SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1144976

Details

Other names	SNCG
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07523792
Registered	2011-12-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Yewcroft Ave (behind John M centre) Scotswood Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear N15 6TU
Phone	0191275 0000
Email	office@sncg.org.uk
Website	www.scotswoodgarden.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ("THE OBJECTS") ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING:- (1) TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A PUBLIC GARDEN OR GARDENS FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF TYNE AND WEAR AND OTHERS IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT IF IMRPOVING CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE SAID INHABITANTS; AND (2) TO ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DIMENTIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY.

Activities: Based in the grounds of the John Marley Centre, in Scotswood, the charity offers a wide range of activities linked to sustainability issues and improving mental health and well-being. The programmes include: educational workshops, youth groups, older peoples services, volunteering and training. The charity is involved with a range of environmental and community based projects within the area.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Durham
- Gateshead
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£641,011	£593,129	£614,300	14
2024-03-31	£722,901	£636,202	£566,418	15
2023-03-31	£655,360	£521,824	£479,719	21
2022-03-31	£577,993	£466,848	£346,184	10
2021-03-31	£485,417	£397,585	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Helen McStravick	Chair	2023-06-14
Anthony William Milan		2023-06-14
Christopher Warburton-Brown		2022-02-02
Dr Emily Clough		2023-06-14
Miles John Henderson		2020-01-29
STEPHANIE COLE		2015-06-23
Shahid Rasul		2023-06-14

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1144976

Accounts

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

COMPANY NUMBER: 07523792 (ENGLAND & WALES)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1144976

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Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Chair's Comments

Helen McStravick, Chair

As Chair of Scotswood Natural Community Garden, it is my pleasure to present the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025. Over the past 12 months, our community garden has continued to be a place of growth, connection and wellbeing — a space where people, nature and opportunity come together to create positive and lasting impact.

This year has seen the Garden strengthen its role as a vibrant community hub, welcoming visitors of all ages and backgrounds to learn, to heal and to be inspired by nature. Last summer showed us how national issues can affect us but I was very proud of how the team seemed to have worked even harder to ensure that everyone that visits us is treated with respect and dignity. They yet again showed us what makes the Gardens such an essential part of the community.

We have deepened our work in environmental education, wellbeing services and volunteer development, all grounded in our mission **to inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health and wellbeing**

Key highlights this year include:

- Continued delivery of our core programmes — from Forest School and youth activities, through to adult wellbeing sessions and community events.
- Progress in securing funding and planning for our **new eco-building**, which will enhance accessibility and broaden our programme offer.
- Expanded partnerships with local organisations, enabling more people to benefit from nature-based learning and support.
- Ongoing work embedding inclusion, equity and environmental sustainability across everything we do.

The coming year will be one of 30th anniversary celebrations and opening and using our new building. We are looking to protect our income by developing our business opportunities, and if anyone has tried our jams or honey this year it's important as many people as possible benefit from these delicious spreads!

The move should bring us a lot of new opportunities and none of this would be possible without the dedication of our **staff team, volunteers, funders and supporters** whose energy and creativity bring Scotswood Garden to life every day. I am profoundly grateful for their commitment and for the trust placed in us by our community.

Looking forward, we remain ambitious in our vision: to nurture a garden that not only enriches biodiversity but also strengthens community resilience, belonging and opportunity for all.

Thank you for your interest, support and shared belief in the power of this unique place.

Helen

Company Information

Company Number: 07523792 (England and Wales)

Status: The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1

Charity Registration Number: 1144976

Registered Address: Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 6TU

Patrons

Ed Tyler and Rob Higgins

Trustees/Directors at 31st March 2025

Helen McStravick Chair

Stephanie Cole Deputy Chair

Miles Henderson Treasurer

Chris Warburton-Brown Secretary

Emily Clough

Anthony Milan

Shahid Rasul

2024/25 Staff

Karen Dobson Chief Executive Officer

Farah Kurji Development Manager

Claire Forman Business Development Officer

Ann Stafford Office & Finance Administrator

Harriet Menter Education Manager

Rosie Tyson Education Officer

Kay Stott Education Officer

Umara Shahid Education Officer

Alice Holliday Education Officer

Nicky Sargeant Play & Youth Manager

Amber Cooperthwaite Youth Worker

Heather Hewitt Assistant Youth Worker

Leanne Defty Adult Wellbeing Manager

Jenny Hopper Adult Wellbeing Officer

Sean Clay Garden & Community Manager

Mike Whatmore Plant Nursery Garden Officer

Claire Metcalfe Plant Nursery Garden Assistant

Andrew Downey Assistant Garden Officer

We also employ a number of sessional staff for volunteer, youth and education sessions.

Scotswood Natural Community Garden was established:

- To provide and maintain a public garden or gardens for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the northeast region and others in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants:

- To advance knowledge and understanding of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability.

Mission & Values

Mission

To inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health & wellbeing.

Values

- We listen to the people in our community using their views to plan and deliver our work.
- We treat people with dignity and respect.
- We ensure equality of opportunity and access.

Strategic Objectives

- To maintain the community garden for the benefit of the wider community and provide a haven for native flora and fauna to flourish.
- To improve the health, wellbeing and fitness of the wider community.
- To support and enable people to gain new skills and knowledge and to develop their creativity.
- To develop a cohesive and sustainable community in Scotswood.
- To educate people about how to better live sustainably.
- To maintain long term sustainability of Scotswood Natural Community Garden.

Core Strands of Work 2024/25

- Adult Volunteering and Training
- Adult Wellbeing Services
- Play & Youth Programme
- Education & Forest Schools Programme
- Community Events
- Sticky Business and Canny Plants

Eco Building

We have seen fantastic progress with our new eco extension.

This year saw the site cabin craned onto site and work began on preparing the shipping containers that will become our building extension.

The ceiling on the old building was taken down and the flat roof over the containers built. We have been excited to see the eco features being incorporated into the new build including insulation made from recycled bottles and water proofing from sheep's lanolin.

Next year and beyond

The building work is expected to be finished in December 2025 and staff and volunteers will move in during January 2026.

The building will be officially unveiled to the public and to funders at our 2026 Blossom Day event which will also mark the end of our 30th birthday celebrations. Keep an eye on our social media for more details of the event and how to book.

Volunteering & Training Programme

Our well-established Growing Together project continues to welcome a wonderfully diverse mix of people to our garden volunteer team, including many refugees and people seeking asylum who were introduced to the Garden by a Linkworker from West End Refugee Service.

We have delivered 364 volunteering sessions with 92 different volunteers attending, contributing an astounding 8280 hours of work. The garden truly could not continue to flourish without the team's incredible dedication and skill across the whole year.

As well as all the ongoing sowing, weeding, planting, harvesting, sweeping, fixing, puddling, pruning, picking and digging, the team have continued work developing our Forest Garden areas with some major tree work to open up more of the garden. Older fruit bushes and hedges were hard pruned and new planting of some areas undertaken, including new wildflower areas around our ponds. The winter months saw us working on improving paths and fencing around the garden to improve accessibility.

Our honey bees continue to thrive under the expert care of our staff and volunteers.

This year our volunteers have had the opportunity to take part in deaf awareness training and refugee awareness training, both of which were popular and valuable sessions.

Volunteer feedback:

'When I come to the garden I feel at home. I feel calm. It takes me back to the country where I grew up. It really is my happy place.'

'It helps with my wellbeing and keeps my mind active - I love gardening'

'I enjoy the work, learning new things is great. I have learnt all about hens. It's good for my mental health too and I enjoy seeing my friends here'

'Volunteering in the garden gives me confidence. I like socialising, learning different things about gardening and sharing ideas with mates from different countries of the world'

Next year and beyond

We will continue our phased redevelopment of the Forest Garden with further new planting and increased fruit production. The main summer flowering meadow will be reseeded in the autumn to increase biodiversity. We plan to develop new outdoor seating and add a living roof to the building early in 2026.

Canny Plants

The nursery has continued to grow pollinator-friendly perennial plants, using organic methods, in peat-free compost and using recycled pots, maintaining our environmental ethos.
During the growing period (Mar-Oct), the nursery has delivered sessions to just over 50 individuals, across one dedicated volunteer day per week specifically geared towards plant propagation, and at least one more session per week engaging in all tasks associated with the nursery's management: Watering, plant propagation, plant maintenance, stock checks, and assisting with movement of plants for delivery.

