THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

Critchleys Audit LLP
Beaver House
23-38 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford
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The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2019.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name

The National Pony Society

Charity registration number

240751

Company registration number

00077583

Principal office

Arthur Rank Centre Stoneleigh Park Kenilworth Warwickshire CV8 2LG

Registered office

Beaver House

23-28 Hythe Bridge Street

Oxford OX1 2EP

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charitable company during the period were as follows:

ALDER, Mr P M (Re-appointed 25 February 2017)

BUCKLEY, Mr T M (Appointed 23 February 2019; Retired 23 May 2019)

DAVIS, Mr P C (Re-appointed 25 February 2017)

FRITH, Mrs C S (Appointed 24 May 2019)

HARFORTH, Mr J F (Appointed 20 February 2016)

HIRD, Mrs S P M (Appointed 23 February 2019)

HOWARD, Mr S D (Appointed 23 February 2019)

HULSTON, Mrs S (Appointed 11 March 2019)

JAMES, Mrs J M (Co-opted 24 February 2018 until 9 March 2019)

JONES, Miss A G (Appointed 20 February 2016; Retired 23 February 2019)

McAULIFFE, Mrs J (Re-appointed 20 February 2016; Retired 23 February 2019)

NIMMO, Mrs M-C (Appointed 25 February 2017)

SHEEN, Mr M (Appointed 20 February 2016)

STRANG, Mr J S (Re-appointed 20 February 2016; Retired 23 February 2019;

Co-opted 23 February 2019)

WEBB, Mrs J S P (Re-appointed 24 February 2018)

Representative of the Licensed Areas

DUKE, Mrs C M (Appointed 25 February 2017; Retired 23 February 2019)

WHITELEY, Mrs C M (Appointed 23 February 2019)

Representative of NPS Scotland

McNAUGHT, Mrs J (Appointed 16 February 2016; Retired 23 February 2019)

GRAINGER, Mr G L (Appointed 23 February 2019)

Representative of the Native Breed Societies

TAYLOR, MRS M A

(Appointed 24 February 2018)

Representative of the British Riding Pony Stud Book Committee

STUART, Mrs J (Appointed 25 February 2017; Retired 10 November 2018) GODDEN, Mrs D G (Appointed 9 February 2019; Retired 9 October 2019) JONES, Miss A G (Acting Representative, Appointed 10 October 2019)

Auditor

Critchleys LLP

Beaver House

23-28 Hythe Bridge Street

Oxford OX1 2EP

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

75 Castle Street

Farnham Surrey GU9 7LT

Weatherbys Bank Sanders Road Wellingborough Northamptonshire

NN8 4BX

Solicitors

Wright Hassall LLP Olympus Avenue Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV34 6BF

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted on 28 February 2009.

The National Point Society, also known as NPS, is a registered Charity (No 240751) and a Company limited by guarantee (No 00077583).

ORGANISATION AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Council of Trustees Is responsible for the overall governance of the Charity and consists of 10 Trustees elected by ballot, 1 Chairman of the Licensed Areas elected by the Committee of Chairmen of the Licensed Areas, 1 representative elected by the Native Breed Forum, the Chairman of NPS Scotland and a representative of the British Riding Pony Stud Book Committee. The maximum number of Trustees is 14. An elected or appointed person who has served three consecutive years as a Trustee shall be eligible to be re-elected for a further term as a Trustee.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

President MR L E BIGLEY
Chairman MRS J S P WEBB
Vice-Chairman MRS M-C NIMMO

The Trustees As detailed on pages 1 and 2

Hon. Treasurer MR J S STRANG

Day to day management of the charity's affairs and for implementing policies agreed by Council has been delegated to an interim management team.

TRUSTEE INDUCTION, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILTIES

New Trustees receive an induction pack and all Trustees are constantly reminded about their Trustee responsibilities and are expected to comply with the NPS Trustee Code of Conduct of Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honestly and Leadership.

Trustees are required to meet as a Council at least 5 times a year and to sit on at least 1 Standing Committee. They are also expected to attend the Summer Championship Show.

All acts and proceedings of any appointed Standing Committee are reported to the Council and no Committee, other than the Resources Committee may exercise any contractual powers without the knowledge and consent of the Resources Committee or the Chairman of the Charity.

The Council delegates the exercise of certain powers in connection with the management and administration of the Charity to the Resources Committee. The Committee meets at least three times a year and has responsibility for all financial matters and budgetary control, it identifies and monitors threats and risks to the Charity and is able to react quickly if and when required.

AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS

The Mountain & Moorland Breed Societies are affiliated to the NPS and NPS is affiliated to the National Equine Welfare Council, the Central Prefix Register, the Joint Measurement Board and the British Horse Society Breeds Committee. NPS is also a member of the Confederation of Pony Breed and Show Societies and The Showing Council, and hosts a meeting of Pony Breed Societies with Part-Bred Sections. A member of NPS attends meetings of Native Ponies GB which is a discussion forum for matters of common legislative and administrative concern.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council is responsible for the management of the risks faced by the Charity. Detailed considerations of risk are delegated to the Resources Committee, who are assisted by senior Charity staff. Risks are identified, accessed and controls established throughout the year. Through the risk management process, the Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The charitable activities of The National Pony Society are documented on page 4 of this report.

The Trustees have discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work the charity undertakes, as disclosed in this report complies with Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 and has due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects:

The statutory objectives of The National Pony Society as stated in the Articles of Association are:

- a) To promote the interests of pony breeding and to encourage the use and protection of ponies;
- b) To promote and facilitate the acquisition and distribution of the knowledge of the various arts and sciences connected with the pony and the use and management thereof.

In addition to the National Pony Society's regular activities and services provided, this year the Council endeavoured to fulfil its objectives by:

Raising awareness

- Liaising with and distributing information to other organisations:
 - Promoting the Riding & Sports pony abroad, especially in Australia. New Zealand and Europe;
- Publishing and maintaining a booklet of Mountain & Moorland Breed Standards and Showing Rules;
- Holding a full range of pony breeding and performance classes at the NPS Shows, and Competitions (both Summer and Winter Series) with qualifying rounds being held throughout the United Kingdom;
- Holding Study Days and Training Days for Competitors, Judges and Stewards.

Promoting registration

- Being a DEFRA recognised Passport Issuing Organisation for British Riding Pony registered and for non registered ponies;
- Collecting and sharing registration data with Native Breed Societies;
- Supporting the export of ponies and semen worldwide;
- Lobbying DEFRA and the Government to minimise the costs of legislation on pony breeders, especially the Rare and Heritage breeds;
- Encouraging dialogue between Societies with Part-Bred registers.

- **Encouraging the use** Liaising with other Societies so that, where possible, our rules may be similar;
 - Enforcement of Rules and Breed Standards:
 - Maintaining the standard of NPS panel judges and taking measures to increase the number of judges on the Mountain & Moorland, and Riding Pony panels, without compromising standards nor losing Breed type.

Protection

- Ensuring the accurate recording and verifying of pedigrees;
- Providing support and help to the Mountain & Moorland Breed Societies;
- Liaising with Government departments and responding to consultation papers from DEFRA about welfare and rural affairs;
- Encouraging major Shows and Showing Societies to publish Breeding in their Show Catalogues and providing Breed information for communication to the general public.

Welfare

- Raising awareness by publishing reports and information from other Welfare organisations in NPS publications and website;
- A presence on Welfare Committees exchanging information, particularly the plight of the feral ponies;
- Promotion of awareness to owners and judges regarding overweight ponies.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable Activities

Resources and Planning Committee

Committee Members: Mr G L Grainger (Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mr P M Alder, Mr S D Howard, Mrs S Hulston, Mrs J M James (Coopted).

The Resources & Planning Committee is tasked with ensuring the effective and efficient deployment of our financial, material and human resources to achieve the Society's objectives. The Committee has held regular teleconference meetings throughout the year, and reports back to Council at each Trustees' meeting with recommendations and options for discussion covering a range of issues.

In the early part of the year we completed the repatriation of the British Riding Pony Studbook administration to Stoneleigh, which was a project carried over from 2018. The BRPSB had previously been managed on our behalf by Weatherbys but returning it in-house has represented a significant cost saving to the Society. We are pleased to report that BRPSB registration & passport services are working well.

The Committee liaised closely with the Office Manager to provide ongoing support with HR matters and queries covering recruitment, maternity leave, contracts, pensions, staff assessments and staffing requirements, both in the office and at our events.

With regards to finance, we continuously reviewed income and expenditure items with particular attention paid to our most significant calendar events, namely the Spring Festival and the Summer Championships at Malvern. We reviewed the Income and Expenditure statements, comparing them with previous years and assessing different supplier options before placing orders, or planning future improvements.

We conducted a review of the return on our cash reserves held in various bonds. Interest rates are currently very low, so we looked at a range of options before selecting bonds that offered a reasonable rate of interest but without tying the cash up for an excessive period of time.

We also reviewed subscriptions and recommended to Council that we seek an incremental increase in membership = fees to offset rising operating costs, and following debate at Council an increase was approved.

