

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2022







Welcome to some of our favourite moments of 2022.

It was another exciting year, re-opening fully after the pandemic, taking the time to formulate and launch our new strategy, supporting young artists, visiting hundreds of schools, acquiring some amazing new kit, and even working with Father Christmas!

We are proud of what we have achieved to date but it feels as though we are just getting started. We will continue to develop new activities, projects and programmes that convey that very special "Kielder moment" to as many people as possible.

We remain very grateful to everyone who supports the work we do: the team of staff and volunteers, the visitors, the schools, the funders and partners. We can't do what we do without you.

**Peter Standfield, Chair of Trustees**  
**Catherine Johns, CEO**

# WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"The team are unbelievably knowledgeable and super welcoming. The presentations and demonstrations kept the group engrossed throughout. The whole experience was breath-taking."

"Just incredible. The staff were phenomenal. They kept us on the edge of our seats with information about the stars and meteors."

"Had an amazing evening - an incredibly clear night for stargazing and the Northern Lights, too!"

"What an amazing time at STEM Club! We've made our own meteorites, looked at a meteorite from space & found out the Moon was created in less than a day as a result of two planets colliding!  
#mindblown"

"Thoroughly enjoyed our Late Night Explorer session a couple of Saturdays ago, the best I have ever seen the night sky, great observatory and super friendly team"

"Finally visited last night for The Secret Lives of Stars event. Was totally blown away...literally out of this world! Thank you for a night to remember."

"As parents, Keith and I are so grateful to you all for the care, time and expertise you have shared with Eliza during her work placement at the observatory."



# HIGHLIGHTS



**Won Small Visitor Attraction of the Year - North East Tourism Awards**



**Nominated - Most Inspiring Science Employer of the Year**



**Won the Women in STEM WIN Award**



**Aurora footage on BBC national news**

# HIGHLIGHTS



**Awarded the prestigious Visit England Welcome Accolade ...**



**...and the Trip Advisor Traveller's Choice Award**

# HIGHLIGHTS



**Delivered over  
22,000 pupil and  
750 teacher  
engagements, with  
funding from the  
Reece Foundation  
and North of Tyne  
Combined Authority**



# HIGHLIGHTS



**Delivered a workshop at Kielder school for the Northumberland "Illuminated Sheep" trail**

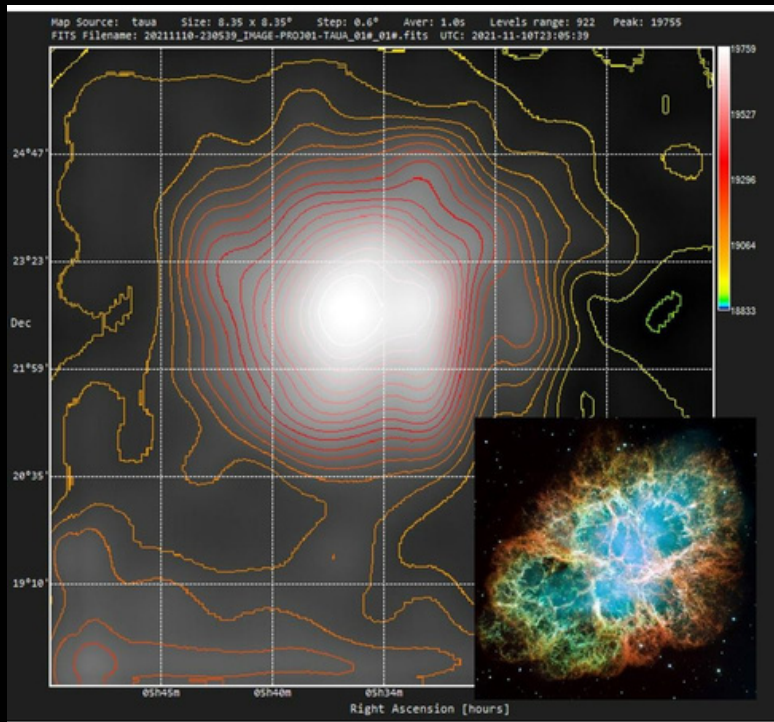
**Supported four young artists with the Frank's Fellowship bursary**