The volunteers have transformed the area outside of the polytunnel quad for plant storage and display, using spare pallets and surplus wood.

Sales have improved this year, with a 60% increase on last year. The Nursery won DEFRA's 2025 Bees Needs Community Champion Award in June, for helping to improve local biodiversity.

The nursery was funded to grow and distribute 5000 plants to local schools and other community organisations which we successfully completed in Mar 2025, taking the total number of plants donated since the nursery's inception to approximately 13,000, a massive win for local biodiversity. One of nursery's largest recipients of plants, Prudhoe Space for Nature, officially opened its doors to the community on the 20th of September.

Partnerships through **Newcastle's Nature Network** have continued to grow

To date, City parks have received 9000 plants. Gosforth Nature reserve received nearly 3000 -all of which are British natives grown with the specific intention of increasing local butterfly and moth populations. This project is due to finish in Spring 2026.

Pots have also been returned to us for re-use, saving the nursery nearly £2000 this year, and diverting 300kg of plastic away from recycling centres/landfill.

The nursery has also worked alongside the garden's Education Team, on an on-going project, to supply plants to local schools for their rain gardens.

The first instalment of the NOCN-accredited Level 3 course in Horticulture and Plantsmanship finished in January. Nine people successfully completed the course.

"There's a lack of gardening courses in the North East, so to find this course at this level has been great."

"I really enjoyed how comprehensive the course materials were, and the endless opportunities to take advantage of the tutor's knowledge and practical skills."

Next Year and Beyond

- We aim to secure further funding to grow more plants to improve local biodiversity.
- Identifying suppliers that will buy plants from us and build strategic partnerships to guarantee income for 2026.
- Exploring the potential for weekend opening for sales
- Develop and deliver both short and longer horticulture courses

Sticky Business

In 2024–25, Sticky Business utilised over a ton of fresh fruit and vegetables grown at Scotswood Garden to produce 1,476 delicious preserves, 1,157 of which found their way into happy homes. Our top sellers were Summer Fruit Jam, Glutney Chutney, and Elderflower Cordial.

Beyond making tasty treats, Sticky Business offers volunteers hands-on experience in food production, packaging, and sales, a chance to learn something new and be part of something truly rewarding.

Next Year and Beyond

Looking ahead, we're excited to create a special limited edition preserve to celebrate the garden's 30th anniversary. We plan to increase overall production, grow and harvest more produce right here in the garden, and make the most of hedgerow fruits.

Sales will also reach further, both directly from the garden and through new stockists, helping Sticky Business continue to grow while providing meaningful opportunities for everyone involved.

Adult Wellbeing Services

The Adult Wellbeing programme consists of **Elderberries (Late Bloomers, Gardening for Dementia, supported volunteering, outreach and nature-based sessions) and Woodland Wellbeing**.

The team have worked hard to ensure the successful delivery of a quality and inclusive programme for another year and have supported 70 people over 414 different sessions to use our garden as a tool to engage with and have a positive effect on their wellbeing.

This year, sessions have included: a trip to Gosforth Nature Reserve, planting hanging baskets, cooking with wildflowers, natural dyeing, making bouquets, willow weaving, ceramics, garden design, gentle movement, mindfulness and too many crafts to count! This is in addition to all the supported volunteering activities associated with maintaining the garden alongside the Growing Together volunteer team.

Being awarded the **Green Care Quality Mark** from Social Farms and Gardens has been a huge achievement this year. This is a quality assurance accreditation recognising that we meet safety and professional standards in our services. Achieving this validates the large amount of work that happens behind the scenes and demonstrates to stakeholders that we are safe, caring and professional in what we do.

Some other highlights of this year include: completing Deaf Awareness training with Deaf Awareness NE where we learned some simple signs that we can use in the garden. We celebrated Older People's Day with a wonderful morning of peace and mindfulness in the safe spaces of our woodland and we were fortunate enough to have another 2 students complete an Occupational Therapy placement with us. Their legacy is the calming corner in the hub nicknamed 'The Hide', which they worked with group participants to create.

The Adult Wellbeing programmes have used the natural environment of the garden to engage adults in our community with the following beneficial outcomes:

- People will have improved wellbeing and confidence.
- Peer support networks across our community are supported.
- Social connections are developed and maintained.
- People gain new knowledge of heritage, the natural environment and gardening.

In our monitoring of these outcomes, the majority of people responded positively when asked about how their experience of participating in sessions at the garden impacted on these things. This is supported by the feedback we have been given over the year.

"I find these sessions very therapeutic. The garden is so calming, and the people are friendly. It doesn't matter that I'm a refugee. Nobody thinks of me that way, I'm just a person." Woodland Wellbeing participant

"I only come because it's not hard work, I like gardening so it's not hard"
Gardening for dementia participant in response to thanks for their hard work in the session.

"I struggle with social anxiety. Even though I was shown around beforehand and told what to expect, I was still worried before I came to the sessions for the first time. But everyone has been so welcoming, and they just take you as you are, which is rare to find elsewhere. It's nice to see such a diverse range of people all doing something, and laughing together"

Next year and beyond:

The adult wellbeing team will continue to deliver a broad range of wellbeing support for adults while continuing to work on building inclusivity and diversity.
The Late Bloomers group's hard work this year will come to fruition at Harrogate Flower Show where they will exhibit their Creative Border in the April show. A team of staff and volunteers will travel there to build the border where it will be judged and admired by thousands of the show's visitors from all over the country. Good luck Late Bloomers!
A new Adult Forum will make it easier for service users to have their voice heard by the trustees and senior management team.

Education & Forest Schools

School Visits and Watery West End

Over the past year we have delivered 129 education nature-based sessions which were attended by **2010 children** along with 268 accompanying adults. Sessions are open to children from nursery up to year 6, inclusive of specialist provision schools.

Sessions are delivered by our fantastic team of staff and volunteers and cover a wide range of nature related topics.

For the last 6 years we have worked closely with Excelsior Academy Primary school which is very local to the garden. Each class enjoys six visits to the garden every year. This enables them to build confidence, resilience in all weathers and an appreciation of the natural world throughout their Primary School career. We support them in their curriculum learning and also enable them to experience a range of Forest School activities which enhance team building, skill acquisition , exploration and other essential life skills. We have seen a remarkable impact from this sustained support. So many children comment that the Wednesday afternoon sessions are the favourite part of their week. It gives every child the chance to achieve regardless of their academic ability. For the school staff it is an opportunity to interact with their class in a more relaxed manner, enabling them to enjoy invaluable 1:1 conversations to build confidence and understanding in a very different environment to the classroom.

“This is my favourite bit, just exploring the secret world.”

"Even my most squeamish of children had a go at catching a bug. Many children would remind each other to stay on the paths so they don’t disturb a creatures home."- Teacher

All our sessions continue to include some play time in the woodland, which is a favourite with the children, allowing them to explore freely and immerse themselves fully in the natural environment.

This year we changed the focus of our programme to share information about rain gardens, a sustainable way of mitigating the impact of the increasing extreme weather events, in this case, particularly heavy rainfall. This is leading to waterlogging on many school sites. Rain gardens redirect the flow, slow the time it takes for water to reach rivers reducing flooding, and increase biodiversity. We took information about rain gardens to several events across the city and worked with 5 local schools and a local charity to develop their grounds to better support wildlife and to cope with increasingly heavy rainfall with the installation of wildlife gardens or rain gardens. We worked with postgraduate students from Northumbria to design one of the gardens and provide educational materials including a video that can be seen here: https://scotswoodgarden.org.uk/learn/watery-west-end-nature-rescue-tasks

Comments from Teachers:

"Really fun, amazing, really nice, love it, brilliant, marvellous etc. etc." The children don't always get to go to places with their families. They've loved it - thank you. "

They absolutely loved it and have gone home telling grown ups about the "magic secret garden!"

Y2 are so gentle with minibeasts that they find at school as they've learnt how to treat them at Scotswood Garden last year. "

Comments from Children:

"It's very exciting drawing real life maps."

"I loved finding a centipede and watching how fast it moved"

"My favourite bit was climbing up the tree with the apples and sliding down it!"

Several local schools and a nursery use the garden on a weekly basis to deliver their own activities and ensure their pupils have access to the rich learning environment the garden offers.

