

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date				
From	1	1	2023	To	31	12	2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

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

Other names charity is known by **GRCT**

Registered charity number (if any) **1116278**

Charity's principal address **Carmel  
Manor Way,  
Oxshott,**

Postcode **KT22 0HU**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ruth Burns	Chair		
2	Sophie Burns			
3	Mark Chapman	Information Officer		
4	Lesley Flaxman		Resigned 1 July 2024	
5	Nicki Galazka	Marketing & Design		
6	Patrick Fleming	Financial Advisor		
7	Alison Lewis			
8	Catherine Michell			
9	Cathy Williamson	Treasurer		
10	Paul Hurrell			
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

### 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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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	A Trustee or Trustees propose a candidate and give reasons why they 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 governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The trustees review the financial controls annually.

The GRCT has a risk policy which is reviewed every three years. The risk register is reviewed at least annually and additionally when circumstance changes significantly.

The principal risks are

- The GRCT lacks direction, strategy and forward planning.
- Loss of a major donor or multiple standing order givers.

Trustees take steps to mitigate these risks and other smaller risks identified in our risk register.

The risk register is reviewed by our independent examiner annually.

The charity has a written Funding Policy available.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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 undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

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.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in relation to the Trust's activities.

#### **Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The GRCT is run solely by skilled volunteers. Their contribution is significant and they are essential to our work. This approach allows the charity to keep costs to an absolute minimum (around 1% of our total receipts).

Trustees work hard to develop and maintain direct relationships of trust with individuals who can ensure that the infrastructure is sustainably available to deliver the food (mainly e'Pap porridge) to the South African children in need. Where possible, at least one of the trustees visits some of the projects every year (at their own expense).

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.

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

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:

- 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.

The e'Pap Children's Feeding Project, our principal beneficiary, has taken the steps it planned in 2023 during 2024 to strengthen the leadership team and formalise the governance of the project to ensure its sustainability for years to come.

In Port Elizabeth, we have a very close relationship with the GRCT Project Association and Missionvale Care Centre. We visit both every year and are in regular contact.

The newer projects are also well-established – Hout Bay and Kleinmond, Somerset West and Gugulethu (through Hout Bay Rotary Club), 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). Many of these were visited in 2024 and regular telephone and email contact is maintained.

The funding for The Hem of his Garment in Vryburg and pre-schools in Laingsburg through the NG Kerk ceased at the end of 2024. The geographical locations of these projects made it difficult for trustees to visit and maintain relationships with our partners which we believe is central to the principles on which we operate.

UK in person fundraising events were fewer but our new initiative 'Breakfast for breakfasts'™ launched in March 2024 and has been very successful in maintaining income. The charity continued to have many dedicated and generous donors and the support of two churches.

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.

Our financial position continues to be stable with income slightly lower than it was in 2023 (£77,218 versus £83,598). As we enter 2025 we are planning how to grow our income and also manage for the potential risk that we may need to reduce funding for some of our beneficiaries if we no longer have excess reserves.



## Section E Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

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.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

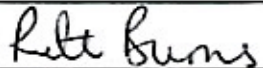
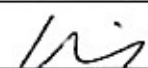
- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

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 FLAWING
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR.	TRUSTEE
Date	10 JUNE 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
GARDEN ROUTE CHILDREN'S TRUST

No (if any)

1115278

## Receipts and payments accounts

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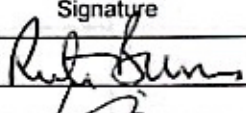
For the period from 01-Jan-24 To 31-Dec-24

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	42,089	6,188	-	48,277	68,577
Gift cards	-	-	-	-	110
Events	16,917	-	-	16,917	4,309
Gift Aid	8,162	2,160	-	10,322	9,327
Interest received	1,702	-	-	1,702	1,275
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>68,870</b>	<b>8,348</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,218</b>	<b>83,598</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>68,870</b>	<b>8,348</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,218</b>	<b>83,598</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
E'Pap Feeding Scheme	41,551	13,248	-	54,899	46,975
Missionvale Care Centre	9,197	-	-	9,197	8,509
GRCT Project Association	5,053	-	-	5,053	12,165
The Hem	5,844	-	-	5,844	5,364
Hout Bay Rotary Club	5,785	-	-	5,785	4,977
Kleinmond	1,283	-	-	1,283	662
Brak en Jan	494	-	-	494	100
Gugulethu	771	-	-	771	992
Laingsburg (DR Church)	1,774	-	-	1,774	1,796
Wellington (Mas vir Wellington)	1,839	-	-	1,839	1,796
St Francis Bay Rotary Club	4,067	-	-	4,067	3,143
Despatch (DR Church)	2,759	-	-	2,759	2,694
Place of Mercy and Hope	2,661	-	-	2,661	2,694
Soteria Ministries	3,005	-	-	3,005	2,334
Just Giving/Paypal costs	432	-	-	432	350
Printing, stationery & sundry supplies	404	-	-	404	227
Web hosting	292	-	-	292	-
Events	79	-	-	79	146
Bank charges	185	-	-	185	97
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>87,575</b>	<b>13,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,823</b>	<b>95,021</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>87,575</b>	<b>13,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,823</b>	<b>95,021</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 18,705</b>	<b>- 4,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 23,605</b>	<b>- 11,423</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>101,150</b>	<b>5,405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>106,555</b>	<b>117,978</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>82,445</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82,950</b>	<b>106,555</b>



## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Natwest Current A/c	27,937	505	
	Natwest Reserve A/c	-	-	
	Natwest Liquidity Manager A/c	54,508	-	
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>82,445</b>	<b>505</b>	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	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 JEAN BURNS	10/06/25	
		PATRICK JOHN FLEMING	10/06/25	



**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 2024**

Charity no  
(if any) **1116278**

**Set out on pages**

**1 & 2**

1 & 2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**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: **21/6/25**

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