The Society operates in a competitive environment, not only for attracting members but also in the procurement of all the goods and services that we require to meet our operational requirements. The Resources & Planning Committee gratefully acknowledges the role of the Office Manager and her administration team who diligently support us in trying to achieve best value for the membership at all times. We are also grateful to Janet James who takes the minutes of our meetings and records the critical action points that ensure we are aware of our individual objectives.

Gordon Grainger Chairman

Marketing and Publicity Committee

Committee Members: Mr P C Davis (Chairman), Mrs S P M Hird (Vice Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mrs C M Duke (Co-opted), Mr G L Grainger, Mr S D Howard, Mr S Hulston, Miss A G Jones (Co-opted), Mr M Sheen.

Although only a small Committee, we are a very jolly and hard-working group who are all aiming to maintain the Society as one of the top pony societies in the country. A key aim of the committee is to promote all of the important work that happens on a daily basis, to both the members and the non-members.

One of the main tools at the Society's disposal is social media, which continues to be the most all round route into channelling any news and updates that the Society needs to make public. Our Facebook page is constantly updated and is now followed by thousands of pony enthusiasts, all of them either current or potential members. This is ably manned by the hard-working office team.

The showing community are also kept briefed through publications such as 'Showing World' and 'The Showing Journal', as we recognise how important traditional print media is to some. The newsletter, although primarily sent out electronically, keeps members well informed on a bi-monthly basis. Hard copies can also be requested. The website is another useful tool, in which information can be obtained at the click of a button.

The Review was also a huge success in 2019, and the 2020 edition looks set to equal its predecessors. The publication is much envied by other societies and really acts as a celebration of a successful year for the Society, and as an important historical resource for future years. The office has worked tirelessly on this and are to be congratulated on its success. Thanks must also be extended to Ann Nicholls, who got the publication print ready.

Once again, the Society had a strong presence at the Horse of the Year Show as a co-sponsor of two very prestigious finals, and with the stand within the shopping halls. The stand proved to be an invaluable source of interaction between the Society and competitors, as they could talk face to face with the enthusiastic staff who worked in shifts to man the stand over the five days. It was also a good opportunity to sort 2020 subscriptions, for both existing and new members, before the show season starts. The Society rewarded highest placed mares and geldings in the open M&M ridden classes who were presented with beautiful rosettes, Many thanks to Sara Hird and Nicola Faulconbridge for their continued work on this.

Paul Davis Chairman

Education and Welfare Committee

Committee Members: Mrs M A Taylor (Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mr P C Davis, Mrs C M Duke (Co-opted), Mrs C S Frith, Miss A G Jones (Co-opted), Mrs J MacInnes (Co-opted).

A small number of incidents of alleged mistreatment of ponies were investigated by the Committee during the year.

There was an excellent standard of applications from young members for the Training Bursary which was awarded to fourteen year old Isobel Hanson with a second, smaller bursary going to Annabel Drake. The Young Judges Competition again had a welfare question paper included in the written part of the competition, aiming to increase awareness of proper management.

The committee, via the Society website and social media, communicated to the membership that the Society had major concerns regarding excessive travelling of ponies during the show season, and again reminded both exhibitors and judges of the importance of keeping ponies at a healthy weight.

A new venture introduced at the 2019 Summer Championships was a Pony Weight Awareness scheme. Baileys Horse Feeds brought a weighbridge to the show, together with a few of their nutritionalists. Owners were invited to have their ponies weighed and condition scored, then offered advice.

Representatives from the Society attended National Equine Welfare Council meetings, and the Society continues to work with other organisations under this umbrella.

Madge Taylor Chairman

Mountain & Moorland Committee

Committee Members: Mrs M A Taylor (Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), and Representatives from the Native Breed Societies.

In 2019 we held a Judges' Assessment at Stanley Grange Stud and sourced an excellent selection of Mountain & Moorland breeds for our candidates to review. I would like to thank everyone who helped to find these wonderful ponies, and of course the pony providers, who travelled from across the country to support the assessment.

I have also been in contact with the individual breed societies to raise awareness of the need for all organisations to ensure provisions are made for safeguarding. As the umbrella organisation for the Mountain & Moorland studbooks, the Society is working to ensure information on policy requirements is forwarded on to the studbooks so they can take appropriate action.

The breed classes at the Summer Championship show were very strong and the whole event was a wonderful showcase of our native breeds.

Madge Taylor Chairman

British Riding Pony Stud Book Committee

Committee Members: Mr J F Harforth (Vice Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mr S Hulston, Miss A G Jones (Acting Representative), Mrs G Kindler (Co-opted), Mrs E Mansfield-Parnell (Co-opted), Mr D Park (Co-opted), Mr M Reeves (Co-opted), Mrs S Rook (Co-opted).