Schools of Sanctuary: Cultivating Solidarity

We have continued to develop our Schools of Sanctuary offer, engaging with schools across the city. This year we recruited 10 people who are refugees and asylum seekers to work as advisors on the project. The advisors completed our level 1 forest school accredited training, and worked with colleagues to plan and deliver 12 sessions for 202 children from schools that are becoming Schools of Sanctuary. Sessions focused on how children could make other children from different backgrounds, including refugees and asylum seekers, feel welcome when they joined their school.

Our advisors also represented us at city wide meetings such as the Sanctuary forums.

"This experience has greatly enriched me both professionally and personally. I have gained a better understanding of how important it is to create a supportive environment for people, especially for children. I have also learned new approaches, methods of teaching, and ways to engage children in the learning process." Sanctuary Advisor

"This experience has really changed how I see the world. It taught me important lessons about kindness and understanding. I learned to appreciate the little things in life and to be more patient with myself and others. Facing challenges helped me grow stronger and more resilient. Now, I feel more connected to those around me, and I try to spread positivity wherever I go. Overall, this experience has made me a better person and given me a deeper sense of purpose." Sanctuary Advisor

Breeze Forest School Project, Research and Network

This year we continued to support our network of schools and settings that are using forest school to support the emotional wellbeing of children and young people. We organised CPD sessions and network meetings throughout the year.

Our education officer also worked closely with 3 specialist schools working with children and young people with special educational needs, and social, emotional and mental health needs. Working with school staff to plan, deliver and evaluate weekly sessions for 2 terms with each school. Our education manager presented our work at two national conferences including the inaugural Forest School Research symposium at Liverpool University.

"The impact of the Breeze Project on our pupils has been profound and transformative. The Forest School sessions have facilitated better communication and social interactions among our pupils. They have developed stronger relationships with their peers and staff. These relationships have been beneficial for all of school life and not just for the forest school sessions. The chance to play and to 'be' has been life changing for these pupils. They have been learning how to initiate play with each other and have been learning their own boundaries. Play has produced friendship, pride and physical exercise for pupils that are known to sit alone on technology.

Many of our students have expressed how the natural setting of the Forest School has had a calming effect on them. This connection to nature has not only enhanced their wellbeing but also sparked a newfound interest and appreciation for the environment.

The successes and positive experiences our students have had in the Forest School have contributed to a stronger sense of self and increased confidence. They have discovered new interests and skills, which has been incredibly rewarding to see".

Teacher from one of our partner schools.

Forest School Training

We continue to deliver high quality forest school training. This year we ran two level 1 courses and two level 3 courses. We have increased the number of trainees on the courses, which allows us to continue to offer 2 half price places on all courses for people on low income, prioritising disabled people and people of colour. We completed the process of becoming a Forest School Association endorsed trainer. We have started organising regular skillshares for our forest school alumni to help people keep in touch and keep skills up to date.

Comments from feedback forms:

"In my 27 years of being in education this course has had the biggest impact on both my personal life and the young people I work with. Thank you". Level 3 participant.

Feedback from endorsed trainer panel:

"We unanimously agree that Harriet robustly meets the scheme's benchmarks. She demonstrates a deep understanding of and commitment to the Forest School ethos and principles, incorporating them thoughtfully into her training practice and supporting her students to do the same. Harriet takes a careful, considered approach to her training, maintaining high standards and a rigorous assessment process. Much of what she shared suggests that she is a reflective practitioner, regularly refining her methods to ensure the best experience for her learners. She also places great emphasis on community, nature connection, inclusion and fostering longer-term relationships with her learners by hosting annual get-togethers."

Play & Youth Programme

During 2024-25 we continued to deliver our 5 popular groups with 284 children, young people, parents and carers participating in 204 sessions throughout the year:

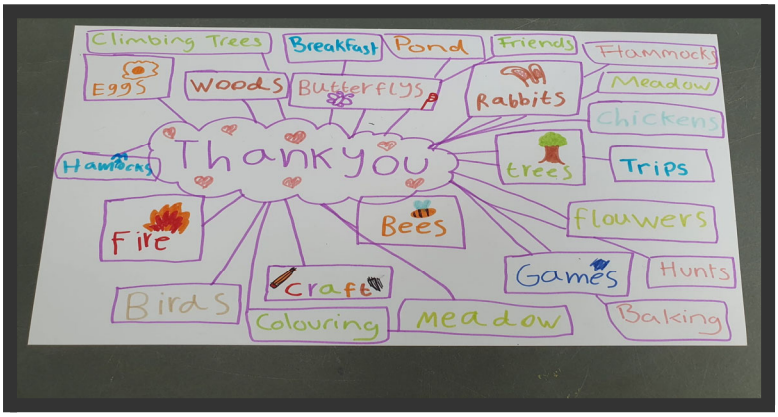
Early Explorers for pre-school and home educated children and their carers

Art & Music Garden for families, providing opportunities for children with additional needs to play alongside their non-disabled peers

Nature Rangers for 6-9 year olds,

Adventure Rangers for 10-13 year olds and

Nightshade Rangers for 13-18 year olds.



In line with Scotswood Garden's mission, our Play & Youth work programmes are all designed with five aspects in mind:

Feel more Connected to others and nature

Be more active and embrace play

Eat more healthily with access to food, trying new things and developing cooking skills

Take Pride in our achievements by creating, doing and learning

Build better friendships and address bullying and unhealthy relationships

One of our Adventure Rangers joined us when she moved into foster care with a local family. Whilst chatting over our shared meal she said,

"I love it here, it's like a second family to me. I feel at one when I'm in the woods".

Alongside our weekly sessions we have offered opportunities for young people to build skills and confidence to become more employable and more active members of our communities:

11 Young Volunteers helped to deliver activities and events at Scotswood Garden and in the wider community. They designed and made new family fun games for fundraising at Apple Day and Winter Wonderland.

13 young people have been actively working toward Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, with 5 completing Bronze and 1 completing Silver.

8 of our Nightshade Rangers completed a Level 2 Food Hygiene qualification.

Our Adventure Rangers helped to plant and nurture seeds as part of the regional Seeds2Trees scheme. Arts Connect and Bared Toed Company brought live music and aerial rigs to the garden for family specials.

We have also ventured out on trips:

70 children, carers and Young Volunteers joined as at Beach Connect, our annual partnership with Arts Connect.

The Burnlaw Centre kindly invited us to join them for wildlife spotting in the North Pennines and storytelling with Malcolm Green.

Our Nature & Adventure Rangers learned about birds and trees and the Natural History Society of Northumbria's Gosforth Nature Reserve.

Northern Stage provided us with subsidised tickets to see A Christmas Carol and the Nightshade Rangers used funds they had raised to go on a pool & darts Christmas trip.

As always, we enjoyed some time in our local green space Denton Dene and contributed to litter picking and wildlife recording on iNaturalist.

One of our parents said *"I genuinely value the organisers who put so much effort into making each week eventful and fun for the children. My children have learnt a lot about nature and can value its uniqueness and fragility."*

Our staff continued their professional development with members of the team broadening their knowledge with Youth Mental Health First Aid, Level 2 and Level 3 Youth Work Practice and Level 3 Forest School Leader.

Next year and beyond

We plan to continue to deliver these 5 opportunities each week to engage with nature while developing skills, growing confidence and cultivating connections. Creativity and play are at the heart of what we do, with adults and teens enjoying games in the garden as much as the young ones.

Our Nightshade Rangers will continue to prepare for the future with an accredited first aid course, more Young Volunteering opportunities and training, and further Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, including more progressions to Silver and Gold. And of course, more pizza pockets cooked on the fire!

Outreach, Community & Events

The Pantry

The Pantry rescued and redistributed 6.7 tonnes of food that would otherwise have gone to landfill—4.2 tonnes of chilled, ambient, and fresh foods, plus 2.5 tonnes of frozen items. On average, 172 customers visited each month. Youth groups were particularly fond of potatoes, cucumbers, and pizzas, while volunteers reached for hummus, bananas, and pizzas. Runner beans stayed at the bottom of the popularity chart for the second-year running!

Next Year and Beyond

Our focus remains on making rescued food even more accessible to our community. We'll also look for new ways to connect with local groups and volunteers, ensuring the Pantry continues to have a positive impact on our community.

Community Fun Days

Four popular environmental community events were held this year from the garden and community hub. There was a total of over a thousand visitors across the 4 events, including groups from West End Refugee Service and Project for Change. On Blossom Day we met the hens, followed a hen trail, made kites, swung in hammocks and went bug hunting in the woods.

