established in 1878 to promote the Old English Breed of Cart Horse)**

Governing Document:  
**Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Registered in England – Certificate of Incorporation 12383**

**Registered Charity No. 210619**

Registered Office:  
**The Old Dairy, Rockingham Castle and Park,  
Market Harborough,  
Leicestershire LE16 8TH**

Tel: **01536 771611**

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Facebook: **/theshirehorsesociety**

X: **@saveourshires**

Chief Executive: **Victoria Clayton**