

THE GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1053446

Details

Other names	THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03163187
Registered	1996-03-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	70 Cowcross Street London EC1M 6E
Phone	02076082409
Email	enquiries@thegardenstrust.org
Website	https://thegardenstrust.org/

Activities

Objects: (THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY (THE "OBJECTS") ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:- 3.1.1 TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF GARDENS AND GARDENING, LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE IN ALL ITS ASPECTS; 3.1.2 TO PROMOTE THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC PARKS GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES AND TO PROMOTE AND ADVISE ON THEIR CONSERVATION; 3.1.3 TO PROMOTE CGTS AND THROUGH THEM, EDUCATION, APPRECIATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC IN MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE ARTS AND SCIENCES OF GARDEN LAND; AND 3.1.4 TO ENCOURAGE THE CREATION OF NEW PARKS, GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPE.

Activities: The Society promotes the study of garden history through the publication of a journal, 'Garden History' and an annual conference, lectures, seminars and visits. The Society promotes the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes through a Conservation Committee and a team of Conservation Officers.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£306,709	£373,881	-	-
2023-12-31	£303,245	£419,001	-	-
2022-12-31	£337,160	£374,591	-	-
2021-12-31	£379,744	£328,957	-	-
2020-12-31	£297,788	£265,305	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CATRIONA ROSE HOYES		2023-09-07
CHRISTOPHER JOHN WEDDELL		2025-09-10
Christopher John Blandford		2020-09-05
Deborah Jane Evans		2022-09-08
Dr Victoria Thomson		2026-01-15
ELIZABETH JANE WATSON		2015-07-24
Gillian Sian Sinclair		2022-09-08
Jo Barnes		2024-09-17
Joanna Elizabeth Davidson		2020-01-27
Rachel Jane Savage		2021-03-30
William Anthony John Watkins		2025-03-31

THE GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1053446

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST**

Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

THE GARDENS TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1053446

Registered office 70
Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Jo Barnes (appointed 17th September 2024)
Christopher John Blandford
Deborah Jane Evans
Dr Clare Hickman
Catriona Hoyes
Peter Thomas Hughes KC (resigned 17th September 2024)
Francesca Murray
Paul Anthony Rabbitts (resigned 1st October 2024)
Rachel Jane Savage
Gillian Sian Sinclair
Victoria Louise Thomson (appointed 17th September 2024)

Elizabeth Jane Watson

Ex officio and non-voting members of the Board:
Joanna Elizabeth Davidson

Company Secretary
Catriona Hoyes

Independent examiner
Rekha Shah
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Bankers
Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling Kent,
ME19 4TA

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Conservation; Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications; and Education and Training. There is also a Management Committee comprising the Officers and the Chairs of Committees. The Board meets quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required, the Management Committee meets monthly, and the Committees meet on a regular basis.

The Trust had a complement of staff comprising: Head of Operations and Strategy; Administration and Membership Officer; Finance Officer; Conservation Officer; Casework Manager; Assistant Casework Manager; Audience Development and Engagement Officer and three Volunteer Support Officers, one of whom was engaged during the year on a specific project assisted by a grant from Historic England. All staff apart from the Head of Operations and Strategy were employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW

The Gardens Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system, which means that local planning authorities must consult us, and we must respond, on any planning applications that may affect sites on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. Whilst Historic England are only statutory consultees for Grades I and II*, we are additionally consulted on Grade II, which comprise 65% of the Register. In 2024 we received 1,744 planning consultations as a statutory consultee, 911 of which were for Grade II sites. In 2024 we made full written responses to 534 consultations. The inadequacy of government funding for our statutory consultee work means that in Summer 2024 we had to make some changes to our way of working. Regrettably, we can currently only undertake our statutory remit, which is to respond to planning applications which impact on Registered parks and gardens. We are currently unable to offer wider advice and have had to lean heavily on the goodwill and understanding of the County Gardens Trusts. Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) increasingly came across our desk, placing huge demands on the time of expert volunteers, locally and nationally. In September 2024 we started a two-year volunteer training project 'Green Futures: new infrastructure and historic gardens in the East of England', with thanks to Historic England funding. In this project we will train volunteers to understand NSIPs, how to know how to assess and engage with an NSIP application; and how to research, record and understand the significance of historic designed landscapes that may be affected by them. By adding this research to the historic record, via platforms like Historic Environment Records and the National Heritage List for England, so that it is available to all, we can help developers, planners and statutory consultees like Historic England and the Gardens Trust to take into account the effect of NSIPs on historic parks, gardens and other designed landscapes.

The GT is now Certified Carbon Literate, following staff and volunteer training on the impacts of climate change on both our personal lives and in the workplace. The Gardens Trust is committed to minimising its environmental impact, inspiring others to do the same, and playing an active role in demonstrating and supporting the contribution that historic designed landscapes can make to managing the climate emergency.

We're proud that the Gardens Trust is now an official Appointing Body to the National Trust Council, after securing an impressive 54,220 votes in their 2024 AGM, demonstrating the value that National Trust members place on historic parks and gardens and the role that the Gardens Trust can play. As an Appointing Body, the Gardens Trust will be better placed than ever to support the work of the National Trust in caring for historic parks and gardens and championing their protection.

In Summer 2024 the two-year Suffolk's Unforgettable Gardens Story Project was completed. The project, delivered by the Gardens Trust in partnership with Suffolk Gardens Trust and funded by Historic England, has helped tell the stories of the county's parks and gardens and brought attention to the value of its historic designed landscapes. The hard work of volunteers has resulted in the research of more than twenty historic parks and gardens and seven new additions to the Register of Parks and Gardens, giving these sites a better level of protection in the planning system.

In March 2024 the two-year Volunteers Saved Space! Project was completed. With funding from Historic England, Volunteers Save Space! enabled us to run multiple training, networking and support activities, all aiming to tell more people about our country's designed landscape heritage and to build capacity in the volunteer organisations working to understand and protect these landscapes. Volunteers Save Space! has helped over 1600 people, many of them from new audiences, better understand historic designed landscapes, the threats they face, and how volunteers can help to protect them.

The 36 County Gardens Trusts and the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust are critical to our work, supporting our statutory consultee role as well as delivering vital research and recording activity and helping to engage with communities across the country. As well as ongoing availability to all CGTs, in 2024 our Volunteer Support team were able to give specific support to 21 CGTs, helping them to continue their vital local work.

Founded over 50 years ago, the Journal continues to offer a range of scholarly papers furthering understanding of garden history, under Dr Barbara Simm's editorship. The full contents list from 1969 to 2024 has been updated and is now available and searchable at: thegardenstrust.org/resources/journal/. In Spring 2024 we ran a webinar on ways to share garden history research, to promote diverse contributions to interdisciplinary scholarly discussion, including how to submit papers to the Journal, to encourage knowledge sharing, and promote international dialogues.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

The submissions guide has been updated, and is on our website: thegardenstrust.org/garden-history-submissions-guide/. In 2024 the New Research Symposium received a high number - and high standard - of entries, and hosted two free online sessions on Saturday afternoons in November to showcase the chosen presentations. We look forward to welcoming submissions again in 2025 from researchers approaching garden and landscape history and conservation from various academic disciplines and vocational backgrounds. A full list of researchers featured and topics covered in the symposia over the past 13 years is available on our website: thegardenstrust.org/new-research-symposium/. The winner of the Gardens Trust's 2024 Mavis Batey Essay Prize was Emma Poynter (MPhil) for her essay on 'The production, use, and significance of the Hortus Malabaricus (1678-1693) in the creation of colonial botanical knowledge.'

There's been a catastrophic dearth in recent years of places to study garden history, so the Gardens Trust is delighted to partner with the University of Buckingham on postgraduate degree courses. This gives the opportunity to pursue research at Master's level in any one of a wide range of garden and landscape related topics. In the 2024-25 cohort there are eleven new MA students.

In November 2024 the Gardens Trust published its first book - *Unforgettable Gardens: 500 Years of Historic Gardens and Landscapes*. It covers around 60 individual gardens, specially selected to give a broad historical overview of British garden design from the Early Modern Period up until the Millennium. Each chapter also includes an essay exploring the wider changes in social context, taste and style in each period. Sales look good, with almost 1,200 copies sold globally in the first few weeks of its publication.

In 2024 we ran over 85 events (online and in person), with almost 9000 tickets sold, to attendees from all across the world. Online highlights included a roundtable on 'Why Garden History', the first half of our new 6-series programme A History of Gardens, sponsored by Wooden Books, a new partnership with the County Gardens Trusts exploring Restoration in Action, and popular series on People's Parks, Community Landscapes, Roman Gardens, Gardens & the Written Word and Head Gardeners Working at Historic Sites. In-person events included successful trips to the MERL and Forbury Gardens in Reading, Dorneywood in Buckinghamshire, Exbury Gardens in Hampshire, Charlton House and Garden in southeast London, Gravetye Manor in Sussex, a multi-day study trip to Suffolk, and partnership sessions with the Royal Horticultural Society exploring the archives at the Lindley Library.

One of the purposes of our events programme is to raise funds for our work and this year ticket sales contributed over £30,000 to the cause. We also partnered with other organisations, such as the Garden Museum for an Introduction to Garden History course, and welcomed around 30 delegates to our annual study weekend arranged in partnership with Oxford University, this year with the theme New Perspectives on Botanical Gardens. We are fortunate to have a team of long-standing volunteers making our events programme possible and highly value their help.

To complement the GT News magazine for members, our bulletin covering sector highlights, went out monthly to over 2,100 readers, with an extra edition for non-GT members. Social media stats for 2024 include: our posts on X (previously Twitter) were viewed over 30380 times; Facebook posts reached over 32,000 users; Instagram won 300 more Followers and our posts have reached over 126,000 users; LinkedIn gained 200 new followers and posts have been viewed 10,000 times; 19 TikTok videos have been viewed over 75,000 times. We're grateful to have the help of 6 volunteers under the age of 30 to help with our social media.

In 2024 two community garden projects in historic designed landscapes were able to progress thanks to our Gardens Trust Community Grant, supported with the generosity of members Peter and Rosy Gent. Friends of Brunswick Square & Terrace in Hove, East Sussex, received £2500 to help restore the garden not only for the mental, physical and social benefits of the volunteers who go every Saturday, but for the many local residents and tourists that appreciate the Square too. Dawber Garden Community Trust, Lincoln, received £1000 for a project around the restoration, ongoing maintenance, and significant improvement of the garden to ensure long term survival. We look forward to seeing work progress on the projects awarded GT Community Grants in autumn 2024, which are: Arnos Vale Cemetery in Bristol; Broomhill Community Library Garden in Sheffield; a still-used historic mental health hospital garden known as 'Warneford 200' in Oxfordshire; and biodiversity plantings in historic parks as part of the Your Park Bath project.

Barbara Moth won our Volunteer Award 2024 for her outstanding contribution to all of Cheshire Gardens Trust's activities, management, research and leadership over a period of more than 20 years. Barbara has made a huge impact, through her involvement in activities including organising conferences and study days, leading the Caldwell Nurseries Project, writing articles and delivering outreach events which have engaged new audiences.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

Due to the outstanding calibre of nominees, we created a new award this year so Claire de Carle was given the brand new award for Exceptional Contribution, recognising her achievements in reaching out and engaging new audiences with garden history, including the setting up of the Buckinghamshire Gardeners' Network, leading Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust's audience development strategy over the next five years and delivering activities like a Heritage Open Day and sessions for the Chiltern Young Archaeologists' Club.

Special mention was also given to Zhixin Zheng, for her work helping to publicise our events to a wider audience. Zhixin is one of the youngest volunteers ever nominated and in light of this we are exploring ways we recognise the achievements of our new and younger volunteers in the future. Other nominees for 2024 Volunteer Award were: Dr Sarah Rutherford, Buckinghamshire GT Joanne Mirzoeff, Buckinghamshire GT Suffolk's Unforgettable Garden Story Volunteers; and Sally Miller, Hampshire GT. The Award was presented at the annual Gardens Trust Volunteer Celebration, held in July at the Sheffield Botanical Gardens. This celebration is a valued milestone in the Gardens Trust calendar as an opportunity to thank and celebrate the volunteers caring for historic designed landscapes.

In October we welcomed Chairs from 21 County Gardens Trusts to a Chairs Meet Up at our offices in London, where we discussed ways in which the CGTs and GT could work more productively together. This was the first step in what we expect to be a multi-year project to review and refine the GT-CGT relationship that was first established in 2015, so that we can together be fit-for-purpose for another ten years and beyond.

CGT achievements in 2024 include:

- Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust's new Mission Statement project includes a focus on audience development. The team has worked hard to introduce new people to garden history with least six public events over the summer.
- Sussex Gardens Trust began a new research project based on Marine Gardens, West Sussex. The team supplemented its archival research with oral histories, collected during a drop-in day in May, in partnership with the Friends of Marine Gardens.
- Yorkshire GT got 3 previously non-designated sites onto the Register of Parks and Gardens, including Waterton Park (Grade II), thought to be the world's first nature reserve.
- The southwest County Gardens Trusts have reinvigorated their research groups with a kick-off event at Wiltshire Record Office in April.
- Gloucestershire Gardens & Landscapes Trust is partnering with Gloucestershire Orchards Trust to identify, research and map historic orchards.
- Hertfordshire Gardens Trust has restarted its research group with a walled kitchen garden project.
- In September, Devon Gardens Trust celebrated the addition of two sites to the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest at Grade II: Larkbeare House in Exeter - probably the only surviving British villa garden by James Veitch; and Peamore Park, which developed from an 18th century picturesque landscape.
- The Essex Gardens Trust provided a grant to restore two paintings of now vanished allotments at Grays - rare early examples of allotments being used as the primary focus of a painting.
- London Parks & Gardens worked with the Gardens Trust and two young students from University College London who identified an amazing twenty parks, gardens and other green spaces that were either missing from the London Inventory or had incomplete entries.
- Lincolnshire Gardens Trust's Committee member Elizabeth Bowskill was integral to developing the Grantham Green Spaces Forum (GGSF), which will champion the value of the town's parks and green spaces, ensuring they are preserved and maintained to standards that befit their intended purpose - community health and recreation.