The Studbook is now fully operational within the main Society office. Heather Abrahall has done a fantastic job catching up with outstanding registrations, and has embraced her role with great efficiency and enthusiasm. Many thanks to Sacha Shaw for going the extra mile and helping Heather throughout this transitional period.

I would also like to thank Jennifer Williams for her long-standing services to the Society. Her knowledge and commitment to the Society has been invaluable and I cannot express enough how indebted we are to her. Thanks also to Mark Buckley and Janet James for all their work in order to move the Studbook back in-house from Weatherbys.

Christine Duke has also retired from the Studbook Committee, and again I would like to thank her for all that she has done over the years. Jill Godden took on the Chairmanship after the last AGM and throughout the year has been a great asset to Heather with registration queries. Jill has now retired, however, I sincerely hope it is not long before she returns to the fold.

Bridget Kindler has kindly given her time to start sorting out any historic anomalies within the Studbook, and great thanks must go to her for this amazing voluntary work.

In the last twelve months we issued nineteen Stallion Licences (a similar figure to last year) and we received around 270 new registrations. We also overstamped forty-nine passports, completed 430 Transfers of Ownership, and (as it is a DEFRA requirement) I must stress it is essential that ponies are registered in the correct ownership.

I was delighted to see a very positive response to the Stallion Parade held at the Summer Championship Show and it is hoped this will be repeated again in 2020, albeit on a bigger scale.

I would like to thank Katie Jerram Hunnable for the amazing tuition and training she afforded to our Tri Nations competitors. Katie and her team members are working hard over the winter and will represent our Society and the Studbook in Australia in Autumn 2020, after lifting the title in 2019.

Finally, I wish you all a very safe and successful foaling season, and hope to see many of you supporting and promoting our wonderful British Riding Ponies at shows throughout the year.

Jerome Harforth Vice Chairman

Judges Selection Committee

Committee Members: Mrs M-C Nimmo (Chairman and Society Vice Chairman), Mrs J M James (Vice Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mr J F Harforth, Mrs S P M Hird, Mrs J McAuliffe, Mr M Sheen, Mrs M A Taylor, Mrs C M Whiteley.

I am pleased to report that we have ten new judges to add to our M&M Working Hunter Pony (WHP) Panel following a pilot scheme this year which was well received. This panel was under strain with limited judges to go round, so this will go a long way to alleviate the situation.

The ever growing Young Judges Competition, held in memory of Jennie Seymour, was once again a great success; entries were of a good standard and there was an abundance of enthusiasm from all the competitors. For a second time, we ran the first element of the hotly contended tri-nation competition alongside this.

Our bi-annual Judges Assessment was held in September at the Stanley Grange Stud by kind permission of Jerome Harforth. There were ponies galore for the assessment and I am delighted to advise that there are now four new Mountain & Moorland (M&M) Probationer Judges, and five new Probationer Judges for the Riding Pony/Hunter Pony (RPB / HPB) Panel.

It is pleasing to know that our NPS judges are continuing to be held in high esteem, so, we are delighted to see progression within our M&M and RPB / HPB Panels.

The next Judges Conference will be held in conjunction with NPS Scotland at the Scottish National Equestrian Centre, West Lothian on Sunday 27th September 2020. Everyone is welcome to attend this study day and some very interesting demonstrations are promised.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Judges Selection Committee for their input and support, especially Janet James, who in her role as Vice Chairman, has supported me throughout.

Marie-Claire Nimmo Chairman

Area Chairman's Committee

Committee Members: : Mrs C M Whiteley (Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer) and Representatives from various Areas.

All areas are believed to be up to date with their quarterly returns.

Area 15 now has an enthusiastic committee whom I am confident will get the Area back on track.

Area activities have been well supported throughout 2019.

At the last meeting, the Area Chairmen were confident that their Areas are thriving.

Carolyn Whiteley

Chairman

Show Committee

Committee Members: Mr P M Alder (Chairman), Mrs J McAuliffe (Vice Chairman), Mrs J S P Webb (Society Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mrs P Ashton (Co-opted), Mr P C Davis, Mrs S P M Hird, Mrs J M James (Co-opted), Mr M Jones (Co-opted), Mr M Sheen, Miss A Shepherd (Coopted), Mrs M A Taylor.

The past show year was an extremely busy one for the show team with many miles travelled and meetings attended.

We began with the Spring Festival, which after a few years on tour, moved back to Malvern. Pre entries were reasonable but the weather forecast prior to the show was horrendous. We arrived to gale force winds and as a result, there were virtually no on the day entries, which made the figures pretty miserable reading. Not the start we had hoped for. Despite the weather, our own RIHS M&M Working Hunter classes were very well supported.

