



WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

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www.wildernessfoundation.org.uk



**ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER 2025**

Wilderness Foundation UK/Registered Company No. 06003527
Registered Charity in England No.1118493/Registered Charity in Scotland No.SCo41697

Wilderness Foundation UK

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TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK
INTRODUCTION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Directors, who are also the trustees of the charity for the purposes of Charity Law, present their annual report, which is also the Directors report as required by the Companies Act and the audited financial statement of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies as set out in the note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to entities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)" as amended for accounting period commencing from 1 January 2019.

This report represents the twelve months to 31 December 2025 and describes what the Wilderness Foundation UK achieved during the year through its programmes in environmental protection, education and outdoor therapy, explains our constitution and governance arrangements, and outlines our future strategy.

We would like to thank the donors, sponsors, volunteers and friends of the Wilderness Foundation for their tremendous contributions and support in enabling us to make meaningful impacts for nature and people, and continue to reach thousands of beneficiaries, during the year.

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Trustees

Toby Aykroyd (retired 16 December 2025)
Dr Steve J Carver
Vincent (GVB) Thompson (Chair)
Deborah Fielding
Julie A Fosh
Andrew L J Gibbs (retired 26 June 2025)
Perdeep Grewal
Dr Peter Hobson (retired 30 September 2025)
Peter Martin (retired 26 June 2025)
Glyn Parry
Tomilewa Platts
Joanne K Roberts
Andrew Sheepshanks
Murray D Soutar
Mark Thomasson (sadly deceased 9 May 2025)
Matt A Williams (resigned 26 June 2025)
Ross Brockman
Alan Somerville

Secretary Joanne K Roberts

Charity Number (England & Wales) 1118493

Charity number (Scotland) SC041697

Company Number 06003527

Registered office

England and Wales:
Trinity House
2 Whitbreads Farm Lane
Chatham Green
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 3FE

Scotland:
Wilderness Foundation
c/o Scottish Land and Estates
Stuart House
Eskmills Business Park
Musselburgh
EH21 7PB

Auditor

Edmund Carr LLP
146 New London Road,
Chelmsford
Essex, CM2 0AW

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Chair of the Board of Trustee's Report

It is with great pleasure that I report another successful year of progress at the Wilderness Foundation UK (WFUK) where the demand for our services continues to increase in the wake of Covid, reflecting the increase in mental health problems, particularly amongst the young, and increased concerns arising from global political uncertainties and the vulnerable state of our planet. Our Financial Review shows our progress over the past five years since Covid with core total income increasing from £621k in 2021 to £929k in 2025, a compound increase of 8.4% pa over the five-year period. Over the past year, income, excluding our Mann Wood acquisition, has increased from £803k to £929k, an increase of 16% with costs increasing from £830k to £875k leaving a healthy margin of £54k and reserves, ex Mann Wood, of £299k. The number of beneficiaries in 2025 was 8755, over one thousand more beneficiaries than last year.



Throughout the year, we continued the strategy adopted in 2021 (reviewed again in 2025) to increase our presence across the county of Essex with the opening of a further (satellite) operation at High Woods Country Park, Colchester in conjunction with Colchester City Council to serve areas of deprivation in the north-east of the county. This has been followed by the introduction of a new allotment project in Brentwood in conjunction with Brentwood Borough Council supported by the current Mayor, Councillor Jay Laplain. We are looking to continue our expansion in both areas during 2026 in line with this five-year strategy.

Our various programmes and activities are covered in the Trustees Report so I will not repeat here other than to highlight progress at Mann Wood now we are into the second year of ownership with extensive use by our various programmes and with active research projects studying the impact of our non-extractive strategy in conjunction with Anglia Ruskin University (ARU). ARU provides and supervises the four PhD researchers involved with financial support from WFUK. Our relationship with ARU develops following its merger with Writtle Agricultural College where we have had a close relationship for many years thanks to our trustee, Prof Peter Hobson. We are currently engaged in developing this relationship through ARU's Faculty of Health, Medicine and Social Care, psychology and environmental sciences given the clear synergies and our longstanding involvement with academic impact assessment and research into matters relating to both mental health and the environment and the interrelationship between the two.

Over the weekend of 23 to 25 October 2026, we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in conjunction with ARU as part of their annual Chelmsford Science Festival which this year is entitled Future Worlds: Earth, Space, You. The WFUK three-day event entitled Wild Voices: *Connecting Science, People and Nature* will be celebrated at Writtle and comprise a reception dinner on the Friday, headline speakers on the Saturday and workshops on the Sunday. The event will also involve our sister operations in S Africa and the US.

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After many years faithful service in building WFUK into the force that it now is, in 2025 we said goodbye to some of our key trustees who have contributed so much to this development being: **Peter Martin**, a trustee for eight years and my predecessor as Chair for five; **Matt Adam-Williams**, a trustee for eight years who built our Governance system; **Toby Aykroyd** a trustee for 28 years and **Prof Peter Hobson** 10 years who together contributed so much to our environmental work and especially to the purchase of Mann Wood, plans for its management related research; and **Andrew Gibbs**, six years who played a key role in ensuring our financial stability.

Happily, in 2026, we have been able to add new trustees with relevant expertise and great enthusiasm being **Ross Brockman** who joins our Finance and General Purposes Committee; **Alan Sommerville** who joins our Scotland and Environmental Committees; and **Alexandra Johnson** who joins our Governance Committee. And I am delighted to report the return of **Julie Fosh** after her sabbatical for her year as High Sheriff a role she carried out with exceptional and widely acknowledged success. The resultant contacts and respect she has achieved will greatly enhance the standing of WFUK in the greater Essex community.

Sadly, notwithstanding the demand for our services, the funding market gets ever more difficult whilst our attempts to build commissioned income from the NHS and education services are further complicated by plans for local government reorganisation and the establishment of five unitary authorities within greater Essex. This means that henceforth WFUK will need to engage with five different entities in Essex regarding healthcare and education rather than the single Essex County Council but we are well positioned thanks to various of our trustees and the preparation we have undertaken.

I leave to last the single most important aspect of my report namely the recruitment of a successor for our exceptional Chief Executive, Jo Roberts, as referred to in my last report. Over her 28 years with WFUK, Jo has built a small entity with limited operations into a nationally recognised organisation supporting thousands of young people and other beneficiaries to build resilience, confidence and mental wellbeing through nature-based interventions, building pro-environmental programmes, and actively conserving wild nature through the purchase of 92-acre Mann Wood. Jo remains as a trustee and will continue to play a vital role as Clinical Lead ensuring the continued strength and integrity of the Foundation's therapeutic programmes and approach. Our sincere thanks to Jo for her remarkable achievements.

The Trustees recognised the difficulty in recruiting a worthy successor to Jo so have been happy to take their time and search widely which ends with the happy conclusion of the appointment of James Davey to take over as CEO as from the conclusion of our AGM and Board meeting on 25 June 2026. James brings 25 years of senior leadership experience across international NGOs where he has guided organisations through growth and so is well equipped to lead the Foundation through the next stage of its development. The celebration of Jo's remarkable success and the formal welcome of James will be central to our celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the Foundation in October.

Finally, I would like to record my sincere thanks to Jo, her excellent team and my fellow Trustees for their dedication and hard work in support of The Wilderness Foundation in its mission to support some of society's most vulnerable people and to protect our planet from excessive exploitation. And my thanks too to our funders without whom none of this would be possible.

Vincent Thompson
Chair of Trustees, June 2026

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Our Objects and Aims

Founded in 1976, WFUK has sought to pursue its objectives through the three disciplines outlined below, all of which are interrelated and support each other. Our approach to all three disciplines has been academic with regular and comprehensive monitoring and evaluation supported over time by The University of Essex, The Judge Business School, Cambridge and more recently Anglia Ruskin University. The five-year record of accomplishment included under the Financial Review on page 43 bears witness to the success of our approach and the increased demand for our services, as well as our growth over the past year. We aim to continue our development of all three disciplines with environment gaining a significant enhancement in 2024 due to the Foundation's purchase of 92 acres of semi natural ancient woodland.

Our charity's objects as set out in the company's memorandum of association are:

To advance the education of the public by increasing knowledge and understanding of wilderness and the conservation thereof and the interrelationship between wilderness and the environment generally by the provision of instruction and of opportunities for direct experience of wilderness; to initiate and manage social benefit programmes which use wilderness experience to enable vulnerable and disadvantaged people to play a fuller role in society (especially the young).

These philosophies are deeply embedded within the guiding principles of the organisation, and WFUK undertake to support and facilitate programmes and advocacy under the following banners:



Climate change mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity enrichment, rewilding, community engagement, outdoor therapy, and sustainability has been a focus for the management of our own 92-acre woodland. Emphasis is also on incubating youth ambassadors for wild places and nature; and building on climate mitigation projects in schools.

Environmental and curriculum-based workshops for Primary, Secondary and SEND schools as well as our Leadership Academy involving team building and wilderness expeditions keep us linked to our roots.

Supporting vulnerable young children, teens and adults in personal growth, improved mental health, and resilience, alongside inspiring them to feel part of the natural world remains at the heart of our work. Working within wild nature as a therapeutic tool to gain perspective and understanding for groups and individuals, has grown into a highly respected and popular programmes, partly due to more people recognising the value of the outdoors in how they feel.

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The nature of our work intertwines these objectives. Those who are referred to us for a therapeutic reason always leave with a connection and understanding of the natural environment and vice versa. Therefore, whilst the following report looks to define the work undertaken within each discipline, there are often overlaps.

Most of the work is undertaken at our headquarters at Chatham Green, located in the rural outskirts of Chelmsford in Essex and our newly acquired Mann Wood only a short drive or an hour's walk away in Great Leighs. Other satellite sites include Essex based spaces – such as Spains Hall Estate (near Finchingfield), Highwoods Country Park (Colchester), Hatfield Forest (near Harlow) and a range of rural Scottish estates, primarily in South Lanarkshire, Perthshire, and Aberdeenshire.

We refer to the Charity Commissions of England and Wales, and OSCR in Scotland for guidance on public benefit when reviewing our objects and aims and on planning our future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the objects and aims they have set.

In 2021 our Governance Committee updated our Memorandum and Articles of Association and worked through the Charity Commission to have these amended and filed.

Throughout 2025 we conducted further training and development in, for example, Outdoor First Aid, mentor training, outdoor therapists CPD and training, GDPR, health and safety, Level 2 safeguarding and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training across the entire organisation. This was driven to a degree by a new contract with Essex County Council's IPES alternative education provision. This expanded our part time alternative education for bespoke groups and individuals that we were already providing and prepared us to take on the additional work in 2026.

We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator.

Public Benefit Statement

This statement complies with the duty set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit as published by the Commission.

The charity was founded in 1976 by Dr Ian Player DMS and Sir Laurens van der Post with the aim of raising the profile and value of wilderness areas, through offering direct experience of wild places to a wide range of the public, with a focus on young people.