Peter Hughes KC stepped down as Chair of Trustees at the end of his term in September 2024. We owe him a great debt of thanks for his work taking the Gardens Trust through an ambitious and challenging period.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

Plans for 2025 are well underway and bold, as is fitting for our 10th anniversary year, and we look forward to working with the new Chair to help deliver them. In particular;

- We will work with CGTs on Historic England-funded scoping report into a multi-year project to review and refine the GT-CGT relationship that was first established in 2015, so that we can together be fit-for-purpose for another ten years and beyond.
- The GT Community Grant will run again, with an increased grant pot of £8000, with thanks to the generosity of members Peter and Rosy Gent.
- The GT News will be relaunched as a fresher revitalised magazine.
- A grant from the National Archives, with thanks to Lottery Players, as part of their Archives Revealed, programme, will enable us to scope the contents of the Garden Trust's archive of papers to assess its significance and potentially apply for a further grant in order to make the collection available to researchers in future.
- We will continue to deliver our Fundraising Strategy, designed to reduce reliance on public funding and put the GT on more secure financial foundations.

Please refer to The Gardens Trust Committee Reports 2024 for further detail, and see <https://thegardenstrust.org/what-we-do/our-impact/> for the Impact Report 2024.

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

In 2024 the operating outcome for the Gardens Trust's was a negative figure of (£67,173), before gains/losses. That this negative figure was not considerably worse was down to the indefatigable efforts of the team running our Events and those involved in seeking sources of fundraising. To those people we are extremely grateful. We are also very grateful for the many, many hours of voluntary time that have been contributed to achieving what is a very impressive list of successes for the year under review.

The Gardens Trust continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work. As discussed in the Overview, *Suffolk's Unforgettable Garden Story* research project was completed in 2024. We also delivered *Volunteers Saved Space!* Project. The Gentian Trust continued to be very generous in facilitating the Gardens Trust to fund other small projects.

The value of our investments began to rise again, and at the end of the year our net gain was £10,310. Taking account of this increase and our operating loss the negative outcome for the year was (£56,863), with total funds carried forward of £361,470.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board has reviewed the Risk Register during the year and agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 16th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Elizabeth Jane Watson - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE GARDENS TRUST**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rekha Shah

Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Date: 16th June 2025

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes	£	£		
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	103,690	-	103,690	80,660
Historic England		-	99,810	99,810	124,897
Historic England Projects		-	3,567	3,567	4,000
Other Projects		8,771	3,799	12,570	5,404
Publications		5,631	-	5,631	7,658
Advertising		2,036	-	2,036	906
Events		70,117	-	70,117	67,647
Investment income	3	9,285	-	9,285	11,902
Total		199,531	107,177	306,709	303,245
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	2,655	-	2,655	3,426
Charitable activities					
Events		39,673	-	39,673	39,428
Wages and salaries		129,835	113,889	243,724	273,828
Printing and distribution		10,029	-	10,029	21,842
Membership		9,770	-	9,770	2,430
Office management costs	5	64,249	-	64,249	36,152
Other support costs	5	3,780	-	3,780	3,960
Other Projects		-	-	-	<u>37,935</u>
Total		259,992	113,889	373,881	419,001
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		-60461	-6712	-67,173	-115,756
Net gains/(losses) on investments		10,310	-	10,310	8,638
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		-164,040	107,177	-56,863	-107,118
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		523,150	-104,818	418,333	525,451
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>473,000</u>	<u>-111,530</u>	<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,333</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	63,715	-	63,715	63,715
Investments	10	<u>291,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>291,754</u>	<u>337,961</u>
		355,469		355,469	401,676
		-			
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayment	11	2,108	-	2,108	1,187
Debtors	11	28,391	-	28,391	50,823
Cash at bank and in hand		31,103	-	31,103	6,731
		<u>61,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,603</u>	<u>58,741</u>
			-	61,603	58,741
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(55,601)	-	(55,601)	(42,085)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>6,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,002</u>	<u>16,656</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		361,470	-	361,470	418,333
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>361,470</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,333</u>
	14				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				473,000	523,150
Restricted funds				<u>-111,530</u>	<u>-104,818</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,333</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16th June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by



Elizabeth Jane Watson - Trustee

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2020)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Furniture, fixtures & fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
--------------------------------	---------------------------

No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	32,409	27,412
Subscriptions	70,825	52,960
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>456</u>	<u>558</u>
	<u>103,690</u>	<u>80,660</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	9,026	11,648
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>259</u>	<u>254</u>
	<u>9,285</u>	<u>11,902</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment management fees	<u>2,655</u>	<u>3,426</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Other £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Postage and stationery	9,587	-	9,587	6,391
IT	22,882	-	22,882	12,567
Bank charges	415	-	415	798
Office sundries	13,236	-	13,236	8,694
Insurance	7,947	-	7,947	-
Rent	3,555	-	3,555	4,020
Communications advisor	5,160	-	5,160	3,635
Independent Examiner	-	3,780	3,780	3,960
Exchange difference	-	-	-	48
Bookkeeping	<u>1,468</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,468</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>64,249</u>	<u>3,780</u>	<u>68,029</u>	<u>40,112</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses reimbursed for the year ended 31 December 2024.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	222,080	251,855
Social security costs	<u>21,654</u>	<u>21,973</u>
	<u>243,724</u>	<u>273,828</u>

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

	2024	2023
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

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

8. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	80,660	-	80,660
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	-	134,301	134,301
Publications	7,658	-	7,658
Other trading activities	68,724	-	68,724
Investment income	<u>11,902</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,902</u>
Total	168,944	134,301	303,245

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,426	-	3,426
Charitable activities			
Events	39,428	-	39,428
Wages and salaries	93,833	179,995	273,828
National insurance	-	-	-
Printing and distribution	21,842	-	21,842
Membership	2,430	-	2,430
Other management costs	36,152	-	36,152
Other support costs	3,960	-	3,960
Historic England	-	-	-
Historic England Projects	-	-	-
Other Projects	12,277	25,658	37,935
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	-	-	-
Total	213,349	205,652	419,001
Net gains on investments	8,638	-	8,638
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	-35,767	-71,351	-107,118
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	558,915	-33,467	525,451
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>523,150</u>	<u>-104,818</u>	<u>418,333</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2023	63,715	-	-	63,715
At 31 December 2024	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2023	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2023	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2023	337,461	500	337,461
Additions	47,348	-	47,348
Disposals	(103,865)	-	(103,865)
Revaluations	<u>10,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,310</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>291,254</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>291,754</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>291,254</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>291,754</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>337,461</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>337,961</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	30,499	52,010
	<u>30,499</u>	<u>52,010</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	6,224	8,673
Accruals and deferred income	<u>49,377</u>	<u>33,412</u>
	<u>55,601</u>	<u>42,085</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2024 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	313,496	-50,150	263,346
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	523,150	-50,150	473,000
Restricted funds			
Other Projects	-106,347	-6712	-113059
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
	-104,818	-6712	-111,530
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>418,333</u>	<u>-56863</u>	<u>361,470</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>199,531</u>	<u>(259,992)</u>	<u>10,310</u>	<u>-50,151</u>
	199,531	(259,992)	10310	-50151
Restricted funds				
Historic England	103,378	(113889)	-	-10511
Other Projects	<u>3,799</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,799</u>
	107,177	(113889)	-	-6712
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>306,709</u>	<u>(373,881)</u>	<u>10310</u>	<u>-56,863</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	349,261	-35,767	313,494
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	558,915	-35,767	523,150
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Other Projects	-34,996	-71,351	-106,347
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
	-33,467	-71,351	-104,818
TOTAL FUNDS	525,451	-107,118	418,333

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>168,944</u>	<u>(213,349)</u>	<u>8,638</u>	<u>-35,767</u>
	168,944	(213,349)	8,638	-35,767
Restricted funds				
Historic England	124,897	(159,261)	-	-34,364
Other Projects	<u>9,404</u>	<u>(46,391)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-36,987</u>
	<u>134,301</u>	<u>(205,652)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,351</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>303,245</u>	<u>(419,001)</u>	<u>8,638</u>	<u>-93,088</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024 or 2023.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	32,409	27,412
Subscriptions	70,825	52,960
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>456</u>	<u>558</u>
	103,690	80,660
Other trading activities		
Advertising	2,036	906
Contributions from member's events etc.	<u>70,117</u>	<u>67,818</u>
	72,153	68,724
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	9,026	11,648
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>259</u>	<u>254</u>
	9,285	11,902
Charitable activities		
Publications	5,631	7,658
Grants receivable	<u>115,947</u>	<u>136,856</u>
	<u>121,578</u>	<u>144,514</u>
Total incoming resources	306,709	303,245
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	2,655	3,426
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	243,724	273,828
Events	39,673	39,428
Printing and distribution	10,029	21,842
Membership	9,770	2,430
Historic England Projects	<u>-</u>	<u>37,935</u>
	303,196	374,468
Support costs		
Management	<u>64,249</u>	<u>36,152</u>
	64,249	36,152

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Other		
Independent Examiner	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,960</u>
	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,960</u>
Total resources expended	<u>373,881</u>	<u>419,001</u>
Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses	<u>-67,173</u>	<u>-115,756</u>
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	195	6,145
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	<u>10,115</u>	<u>2,493</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	<u><u>-56,863</u></u>	<u><u>107,118</u></u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1053446

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST

Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21 to 22

THE GARDENS TRUST

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number 1053446

Registered office
70 Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Christopher John Blandford
Deborah Jane Evans
Dr Clare Hickman
Peter Thomas Hughes KC

Dr Sally Roberta Jeffery (resigned 8th September 2022, reappointed pursuant to Article 37.1 1st January 2023)

Dr David John Edward Marsh (resigned 7th September)

Maureen Patricia Nolan (resigned 7th September pursuant to Article 37.1)

Catriona Stenhouse (appointed 7th September 2023)

Francesca Murray (appointed 7th September 2023)

Paul Anthony Rabbitts

Rachel Jane Savage

Gillian Sian Sinclair

Elizabeth Jane Watson

Ex officio and non-voting members of the Board:
Joanna Elizabeth Davidson

Company Secretary
Catriona Stenhouse

Independent examiner
Rekha Shah
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Bankers
Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4TA

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Conservation; Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications and Education and Training. In 2002, the Board also had a Steering Group as required by the terms of grant funding provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This acted also as a Management Committee and from the 1st January 2023, it was replaced by a Management Committee comprising the Officers and the Chairs of Committees. The Board meets quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required, the Management Committee meets monthly, normally on the second Friday of the month, and the Committees meet on a regular basis.

By the end of 2022, the Trust had a complement of staff comprising: Head of Operations and Strategy; Administration and Membership Officer; Finance Officer; Conservation Officer; Casework Manager; Assistant Casework Manager; Audience Development and Engagement Officer and three Volunteer Support Officers, one of whom was engaged during the year on a specific project assisted by a grant from Historic England. All staff apart from the Head of Operations and Strategy were employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my fourth annual report as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. 2023 has to be seen as a year of challenge and change for all those organisations involved in the charitable sector and the Gardens Trust is no exception. It was the year in which, in some respects, life began to return to normal after the Covid pandemic, but in other respects new challenges emerged. These included an unwelcome return to high inflation, a cost of living crisis affecting charitable giving, and, of even more acute concern, a much more dangerous world with war in Europe and in October 2023, fresh conflict in the Middle East.

As national charities go, the Gardens Trust is a relatively small organisation, but it has an important part to play as the voice for the country's rich heritage of parks and gardens and for their protection and conservation. It is the only charity which is exclusively dedicated to this. It has a special role as the only statutory consultee in the planning system which speaks solely on behalf of the designed landscape rather than buildings and archaeological remains. We have always had to fight for our voice to be heard, and with the pressure for more house building and the development of large environmental projects such as solar farms, we will need to shout all the louder in the future.

To fulfil our charitable objectives, we depend on a small and dedicated team of staff, trustees, and volunteers. Just as vital, though, is the support we receive from our members, both individual members and the thirty six County Gardens Trusts and the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust. In the past, we have received essential financial assistance from grants, provided mainly by Historic England. The national financial climate, though, is now such, that this source is no longer as dependable or generous as in the past. We must look for alternative means of financial support. This includes our members, supporters, and other initiatives to raise funds.

During 2023 the restrictions of the Covid pandemic were gradually relaxed but life did not just return to pre-pandemic normality. The pandemic disrupted existing networks and patterns of doing things. Teams of volunteers had been disbanded and needed to be re-formed. In-person events had been suspended and when they could be re-introduced, people had got out of the habit of attending events. Some still felt a reluctance to mix. Online talks and events, which had been such a lifeline during lockdowns, whilst still popular, were less well supported. In common with other charities, the Gardens Trust has faced financial challenges coming out of the pandemic.

In my last annual report, I referred to the implementation of our strategic Business Plan and the need carefully to manage our resources, and the need to rely to a limited extent on our reserves. Our objective was to provide a sound and resilient platform from which to build the future of the organisation. There are a number of priorities for the future of the Trust that have been identified. One is in relation to our role as statutory consultees in the planning system. The number of planning applications has grown year-on-year and there is an increasing number of sensitive and controversial proposals. Our conservation team do an incredible job but we need to expand our team to ensure that we can meet the burden of the work for the future. Another is to grow our membership, to find new ways of explaining what we do and why it is important, and to encourage younger people to join us. A third is to broaden our financial appeal. We cannot rely on membership subscriptions alone. In 2023 we appointed our first fund raising officer, Tara Hamdi. She has considerable experience in the field and is working on ways to attract new sources of financial support.

Our trustees knew that 2023 was always going to be a difficult year as we implemented the Business Plan. It has, though proved more challenging than anticipated. This has been, in part, because of the economic and financial climate but also a consequence of the pandemic. We have been obliged to rely on our reserves to a greater extent than we had planned for and would have wished. The alternative would have been to scale back on our activities and plans for the future. The Board considered that this would have been a retrograde step, and that our underlying financial position was sufficiently secure for us to avoid taking such measures. It does, though, add to the urgency for the future of raising our own funds and reducing our dependency on support from public funds.