At the Summer Championships at Malvern, we were once again hosting visitors from Australia and New Zealand. This led to bumper entries in the Young Judges competition on the Monday afternoon which was great to see but did result in the competition running quite late. The Dog Show also attracted huge entries, competing for some fabulous prizes. This really gets the show off to a great start. Due to sharing the site, the show team had to be housed in temporary portacabins and a marquee, which meant that working conditions were less than ideal, although all agreed the location was good. Entries were up and the atmosphere was second to none. Our own finals continue to be popular and we are grateful that people take the time and trouble and do the miles to qualify for them.

Finally, I would like to thank my team, who always go the extra mile... without fail; all of our judges, stewards and helpers too numerous to mention, and not forgetting Council who keep us up to the mark. Thanks also to Sacha, Megan, Heather, Rachel and Fiona who do most of the donkey work.

Philip Alder

Competitions Committee

Committee Members: Mrs J S P Webb (Chairman and Society Chairman), Mrs J McAuliffe (Vice Chairman), Mrs M-C Nimmo (Society Vice Chairman), Mr J S Strang (Society Treasurer), Mrs C S Frith, Mr J F Harforth, Mrs S Hird, Mrs J M James (Co-opted), Mr M Sheen, Mrs M A Taylor, Mrs C M Whiteley.

The Competitions Committee is very grateful to all of our sponsors without whom so many competitions could not run. Their continued support makes for a wide variety of classes for our members and we have been pleased with the level of entries at the qualifiers held in 2019. The finals at the Summer Championship Show were very well supported, both in quality and quantity.

The high standard in the NPS / Baileys Horse Feeds M&M Ridden Championship and NPS / Snuggy Hoods plaited WHP Championship held at Horse of the Year Show grows yearly, and these qualifiers are hotly contested. Likewise, the NPS / NAF WHP Final, held at the Longines Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead, is an outstanding competition for our Mountain & Moorland ponies.

The Spring Festival returned to Malvern in 2019 for the Winter Finals, but unfortunately Storm Hannah made for a rather exciting show with trees and marquees blowing away.

The Championship Show was a challenge as we had a restricted amount of space this year, but all the classes and finals ran well. Baileys Horse Feeds attended the show with their weighing machine which proved very popular with competitors.

Jackie Webb Chairman

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Treasurer's Report

When I presented my sixth annual Report as Treasurer of the Society at last year's Annual General Meeting, I had assumed that I was stepping down from the role. However, I was invited by the Trustees to continue as Treasurer and, after some considerable thought, I accepted their invitation. Therefore, I have pleasure in presenting my seventh annual Report.

Last year, I made reference to the continuing good progress made by the Areas in improving both the quality of their quarterly financial returns and in meeting the tight deadlines set for submitting them to Stoneleigh. I appreciate the continuing efforts made by the Area Treasurers in this regard, and the Society Auditors also made reference to the high standard achieved during the course of their examination of the accounts. I hope that this good progress is maintained in the forthcoming year.

This year the Society made a surplus of £30,381, before the gain on investments, compared to a surplus of £6,515 in the previous year. The contribution from the Areas to this surplus was £4,244 and therefore, without the Areas, the Society made a trading surplus of £26,137, compared to a trading loss of £1,621 in the previous year. This healthy surplus requires some further explanation to allow for a true comparison with the previous financial year. The increase in subscription rates and the associated gift aid had a positive impact on income and resulted in an increase of £13,341 on the previous year. In addition, there was non-recurring income of approximately £9,500. The decision to bring the provision of the British Riding Pony Studbook services back in house in April 2019 resulted in reduced costs, with the full annual savings being reflected in the next financial year. Expenditure continues to be carefully monitored and controlled. The Society's consolidated reserves increased by £33,248, and at the year end amounted to £722,259.

I would again like to conclude my Report by thanking Chris Graham for carrying out her duties as sponsorship coordinator so efficiently and wish her well in the future as she steps down from this important role. I extend my thanks to our book-keeper, David Orchard, and our hardworking and committed staff members Sacha Shaw, Megan Smith, Heather Abrahall and Fiona Chance who support me in my role as Treasurer. In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the enormous debt of gratitude owed to our loyal sponsors for their continuing financial support.

