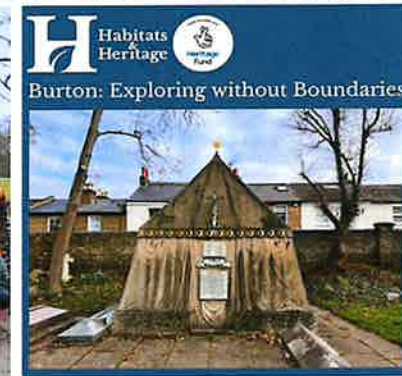




Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25



Habitats & Heritage

Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25

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The Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ('FRS102')

Habitats & Heritage

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company Number

07469024

Registered Charity Number

1140872

Registered Office

ETNA Community Centre,
13 Rosslyn Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex
TW1 2AR

Trustees

Ann Hagell Chair

Sabir Mohammed Mughal appointed 24th June 2024 Treasurer

Adam Tyson

Stephen Houchin

Zoe Lawrence

Georgina Creighton

Chris Lee

Olga Pomazan appointed 14th May 2024

Ruth Brooks appointed 18th June 2024

Company Secretary

Victoria Phillips resigned 24th April 2024

Independent Examiner

Community Action Sutton
Granfers Community Centre
73-79 Oakhill Road
Sutton
SM1 3AA

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank PLC, P.O. Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester ME60 4EP

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It has been another busy year at Habitats & Heritage, with all our workstreams expanding and developing, and the staff team growing as a result. It has been particularly encouraging to see so much face-to-face community engagement over the last 12 months, including our work supporting Friends groups, running corporate volunteering days, giving talks and providing advice on home energy efficiency savings. As well as providing the leadership and organisational support for these activities, we also lend equipment – it is wonderful to see, for example, that 332 people loaned bat detectors over the year, and 16 community groups borrowed litter pickers. This reflects a lot of people engaging with the local green spaces and heritage in south and west London, and it is our mission to increase those numbers year on year.

Once again we have many people to thank for their help. Our Board is incredibly supportive, thoughtful and helpful, and the staff team is wonderful. As well as our many funders across all our workstreams, we are also grateful to some key individuals – I cannot list them all but particular thanks are due this year to the Mayor of Kingston who chose us as one of her charities, to Lord Hendy of Richmond, one of our patrons and the best bus driver I've ever met, and Axel Sheffler the artist who is so generous with his time and skills. It has also been a delight to work this year with our new CEO, Paul Jennings, who has brought energy, dedication and expertise to his leadership role.

Highlights in our heritage workstream this year have included starting two major projects funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. One relates to the Bazalgette mausoleum in Wimbledon, and the other to Burton's tomb in Mortlake. Both are essentially educational and

community oriented. For those of us who have been attached to Habitats & Heritage for many years, it has also been beyond exciting to see work start on Grove Gardens Chapel, stabilising the subsiding structure and working to open it for public use again as soon as possible.

A huge amount of work has been undertaken in relation to habitats, biodiversity and conservation, but we have been particularly pleased to welcome 27 new young people who have joined our youth environmental programme, funded by National Lottery Awards. We are always very grateful to our corporate partners, this year representing 13 companies who funded 21 volunteer days across three boroughs. This raises important money for the charity but also introduces lots of new people to the beauties and challenges of looking after our particular slice of south west London.

Our climate, sustainability and community workstreams have supported many new friends groups and established a new resource hub to help groups become independent, as well as improving home energy use. We are very aware that this whole area of our work is of increasing importance and value, and that local solutions are critical responses to the climate crisis.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our work, we are hugely grateful to you all.

Ann Hagell, Chair of Trustees

ABOUT HABITATS & HERITAGE

Habitats & Heritage is the local charity that acts for the natural and historic environment and climate in south and west London. Our mission is to protect and restore our threatened rivers, green spaces, parks and historic built environment for the benefit of the whole community, for this and future generations.

We are based in Twickenham and work across the London Boroughs of Richmond, Hounslow, Kingston, Wandsworth, Ealing, Sutton and Merton.

Vision and values

Our vision is a restored and extensive natural and historical heritage for south and west London. We want to enrich and connect degraded and isolated green spaces across our urban landscape and to restore neglected historical structures and landscapes that would otherwise fall to ruin or disappear. We want to make those special local places accessible and inviting to all to explore, enjoy and feel part of.

We promote an accessible and inclusive approach to our environmental and historical heritage and seek to deepen people's sense of wellbeing, belonging and pride in place through learning and appreciation of the local environment. We promote sustainable lifestyles and recognise the interconnectedness of all aspects of human activity.

Our values:

- Foster partnership.
- Recognise the value of natural and built environment both for people's well-being and for its own sake.
- Celebrate diversity and inclusion.
- Enable involvement through volunteering.
- Be locally relevant to global concerns.

History and governance

Habitats & Heritage is a registered charity (no 1140872) and a company limited by guarantee (no. 7469024) established in 2011 under the name South West London Environment Network (SWLEN). The charity was renamed and rebranded Habitats & Heritage in November 2020 following merger with Environment Trust, a sister charity established in 1984.

