



**Financial statements**  
**for**  
**the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Company Registration Number 04544242**  
**Charity Number 1101169**

# **Professional Gardeners' Trust**

## **Financial statements**

**Year ended 31 December 2024**

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# Professional Gardeners' Trust

## Reference and administrative details

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Professional Gardeners' Trust	
<b>Charity number</b>	1101169	
<b>Company registration number</b>	04544242	
<b>Registered office</b>	New Inn Farm, Forest Coal Pit, Abergavenny, Wales NP7 7LT	
<b>Trustees</b>	Stephen Anderton (Chair) (Appointed 20 April 2024) Sarah Wain (Chair) (Resigned 22 April 2024) Simon Bagnall (Resigned 12 September 2024) Stephen Crisp (Resigned 28 January 2025) Natasha Goodfellow (Appointed 20 April 2024) George Hudson Stephen McCallum (Resigned 28 August 2024) Mercy Morris (Resigned 28 January 2025) Catherine Nicoll (Resigned 20 January 2025) Helen Seal Gemma Sturges Bertie Swainston (Appointed 20 April 2024) Christopher Wardle (Appointed 18 January 2025)	
<b>Officers</b>	Adrian Thorne Claire Dakin Thys Terblanche Penny Peerless	Awards Manager Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer Web Manager
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Lizanne McCloud 32 Farm Lane Tonbridge Kent TN10 3DG	
<b>COIF fund manager</b>	CCLA Investment Management Limited Cheapside, London. EC2V 6DZ	
<b>Bankers</b>	CAF Bank 15 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ ME19 4JQ	Charity Bank Fosse House 182 High Streer Tonbridge TN9 1BE

# **Professional Gardeners' Trust**

## **Trustees' annual report**

### **Year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Trustees**

The Trustees during the year and up to the date of this report are listed on page 1.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The Trust was established for the relief of poverty particularly (but not limited to) by provision of scholarships, grants or other monetary awards to persons engaged in horticulture, in order that they may develop their skills and who are in need of such assistance by reason of their or their family's economic or other circumstances.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have complied with the duty to have due regard to give careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

#### **Achievements and performance**

Donations raised a total of £57,704 (2023: £61,193) and investment income generated a further £3,959 (2023: £3,416). This allowed the Trustees to make net scholarships and grants of £58,671 (2023: £48,882).

#### **Structure, governance and management**

Professional Gardeners' Trust is a company limited by guarantee but not having a share capital and is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 1993.

The Trust is managed by its Council of Trustees. Trustees are nominated by the other Trustees. All retire at the AGM and are eligible for re-election. The administration of awards and enquiries is carried out by the Awards Manager. The Trustees meet three times a year and delegate certain duties of the organisation between themselves and the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer between meetings. All significant decisions regarding the Trust are taken or confirmed at a Trustees' meeting.

The Professional Gardeners' Trust may be a small charity but it does a vital job, in helping fund training for self-employed gardeners within a profession which is not well-paid, and for gardeners working in institutions whose training budgets today are reduced, over-stretched, or sometimes non-existent. The need for the Trust has never been greater. Meanwhile the costs of the training we help fund continues to rise sharply (our awards have seen an average increase of 23 percent in the four years to 2024). At the same time, there is also a trend for people to come into horticulture as a second career and, with the increasing cost of living and its effects on family life, such people are especially in need of help if they are to move upwards into their chosen career at a realistic speed.

Yet these are financially challenging times for any charity and the Trust is no exception: the charities who historically supply us with funds are themselves under financial pressure, and so we recognise the generosity of our donors, who include in particular the National Gardens Scheme, Royal Horticultural Society Bursaries, Perennial, and the Finnis-Scott Foundation. The challenge now is to look beyond charitable funding to more commercial sources. It is hoped that during early 2025 private donation will provide us with a good new income stream.

# Professional Gardeners' Trust

## Trustees' report (continued)

A budget for our own grants to beneficiaries was set at £60,000 for the year, but due to the number of applicants and the increasing cost of training courses, grants were reduced to 75 percent of target in the latter part of the year and closed in November when the set budget was spent. More funds would have allowed us to satisfy many more applications.

The year has seen some changes in the composition of the Trust. Four Trustees have retired from the board for lack of available time and one appointed, ensuring a continuing representation across Britain, and a further replacement with a financial background is being sought.

In September 2024 a Twentieth Anniversary Celebration was held at Roots and Shoots Educational and Environmental Charity, Kennington, South London, where representatives of donor charities and the press were welcomed, and the Trust's record reviewed: 800 gardeners funded through a total value of £400,000, since the PGT's founding in 2004, originally as an offshoot of the Professional Gardener's Guild assisting the training of working gardeners.

