

**AGM, Bern, FINANCIAL REPORT to accompany the Accounts 25/07/09-31/12/10**

At the last AGM we agreed to alter our Financial Year to make it coincide with the Calendar Year. The present Accounts are as provided to the UK Charity Commission and bring about this alignment and (on this occasion only) they are for a period of just over seventeen months. At last year's AGM, in Exeter, Accounts were presented for the period 25/07/09 to 31/12/09 and it will be seen that these figures are shown again (as a separate column) within the present accounts. The purpose of changing the accounting year was to make it easier to compare one year with another; however, this inevitably has created temporary difficulties.

**Income:** - Our **membership subscriptions** have held up well over the past two years (at around £1500) - double that for the last full year (July 08 to July 09); **donations** also significantly increased; and we finally achieved a payment for **Gift Aid** on the subs of UK taxpayers. All in all this has significantly increased our income.

**Expenditure:** - The seventeen month period includes the production of the two **Tayfs, 6 and 7**. It will be seen that Tayf 6 cost around £1000, and Tayf 7 cost £1836 - an increase due to the fact that Tayf 7 was significantly longer (which, it will be recalled, led to the decision to limit future Tayfs to around 20 pages). The annual newsletter remains a core activity of the Charity and it is worth noting again that its relatively low cost is dependent upon volunteers. Producing Tayf involves a very considerable amount of work (unpaid) by its contributors and, in particular, by the editor. Other running costs included funding the **website** which is now paid for up until 2015.

**Projects:** - As previously decided, we increased our expenditure on Projects in 2010. *Friends of Soqotra* contributed to the production costs of the **Darwin Book** (£500), contributed to the **Museum** (£200), paid for fifty **reading spectacles** (£154), funded the **Posters** highlighting environmental issues (£636), and paid **Dr Salim's expenses** (£183) - thus enabling him to come and give his excellent paper on Health on Soqotra to the last AGM. *Friends of Soqotra* thereby spent £1673 on projects intended to benefit Soqotra and Soqotrans.

**In 2010**, we opened our new account with The Royal Bank of Scotland. This will make the transfers from PayPal to our bank account easier and will avoid some of the increasing problems we had with the old Nationwide account. We will keep the Nationwide account 'open' for a further year, (to allow it to become apparent which members make direct payments into that account). The new RBS account is operated by signatures of any two of the following three: the Treasurer, The Secretary and the Editor of Tayf.

In 2011 the account has, so far, been credited with £1054 (subs), £295 (donations), and £2000 (legacy); we have funded stethoscopes (£110) and we have so far spent £988 on Tayf 8 (the Arabic printing is still to be paid); leaving **£5161 credit** on 20/09/2011.

**AGM, Frankfurt, FINANCIAL REPORT to accompany the Accounts 01/01/10-31/12/11**

These accounts relate to the full calendar year of 2011. This is the same period as that for our returns to the UK Charity Commission. The left hand column allows for comparisons to be made with corresponding figures for 2010.

**Income:** - The 64% increase in **membership subscriptions** was largely the result of members 'paying up' rather than of an increase in our membership (the fees having remained the same). **Donations** in 2011 included a very generous bequest, of £2000, left to *Friends of Soqotra* by a member in her will. In addition we received over £300 in other donations which is a significant sum for an organisation of our size. The interest on the bank accounts has continued to be trivial.

**Expenditure:** - 2011 was our most successful year in terms of the number of Arabic copies of *Tayf* distributed to the Island. Total *Tayf 8* costs were £1274 (i.e. less than for *Tayf 7*) including the 500 Arabic copies printed in Mukalla (at a cost of only £280) and their safe onward passage to Soqotra. This was made possible by employing a contact provided by a committee member. Increasingly *Tayf* is also distributed electronically to our membership, both in English and in Arabic, with resulting savings for printing and postage.

**Projects:** - The only new project that *Friends of Soqotra* funded in 2011 was that for the medical equipment that we sent out to the Island with Dr Salim. However, the production of *Tayf*, and especially the Arabic version, is a core activity of *Friends of Soqotra* and, as already mentioned, in 2011 we achieved a significantly increased circulation.