On the positive side, though, 2023 was also a year of achievement for the Gardens Trust. More information can be found in our Impact Report for the year and the committee reports on Conservation, Audience Development, Marketing and Communications, and Education and Training. In brief, though, we received 777 planning consultations affecting registered parks and gardens and submitted 545 written responses. These were the highest figures ever. Our conservation team, Margie Hoffnung, Alison Allighan, and Daniel Bowles, and members of the Conservation Committee chaired by Chris Blandford, and our volunteers in the County Gardens Trusts around the country did an amazing job.

We successfully used social media to engage with audiences we would otherwise not reach and alert them to what we do and why it is so important for the future. There were over 145,000 visitors to our weekly blog and an incredible 224,851 views of posts on social media. In addition we provided training for 660 volunteers. This success owes much to Frankie Taylor, our Engagement Officer, and the members of our Audience Development Committee chaired by Rachel Savage. The attendance figures for our programme of online and in person lectures and events for the year exceeded 12,000. These achievements would not have been possible without the hard work of the Education and Training Committee chaired by Sally Jeffery, supported by a team of volunteers helping to produce the online talks. In addition, we continued to publish *Garden History*, the GT News and the online Ebulletin, thanks to the support and commitment of Barbara Simms, editor of *Garden History*, Susannah Charlton and Charlotte Cassel. Sally Jeffery retired as both a trustee and chair of the Education and Training Committee at the end of the year, but will continue to support the work of the committee. We are immensely grateful to her for her contribution over many years.

Towards the end of the year, Chris Blandford informed me that he needed to reduce his commitments and relinquish his role as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees and chair of the Conservation Committee. This is a decision that he took with reluctance. As Chairman, I have benefited from his experience and sound advice. He has also made a huge contribution through his work leading the process to create the Business Plan and through chairing the Conservation Committee. Happily we will not be losing him entirely and he has agreed to continue to serve as a trustee.

This will be my last annual report. I have chaired the Board for four years through a period of significant change for the Trust. It is due time for someone younger to take the helm. Someone who can provide new vigour and lead the Trust forward. In 2025, the Gardens Trust will celebrate its tenth birthday, and by the time of the 2025 Annual General Meeting, the Board of Trustees will have a new chair. It has been a privilege to serve as a trustee and to chair the Trust. I look forward to the Gardens Trust continuing to grow in stature over the years to come and to provide a strong voice for garden history, for the protection of our rich heritage of parks and gardens, and for their conservation for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

Peter Hughes KC

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In 2023 the operating outcome for the Gardens Trust was a negative figure of (£115,756), before gains/losses. This was broadly in line with what was expected. As in the previous year, we needed to increase our investment in staff hours, although we would have been grateful for a more realistic level of grant funding given the scope of activity required.

The Gardens Trust has continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work, such as the very popular *Suffolk's Unforgettable Garden Story* research project. We delivered our Lottery-Funded *Engaging with our Future* project. Our Historic England-funded *Volunteers Save Space!* Project has been very successful in finding ways to engage new people with historic park and garden volunteering. The Gentian Trust was very generous in facilitating the Gardens Trust to fund other small projects.

The value of our investments began to rise again, and at the end of the year our net gain was £8,638. Taking account of this increase and our operating loss the negative outcome for the year was (£107,118), with total funds carried forward of £418,333.

Lisa Watson, Honorary Treasurer

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board has reviewed the Risk Register during the year and agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 9th July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Hughes QC - Chairman

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE GARDENS TRUST**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rekha Shah

Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Date: July 2024

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Notes	£	£		
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	80,660	-	80,660	64,889
Historic England		-	124,897	124,897	100,925
Historic England Projects		-	4,000	4,000	2,500
Other Projects		-	5,404	5,404	40,965
Publications		7,658	-	7,658	18,752
Advertising		906	-	906	1,182
Events		67,818	-	67,647	96,510
Investment income	3	11,902	-	11,902	11,434
Total		168,944	134,301	303,245	337,160
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	3,426	-	3,426	4,022
Charitable activities					
Events		39,428	-	39,428	46,313
Wages and salaries		93,833	179,995	273,828	225,339
Printing and distribution		21,842	-	21,842	38,708
Membership		2,430	-	2,430	8,385
Office management costs	5	36,152	-	36,152	24,536
Other support costs	5	3,960	-	3,960	4,241
Other Projects		12,277	25,658	37,935	22,987
Total		213,349	205,652	419,001	374,591
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		-44,405	-71,351	-115,756	-37,431
Net gains/(losses) on investments		8,638	-	8,638	-55,657
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		-35,767	-71,351	-107,118	-93,088
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		558,915	-33,467	525,451	618,540
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		523,150	-104,818	418,333	525,451

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	63,715	-	63,715	63,715
Investments	10	<u>337,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>337,961</u>	<u>437,748</u>
		401,676		401,676	501,463
		-			
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayment	11	1,187	-	1,187	-
Debtors	11	50,823	-	50,823	34,332
Cash at bank and in hand		6,731	-	6,731	44,175
		<u>58,741</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,741</u>	<u>78,507</u>
			-	58,741	78,507
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(42,085)	-	(42,085)	(54,519)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>16,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,656</u>	<u>23,988</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		418,333	-	418,333	525,451
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>418,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>418,333</u>	<u>525,451</u>
	14				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				523,150	558,915
Restricted funds				<u>-104,818</u>	<u>-33,467</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>418,333</u>	<u>525,451</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 9th July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by



Peter Hughes QC -Chairman

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2020)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Furniture, fixtures & fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
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No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	27,412	8,640
Subscriptions	52,690	55,981
CGT Insurance surplus	558	268
	<u>80,660</u>	<u>64,889</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	11,648	11,282
Interest receivable on liquid investments	254	152
	<u>11,902</u>	<u>11,434</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investment management fees	<u>3,426</u>	<u>4,022</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Other £	Totals 2023 £	Totals 2022 £
Postage and stationery	6,391	-	6,391	2,278
IT	12,567	-	12,567	3,235
Bank charges	798	-	798	1,291
Office sundries	8,694	-	8,694	3,585
Rent	4,020	-	4,020	4,467
Communications advisor	3,635	-	3,635	9,680
Independent Examiner	-	3,960	3,960	3,780
Exchange difference	48	-	48	-
Bookkeeping	-	-	-	461
	<u>36,152</u>	<u>3,960</u>	<u>40,112</u>	<u>28,777</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses reimbursed for the year ended 31 December 2023.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	251,855	207,137
Social security costs	<u>21,973</u>	<u>18,263</u>
	<u>273,828</u>	<u>225,399</u>

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

	2023	2022
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

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

8. 2022 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	64,889	-	64,889
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	-	144,390	144,390
Publications	18,752	-	18,752
Other trading activities	97,692	-	97,692
Investment income	<u>11,434</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,434</u>
Total	192,767	144,390	337,160

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

8. 2022 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	4,022	-	4,022
Charitable activities			
Events	46,313	-	46,313
Wages and salaries	60,559	164,840	225,399
National insurance	-	-	-
Printing and distribution	38,708	-	38,708
Membership	8,385	-	8,385
Other management costs	24,536	-	24,536
Other support costs	4,241	-	4,241
Historic England	-	-	-
Historic England Projects	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	22,987	22,987
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	-	-	-
Total	186,764	187,827	374,591
Net gains on investments	-55,657	-	-55,657
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	-49,654	-43,437	-93,088
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	608,569	9,970	618,540
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	558,915	-33,467	525,451

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2022	63,715	-	-	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2023	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2023	437,248	500	437,748
Additions	101,998	-	101,998
Disposals	(210,423)	-	(210,423)
Revaluations	<u>8,638</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,638</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>337,461</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>337,961</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	<u>337,461</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>337,961</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>437,248</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>437,748</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	52,010	34,332
	<u>52,010</u>	<u>34,332</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	8,673	6,303
Accruals and deferred income	<u>33,412</u>	<u>48,216</u>
	<u>42,085</u>	<u>54,519</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2023 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	349,261	-35,767	313,494
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	558,915	-35,767	523,150
Restricted funds			
Other Projects	-34,996	-71,351	-106,347
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
	-33,467	-71,351	-104,818
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>525,451</u>	<u>-107,118</u>	<u>418,333</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>168,944</u>	<u>(213,349)</u>	<u>8,638</u>	<u>-35,767</u>
	168,944	(213,349)	-	-35,767
Restricted funds				
Historic England	124,897	(159,261)	-	-34,364
Other Projects	<u>9,404</u>	<u>(46,391)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-36,987</u>
	134,301	(205,652)	-	71,351
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>303,245</u>	<u>(419,001)</u>	<u>8,638</u>	<u>-107,118</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	398,915	-49,654	349,261
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	608,569	-49,654	558,915
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Other Projects	8,441	-43,437	-34,996
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
	9,970	-43,437	-33,467
TOTAL FUNDS	618,540	-93,088	525,451

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>192,767</u>	<u>(186,764)</u>	<u>-55,657</u>	<u>-49,654</u>
	192,767	(186,764)	-55,657	-49,654
Restricted funds				
Historic England			-	
Other Projects	<u>144,390</u>	<u>(187,827)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-43,437</u>
	144,390	(187,827)	-55,657	
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>337,160</u>	<u>(374,591)</u>	<u>-55,657</u>	<u>-93,088</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023 or 2022.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	27,412	8,640
Subscriptions	52,690	55,981
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>558</u>	<u>268</u>
	80,660	64,889
Other trading activities		
Advertising	906	1,182
Contributions from member's events etc.	<u>67,818</u>	<u>96,510</u>
	68,724	97,692
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	11,648	11,282
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>254</u>	<u>152</u>
	11,902	11,434
Charitable activities		
Publications	7,658	18,752
Grants receivable	<u>136,856</u>	<u>144,390</u>
	<u>144,514</u>	<u>163,142</u>
Total incoming resources	303,245	337,160
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	3,426	4,022
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	273,828	225,399
Events	39,428	46,313
Printing and distribution	21,842	38,708
Membership	2,430	8,385
Historic England Projects	<u>37,935</u>	<u>22,987</u>
	374,468	345,814
Support costs		
Management	<u>36,152</u>	<u>24,536</u>
	36,152	24,536

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Other		
Independent Examiner	<u>3,960</u>	<u>3,960</u>
	<u>3,960</u>	<u>3,960</u>
Total resources expended	<u>419,001</u>	<u>374,591</u>
Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses	-115,756	-37,431
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	6,145	2,506
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	<u>2,493</u>	<u>-58,163</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>-107,118</u>	<u>-93,088</u>

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST

Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

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THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1053446

Registered office

70 Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Christopher John Blandford

Mary Elizabeth Davis (appointed 20th June 2022, resigned 24th October 2022)

Sarah Frances Dickinson (resigned 8th September 2022)

Deborah Jane Evans (appointed 8th September 2022)

Prof. Marion Harney (resigned 8th September 2022)

Dr Clare Hickman (appointed 8th September 2022)

Peter Thomas Hughes KC

Dr Sally Roberta Jeffery (resigned 8th September 2022, reappointed pursuant to Article 37.1 on 1st January 2023)

Dr David John Edward Marsh

Maureen Patricia Nolan (reappointed 8th September pursuant to Article 37.1)

Paul Anthony Rabbitts (appointed 8th September 2022)

Rachel Jane Savage

Gillian Sian Sinclair (appointed 8th September 2022)

Paul Anthony Titcombe (resigned 8th September 2022)

Peter Edward Waine (resigned 8th September 2022)

Elizabeth Jane Watson (reappointed 8th September 2022 pursuant to Article 37.1)

Ex officio and non-voting members of the Board:

Chloe Elizabeth Bennett (resigned 14th April 2022)

Joanna Elizabeth Davidson

Vanessa Stephenson (resigned 18th December 2022)

Company Secretary

Maureen Nolan FCG

Independent examiner

Rekha Shah

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Able & Young Ltd

Chartered Certified Accountants

Airport House

Purley Way

Croydon

Surrey

CR0 0XZ

During the year Averillo & Associates merged with Able & Young and now practise under that name

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Leicester

LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4TA

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Conservation; Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications and Education and Training. In 2002, the Board also had a Steering Group as required by the terms of grant funding provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This acted also as a Management Committee and from the 1st January 2023, it was replaced by a Management Committee comprising the Officers and the Chairs of Committees. The Board meets quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required, the Management Committee meets monthly, normally on the second Friday of the month, and the Committees meet on a regular basis.

By the end of 2022, the Trust had a complement of staff comprising: Head of Operations and Strategy; Administration and Membership Officer; Finance Officer; Conservation Officer; Casework Manager; Assistant Casework Manager; Audience Development and Engagement Officer and three Volunteer Support Officers, one of whom was engaged during the year on a specific project assisted by a grant from Historic England. All staff apart from the Head of Operations and Strategy were employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my third annual report since becoming Chairman of the Board of Trustees. 2022 was the second year in which normal activities were significantly affected by the restrictions resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic. The Trust, though through the loyalty, determination, and resourcefulness of its staff, volunteers, and members, demonstrated great resilience and fortitude in meeting the challenges that the restrictions imposed. By June 2023, as I write this report, although the pandemic has been declared officially over, we face different challenges stemming from the international situation and the war in Ukraine and the impact on the domestic economy. Inflation affects everyone, but it has a particular impact on the budgets and financial management of charities such as the Gardens Trust, which are dependent on the support of their members and whatever grants maybe available out of public funds. Through 2021 and 2022 we received support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, to carry out a fundamental review of our organisation and what we do. By the end of 2022, we were approaching the end of that project. It has enabled us to create a strategic business plan for the next five years, and plans for audience development and fund raising which underpin it. The trustees have played an active part in the considerable amount of time and work that has gone into this and I am grateful particularly to Chris Blandford for steering the work on the business plan and to Rachel Savage for her lead on the audience development and fund raising plans. The next two to three years will be challenging, though, as we implement those plans. It will mean, in the short-term, carefully managing our resources, and a preparedness to rely to a limited extent on our reserves, to provide us with a sound and resilient platform from which to build the future of the organisation. It had been intended that Lisa Watson would retire from her role as Treasurer at the end of 2022. Unfortunately, her successor withdrew for personal reasons. Lisa selflessly agreed to stay in post for a further year. We are extremely lucky to have someone who has given such dedicated service to the Trust in this vital position for another year at this important time for our future.