The Board of Trustees governs Habitats & Heritage. Operational management is delegated to the executive led by Chief Executive, Paul Jennings. There are a number of committees and subgroups reporting to the board.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and that the activities carried out by Habitats & Heritage during the year were all undertaken in order to further its objects. A detailed explanation is shown under activities and performance.

Charitable Objects

Habitats & Heritage was set up with the following objects:

1. To promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public, principally, but not exclusively, in South West London and surrounding areas by:

- Building the capacity of third sector organisations which are working on projects which aim to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of the public by providing them with support, information and services;
- Promoting the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment, the prudent use of resources, and sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration;
- Advancing the education and awareness of the public in subjects relating to sustainable development and the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment and the prudent use of resources, and promoting and conducting study and research in such subjects, provided that the useful results of such study and research are disseminated to the public at large.

2. To promote, organise and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Habitats & Heritage aims:

a) To protect and restore our threatened rivers, green spaces, parks and historic built environment, and extend them through connecting them along green corridors, and new community spaces.

b) To protect and restore historical built environment for this and future generations, and through engagement with this heritage to deepen peoples' sense of belonging and pride in place.

c) To realise the mutuality between urban historical and natural heritage goals.

d) To promote an accessible and inclusive approach to our environmental and historical heritage through opportunities for all communities and individuals to be part of restoring, experiencing and co-creating new spaces and becoming part of a larger movement for change.

e) To promote learning for people of all ages and to deepen appreciation of our local natural and built environment

f) To promote a more sustainable lifestyle which recognises the inter-connectedness of all aspects of human activity.

ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE

The themes of our work are Habitats, Heritage, Climate and Community.

Habitats



Young volunteers removing invasive Himalayan balsam

Youth Environmental Programme

Supported by the National Lottery Awards For All, we run regular volunteering sessions one Saturday a month for young people over 14 years, who take part in conservation activities to support our Habitats projects. Tasks have ranged from planting to invasive species removal and dead hedge building to litter picking. 27 new young people joined the programme and all the young people contributed 434 hours of nature conservation work. We ran workshops with schools at Richmond's eco-champions event at the London Wetland Centre in Barnes.

Citizen science

Habitats & Heritage citizen science programme offers people the opportunity to gather information to better understand the environment across the area. Our private gardens survey is an example. 25% of London green spaces is private gardens and, as such, it's a vital space for wildlife. It helps to connect the green spaces across London and adds to the green corridor to overcome fragmentation of south and west London. We are also recruiting citizen scientists to take part in a monitoring programme of your local roadside verges. We help people record wildlife sightings anywhere to add to London-wide data.

Employee Team Volunteering

Private and public sector organisations contribute to our work in many ways, not least through practical nature conservation volunteering. We ran 21 volunteer days for 13 different companies in three Boroughs. Typical tasks have included planting, pruning, habitat building, and helping to reduce the spread of invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam.

Green Hubs

Green Hubs are small neglected green spaces that can become connected wildlife havens, from roadside verges, to areas outside of houses and other buildings. We have worked with local people to create sustainable green hubs, for example at Warren Gardens in Richmond, where dedicated volunteers have transformed a strip of land into four nature zones, helping biodiversity and adding to the beauty of the area. The green hub at West Temple Sheen was completed with community planting and we undertook consultation on Raleigh Road Recreation Ground.

Take Me To The River

'Take Me to the River aims to engage Hounslow residents in connecting with nature, particularly along the River Crane. Our role in this project is to organise nature conservation sessions that enhance habitat quality while providing the community with opportunities to get involved through outdoor volunteering.

We run a mix of activities, from community-focused events like willow weaving and teddy bear picnics to hands-on conservation work such as bramble cutting and invasive species removal. A key focus is improving habitat quality for reintroduced water voles, educating volunteers on their importance while enhancing and protecting these spaces for wider wildlife.'

Thames Landscape Strategy

During the year we logged 240 hours of conservation volunteer hours from local residents and corporate volunteers. This includes removing the invasive plant Himalayan balsam, scrub clearance and preventing riverbank erosion using willow spiling. We engaged with 441 members of the public through our numerous events including: talks, bat walks and our 30th Birthday event in September. In July 2024, we secured three years of funding from the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to fund the Joint Thames Strategy Project.

Biodiversity Partnerships co-ordination in Kingston and Richmond

We continued to co-ordinate biodiversity protection and enhancement for both Richmond and Kingston councils. As chair of the partnerships in both boroughs, we held four general meetings in Richmond and three in Kingston over the last year as well as over ten specific habitat and species action plan reviews. These meetings bring partners together to review and co-ordinate management actions. Through this work we are helping to protect habitats such as lowland acid grassland, rivers and streams and woodland as well as specific identified species such as stag beetles, water voles, badgers and native black poplars.