Our main bank account is now the 'new' account with *The Royal Bank of Scotland*. We still have the 'old' *Nationwide Building Society* account - which has continued to be used by some members to make direct payments - but which will be closed before the AGM in 2013.

**From the beginning of 2012 to the time of the AGM:** *Friends of Soqotra* has received £558 in subscriptions; has funded a health project (£528) and incurred costs of £1210 in producing *Tayf 9* (part of the Arabic printing of which is still to be paid); and this, together with other costs and donations, leaves *Friends of Soqotra* with a **credit of £5017** at the time of writing.

Hugh Morris  
Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

17/09/2012

**AGM, Lednice, FINANCIAL REPORT to accompany the Accounts 01/01/12-31/12/12**

These accounts relate to the full calendar year of 2012. This is the same period as that for our returns to the UK Charity Commission. The left hand column provides the figures for 2011 for comparison.

**Income:** - Income in 2012 was significantly less than in 2011. For this there are several explanations: Firstly, the previous year's accounts included a very generous bequest of £2000. Secondly, although *FoS* received almost £1000 less in membership subscriptions in 2012 compared to 2011, this is not quite as alarming as it first appears. There are approximately 100 'active' members, from whom *FoS* receives approximately £1650 in subscriptions (with one third of our membership, at any time, being behind in their subscriptions) - and this is similar to the sum that *FoS* actually received in 2012. Thirdly, last year a special effort was made to encourage defaulters to pay their subscriptions to *FoS* and this led to a marked increase in the subscriptions. Finally, donations in 2012 were indeed small, as was the interest paid on the bank accounts.

**Expenditure:** -

**Tayfs:** Once again, in 2012, 500 copies of the Arabic version of *Tayf 9* reached Soqotra. The total cost remained similar to that for *Tayf 8* (approximately £1200) and both editions cost less than *Tayf 7* (for which a much smaller distribution was achieved). Each year, more electronic versions of *Tayf* are requested and distributed (indeed, this year, we distributed 67 versions of *Tayf 10* electronically) - a saving on both printing and postage.

**Projects:** - In 2012 *FoS* supported the Health Project of Dr Salem (£528.50).

**Insurance:** - Following a decision taken by the Executive Committee, insurance was taken out to indemnify *FoS* (the initial annual premium, in 2012, being £217.30).

**Bank account:** - The *FoS* account is now with *The Royal Bank of Scotland* and the previous *Nationwide Building Society* account is no longer in use.

At the present time, *Friends of Soqotra* has approximately £5000 in credit. Earlier in the year we received an unexpected donation of £450. The figure 'in credit' is after paying most of the expenses relating to *Tayf 10*, as well as having funded the health project (£510) and the soil project (£204). So far this year our subscriptions have been less than those in previous years at the same time.

Hugh Morris

Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

07/09/2013

**AGM, Rome, FINANCIAL REPORT to accompany the Accounts 01/01/13 - 31/12/13**

These accounts relate to the full calendar year of 2013. This is the same period as that for our returns to the UK Charity Commission. The left hand column provides the figures for 2012 for comparison.

**Income:** - The income for *FoS* increased in 2013. This was the result of one significant donation and of a modest increase in the payment of subscriptions during the year. Subscription payments are our only reliable income and this fluctuates from year to year, (as some members choose to pay for several years at once); but we continue to have members (who would no doubt consider themselves as serious supporters of *FoS*) who are, at any one time, not actually paid up. For example, as of September 2014, only 62 members had paid their subscriptions; whilst the total number of 'active' members was 104. If these 'unpaid' 42 were to pay their dues it would raise over a thousand pounds for *Friends of Soqotra* (or more - since several are more than a year in arrears).

For the record, the following was our income from membership over the past few years: in 2006/7 it was £1050; in 2007/8 it was £695; in 2008/9 it was £738; in 2010 it was £1456; in 2011 it was £2348; in 2012 it was £1371, and in 2013 it was £1608.