There are a number of priorities for the future of the Trust that have been identified. One is in relation to our role as statutory consultees in the planning system. The number of planning applications has grown year-on-year and there is an increasing number of sensitive and controversial proposals. Our conservation team do an incredible job but we need to expand our team to ensure that we can meet the burden of the work for the future. Another is to increase our membership, find new ways of explaining what we do and why it is important, and encourage people to join us. A third is to broaden our financial appeal. We cannot rely on membership subscriptions alone. We have now appointed our first Fundraising Development Officer, Tara Hamdi. She has considerable experience in the field and will be working on ways to attract new sources of financial support.

Our Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications Committee (ADMC) was formed in 2020, chaired by Rachel Savage. It is now firmly established part of our organisation covering everything from expanding our membership and engaging with new audiences to the GT News and our online Ebulletin, to our communications. Not long ago, social media was a new innovation. In 2022, incredibly, we had over 300,000 views of our social media posts, bringing to the work of the Trust to people who might otherwise never have known of our existence and providing them with information about historic parks and gardens. The National Lottery Heritage Fund grant enabled us to engage Frankie Taylor as our Audience Development and Engagement Officer. We are grateful to her, to Rachel and her committee and to the volunteers who assist them for all that they do.

2022 was a memorable year for *Garden History*. It marked the fiftieth anniversary of the first issue. We celebrated the event with a special edition re-printing a selection of articles from the last fifty years together with follow-up pieces from a panel of distinguished experts. The editor of the Journal, Barbara Simms and her assistant, Cris Ratti put in a lot of extra work to produce the anniversary edition and it would not have been possible without the excellent response to our appeal for funds to cover the cost.

During 2022, we brought our membership records back in-house and introduced a new software recording system. This has enabled us to update the details that we have recorded for individual members and to introduce a simple process for new members to join on line. Our Administration and Membership Officer, Catherine Ford, and Finance Officer, Teresa Forey, have worked together to achieve this, and we are grateful to them for their hard work. We are extremely grateful to her, and to Rachel Savage, for all that they have done to make this possible. Catherine Ford will work alongside Teresa Forey on the process of completing the work required to migrate the membership records and to ensure that we have accurate information for all our members. At the end of 2022, we had 1,251 members, the highest end-of-year numbers since the Trust was formed in 2015. This is positive progress in the right direction, but we need to continue to grow our membership year-on-year.

As already referred to, the volume of planning applications continues to increase. In 2022, our Conservation Officer, Margie Hoffnung, Casework Manager Alison Allighan, and our Assistant Casework Manager, Daniel Bowles, handled a record 674 applications. A total of 610 written responses were drafted and submitted. This is a huge undertaking that is only possible with the support of the network of County Gardens Trusts around the country. In September 2022, Sarah Dickinson retired from the Board and as Chair of the Conservation Committee. We made an invaluable contribution both to the work of both the Board and the Committee and we are grateful to her. She was succeeded by Chris Blandford, who brings considerable experience to the role from his professional experience as a landscape architect.

The part played in the national Gardens Trust by the thirty-seven individual County Gardens Trusts forms an important and truly symbiotic relationship. We are there to support each other. Just as the Trust is dependent on the help the CGTs give in responding to planning applications, the Trust and its Volunteer Support Officers, Tamsin McMillan and Sally Bate are there to give advice and support to CGTs. In 2022, Tamsin and Sally were joined by Karina Flynn, who has been engaged to work on a specific project, supported financially by Historic England, to work with Suffolk County Gardens Trust on their Unforgettable Garden Story project. Through this new volunteers have been found to work with the CGT on researching and recording landscapes in the county, some of which may be added to the National Heritage list in the future. We hope to be able to replicate this initiative in other parts of the country with CGTs in the future.

During 2022, our online programme of lectures continued to make a vital contribution. It is not just financial. It has provided a service to our members and to many more in the United Kingdom and abroad. Over the year there were, in total, 157 online lectures and an incredible 20,000 ticket sales. As we return to greater normality, we are beginning to resume in-person events, but the online programme will continue. In September 2022, we held our first in person event since 2019, the much postponed North Yorkshire weekend. The format was different from what had been originally planned, Instead it focussed on an opportunity for members and members of County Gardens Trusts from across the country to meet up and visit some special houses and gardens in the area. The weekend was much enjoyed and we are repeating the same formula in North Wales in September 2023.

In 2022, Dr David Marsh retired as chair of our Education and Training Committee. He continues to play a key part in the organisation of the online lecture programme, now assisted by one of our new trustees, Jill Sinclair, and with the support of an excellent and hard-working team of volunteers. David's retirement left a vacancy as chair of the Committee. Dr Sally Jeffery, selflessly agreed to re-join the Board and chair the committee short-term. She has focussed on putting together a new series of in-person events as hopefully life returns to normal post-pandemic.

There are two new trustees proposed for appointment to the Board at this year's Annual General Meeting. Catriona Stenhouse, who has been a member of ADMC for the last year, and Francesca Murray. Their biographical details are to be found in the accompanying notice of the AGM and their election is supported by the Board. The Charity Commissioners encourage a policy of a regular cycle of appointment, retirement, and replenishment of trustees. This is enshrined in our Articles of Association by a 'six-year' rule, although there is provision for temporary appointments to be made by the Board to fill vacancies. Having finished their terms of office, Lisa Watson, Maureen Nolan, and Dr David Marsh have all continued to serve on the Board under this provision. Lisa Watson has agreed to continue in her role as Treasurer until she is able to hand over to a new Treasurer and the Board proposes to re-appoint her after the AGM. Dr David Marsh, though, now finally leaves the Board with the sincere thanks of us all for the sterling work that he has done and vital service that he has performed.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to my fellow Board members, to all our volunteers who assist us in our work in a variety of ways - serving on committees, delivering our online programme and promoting the GT on social media - and to all our staff. It is impossible for me to mention them all by name, but each and everyone has done a terrific job and seen us through the pandemic. They have been unstinting in the help and support they have given me.

Peter Hughes QC

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In 2022 the operating outcome for the Gardens Trust was a negative figure of £37,431, before investment gains/losses. This was broadly in line with the budget for the year. The deficit was largely a result of increased investment in staff hours, combined with reduced take-up of our programme of on-line lectures, talks and presentations. The economies originally enforced by pandemic restrictions and resulting adjustments to our ways of working continued in this period.

The Gardens Trust has continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work. The level of support remained unchanged from the previous year. We delivered the *Engaging with our Future* project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This helped to improve our resilience and impact through audience development and fundraising strategies.

Funds were raised to produce a 50th Anniversary Special Issue of the Journal of the Gardens Trust. The Trust was very grateful to receive a total of £12,500, made up of grants from the Finnis Scott Foundation and the Bedford Road Charitable Fund and donations from individual members.

The value of our investments fell in line with the decline in global markets by £55,657 over the year. We had become used to a steadily rising market, and some correction was to be expected, but the scale of the correction was more severe on account of the international situation and domestic uncertainties. At the end of the year the value of our investments was £525,451 compared with £618,540 a year earlier, taking account of the reduction in values and the operating loss, a total of £93,088.

Lisa Watson, Honorary Treasurer

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board has reviewed the Risk Register during the year and agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 20th June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Hughes QC - Chairman

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GARDENS TRUST

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Date: 29th June 2023

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	64,889	-	64,889	73,290
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable					
Historic England		-	100,925	100,925	103,980
Historic England Projects		-	2,500	2,500	2,500
Other Projects		-	40,965	40,965	63,610
Publications		18,752	-	18,752	5,639
Other trading activities					
Advertising		1,182	-	1,182	1,872
Events		96,510	-	96,510	118,513
Investment income	3	11,434	-	11,434	10,340
Total		192,767	144,390	337,160	379,744
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	4,022	-	4,022	4,130
Charitable activities					
Events		46,313	-	46,313	59,240
Wages and salaries		60,559	164,840	225,399	174,853
Printing and distribution		38,708	-	38,708	23,606
Membership		8,385	-	8,385	7,695
Office management costs	5	24,536	-	24,536	25,789
Other support costs	5	4,241	-	4,241	4,032
Historic England Projects		-	-	-	130
Other Projects			22,987	22,987	29,481
Total		186,764	187,827	374,591	328,956
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		6,003	-43,437	-37,431	50,787
Net (losses)/gains on investments		-55,657	-	-55,657	32,183
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		-49,654	-43,437	-93,088	82,970
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		608,569	9,970	618,540	535,570
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		558,915	-33,467	525,451	618,540

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	63,715	-	63,715	63,715
Investments	10	<u>437,748</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>437,748</u>	<u>494,881</u>
		501,463	-	501,463	558,596
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	34,332	-	34,332	41,041
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>44,175</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,175</u>	<u>71,445</u>
		78,507	-	78,507	112,486
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(54,519)	-	(54,519)	(52,542)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>23,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,988</u>	<u>59,944</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		525,451	-	525,451	618,540
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>525,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>525,451</u>	<u>618,540</u>
	14				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				558,915	608,569
Restricted funds				<u>-33,467</u>	<u>9,970</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>525,451</u>	<u>618,540</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20th June 2023 and were signed on its behalf by



Peter Hughes QC -Chairman

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2020)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Furniture, fixtures & fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
--------------------------------	---------------------------

No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	8,640	13,329
Subscriptions	55,981	58,048
CGT Insurance surplus	268	1,913
	<u>64,889</u>	<u>73,290</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	11,282	10,267
Interest receivable on liquid investments	152	72
	<u>11,434</u>	<u>10,340</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**4. RAISING FUNDS**

Investment management costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Investment management fees	<u>4,022</u>	<u>4,130</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Other £	Totals 2022 £	Totals 2021 £
Postage and stationery	2,278	-	2,278	2,678
IT	3,235	-	3,235	4,729
Bank charges	1,291	-	1,291	1,347
Office sundries	3,585	-	3,585	751
Rent	4,467	-	4,467	6,840
Communications advisor	9,680	-	9,680	8,330
Legal Fees	-	-	-	1,114
Independent Examiner	-	3,780	3,780	3,600
Bookkeeping	<u> </u>	<u>461</u>	<u>461</u>	<u>432</u>
	<u>24,536</u>	<u>4,241</u>	<u>28,777</u>	<u>29,821</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses reimbursed for the year ended 31 December 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	207,137	164,493
Social security costs	<u>18,263</u>	<u>10,360</u>
	<u><u>225,399</u></u>	<u><u>174,853</u></u>

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

	2022	2021
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u><u>10</u></u>	<u><u>7</u></u>

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

8. 2021 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	73,290	-	73,290
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	-	170,090	170,090
Publications	5,639	-	5,639
Other trading activities	120,385	-	120,385
Investment income	<u>10,340</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,340</u>
Total	209,654	170,090	379,744

8. 2021 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	4,130	-	4,130
Charitable activities			
Events	59,240	-	59,240
Wages and salaries	42,815	132,038	174,853
National insurance	23,606	-	23,606
Printing and distribution	7,695	-	7,695
Membership	7,729	-	7,729
Other management costs	23,111	-	23,111
Other support costs	6,710	-	6,710
Historic England	-	-	-
Historic England Projects		130	170
Other Projects		-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	-	29,481	29,481
Total	167,308	161,649	328,957
Net gains on investments	32,183	-	32,183
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	74,528	8,441	82,970
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	534,041	1,529	535,570
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>608,569</u>	<u>9,970</u>	<u>618,540</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2022	63,715	14,778	-	78,493
At 31 December 2022	<u>63,715</u>	<u>14,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,493</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2022	-	14,778	-	14,778
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>14,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,778</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2022	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>63,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,715</u>

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2022	494,380	500	494,880
Additions	64,422	-	64,422
Disposals	(65,898)	-	(65,898)
Revaluations	<u>(55,657)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(55,657)</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>437,247</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>437,747</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	<u>437,247</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>437,747</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>494,380</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>494,880</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other debtors	34,332	41,041
	<u>34,332</u>	<u>41,041</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	6,303	6,425
Accruals and deferred income	<u>48,216</u>	<u>46,117</u>
	<u>54,519</u>	<u>52,542</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2021 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement	At 31.12.22
	£	in funds	£
		£	
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	398,915	-49,654	349,261
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	608,569	-49,654	558,915
Restricted funds			
Other Projects	8,441	-43,437	-34,996
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
	9,970	-43,437	-33,467
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>618,540</u>	<u>-93,088</u>	<u>525,451</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	192,767	(186,764)	-55,657	-49,654
College Lectures	-	-	-	-
	192,767	(186,764)	-55,657	-49,654
Restricted funds				
Historic England	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	144,390	(187,827)	-	-43,437
G Drummond Volunteer Award	-	-	-	-
	144,390	(187,827)	-55,657	-43,437
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>337,160</u>	<u>(374,591)</u>	<u>-55,657</u>	<u>-93,088</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	324,387	74,528	398,915
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	2,820	-	2,840
	534,041	74,528	608,569
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	8,441	8,441
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	529	-	529
	1,529	8,441	9,970
TOTAL FUNDS	535,570	82,970	618,540

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	209,657	(167,308)	32,183	74,528
College Lectures	-	-	-	-
	209,654	(167,308)	32,183	74,528
Restricted funds				
Historic England	170,090	(161,649)	-	-8,441
G Drummond Volunteer Award	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>379,744</u>	<u>(328,957)</u>	<u>32,183</u>	<u>82,970</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022 or 2021.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	8,640	13,329
Subscriptions	55,981	58,048
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>268</u>	<u>1,913</u>
	64,889	73,290
Other trading activities		
Advertising	1,182	1,872
Contributions from member's events etc.	<u>96,510</u>	<u>118,513</u>
	97,692	120,385
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	11,282	10,267
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>152</u>	<u>72</u>
	11,434	10,339
Charitable activities		
Publications	18,752	5,639
Grants receivable	<u>144,390</u>	<u>170,090</u>
	<u>163,142</u>	<u>175,729</u>
Total incoming resources	337,160	379,744
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	4,022	4,130
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	225,399	174,583
Events	46,313	59,240
Printing and distribution	38,708	23,606
Membership	8,385	7,695
Historic England Projects	<u>22,987</u>	<u>29,611</u>
	345,814	295,006
Support costs		
Management	<u>24,536</u>	<u>25,789</u>
	24,536	25,789

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Other		
Bookkeeping	461	432
Independent Examiner	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,600</u>
	<u>4,241</u>	<u>4,032</u>
Total resources expended	<u>374,591</u>	<u>328,957</u>
Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses	-37,431	50,787
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	2,506	9,107
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	<u>-58,163</u>	<u>23,076</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	<u><u>-93,088</u></u>	<u><u>82,970</u></u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1053446

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST

Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

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Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21 to 22

THE GARDENS TRUST

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1053446

Registered office

70 Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Christopher Blandford
Sarah Dickinson*
Dr Marion Harney*
Virginia Hinze (resigned on 03.09.21)
Peter Hughes QC
Dr Sally Jeffery*
David Lambert (resigned on 03.09.21)
Dr David Marsh
Maureen Nolan
Thadian Pillai (resigned on 03.09.21)
Rachel Savage
Paul Titcombe
Peter Waine
Elizabeth Watson*

Ex-officio and non-voting members of the Board:

Chloe Bennett
Joanna Davidson

* Refers to trustees who completed their term of office on 03.09.21 pursuant to Article 34.2 of the Articles of Association, but were co-opted to serve until the next Annual General Meeting by the Board on 03.09.21 pursuant to Article 37.1 to fill vacancies on the Board.