At our fun-packed summer fun day in July people enjoyed a dragonfly trail and crafts, bubble-making on the meadow, laughing yoga, a smoothie bike and bug identification with the National History Society of Northumberland.

Apple Day saw more apple fun including the ever-popular pancake making around the fire. Weather warnings sadly meant that our outdoor Winter Wonderland had to be moved indoors at the last minute because of a severe weather warning but thanks to quick-thinking and hard work of Nicky and the team, Santa and his elves found a new and warmer home in our community hub.

A massive THANK YOU to almost 50 volunteers who gave up their weekends to make our community events such a success and enjoyed by all.

Principle sources of funds

Our main sources of funding are governmental, trust funds and increasingly earned income from services.

Funders

We are very grateful for support from all our funders - they include:

- Tudor Trust
- Henry Smith Charity
- Community Ownership Fund
- Swire Trust
- Neighbourly
- Spacehive
- Rothley Trust
- HCR Hewitson
- The Clothworkers Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Wolfson Foundation
- Tudor Trust
- Community Foundation Tyne & Wear, the Ron & Louise Fund
- Connected Voice
- LNER
- Species Survival Fund
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- Plattern Family Trust
- Wellbank Foundation
- William Leech Charity
- Womble Bond DIckinson
- Community Foundation Tyne & Wear, Wellesley Trust
- Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear Curtin Parp Fund
- Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
- Northumbrian Water
- Society of the Holy Jesus Child
- Shears Foundation
- Newcastle University
- Karbon Homes
- County Durham Community Foundation
- National Lottery Community Fund
- HadrianTrust
- Prime Fund
- Kellett Fund at the Community Foundation
- Pargiter Trust
- Doyly Carte Charitable Trust
- The 29th May 1961 Trust
- Bentley Life Chances
- Charles Lewis Foundation
- Groundwork UK
- Tesco Stronger Starts Community Grant
- #I Will Fund
- Community Foundation Tyne & Wear, George & Peggy Fund
- John Lewis Foundation
- Sir James Knott Charitable Trust
- Arts Connect
- Hays Travel Foundation
- Emmerton Christy
- Community Foundation of Northumberland
- Well Newcastle Gateshead
- BBC Children in Need
- Benwell & Scotswood Ward
- Hadrian Trust
- PCC Northumbria
- BA & Local Giving
- Hilden Trust
- Aviva Crowdfunder
- Ringtons Fund
- Heritage Lottery Fund

Reserves Policy and Investment Performance

The trustee's policy is to maintain reserves to ensure that in the event of a funding shortfall the project can continue for at least three months. The Management Committee sanctions future use of the reserve to enable the continuation of project work while continuing to seek funding. The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005 edition).

Bank

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited banks with the Cooperative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

Accountants

The Independent Examiner is:

J T Hogg ACA of TPA Connect Ltd, 38 Stanhope Road, South Shields, NE33 4BT

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was an unincorporated registered charity (date of registration 30 May 2000), governed by a constitution adopted 16 December 1999 as amended 9 March 2000. On 1st April, 2012 the charity was incorporated into a company limited by guarantee. It is managed by a Management Committee which consists of the Trustees and is attended by the CEO and Administrator. Meetings are held quarterly.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The management committee may also appoint 1/3rd co-opted members. A third of trustees retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting following their election/appointment.
All new trustees are given an induction pack detailing the charity's constitution, strategic plans, recent annual report and accounts, Charity Commission Leaflet - CC3 (a). Trustees are advised of training on their responsibilities at the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service.

Decision Making Process

The CEO sends a quarterly report of activities to the Management Committee. Decisions and actions are recommended and taken at this meeting.

Risks and Risk Management

The charity is dependent on grant funding for most of its income; this presents a considerable risk. The charity has a strategy in place to source alternative sustainable sources of income to reduce this risk.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with (applicable law, regulations and trust deed). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have compiled with the duty in Section 17/5 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to public benefit statements.

Small Company Provisions

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

HMS
Helen McStravick (Dec 16, 2025 12:40:32 GMT)

.....

On behalf of the Trustees Helen McStravick Chair

Date: .....

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Scotswood Natural Community Garden Ltd

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Scotswood Natural Garden Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

J T Hogg
J T Hogg (Dec 16, 2025 16:23:46 GMT)

J T Hogg
ACA
Independent Examiner
58 Durham Road
Birtley
Co Durham
DH32QJ

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 **Total funds £**	2024 Total funds £
Income					
Donations and legacies	**5**	2,386	22,315	24,701	12,357
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	**6**	12,776	429,608	442,384	520,091
Capital grants	**7**	–	90,750	90,750	110,664
Other trading activities	**8**	74,582	3,568	78,150	76,945
Investment income	**9**	5,026	–	5,026	2,844
Total income		94,770	546,241	641,011	722,901
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Operation of the charity	**10**	162,393	430,736	593,129	636,202
Total expenditure		162,393	430,736	593,129	636,203
Net income		(67,623)	115,505	47,882	86,699
Transfers between funds		3,463	(3,463)	–	–
Net movement in funds		(64,160)	112,042	47,882	86,699
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		442,591	123,827	566,418	479,719
Total funds carried forward		378,431	235,869	614,300	566,418

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 30 to 45 from part of these financial statements

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	**13**	269,827	260,586
Current assets			
Debtors	**14**	19,848	97,391
Cash at bank and in hand		549,077	422,316
		568,925	519,707
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(224,452)	(213,875)
Net current assets		344,473	305,832
Total assets less current liabilities		614,300	566,418
Net assets		614,300	566,418
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		235,869	123,827
Unrestricted funds		378,431	442,591
Total charity funds	**17**	614,300	566,418

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ..16/12/2025.., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Miles John Henderson (Dec 16, 2025 13:33:50 GMT)

Miles Henderson
Trustee

The notes on pages 30 to 45 from part of these financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	47,881	86,699
Adjustments for:		
Other interest receivable and similar income	(5,026)	(2,844)
Accrued expenses/(income)	78,644	(60,772)
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	(1,101)	(344)
Trade and other creditors	10,577	(40,036)
Cash generated from operations	130,975	(17,297)
Interest received	5,026	2,844
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	136,001	(14,453)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(9,241)	(34,965)
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,241)	(34,965)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	126,761	(49,418)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	422,316	471,734
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	549,077	422,316

The notes on pages 30 to 45 from part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6TU.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £344,894 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliable by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Garden sculptures	-	10% straight line
Garden structures	-	10% straight line
Tools and equipment	-	25% reducing balance
Office equipment	-	25% reducing balance

Property, which is under construction, will be depreciated when completed.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Donations			
Donations and gifts	2,386	22,315	24,701

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations and gifts	11,817	541	12,357

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Grants and contracts			
Arnold Clark Motros	–	2,500	2,500
Benwell	–	1,800	1,800
Charles Lewis	–	664	664
Community Ownership Fund	–	25,000	25,000
County Durham Community Foundation	–	10,000	10,000
Curtin Parp Fund	–	5,833	5,833
D'oyly Carte	–	1,000	1,000
Flag Project	–	2,000	2,000
George & Peggy Fund	–	1,000	1,000
Hays Travel	–	2,139	2,139
Henry Smith Charity Fund	–	61,000	61,000
Hilden Trust	–	1,500	1,500
James Knott Trust	–	6,000	6,000
John Lewis & Partners Foundations	–	32,167	32,167
Karbon Homes	–	5,000	5,000
Kellett Foundation	–	39,686	39,686
London North Eastern Railway Limited	–	23,787	23,787
Lloyds Bank Foundation	–	18,000	18,000
National Heritage Lottery Fund	–	81,198	81,198
National Lottery	–	19,000	19,000
Northumberland Water	–	7,500	7,500
Plattern Family Trust	–	4,000	4,000
Ringtons Fund	–	406	406
Species Survival Fund	–	15,742	15,742
Schools of Sanctuary	–	11,686	11,686
Shears Foundation	–	4,000	4,000
Society of Holy Jesus Child	–	11,000	11,000
Swire Charitable Trust	–	25,000	25,000
The 29th May 1961	–	10,000	10,000
Wellbank Foundation	–	1,000	1,000
Other small grants	10,252	–	10,252
Other income	2,524	–	2,524
	12,776	429,608	442,384