**Expenditure:** -

**Tayf 10:** 500 copies of the Arabic version of *Tayf* reached Soqotra and 74 English paper copies were distributed (and 72 electronic versions - at no cost to *FoS*). Thanks to Sue Christie, the Editor, arranging for the printing of the English copies (in Northern Ireland) and to Omar Hamdoon for the Arabic copies (in Makalla), our costs have remained low for what, in 2013, was the principal funded activity of *FoS*.

**Projects:** - In 2013 *FoS* again supported the Health Project of Dr Salem (£510) and we also supported Dana's Soil Project (£204).

**Insurance:** - the annual premium remained unchanged (£217.30).

As is evident from the accounts *Friends of Soqotra* ended 2013, with a modest increase in our reserves, at £5732.97.

At the present time, *FoS* has £5606 in credit - after most of the expenses for Tayf 11 have been paid - and this is before the collection of subscriptions from those members attending Rome. However, we have not so far spent money on other projects this year.

Hugh Morris  
Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

16/09/2014

**AGM, Porto, FINANCIAL REPORT to accompany the Accounts 01/01/14 - 31/12/14**

The accompanying accounts relate to the full calendar year of 2014, which is the same period as that for our returns to the UK Charity Commission. The left hand column provides the figures for 2013 for comparison (as do the figures in brackets below).

**Income:** - Despite a £300 increase in subscriptions, the overall income in 2014 was down by £100 – this was because *FoS* received no large donation in 2014. There are currently 67 fully paid-up members (62) and a further 35 (42) in arrears with their subs, giving *FoS* a total of 102 (104) active members.

**Expenditure:** -

**Tayf 11:** 500 copies of the Arabic version of *Tayf* were again delivered to Soqotra; 60 (74) English paper copies were sent out and 94 (72) electronic versions. Once again our thanks are due to Sue Christie, for performing the role of Editor and for printing the English hard copies (in Northern Ireland) and to Omar Hamdoon for printing the Arabic hard copies (in Makalla); because of this, and because of the increasing numbers of e-Tayfs, our costs remain low for the principal funded activity of *FoS*.

**Projects:** - Towards the end of 2014 US\$ 450 was sent to Soqotra to help fund the Project for Disabled Children – but the cost (£312.41) was not reimbursed in 2014, (A), and does not feature in the 2014 accounts.

**Insurance:** - the annual premium was £232.30 (£217.30) but it, too, was not reimbursed in 2014, (B).

Largely because of the two above outstanding payments, *Friends of Soqotra* ended 2014 with an increase in our reserves to £6492.69.

At the present time, *FoS* is £6940 (£5606) in credit – but this is before most of the expenses for Tayf 12 have been paid. It is important to note, also, that we have not so far funded other projects this year.

Hugh Morris

Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

08/09/2015

The accounts for 2015 are in the same form as in previous years (with notes relating to individual items). Figures, below, in [ ] are those for 2014.

**Income:** - In 2015 **subscriptions** dropped by £500 (c.f. last year's increase of £300); this fluctuation is not new. There are currently 52 [67] fully paid-up members and a further 59 [35] in arrears with their subs; giving *FoS* a total of 111 [102] 'active' members. The **donations** came from (and are for) the Cyclone Appeal and 'distort' the overall income as a result. Although a similar sum to that raised was sent to the island in 2015 (by HCTM), this was not reimbursed by *FoS* in 2015 and will feature in the 2016 accounts.

**Expenditure:** -

**Tayf costs:** it remains difficult to make comparisons of *Tayf* costs in the annual accounts because expenses cover two years. However: *Tayf 10* cost £917.88 (years 13/14); *Tayf 11* £1041.67 (14/15); and *Tayf 12* £876.96 (15/16). In 2015, 42 [60] hard copies (English) were distributed and 100 [94] electronic copies. As previously, 500 Arabic copies were sent to *Soqotra* for distribution (with particular thanks to Abdul-Rahman al-Eryani for his help with this).

**Projects:** - The Disabled Children's Project was funded in 2014, but was not reimbursed until 2015. In 2015 *FoS* also funded a project to print, laminate and distribute leaflets on *Soqotra*.