The PGT operates through the goodwill and generously-given time of its Trustees, and through the good offices of its Secretary, Treasurer and its one part-time paid officer, the Awards Manager, who vitally administers and expedites all applications. To them all, we owe thanks.

### Financial review

The results for the year and their impact on the charity's funds are set out in detail in the statement of financial activities on page 6. Total net expenditure for the year was £5,618 (2023 net income £8,349) and the year end net assets amounted to £130,084 (2023: £135,702).

### Reserves policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy annually to reassess the risks and reflect changes in the environment in which the charity is operating, recognising that it is vulnerable to economic downturns. Based on an evaluation of the services the charity provides, the Trustees consider that the Charity should hold sufficient unrestricted income funds to meet the budgeted expenditure on both awards and running costs approved by the Trustees for the following eighteen months. The unrestricted income fund has decreased during the year to £124,129 (2023 £133,637) and the fund at 31 December 2024 represented approximately 19 months (2023: 21 months) of budgeted expenditure approved by the Trustees for the following year. The level of the unrestricted income fund is kept under close review at our Trustees' meetings.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Stephen Anderton 12 April 2025



## **Professional Gardeners' Trust**

### **Responsibilities of the Trustees**

**Year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Professional Gardeners' Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report, the Chairman's statement and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation,

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Professional Gardeners' Trust**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Professional Gardener's Trust**

I report on the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibility Statement set out on page 4, the Trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that these give a true and fair view. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements 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 no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Lizanne McCloud 12 April 2025**

# Professional Gardeners' Trust

## Statement of financial activities (incorporating the Income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations	2	41,220	16,484	57,704	61,193
Investment income	3	<u>3,959</u>	-	<u>3,959</u>	3,416
<b>Total income</b>		45,179	16,484	61,663	64,609
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	4	<u>55,746</u>	<u>12,594</u>	<u>68,340</u>	<u>60,208</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>55,746</u>	<u>12,594</u>	<u>68,340</u>	<u>60,208</u>
Unrealised gain on investment	5	1,059	-	1,059	3,948
<b>Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year</b>		(9,508)	3,890	(5,618)	8,349
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Funds brought forward		133,637	2,065	135,702	127,353
<b>Funds carried forward</b>		<u>124,129</u>	<u>5,955</u>	<u>130,084</u>	<u>135,702</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements



# Professional Gardeners' Trust

## Balance sheet

31 December 2024

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Investment	5	47,958		46,899	
Cash at bank		<u>98,358</u>		<u>109,757</u>	
<b>Total current assets</b>		146,316		156,656	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	<u>(16,232)</u>		<u>(20,954)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>130,084</u>		<u>135,702</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>130,084</u>		<u>135,702</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted income funds	7		5,955		2,065
Unrestricted income funds	8		<u>124,129</u>		<u>133,637</u>
			<u>130,084</u>		<u>135,702</u>

The Trustees are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the period by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

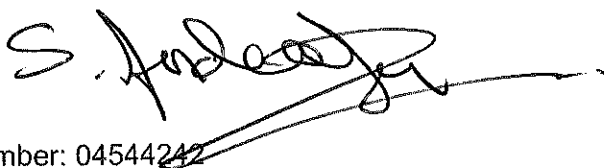
The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the Company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 April 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

**Stephen Anderton**  
Chairman

Company registration number: 04544242



The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Professional Gardeners Trust**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. Accounting policies General information**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales (company number 04544242 and charity number 1101169) on 24 September 2002, and is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Its registered office is given on page 1. The accounts are drawn up on the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of the investment.

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by 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.

**Going concern**

The Trustees have, at the time of approving the financial statements, a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and consider that there were no material uncertainties over the Trust's financial viability. Accordingly, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparation of the financial statements.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The Trustees consider that no judgements, apart from those involving estimates, have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies which have had a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

The Trustees consider that no key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date have been made which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 7 to the financial statements.