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

6. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Grants and contracts			
Bailey Thomas	–	6,500	6,500
BBC Children in Need	–	24,282	24,282
Charles Lewis	–	1,836	1,836
Cost of Living	–	5,000	5,000
D'oyly Carte	–	2,000	2,000
Prime Fund	–	10,000	10,000
Flag Project	–	490	490
Enterprise Dev fund	–	27,000	27,000
Floral Fusion	–	4,880	4,880
George & Peggy Fund	–	6,070	6,070
Groundwork UK	–	14,490	14,490
Henry Smith Charity Fund	–	74,000	74,000
Heritage Lottery Fund	–	168,713	168,713
I Will Fund	–	6,018	6,018
J Lewis Foundation	–	8,404	8,404
Karbon Homes	–	2,250	2,250
Kellett Fund	–	30,433	30,433
Lloyds Bank Foundation	–	15,333	15,333
National Lottery	–	961	961
Newcastle City Council	–	4,998	4,998
Nightshades	–	19,244	19,244
Pargiter Trust	–	3,482	3,482
Peoples Health Trust	–	2,579	2,579
Plattern Family Trust	–	6,000	6,000
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Power to Change	–	2,500	2,500
Schools of Sanctuary	–	8,086	8,086
Shears Foundation	–	1,500	1,500
Society of the Holy Jesus Child	–	9,000	9,000
Community Foundation T & W - Storage	–	4,089	4,089
Tesco Community Grant	–	1,080	1,080
Tudor Trust	–	10,000	10,000
Woodland Wellbeing	–	6,600	6,600
Other small grants	4,500	300	4,800
Other income	7,473	–	7,473
	11,973	508,118	520,091

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

7. Capital grant income

	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
The Clothworks Foundation	13,000	13,000	1,000	1,000
Garfield Weston	–	–	6,500	6,500
Neighbourly Foundation	–	–	1,000	1,000
Wolfson Foundation	–	–	75,000	75,000
Tudor Trust	35,000	35,000	15,000	15,000
Community Foundation T & W - Ron & Louise Fund	41,000	41,000	4,000	4,000
Locality	–	–	8,164	8,164
Community Foundation	1,750	1,750		
	90,750	90,750	110,664	110,664

8. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Income generating	212	–	212
Produce sales	5,721	3,460	9,181
Internal Quality Assurance	4,033	–	4,033
OCN charges	53,884	–	53,884
School visits	8,014	–	8,014
Workshop income	2,718	108	2,826
	74,582	3,568	78,150

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income generating	96	–	96
Produce sales	12,315	4,693	17,009
Internal Quality Assurance	6,287	–	6,287
OCN charges	48,423	–	48,423
School visits	4,771	–	4,771
Workshop income	360	–	360
	72,252	4,693	76,946

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

9. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	5,026	5,026	2,844	2,844

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Direct costs			
Project staff salaries	40,167	338,061	378,228
Project staff other costs	1,576	2,936	4,512
Activities	910	8,903	9,813
Event costs	214	1,195	1,409
Garden materials and equipment	141	8,535	8,676
Other project costs	5,514	7,516	13,030
Food	2,941	4,738	7,679
Project Office/Admin Costs	2,010	17,992	20,002
Project Service User Costs Membership	506	4,957	5,463
Support Costs			
Support staff salaries	73,074	–	73,074
Support staff other costs	170	–	170
Volunteer costs	3	124	127
Office costs	9,921	–	9,921
Establishment costs	5,331	17,202	22,533
Repairs and renewals	8,588	649	9,237
Professional fees	5,349	17,928	23,277
Insurance	2,979	–	2,979
Sundry	300	–	300
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	2,700	–	2,700
	162,393	430,736	593,130

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Direct costs			
Project staff salaries	8,433	431,666	440,099
Project staff other costs	1,093	2,132	3,225
Activities	845	5,250	6,095
Event costs	2,936	113	3,049
Garden materials and equipment	1,367	9,632	10,999
Vehicle hire	–	–	–
Other project costs	537	15,234	15,771
Food	3,403	8,705	12,108
Project Office/Admin Costs	1,642	20,938	22,580
Project Service User Costs Membership	2,053	2,663	4,716
Support Costs			
Support staff salaries	28,449	354	28,803
Support staff other costs	28	–	28
Volunteer costs	10	28	38
Office costs	9,645	5,777	15,422
Establishment costs	12,459	12,664	25,123
Repairs and renewals	6,574	105	6,679
New Building Costs	–	–	–
Professional fees	4,008	31,958	35,966
Insurance	2,697	–	2,697
Sundry	524	–	524
Depreciation	–	–	–
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	2,280	–	2,280
	88,983	547,219	636,202

11. Independent examination fees

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,700	2,280

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	408,212	421,910
Social security costs	24,733	29,462
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	18,357	17,530
	451,302	468,902

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the part time CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,784 (2024: £42,811).

The average head count of employees during the year was 29 (2024: 26). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable activities	28	25
	29	26

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefit from an employment with their charity or related entity.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Property Extension	Garden Sculpture	Office Equipment	Garden Structures	Tools and Equipment	**Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	**£**
Cost						
At 1 Apr 2024	260,586	16,831	14,705	13,956	2,819	308,897
Additions	9,241	–	–	–	–	9,241
At 31 Mar 2025	269,827	16,831	14,705	13,956	2,819	318,138
Depreciation						
At 1 Apr 2024 and 31 Mar 2025	–	16,831	14,705	13,956	2,819	48,311
Carrying amount						
At 31 Mar 2025	269,827	–	–	–	–	269,827
At 31 Mar 2024	260,586	–	–	–	–	260,586

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

15. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	11,195	10,094
Accrued income	8,653	87,297
	19,848	97,391

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	27,430	27,313
Deferred income	187,005	174,338
Accruals	2,280	2,280
Social security and other taxes	2,370	2,643
Other creditors	5,368	7,251
	224,453	213,875

17. Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance brought forward	174,388	209,420
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(174,383)	(209,415)
Amount deferred in year	187,000	174,383
Balance carried forward	187,005	174,388

18. Defined contribution pension scheme

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £18,357 (2024: £17,530).

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	**At 31 March 2025**
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	182,005	94,770	(162,394)	(5,778)	108,604
Designated fund - New building	260,586	–	–	9,241	269,827
	442,591	94,770	(195,930)	3,463	378,431

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	173,700	98,885	(88,983)	(1,597)	182,005
Designated fund - New building	225,621	–	–	34,965	260,586
	399,321	98,885	(88,983)	33,368	442,591

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Arnold Clark Motors	–	2,500	(3,021)	521	–
BBC Children in Need	1,869	–	(1,869)	–	–
Benwell & Scotswood Ward	–	1,800	(1,706)	–	94
Charles Lewis	–	664	(664)	–	–
Community Ownership Fund	–	25,000	(25,000)	–	–
Connected Voice	1,386	–	(1,386)	–	–
County Durham Community Foundation	–	10,000	(5,742)	–	4,258
Crowdfunding	–	18,277	(18,290)	13	–
Curtin Parp Fund	–	5,833	(5,833)	–	–
D'Oyly Carte	396	1,000	(1,396)	–	–
Flag Project	99	2,000	(1,874)	(225)	–
George & Peggy	52	1,000	(1,062)	10	–
Hays Travel	–	2,139	(2,139)	–	–
Henry Smith	482	61,000	(61,482)	–	–
Hilden Trust	–	1,500	(805)	–	695
James Knott Trust	–	6,000	(5,970)	–	30
J Lewis Foundation	194	32,167	(25,890)	(2,722)	3,749
Karbon Homes	3,129	8,871	(8,033)	398	4,365
Kellett Fund	1,605	39,686	(40,178)	1,280	2,393
Lloyds Bank Foundation	2,522	18,000	(20,522)	–	–
London North Eastern Railway Limited	–	23,787	(22,639)	(956)	192
National Heritage Lottery Fund	–	81,198	(90,795)	9,597	–
National Lottery	887	18,926	(9,828)	(150)	9,935
Northumbrian Water	–	7,500	(6,995)	–	505
Platten Family	445	4,000	(4,137)	–	308
Postcode Neighbourhood	716	–	(754)	38	–
Ringtons Fund	–	406	(355)	(51)	–
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	998	–	–	(998)	–
Newcastle University	2,421	–	(2,575)	154	–
Schools of Sanctuary	(328)	11,701	(11,710)	337	–
Shears Foundation	961	4,000	(4,694)	(20)	247
Species Survival Fund	–	15,742	(15,742)	–	–
Society of Holy	3,024	11,000	(11,449)	–	2,575
Swire Charitable Trust	–	25,000	(1,361)	–	23,639
The 29th May 1961	–	10,000	(4,630)	–	5,370
Tudor Trust	4,202	–	(3,827)	(375)	–
Wellbank Foundation	–	1,000	(838)	–	162
Woodland Wellbeing	600	–	–	(600)	–
Other small Grants	98	3,794	(3,364)	130	560
New Build	98,069	90,750	(2,181)	(9,844)	176,793
	123,827	546,241	(430,736)	(3,463)	235,869