We continue this work today, with our activities focused on three key areas – the environment, education (including leadership) and outdoor therapy with its concomitant social benefits.

Regularly connecting with the public is key to the organisation and is achieved through community engagement events by our Development and Marketing team. We also use a range of communication tools, such as open days, training, blogs, articles, podcasts, lectures, events, sharing research outcomes and social media as well as our quarterly newsletter helps us to reach beyond our immediate community of participants and friends on the need for our work. As we communicate the urgency of creating global and local awareness of the balance between people and nature, we advocate for the wellbeing of both through conservation efforts, social programmes, nature therapy, outdoor activities, and leadership.

We are honoured to include among our Patrons:

- Sir Humphrey Wakefield Bt – Patron in Chief
- Lord Petre

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- Dr. John Hemming
- Bruce Little
- Nicky Rattray
- Cathy O'Dowd
- Simon Hall

Our Ambassadors include:

- Samantha Gare
- Christina Ballard
- Tim Sayers
- Wouter Schuitemaker
- Jack Harrison

1. The Wilderness Environment



We aim to protect wilderness and wild places by highlighting the economic, social, mental health and biodiversity benefits of wild nature. We encourage our participants to take action to build a sustainable planet.

In 2024 the Foundation made a ground-breaking development- securing the purchase of Mann Wood, a 92 acres site of semi-natural ancient woodland close to our base at Chatham Green and the towns of Braintree and Chelmsford.

During 2025 we have continued to work on management strategies and actions, community engagement, education, therapy and research in the woodland.

Working closely with Anglia Ruskin University and support from Leeds University Wildland Research Institute, we developed four PhD opportunities to research and build data on the woodland's ecology, climate adaptability and biodiversity. The first PhD student costs were shared between ARU and Foundation and will run for three years starting in 2026. The others are to be self-funded.

The Environment Committee meets quarterly in support of the main board of Trustees. They continue to focus on strategic application for our environmental engagement goals and maintaining our wilderness ethos across our sites and programmes. Part of this committee is a working group on the

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management of Mann Wood and we co-opted a new advisor Dr Owen Middleton, who is an ecologist and works in the field of carbon financing. We also had a change at the end of the year in the Committee structure with Toby Aykroyd – Chair of the Committee - retiring from a long trusteeship with the Foundation remaining an advisor, being replaced by Prof Steve Carver. Professor Peter Hobson, also stood down after a long trusteeship and stays as an advisor.

Current management planning is 80% of the woodland being in non-invasive stewardship and 20% managed for group and community engagement. This is a holding space whilst we wait for the PhD data to become available.

To add to our engagement footprint and strategy, we continue to grow and develop partnerships with landowners with similar objectives such as The Essex Wildlife Trust and The National Trust and continue to drive our network to expand our reach. We have used opportunities to educate and advocate on how biodiversity and rewilding can support the mitigation of climate change. We have engaged in volunteering in both England and Scotland and offered facilitation that supports groups or individuals produce ways we can all help to reduce our carbon impact on the planet. Our work with Beaver Education at Spains Hall Estate has been key to this along with our Wild Schools programme which reaches, classrooms, schools and the parent network throughout Essex.

Through our social media, public talks and engagement programmes we draw attention to the loss of biodiversity, increasing population, pressure from housing development and infrastructure on fragile and disappearing space for nature across Essex and nationally, and the positive impact of wilderness and protected green space in mitigating climate change and biodiversity decline.

Both our CEO and Professor Peter Hobson, adviser of the Environment Committee, continue to serve as commissioners on the **Essex Climate Action Commission**. This enables us to make a difference through the commission on climate change mitigation and reaching carbon net zero goals by 2050. We have benefitted from being at the forefront of action across Essex and other parts of the UK.

Our CEO also serves on the **Local Nature Partnership** in Essex. This forms part of a national initiative for raising awareness of existing and potential areas for protection in each county.

The Environmental Education team join various think tank groups of other environmentalists and educators across the country such as Conservation Optimism, Heads of Education Sustainability Group, and have close links with Chelmsford City Councillors who are focused on sustainability and environment.

We believe that communities, government, and business leaders have an inherent responsibility to act as responsible custodians of the environment and to support a healthy society through best practice. We ran a range of outdoor activities for corporates, social service providers, and others on sustainability and human wellbeing, delivered during the year. Through the development of ESG and CSR, we continue to engage with corporate organisations such as QBE, Rotary and other community groups.

1.1 Partnerships

In 2025, we continued to maintain and grow partnerships with third party landowners, such as Colchester City Council, Brentwood Council, Hatfield Forest in Takeley owned by The National Trust, Essex Wildlife Trust and Spains Hall Estate in Finchingfield (owned by Archie Ruggles Brise) amongst others.

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Colchester City Council enable us to deliver programmes in Highwoods Country Park on the edge of the city. The area provides access to communities of high levels of disadvantage such as Clacton and Jaywick, and other more remote parts of north Essex up to the Suffolk border.

Hatfield Forest offers an exciting opportunity to deliver education programmes. It is an internationally significant site, both for its ecology and cultural heritage and is the most complete example of a medieval royal hunting forest surviving today. With over 1,000 acres of ancient coppices and wood pasture and 1,000 years of continuous management, it provides a unique insight of how the countryside was shaped in the years following the Norman Conquest.

Spain's Hall Estate complements our education programmes and environmental goals through regenerative farming and the recent reintroduction of beavers, the first in Essex for over 400 years. Our environmental education team deliver their education programmes on the beaver habitats, complementing the established education programmes at Chatham Green, by providing a new innovative experience.

The Foundation works with the Essex Wildlife Trust, John Muir Trust, Institute of Outdoor Learning, Learning Outside the Classroom, X-Adventures amongst others.

1.2.1 Environmental Programmes, Young Ambassadors and Climate Action

1.2.1 Treun Scotland

Treun is a wilderness therapy, personal growth, community volunteering and resilience building programme that operates across various estates in Scotland. For volunteering the participants spend a day working with rangers and ecologists to give back to the land. Volunteering, can include peatland restorations, wetland management, vegetation clearing, making birdboxes and tree planting. This goes alongside therapy-based wilderness trails over five days.

The programme in 2025 was primarily delivered at Glenlivet Estate in Aberdeenshire and we carried out workshops in areas around the various schools who were engaged with us, both pre and post expeditions.

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During their weeklong wilderness therapy programme, participants had the opportunity to earn a Leave No Trace (LNT) certificate. We also continued our partnership with the John Muir Trust (JMT), a Scottish charity, established in 1983 to conserve wild land and wild places 'for the benefit of all.' The LNT and JMT awards help the participants to gain a sense of accomplishment, improving self-confidence and self-awareness. At the same time, it advances the participants' understanding of the natural environment and helps develop practical employability skills and care for the natural world.

During 2025 we also became AALA licensed which enables our own accredited guides to run the expeditions in house.

1.2.2 The Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Quality Badge

In 2025, we proudly continued to be awarded the LOtC Quality Badge accreditation, confirming that we meet rigorous standards in both learning and risk management needs across all our programmes on offer.

1.2.3 Wild Schools

'Wild Schools', is our Climate Action Outreach programme for Year 5 and 6 students where we work within the school and with a whole year group. Understanding climate change is complex and our team make the programme easily digestible, simple in message, and empowering young people to act and influence in their school communities by becoming 'environmental heroes'. Learning covers the importance of nature and our relationship to it, the definition of climate change, sustainability and all the concepts around climate change that are out there. After presentations, the young people create a youth led environmental project over 4 weeks. Under guidance and supervision, the groups decide on a common goal they want to champion. For example, one school focused on the plight of hedgehogs and created a campaign which they spread through their village and community after engaging with their parish council.

During 2025 we were recipients of a generous grant from a London insurance company which will enable us to deliver to 12 schools, starting in 2026.

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1.2.4 Down to Earth Allotments in Chelmsford



Our Down to Earth Allotments Project manages 6 allotment plots in Melbourne Community Allotments, central Chelmsford. A variety of different fruits and vegetables are grown, alongside ornamental plants, and areas left wild for the benefit of native wildlife including a new nature pond and wetland area.

During 2025 huge progress was made on site, and we particularly enjoyed a visit from our local MP Marie Goldman, and Cllr Rose Moore on a hot and beautiful afternoon. They were particularly interested in a new SEND school nearby who visit the allotments every Thursday for their students to engage in outdoor activities and our solar panels that were funded through a grant from Chelmsford City Council. This has enabled us to use our container as a working meeting space, with electricity for lights, heating, a small stove and the particularly important kettle. This means we can cook together using allotment grown vegetables, stay warm in the winter and an excellent shelter from inclement weather at other times.

The Tuesday group has grown with new members. The project supports adults who have various additional needs including mental health difficulties, learning challenges, and social exclusion. The group met weekly throughout the year in all weather conditions, taking on seasonal tasks including sowing seeds and planting out, harvesting produce, alongside routine jobs like weeding, watering, mowing the grass, and pruning. The group sit together



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for breaks and at lunchtime to help reduce the feeling of isolation whilst learning new social skills that they may not experience in their daily lives.

Corporate sponsors included SureGreen who donated sleepers reconstructing a raised bed, Chandlers who donated the timber for a pergola, constructed by two of our skilled wilderness volunteers, and it has provided a 'social hub' for breaktimes. (This social engagement, is as important as the horticultural skills they develop whilst on site, particularly for vulnerable adults who experience loneliness). We are grateful also to Envar, Longacres and Abercorn Garden Centres who donated compost and seed potatoes, respectively, as well as Asda who donated craft materials and gardening tools.

Impact:

In 2025, there were 380 attendees with over 1165 hours spent on the allotment by participant adults and children, with many further hours given freely by our team of volunteers to help maintain the allotment space. Some of these hours were kindly donated by groups of corporate volunteers, including Braintree Rivers Rotary Club and Giant Group who kindly joined the Allotment team to help barrow a delivery of manure up and down the site!

In the autumn John Lewis returned to finish painting the hub, Family Solutions cleared undergrowth at the Chelmsford allotment and Giant Group were also back to do some woodland floor regeneration at Mann Wood, a job continued a few weeks later by a team from QBE. Braintree Rivers Rotary Club came for another session, this time repairing the shed and raised beds at the Chelmsford allotment

The Sir Geoff Hurst School Group at the D2E Allotments



Sir Geoff Hurst Academy is a local special school offering a nurturing, inclusive environment for pupils with SEMH (Social, Emotional, and Mental Health) and associated needs, whom we welcomed as a new group to our allotment for weekly gardening sessions for the children aged 9-11. When they started in March 2025 behaviours were challenging and their attention span was low. However, by attending weekly the children have developed an appreciation for where our food comes from having planted seeds through to harvesting, and cooking with the produce. Pond dipping in our wildlife pond was a particularly popular activity followed by digging for potatoes, which they said was like digging for treasure!