**Income**

Voluntary income, including donations and gifts, is recognised as receivable when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Investment income and interest on deposits is recognised when receivable.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Charitable activities include all costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

# Professional Gardeners Trust

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Year ended 31 December 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### Investments

Investments are stated at the closing bid price at the balance sheet date. Realised gains are the difference between sales proceeds and the carrying value of the investment. The carrying value is the fair value at the beginning of the year or the purchase cost where the investment was acquired during the year. Unrealised gains are the change in value of investments after taking into account any movements in investment holdings such as purchases and disposals of investments. Realised and unrealised gains are accounted for within the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### 2. Donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Appeals	<u>41,220</u>	<u>16,484</u>	<u>57,704</u>
<i>Year ended 31 December 2023</i>			
Appeals	<u>50,993</u>	<u>10,200</u>	<u>61,193</u>

#### 3. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Bank interest receivable	2,654	-	2,654
Dividends from Charities Official Investment fund	<u>1,305</u>	-	<u>1,305</u>
	<u>3,959</u>	=	<u>3,959</u>
<i>Year ended 31 December 2023</i>			
Bank interest receivable	2,129	-	2,129
Interest from Charities Official Investment fund	<u>1,287</u>	-	<u>1,287</u>
	<u>3,416</u>	=	<u>3,416</u>

#### 4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable awards made	46,426	12,245	58,671
Administration and other costs	<u>9,320</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>9,669</u>
	<u>55,746</u>	<u>12,594</u>	<u>68,340</u>
<i>Year ended 31 December 2023</i>			
Charitable awards made	38,323	10,499	48,822
Administration and other costs	<u>11,036</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>11,386</u>
	<u>49,359</u>	<u>10,849</u>	<u>60,208</u>

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration (2021 – Nil)

# Professional Gardeners Trust

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

### 5. Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
At 1 January 2024	46,899	42,951
Investment additions	-	-
Investment disposals	-	-
Unrealised investment gain	<u>1,059</u>	<u>3,948</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>47,958</u>	<u>46,899</u>
Investments comprise:		
Units in Charities Official Investment Fund	<u>42,951</u>	<u>42,951</u>

The historic cost of the units in Charities Official Investment Fund is £27,100 (2023: £27,100)

### 6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors and accruals	<u>16,232</u>	<u>20,954</u>

### 7. Restricted income funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Royal Botanical and Horticulture Society of Manchester and the Northern Counties	185	-	-	185
Lironi Training Fund	862	8,134	(5,684)	3,312
Scotland's Gardens Scheme Cattanach Fund	319	7,850	(5,712)	2,457
The Professional Gardeners' Guild	249	-	(248)	1
Birbeck Garden History Group	<u>450</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>(950)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,065</u>	<u>16,484</u>	<u>(12,594)</u>	<u>5,955</u>

# Professional Gardeners Trust

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Year ended 31 December 2024

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer from unrestricted funds £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Royal Botanical and Horticulture Society of Manchester and the Northern Counties	185	-	-	-	185
The Finnis Scott Foundation	181	-	85	(266)	-
Lironi Training Fund	279	1,000	(417)	-	862
Scotland's Gardens Scheme Cattanach Fund	-	8,200	(7,881)	-	319
The Professional Gardeners' Guild	-	-	(336)	585	249
Birbeck Garden History Group	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>(2,300)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>450</u>
	<u>2,395</u>	<u>10,200</u>	<u>(10,849)</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>2,065</u>

The restricted income funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with the specific restrictions imposed by donors. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out below.

A donation from The Royal Botanical and Horticultural Society of Manchester and the Northern Counties is to be used exclusively to assist northern based projects carried out by gardeners working in the north of England.

Grants from the Lironi Training Fund, which is funded by Perennial and is administered on behalf of Perennial by the Professional Gardeners' Trust, are for working gardeners and trainees, and those who have recently completed a recognised training or academic course in horticulture and who are starting horticultural work.

The Birbeck Garden History Group Award is available to professional gardeners wishing to broaden their knowledge of garden history by attending lectures, conferences, courses and study days.

Scotland's Gardens Scheme Cattanach Fund is available to horticulturist in Scotland, for personal and professional training and development.

An annual donation from The Professional Gardeners' Guild (PGG), known as the Kenwyn Pearson Award, named after the Trust's first Honorary Secretary who did so much to establish the Trust, funds awards to gardeners who are members of the PGG.

# Professional Gardeners Trust

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

### 8. Unrestricted income funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Unrealised gain (loss) on investments £	Transfer from unrestricted funds £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
General funds	<u>133,637</u>	<u>45,179</u>	<u>(55,746)</u>	<u>1,059</u>	=	<u>124,129</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Unrealised gain (loss) on investments £	Transfer from unrestricted funds £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
General funds	<u>124,958</u>	<u>54,409</u>	<u>(49,359)</u>	<u>3,948</u>	<u>(319)</u>	<u>133,637</u>

### 9. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Net assets	<u>124,129</u>	<u>5,955</u>	<u>130,084</u>
<i>At 31 December 2023</i>			
Net assets	<u>133,637</u>	<u>2,065</u>	<u>135,702</u>