**Insurance:** - the annual premium continues to be paid in November, for one year in advance, but to be reimbursed in arrears.

The present state (i.e. at the time of the AGM 2016) of the *FoS* accounts is a credit of £8134.91 – but, as is explained elsewhere, this includes a residual sum raised (or pledged by *FoS*) for the Cyclone Appeal of £1918.03, which is still to be disbursed. This leaves £6216.88 'for' *FoS*. I would also draw attention to the fact that *FoS* has not, as yet, sponsored other projects in 2016.

Hugh Morris

Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

27/08/2016

**FINANCIAL REPORT for 2016 – (for the AGM, Bern, October 2017)**

The accounts are in the same form as previously, relating to actual receipts and expenditure within 2016. The opening figure (£9060.28) is the same as that which concluded last year's accounts. Last year's figures in square brackets.

**Income:** - In 2016 **subscriptions** dropped by 13% compared with 2015 (down to £1231.65); this fluctuation is not new since many members pay for more than one year at a time. There are currently only 30 [52] fully paid-up members with a further 90 [59] in arrears with their subs; giving *FoS* a total of 120 [111] 'active' members. Of the **donations** made to the Cyclone Appeal, the majority (£8123.87) came from *Gogetfunding* - having been donated to that account in late 2015 and early 2016, and then transferred to the *FoS* bank account in January 2016. Other donations included that from the auditor of the accounts (which she continues to generously return to *FoS*). Unfortunately, our bank account continues to receive derisory levels of **interest**.

**Expenditure:** - The funding of the Cyclone **Projects** was reported at the AGM in Tübingen and recorded in *Tayf 14*. **Tayf costs:** *Tayf 12* cost, in total, £877. Costs for *Tayf 13* will feature in next year's accounts. This was the least expensive *Tayf* so far, although it remains the largest item of expenditure for *FoS* – exceeded only by projects funded from the Cyclone Appeal. Previous figures for *Tayf* were as follows: *Tayf 11* cost £1042; *Tayf 10* cost £918; *Tayf 9* cost £1419; *Tayf 8* cost £1277 and *Tayf 7* cost £1836. The main reason for the declining costs has been the increasing use of e-versions of *Tayf*, which have largely replaced hard copies. This autumn 121 copies of e-*Tayf 14* have been sent out [100]. The Arabic hard copy version of *Tayf 13* had a delayed distribution but reached the island this autumn. The annual **insurance** premium continues to be paid in November, for one year in advance, but to be reimbursed in arrears.

The present state (at the time of the AGM 2017) of the *FoS* accounts is a credit of £7959.33 [£8134.91] – but, as was the situation last year, this includes a residual sum raised (or pledged by *FoS*) for the Cyclone Appeal of £1918.03, which is still to be disbursed. This leaves **£6041.30** 'for' *FoS*.

Hugh Morris

Treasurer, *Friends of Soqotra*

25/10/2017

## Treasurers Report for 2018

£1702.98 is 57% more than 2017.

(No further donations were made to the *Cyclone Chapala Appeal* in 2018.

The sum from the *Cyclone Appeal* (£1918.03) remaining in the FoS accounts from 2017 was actually spent in 2018. No other projects funded in the year.

The Website Domain is not an annual expenditure.

(The total costs for translation of *Tayf 14 and 15* were paid in 2019 the final costs for printing additional copies of *Tayf 15* are still to be confirmed.

The cost of printing and distribution of *Tayf 14* (£432.79) was also reimbursed in 2019 and therefore does not appear in the accounts for 2018.

The insurance premium for 2018-2019 (£254.60) was paid in 2018 but not reimbursed until 2019.

Whilst the Auditor has been paid £25 for auditing the 2018 accounts this will not appear on the accounts until 2109.

No admin costs were paid in 2018.

Although the end of year balance in the account was **£7,745.78**, this sum included money still due to be paid out for the translation, production and distribution of *Tayf 14 and 15*. Thus the actual sum at the end of 2018, available to FoS, was **£xxx.xx**