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Ashden Trust	2,722	–	(2,928)	206	–
Bailey Thomas	448	6,500	(6,948)	–	–
BBC Children in Need	4,387	24,282	(27,240)	440	1,869
Charles Lewis	–	1,836	(1,836)	–	–
Connected voice Water	1,386	–	–	–	1,386
Community Pantry	9,085	–	(9,085)	–	–
Cost of Living	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
D'Oyly Carte	–	2,000	(1,604)	–	396
Elderberries Hen Project	–	10,000	(9,995)	(5)	–
Enterprise Development	–	27,000	(27,000)	–	–
Flag Project	–	490	(391)	–	99
Floral Fusion	–	4,880	(4,193)	(687)	–
George & Peggy	–	6,070	(5,375)	(643)	52
Groundwork	–	14,490	(14,589)	99	–
Hays Travel	1,100	–	(1,100)	–	–
Henry Smith	1,043	74,000	(74,561)	–	482
Heritage Lottery	–	168,709	(168,709)	–	–
I Will Fund	–	6,018	(5,359)	(659)	–
J Lewis Foundation	–	8,404	(8,210)	–	194
Karbon Homes	–	5,458	(2,507)	178	3,129
Kellett Fund	234	29,724	(26,348)	(2,005)	1,605
Lloyds Bank Foundation	–	15,333	(12,811)	–	2,522
National Lottery	–	961	(74)	–	887
Newcastle City Council	–	4,998	(5,061)	63	–
Nightshades	814	19,244	(18,540)	(1,518)	–
Partiger	1,122	3,482	(7,207)	2,603	–
Peoples Health Trust	–	2,579		(2,579)	–
Platten Family	–	6,000	(5,555)	–	445
Postcode Neighbourhood	4,988	20,000	(24,272)	–	716
Power to change Programmes	2,815	2,500	(5,315)	–	–
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	998	–	–	–	998
Newcastle University	2,481	3,039	(3,099)	–	2,421
Schools of Sanctuary	4,740	8,086	(13,154)	–	(328)
Shears Foundation	–	1,500	(539)	–	961
Society of Holy	–	9,000	(5,976)	–	3,024
Storage	–	4,089	(4,089)	–	–
Tesco	–	1,080	(1,073)	(7)	–
Tudor Trust	10,253	10,000	(16,051)	–	4,202
Ward Committee	1,457	–	(1,457)	–	–
Woodland Wellbeing	3,268	6,600	(9,595)	327	600
Other small Grants	2,864	–	(2,793)	28	98
New Build	24,193	110,664	(7,579)	(29,209)	98,069
	80,398	624,016	(547,219)	(33,368)	123,827

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Purpose of major restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Arnold Clark	Core Costs
Benwell & Scotswood Ward	Adventure Rangers Youth Group
Charles Lewis	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Community Ownership Fund	Core Costs
D'oyly Carte	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear	Flag Project
George & Peggy Fund	Adventure Rangers Youth Group
Hays Travel	Art & Music Garden Programme
Henry Smith	Core Costs
Hilden Trust	Nature Rangers Youth Group
Heritage Lottery Fund	Environmental renewal, contribution to several programmes
James Knott Trust	Nature Rangers Youth Group
John Lewis Foundation	Nightshades Youth Group
Karbon Homes	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Kellett Fund	Elderberries Older People's Programme
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
London North Eastern Railway Limited	Canny Plants
Newcastle City Council	Community Pantry and Warm Space
Newcastle City Council	Nightshades Youth Group
Northumbrian Water	Wildlife Superheroes - School Visits Programme
Platten Family Trust	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
School of Sanctuary	School of Sanctuary
Shears Foundation	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Species Survival Fund	Canny Plants
Society of the Holy Jesus Child	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Swire Charitable Trust	Core Costs
The 29th May 1961	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Wellbank Foundation	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
Awards for All, National Lottery	Woodland Wellbeing
The Clothworks Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2
Garfield Weston Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2
Locality Community Ownership Fund	Building Extension Work phase 2
Neighbourly Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 1
Community Foundation T&W, Ron & Louise Fund	Building Extension Work phase 2
Tudor Trust	Building Extension Work phase 2
Wolfson Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	269,827	269,827
Current assets	333,057	235,869	–	568,926
Creditors less than 1 year	(224,453)	–	–	(224,453)
Net assets	108,604	235,869	269,827	614,300

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	260,586	260,586
Current assets	395,881	123,827	–	519,708
Creditors less than 1 year	(213,875)	–	–	(213,875)
Net assets	182,006	123,827	260,586	566,419

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited 31.3.25 Final

Final Audit Report 2025-12-16

Created:	2025-12-16
By:	Kay Walker (kay@jfstorbitt.co.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAbgVkzJj2QBEHJxJR31qyUANRYQAjAZKE

"Scotswood Natural Garden Limited 31.3.25 Final" History

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Signer trevor@tpacc.org.uk entered name at signing as J T Hogg

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Agreement completed.

2025-12-16 - 16:23:46 GMT

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1144976

Accounts

COMPANY NUMBER: 07523792 (ENGLAND & WALES)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1144976

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Chair's Comments

As this is my first annual report, firstly I want to say a huge thank you to everyone involved in the Charity whether they are: staff, volunteers, fundraisers, funders or people who use our garden. People make a place and I am very proud to be associated with a charity that I know, and have seen, make such a difference to our local community.

Every year is different and has its own special highlights and this year is no different. While we have now gotten comfortable in our alternative offices, we have also secured the final funding to build our new eco building that will be situated in the garden itself. The new building will be such a boon for us and we will be able to be more responsive to your needs. I hope next year I will be talking about our brand new building and the exciting times ahead!

I spent a very enjoyable day with members of the staff team, as we worked on our three-year Anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity and inclusion plan. I was inspired at our team's push to ensure pure equity and will mean that we will continue to provide a place of sanctuary where you will thrive and be valued for who you are when you use our facilities.

The Garden was as busy as ever, inviting schools, groups and individuals to experience the space, whether it's gardening, education or just needing a walk away from work. We have worked on reinstating an old pond, creating more habitats and even increased our fruit production, which many of you will have enjoyed at our Apple Day and in our Sticky

Business chutneys. And our hens and bees ensure we keep true to nature and provide a healthy diverse environment. A true permaculture project.

Our various programmes from Elderberries to youth services ensure that we instil the importance of nature in wellbeing in our younger users, and with our Elderberries we prove that it is never too late to try and experience something new.

As we move into 2024/2025 we are looking forward to our 30th Anniversary. This will be a great time to look back on how far we have come, reflect on the past and look forward, with greater vigour to the next 30 years.

I thank you all for the interest and support you have shown in our charity and I hope in reading the report you are proud too of how a small team of humans can help make a positive change in their part of the West End of Newcastle and beyond.

Helen McStravick, Chair

Company Information

Company Number: 07523792 (England and Wales)

Status: The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1

Charity Registration Number: 1144976

Registered Address: Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 6TU

Patrons

Ed Tyler and Rob Higgins

Trustees/Directors at 31st March 2024

Christopher Francis	Chair resigned 10th January 2024
Helen McStravick	Chair
Stephanie Cole	Deputy Chair
Miles Henderson	Treasurer
Chris Warburton-Brown	Secretary
Emily Clough	
Sharon Hall	
Anthony Milan	
Shahid Rasul	
Gilian Milne	

2023/24 Staff

Karen Dobson	Chief Executive Officer
Farah Kurji	Development Manager
Claire Forman	Business Development Officer

Ann Stafford	Office & Finance Administrator
Harriet Menter	Education Manager
Rosie Tyson	Education Officer
Kay Scott	Education Officer
Umara Shahid	Education Officer
Alice Holliday	Education Officer
Nicky Sargeant	Play & Youth Manager
Amber Cooperthwaite	Deputy Youth Manager
Caroline Roach	Youth Worker
Heather Hewitt	Assistant Youth Worker
Leanne Defty	Adult Wellbeing Manager
Jenny Hopper	Adult Wellbeing Officer
Rosie Woods	Assistant Garden Officer
Sean Clay	Garden & Community Manager
Mike Whatmore	Plant Nursery Garden Officer
Claire Metcalfe	Plant Nursery Garden Assistant
Andrew Downey	Assistant Garden Officer

We also employ a number of sessional staff for volunteer, youth and education sessions.