Community Orchard in Merton

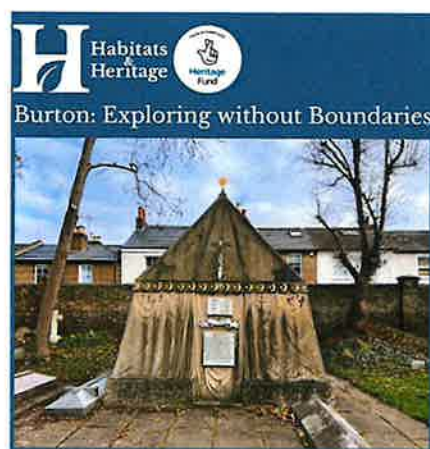


New community designed map of the London Road Playing fields Orchard

In October, Habitats & Heritage worked at the London Road playing fields in Merton with the May Project Gardens and 20 volunteers. Together, we unveiled the community designed sign, launched the online park tour

and undertook some tree care by cutting back encroaching bramble and grasses and mulching around the base of the trees. The local community can now look forward to years of free plum, apple and pear picking as these trees grow and provide a calm and shaded environment for residents to enjoy.

Heritage



Sir Richard Burton's Mausoleum

Historic England Capacity Building

We had a successful first year of the new three-year funding cycle from Historic England. We secured the funding for years two and three from Historic England and were awarded £250k by the National Lottery Heritage Fund for our project: Sir Joseph Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London. We were joined by Jess Vining as Heritage Projects Officer in June who took over from Caitlin Jones who became manager of the NLHF project, Burton: Exploring without Boundaries.

Grove Gardens Chapel

We appointed a professional team in the spring of 2024 comprising of Cymes Conservation architects and Conisbee Structural Engineers to undertake all the design works to stabilise the subsiding structure. This resulted in listed building consent being granted and DBR Limited being appointed at the start of 2025 to undertake building works.

Burton: Exploring Without Boundaries



Study group at Sir Richard Burton's Mausoleum

We started our National Lottery Heritage Fund project *Burton: Exploring Without Boundaries*, introducing two new members to the team to oversee the conservation and education works in June 2024. Over the year, we have engaged a total of 146 people on-site and 257 off-site through events such as tree planting, talks on *Burton & Islam* in Richmond and Kingston, as well as participation in the Everyday Muslim Conference at the University of Westminster and the Annual International Burton Conference.

We have strengthened developed an outreach and education programme with the Museum of Richmond and are working with Kingston University to assess the on the material culture of the mausoleum. We have improved the diversity of our work through consultation with 3 additional-needs based charities and local faith-based organisations such as the Hounslow Islamic Centre and Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group.

We have recruited 8 volunteers across our research and oral history programmes, who have contributed a total of 229 hours. Following a pre-app submission to the local authority, we have hired Conisbee Structural Engineers to carry out a structural appraisal, received permission for the removal of the ash tree causing damage to the site, and tendered for conservation specialists. This will inform our conservation works for the next year.

St Leonards Air Raid Shelter

H&H continued to open the structure to the general public with the support of the

Mortlake with East Sheen Society, welcoming around 500 school children.

Bazalgette's Mausoleum

A bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund was created and submitted in the autumn of 2024 for the project, *Sir Joseph Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London*. This was awarded early in 2025 and totalled £250k. Throughout the year a total of 7 talks were given about the project to 320 people.

Kilmorey Mausoleum



We were delighted to launch two new books: *Francis Jack Needham: 2nd Earl of Kilmorey. His life and loves* and a revised history of the mausoleum. Both books have been researched and written by local historian Prof. Andrew George MBE and published by Habitats & Heritage. We supported Richmond Council in their work of renovating the stars on the roof of the mausoleum to prevent water ingress.

Vineyard Passage Burial Ground

A dedicated group of volunteers continue to run vegetation management days and to preserve the heritage of the burial ground.

Talks and presentations

15 heritage talks have been given during the year by H&H staff and volunteers on topics including *Sir Joseph Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London* and the *Kilmorey Mausoleum*. The talks have been attended by approximately 500 people.

Heritage Events

A successful heritage bus tour took place in June which finished at the Thameside villa, Asgill House. The tour was again made

possibly through the generosity of the Lord Hendy of Richmond Hill and his Routemaster bus.

Climate and Sustainability

Our partnership with Crew, SWLEAP, has grown this year with the appointment of 2 freelance energy advisors to deliver home visits in Richmond. The advisors, alongside our colleagues in Wandsworth, have delivered 415 home energy visits across Richmond, Kingston, Wandsworth and Lambeth. These visits have saved approximately 243,000 kg in carbon emissions and over £120,000 in savings for households at risk of fuel poverty.

We have also delivered 137 energy cafe events in the community giving free advice and energy saving equipment to 1,286 people. Supporting this work we have 7 volunteers who give their time to attend home visits and energy cafes.

During the winter months we delivered the Warm Pack project which was funded by Richmond and Wandsworth council. This included handing out Warm Pack boxes and ordering over 400 Deeper Intervention items to further help clients keep warm and reduce the energy usage (Infra red heaters, dehumidifiers, heated throws, letter box brushes etc).

