

ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31 March 2023



GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

HOPE GARDENS CHARITABLE TRUST: Registered charity number 1100868

Declaration of Trust: 5 October 2003

Deed of Amendment: 4 December 2017 (to change the Name)

List of Trustees-

Richard Lloyd (Chairman)
Anthony Simmons (Deputy Chairman)
Pippa Satchwell-Smith
Sarah Sellen
Christine Steeds
Robert Glendenning (Deputy Chairman USA)
Tanya Bray (USA)
Alan Ritchie (Hon Treasurer) Resigned September 2022

How Trustees are appointed, inducted and trained.

Trustees are appointed by the decision of the board. All Trustees have been appointed because they have an on-going relationship with, and take an active interest in, the projects Hope Garden supports.

Two part time staff members in UK;

Director: Hilary Atherton (*from January 2020*)

Financial Controller: Tracey Hall (September 2022)

Bankers: HSBC, 17 The Marsh, Hythe, Southampton, SO45 6ZB

Independent Examiner: David Steeds, FCA

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

Aims & Objects as per Trust Deed:

“To further the religious and other charitable works of the Christian Churches in India with particular reference to the spiritual and material needs of the poor, the sick and those suffering from forms of social deprivation and in the training of ministers to serve those in need”.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

Hope Gardens only supports two Indian charities that run projects consistent with our objects and which benefit the public. The Rachel Mercy Sugantha Trust (RMS) oversees social projects supporting orphans, the disabled and providing access to free primary health care. The Rhema Religious and Charitable Trust (RRCT) trains ministers to serve the poor and establish new churches.

Policy on grant making/ Distributions

Hope Gardens only makes grants to these two Indian Charities known intimately by all trustees. A lot of income we receive is restricted to one of the projects run by one of these charities. Unrestricted income is distributed to projects run by these charities as discerned by the trustees.

Contribution made by volunteers

Hope Gardens receives support from volunteers. The Chairman, The Deputy Chairman and Treasurer are entirely voluntary. Some people travel from the UK to the projects in India and volunteer to work.

The Chairman & Deputy Chairman visited the Hope Gardens Programmes and inspected key capital projects in India in January 2023. They met the India board members and held a pastors meeting to understand more about the communities that the projects serve.

A team from the United States, led by Deputy Chairman Bob Glendening also visited the projects in Cumbum, Tamil Nadu, in January 2023.

The next visit is scheduled for January 2024

Bob continues to manage the American entity which raises funds in the US, most of which is sent via this UK Charity to projects that Hope Gardens supports in South India. This team both witnessed and participated in the work of the RMS and RRC Trusts.

As well as in person visits, regular video conferences with the Director, Chairpersons and Trustees has enabled excellent communication and monitoring of projects during this period. Supporters have also been able to connect with our projects in India and the project leads through zoom meetings and videos. The next supporter visit will be in January 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

How we achieved our Aims & Objectives

We attain our aims and objectives in two ways. First, we continue to forge very close relationships with our partners in India with regular visits by board members, weekly email and call updates. These close relationships enable the board to have great confidence in the projects we support together with strong financial accountability. Secondly, we have raised substantial sums of money from supporters in the UK and USA to enable these projects in India to flourish and benefit many poor people.

Post Covid there has been a need to increase our investment in education and the after school clubs. As a result we have proactively fundraised for our existing clubs to ensure that we were able to provide additional resources and hot meals and increase the salaries of our tutors.

Safeguarding is paramount to all that we do and in line with the recommendations of the Theni District Welfare Office we have enhanced our school with a sensory room and playground and built a more substantial compound wall around our school and hostel.

Our church ministry continues with the completion of Pastor Thomas Church in Koodakovil and Rev Barnabus Church in Thiruvannamalai. We are delighted that post Covid the bible college numbers have increased and this year we have been able to offer places to students who require additional learning support.

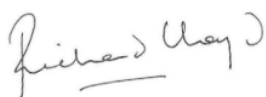
FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal sources of funds for Hope Gardens are individual donations, contributions from grant-making trusts and fundraising events and appeals.

All expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity. Administrative costs are for direct charitable purposes. Governance is provided by trustees and the Independent Examiner on a pro bono basis.

Hope Gardens' operating costs in the UK don't require us to hold large reserves. We try to ensure that there is a level of Unrestricted Reserves to cover ongoing costs. There are no substantial balances held in Restricted Reserves for any major Capital project in India.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Richard Lloyd, 20th September 2023

Hope Gardens Charitable Trust: Charity Number 1100868

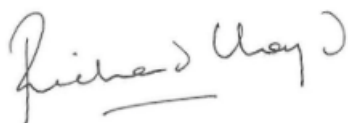
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2023

2021/22	£	Restricted funds CAPITAL	Restricted funds REVENUE	Restricted funds TOTAL	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
RECEIPTS						
162,868	Donations & Fundraising	14,408	74,731	89,139	32,711	121,850
PAYMENTS						
154,505	Distributions to India	39,400	122,559	161,959	0	161,959
12,718	Administration & Support UK				18,410	18,410
167,223		39,400	122,559	161,959	18,410	180,369
-4,355	SURPLUS/ -DEFICIT	-24,992	-47,828	-72,820	14,301	-58,519
84,037	CASH FUNDS brought forward	48,830	13,403	62,233	17,449	79,682
79,682	CASH FUNDS carried forward	23,837	-34,424	-10,587	31,750	21,163

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Richard Lloyd, Chair

Tony Simmonds, Deputy Chair




Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hope Gardens Charitable Trust (the "Trust")

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, which are set out on page 1.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Steeds MA FCA
1 Littleworth Avenue,
Esher, KT10 9PB
7 November 2023