The horticultural facilitator has noticed a decrease in antisocial behaviour on a month-by-month basis, as the children's trust and engagement deepen and their nature connection grows, resulting in improved emotional regulation. The class teacher stated that "The allotment is their happy place".

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Braintree Community Garden

In 2025 we were funded for a second year by Braintree District Council and the government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to continue to grow and develop our Braintree Community Garden project. This weekly group was set up to help provide a safe, supportive, and therapeutic space for Braintree residents facing complex challenges and a disconnection with their local environment.

The garden is located within central Braintree and through a partnership with Braintree Council and the Braintree Recreation Ground Trustees, we were able to set up a weekly gardening group to help vulnerable participants engage in gardening. Each week the group were helped to build confidence, resilience, and practical skills, actively combatting social isolation by creating a welcoming and inclusive space where individuals can connect with nature and people, build friendships, and feel a sense of belonging.

During the year we started a partnership with DWP (Department of Work and Pensions) who would refer clients to the allotments as part of their engagement with them. This work continues to increase, and we are keen to get it established to the same extent at our Melbourne Allotments.

There were 158 attendees over the year with 294 hours of participation, with participants regularly attending each week for a two-hour session.

In March Braintree Rivers Rotary Club brought in two groups. One helped wheelbarrow two bulk bags of compost at Braintree Community Garden, with the other assisting at the allotments.

1.2.5 Leave No Trace Training

We continue to promote Leave No Trace values throughout all our programmes and through our outreach over the years, we have delivered LNT Awareness training for hundreds of children and adults. This teaches the values and ethics of respecting nature and the outdoors, managing your personal impact on the earth and learning not to leave litter or traces of ourselves wherever we travel outdoors.

All human life and being is inextricably entangled with and suffused by everything else. This broad commonwealth includes every inhabitant of the biosphere, the animals, plants, fungi, bacteria and viruses. It includes the rivers, seas, winds, stones and clouds that support, shake and shadow us. These animate forces, these companions on the great adventure of time and becoming, have much to teach us and have already taught us a great deal.

We are who we are because of them, and we cannot live without them.

- James Bridle

2 Environmental Education and Leadership

Through the year we educated over 7941 young people about biodiversity and nature, their relationship to the wild and how they can care for it.

We develop leaders for the future who understand the crucial need for a balance between humans and nature, to ensure a sustainable future for all. We continue to develop our offering to include primary, secondary, graduate, and postgraduate education, alongside bespoke training or engagement days for businesses and corporates.

2.1 Education

We understand that learning from an early age embeds practice and forms mindsets. For this purpose, we take our role as environmental educators very seriously. Through the year, we delivered a range of curriculum-based education opportunities to children and teenagers about wilderness ethics, our relationship to nature, biodiversity, natural history, and geography linked to landscape and the sciences.

During the outdoor classes we teach Leave no Trace ethics, meet and match curricular requirements, principles of sustainable living, and aim to build a long and lasting love and connection to the wild.

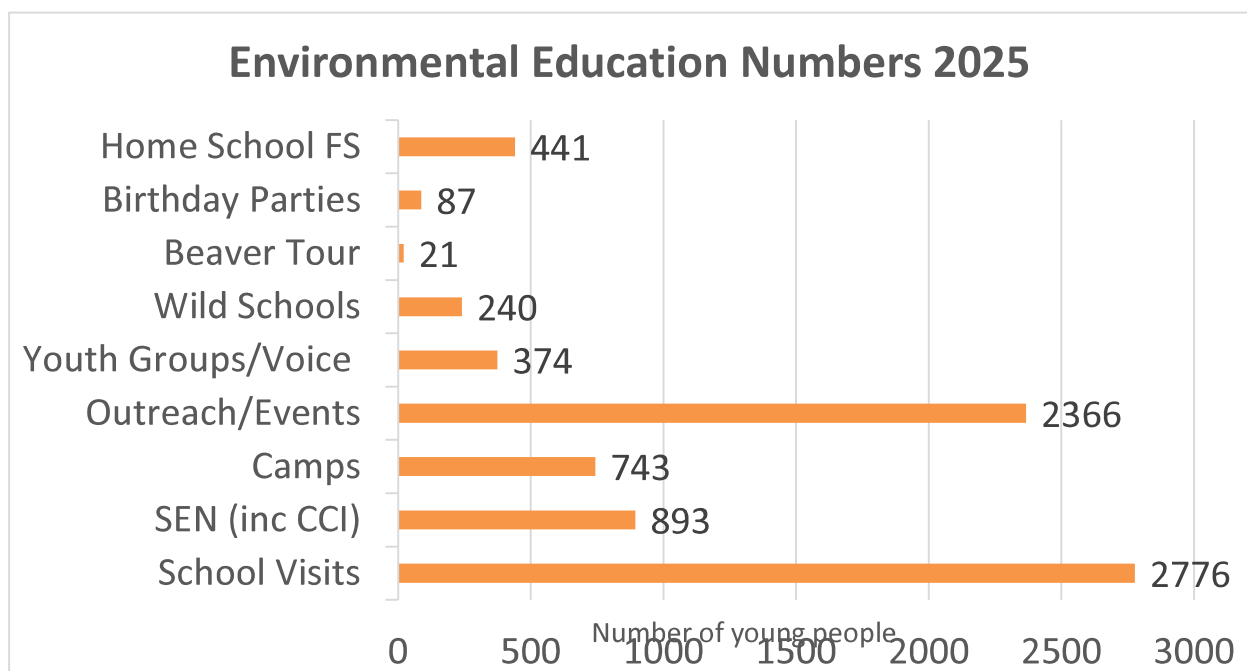
We continue to work with schools and young leaders to develop a social and ecological experience through wilderness journeys. Since Covid we had not replaced our South African Wilderness Leadership trails for senior schools which have existed since 1976 but have been offering wilderness journeys in Scotland in its place. This year we continue to run a bespoke expedition to Scotland for students drawn from the Haberdashers' Company. Our itinerary included paddling Loch Awe from end to end, climbing Ben Nevis and volunteering with the Nevis Partnership during ten days in July. The work is focused on empowering young leaders of the future to discover wild places, how to travel through and in them, and to build nature connections and knowledge to carry back into their schools and embed in future lives.

2.1.1 Wilderness Environmental Education



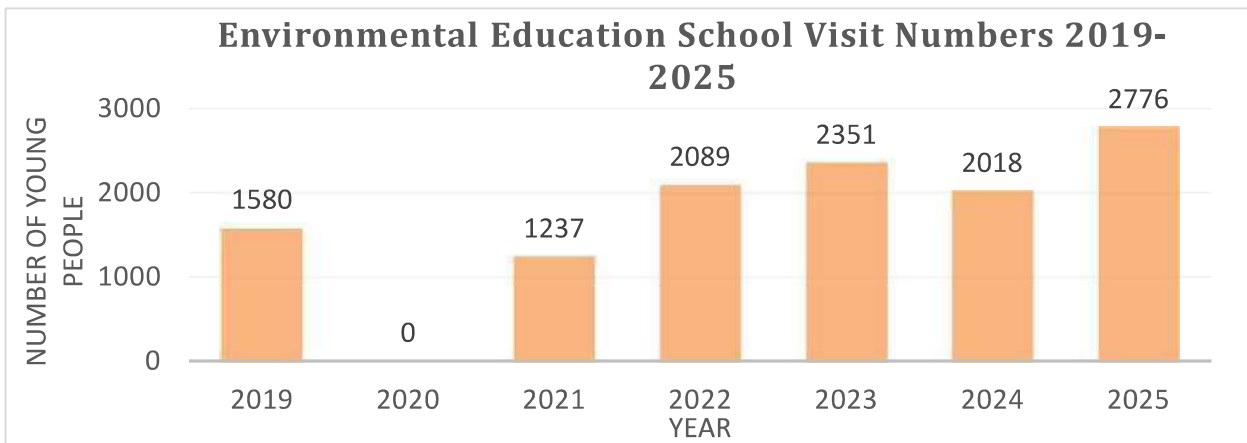
The Wilderness Environmental Education Programme engaged a total of 7941 young people from January to December 2025. In 2025 the team delivered across 4 sites in Essex including headquarters at Chatham Green, Mann Wood, National Trust Hatfield Forest and Spain's Hall Farm Estate in Finchingfield. They also went into schools to deliver our Wild Schools programme, a pilot for our River Schools programme, alongside various events for outreach opportunities. See below for a graph which demonstrates the full reach of the programme delivery and numbers.

This year the environmental education programme has been produced by 4 regular freelancers and four fulltime environment education staff:



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School Visits



Across the year the team engaged over 2,776 young people of children visiting our site, spanning from early years all the way into secondary school. See above for a graph to show the numbers of young people engaged through our school visits at Chatham Green 2019-2025 and Hatfield Forest 2022 to 2025.

Camps

School holiday camps have continued to be successful across 2025 with a total of 743 young people joining us throughout the year. We continue to have an increase in SEND young people joining our camps, so we continued to adapt and empower each child to gain the most from their visit. In October 2025 we piloted the first Mann Wood Camp for 11–16-year-olds and due to the success of this camp we will be providing this across the year in 2026. See the graph above for our numbers of young people for camps from 2019.



Neurodiversity Camps

During the year to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND needs who struggled to be in the larger camp groups we started specialist neurodiversity holiday camps with smaller numbers run by therapists. Over 14 sessions during the year held on site at Chatham Green we delivered 396 hours to 67 young people.

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Youth Groups

2025 was another successful year for delivering youth groups. These groups encompass our own Youth Voice programme and delivery to groups such as scouts, cubs, beavers, brownies, guides and rainbows. In 2025 we delivered sessions to a total of 374 young people through a range of workshops including pond dipping, bug hunting, nature walks, bat evenings and, new for 2025, Bird Ringing demonstrations.

These groups are important to the programme as they provide outreach to a wide range of young people and families. Often young people that visit Chatham Green or Hatfield Forest on school visits or through camps also visit us for their evening groups, which imbeds nature connection and increases familiarity with WF.

SEND School Visits

SEND groups have continued throughout the academic year. In 2025 we have been worked closely with Edith Borthwick, CCI and Farnham to provide weekly sessions for the students. We have had a total of 883 SEND students visit us across the year and we continue to work closely with each school, ensuring that every visit is specifically tailored to the young people's needs. It is important to note that students that visit us from Edith Borthwick have high physical and mental needs; often these learners have not been given the opportunity to be out of school and will do this for the first time on a visit to us at Chatham Green. This is highlighting the team's ability and the sites capabilities to provide a safe, secure and fully inclusive experience for all young people.

We have found over the past few years and more notably that during 2025 we are supporting an increase in SEND individuals through all our programmes. This does mean that the education team must adapt and be flexible with every group to ensure that the correct support can be provided to the whole group, and to those individuals who may need a different learning style or adaptations within the session.