Steven Strang Treasurer

Reserves Policy

Free reserves available for use by the Charity are deemed to be those that are readily realisable. As a matter of policy, each year the Trustees review the value of the reserves retained in the form of investments and cash not held for restricted purposes or designated projects. The Council consider the Charity's exposure to major risks in terms of their likely impact on its income sources and planned expenditure in the short to medium term, as well as assessing the best way to mitigate such risks. With income the major risk is considered to be when Competitions and Shows are not held for reasons beyond the Charity's control.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserves of the Charity and concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide a buffer for uninterrupted services, a general reserve equivalent to 75% of fund annual expenditure should be maintained.

Investment Policy and Performance

The charity, may in accordance with its memorandum and articles, invest any monies not immediately required in suitable investments, securities or property as may be thought fit. Funds invested in listed investments were liquidated during the year and the trustees are considering the investment options available to maximise return for the charity while ensuring that these funds are secure and safeguarded.

Qualifying indemnity insurance

The charitable company has granted an indemnity to its directors against liability in respect of actions brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 2006. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision remains in force as at the date of approving the directors' report.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Continuing to promote, develop and educate according to our charitable objects with particular emphasis on:

- Promotion of the British Riding Pony and Hunter Pony Breeds and supporting our Breeders by enhancing existing or introducing new Competitions to promote the Sports and Competition pony
- Developing and raising awareness of the Society's welfare and educational activities through effective partnering with similar charitable bodies
- Continuing to review the Judges Assessment procedures to improve the selection process for probationer judges without compromising NPS and Breed standards
- Reviewing and modernising our governance structure and finance function

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the National Pony Society 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 which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including 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 bases unless it is Inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared In accordance with the small companies regime under Section 419(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to report that the Society has had a very productive year, holding many successful events for our membership which continues to be strong.

The Stud Book came back in-house in 2019 and whilst a very large undertaking for our administrative staff, it has proved to be very worthwhile.

Our loyal sponsors continue to support us which makes for top class Competitions for our Riding / Show Hunter and Mountain & Moorland Ponies. The NPS Dressage Championships were again well attended in all sections.

The NPS Spring Festival returned to Malvern, but unfortunately Storm Hannah also paid a visit. The Summer Championship Show, although allocated a smaller area, was deemed a great success with excellent entries.

A very well attended Judges Assessment was held at Stanley Grange Stud, by kind permission of Jerome Harforth, with a good number of candidates forward.

Jackie Webb Chairman

AUDITOR

The auditors, Critchleys Audit LLP, were appointed during the year and will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming AGM.

Signed by order of the Board of Trustees on 23 January 2020.

Mrs J S P Webb

Chairman

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The National Pony Society (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 October 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes, including a summary of 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).

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members 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 Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at [date] and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 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's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity 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 the provisions available for small entities, 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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.

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued) TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

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.

Opinions on other matters 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees 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 they 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 Charity'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 Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued) TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.

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

Robert Kirtland

For and on behalf of Critchleys Audit LLP (Statutory Auditor)

Beaver House

23-38 Hythe Bridge Street

18/1/2020

Oxford

OX1 2EP

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

	Note	Unrestricted 2019 £	Unrestricted 2018 £
Income and Endowments		_	- -
Donations and legacies Income from other trading activities Income from investments Income from charitable activities Other income	3 4 5 6	166,953 27,886 5,800 383,810 <u>7,273</u>	156,972 20,010 8,179 402,249 <u>9,359</u>
Total income and endowments		591,722	<u>596,769</u>
Expenditure			
Costs of raising funds Expenditure on charitable activities	7 8	81,715 479,626	65,974 <u>524,280</u>
Total expenditure		<u>561,341</u>	<u>590,254</u>
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		30,381	6,515
Net gains/(losses) on investments		2,867	(6,005)
Net income/(expenditure)		33,248	510
Transfers from area branches			
Net movement in funds		33,248	510
Reconciliation of funds Balance brought forward at 1 November 2018		<u>689,011</u>	<u>688,501</u>
Balance carried forward at 31 October 2019		<u>722,259</u>	<u>689,011</u>

All gains and losses arising in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities and arise from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 22 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2019

	Note	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £	2018 £
Fixed Assets			-	-	-
Tangible assets	12		_=		<u>785</u>
			-		785
Current Assets					
Investments Stocks	13	198,465 6,080		195,598 3,548	
Debtors	14	12,903		18,314	
Cash at bank and in h	and	<u>521,868</u>		<u>516,543</u>	
		739,316		734,003	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within					
one year	15	(17,057)		(<u>45,777)</u>	
Net Current Assets			722,259		<u>688,226</u>
			722,259		<u>689,011</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	16		718,809		688,061
Designated Funds	16		<u>3,450</u>		<u>950</u>
			<u>722,259</u>		<u>689,011</u>

J Steven Strang Treasurer

The notes on pages 22 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Company registration no: 00077583

1 General information

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in United Kingdom.