One person told us:

"Thank you for your having your advisor visit our home and the invaluable advice she provided regarding our energy needs. We sincerely appreciate the support and guidance, particularly during these challenging times when low income can make it difficult for families like ours. Her visit has truly made a difference in our lives. We are also grateful for the resources she provided. Your charity's support not only empowers us but also foster hope and resilience in our community."

Community



Picking litter on the Thames foreshore

Friends Groups

We have provided support to 6 new groups to help them set up and run events, and to establish themselves as constituted groups. We continue to provide support to over 50 Friends Groups across the boroughs of Kingston, Hounslow and Richmond with advice, events, promotion, loaning litter pickers and bat detectors, and practical work on site with our Duke of Edinburgh and corporate volunteers. We have chaired and facilitated the Richmond Friends Forums, allowing groups to network amongst each other, share knowledge, and provide feedback.

We have created and launched a Resource Hub on our website, providing free access to information on governance, finance, health & safety, risk assessments and events for community groups. We have also hosted 4 training sessions for Friends and community groups across the year, including Risk Assessment training, Active Bystander training (in partnership with Protection Approaches), Composting workshops (in partnership with the ETNA Community Centre), and Social Media & Digital Strategies training.

We have continued to work with Friends of Ham Lands on a volunteer mapping project with undergraduate and graduate students. This project is coming to an end and has included the creation of a management map to help prioritise volunteer tasks on the site, and a habitat map to show the range of species across the site.

Crane Valley Smarter Water Catchment



Planting pear trees at Bedfont Lakes with community group Gurseva

We supported the Crane Valley Partnership's programme to improve watercourses throughout the Crane Valley catchment, from Harrow to the Thames. With funding from Thames Water we worked with community groups, who have involved hundreds of volunteers to deliver practical improvements to the environment. We have run online meetings, written newsletters and visited groups who have been working on projects funded by the Crane Valley Community Fund. This provided us with twenty case studies for our evaluation report to showcase the success of the funding and develop the potential of communities to conserve and protect vital rivers in six London Boroughs. Groups have benefited from the stores of bat detectors and litter pickers we created for loan in the catchment.

Litter Picking



Do Something Green group with our litter pickers

We continue to support the community with green initiatives by lending out our litter picking equipment and providing advice on best practices, including risk assessment templates, routes, and safety briefings.

During the year we had requests for 565 litter pickers from 16 groups and individuals across Richmond borough and neighbouring areas. Among the groups borrowing our litter picking equipment are Friends of Parks Groups, Scouts groups, primary and secondary schools, local Councillors, residents' associations, local businesses, and individuals interested in organising their own litter picks.

Our equipment has also played a crucial role in supporting significant events such as the Do Something Green litter pick, the Annual Thames Draw Off Litter Pick, and the Barnes Common Big Annual Litter Pick. This financial year, we hosted a big litter picking week on Ham Lands in partnership with the Friends of Ham Lands and Richmond Council, which we hope will become an annual event.

Communications

Habitats & Heritage has maintained open communication with the public through monthly newsletters and social media: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Nextdoor, and BlueSky. While the X (formerly Twitter) account remains open, it is no longer actively used.

We continue to promote events and opportunities, supporting local environmental groups like Friends of Parks to encourage public involvement in protecting nature and heritage. As The Mayor of Kingston's chosen charity, we have engaged with audiences in this area and aim to expand our reach and collaborations further.

Newsletter

Our audience continues to grow, increasing our impact.

- Subscribers: 2,599 (up from 2,473 last year).
- Email Reach: 36,138 emails sent with a 51% open rate (above average) and a 4.6% click rate, indicating strong engagement.
- Unsubscribes were low at 0.38%.
- Environmental Groups Newsletter: Reaches 219 subscribers in Richmond and Hounslow.

Social Media

Our audience continues to grow across all platforms:

- Facebook: 2,166 followers (up from 2,088 last year).
- Instagram: 2,055 followers (up from 1,855).
- Bluesky: New account with 66 followers.
- "Nature in Richmond Borough" Facebook Group: 15,336 members (up from 10,000 in the year before).
- "Nature in Hounslow Borough" Facebook Group: 688 members (up from 576).

Website

Habitats & Heritage website data suggests a healthy level of user engagement and growth, with seasonal variations

- Active Users (30,000): Total unique visitors over the past year.
- New Users (31,000): Slightly higher than active users, indicating growth.

IT Support for Friends of Parks Groups

We have supported groups with their own websites, newsletters and promoting events. Groups supported include Friends of Murray Park and Whitton Dene Park, Friends of Richmond Green, Friends of Grove Gardens, Teddington, Friends of Northcote Nature

Reserve, Friends of Lampton Park and Friends of Queens Road Estate.

Events



Axel Scheffler signing books

This year has been amazingly successful for our fundraising, including our three major events: the Plant Sale in May, attended by more than 400 people; the Secret Art Auction in September, with contributions from 147 artists, including Royal Academicians; artist Axel Scheffler's hugely popular story-telling, live artistry and book-signing of *Jonty Gentoo* and other tales. We have created a range of environmentally friendly items for sale and to promote the image of Habitats & Heritage, including items with original designs by Axel Scheffler.



Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Habitats & Heritage were chosen this year as Kingston upon Thames' Mayoral Charity. H&H worked with the Kingston Mayor and her office to organise over 6 large fundraising events, including: a Treasure hunt, a Quiz Night, a Korean dining experience, a Comedy Night, a Gala Ball, and a Kingston heritage bus tour, including other initiatives.

2024-25 IN NUMBERS



3,151 BENEFICIARIES! Habitats & Heritage's varied activities, practical help and education brought benefit to 3,151 people.



756 VOLUNTEERS! We worked with amazing individuals across all of our projects including nature conservation, biodiversity and heritage. A huge thank you to all of them, without whom our work would not be possible.



2,560 VOLUNTEER HOURS! Our practical nature volunteers, adults and children, have devoted 2,560 hours to create habitats, remove invasive species and support biodiversity across south & west London.



1,032 ATTENDING HERITAGE SITES AND TALKS. Our heritage sites are vibrant hubs of learning and exploration. We open the doors to visitors for events such as lectures, school trips, bespoke visits and our popular plant sale at Kilmorey Mausoleum.



SAVING LOCAL BATS! 332 people have used bat detectors loaned from Habitats & Heritage on bat walks. An excellent way for raising awareness of bats and monitor their populations



1,286 HELPED WITH ENERGY ADVICE! We ran 137 energy cafes, giving advice and energy saving equipment. We distributed Warm Packs and arranged delivery of 400 'deeper intervention' items such as dehumidifiers following consultations at home.



133 COMMUNITY GROUPS SUPPORTED! Habitats & Heritage have supported 133 Friends of Parks and other neighbourhood groups throughout 2024-25, including groups in the Crane Valley across five Boroughs.



565 PEOPLE PICKED LITTER! Throughout the year, 16 groups borrowed our litter-picking equipment to conduct their own clean-ups across Richmond.



BOOSTING BIODIVERSITY! Is also worth celebrating our collaborative efforts with Kingston and Richmond councils on Biodiversity Partnerships. We are committed to assisting councils, private landowners, community groups, and individuals

THANKS TO ALL OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS:

Habitats & Heritage works with a wide range of partners and depends upon them not only for financial support but also for delivering work and embedding the benefits of projects in the long term.

Aurelius Trust
Axel Scheffler
Banijay
Bat Conservation Trust
Benevity donors
Be Richmond
Better Buildings Partnership
BP
Brand Architekts
Cantor Hindson
Cisco
Clorox
Community Energy London
Crane Valley Community Interest Company
Crane Valley Partnership
CREW Energy
Josie Dalli
Department for Business and Trade
D S Smith Charitable Trust
ebay
Edward Stannard
Energy Saving Trust
ETNA Community Centre
Father Thames Trust
Sally Field
Christine L Fluker
Friends of Kneller Gardens
Friends of the River Crane Environment
Groundwork UK
Haymarket Media Group
Historic England
Hounslow Friends of Parks Forum
Idexx
Independent Merton Green Spaces Forum
Phil Kirk
Kingston Environment Forum
Kingston Technology
Kingston University
Kingston Voluntary Action
Let's Go Outside & Learn

London Borough of Hillingdon
London Borough of Hounslow
London Borough of Merton
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
London Friends of Green Spaces Network
May Project Gardens, Merton
Merck Group
Merton Climate Action Group
Merton Friends of the Earth
Merton Tree Wardens
Mortlake and East Sheen Society (MESS)
Multicultural Richmond
National Energy Action
National Lottery Awards for All
National Lottery Community Fund
National Lottery Heritage Fund
Old Deer Park Sports Ground
Parks for London
Paypal Giving donors
People's Postcode Lottery
Pilgrim Trust
Richmond Biodiversity Partnership members
Richmond Council for Voluntary Service (CVS)
Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Surbiton Farmers Market
Superhighways
Thames Landscape Strategy
Thames Water
The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Zoological Society of London

Thanks also to many other individual sponsors, Supporters and donors to our projects and general work. Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who contribute so much time and care to the environment.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The principal sources of funding during the year 2024-25 were: (1) grants awarded to Habitats & Heritage to carry out work which is in accordance with its objects and (2) donations from members of the public through subscription and fund-raising events.

In 2024-25 grants were given by Historic England, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, the Energy Saving Trust and many other donors listed in the Annual Report in this document. The Trustees are very grateful to these organisations and individuals for their support.

Reserves Policy

H&H aims to hold sufficient funds to ensure that Habitats & Heritage can meet its obligations. We aim to build reserves of unrestricted funds sufficient for at least three months of core costs (i.e. other than specific projects) in addition to closing down costs. In 2024-25 the target was £60,000.

Funds in deficit

There were no funds in deficit at the end of the accounting year.

Investment policy and objectives

Habitats & Heritage does not have significant funds to invest in medium or long term. Funds above those needed to deal with day-to-day transactions are kept on bank deposit.