Forest Home School

The Forest Home School sessions have continued to grow throughout 2025 with home school numbers nearly reaching 500 for 2025. The team increased the sessions in the autumn from a half day to a full day of forest school being run at Mann Wood. We have been able to engage a small group of volunteers who regularly support the sessions who work alongside the team.

Youth Advocacy and Climate Action

2022 saw the launch of Wild Schools, a new Climate Action outreach programme for Year 5 and 6 students. The programme for 2025 was funded for 2 classes to each receive 4 interactive presentations focused on the importance of nature, understanding climate change, sustainability, and planning environmental projects. Wild Schools has been an influential programme, delivered within schools to encourage stewardship of the environment by giving young people the knowledge and empowerment to make a difference.



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"Nature is important to me because nature keeps us alive and if we kill all of it we will not be able to survive. People in the future are counting on us to do our part to help keep the world natural and avoid it being man made. Also, I love taking a walk in the fresh air and I love seeing the animals but if we don't look after nature all of that will be gone soon."

– Year 5 Student at Writtle Juniors

In 2025 we also got the opportunity to work with the Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust to provide engagement workshops for Fordham All Saints Primary as part of a River Schools pilot programme. This project helped to connect the local school to their river and understand the work that is being carried out to the Fiddlers Hill Meadow and the riparian zone next to the River Colne to improve habitats, increase biodiversity and reduce flooding of the road.

We have developed a River Schools programme and currently are seeking funding to run this in parallel with Wild Schools.

Youth Volunteers and Work Experience

Over the year we have been fortunate to have multiple work experience students and youth volunteers. Some of these young people have been coming to events with the charity such as camps since they were 6-7 years old and actively want to give back and go into a career working in the environment, with young people or both (see Oscar in the photo on the right). Some students found out about us through their school led work experience and have continued to volunteer once their work experience finished.

'During my work experience at The Wilderness Foundation, I have completed physical and online work like building fences for the fruit bushes, helping with school visits and writing social media posts to promote the charities therapy and counselling opportunities. This has shown me the opportunity of working in an office as well as being outside working with my workmates and what it's like being in a work environment.'



The team joined 3,000 school children at the Essex Schools Food and Farming Day at ARU Writtle. The Essex Schools Food and Farming Day is a significant event for Essex schools as it provides an opportunity to learn about food production, sustainability and careers in agriculture and the environment. The team had a wonderful day talking to young people about the importance of the natural world whilst leaf rubbing to create colourful bookmarks.

2.2 Leadership and Corporate Programmes

Whilst protecting the environment, we also understand that effective leadership and advocacy is enhanced through direct experience of the natural world. We facilitate this through volunteering days, wellbeing days and team building exercises. We make sure we can support businesses to evidence through this work that they are contributing to targets such as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) requirements.

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We live in a world where the disconnection with nature grows daily and there is urgency to address this as resources and biodiversity diminish. Climate change is a vital area to address and support all groups to play their part in contributing to a more sustainable future. The Foundation is linked to a wide range of influential groups and think tanks in this realm – such as the Essex Climate Action Commission, and the Nature Landscape Partnership, and seeks to address public engagement and action through its varied programmes and outreach, both social and environmental.



The increase in corporations and organisations looking to evidence their environmental and social responsibility dovetails into this work and we continue to build relationships with a range of business groups and corporates who volunteer or donate to support our work. This is an area we wish to do more of and were grateful to have a John Lewis sponsored staff member who joined our team for 6 months and who worked on our corporate outreach, team building and ESG opportunities. Her report is available on request. We are grateful to John Lewis for this opportunity.

All our programmes have included:

- the joy of volunteering
- ESG offsets and helping staff learn more about sustainability
- building respect for the earth's rich but diminishing biodiversity and resources;
- the value of simple and low impact experience of the outdoors;
- the benefits of leaving no trace and an undisturbed environment;
- how we as individuals and communities can support nature and the environment;
- nature needs half and leaving space for nature to thrive
- global awareness of wilderness at risk

2.2.1 Wilderness Leadership Academy



Continuing many years of working with Haberdashers' Company schools, we ran a new expedition for a younger intake of year 11 students this year. We worked closely with Haberdashers' Company to select young people for scholarships that could demonstrate how this experience would be impactful and a real opportunity. Students mostly came from inner city London with little or no experience of wilderness in Scotland, wild camping and exploring remote places. This opportunity had taken a break in 2024 but we continued to develop the programme ready for another expedition in 2025.

We had excellent outcomes and reviews both for the individuals and for the schools. The same programme is planned for 2026 after a presentation by students to the Charity Committee of Haberdashers' who could directly listen to students on the impact on their lives.

3.Social Benefits and Outdoor Therapy Programmes

We provide early intervention, professional mental health support for vulnerable children and young people.

However, our adult interventions such as women survivors of domestic violence, men only groups and mixed groups with mental health presentations all benefit from our interventions with high scores of positive shifts in their mood, connections to others and nature, personal growth and resilience. We work with nature as a therapeutic tool to gain perspective, a sense of belonging and understanding.

A growing number of people around the globe are gaining understanding of how much nature improves how they feel and their overall wellbeing. We are uniquely positioned in this work having years of research and experience under our belts. Our outcomes often contain words such as 'relaxed', 'peaceful', 'finding myself', 'feel I am part of something'.

We are confident that the mix of nature and wild places, with excellent therapy and outdoor facilitation, is effective and often life changing for our participants.

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Through this year, we continued to experience the impact of Covid on children and young peoples' poor coping skills, lack of resilience, dysregulation, school avoidance, anxiety and depression. We have worked on key social and physical improvements, plus emotional regulation and strengthening skills through our group programmes and one to one counselling in nature.

We have continued to grow and develop our work with survivors and witnesses of domestic abuse – with increasingly large waiting lists, particularly for children -where early intervention is key. We continue to support the police, and referrers such as Next Chapter amongst others, for the referrals that we receive and their recognition of a safe next pathway for their clients.

We remain continuously grateful to our generous funders who support us in this work.

In our Treun Scotland programme we also found increasing numbers of referrals for young people who have experienced domestic abuse, again much inflamed during the Covid pandemic. We experienced increasingly challenging behaviours in our school groups coming through our Treun expeditions at Glenlivet Estate. This has encouraged us to add in more engagement before and after trails including workshops, parent outreach, and follow ups.

During 2025 we also saw a large increase in all age groups who came for therapy support for SEND needs, hoping to improve coping skills, behaviour and mental health through improved connection to nature. During the year we adapted our services to become more inclusive wherever possible and started up neurodiversity camps to support children and younger teens in the holidays as often their struggle to connect well with others could isolate them and exacerbate low feelings and loneliness.

In late 2025 we expanded our team training to provide trauma informed approaches to clients. In addition, towards the end of the year we upskilled the entire workforce, volunteers including trustees and freelance partners in increased levels of safeguarding, inclusive practice and Prevent training against radicalisation.

At the core of these interventions are carefully developed physical and psychological wellness programmes, which aim to provide specific support for our participants. These include talking and practical therapy, as well as tools to regulate their mental health, employability soft skills, resilience building, coping mechanisms, aspiration, self-esteem & confidence building, and skills development or vocational training aspects.

Through research, and our monitoring of social and personal change, and improvements in mental health, we have been able to share our outcomes through social media, articles and speaker opportunities. This demonstrates the positive benefits and value that wilderness and wild places offer everyone in our communities, with a focus on those in need.

The measured benefits of time in the wild, supports our narrative of the imperative to save and protect our remaining wild and green spaces - not just for their biodiversity and landscape value - but also to improve the wellbeing and mental health of all of us. We share our outcomes widely through a range of papers, blogs, conferences, documentaries, and the media.

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"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature -- the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."

- Rachel Carson, Silent Spring -

3.1 Treun Scotland



Treun supports young people in areas of high youth unemployment and disadvantage in Scotland. Young people aged 13-15 are put forward by their schools to take place in a range of workshops in the outdoors where they learn teamwork, social, physical and camping skills – followed by five day trails on remote estates such as Glenlivet. Many put forward for the programme have adverse childhood experiences difficulties with their mental health, aspiration and behaviour.

The project provides nature-based experiences and conservation volunteering opportunities, focusing on personal development, wilderness therapy and skills-based learning opportunities within wild, rural areas. We remain a proud partner with Scottish Land and Estates.

During the year, the team continued to focus on areas of deprivation in and around cities, and some rural schools with a new school in Blairgowrie joining our portfolio. We also brought on two new guides who have extensive experience with young people and communities.

During the year we worked with teens aged between 13-15 years old, with different emotional and behavioural needs. Mental health difficulties include trauma, depression, anxiety, gender dysphoria, suicidal thoughts, self-harm, surviving domestic violence, behavioural and emotional disorders, eating disorders, bullying and self-esteem issues. Participants are encouraged from all backgrounds, and the programme is inclusive, seeking to engage all genders, sexual orientation, and ethnic groups.

We are still experiencing the devastating impacts of the Covid pandemic in terms of young people's mental health, school engagement and behavioural problems and this year we had to manage increases in young people's low level coping skills, increased dysregulation and complex behaviours. We reduced

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numbers to manage this and proudly graduated a group of young people over the year who completed the programme and took a huge amount from it.

We delivered four programmes during 2025 and introduced our new element of running workshops both prior to the trails and after trails to maintain contact with the groups.

One to one time, as well as group therapy, offers a powerful opportunity to build self-confidence, social skills and to work through issues that may be troubling them. Being away from home for a week is a challenge as well as being out of their comfort zone. Many of our young participants did not often get out of their home community so this was a big challenge for them all.

We have built a positive volunteering element to the programme, and they earn the John Muir Award and Leave No Trace accreditation. Six weeks support counselling is made available for graduates to support them once home after the trail.

Group sizes range this year were for 6 participants thus keeping the groups small to ensure personalised attention, and measured impacts included:

- Happiness
- Leave No Trace awareness
- Teamwork
- Understanding feelings
- Friendship
- Liking myself
- Camping skills
- Nature ID

Case Study:

T – 14, came from a solid family background. At home he has an older brother who has complex mental health needs and it was good to get him out and about and away from home to express himself. He experiences uncertainty about his future and can suffer with anxiety.

Outcomes:

- He enjoyed climbing to the top of the hill which he found rewarding. He enjoyed the exercise.
- He found it hard sleeping away from home and being away from his family
- T showed a strong sense of discipline, and determination not to give up. (2025)

3.2 Out There Wilderness Academy

The academy delivers early intervention through bushcraft and nature-based challenges for young people aged between 11- 15 years old who are primarily referred by schools but include the police and social care. Our expansion to work with the younger age group has proved an essential intervention, supporting them with the transition to secondary school. The younger age group has been made up of those with challenging behaviours and others who were school avoidant, or who were not engaging due to adverse childhood experiences, for example.