The address of its registered office is:
Beaver House
23-38 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford
OX1 2EP

The address of its principal office is: Arthur Rank Centre Stoneleigh Park Kenilworth Warwickshire CV8 2LG

2 Accounting Policies

a) Basis of preparation

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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act and adapted the format of the accounts to reflect the special nature of the charitable company's activities.

b) Cash flow statement

No cash flow statement has been prepared for the current year as the charity qualifies for the small company exemption available under FRS1 "Cash Flow Statements".

c) Donations and income from charitable activities

Income is shown in the statement of financial activities when that income has been received or is receivable, and where entitlement is not conditional on future events. Gifts in kind are included at their estimated market value.

d) Legacies

Legacies are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

2. Accounting Policies (continued)

e) Membership

Annual membership subscriptions are recognised in the accounts in the financial year to which they relate. Life membership subscriptions are allocated to a separate fund and an appropriate annual transfer made to the income and expenditure account.

f) Investment assets and income

Investments are held at market value. Income from investments is shown in the statement of financial activities when that income has become receivable. Changes in the market value of investments held are recognised in the statement of financial activities as unrealised gains or losses on investments.

g) Interest receivable

Interest receivable is accounted for on an accruals basis.

h) Fund accounting

Accumulated surpluses in the Unrestricted Funds (the General Fund), are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the charitable objectives, except that amounts representing the fixed assets are not actually available for spending. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. The charity currently holds no restricted funds.

i) Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds are predominantly those costs associated with providing the benefits associated with membership of the Society, the cost of fundraising events and the costs of managing the charity's investments.

Direct charitable expenditure relates to the delivery of the Society's main activities and services in relation to the promotion and protection of ponies and the acquisition, maintenance and distribution of knowledge connected with the management and use of ponies.

Support costs are allocated to costs of charitable activities, and are split between activities in proportion with the relevant costs for these activities and the governance of the charitable company and its assets and are primarily associated with strategic, constitutional and statutory matters.

Where possible, expenditure is matched with the activity to which it relates. Support costs that are not directly attributable to an activity are apportioned between each of the projects based on the direct expenditure allocations.

2. Accounting Policies (continued)

j) Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed assets are recorded at cost or, in cases where assets have been donated to the Society at valuation at the time of donation. All assets acquired for continuing use and costing more than £100 are capitalised.

Provision is made for depreciation on all tangible assets, at rates calculated to write off the asset, less estimated residual value, over its expected life as follows:

Equipment

- 33% straight line

Fixtures and Fittings

- 10% straight line

k) Stocks

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

l) Leasing

Annual rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

3. **Donations and legacies**

	•	2019	2018
	Donations	£	£
	Donations and sponsorship	20,404	23,764
	Subscriptions	<u>146,549</u>	133,208
		<u>166,953</u>	<u>156,972</u>
4.	Income from other trading activities		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Corporate sponsorship	<u>27,886</u>	20,010
5.	Income from investments		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Income from UK listed investments	4,460	5,894
	Bank interest receivable	<u>1,340</u>	<u>2,285</u>

<u>5,800</u>

8,179

6.	Income from charitable activities		
		2019 £	2018 £
		L ,	£
	Show income	228,676	216,690
	Branch income (note 21)	126,028	152,565
	Pony registration and prefixes income	22,904	25,031
	National Pony Society Review	6,202	<u>7,963</u>
		<u>383,810</u>	<u>402,249</u>
7.	Costs of raising funds		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Cost of membership benefit and administration	50,401	35,364
	Sponsorship	<u>31,314</u>	30,610
		01 71 F	CE 074
		<u>81,715</u>	<u>65,974</u>
8.	Expenditure on charitable activities		
		2019 £	2018
		L	£
	Show expenditure	176,897	175,596
	Branch expenditure (note 21)	121,784	145,645
	Pony registration expenditure	33,622	45,985
	National Pony Society Review expenditure	6,308	5,979
	Support Costs	<u>141,015</u>	<u>151,075</u>
		<u>479,626</u>	<u>524,280</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