Funds held as custodian for others

Habitats & Heritage acted as an Agent for three community groups, managing incoming and outgoing funds on their behalf. Habitats & Heritage acts in accordance with the direction of the groups, whilst ensuring that the use of the funds is consistent with Habitats & Heritage's charitable purposes and duties. Receipts and disbursements are not recognised as income and expenditure of Habitats & Heritage. Details of the groups and movements of funds are in note 7 to the accounts.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Habitats & Heritage is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

History of Habitats & Heritage

Habitats & Heritage was set up to promote sustainable development mainly in South West London and to foster partnership working. The name *Habitats & Heritage* was adopted by South West London Environment Network (SWLEN), retaining the company and charity numbers and registering changes to the Articles of Association. SWLEN became a registered Company and Charity in 2010-11. The Articles of Association were amended by special resolution on 25th November 2020. In 2020-21 Habitats & Heritage assumed responsibility for all assets and liabilities of Environment Trust, which deregistered as a Company and Charity during 2021-22.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustee Board of Habitats & Heritage is made up of a minimum of five and a maximum of fifteen Trustees. On 31st March 2025 there were nine Trustees.

New Trustees undergo an induction programme to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Annual Review and Business plans, Habitats & Heritage's decision-making process, and its financial performance including the most recent financial statements. During this induction new Trustees meet staff, volunteers and existing Trustees of Habitats & Heritage.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees governs Habitats & Heritage. The Board meets a minimum every two months and has several sub-committees overseeing aspects of the work in more detail. Day to day running of Habitats & Heritage is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer. A number of projects carry out specific activities under the management of a project leader who reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

Related Parties

The Trustees confirm that there were no transactions with related parties during the period.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which Habitats & Heritage is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

The Trustees' strategy is to review the risks that Habitats & Heritage faces on a regular basis and to integrate risk into the strategic and business planning process. It has a risk register which is regularly reviewed by the Board.

DECLARATION

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- For the year ending 31st March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies
- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Hagell', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular stamp.

Ann Hagell, Chair and Trustee

29th October 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HABITATS & HERITAGE

I report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent review

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 Trustees have not met the requirements:

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

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



Name: Dunstanette Kuti, FCCA MCSI

Position: Community Accountant

Community Action Sutton

Granfers Community Centre,

73-79 Oakhill Road,

Sutton, Surrey, SM1 3AA

Date: 14/11/25

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31st March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024/25 Total Funds £	2023/24 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Investment income	3	3,001		3,001	1,304
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Activities for generating funds					
Grants and contracts	4		623,159	623,159	466,267
Donations and legacies		30,554	28,160	58,714	20,799
Gift aid		106	6,295	6,401	1,083
Fund-raising events and items for sale		33,266		33,266	26,564
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		66,927	657,614	724,541	516,017
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities					
Promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public principally in South West London	5	46,576	470,209	516,785	396,523
Cost of generating funds		10,137		10,137	5,796
				0	0
Support costs		24,109	8,375	32,485	35,008
				0	0
Governance costs		2,293		2,293	1,425
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		83,115	478,584	561,699	438,752
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE					
Before transfer		-16,188	179,030	162,842	77,265
Gross transfer between funds	6	31,583	-31,583		
Net incoming/outgoing resources		15,395	147,447	162,842	77,265
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total H&H funds brought forward		26,738	190,845	217,583	140,318
Funds held as Custodian or Agent	7		8,814	8,814	10,366
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		42,133	347,106	389,239	227,949

Balance sheet at 31 March 2025

	£	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31/3/2025 Total funds	31/3/2024 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		8	0		0	2,135
CURRENT ASSETS					0	
Investment and leases		9	10		10	10
Debtors and prepayments		10	2,820		2,820	2,825
Cash at bank			43,271	483,990	527,261	229,609
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS			46,101	483,990	530,091	232,444
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		11	3,968	7,166	11,134	6,630
Deferred income				129,718	129,718	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES			3,968	136,884	140,852	6,630
NET CURRENT ASSETS			42,133	347,106	389,239	225,814
NET TOTAL ASSETS			42,133	347,106	389,239	227,949
FUNDS						
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			42,133		42,133	26,738
RESTRICTED FUNDS				338,292	338,292	190,845
FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN OR AGENT		7		8,814	8,814	10,366
TOTAL FUNDS			42,133	347,106	389,239	227,949

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The Trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with the 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 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102). The company therefore claims exemption from preparing a cash flow statement.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 29th October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Ann Hagell
Chair & Trustee



Sabir Mughal
Treasurer

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019).

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Funds held as Custodian or Agent are not accounted as charitable income (see note 7).

Resources expended

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

Assets worth more than £2,500 are capitalised when future economic benefits will flow to Habitats & Heritage beyond the end date of an accounting period and that the cost of the item can be measured reliably. See also note 8.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

Funds held as Custodian or Agent are not included in the Charitable Funds of Habitats & Heritage. See Note 7 below.