Company Secretary

Maureen Nolan

Independent examiner

Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

During the year Averillo & Associates merged with Able & Young and now practise under that name

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4TA

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Conservation; Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications and Education and Training. The Board also has a Steering Group as required by the terms of grant funding provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund., which acts as a Management Committee. The Board meets quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required, and the Committees and Steering Group meet on a regular basis.

In 2021, the Trust had a complement of staff comprising: an administrator; finance officer; Strategic Development Officer; two conservation case workers & a conservation case logger; and two Volunteer Support Officers. During the year, assisted by the NLHF grant, the Trust recruited an Audience Development and Engagement Officer. All staff are employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

'We have:

- continued to deliver planning application responses and other conservation activities to ensure historic designed landscapes survive for public benefit in this and future years.
- continued to offer publicly accessible events, specifically online talks this year.
- delivered substantial open access social media and other communications, to support better public awareness and enjoyment of historic designed landscapes.
- supported local volunteers, particularly County Gardens Trusts, to be actively involved in conserving, researching and sharing historic designed landscapes so that they may be enjoyed by local communities now and in future.

- sustained and grown our open access online resources for this interested in learning about or contributing to the conservation of historic designed landscapes.'

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my second annual report since becoming Chairman of the Board of Trustees. 2021 will be remembered as the year dominated by the pandemic. Normal day-to-day life was significantly affected and restricted by periods of lockdown. By its end there was a general feeling of weariness and desire for some return to normality. As I write this report almost midway through 2022, whilst the impact of Covid appears to have receded - at least for the moment - fresh anxieties have come to the fore; in particular the situation in Ukraine and the resulting impact on the global economy. The unwelcome return of inflation will provide additional challenges for charities such as ours.

The work of the Trust in 2021 centred on the project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to review our operations, make us more independent and resilient as an organisation, and increase public awareness of the value of what we do and widen and diverse support for our activities. The project enabled us to recruit Frankie Taylor as Audience Development and Engagement Officer, and with the financial support provided by the lottery, we have been able to engage consultants to help us plan for the future. We are now at about the mid-point in the project and developing a business plan to set out our strategy for the next three years and beyond. Work on the project has been led by our vice-chair, Chris Blandford with assistance from another trustee, Paul Titcombe, and we are grateful for the time and effort that they have put into it.

The pandemic had a material bearing on the operation of the Trust in 2021. The office at Cowcross Street was closed, staff worked from home, and Board and committee meetings were all held on Zoom. In September, our long-serving Administrator, Louise Cooper, gave notice that she intended to step down from her position at the end of the year. We had planned to meet face-to-face for the first time since March 2020 at the December meeting of the Board, and to hold a small party afterwards to say thank you to her and to present her with a leaving gift. Sadly, we had to abandon the face-to-face meeting and the party because of a rise in Covid cases. Louise Cooper made a significant contribution to the work of the Gardens Trust, and to its predecessor, the Garden History Society over many years. As part of her leaving present, we made her an honorary life member of the Trust, and we hope that she will continue to be involved in the Gardens Trust for many years to come.

Following Louise Cooper's decision, the Board reviewed the Trust's staffing structure. We decided to create a new position of Head of Operations and Strategy and to invite Linden Groves to accept the appointment. She took up her new role with effect from the 1st January 2022. It is a key role within the organisation, leading the Trust's complement of staff, and is our first full-time appointment. Like Louise Cooper, Linden Groves has made a significant contribution to the work of the Gardens Trust and we wish her well in her new role. To provide her with administrative support, the Board decided to create a new part-time position of Administration and Membership Officer. The successful candidate, Catherine Ford took up her role in mid-June 2022.

An important part of the work of the Administration and Membership Officer will be to maintain the membership records of the Trust. Since the Trust was formed, the responsibility for maintaining our membership records has been out-sourced to our printers, the Lavenham Press. The disadvantage of this is that we do not have direct control of the records and the ability to ensure that they are kept up-to-date. This is vital now that so much personal information is stored digitally. During 2021, the Board explored the feasibility of bringing the records 'in house' and the decision has since been taken to do this. Our Finance Officer, Teresa Forey, has done a great deal of work on organising the migration of the membership records and finding the best software system for this. We are extremely grateful to her, and to the work of the Audience Development, Membership, and Communications Committee and its Chair, Rachel Savage, for all that they have done to make this possible. Catherine Ford will work alongside Teresa Forey on the process of completing the work required to migrate the membership records and to ensure that we have accurate information for all our members.

The volume of planning applications referred to the Trust in its role as statutory consultees continued to grow in 2021, and the number of high-profile and controversial applications, which require the most careful attention, is increasing. The responsibility on the shoulders of our Casework Officers, Margie Hoffnung and Alison Allighan, and our Casework Logger, Daniel Bowles is immense. They are much assisted by County Gardens Trusts up and down the country, and without their support, they would not be able to handle all the increasing volume of work. The members of the Conservation Committee, chaired by Sarah Dickinson, play a vital part too, and their remit during 2021 involved wider considerations of topical issues such as reform in the planning system, environmental protection, and climate change.

Notwithstanding the impact of the pandemic, the Trust's accounts and balance sheet for 2021 provide a robust and sound financial picture. Much of this is due to two factors. One is the wise and careful financial management of our Treasurer, Lisa Watson. The other is the continuing success of our online programme of lectures. These have gained the admiration of other charities who have seen with envy the resourcefulness of what the Gardens Trust has provided. We are pleased to see that others have sought to follow our lead. An exceptionally wide and diverse range of subjects was covered during 2021. It included contributions from County Gardens Trusts, as part of our theme focussing on Unforgettable Gardens, featuring gardens in their area. The online programme has enabled us to reach out to people in the United Kingdom and abroad, who would otherwise not be aware of us or what we do, and it has been a financial lifeline during the pandemic.

We owe a huge debt of thanks to the chair of our Education and Training Committee, Dr David Marsh, his team of volunteers, who organise, administer, and compere the lecture programme, and to all those who have been willing to take part in the programme and share with us their knowledge and expertise. The intention is that we will maintain and develop our online programme and that it will continue to be an important part of what we offer to our members and to a wider audience.

During 2021, we began the process of reviewing all our policies and procedures, under the lead of our Company Secretary and Trustee, Maureen Nolan. She has the experience of working for other organisations in the charitable sector, and her knowledge and expertise has been invaluable. It is an ongoing process which we plan to complete by the end of 2022. In my first annual report, I referred to the need to revise our Articles of Association and the impact of the 'six year' rule on the retirement of trustees who took office when the Trust was formed in 2015. To manage the process, a number of trustees required to retire in 2021, agreed to stay on the Board as co-opted members until this year's AGM. At this year's Annual General Meeting, we say good-bye to a number of trustees who have given invaluable service to the Trust and helped to guide it through its crucial formative years since 2015; Sarah Dickinson, Marion Harney, Sally Jeffrey, and Peter Waine. Although they will no longer be on the Board, we hope that they will continue to contribute to the work of the Trust. We also say good-bye to Paul Titcombe, who is leaving the Board because of the increasing demands of his work. He only became a trustee in the early days of the pandemic and all his meetings have been on Zoom, and never face-to-face. He has, though, made a valuable contribution because he has provided us with fresh ideas from his wide experience of corporate business.

The Trust has undertaken two recruitment exercises for new trustees. One for a new Treasurer to replace Lisa Watson. The other to fill general vacancies on the Board. We were encouraged to receive applications from an excellent range of candidates. The Board is recommending the appointment of five new trustees to the Annual General Meeting; Mary Davis with a view to succeeding Lisa Watson as Treasurer, Deborah Evans, Clare Hickman, Jill Sinclair and Paul Rabbitts. Their biographical details are to be found in the accompanying notice of the AGM. They provide a wide range of knowledge and experience. Together they will provide the Board with fresh minds and fresh ideas as we plan for the future. Lisa Watson, Maureen Nolan, and Dr David Marsh have all completed their terms of office, but have agreed to stay on the Board as co-opted members for a period. This is because of their key roles, and the need to provide continuity for the new Board in a time of transition.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to my fellow Board members, to all our volunteers who assist us in our work in a variety of ways - serving on committees, delivering our online programme and promoting the GT on social media - and to all our staff. They have done a terrific job in exceptionally difficult times, and they have been unstinting in the help and support they have given me.

Peter Hughes QC

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

In 2021 the Gardens Trust achieved a surplus before investment gains/losses of £50,787. This exciting figure was largely a result of the continuing success of the programme of on-line lectures, talks and presentations. The Trust also benefitted from a donation of £10,000 from the Sanderson Foundation. There were economies enforced by on-going pandemic restrictions and resulting adjustments to our ways of working. We were able to invest in additional staff time during 2021 and now are able to look forward to consolidating the structure in the coming year.

The Gardens Trust has continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work. The *Engaging with our Future* project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, continues apace.

Overall our investments fared well and the valuation of our investments at market rates at the end of the year showed unrealised net gains of investment of £32,183. So I am delighted to report that total funds have increased to £618,540 at year-end 2021, from £535,570 at year-end 2020, which reflects net income for the period of £82,970.

Lisa Watson, Honorary Treasurer

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board has reviewed the Risk Register during the year and agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 20th June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Hughes QC - Chairman

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GARDENS TRUST

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

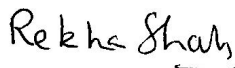
Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Date: 4th July 2022

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	73,290	-	73,290	93,731
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable					
Historic England		-	103,980	103,980	102,881
Historic England Projects		-	2,500	2,500	19,198
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton		-	-	-	8,250
Other Projects		-	63,610	63,610	16,886
Publications		5,639	-	5,639	6,990
Other trading activities					
Advertising		1,872	-	1,872	2,070
Events		118,513	-	118,513	36,011
Investment income	3	10,340	-	10,340	11,771
Total		209,654	170,090	379,744	297,788
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	4,130	-	4,130	3,785
Charitable activities					
Events		59,240	-	59,240	12,244
Wages and salaries		42,815	132,038	174,853	149,556
Printing and distribution		23,606	-	23,606	22,902
Membership		7,695	-	7,695	7,729
Office management costs	5	23,111	-	23,111	18,523
Other support costs	5	6,710	-	6,710	7,050
Historic England		-	-	-	7,301
Historic England Projects		-	130	130	12,356
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton		-	-	-	8,309
Other Projects		-	29,481	29,481	15,550
Total		167,308	161,649	328,957	265,305
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		42,345	8,441	50,787	32,483
Net gains on investments		32,183	-	32,183	5,381
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		74,528	8,441	82,970	37,864
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		534,041	1,529	535,570	497,706
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>608,569</u>	<u>9,970</u>	<u>618,540</u>	<u>535,570</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	63,715	-	63,715	63,715
Investments	11	<u>494,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>494,881</u>	<u>456,602</u>
		558,596	-	558,596	520,317
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	41,041	-	41,041	3,169
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>71,445</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,445</u>	<u>49,203</u>
		112,486	-	112,486	52,372
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(52,542)	-	(52,542)	(37,119)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>59,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,944</u>	<u>15,253</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		618,540	-	618,540	535,570
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>618,540</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>618,540</u>	<u>535,570</u>
	15				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				608,569	534,041
Restricted funds				<u>9,970</u>	<u>1,529</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>618,540</u>	<u>535,570</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 June 2021 and were signed on its behalf by



Peter Hughes QC -Chairman

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2020)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Furniture, fixtures & fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
--------------------------------	---------------------------

No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	13,329	29,579
Subscriptions	58,048	61,540
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>1,913</u>	<u>2,612</u>
	<u><u>73,290</u></u>	<u><u>93,731</u></u>

Subscription income includes a gift aid tax reclaim of £4,098 (2020: £4,178).