In our groups we deal with complex needs, such as anger and emotional regulation problems, ADHD, anxiety and depression, self-harm, grief, gender issues, exposure to gangs, other spectrum challenges

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where most are not attending education or on a limited timetable. It is a six-week course, one full day a week with additional therapy offered to those who need more support.



Quotes from clients:

'I have learned about what stresses me out and how to take care of my emotions.'

'I don't argue as much and try not to let my emotions boil over'

'I'm more practical, and I'm glad to be here'

Out There participants in their own words.

We measure outcomes in social, personal and outdoor elements of our delivery.

In 2025 we delivered 4 Cohorts which ran from March to December 2025 and delivered 690 Participant Hours.

An example of the complexity of our referrals is below:

11 year old female with limited education

- Self-harm issues raised – needs supervision around sharp objects.
- Not eating and drinking well, needs supervision to do so, to avoid dehydration.
- On ASD pathway, ADHD returned as inconclusive.
- Does not see father.
- Difficulty regulating emotions/feelings.
- Uncomfortable around young children.

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- Support from CAMHS.
- Mum is supporting and liaising with school to support her needs.
- Reduced School Timetable.
- Medication: Melatonin
- YP wants to feel better in herself.

"The best thing I will take away from Out There is how I regulate myself" OT3

"I have learnt self-control and how to stay aware of how I am feeling" OT5

'Go outside & listen to nature & the birds singing.' OT5

'Making food on a fire, making a den, putting up a hammock, making friends, doing a fire, playing new games, being happy.' OT4

We believe the Out There programme enables young people to realise their potential and feel confident in moving forward in education or employment. We don't preach to them; we encourage and mentor them in believing in themselves and the possibilities the future holds. Nature allows them to find the space to grow and find their emotional resilience and by working in a group and taking part in activities, they can consider the effects of their behaviour on other people.

Evaluated outcomes:

67% : 17 participants reported feeling happy

56%: 14 participants reported they can communicate better

56%: 14 participants reported they have improved respect for others

52%; 13 participants reported they feel hopeful

56%: 14 participants feel that they can better look after themselves

3.3 TurnAround – Cohort 18

Turnaround held its first programme in 2007. It is our longest programme, delivering initially a year, but now nine-month intervention, for young people aged between 16-24 years old. They are referred with significant complex mental health, trauma, relationship, and behavioural needs from a wide range of referrers. The programme includes one to one weekly mentoring, regular fortnightly workshops, and two wilderness therapy expeditions, family mediation, one to one therapy, group therapy, pathway referrals, employability skills development and a formal graduation. It is run by wilderness therapists supported by a highly experienced outdoor guide and are supported by dedicated and very experienced mentor team (some have been with us for 16 years).

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We completed cohort 18 of the TurnAround Project with a graduation in December 2025.

Outcomes included:

- From March -December we delivered over 2256 hours of support.
- **100.00%** of the group showed improvements in their happiness, self-confidence and self-acceptance.
- **71.43%** of the group showed improvements in their ability to trust and love others, and substance misuse.
- **42.86%** of the group showed improvements in their family and other relationships.
- **57.14%** showed improvements in their independent living skills.
- **2 graduates** volunteered as Peer Leaders and were superb in terms of supporting the group and leaders.

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October trail on the Gower Peninsula 2025



Examples of what young people achieved in their own words:

"The first trail was the hardest part and the best memory. I had a breakthrough, but it was a long challenge."

"I have gained confidence & self-worth. I can talk to people comfortably & share what I want to. I have learned that I can do a lot more physically than I thought & it makes me happy"

"I have become more confident. Determined and disciplined. I have learnt that there is a lot more to life and to keep pushing forwards"

3.4 Blossom Domestic Abuse Project

Blossom is a nature based ten-week therapy programme, set up to empower children, teens and women who have experienced / witnessed domestic abuse. Participants learn strategies for self-care and understanding of how to process the past and build new futures.

- 7 cohorts completed as of 09/12/2025 (3 Children, 1 Teens and 3 Women).
- A total of 70 days from the 7 cohorts which is one more than last year.
- A total of 56 participants for the 7 cohorts. A total of 2,105 hours.
- We are currently planning to run 7 cohorts in 2026.

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Women's group feedback example:

"It has built my confidence in new settings; taught me to build trust in people I don't know. Allowed me to open up about my experiences without feeling judged or embarrassed. It has shown me there is hope for the future and my past doesn't need to dictate my future."

"It's been a turning point in my recovery, knowing I'm not alone. It's the best thing I have done. Didn't even feel like I've had therapy, but I have."

"Meeting women who have been through shared trauma, realising I am not alone and that my feelings and emotions are valid. A sense of belonging and felt less ashamed of what I had been through."

3.5 Brave Futures Therapy Programme

Brave Futures offers mental health support in nature-based workshops for adults, children, and teens. The groups attend for eight weeks, one day a week. The programme is run by two outdoor therapists with the help of volunteers. We had funded places for different areas of Essex which was restricted. We have been particularly focused on providing services closer to where people live and giving easier access to support.

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Brave Futures – Funding -Livewell / Colchester Council/Active Essex

- 5 Cohorts 2025 – (1 Teen, 2 Children and 2 mixed ages for Tendring College)
- A total of 38 participants (53 spaces offered)
- The Brave Futures waiting list has now been merged to all Essex.
- Participant Hours: 1215

Brave Futures - Braintree

- 1 children cohort completed as of 09/05/2025
- A total of 8 days from the 1 cohort.
- A total of 8 participants.

A total of 270 hours.

In 2025 we opened to a 'Men Mental Health' group run by male therapists and volunteers. It was enormously powerful and we are keen to continue this work dependent on referrals and funding. Men's mental health remains of real importance. Work on a 'pop in no ties' therapy programme is in discussion for the Foundation to meet future mental health needs for men.

Brave Futures – Essex

- 6 cohorts completed as of 04/12/2025 (3 Children, 2 Teens and 1 Men)
- A total of 48 days from the 6 cohorts compared to 4 Brave Future Cohorts last year.
- A total of 49 participants for the 6 cohorts.
- A total of 1,830 hours.

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"One participant arrived in an incredibly nervous place. One of his big issues was a quite pronounced stutter, which meant he struggled to get his words out at times. He was also incredibly nervous to try anything new, often saying he was excited but then pushing back when the activity started.

Over the weeks he started to use a knife safely, successfully lit his own fire and participated in group conversations in an incredibly positive way, responding well to encouragement. It was positive to hear his nan say how much he had gained from the experience and that his speech had really improved."

'The family still talk about Wilderness to this day; about how fantastic it was and what a difference it made.'
From the referrer.

Bespoke Personalised Services for Autistic Spectrum Disorder level 6/7 transition group

- 1 Children Cohort in 2025
- 6 offered, 6 accepted.
- Participant Hours :40
- June to July 2025

3.6 1-2-1 Nature-based and Online Counselling

The Foundation has offered a total 3,306.5 hours of 1-2-1 counselling to individuals in 2025, vs 2,853 hours in 2024.

Demand of 1-2-1 counselling increased significantly since March 2025. We received a record high of 89 referrals in June 2025 when we received average 40 referrals per month in year 2023 and 2024. Waiting time for free counselling prolonged massively due to the influx of referrals and to ensure our support is provided in time when needed, we made a difficult decision to pause taking new referrals from July 2025. The 180+ referrals on the waiting list were cleared before Christmas and we resumed taking new referrals from mid of January 2026.

While The National Lottery Fund remains the main source of our counselling funding in 2025, our free counselling was also offered thanks to the grants and donations from:

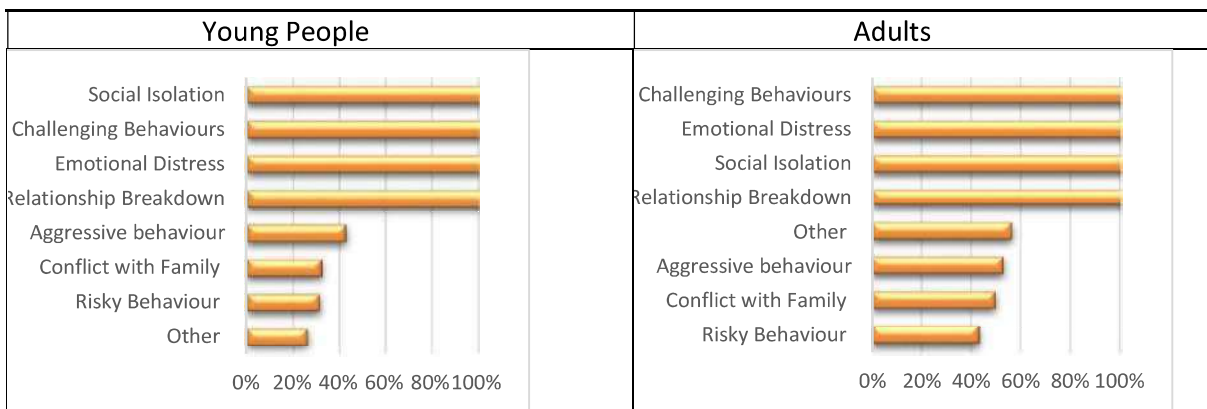
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- Norman Garon Trust
- Gordon Sanders Charitable Trust

Questionnaires completed and returned show encouraging improvements:



According to our 1-2-1 counselling satisfaction survey in 2025:

- 95% of clients responded they will recommend Wilderness Foundation to others
- 81% of clients rated our counsellors 10 out of 10, and 21.5% rated 8 out of 10.
- 73.4% of clients rated their overall experience 10 out of 10, and 15.2% rated 9 out of 10.

“Such a rewarding experience for my child to find his voice.”

“Louise was incredible, and I truly cannot believe how much these sessions helped me. The difference 6 weeks can make is crazy. She made me feel seen, heard and helped me understand and accept the things that have happened and why I feel the way I do. I honestly cannot thank you enough for all the help.”

“My son really enjoyed these session;, he came home happy just like he used to be.”

“I am incredibly grateful for the support offered to me through the Wilderness Foundation, at a time when I felt I needed it the most. I have taken away a huge amount from the sessions to work upon and would highly recommend your organisation to anyone in a similar situation. Thank you again.”

“My child struggled to engage with any other adult outside of the home for his whole life. However, Laura managed to break through that and really bonded with him. He has come on leaps and bounds since having therapy with Laura, and it has been beyond valuable to him and us as a family. I can’t sing your praises enough.”

“My walks with my counsellor were unburdening, therapeutic, informative and supportive. I was able to reflect on my life, live in the moment as well as look forward to a future with mindfulness. Not only do I feel lighter, but I feel brave enough to weather the storm.