		Direct Cost 2019 £	Support Costs 2019	Year ended 31 October 2019 £	Year ended 31 October 2018 £
	Show expenditure	380,396	141,015	521,411	472,316
	Pony registration expenditure	33,622	,	33,622	45,985
	National Pony Society Review expenditure	6,308		6,308	5,979
		<u>420,326</u>	<u>141,015</u>	<u>561,341</u>	<u>524,280</u>
9.	Support costs				
Э.	support costs			2019	2018
				£	£
	Administration fees			7,000	3,224
	Staff costs			36,400	35,364
	Bookkeeping fees			3,520	2,875
	Premises costs and business insurance			18,467	28,549
	Travel and subscriptions			2,559	7,998
	International teams expenditure			6,205	8,362
	Printing, postage and stationery			15,194	16,334
	Depreciation			785	1,211
	Irrecoverable VAT			18,158	21,413
	Other			22,989	19,245
	Audit fees			7,610	7,100
	Legal and professional fees			2,128	<u>(600)</u>
				<u>141,015</u>	<u>151,075</u>
	Allocated to:				
	Expenditure on charitable activities			<u>141,015</u>	<u>151,075</u>

10.	Net expenditure for the year		
	This is stated after charging:	2019 £	2018 £
	Depreciation Auditors remuneration	785	1,211
	Audit fees	7,610	7,100

11. Staff costs and emoluments

Staff costs were as follows:	2019 £	2018 £
Salaries and wages Social security costs Pension costs	77,995 3,587 <u>867</u> <u>82,449</u>	69,931 3,132 <u>769</u> <u>73,832</u>
The average number of employees during the year was as follows:		
Management and administration of the charity	<u>4</u> <u>4</u>	<u>3</u> <u>3</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £ 60,000 (2018: none)

12.	Tangible fixed assets	Furniture And Equipment £	Total £
	Cost At 1 November 2018 Additions Disposals At 31 October 2019	5,831 	5,831
	Depreciation At 1 November 2018 On disposal Charge for year	5,046 - <u>785</u>	5,046 - <u>785</u>
	At 31 October 2019 Net book value At 31 October 2019 At 31 October 2018	<u>5,831</u> ————————————————————————————————————	<u>5,831</u> —-
13.	Investments Movement in market value	2019 £	2018 £
	Market value at 1 November 2018 Additions at cost Net gains/(losses) on revaluations in the period Market value at 31 October 2019 Historical cost at 31 October 2019	195,598	201,603 - _(6,005) 195,598 200,000
14.	Debtors Trade debtors Other debtors	2019 £ 3,200 3,458	2018 £ 5,658 4,578
	Prepayments	6,24 <u>5</u>	<u>8,078</u>

12,903

18,314

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

and the same of th		
	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade creditors	683	20,037
Other creditors	2,008	130
Accruals and deferred income	<u>14,366</u>	<u>25,610</u>
	<u>17,057</u>	<u>45,777</u>

Creditors at the year ended includes deferred income of £2,443 (2018: £3,255) representing deferred show income received in the year for 2020 shows.

16. Unrestricted income funds

Offrestricted income funds	Total Funds £
General funds Balances at 1 November 2018 Income Expenditure Gain/(loss) on investments	688,061 588,972 (561,091) 2,867
Balances at 31 October 2019	<u>718,809</u>
Designated funds	
Welfare fund Balances at 1 November 2018 Income Expenditure Balances at 31 October 2019	200 250 (250) 200
Life Membership fund Balances at 1 November 2018 Income Balances at 31 October 2019	<u>750</u> <u>2,500</u> 3,250
Total Designated fund at 31 October 2019	<u>3,450</u>

The welfare fund is for the promotion of equine welfare.

The life membership fund has been set up to recognise the cost of servicing life members' subscriptions.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 October 2019 are represented by:	Unrestricted Fund £
Net current assets	<u>722,259</u>
Net assets at 31 October 2019	<u>722,259</u>

18. Financial Commitments

At 31 October 2019 the Society was committed to making the following payments under operating leases relating to office equipment:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Total payments falling due:		
Within one year	43,979	13,814
Between one and five years	44,722	20,008
Total	<u>88,701</u>	33,822

19. Transactions with the trustees

Trustees received no remuneration during the current or preceding period. Three trustees received reimbursement for expenditure during the period amounting to £3,483 (2018: three trustees received £251).

Certain trustees were reimbursed for expenditure amounting to £2,358 (2018: £3,722) incurred for activities undertaken in roles other than as trustees of the charity such as judging competitions. All such transactions are contracted on an arm's length basis.

During the year gifts of £237 were made to trustees.

20. Legal status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

21. Areas' income and expenditure

Opening balance as at 1 November 2018 Total income Total expenditure	Total £ 191,378 126,028 (121,784)
Closing balance as at 31 October 2019	<u>195,622</u>
Areas' income is split between:	
Donations and legacies Income from charitable activities Other income Total income	Total £ 9,952 110,8105,266126,028
Areas' expenditure is split Activities between:	
Expenditure on charitable activities	Total £ <u>121,784</u>