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	10,267	11,676
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>72</u>	<u>95</u>
	<u><u>10,340</u></u>	<u><u>11,771</u></u>

4. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Investment management fees	<u>4,130</u>	<u>3,785</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Other £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
Conservation travel and subsistence	-	-	-	629
Office and Trustees' travel and subsistence	-	-	-	289
Postage and stationery	-	2,678	2,678	2,136
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	-	650
IT	4,729	-	4,729	2,996
Bank charges	1,347	-	1,347	1,171
Office sundries	751	-	751	1,336
Rent	6,840	-	6,840	6,840
Communications advisor	8,330	-	8,330	5,530
Legal Fees	1,114	-	1,114	-
Independent Examiner	-	3,600	3,600	3,600
Bookkeeping	-	432	432	396
	<u>23,111</u>	<u>6,710</u>	<u>29,821</u>	<u>25,573</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses reimbursed for the year ended 31 December 2021.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	164,493	139,863
Social security costs	<u>10,360</u>	<u>9,693</u>
	<u><u>174,853</u></u>	<u><u>149,556</u></u>

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

	2021	2020
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u><u>7</u></u>	<u><u>7</u></u>

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

9. 2020 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	93,731	-	93,731
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	-	147,215	147,215
Publications	6,990	-	6,990
Other trading activities	38,081	-	38,081
Investment income	<u>11,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,771</u>
Total	150,573	147,215	297,788

9. 2020 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,785	-	3,785
Charitable activities			
Events	12,244	-	12,244
Wages and salaries	42,856	97,007	139,863
National insurance	3,001	6,692	9,693
Printing and distribution	22,902	-	22,902
Membership	7,729	-	7,729
Other management costs	18,523	-	18,523
Other support costs	7,008	42	7,050
Historic England	-	7,301	7,301
Historic England Projects		12,356	12,356
Other Projects		15,550	15,550
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	-	8,309	8,309
Total	118,048	147,257	265,305
Net gains on investments	5,381	-	5,381
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	37,906	(42)	37,864
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	496,135	1,571	497,706
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>534,041</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>535,570</u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2021	63,715	14,778	10,327	108,820
Scrapped	-	-	(10,327)	(10,327)
At 31 December 2021	<u>63,715</u>	<u>14,778</u>	-	<u>78,493</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2021	-	14,778	10,327	25,105
Eliminated on scrapping	-	-	(10,327)	(10,327)
At 31 December 2021	-	<u>14,778</u>	-	<u>14,778</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2021	<u>63,715</u>	-	-	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>63,715</u>	-	-	<u>63,715</u>

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2021	456,102	500	456,602
Additions	155,551	-	155,551
Disposals	(140,348)	-	(140,348)
Revaluations	<u>23,076</u>	-	<u>23,076</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>494,380</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>494,880</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2021	<u>494,380</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>494,880</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>456,102</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>456,602</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	41,041	3,169
	<u>41,041</u>	<u>3,169</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Social security and other taxes	6,425	4,393
Accruals and deferred income	46,117	32,726
	<u>52,542</u>	<u>37,119</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2020 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals and deferred income	-	-

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	324,387	74,528	398,915
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	2,840	-	2,840
	<u>534,041</u>	<u>74,528</u>	<u>608,569</u>
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	8,441	8,441
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	529	-	529
	<u>1,529</u>	<u>8,441</u>	<u>9,970</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>535,570</u>	<u>82,970</u>	<u>618,540</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	209,654	(167,308)	32,183	74,528
College Lectures	-	-	-	-
	<u>209,654</u>	<u>(167,308)</u>	<u>32,183</u>	<u>74,528</u>
Restricted funds				
Historic England	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	170,090	(161,649)	-	8,441
G Drummond Volunteer Award	-	-	-	-
	<u>170,090</u>	<u>(161,649)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,441</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>379,744</u></u>	<u><u>(328,957)</u></u>	<u><u>32,183</u></u>	<u><u>82,970</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	285,939	38,448	324,387
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>3,382</u>	<u>(542)</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	496,135	37,906	534,041
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>571</u>	<u>(42)</u>	<u>529</u>
	1,571	(42)	1,529
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>497,706</u>	<u>37,864</u>	<u>535,570</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	150,573	(117,506)	5,381	38,448
College Lectures	<u>-</u>	<u>(542)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(542)</u>
	150,573	(118,048)	5,381	37,906
Restricted funds				
Historic England	147,215	(147,215)	-	-
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>-</u>	<u>(42)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(42)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>297,788</u>	<u>(265,305)</u>	<u>5,381</u>	<u>37,864</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021 or 2020.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	13,329	29,579
Subscriptions	58,048	61,540
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>1,913</u>	<u>2,612</u>
	73,290	93,731
Other trading activities		
Advertising	1,872	2,070
Contributions from member's events etc.	<u>118,513</u>	<u>36,011</u>
	120,385	38,081
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	10,267	11,676
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>72</u>	<u>95</u>
	10,339	11,771
Charitable activities		
Publications	5,639	6,990
Grants receivable	<u>170,090</u>	<u>147,215</u>
	<u>175,729</u>	<u>154,205</u>
Total incoming resources	379,744	297,788
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	4,130	3,810
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	174,583	149,556
Events	59,240	12,244
Printing and distribution	23,606	22,902
Membership	7,695	7,729
Historic England Projects	29,611	35,207
Historic Lottery Fund - Repton	<u>-</u>	<u>8,309</u>
	295,006	235,947
Support costs		
Management	<u>23,111</u>	<u>18,523</u>
	23,111	18,523

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Other		
Conservation, travel and subsistence	-	629
Office and Trustees's travel and subsistence	-	289
Postage and stationery	2,678	2,136
Bookkeeping	432	396
Independent Examiner	3,600	3,600
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	-
	<u>6,710</u>	<u>7,050</u>
Total resources expended	<u>328,957</u>	<u>265,305</u>
Net income before gains and losses	50,787	32,483
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	9,107	4,731
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	23,076	650
	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net income	<u><u>82,970</u></u>	<u><u>37,864</u></u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1053446

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST

Averillo & Associates
Chartered Accountants
16 South End
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1DN

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	24 to 25

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1053446

Registered office

70 Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Dr James Bartos	resigned 05.09.2020
Christopher Blandford	appointed 05.09.2020
Sarah Dickinson	
Dr Marion Harney	
Virginia Hinze	
Peter Hughes QC	
Dr Sally Jeffery	
David Lambert	
Dr David Marsh	
Maureen Nolan	
Thadian Pillai	
Rachel Savage	co-opted 30.03.2021
Paul Titcombe	co-opted 30.03.2021
Peter Waive	
Elizabeth Watson	

Ex-officio and non-voting members of the Board:

Simon Baynes	resigned 06.01.2020
Chloe Bennett	
Joanna Davidson	appointed 27.01.2020

* *Non-Voting*

Company Secretary

Maureen Nolan

Independent examiner

Peter Nellesmose
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Averillo & Associates
Chartered Accountants
16 South End
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1DN

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Administration and Finance; Conservation; and Education and Events. The Administration and Finance Committee also has responsibility for Membership. The Board and the Committees generally meet quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required.

In 2020, the Trust employed two administrators and a Strategic Development Officer, all reporting to the Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee; two conservation staff who reported to the Chair of the Conservation Committee; and three Historic Landscape Project Officers, who reported to the Vice Chair of the Conservation Committee. All staff are employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my first report since taking over from Dr James Bartos after the last Annual General Meeting in September 2020. Writing as I do, some way into 2021, it gives me the opportunity not only to look back to the last calendar year, but to take stock of where we are now. The effects of the pandemic, restrictions on social interaction and travel, and national lockdowns have had a profound impact for everyone. We have all been affected personally in some way, and amongst us there will be those who have suffered the bereavement or serious illness of family members or close friends. Charitable organisations, be they large or small, have found it hard to keep going. Some have experienced acute financial hardship and may not survive. We at the Gardens Trust have not been immune from the challenges, but I am pleased to report that we have fared better than many others. This is, in part, due to the sound foundations laid by my predecessor and his team. Also, though, it is due to the flexibility and commitment of our dedicated staff and volunteers. They have adapted to new ways of working and a regime of virtual meetings. Additionally, the incredible contribution of Dr David Marsh and the group of lecturers and volunteers he has built up to assist him has been key to the vitality of the GT over the last year. From a standing start in the first lockdown in 2020, together they have set up and developed a comprehensive programme of on-line lectures, talks and presentations. These have covered a wide range of topics, including gardens in various periods of history, gardens created by famous artists, and a pioneering series focussing on other voices, looking at issues from different and previously overlooked perspectives.

The webinars have enabled us to keep in touch with members during isolation at home. They have also reached out to new audiences and supporters in County Gardens Trusts and beyond, not only in the UK but across the globe. They have provided the GT with a new and much needed source of income to help us keep going during the pandemic. They have allowed us to promote our current theme of *Unforgettable Gardens*, together with its message of conservation, vulnerability, and enjoyment, and provided us with the opportunity to work with County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) around the country to focus on unforgettable gardens in their areas. The *Unforgettable Gardens* theme will continue over the next two to three years and will include face-to-face events when this is again possible.

Financially, as you will see from the accounts and the Treasurer's report we have come through a difficult year in a healthy financial position. In part, this is due to the income from the online lectures, and to the careful financial management of our Treasurer, but it also reflects a legacy that we received during the year of £25,000. In accordance with conventional accountancy principles, the legacy has to be shown in the accounts as part of our income for the year and hence as part of the operational profit. In line with past practice, though, we treat such gifts as exceptional items to be used not for the day-to-day running of the Trust but to strengthen its reserves for the future.

It is all too easy to lose sight of the fact that the Gardens Trust is heavily dependent on publicly funded grants from Historic England to discharge our duties as a statutory consultee for planning applications relating to Registered Parks and Gardens and to support CGTs through the Historic Landscape Project. In uncertain times like these, there can be no guarantee about the future of these grants. Also, as a recipient of public funds, and as a charity, we are required to demonstrate that we maintain high standards of governance, financial management, and foster inclusivity and diversity. The creation of the GT by the merger of the Garden History Society and the Association of Gardens Trusts was a major event. Jim Bartos successfully steered the new GT through its first five years, but now six years on, the time is right to review our structure and organisation, to take stock of what has been achieved, to assess what adjustments, if any, should be made, and to plan for the future.

Last Autumn, the Board decided to carry out a thorough review and to explore how the GT might enhance its profile, strengthen its voice, and reach a wider and more diverse audience. In February, we applied to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a grant to help finance this. In March, we heard that our application had been successful. The project has begun and will run for a period from April 2021 to November 2022. The budget for it (in round figures) is £95,000, of which some £75,000 is funded by the NLHF, thanks to lottery players, and the balance by the GT from its own funds. The grant enables us to appoint a new Audience Development and Engagement Officer and to engage consultants to work with us and advise us on various aspects of the project. By the time of the AGM, these posts should have been filled.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (continued)

Something that needs to be reviewed and re-drafted are the Articles of Association which govern how the GT operates. One of the most urgent concerns relates to the appointment and terms of office of the Trustees. At present all Trustees can serve for no more than two consecutive terms of three years. This includes the officers, even the Treasurer and Company Secretary. Currently, there is no provision to extend terms of office. It has led to an unmanageable cluster of enforced Trustee retirements, six this year including our Vice-Chair and Treasurer, and two next year including our Company Secretary. Fortunately, an interim solution to the problem has been found pending the revision of the Articles. This enables this year's retiring Trustees (Lisa Watson, Marion Harney, Sally Jeffery, and Sarah Dickinson), other than those wishing to retire in any event, to be re-appointed temporarily by the Board to fill vacancies until the next AGM. The intention is that by then the revision of the Articles will have been completed and the AGM can be asked to adopt revised Articles that will provide a permanent solution to the problem.

During 2020, we conducted a recruitment drive for new Trustees and Committee members. We were heartened to receive an excellent response. We have been joined by three new Trustees, Chris Blandford who joined the Board in September 2020, and Rachel Savage and Paul Titcombe, who were co-opted in April 2021 and are proposed for election at the AGM. Two long-serving members of the Board, Virginia Hinze and David Lambert, who have come to the end of their six years in office have decided to step-down. Both have made an exceptional contribution over many years, prior to the formation of the GT and since. Also leaving the Board will be Thadian Pillai, who, although a Trustee for a much shorter period, has been a valued member of the Board. We are profoundly grateful to all three of them and reassured that they have said that they will remain active within the GT.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to my fellow Board members, to all our volunteers who assist us in our work by serving on committees, delivering our online programme and promoting the GT on social media, and to all our staff for the terrific work they all do, and for all the help and support they have given me.

Peter Hughes QC

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Work by the Committee has continued, notwithstanding COVID-19, meeting by Zoom and otherwise communicating by email.

The "Admin & Finance" Committee is supported by three staff members. Louise Cooper and Teresa Forey-Harrison have continued their main responsibilities: Lou - the Gardens Trust Administrator, for organising and co-ordinating the Governance and Administration of the Trust, and Teresa - Finance Officer and CGT Co-ordinator, for organising and co-ordinating the financial arrangements of the Trust and providing administrative support to CGT members. In addition, Linden Groves as Strategic Development Officer, helps pursue forward development, fundraising and promotions for the Trust and the Historic Landscape Project, and Communications, working across the Gardens Trust with Susannah Charlton, Communications Adviser.

Linden reports to Admin & Finance on her management of Lottery-funded projects such as *Sharing Repton: Historic Landscapes for All*. At the turn of the year, a second application to the NLHF was successful, allowing the Trust to review its governance, diversity and inclusion. Updates on all these are covered elsewhere. Linden also reports to A&F on her management of umbrella themes such as *Unforgettable Gardens*, which amongst other things has been linked with elements of the Trust's on-line lecture series. The e-Bulletin and social media have gone from strength to strength, and continued website development have also been among Susannah Charlton's contributions during the year.

The Committee creates an annual Budget for approval by the Board at the beginning of each year, together with quarterly management accounts. Insurances for the Gardens Trust and CGTs continue to be reviewed, as did the review of Risks, Health and Safety, the Business Plan, Equal Opportunities and Trustees Skills Audit. Paid advertisements have also continued in the *GT News*. No new Trustees joined the Committee during 2020.

The review of Membership services has continued with a special offer to members of County Gardens Trusts. At the end of December 2020, total individual membership was 1,135. Total membership of County Gardens Trusts stood at 7728 (excluding the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust) with membership of the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust - affiliated to the Gardens Trust - being 980.

As noted elsewhere, the GT's Steering Group, created in March 2021, has assumed the responsibilities of the Administration and Finance Committee, which has now been disbanded.

We are grateful to Alan Baxter and Coombs, our landlords, for their ongoing support.

Lisa Watson, Chair

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

When the lockdown occurred on 23 March 2020, we wondered how this would impact local planning departments. In fact, after a brief lull, it quickly became apparent that the year-on-year trend of increased consultations relating to developments which affect the historic designed landscape would continue. A theme echoed by our colleagues in the other national amenity societies.

Our conservation team have shown their adaptability and resilience through the months of the pandemic and must be commended on their work in responding to the ever-increasing number of planning consultations, often lengthy and complex, and involving many stakeholders.