Thank you, I have recommended WFUK to friends that are going through such similar times with abusive ex partners and have like me, precious children that have been abandoned by their dad’s love and so desperately need support from a beautiful place like WFUK. Especially calm, understanding and

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supportive people like Nicola. It makes our role as mums feel like we're not drowning and failing. Thank you. Lots of love and hugs xox"

"The outdoor and relaxed nature of the 1-2-1 counselling sessions my son received at The Wilderness Foundation have been fantastic. The last few years have been very difficult, and almost all intervention has failed, leaving him isolated and lonely. He needed parental support initially, but he soon felt confident to go with his counsellor alone and he thoroughly enjoyed lighting fires whilst chatting with a safe adult.

The support provided by The Wilderness Foundation has been invaluable and we are incredibly grateful that he had the opportunity. Thank you."

3.7 Mentor Training

The Foundation continue to use an online training which has been tailored to the needs of the Foundation services. However, ongoing training is delivered during reflection post programmes, additional CPD offered to mentors through outdoor agencies on matters of relevance in youth work and youth-based psychotherapy, alongside bushcraft, first aid, safeguarding and in house training on our group work ethics and practice.

4 Marketing & Fundraising Activity

4.1 Marketing

In 2025 we continued to see a steady growth in engagement through social channels, website and online marketing campaigns and fundraising. With expansion of education and therapeutic programmes, and the increased cost of living, our fundraising targets increased to help provide funded support for the increase in need we see year on year.

Events and Community Engagement

Events in 2025

Wilderness x2 Walks

Wilderness x2 Talks

Open Garden

Quiz Night

Charity Golf Day

Open Farm Sunday

Schools Food & Farming Day

Wild Schools Educational Workshops in schools

RGS – Leave Some for the Honey Badger film evening

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In June, the Foundation held an Open Garden event at Little Bentley Hall, kindly hosted by Christopher Palmer-Tomkinson, who has cared for the property for over 50 years. The event provided a rare opportunity for visitors to explore one of East Anglia's most remarkable private gardens, with all ticket proceeds supporting the Foundation's work. The day enabled us to engage both longstanding supporters and new audiences, raising awareness of our activities across Essex while generating over £3,000 in support of our programmes.

Our annual Wilderness Charity Golf Day took place at Braintree Golf Club in June, welcoming 12 teams. Through team entry fees, sponsorship from A Jolly Consulting, a silent auction and raffle, the event raised vital funds towards our Wilderness Therapy programmes. The Golf Day continues to be a successful and well-supported fundraising event and has already been confirmed for 2026. We also hosted our annual Wilderness Quiz Night in partnership with Rotary, whose volunteers generously supported the evening by acting as quiz master and assisting with raffle sales.

The Foundation once again participated in Open Farm Sunday, welcoming local residents and families to Chatham Green. Visitors enjoyed guided tours of the 40-acre farmland site led by the local farm manager, alongside nature crafts and pond dipping activities delivered by the Education Team. The event provided an opportunity for families to explore the site, enjoy the outdoors and learn more about the Foundation's work.

Social Media

For the first time, there has been a dedicated effort on social media, with daily posts and regular campaigns across four platforms; LinkedIn, Instagram & Facebook.

On Facebook posts were viewed 272,006 times with 52% being by non-followers (this is a less follower-centric platform). This was an increase of 333% on 2024. Followers climbed from 3,601 to 3,995, a net increase of 394 (11%).

On Instagram posts were viewed 84,500 times with 82% being by followers (this is a much more follower-centric platform). Followers climbed from 3,987 to 4,397, a net increase of 410 (10.2%).

LinkedIn only provides analytics on the last 365 days. However, between May-December 2025 posts had 29,273 views and the page climbed from 1,810 followers to 2,119 a net increase of 309 (17%).

X (Twitter) page has a following of 2,499.

4.3 Fundraising

Fundraising activity throughout the year remained diverse, enabling the Foundation to secure income through charitable trusts, foundations, corporate partnerships and community support. New corporate sponsors were

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secured to support programmes including Wild Schools and the purchase of equipment, alongside multi-year and continuation funding for core operations, education, therapy services and Mann Wood.

The Foundation continued working with two external fundraising consultants, including support with grants and tenders. During the year, we were also invited to apply for a significant donation from a private donor and selected as a Corporate Charity of the Year partner, with a fundraising target of over £50,000 over 12 months.

We were pleased to be one of only a small number of charities selected for a secondment placement through the John Lewis Golden Jubilee Trust this year. This partnership enabled a John Lewis employee to join the Foundation for six months, supporting programme delivery, events and administration, with salary costs fully funded by John Lewis. We also secured 16 places over 4 years with the London Marathon through their Golden Ticket scheme starting in 2026. This is an amazing opportunity to help raise funds through an internationally renowned sporting event that will help us extend our outreach to new funders and supporters.

Community Fundraising and Outreach

The Foundation regularly attended community outreach and networking events throughout the year, including Braintree Council Mental Health Forum, Chelmsford and Tendring CVS, ECVYS, Active Essex mental health events and annual conference, ECC CFS and CAYPS meetings, Leathersellers Link & Learn, Chelmsford College events, Essex Community Tree, Essex Police Conference, Volfest and the ARU Growing Places Conference. We also hosted networking and group meetings at the Chatham Green Education Centre for organisations including Active Essex and ECVYS.

Staff delivered presentations and talks at a variety of events including the Nature Recovery Partnership Event, Rotary District New Years Lunch, Braintree Council Mental Health Forum, The Lord Lieutenant's Event, Moulsham College and the Institute for Outdoor Learning.

Community fundraising efforts during 2025 included participation in sporting events such as the London Landmarks Half Marathon and the Cotswold Way Ultra Challenge, which was completed by one of our youth mentors. Additional fundraising support came from Maltese Primary School, the White Horse Pub who ran a quiz night as well as NatWest employees and Little Baddow Runners, who fundraised in memory of Trustee Mark Thomasson. Eccles & White House school from the Aurora Group organised a Xmas and summer fete in support of the Foundation, while our very own Down to Earth facilitator Jane completed the Loch Ness Marathon. The Foundation also continued to benefit from online fundraising through JustGiving and The Big Give, including the successful Christmas Challenge and Earth Raise match funding campaigns we do each year.

4.4 Community Fundraising & Events

Corporate Partnerships

Corporate partnerships continued to play an important role in supporting the Foundation's work. We were joined by 13 separate corporate and community groups volunteer throughout 2025.

In May, Birketts LLP brought a team to trim our entire network of paths at Chatham Green and finish the new bridge into the woodland. Staff from Chelmsford City Racecourse also joined us to tidy up our sensory garden. Meanwhile, June saw Braintree Rivers Rotary Club return to paint our cabin, whilst employees from John Lewis helped us by painting the volunteer hub.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

QBE funded the Mann Wood Volunteer Hub, while Boddingtons Electrical Ltd funded the Mann Wood Pod and donated solar panels and a power unit for the site. ECI undertook a range of fundraising initiatives in support of their £50,000 target, including a woodland sleep-out, an abseil from their London office building, a silent auction and a quiz night whilst Manulife helped raise funds by recycling their old devices.

In the autumn John Lewis returned to finish painting the hub, Family Solutions cleared undergrowth at the Chelmsford allotment and Giant Group were also back to do some woodland floor regeneration at Mann Wood, a job continued a few weeks later by a team from QBE. Braintree Rivers Rotary Club came for another session, this time repairing the shed and raised beds at the Chelmsford allotment before our final volunteering session saw UK Power Networks and Ceva Logistics partner up at Chatham Green to remove a polytunnel, build a fence and a bug hotel!

Rotary remained a valued supporter of the Foundation, with volunteers regularly contributing their time to support events and onsite conservation activities. Additional corporate supporters during the year included JW Steele, Suregreen, Medivet, Gleeds Foundation, Essex and Suffolk Water, John Lewis and Saffron Building Society. We also received donations in the form of workshop materials and tools from Envar, Tesco and Perrywoods to name a few.

Volunteers

Volunteer numbers started 2025 at 43 with steady increases through the year to 54 by December. However, this does not represent the overall number of volunteers recruited as a lot of work was done to follow up with volunteers who were renewing their paperwork, at cost to the charity, but not actively contributing volunteer hours. A number of volunteers were removed for this reason.

Recruitment included advertising volunteering at community events, a full update of our listings on Volunteer Essex, joining the new Royal Volunteering Service listing, regular calls for volunteers on social media, attendance at VolFest in June and a full overhaul of the volunteering page on the website. Enhanced social media presence and dedicated volunteer recruitment efforts have also increased recruits by word of mouth. In total, 25 new volunteers were successfully onboarded during 2025 across Education, Site Maintenance, Down To Earth, Therapy Groups, Treun and Admin roles.

Bird Ringing

The South Essex Ringing Group, led by WFUK staff, delivered several Bird Ringing Demos with the public connecting 45 adults to nature alongside a further four Youth Group demos engaging 76 children. The team ringed 510 birds of 34 species and worked with scientists from the Zoological Society London on the Usutu Virus monitoring project.

5. Future Plans

We will continue to demonstrate, advocate and apply the positive impact of wilderness and wild places for the wellbeing of the individual and society. Beneficiaries comprise a range of demographics and the spectrum spans from the most vulnerable to those with leadership potential. We strategically wish to be established across Essex, and spreading organically into our neighbouring counties, whilst meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

To meet the growing interest in WFUK, we continue to work to our growth objectives that remain consistent and unchanged from 2023 although we have had to adapt to the increasing demand that we are experiencing on the therapeutic services we offer both in Essex and Scotland.

1. Sustainably grow and manage the impact and outputs of beneficiaries supported by our social benefit/therapy, educational and environmental programmes - approximately 8750 in 2025. Growth must reflect maintaining the high quality of service we work hard to achieve. Increase in numbers from 2024 in educational visits and therapy participants due to an increase in funding and staffing levels.
2. Extend the areas where our programmes are provided within Essex and Scotland, focusing on areas of deprivation and environmental restoration programmes.
3. Develop and grow our operations, through carefully selected partnerships and new satellite spaces to serve new communities.
4. Increase our advocacy for nature, climate change mitigation and the crucial role of nature in improving mental health and wellbeing.
5. Manage our own semi-natural woodland to increase positive impacts on biodiversity enhancement, research and citizen science around woodland protection, and social benefits from wild land in an increasingly busy world.
6. Continue to sustainably grow our revenue to deliver increased impact whilst increasing our operational and financial strengths.
7. Increase and reevaluate our research, monitoring and evaluation to ensure it meets national and local objectives and can have benchmarked outcomes.

We will do this by undertaking activities that:

- Educate and inspire people to experience and connect with wild places.
- Provide an integrated service for improving the lives of the most vulnerable in our society, through the positive benefits of wilderness.
- Grow natural leaders of the future, through directly experiencing the positive benefits of wild nature.
- Protect and enhance biodiversity and green spaces.
- Continue to promote and support mental health and wellbeing across clients in Scotland and the rest of the UK.
- Promote and practice solutions to meet the Climate Change Crisis.
- To grow and strengthen our impact for environment and people we will:
 - Introduce people and children to nature.
 - Educate people how to love the natural world.
 - Change people's lives through nature.
 - Practise what we preach in caring for the earth and people.
 - Continue to grow our network in across Europe and our global relationships.