Funds are detailed by name in 'Movement in Funds' on page 25

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' Expenses

No Trustees were paid expenses during the year.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024/25	2023/24
Bank account interest	£ 3,001	£ 1,304

4. INCOMING FUNDS

Grants and Contracts	2024/25	2023/24
Total grants	£ 623,159	£ 466,267

The two largest grants in 2023/24 were:

- £189,857 from London Borough of Richmond upon Thames for restoration works to Grove Gardens Chapel. Other grants and restricted donations for the restoration brought total income of £212,218, of which £83,145 was expended or transferred (see Movement in Funds, below)

- £76,705 from the London Borough of Hounslow for Take Me To The River, of which £68,315 was expended or transferred (see Movement in Funds, below)

5. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Year	Gross Wages and Salaries £	Employer's National Insurance £	Employer's Contributions to Pensions (NEST) £	Total Before NI Relief £
2024/25	350,497	30,403	7,830	388,730
2023/24	271,235	21,275	5,671	298,180

Small employer's relief on employer's national insurance contributions was claimed. The total liability was £5,000 less than **Total Before NI Relief** above.

NEST Pensions makes no charge to Employers. Employees pay 1.8% charge on every contribution paid into their pot and 0.3% annual management charge on the total value of their pot each year.

No other forms of employee benefits were made.

Staff numbers	2024/25	2023/24
Average headcount	14.5	13
Full time equivalent	11	9.4

Consultancy and payments to other organisations, £	2024/25	2023/24
Energy projects	9,422	43,990
Chapel Restoration	48,453	3,860
River Crane conservation	27,194	4,440
Local parks conservation	15,779	2,211
Interim CEO	-	26,410
Other	-	240
TOTAL	100,848	81,151

6. TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

Net transfers from Restricted to Unrestricted Funds were £31,583, as detailed in Movement of Funds table p 24. Reasons for transfers were: agreed Full Cost Recovery with funders; supporting deficit of Restricted Fund; and surplus funds from projects completed to satisfaction of funders.

7. FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN OR AGENT

Funds were held on behalf of five community groups and expended in accordance with Habitats & Heritage's charitable objectives. No remuneration was made from these funds to the groups or to Habitats and Heritage's committee members, Trustees or staff.

£	OPENING BALANCE 1/4/2024	INCOMING RESOURCES	RESOURCES EXPENDED	TRANSFER OF FUNDS	MOVEMENT IN YEAR	CLOSING BALANCE 31/3/2025
FRIENDS OF HATTON FIELDS	7,141	3,522	-8,405	0	-4,883	2,257
FRIENDS OF HAMPTON HEATH	267	2,509	0	0	2,509	2,776
FRIENDS OF HATHEROP & OAK AVENUE	2,958	1,040	-845	0	195	3,153
FRIENDS OF INWOOD PARK HOUNSLOW	0	7,000	-7,000	0	0	0
FRIENDS OF NORTH SHEEN RECREATION GROUND	0	629	0	0	629	629
TOTAL CUSTODIAN FUNDS HELD	10,366	14,699	-16,250	0	-1,551	8,815

8. FIXED ASSETS

Art works were depreciated to zero as fixed assets because their value is estimated to be less than the capitalisation value of £2,500

9. INVESTMENT AND LEASES

The long term lease of Grove Gardens Chapel is valued at £10.

10. DEBTORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024/25		2023/24	
Prepayments	£	2,820	£	2,825
Total	£	2,820	£	2,825

11. CREDITORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024/25		2023/24	
Independent Examination Fee	£	2,125	£	1,425
Deferred Income	£	129,718	£	0
Other creditors	£	9,009	£	5,205
Total	£	140,852	£	6,630

Deferred income: grant remittances from National Lottery Heritage Fund, £122,968 and from R B Kingston, £6,750, were received in March 2025 to be spent on projects beginning in 2025/26.