The total number of consultations received for the calendar year **2020 (in bold)**, (2019 figures in brackets for comparison) comprising all planning applications, pre-applications, Historic England consultations, Local Plans, National Policy, Neighbourhood Plans and General Correspondence for England was **1,961** (1,832) and for Wales **15** (31).

Of these **1,108** (1,062) were statutory consultations for England. Responses (to all types of consultations) were as follows: Gardens Trust written responses submitted **611** (447); County Gardens Trust written responses **439** (333); Gardens Trust no comments submitted **567** (605); County Gardens Trust no comments **145** (171), an overall increase of **206** responses compared with 2019.

In response to this upward trend, the Gardens Trust has introduced a new member to the conservation team. Daniel Bowles has joined as an Assistant Conservation Casework Officer. Daniel has responsibility for logging all consultations and responses. Alison Allighan, our Conservation Casework Manager will now also work alongside Margie Hoffnung, in a Conservation Officer role, focusing on and assisting the County Gardens Trusts in four counties, Cumbria, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Lancashire. The team has an effective triage system which ensures that consultations are assessed upon receipt to prioritise responses, from both the County Gardens Trusts and the Gardens Trust, as appropriate.

The volume and diversity of casework monitored and managed is such that only a snapshot of the responses can be provided here. The following examples illustrate how our Conservation Officer extends her reach and the voice of the Gardens Trust through close collaborative working methods.

An ongoing application for a new M3 Moto motorway service station on the boundary of Grade I Hackwood in Hampshire has required three responses since November 2017 with the most recent in May 2020. Stakeholders with shared views include the Georgian Group, Hampshire Gardens Trust, other academics and individuals but there has been widespread dissatisfaction with Historic England's (HE) responses which, it is widely felt, have been insufficiently robust and, most unusually, we have challenged HE's position.

A major application which is now reaching a critical stage has raised interesting discussions with regard to setting. This consultation relates to the redevelopment of the Jolly Boatman and Hampton Court station, across the river from Hampton Court Palace and grounds. We originally objected to the plans to build 97 houses, an 84-bed hotel, retail units and carparking on this sensitive site in February 2019. We wrote again when, in the revised application, the proposed buildings were set even higher than before. An inadequate accompanying VIA omits images taken from view points in the landscape, the Kings Apartments or the Banqueting House from where there are clear views to the site, currently broken by some chestnut trees, some of which are reported to be suffering from canker. With or without the trees, the height and mass of the proposed development will be visible from key historic viewpoints throughout this registered Grade I landscape and will seriously impact upon its setting and significance. We have worked closely with Historic Royal Palaces, arranging a site visit as soon as restrictions were lifted, and are delighted that they support our position. HE has acknowledged that the tree issue may be a problem but otherwise stand by their less than strong letter of objection. A further site visit with all the planning officers has now been arranged.

In Northumberland, restoration and new work within walled gardens at Auckland Castle and Raby Castle is again illustrative of the collaborative nature of our work. The Northumbria Gardens Trust(NGT) have been extremely pro-active, and their local knowledge has been invaluable. We broadly support both applications. At Auckland we had a holding objection until various documents, mainly relating to historic views and how the current design relates to these, so that the planning officers would be sufficiently informed to make their decision. When this happened, we withdrew our objection. Our Conservation Officer was able to work with the landscape architect at Auckland which led to a very good collaborative relationship both with him and the local authority, and productive ongoing discussions between him and NGT (in the absence of a site visit). At Raby, the main issue was the visibility of the new car parking and again the need for archaeology before work commences, should permission be granted. Again, extensive research from NGT informed the very detailed response.

The Grade II RPG at Warmley near Bristol has been blighted by a large static home caravan park as a result of a poor planning decision in the 1960s. The caravans encroach within approx. 20m of the 7m tall statue of Neptune. When the caravan park owner began to dig up turf to turn most of the grass between the caravans and the statue into a car park or another pitch for a static home, the vigilant Friends of William Champion's Garden, notified the planning authority and as no application for planning permission had been submitted, an enforcement notice was immediately obtained. After some discussion, extensive liaison between the Gardens Trust, South Gloucestershire Council and the Friends of Warmley the damage has been repaired. A surprising and encouraging result.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (continued)

We continue to develop accessibility to the **Casework Log**, an invaluable archive of casework responses. Log Training sessions with County Gardens Trust volunteers faltered with the pandemic, but with the potential advent of new planning laws and processes (referred to below), it remains a priority for the Conservation team and Committee to ensure that the Log is an interactive and essential tool in maximising the impact of our work as Statutory Consultee.

The work of the conservation team is supported by the educational and outreach programme of the Historic Landscape Project (HLP) led by our two Historic Landscape Project Officers, Tamsin McMillan and Sally Bates. Once again, in response to the lockdown restrictions, the rapid and highly effective adaptation of their training programme and swift delivery online must be highly commended. With face-to-face meetings with County Gardens Trust volunteers and our wider network of heritage partners on hold, the benefits of Zoom connections have not only kept everyone in touch but widened horizons. This new medium has enabled the Planning Training programme delivered by our Conservation Officer in conjunction with the HLP, to be recorded for online delivery. Delivered by Zoom, the programme attracted a much larger audience both volunteer and professional than previously achieved. This is now a valuable online resource which will help us to extend our reach through education.

Collaborating with our colleagues in the County Gardens Trusts, in September 2020, members of the Conservation Committee delivered a response to the Government White Paper: *Planning for the Future* which sets out a proposal for an overhaul of the planning system. We took the opportunity to draw attention to the role of the Gardens Trust in the planning process and, alongside other heritage sector partners, we were invited to engage in direct consultation with the Secretary of State to reinforce a commitment for the sector to have a clearly defined role within any reformed system. The draft Bill is expected in the Autumn.

Other Government consultations to which we have responded include *Supporting public service Infrastructure through the Planning System*, which will enable extension to public buildings through permitted development. It is essential that any qualifying buildings sited in registered parks and gardens are exempt. In responding to the *England Tree Strategy* consultation, we expressed our concern that the consultation includes only limited reference to 'historic landscape features'. It does not sufficiently highlight historic parks and gardens and their setting to ensure that new tree planting proposals, which will be a significant feature of land management in future, take into account the design character of the historic planted landscape. As HE continues their Review of Listing, we have reinforced our observation that a Review of the National Heritage List must include a strategy for the development of the Register of Parks and Gardens. With limited resource, the need to balance equitably the interests of registered parks or gardens and listed buildings needs to be explicitly explored, defined and then applied. A Grade I registered site is as important as a Grade I listed building. As well as being a member of the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies, we also have a representative sitting on the Heritage Alliance Spatial Planning Group.

We extend our thanks to Chris Clarke, Julian Gibbs and Gillian Clark for their enormous contribution to the Gardens Trust who have retired from the Conservation Committee this year and are delighted to welcome Chris Blandford, Mike Calnan, Wendy Stott and Sally Stradling to the Committee.

Sarah Dickinson, Chair

EDUCATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE

2020 started well with good attendances at our courses at the Institute of Historical Research in London and Winterbourne House in Birmingham, and at the Winter Lecture series [2019/20] in London. We also ran study days or courses in Cambridge, the National Arboretum at Westonbirt, the Weald and Downland Museum and Sheffield, and had several others planned when the pandemic restrictions came into force in March and ended all our on-site events for the rest of the year.

In June 2020, we took what we thought was the risky decision to attempt some on-line provision, not having any idea what the take-up would be. An initial series of 12 free lectures was given in June and July which sold out, and from August onwards we began offering paid courses and lectures. These proved to be extremely successful both in reaching a much wider audience and in financial terms. We have been able to attract a range of excellent outside speakers which has enabled us to widen our offer and run 4 or 5 events a week. These have included courses on garden history, a regular weekly series run in partnership with County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) on *Unforgettable Gardens*, and both general interest and specialist courses.

Although unfortunately we had to postpone our Annual Conference, we were able to hold the New Research Symposium online, attracting a record audience of just over 200. Our Winter Lecture series [2020/21], run jointly with the London Gardens Trust, was also run online this year and also reached record audiences, averaging over 300.

From September we were able to build a strong team of about a dozen volunteers to assist in the administration, commissioning and technical aspects of our online programme. We have also been able to offer use of the Garden's Trust Zoom licence for audiences of up to 500 to CGTs, and to offer them training in managing Zoom meetings. Twelve County Gardens Trusts have taken advantage of this. During 2021 we are intending to develop partnership arrangements with other organisations.

EDUCATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE (continued)

By keeping prices low, and offering further discounts on booking whole series or courses we have gained a name for being good value for money. Ticket sales were rarely been below 150 and more usually well over 200. All told in 2020 we sold c7,800 tickets.

The annual garden history Conference held in association with Oxford University's Department for Continuing Education was another victim of the pandemic. However the Mavis Batey Essay Prize was unaffected and was won by Nuard Tadevosyan, an MA [Art History] student at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario Canada, for her work on the use of the colour green in Della Robbia ceramics. This has been published in *Garden History*.

Garden History, under the editorship of Barbara Simms and *GT News* under the editorship of Charles Boot appeared as usual despite lockdown, whilst our e-Bulletin has gone from strength to strength under Charlotte Casella's editorship and has become a key mode of communication with both members and non-members.

Virginia Hinze and Dr David Marsh, Co-Chairs

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PROJECT

The Historic Landscape Project (HLP) is the Gardens Trust's capacity building programme, working to support its volunteers and those of the County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) in taking a proactive role in the conservation of historic designed landscapes. It receives partial funding from Historic England.

It goes without saying that 2020 was a year of unprecedented upheaval and uncertainty. Like many other capacity-building bodies, the HLP was forced to quickly rethink the ways in which it could deliver training and support to volunteers in the County Gardens Trusts (CGTs). Although it was, inevitably, a difficult, stressful and sometimes sad year, many positive ways of working arose out of the Covid shake-up, which we will carry forward, even as the restrictions of the pandemic ease.

In May, the results of our Covid-19 questionnaire for CGTs showed that majority had been forced by the pandemic to suspend most of their activities, which many anticipated would lead to an inevitable loss of income and members. This was a great concern to us and we took care to ensure that we made regular contact with the CGTs to offer support and learning opportunities to help keep their volunteers interested and engaged and able to continue their activities at home and/or on digital platforms.

There was excellent teamwork by all GT staff, not just HLP, working together to prepare remote learning packages and a public awareness campaign (funded by the NLHF) on the threats, including Covid-19, facing various aspects of the historic landscape sector, and the role of volunteers. Over the separate threads' first weeks, 25,305 people viewed the posts and important links were forged between the HLP, CGTs and the groups and properties which took part. We were delighted that the campaign was later credited by Jenifer White, Historic England's National Landscape Adviser, as having 'played an important part in helping to raise the alert, especially early on in social media' which led to the creation of the Government's £1.57bn emergency support for the Arts, announced on 5th July

To help keep the CGTs engaged during the first lockdown, we prepared 11 remote learning packages, covering social media and other online communications; research and recording; conservation and planning; and audience development. We were pleased that some of these packages were also picked up by external landscape heritage organisations for use in their staff and volunteer training.

We quickly adapted to using online events platforms and undertook training to run online meetings and webinars, so that we could lead by example, organising:

- eight training webinars, covering aspects of conservation and planning, which saw a total of 660 attendees, from at least 34/37 CGTs.
- our annual Historic Landscapes Assembly discussion and networking event online, over three 'Assembly Afternoons', reaching an audience of 249 and helping to boost the GT/CGTs' profile across the sector.
- A Meet Up for CGT Chairs, with 30/36 CGTs attending.

We continued to develop our own digital skills over the year, including via a mentoring scheme with the NLHF-funded Digital Heritage Lab, and found increasing opportunities to share these with CGTs. Other HLPO skills training included sessions on OASIS, in preparation for training the CGTs to use and contribute research to this online database.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PROJECT (HLP) (continued)

As online resources grew in popularity, our resource hub of learning materials <https://thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/> became more important than ever, with usage more than four times that of the previous year. Additional HLPO time was dedicated to its ongoing improvement and growth.

An important part of our role is to promote conversation, and develop relationships, between the CGTs, the Gardens Trust and relevant external organisations. This year, we helped the Conservation Committee and wider GT to respond to consultation from the Woodland Trust and Ancient Tree Forum; *the England Tree Strategy*; and the National Trust. We also identified and promoted key messages likely to affect the GT and CGTs, including conservation issues emerging from the *Planning for the Future* White Paper - particularly Local Plans, and Local Listing, and how CGTs can raise awareness of historic parks and gardens, especially those unprotected by Registration, by contributing to these.

This year saw the conclusion of the hugely successful *Land of the Fanns* project, in which our consultant supported volunteers to research and record 50 historic landscape features. The project has helped to revitalise Essex Gardens Trust, which received funds for two legacy research projects, as well as other local volunteers.

The Historic Landscape Project is having a growing input into deciding a strategic direction for the Gardens Trust; finding ways to unify our social media and communications messages and reach new audiences (via a new Communications Team and an Audience Development, Marketing and Communications Group); and developing the *Unforgettable Gardens* theme for 2020-23.

Looking to the future, we were delighted at the recent success of the GT's 'Engaging with our Future' NLHF grant application, which will help the Gardens Trust to expand its offer to a wider audience and enable the HLP to pass what we learn onto the CGTs, encouraging them to both widen their supporter base and share their knowledge and love of historic designed landscapes with many more individuals and communities.

Tamsin McMillan, Historic Landscape Project Officer

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

The Gardens Trust's fifth year is best described as a striking one of both intended and unimagined change.

Intended was the shift of Chairmanship from James Bartos to Peter Hughes. Working with Jim in the first formative years of the Gardens Trust was a great privilege, and it is a testament to his steady hand that we were in a strong position to face the second major change that the year presented.

Unimagined was Covid and its associated challenges. These cast a long shadow over 2020, and presented challenges finding ways to adapt and remain operational. I could not be prouder though of the way that the Gardens Trust has met this challenge head on.