As WFUK increases its activities, we will also seek opportunities to build on and expand our understanding of wilderness and wild places for the benefit of both planet and its people.

6. Governance

During 2025 we continued to manage our governance, with quarterly governance committees and across the programmes. The Governance Committee reports to the Board on policies, risk management, Trustee recruitment, staff handbook and articles of association amidst all other compliance issues. A full review of all our risk assessments was reviewed and implemented 2025.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Achieving AALA status in Scotland was also an important milestone.

6.1 Status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Our governing document is a Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 November 2006, with an update to objects in 2010 and certain revisions in 2021.

6.2 Governing Body and Structure

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Toby Aykroyd	(retired 16 December 2025)
Dr Steve J Carver	Chair of Environment Committee
Vincent (GVB) Thompson	Chairman
Deborah Fielding	Chair of Social Benefits Committee
Julie A Fosh	
Andrew L J Gibbs	(retired 26 June 2025)
Perdeep Grewal	Chair of Governance Committee
Dr Peter Hobson	(retired 30 September 2025)
Peter Martin	(retired 26 June 2025)
Glyn Parry	Chair of F&GP Committee
Tomilewa Platts	
Joanne K Roberts	Chief Executive Officer
Andrew Sheepshanks	Vice-Chairman
Murray D Soutar	Chair of Scotland Committee
Mark Thomasson	(sadly deceased 9 May 2025)
Matt A Williams	(resigned June 2025)
Ross Brockman	
Alan Somerville	

The Chief Executive Jo Roberts has dispensation from the Charity Commission to serve as Founding Director on the board, alongside working as Chief Executive Officer.

Our governing body is a Board of Directors of the charity and has an active Governance Committee made up of Trustees, including the Chair. As of 31 December 2025, there were 12 Trustees.

The Board of Directors is responsible for providing overall clarity for the vision, mission and strategic focus of the organisation. It also holds the Chief Executive to account against planned objectives. The Board meets four times over the course of the year, and Directors are involved in other operational matters as needs dictate. Several committees offer more detailed support to the overall governance, programme oversight, strategy and finance – and report back quarterly to the main Board. Since 2024 a special Mann Wood working group convene to support the management and oversight of the woods, alongside the Environment Committee leading on strategy and management.

The Wilderness Foundation UK forms part of the independent “Wilderness Foundation Global”, a consortium of forward-thinking, like-minded independent organisations with different skill sets. The organisations all share a common past, each founded and/or inspired by Dr. Ian Player, South Africa game ranger and international conservationist and his Zulu mentor and “brother”, the late Magqubu Ntombela.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The other members of the Wilderness Foundation Global are The Wilderness Foundation Africa, The WILD Foundation (USA) and the Wilderness Leadership School in South Africa.. Senior staff meet annually to set shared objectives, agree ethics and working partnerships and projects. All members of the network are completely independent of each other but share a common past. They have no financial ties or obligations beyond goods or services provided (predominantly by the Wilderness Leadership School which facilitates wilderness trails in South Africa for UK beneficiaries and client groups) and these are charged at the time the liability is incurred.

6.3 Decision Making

Responsibility for the day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team. The Board of Directors focuses its attention on matters of policy and general strategy, the approval of plans, the monitoring of progress with projects and financial control.

New Directors are appointed by the Board and are assessed as to their suitability and the benefits that their appointment would bring to the Foundation, in terms of additional skills, experience and opportunities for promotion of the Foundation's aims and objectives.

A full induction programme is carried out covering all aspects of the work of the charity, the governance, the memorandum and articles of association and a review of the latest accounts.

On occasion, the Board may extend invitations to individuals to attend meetings in an advisory or observational capacity, where it is felt that the individual concerned can bring insight to an issue, or matter under review.

An ambassador patrons programme invites people who can bring a benefit to the Foundation through their networks and are equally passionate about its objectives. They have no official role but abide by a set of principles and a formal agreement.

6.4 Risk Management

The Foundation is exposed to financial as well as operational risks and through the valuable experience and knowledge of its Board of Trustees, it proactively manages these through robust corporate governance and encouraging expert field-based awareness in all its endeavours.

To manage and mitigate risk, a risk register is annually scrutinised by the Board of Trustees. The board allocate each risk to the committee/s it is most relevant to, who are then responsible for reviewing them on a quarterly basis. The senior management team review the risks internally and report any new or escalated risks to the main board. The committees collectively oversee a range of tasks, ensuring the organisation remains compliant. These include but are not limited to data protection, policies, health and safety, legal requirements & updates, whistleblowing and complaints.

We have a robust child protection policy, safer recruitment practice, and safeguarding policy and procedures, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all the young people, staff, and volunteers we work with. We maintain a register to ensure that all essential training is up to date.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK
TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

7. Scotland

For reporting purposes to the Offices of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), we are required to make a separate statement of our work in Scotland. In this document we outline our achievements in the delivery of the Treun Programme. This work provides public benefit for the people of Scotland, particularly young people. The programme includes our project management team, headed by our CEO, Operations Manager and an administrator, guides, volunteers, and facilitators.

A Scotland committee oversees our work and delivery in Scotland, and we report annually to OSCR. We work in partnership with Scottish Land & Estates and have benefitted from the kindness of several landowners who have given access to their land, including Atholl Estates, Angus and Douglas Estates and the Glenlivet Estate. Our participants have been involved in conservation volunteering, and we continue to work closely with the estates to offer benefits through this activity.

The programme includes 6 optional follow-on therapy sessions for the participants as well as workshops/or meetings in advance of trails with the schools.

8. Financial Review

8.1 Financial Review

2025 was another significant year in the development of WFUK as we continued the growth in our service delivery and developed plans to integrate Mann Wood into our operations.

As we reported last year income in 2024 of £1,614,888 was significantly impacted by the funding of the purchase of Mann Wood, 92 acres of seminatural ancient woodland. Income in 2024 excluding the funding of the purchase of Mann Wood was £797,747 and our income in 2025 increased by 16% to £928,936. This was an exceptional performance against a challenging fundraising environment.

In 2025 our expenses increased by 5% to £874,611 and we generated a modest surplus of £54,325. Our total reserves at 31 December 2025 are £1,124,603 or £382,814 excluding the Mann Wood fixed asset value. Unrestricted reserves were £143,460, a decline of £12,011 in the year, and we believe it is prudent going forward to maintain these reserves or grow them modestly given the current high levels of uncertainty in the macroeconomic and geopolitical environments and also to enable us to respond to future development opportunities.

8.2 Five Year Track Record

Deliverables	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of Beneficiaries	6,500	8,000	8,200	7500	8755
Total Income	621,938	558,400	690,455	1,614,888	928,936
Total Expenses	439,733	615,831	757,342	830,127	874,611
Surplus / Deficit	182,205	(57,431)	(66,887)	784,761	54,325
Total Reserves	409,835	352,404	285,517	1,070,278	1,124,603
Restricted Reserves	207,942	173,672	126,274	914,807	981,143
Unrestricted Reserves	201,893	178,732	159,243	155,471	143,460

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

8.3 Investment Policy

As WFUK have not historically been required to make any financial investment, it was not previously deemed necessary to hold an Investment Policy. However, the Trustees recognise that this could become a requirement in the future as the charity continues to grow.

8.4 Affiliate Funds

As in previous years, WFUK continue to be custodian trustees, managing funds and donors, on behalf of affiliate charities overseas, with whom we share the same values and mission. There are individual contractual agreements with each charity, which derive a small amount of income to cover overheads.

9. Responsibilities

9.1 Guarantors

Every member promises, if the Charity is dissolved while he or she is a member or within twelve months after he or she ceases to be a member, to contribute such sum (not exceeding £10) as may be demanded of him or her towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Charity incurred before he or she ceases to be a member and of the costs and charges and expenses of winding up and the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

9.2 Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also directors of Wilderness Foundation UK for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. These must give a true and fair view of the situation of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources. This includes the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in 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 charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company. These enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK
TRUSTEE’S REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Approved on behalf of the Directors:

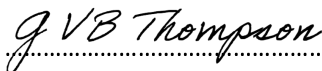
Mrs Joanne Roberts
Chief Executive Officer


.....
(Signature)

Date:

8 July 2026
.....

Vincent Thompson
Chair


.....
(Signature)

Date:

8 July 2026
.....

Wilderness Foundation UK

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wilderness Foundation UK

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Wilderness Foundation UK (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wilderness Foundation UK

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Directors' Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities (set out on page 4), the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wilderness Foundation UK

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows;

- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector
- We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management.

We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur by;

- Making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate the risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we;

- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships
- Tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wilderness Foundation UK

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Sandra Morrell

.....
S Morrell (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Edmund Carr LLP, Statutory Auditor

146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AW

Date: 15 July 2026

Edmund Carr LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Other Comprehensive Income)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	218,529	502,370	720,899	1,460,554
Charitable activities	4	21,260	87,480	108,740	71,997
Investment income	6	2,577	-	2,577	2,770
Other income	5	19,864	76,856	96,720	79,567
Total income		<u>262,230</u>	<u>666,706</u>	<u>928,936</u>	<u>1,614,888</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	53,192	100	53,292	44,326
Charitable activities	8	221,049	600,270	821,319	785,801
Total expenditure		<u>274,241</u>	<u>600,370</u>	<u>874,611</u>	<u>830,127</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(12,011)</u>	<u>66,336</u>	<u>54,325</u>	<u>784,761</u>
Net movement in funds		(12,011)	66,336	54,325	784,761
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>155,471</u>	<u>914,807</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>	<u>285,517</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>143,460</u>	<u>981,143</u>	<u>1,124,603</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>

All of the charitable company's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Wilderness Foundation UK
(Registration number: 06003527)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	778,095	746,753
Current assets			
Debtors	15	21,902	37,907
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>363,834</u>	<u>346,199</u>
		385,736	384,106
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(39,228)</u>	<u>(60,581)</u>
Net current assets		<u>346,508</u>	<u>323,525</u>
Net assets		<u>1,124,603</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>
Funds of the charitable company:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	19	981,143	914,807
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>143,460</u>	<u>155,471</u>
Total funds	19	<u>1,124,603</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>

For the financial year ending 31 December 2025 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 46 to 64 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on and signed on their behalf by:

G Parry
.....
G Parry
Trustee

G VB Thompson
.....
G VB Thompson
Chairman and Trustee

Wilderness Foundation UK

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds per SOFA		54,325	784,761
Adjustments			
Depreciation	7	12,599	975
Investment income	6	<u>(2,577)</u>	<u>(2,770)</u>
		64,347	782,966
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease in stocks		-	1,640
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	16,005	(19,614)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	16	<u>(21,353)</u>	<u>26,755</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>58,999</u>	<u>791,747</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	6	2,577	2,770
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14	<u>(43,941)</u>	<u>(745,128)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(41,364)</u>	<u>(742,358)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		17,635	49,389
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		<u>346,199</u>	<u>296,810</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u><u>363,834</u></u>	<u><u>346,199</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1 Charitable company status

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

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 (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Wilderness Foundation UK meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charitable company.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charitable company has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charitable company before the charitable company is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charitable company and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charitable company has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Donated services and facilities

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items, they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Gift aid

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expenses categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Support costs, which cannot be directly attributed to particular activities, have been proportioned to the direct staff costs allocated to activities. Governance costs include the costs of servicing Trustees' meetings, audit and strategic planning.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixtures and fittings 20% per annum straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Stock

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charitable company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charitable company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charitable company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Donations	114,459	17,516	131,975
Grants receivable	103,340	484,254	587,594
Commissioned work	730	600	1,330
	<u>218,529</u>	<u>502,370</u>	<u>720,899</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations	78,737	92,610	171,347
Grants receivable	107,269	1,181,910	1,289,179
Commissioned work	-	28	28
	<u>186,006</u>	<u>1,274,548</u>	<u>1,460,554</u>

In 2024 there was a restricted one off donation of £77,500 and a restricted one off grant received of £734,391 towards the purchase of Mann Wood.