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

£	OPENING BALANCE 1/4/2024	INCOMING RESOURCES	RESOURCES EXPENDED	TRANSFER OF FUNDS	MOVEMENT IN YEAR	CLOSING BALANCE 31/3/2025
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
FIXED ASSETS: UNRESTRICTED	2,135	0	-2,135	0	-2,135	0
SHARES & LEASE: UNRESTRICTED	10	0	0	0	0	10
GENERAL FUNDS: UNRESTRICTED	16,222	52,578	-80,784	41,583	13,377	29,599
CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING	8,371	14,348	-196	-10,000	4,152	12,523
UNRESTRICTED Total	26,738	66,926	-83,115	31,583	15,394	42,133
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
RICHMOND PARKS	2,292	58,555	-46,805	-9,000	2,750	5,043
LBRuT CLIMATE ACTION ETC	0	500	-345	0	155	155
HOUNSLOW PARKS	2,017	9,040	-5,997	-900	2,143	4,160
DONKEY WOOD AND BRAZIL MILL	3,153	0	0	0	0	3,153
BURTON'S TOMB	14,742	49,133	-52,679	-7,614	-11,160	3,582
HISTORIC ENGLAND: CAPACITY	736	64,410	-58,493	-4,000	1,917	2,653
KEW HA-HA	0	21,219	-12,158	11,001	20,062	20,062
GREEN HUBS POSTCODE LOTTERY	4,737	0	-1,751	0	-1,751	2,987
VINEYARD PASSAGE BURIAL GROUND	4,299	0	-1,010	0	-1,010	3,289
GROVE GARDENS CHAPEL UPKEEP	117	100	-4,519	4,302	-117	0
MARLOW CRESCENT	9,500	0	0	0	0	9,500
LBRuT GARDEN SURVEY	4,695	0	-207	0	-207	4,488
MOATED MANOR CO-OP FUNDS	1,667	0	0	0	0	1,667
KINGSTON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	500	0	0	0	0	500
SURBITON STREAM THAMES WATER	2,500	0	-480	0	-480	2,020
ST LEONARDS COURT AIR RAID SHELTER	2,496	720	0	0	720	3,216
GREEN HUBS LBRuT	16,793	0	-3,833	-8,447	-12,280	4,514
D S SMITH	3,000	0	0	0	0	3,000
EST / SWLEAP ENERGY	5,969	826	-6,381	-414	-5,969	0
GROVE GARDENS CHAPEL RESTORATION	69,056	212,218	-69,920	-13,225	129,074	198,130
GRIMWOOD ROAD	0	0	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
HOUNSLOW TAKE ME TO THE RIVER	0	76,705	-59,815	-8,500	8,389	8,389
TLS REWILDING ARCADIA	1,570	46,644	-40,370	-3,500	2,774	4,344
SWC CRANE	9,864	38,785	-46,244	0	-7,459	2,405
KINGSTON BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN (KBAP)	700	19,433	-8,114	-1,200	10,119	10,819
L B MERTON	250	6,117	-3,410	0	2,707	2,957
BATTING FOR BATS	1,150	0	0	0	0	1,150
WARREN GARDENS	1,936	0	-392	0	-392	1,543
AWARDS FOR ALL YOUTH VOLUNTEERING	5,132	19,926	-8,882	-1,500	9,544	14,677
L B RICHMOND ENERGY 2023	4,443	0	-4,276	-166	-4,443	0
RPLC ENERGY	13,852	0	-13,662	-190	-13,852	0
HUBBUB - SUTTON	3,677	0	0	0	0	3,677
SGN ENERGY	0	27,593	-26,017	-1,229	347	347
BAZALGETTE'S MAUSOLEUM	0	3,400	-575	0	2,825	2,825
GRANTS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS	0	2,000	-2,000	0	0	0
KILMOREY MAUSOLEUM	0	290	-248	3,000	3,042	3,042
RESTRICTED Total	190,845	657,614	-478,584	-31,583	147,447	338,292
FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN OR AGENT	10,366	14,699	-16,250	0	-1,551	8,815
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	227,949	739,239	-577,949	0	162,090	389,239

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1 APRIL 2024 – 31 MARCH 2025

Detailed statement of financial activities £	2024/25 Unrestricted funds	2024/25 Restricted funds	2024/25 All funds	2023/24 Total
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Investment Income				
Bank interest	3,001		3,001	1,304
Activities for generating funds			-	-
Grants and contracts	-	623,159	623,159	466,267
Donations and legacies	30,554	28,160	58,714	20,799
Gift Aid	106	6,295	6,401	1,083
Items for sale	3,244	-	3,244	
Fundraising events	30,022	-	30,022	26,564
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	66,927	657,614	724,541	516,017
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable Activities				
Salaries and NI Costs	44,727	332,614	377,340	287,119
Consultancy and grants given	-	100,848	100,848	81,151
Project purchases and miscellaneous costs	958	31,148	32,106	24,588
Subscriptions	891	225	1,116	1,904
Travel, subsistence and training		5,374	5,374	1,761
Sundry project costs				-
Total Charitable Activities	46,576	470,209	516,785	396,523
Support Costs				-
Salaries allocated to support costs	6,390		6,390	6,061
Office Costs	4,875	1,491	6,367	7,808
Insurance	2,112	2,780	4,892	4,890
Rent	7,620	2,662	10,282	7,967
Telephone and internet	352	68	420	888
Travel, subsistence and training	877	1,309	2,187	4,181
Website and IT	1,883	65	1,948	3,213
Total Support Costs	24,109	8,375	32,484	35,008
Cost of Generating Funds				
Fund raising costs	10,137	-	10,137	5,796
Total Cost of Generating Funds	10,137	-	10,137	5,796
Governance Costs				-
Independent Examiner's Fees	2,125		2,125	1,425
Filing and other governance	168		168	
Total Governance Costs	2,293	-	2,293	1,425
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	83,115	478,584	561,699	438,752
Net Income before Fund Transfers	-16,188	179,030	162,842	77,265
Fund Transfers	31,583	-31,583		
Net Income / Expenditure after Fund Transfers	15,395	147,447	162,842	77,265