



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01/01/23** To **31/12/23**

Charity name: **The Garden Route Children's Trust**

Charity registration number: **1116278**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To relieve financial hardship and to advance the education of children who live in South Africa and who come from financially disadvantaged families and, in particular, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing: - to assist with the provision of food for such children; - to assist with the provision of teaching programmes.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The activities of the GRCT are centred around raising funds in the UK through community events, donor events and supporters undertaking sponsored sports events. The public benefit in South Africa is easy to see and events in the UK give opportunities to build community locally.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in relation to the Trust's activities.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<p>In January 2019, the Trustees developed an application form to evaluate new opportunities in SA to ensure that all potential partners and projects are considered in a consistent way and meet the key criteria which we have set and which make our work cost effective and of maximum benefit for the donations received. In summary, the GRCT funds the projects of groups of people who are already involved with the community. The application form has been reviewed and continues to be used successfully to assess new projects for our programme.</p> <p>The need for e'Pap continues to grow because of the post-pandemic economic situation in South Africa</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>The GRCT is run solely by skilled volunteers. The contribution of volunteers is essential to our work. This approach allows the charity to keep costs to an absolute minimum (under 2% of our total donations).</p>
Other		

		<p>The geographical locations of these three projects made it difficult for trustees to visit and maintain relationships with our partners which trustees believe is central to the principles on which we operate.</p> <p>UK in person fundraising events were fewer but we built a strategy through the year for a new fundraising initiative in 2024 to build solid income for the future. The charity continued to have many dedicated and generous donors and the support of two schools and two churches.</p> <p>The trustees find that the events of most benefit to South Africa are those which build community in the UK. This is a secondary aim but one that is important to us.</p> <p>Our financial position continues to be stable. The number of children we support with e'Pap remained more or less the same in 2023 after the growth in 2022.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We established a strategic approach to fundraising to support the maintenance of our current levels of funds transfer once our excess reserves have been utilised.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our regular financial commitments to our beneficiaries in South Africa were maintained and the Trust continues to see improved outcomes for children who receive e'Pap at school every morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in illness; obvious evidence of the reduction of sores on children's heads and skin in the poorest schools. • Much improved concentration and better learning. • Better school attendance in some cases. • Strong support links and positive relationships between different sections of the SA population maintained through the regular delivery of e'Pap to teachers by volunteers. <p>The e'Pap Children's Feeding Project, our principal beneficiary, marked 20 years in operation. Steps have been taken by the project leaders to strengthen the leadership team and formalise the governance of the project to ensure its sustainability for years to come.</p> <p>Siyabulela and other pre-schools in Kleinmond in the Western Cape are, through Hout Bay Rotary Club, very well-established beneficiaries reporting regularly. Siyabulela has just celebrated 10 years in operation and the positive impact it has on children in the area is huge.</p> <p>The newer projects are all well-established – Hout Bay, Somerset West and Gugulethu (through Hout Bay Rotary Club), Laingsburg (through the Dutch Reformed Church), Wellington (through Ma's vir Wellington), Port Elizabeth (through the GRCT Project Association and Isivuno), St Francis Bay (through the Rotary Club), Despatch (through the Dutch Reformed Church), Addo (Place of Mercy and Hope), Ocean View, Cape Town (through Soteria Ministries) - were all visited at least once in 2023.</p> <p>The trustees took the difficult decision to cease funding in Ermelo at the end of the year and at The Hem of his Garment in Vryburg and at Laingsburg with effect from the end of 2024.</p>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The financial position of the GRCT at the end of 2023 was secure and stable.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Trustees try to ensure that at the end of the financial year there are sufficient bank deposits to cover approximately 40% of the estimated total remittances for the following twelve months. This policy is reviewed annually.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£106,555
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal source of funds in 2023 was from standing orders, donations and associated Gift Aid. Some money was raised through events and the sale of Christmas cards.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Fall off in donations which is being mitigated with our new fundraising strategy developed in 2023. Exposure to currency exchange rates has grown as the amount of funds we send to South Africa has grown.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	A Trustee or Trustees propose a candidate and give reasons why he or she would be suitable. The balance of skills of the group is also considered. If the Trustees are in agreement, the person is approached by the chairperson.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The GRCT has a principal beneficiary, the e'Pap Children's Feeding Project, which operates on the Garden Route in South Africa. The GRCT also funds a number of other projects which are managed by trusted partners -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Missionvale Care Centre Programme for orphaned and vulnerable children as well as feeding programmes in the Missionvale school and other schools/pre-schools in Port Elizabeth. The GRCT has set up the GRCT Project Association to monitor the projects in Port Elizabeth and manage the funds for those projects. 2. The feeding of children in pre-schools in Hout Bay and Gugulethu (Cape Town), Kleinmond and Somerset West. The Hout Bay project is managed by the Hout Bay Rotary Club whose members also oversee the other projects. 3. The feeding of pre-school children in Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres in Laingsburg is managed by the Dutch Reformed Church in the town. 4. The feeding of pre-schools in an ECD centre and creche in Wellington is run by Ma's vir Wellington. 5. Through the Rotary Club of St Francis Bay, feeding in a pre-school and creche