Scotswood Natural Community Garden was established

● To provide and maintain a public garden or gardens for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the north east region and others in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants:

● To advance knowledge and understanding of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability.

Mission

To inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health & wellbeing.

Values

● We listen to the people in our community using their views to plan and deliver our work.
● We treat people with dignity and respect.
●We ensure equality of opportunity and access.

Strategic Objectives

●To maintain the community garden for the benefit of the wider community and provide a haven for native flora and fauna to flourish.
●To improve the health, wellbeing and fitness of the wider community.
●To support and enable people to gain new skills and knowledge and to develop their creativity.
●To develop a cohesive and sustainable community in Scotswood.
●To educate people about how to better live sustainably.
●To maintain long term sustainability of Scotswood Natural Community Garden.

Core Strands of Work 2023/24

●Adult Volunteering and Training
●Adult Wellbeing Services
●Play & Youth Programme
●Education Programme
●Community Events
●Sticky Business and Canny Plants

Eco Building

We are thrilled to have secured the remainder of the funding for our eco-building extension from the Community Ownership Fund with a grant of £418,060 capital funding and £49,200 revenue funding. The new building will boast a training kitchen, classroom, growing atrium, lift, accessible toilets and office space and will transform the way we deliver our services. Work will begin on site towards the end of 2024. Videos of the new building based on the Architect's drawings are on our YouTube Channel.

Anti Racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Review

We have continued working with consultant Ngozi Lyn Cole, in partnership with West End Refugee Service, to ensure that anti discriminatory practice is embedded throughout all our work and the Garden continues to be a welcoming, safe and inclusive place for the whole community. A working group of staff and trustees have been developing a new 3-year strategy and action plan with input from staff, trustees and people who use the Garden. To inform the new strategy we ran workshops and developed a questionnaire to ask the views of adults and children who use the Garden who gave feedback on what is working well and useful suggestions for improvements.

Next Year and Beyond

We are looking forward to launching our new strategy and action plan in October 2024 and becoming an accredited Garden of Sanctuary.

Volunteering & Training Programme

Growing Together Project

Our Growing Together project, funded by Lloyds Bank Foundation and The National Lottery Heritage Fund, has continued to flourish over the last year. We have delivered 299 volunteering sessions with 83 different volunteers, who in total have contributed over 6000 hours of work to the garden. The dedication, skill and hard work of our fantastic volunteers is an essential part of the success of the whole garden. The garden team has worked hard to improve our forest gardens, adding in more fruit production and wildlife friendly planting, creating habitats and pruning and managing trees to open up new areas of the garden. We have brought in 20 tonnes of clay to reline an existing pond and reinstate an old pond, a messy and difficult job but one that brings huge benefits for the wildlife in the garden. Our volunteers have made a big contribution to our thriving hives of bees, as well as improving paths, fencing and accessibility around the site.

Our partnership with the West End Refugee Service continues successfully, every year we welcome many refugees and people in the asylum process to volunteer with us.

We have also been grateful to host work days for volunteers from B&Q, Vet Direct and Newcastle Building Society who have helped with painting our new community hub and our forest garden improvements.

> ***"The Garden helps me with my mental health so much"***
>
> ***"I love attending the sessions - the vibe of inclusivity is really strong. I like having the opportunity to learn about organic gardening"***
>
> ***"I like to be outside in nature. I have made a lot of friends here and learned new skills. I especially like going in the bee hives."***
>
> ***"Coming to the garden has helped me to get a bit of structure and see friendly people every week"***

Next Year and Beyond

Our volunteers plan to develop our beautiful Forest Garden area further to open up more areas of the Garden and make it more productive for people and for wildlife.

Canny Plants

Our plant nursery, Canny Plants, has gone from strength to strength thanks to funding from the **National Lottery Heritage Fund.** This year 125 different species have been grown using peat-free compost and pots made from recycled plastic. Plants were chosen to increase local biodiversity in a wide range of locations, throughout the year. A plant pot return scheme is working very well with thousands of pots returned for cleaning and re-use, reducing both cost and plastic waste.

The nursery has provided a weekly gardening session with our volunteers in the greenhouses and poly-tunnels. Sessions have included general nursery practice from watering and moving plants according to growth and reaction to environmental conditions, to potting on and pricking out juvenile plants, and later, the ongoing maintenance and care of mature plants. The plants have then been either planted in the Garden or sold to raise vital funds for the charity. In addition 2490 plants have been donated to local schools, community groups and in Newcastle's public parks and green spaces.

Next Year and Beyond

We plan to increase sales and the number of plants donated across the West End of Newcastle creating wildflower corridors to improve biodiversity.

Sticky Business

Sticky Business has had a steady year with 1553 different products made and 1709 sold at our community fun days or through our stockists: The Honey Tree, The Paddock and Ernie. The wet weather has contributed to a much lower fruit yield than ever before, limiting what we could make. This year, our bestselling jam has been the gorgeous Blackcurrant & Lime Jam, closely followed by our ever popular Summer Fruit Jam. Rhubarb featured highly on our customers wish lists this year with Rhubarb & Date Chutney and Rhubarb & Ginger Cordial outselling other flavours even the newly developed Spiced Crab Apple & Sloe Cordial!

Next year and beyond

As part of the Garden's 30th birthday celebrations, we plan to develop a new limited edition preserve.

Adult Wellbeing Services

Our team has worked hard this year to develop more opportunities to support wellbeing for all adults within our community. With support from funders including the **Community Foundation Tyne and Wear (Kellett Fund, Northern Powergrid Foundation, the Partiger Trust, Prime Fund) The National Lottery Awards for All and the National Lottery Heritage Fun**d, we have been able to provide a broad ranging programme with some brilliant outcomes for people and the environment:

- Improved access to green space as well as volunteering, arts, recreation, social, exercise and respite opportunities
- Improvement in health and wellbeing based on: mood, social connections, eating well, levels of stress, moving more, self-esteem, feeling less lonely, having a sense of purpose and fewer anxious/depressed thoughts
- Improved access to nature-based learning and creative activities
- more knowledge of the natural world
- people take a hands on role in project delivery and decision making

We have worked with Freedom from Torture, Hadrian Clinic, West End Refugee Service and local residential and supported living accommodations to ensure that the wellbeing benefits offered by nature are accessible to all. Over 300 sessions have been delivered over the year, reaching over 120 different people across the following projects.

Elderberries

The 'bread and butter' of our wellbeing work with a focus on our older community. Elderberries consist of the Late Bloomers, Gardening for Dementia, supported volunteering, nature-based sessions and outreach work.

So much has been achieved in these groups this year in terms of learning, growing personal skills and building social networks. They have completed lots of garden planting and conservation tasks, enjoyed tasty food together, provided each other with wellbeing support, helped run our open days, grown food, created sustainable crafts, enjoyed being in nature and moved more.

Floral Fusion

A project to consolidate our knowledge and skills and to learn to make the most of the resources we have available to us in the garden. Floral Fusion consisted of a series of professional workshops in permaculture garden design, natural dyeing, willow art and floristry, alongside a trip to Dilston Physic Garden to learn about the medicinal value of plants. It has added many strings to our bow and means our groups look at our garden resources with more creativity.

Woodland Wellbeing

The same team that deliver the youth programme's Art and Music Garden; experienced artist Sally Southern and music & movement practitioner Jo Templey, deliver a wonderfully inclusive programme of activities. They facilitate activities to support our wellbeing and set up relaxing meditative spaces and guide us in gentle movement, play and crafting to reset and focus our attention on the positive.

'It's good to hang up the mobiles we made in the Garden and know they'll be hanging there all week. It's like a piece of the garden belongs to us.'

'The garden is amazing. You wouldn't even know this is all here from the outside. It's been so nice to see some of the residents/patients engaging with activities, and people that they wouldn't normally engage with.'

Hen Power at Scotswood Garden

A major new addition to the team this year has been our wonderful flock of hens! They have given us fresh eggs, new skills to be learned, cuddles and lots of giggles as we've welcomed them to the garden and provided them with a safe and caring home. Our thanks go to **Hen Power** for their support with developing the hens space and providing creative sessions with some wonderful artists.