**Enjoyed the Kielder Art Trail by photographer in residence, Helen McGhie**



# HIGHLIGHTS



**Received the first data from our  
Tanlaw radio telescope**



**Created learning resources for the  
radio telescope with Sunderland  
based community group Young Asian  
Voices and artist Mel Bacon**

# HIGHLIGHTS



**Successful crowdfunding for a new wind turbine**



**Raytheon  
NORSS**

**New installation on site:**

**LOCI, a Low Earth Orbit (LEO)  
Optical Camera Installation  
created by  
Raytheon NORSS.**

**LOCI is a bespoke space  
situational awareness sensor  
system tailored to tackle the  
challenges of LEO optical  
observation.**

# HIGHLIGHTS



**Stargazed with Santa and his elves at Fenwick's Christmas**



**Went out and about with Kielder PopUps**



**Livestreamed via 5G for DCMS - if it can work here, it can work anywhere!**



**Celebrated 40 years of Kielder Water**

- **Catherine Johns**, CEO
- **Hannah Matterson**, Operations and Marketing Director
- **Daniel Monk**, Director of the Gillian Dickinson Astrolmaging Academy
- **Dan Pye**, Director of Astronomy and Science Communication

## MEET THE TEAM

- **Jesse Beaman**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Alison Booth**, Finance Executive
- **Finn Burridge**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Helena Cochrane**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Hayden Goodfellow**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Guy Haveron**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Nazanin Jahanshahi**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Natasha Lund**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Ellie MacDonald**, Astronomer and Science Communicator, Science Lead
- **Gregoire Mahaut**, Astronomer and Science Communicator, Facilities Lead
- **Patti Purcell**, Office Manager and PA to the Board
- **Liam Reid**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Matt Robinson**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Simon Robinson**, Astronomer and Science Communicator
- **Adam Shore**, Astronomer and Science Communicator, Education Lead
- **Heather Woodfine**, Communications and Events Administrator, Arts Lead
- **Ishbel Wright**, Astronomer and Science Communicator







"One year ago I visited Kielder Observatory as a guest for the first time. Since then I've had the privilege to become a volunteer. I've loved getting to know the amazing team and other volunteers."

**Hamish Newhouse**



♿  
Disabled Parking  
Available Here



# LOOKING FORWARD

Our mission is to create opportunities for people of all backgrounds and abilities to experience moments of inspiration, revelation, wonder and hope through observing the cosmos. This year, we developed a new strategy with these outcomes:

- **People:** Everyone feels represented, welcomed, enriched and inspired, enabling equality of access to opportunities in science, whether as a one-off engagement, participation in study (formal or informal), and/or a career.
- **Place:** We consistently inspire more people of all backgrounds and abilities to reflect upon their place in the universe and the fragility of the Earth, and catalyse individual and collective action in response to the need to protect our dark skies, and wider natural heritage.
- **Organisation:** We welcome the uncertainty of fresh challenges and continuously improve our offer as opportunities emerge from new technologies, new audiences and evolving practice.

You can find out more about our new strategy here

<https://kielderobservatory.org/images/Strategy-1.pdf>





**WITH GRATEFUL  
THANKS TO**

Accenture  
Advance Northumberland  
Arts Council England  
Association of Science and Discovery Centres  
Creative England  
Digital Catapult North East and Tees Valley  
Durham University  
Fenwick Newcastle  
Forestry England  
The Gillian Dickinson Trust  
Innovation Supernetwork  
Institute of Physics  
International Dark Sky Association  
The Joicey Trust  
Kielder Parish Council  
Kielder School  
The Kielder Trust and Kielder partners  
National Lottery Heritage Fund  
Newcastle University  
The North of Tyne Combined Authority  
Northumberland County Council  
Northumberland National Park Authority  
Northumbrian Water  
Raytheon-NORSS  
The Reece Foundation  
Royal Astronomical Society  
Sunderland Culture  
The Tanlaw Foundation  
Visit Northumberland



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