		<p>in the town and four in surrounding areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Feeding in a township on the edge of Despatch (near Port Elizabeth) managed by one of the Dutch Reformed Churches in the town. 7. Feeding at the Place of Mercy and Hope in Addo run by two Irish nuns. 8. Soteria Ministries runs the feeding in Ocean View and Jim se Bos.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Trustees work hard to develop and maintain direct relationships of trust with individuals in our partner organisations who can ensure that the infrastructure is sustainably available to deliver the food (mainly e'Pap porridge) to the South African children in need.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Garden Route Children's Trust
Other name the charity uses	GRCT
Registered charity number	1116278
Charity's principal address	Carmel, Manor Way, Oxshott, KT22 0HU

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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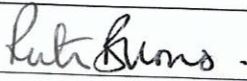

Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	RUTH JEAN BURNS	PATRICK JOHN FLEMING
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TRUSTEE
Date	12/05/2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
GARDEN ROUTE CHILDREN'S TRUST
No (if any)
1116278

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01-Jan-23	To	Period end date 31-Dec-23
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	56,809	11,768	-	68,577	49,176
Gift cards	110	-	-	110	-
Events	4,309	-	-	4,309	15,299
Gift Aid	7,984	1,343	-	9,327	7,828
Interest received	1,275	-	-	1,275	407
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	70,487	13,111	-	83,598	72,710
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	70,487	13,111	-	83,598	72,710
A3 Payments					
E'Pap Feeding Scheme	39,123	7,852	-	46,975	47,677
Missionvale Care Centre	8,509	-	-	8,509	8,500
GRCT Project Association	12,165	-	-	12,165	12,600
The Hem	5,364	-	-	5,364	5,350
Hout Bay Rotary Club	4,977	-	-	4,977	4,700
Kleinmond	662	-	-	662	2,750
Brak en Jan	100	-	-	100	259
Gugulethu	992	-	-	992	-
Laingsburg (DR Church)	1,796	-	-	1,796	2,000
Wellington (Mas vir Wellington)	1,796	-	-	1,796	3,500
St Francis Bay Rotary Club	3,143	-	-	3,143	3,200
Despatch (DR Church)	2,694	-	-	2,694	3,000
Place of Mercy and Hope	2,694	-	-	2,694	1,500
Soteria Ministries	2,334	-	-	2,334	1,300
Just Giving/Paypal costs	350	-	-	350	381
Printing, stationery & sundry supplies	227	-	-	227	625
Web hosting	-	-	-	-	201
Events	146	-	-	146	-
Bank charges	97	-	-	97	258
Sub total	87,169	7,852	-	95,021	97,801
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	87,169	7,852	-	95,021	97,801
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 16,682	5,259	-	- 11,423	- 25,091
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	117,832	146	-	117,978	143,069
Cash funds this year end	101,150	5,405	-	106,555	117,978

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Natwest Current A/c	48,344	5,405	
	Natwest Reserve A/c	-	-	
	Natwest Liquidity Manager A/c	52,806	-	
	Total cash funds	101,150	5,405	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Ruth Burns Patrick Fleming	RUTH BURNS PATRICK FLEMING	12/05/24 12/05/24



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

GARDEN ROUTE CHILDREN'S TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31 DECEMBER 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1116278

Set out on pages

1 & 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2023**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

B Steele

Date:

18/5/2024

Name:

BARBARA STEELE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

RICHLIN, MANOR WAY

OXSHOTT

LEATHERHEAD KT22 0HS

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.

NONE