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Bespoke education & therapy	-	74,552	74,552
Other income	21,260	12,928	34,188
	<u>21,260</u>	<u>87,480</u>	<u>108,740</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Therapy camps & training	300	-	300
Bespoke education & therapy	-	54,545	54,545
Other income	15,342	100	15,442
Out there income	-	1,710	1,710
	<u>15,642</u>	<u>56,355</u>	<u>71,997</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Other generated income	1,319	76,856	78,175
Management fees	7,976	-	7,976
Event income	10,569	-	10,569
	<u>19,864</u>	<u>76,856</u>	<u>96,720</u>

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Other generated income	3,510	59,197	62,707
Management fees	863	-	863
Event income	15,997	-	15,997
	<u>20,370</u>	<u>59,197</u>	<u>79,567</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,577	-	2,577
	<u>2,577</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,577</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,770	-	2,770
	<u>2,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,770</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Note			
Raising and publicly seeking donations, grants and legacies	53,192	100	53,292
	<u>53,192</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>53,292</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Note			
Raising and publicly seeking donations, grants and legacies	28,605	15,721	44,326
	<u>28,605</u>	<u>15,721</u>	<u>44,326</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Note			
Direct costs	11,895	36,817	48,712
Staff costs	169,253	496,656	665,909
Support costs	26,396	48,215	74,611
Governance costs	13,505	18,582	32,087
	<u>221,049</u>	<u>600,270</u>	<u>821,319</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024
	Note	£	£	£
Direct Costs		5,380	117,396	122,776
Staff costs		96,235	458,452	554,687
Support costs	9	41,276	38,656	79,932
Governance costs	9	22,413	5,993	28,406
		<u>165,304</u>	<u>620,497</u>	<u>785,801</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Governance costs £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 funds £
Rates	-	27,436	27,436
Office expenses	-	6,978	6,978
Professional fees	18,305	-	18,305
Insurance	-	4,679	4,679
Marketing	-	820	820
Travel	-	1,891	1,891
Sundry expenses	-	32,807	32,807
Bank charges	1,170	-	1,170
Depreciation	12,598	-	12,598
Trustee expenses	14	-	14
Total for 2025	32,087	74,611	106,698
Total for 2024	28,406	79,931	108,337
	Governance costs £	Other support costs £	Total 2024 £
Rates	-	26,752	26,752
Office expenses	-	11,045	11,045
Professional fees	26,968	-	26,968
Insurance	-	3,814	3,814
Marketing	-	2,935	2,935
Travel	-	11,611	11,611
Sundry expenses	-	23,774	23,774
Bank charges	463	-	463
Depreciation	975	-	975
	28,406	79,931	108,337

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Governance costs

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Trustees remuneration and expenses	14	-
Professional fees	18,305	26,968
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	12,598	975
Other governance costs	1,170	463
	<u>32,087</u>	<u>28,406</u>

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating leases - plant and machinery	1,138	1,138
Operating leases - other assets	25,313	24,776
Audit fees	15,600	14,400
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>12,598</u>	<u>975</u>

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charitable company during the year for their role as a Trustee. £14 was reimbursed to Trustees for expenses during the year (2024: £Nil).

The Chief Executive Officer received remuneration for her role as an employee which amounted to £51,956 (2024: £50,063) and employers pension contributions of £1,321 (2024: 1,253). As the CEO is also a trustee of the charity, remuneration for this role was agreed with the Charity Commission.

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	371,063	349,659
Social security costs	32,471	26,858
Employer pension costs	8,042	7,728
Sessional staff	228,760	167,970
Staff training and supervision	25,573	2,472
	<u>665,909</u>	<u>554,687</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charitable company during the year expressed by head count was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Average monthly number of employees	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charitable company were £51,956 (2024 - £50,063) employers' pension contribution £1,321 (2024:£1,253) and employers' NI £6,763 (2024: £5,653)

13 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2025	741,789	31,442	10,218	783,449
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>37,824</u>	<u>6,117</u>	<u>43,941</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>741,789</u>	<u>69,266</u>	<u>16,335</u>	<u>827,390</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2025	-	26,478	10,218	36,696
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>11,681</u>	<u>918</u>	<u>12,599</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>38,159</u>	<u>11,136</u>	<u>49,295</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2025	<u>741,789</u>	<u>31,107</u>	<u>5,199</u>	<u>778,095</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>741,789</u>	<u>4,964</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>746,753</u>

Included within Land and Buildings is Mann Wood a 92 acre semi-natural ancient woodland that was purchased for £741,789. This woodland has not been depreciated on the basis it has an infinite life.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	8,306	23,511
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>13,596</u>	<u>14,396</u>
	<u>21,902</u>	<u>37,907</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	8,007	4,989
Social security and other taxes	13,483	8,343
Other creditors	1,578	32,399
Accruals and deferred income	16,160	14,850
	<u>39,228</u>	<u>60,581</u>
	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 January 2025	(450)	-
Resources deferred in the period	(1,160)	(450)
Amounts released from previous periods	450	-
Deferred income at year end	<u>(1,160)</u>	<u>(450)</u>

Deferred income includes counselling fees that relate to the 2026 year.

17 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Land & Buildings		
Within one year	<u>25,820</u>	<u>25,313</u>
Other		
Within one year	1,138	1,138
Between one and five years	<u>1,422</u>	<u>2,560</u>
	<u>2,560</u>	<u>3,698</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

19 Funds

Current year:

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>				
Other unrestricted funds	155,471	262,230	(274,241)	143,460
Restricted				
CGP	-	183,833	(154,027)	29,806
TREUN	(10,000)	47,750	(34,936)	2,814
TurnAround Essex	42,108	50,500	(70,842)	21,766
Out There Academy	-	28,966	(12,587)	16,379
Wilderness and Nature Therapy	164,152	194,418	(273,505)	85,065
Mann Wood	<u>718,547</u>	<u>161,239</u>	<u>(54,473)</u>	<u>825,313</u>
Total restricted	<u>914,807</u>	<u>666,706</u>	<u>(600,370)</u>	<u>981,143</u>
Total funds	<u><u>1,070,278</u></u>	<u><u>928,936</u></u>	<u><u>(874,611)</u></u>	<u><u>1,124,603</u></u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Prior year:

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Other unrestricted funds	159,243	224,788	(193,909)	(34,651)	155,471
Restricted					
CGP	4,451	121,723	(136,478)	10,304	-
TREUN	9,893	11,550	(54,802)	23,359	(10,000)
TurnAround Essex	71,815	57,500	(87,207)	-	42,108
Out There Academy	3,266	25,000	(29,254)	988	-
Wilderness and Nature Therapy	36,849	357,186	(229,883)	-	164,152
Mann Wood	-	817,141	(98,594)	-	718,547
Total restricted funds	<u>126,274</u>	<u>1,390,100</u>	<u>(636,218)</u>	<u>34,651</u>	<u>914,807</u>
Total funds	<u>285,517</u>	<u>1,614,888</u>	<u>(830,127)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Restricted funds have been disclosed within the requirements of the SORP. Included within each fund are individual grants for specific purposes that fit the nature and spirit of each fund disclosed.

Chatham Green Project (CGP)- an education initiative being delivered at Chatham Green and Mann Wood in Essex. It includes SEND programmes, allotments for adult with complex needs, wild school climate action and home school.

Treun - this fund is for the delivery of therapeutic wilderness programme in Scotland.

Turnaround - Launched by the Wilderness Foundation UK in October 2007. Focused on employment skills, aspirations and behavior changes. It is a multi-faceted, nature based wilderness therapy programme enabling vulnerable young people to make positive changes to their lives. This is achieved by linking community mentors, wilderness expeditions, skills workshops and support for employment and further education in 9 month cycles.

Out There- a programme for young people facing difficulties in school and home lives such as school refusal, exclusion, family issues and neurodiversity. Runs during term time offering a personal develop curriculum for children ages 13-15 years old (6 weeks).

Wilderness and Nature one-to-one Therapy- this is a range of different programmes offering online or face to face therapy services. We work with individuals, families, couples and groups. The programme addresses the needs of children, adolescents and adults. Blossom- This programme works with children, teens, and adult women who have been affected by domestic violence. (10 week). Brave futures - works with children, teens and adults experiencing mental health challenges (8 weeks)

Mann Wood- A 97 acre woodland which has been purchased to expand the charities services within the Essex area. In 2024, £811,891 was received as a capital contribution towards the purchase of Mann Wood.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	36,306	741,789	778,095
Current assets	107,154	239,354	346,508
Total net assets	143,460	981,143	1,124,603

Wilderness Foundation UK

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,964	741,789	746,753
Current assets	150,507	173,018	323,525
Total net assets	<u>155,471</u>	<u>914,807</u>	<u>1,070,278</u>

21 Affiliate funds

At the year end, the client held affiliate funds of £38,498 (2024: £43,085) relating to Bush Heritage Australia and WF Africa. There is a creditor on the balance sheet of £721 that is due to be paid to WF Africa after year end. The total sum received in 2025 £78,360 (2024: £37,175) and total spent £82,947 (2024: £49,389) as acting agents.

22 Analysis of net cash

	At 1 January 2025 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	346,199	17,635	363,834
Net debt	<u>346,199</u>	<u>17,635</u>	<u>363,834</u>
	At 1 January 2024 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	296,810	49,389	346,199
Net debt	<u>296,810</u>	<u>49,389</u>	<u>346,199</u>

23 Related party transactions

During the year, the Wilderness Foundation paid an employee, who is the daughter in law of a trustee, remuneration of £23,180 (2024: £44,694). The trustee resigned on 01/07/2025 which is when the related party ceased.