Most significantly, despite some initial trepidation, we managed to take our work online. This ranged from meetings with colleagues and other organisations, to the extraordinary and bold shift of the Events team away from in-person events to a full online programme, to the training and other support offered by our capacity building team's webinars and remote training packages

In a year where we have not been able to meet face-to-face, communication has become vital. This has been reflected in the pulling together of the 'Gardens Trust Communications Team' with staff running Twitter and our Facebook page, and alongside magnificent voluntary work from Charlotte Casella (e-Bulletin), Daniel Bowles (who is employed within our conservation team but runs our Instagram as a volunteer), and Charles Boot (long-serving *GT News* editor). This Spring we decided to go our separate way from the Facebook group run so ably and generously by Letitia Yetman. This will allow us to concentrate on building the Gardens Trust Facebook page, through which it should be easier to focus on sharing core GT messages with a wide audience, whilst giving Letitia's group the freedom to share a brilliantly eclectic range of material. I would like to sincerely offer Letitia our thanks and congratulations for building the group for so many years, and wish it all the best under its new name of 'Gardens for All'.

Our Lottery-funded '*Sharing Repton: Historic Landscapes for All*' project was due to end in March 2020, but when Covid hit we were able at the 11th hour to extend the project's time period and use the untouched contingency. This went to a related project to use social media during the first 'Covid summer' to highlight the value of historic parks and gardens and the threats posed to them. I am particularly proud that this was credited with being one of the factors influencing the Government's announcing £1.57bn emergency support for the Arts in July 2020.

Inspired by this experience, we successfully applied for a coveted place on the National Lottery Heritage Funded scheme 'Digital Heritage Lab', through which we have accessed training and a mentor to help us better understand how we can use digital technology to deliver our work.

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

Our theme for the next few years is *Unforgettable Gardens*. This is intended to highlight the value of historic parks and gardens, including those of local significance as well as the 'national stars', the threats they face and the ways in which we can all help to look after them. It's an opportunity to showcase the work of the Gardens Trust and County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) and to give momentum to our efforts to recruit new supporters and volunteers. Because of the pandemic we had to change some of our plans to collaborate with other organisations struggling themselves with the effects of Covid. Instead we concentrated on sharing our *Unforgettable Gardens* messages via social media, supporting CGTs with remote training materials, and developing projects such as the extensive and popular series of *Unforgettable Gardens* lectures and highlighting an Unforgettable Garden of the Month on social media. We are delighted that this flexible approach has paid dividends. Now, in early summer 2021, we are dazzled by the progress CGTs have made on developing research and recording projects and events. We are also delighted that we have been able to find ways to collaborate with organisations such as English Heritage, Historic Houses and Heritage Open Days, and excited by our plans which include exploring ways to digitise our slide collection.

The past year also involved a lot of grant application writing! The first was to the Historic England Covid Emergency Response Fund for a project to extend our support to non-County Gardens Trust volunteers to help them 'get through' Covid. Unfortunately this was not successful, due to sheer volume of applications, but it has nevertheless given us a useful framework for thinking about future development. We also applied for an extension to the Historic England funding for our capacity building work, and are delighted to now be one of few organisations to have been given a full year's extension rather than a more usual six months.

2020 ended with the National Lottery Heritage Fund opening a new grant programme focussing on resilience at this difficult time, particularly through improving diversity. We pulled out the stops - and shamefully neglected Covid homeschooling requirements - to successfully apply for c£75,700 towards a £95,700 project. This will include market research so we better understand our place in the sector, the development of audience development and fundraising strategies so that we can grow our work in a sustainable way, expansion of our digital resource to reach new people, and a review of our internal organisational structures. We will also be piloting three activities around growing membership, digital engagement such as improving our website or getting better on social media, and community outreach such as events for people who haven't previously been interested in garden history or conservation. Running through this all will be a concerted effort to reach more diverse audiences so that we can help ensure people from all backgrounds can come together to enjoy and care for historic parks and gardens. The grant will also enable the recruitment of a part-time Audience Development and Engagement Officer who will particularly focus on inclusion, diversity and improving our digital activity.

Learning from the project will be shared with volunteers at the affiliated local County Gardens Trusts so that they too can become more sustainably impactful. The project will run until winter 2022. I would like to record thanks to our new Trustee Rachel Savage for her immense work on this application.

We still do not know when the pandemic will end, but the Gardens Trust intends to hold on to what we have achieved in this exceptional year and to build on it for the future. It has been a great team effort and I feel that we can face the future with confidence.

Linden Groves, Strategic Development Officer

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In 2020, the Gardens Trust achieved a surplus before investment gains/losses, which amounted to £32,483. This figure includes the most welcome legacy of £25,000 from the estate of Herbert Robinson, a loyal member of the Gardens Trust and of the Garden History Society before. The remainder of the surplus is a result of the success of the programme of on-line lectures, talks and presentations, together with the generosity of our supporters to our fund-raising campaign in the summer. An additional factor has been the economies enforced by travel restrictions on our planned activities. A further day of Historic Landscape Project staff time in 2020 proved to be a worthwhile investment.

The Gardens Trust has continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work. An extension to the *Sharing Repton* project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

While our investments benefitted from the legacy, the valuation of our various investments at market rates at the end of the year showed increases as well as decreases. These factors, together with the drawing down of some funds to facilitate cash flow, have given a figure for unrealised net gains of investments of £5,381.

Total funds have increased to £535,570 at year-end 2020 from £497,706 at year-end 2019, reflecting net income £37,864.

Lisa Watson, Honorary Treasurer

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Statement and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board confirms that it has agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 22 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Hughes QC - Chairman

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE GARDENS TRUST**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Nellemose

Peter Nellemose
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Averillo & Associates
Chartered Accountants
16 South End
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1DN

Date: 22 June 2021

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	93,731	-	93,731	65,306
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable					
Historic England		-	102,881	102,881	94,639
Historic England Projects		-	19,198	19,198	6,680
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton		-	8,250	8,250	47,866
Other Projects		-	16,886	16,886	-
Publications		6,990	-	6,990	4,670
Other trading activities					
Advertising		2,070	-	2,070	1,724
Events		36,011	-	36,011	53,493
Investment income	3	11,771	-	11,771	13,656
Total		150,573	147,215	297,788	288,034
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	3,785	-	3,785	3,810
Charitable activities					
Events		12,244	-	12,244	32,835
Wages and salaries		42,856	97,007	139,863	119,311
National insurance		3,001	6,692	9,693	9,091
Printing and distribution		22,902	-	22,902	22,475
Membership		7,729	-	7,729	8,904
Office management costs	5	18,523	-	18,523	20,100
Other support costs	5	7,008	42	7,050	10,444
Historic England		-	7,301	7,301	7,955
Historic England Projects		-	12,356	12,356	4,261
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton		-	8,309	8,309	47,203
Other Projects		-	15,550	15,550	-
Total		118,048	147,257	265,305	286,389
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		32,525	(42)	32,483	1,645
Net gains on investments		5,381	-	5,381	34,404
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		37,906	(42)	37,864	36,049
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		496,135	1,571	497,706	461,657
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>534,041</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>535,570</u>	<u>497,706</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	63,715	-	63,715	63,715
Investments	11	<u>456,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>456,602</u>	<u>427,432</u>
		520,317	-	520,317	491,147
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	3,169	-	3,169	28,137
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>47,674</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>49,203</u>	<u>57,047</u>
		50,843	1,529	52,372	85,184
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(37,119)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(37,119)</u>	<u>(78,345)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>13,724</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>15,253</u>	<u>6,839</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		534,041	1,529	535,570	497,986
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(280)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>534,041</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>535,570</u>	<u>497,706</u>
	15				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				534,041	496,135
Restricted funds				<u>1,529</u>	<u>1,571</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>535,570</u>	<u>497,706</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 June 2021 and were signed on its behalf by



Peter Hughes QC -Chairman

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Furniture, fixtures & fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
--------------------------------	---------------------------

No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	29,579	2,120
Subscriptions	61,540	61,433
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>2,612</u>	<u>1,753</u>
	<u>93,731</u>	<u>65,306</u>

Subscription income includes a gift aid tax reclaim of £4,178 (2019: £4,048).

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2020	2019
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	11,676	13,475
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>95</u>	<u>181</u>
	<u>11,771</u>	<u>13,656</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

4. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Investment management fees	<u>3,785</u>	<u>3,810</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Other £	Totals 2020 £	Totals 2019 £
Conservation travel and subsistence	-	629	629	2,830
Office and Trustees' travel and subsistence	-	289	289	1,007
Postage and stationery	-	2,136	2,136	2,585
Depreciation	-	-	-	60
Insurance	650	-	650	650
IT	2,996	-	2,996	5,645
Bank charges	1,171	-	1,171	1,414
Office sundries	1,336	-	1,336	791
Rent	6,840	-	6,840	6,840
Communications advisor	5,530	-	5,530	4,760
Independent Examiner	-	3,600	3,600	3,600
Bookkeeping	<u> </u>	<u>396</u>	<u>396</u>	<u>362</u>
	<u>18,523</u>	<u>7,050</u>	<u>25,573</u>	<u>30,544</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>-</u>	<u>60</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

2 members of the Board received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £349 in the current year (2019: 2 members of the Board received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £549).

8. STAFF COSTS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	139,863	119,311
Social security costs	<u>9,693</u>	<u>9,091</u>
	<u>149,556</u>	<u>128,402</u>

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

	2020	2019
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

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

9. 2019 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	65,306	-	65,306
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	-	149,185	149,185
Publications	4,670	-	4,670
Other trading activities	55,217	-	55,217
Investment income	<u>13,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,656</u>
Total	138,849	149,185	288,034

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9. 2019 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,810	-	3,810
Charitable activities			
Events	32,835	-	32,835
Wages and salaries	35,020	84,291	119,311
National insurance	2,668	6,423	9,091
Printing and distribution	22,475	-	22,475
Membership	8,904	-	8,904
Other management costs	20,100	-	20,100
Other support costs	7,881	2,563	10,444
Historic England	-	12,216	12,216
Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	-	47,203	47,203
Total	133,693	152,696	286,389
Net gains on investments	34,404	-	34,404
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	39,560	(3,511)	36,049
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	456,575	5,082	461,657
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	496,135	1,571	497,706

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2020	63,715	34,778	10,327	108,820
Scrapped	-	(20,000)	(10,327)	(30,327)
At 31 December 2020	<u>63,715</u>	<u>14,778</u>	-	<u>14,778</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2020	-	34,778	10,327	45,105
Eliminated on scrapping	-	(20,000)	(10,327)	(30,327)
At 31 December 2020	-	<u>14,778</u>	-	<u>14,778</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2020	<u>63,715</u>	-	-	<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>63,715</u>	-	-	<u>63,715</u>

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2020	426,932	500	427,432
Additions	115,931	-	115,931
Disposals	(87,411)	-	(87,411)
Revaluations	<u>650</u>	-	<u>650</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>456,102</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>456,602</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2020	<u>456,102</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>456,602</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>426,932</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>427,432</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other debtors	3,169	28,137
	<u>3,169</u>	<u>28,137</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	4,393	3,758
Accruals and deferred income	<u>32,726</u>	<u>74,587</u>
	<u>37,119</u>	<u>78,345</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2019 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>280</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20	Net movement	At 31.12.20
	£	in funds	£
		£	
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	285,939	38,448	324,387
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	<u>3,382</u>	<u>(542)</u>	<u>2,840</u>
	496,135	37,906	534,041
Restricted funds			
Historic England	-	-	-
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>571</u>	<u>(42)</u>	<u>529</u>
	1,571	(42)	1,529
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>497,706</u>	<u>37,864</u>	<u>535,570</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	150,573	(117,506)	5,381	38,448
College Lectures	-	(542)	-	(542)
	150,573	(118,048)	5,381	37,906
Restricted funds				
Historic England	147,215	(147,215)	-	-
G Drummond Volunteer Award	-	(42)	-	(42)
	147,215	(147,257)	-	(42)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>297,788</u>	<u>(265,305)</u>	<u>5,381</u>	<u>37,864</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	246,129	39,810	285,939
Library Fund	63,715	-	63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758	-	30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341	-	112,341
College Lectures	3,632	(250)	3,382
	456,575	39,560	496,135
Restricted funds			
Historic England	3,511	(3,511)	-
Frank Clark	1,000	-	1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	571	-	571
	5,082	(3,511)	1,571
TOTAL FUNDS	461,657	36,049	497,706

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	138,849	(133,443)	34,404	39,810
College Lectures	-	(250)	-	(350)
	138,849	(133,693)	34,404	39,560
Restricted funds				
Historic England	149,185	(152,696)	-	(3,511)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>288,034</u>	<u>(286,389)</u>	<u>30,404</u>	<u>36,049</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020 or 2019.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	29,579	2,120
Subscriptions	61,540	61,433
CGT Insurance surplus	<u>2,612</u>	<u>1,753</u>
	93,731	65,306
Other trading activities		
Advertising	2,070	1,724
Contributions from member's events etc.	<u>36,011</u>	<u>53,493</u>
	38,081	55,217
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	11,676	13,475
Interest receivable on liquid investments	<u>95</u>	<u>181</u>
	11,771	13,656
Charitable activities		
Publications	6,990	4,670
Grants receivable	<u>147,215</u>	<u>149,185</u>
	<u>154,205</u>	<u>153,855</u>
Total incoming resources	297,788	288,034
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	3,810	3,810
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	139,863	119,311
National insurance	9,693	9,091
Events	12,244	32,835
Printing and distribution	22,902	22,475
Membership	7,729	8,904
Historic England Projects	35,207	12,216
Historic Lottery Fund - Repton	<u>8,309</u>	<u>47,203</u>
	235,947	252,035
Support costs		
Management	<u>18,523</u>	<u>20,100</u>
	18,523	20,100

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Other		
Conservation, travel and subsistence	629	2,830
Office and Trustees's travel and subsistence	289	1,007
Postage and stationery	2,136	2,585
Bookkeeping	396	362
Independent Examiner	3,600	3,600
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	60
	<u>7,050</u>	<u>10,444</u>
Total resources expended	<u>265,305</u>	<u>286,389</u>
Net income before gains and losses	32,483	1,645
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	4,731	(311)
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	650	34,715
	<u>37,864</u>	<u>36,049</u>
Net income	<u>37,864</u>	<u>36,049</u>