Our sessions with the Hen Power artists have resulted in some brilliant, lasting pieces of art including a bespoke bench, decorative bunting, a welcome banner, a hen dust bath and some Thomas Bewick inspired paintings and prints being displayed in an exhibition at the Central Library.

'I just love the hens, they calm me and are my friends!'

'Thank you for the eggs, I can't always afford them. Especially nice to get eggs from happy hens!'

Student Placements

This year saw us welcome our first placement of Occupational Therapy students from Northumbria University. Two final year degree apprenticeship students joined the adult wellbeing team for 4 weeks and gave us a huge insight into the work of occupational therapists and how this is applied at the garden in our day to day activities. We wish them both the best in the rest of their studies and thank them for their work while with us.

Nourish Food School

Nourish Food School in partnership with Fare Share delivered a cooking course for our volunteer team using surplus food. Participants tried certain foods for the first time and gained confidence in cooking with herbs and spices and making meals from scratch.

Ageism Action Day

We celebrated our first Ageism Action Day with support from **Centre for Ageing Better**, ensuring that at Scotswood Garden we are aware of ageism and know how to spot it and tackle it.

Over the year our Adult Wellbeing Programme achieved the following outcomes:

- A wider range of people have been involved in heritage.
- People have developed skills both in face to face and remote settings.
- People have improved knowledge about heritage of the natural world, leading to a change in ideas and actions.
- People have greater wellbeing and security particularly over the winter months.
- People have participated in social activities and improved their social connections as a result.
- Older people have taken a hands-on role in project delivery and decision making.
- The Garden spaces reflect what our older community want from their green space

Next year and beyond

The adult wellbeing team will continue to deliver a broad range of wellbeing support for adults while continuing to work on building inclusivity and diversity. We hope to have our work supported by more Occupational Therapy student placements and achieve the Green Care Quality Mark. Our Late Bloomers group has exciting plans to exhibit at Harrogate Flower Show!

Winter Wellbeing Hubs

The winter brought challenges with the continued cost of living crisis impacting our Garden community. We continued our partnership with **Newcastle City Council** to run winter wellbeing hubs from January - March providing much-needed warm spaces, hot drinks snacks, games and company.

Community Pantry

Our new community pantry has had a busy year saving a whopping 6 tonnes of food from landfill! -4 tonnes of chilled, ambient & fresh foods and 2 tonnes of frozen food. Each month the pantry had an average of 168 uses. Potatoes and Peperami proved most popular amongst our youth group members with cheese, bananas and ready meals firm favourites of our volunteers. Runner beans were less popular along with the 2.2kg giant wheels of Cambozola cheese which we received for several weeks in a row. We had some very smelly fridges!

Education & Forest Schools

Wildlife Superheroes

Over the past year we have delivered 113 education nature-based sessions which were attended by **2413 children** along with 414 accompanying adults. Sessions are open to children from nursery up to year 6, including special schools.

We covered a wide range of nature related topics:

Seasonal Change, minibeast superheroes, life cycles, plants, habitats, bees, classification and more…

Examples of sessions include:

Plant party: Explore and identify plants in the garden including trees. Find out about the structure of plants and what plants need to grow. Plant a seed to take back to school or do some flower-related art!

Newt Lives: Pond dipping. Come and meet our resident amphibians. Find out how they live and learn about their life cycle through our newt treasure hunt. What's on the menu? Survey the garden for food sources. Play food chain tag!

All our sessions include some play time in the woodland, as research shows that playing outdoors, in a natural environment, is important to children's wellbeing and helps them to connect with nature - something which is vital particularly post pandemic. This play time is supported by appropriate resources, but children make their own choices about what they would like to do.

To find out more about the workshops we offer, please visit School Visits - Scotswood Garden.

Evaluation forms completed by teachers with input from children provide us with evidence of impact:

- The children enjoyed the wildlife activities - **98% of teachers strongly agreed** and 2% agreed
- The children learnt something new about nature - **91% of teachers strongly agreed** and 9% agreed
- Being at Scotswood Garden gave them a greater connection with, and awareness of, nature - **98% of teachers strongly agreed** and 2% agreed
- We will try to look after wildlife in the local community - **85% of teachers strongly agreed** and 15% agreed

Comments from Teachers:

"Great consolidation of classroom learning and extension. Hands on plants, planting seeds and learning about the importance of bees."

"Sheer excitement! Many of our inner city children have no regular access to nature. They were thrilled with bees, butterflies and the newts in particular."

"This was a fabulous and enjoyable opportunity to pond dip and minibeast hunt and see their joy at being surrounded by nature."

Comments from Children:

"This is the funnest thing I've ever done!"

"I loved making a den."

"Best day ever."

Nature activities

Following their session with us, schools undertook the following activities as part of the project

- Planting pollinator friendly plants, which were provided free of charge from our own plant nursery, Canny Plants.
- Growing pollinator friendly plants from seed.
- Leaving dead leaves over winter so that insects can shelter.
- Making habitats in the school yard.
- Recycling more.
- Making bird feeders.
- Building bug hotels
- Organising litter picks
- Planting bulbs ready for the spring.

Schools of Sanctuary

We have continued to develop our Schools of Sanctuary offer, engaging with schools across the city with support from the **Wellesley Trust at the Community Foundation**.

This project focuses on harnessing the Schools of Sanctuary ethos, supporting children, teachers and schools to consider new ways in which they can be welcoming and inclusive towards refugee and asylum seeker children and their families. Sessions support children to think about ways in which they can be kind, helpful, welcoming and supportive of others. This is explored through games, woodland crafts, teamwork, nature connectedness and play. From March 2023 to March 2024, we have engaged with 8 Primary and First schools, delivering a total of **16 sessions to 211 children.**

As many of the classes have involved children who are part of the refugee and asylum seeker community, or children who have English as an additional language (EAL), there has been a rich tapestry of language, culture and lived experience that the children have been able to bring to the sessions, creating a diverse and safe space to support one another. A highlight of this was a group of 'School Buddies' from Ravenswood Primary School. Every child could speak more than one language and they each had responsibilities within their school of helping new pupils to settle in, often buddying up with EAL children whose first language they could also speak. When asked if the session linked to the school's work on Schools of Sanctuary, the teacher responded:

'It far surpassed my expectations . . . It was so well organised with a lovely team of people to support the children. It was brilliant for our children who are on the quieter side, potentially because of language barriers to be given these opportunities to express themselves and have fun. It was lovely to have Umara there to relate to the experiences of speaking additional languages'

The sessions have either been aimed at a certain year group, or focused on a group of 'Sanctuary Friends' or school council; whichever the school chooses. Since September we have been focusing the sessions on groups of up to 15 children (rather than 30), as, through feedback and reflection, this is having the greatest impact on conveying the schools of sanctuary ethos. It also supports children to have the space and time to immerse themselves in free-play, supporting their mental health and wellbeing. In February we were granted additional funding from **the Curtin Parp fund at the Community Foundation** to enhance our offer by recruiting a team of advisors with lived experience of the asylum process to help us develop and deliver these sessions.

Friends Action North East

This year we have enjoyed a fantastic partnership with Friends Action North East, who support adults with learning disabilities and autism. We have delivered 21 sessions in our woodlands, providing a range of activities including crafts, games, green woodworking and cooking on the campfire. These sessions have been very well attended and feedback has been extremely positive.

" Maisie looked forward to the woodland group and came home happy and enthusiastic. She was eager to tell us all about the activities and repeated some of them at home."

"Ayesha has been noticeably happier since joining FANE and attending these groups. I have found that she is willing to explore and try new things which is something she has never done"

Breeze Forest School Project, Research and Network

This year we have continued to grow and develop our Breeze project supporting schools to deliver forest school sessions and hosting 3 network meetings and 3 CPD sessions.

In the first part of the year we continued to work with our network of schools who are using forest schools to support students' social and emotional wellbeing. We supported schools by providing experienced forest school leaders to support session delivery, advising schools on developing their own sites and providing use of the garden. We supported one of our groups (Newcastle Bridges School)to work with photographer Gailen Manuel to take photos of forest school sessions, and explore what is important to them.

We arranged network meetings and CPD sessions including a full day at Kirkley Hall delivered by Jon Cree. Lucy Tiplady from Newcastle University worked with 2 schools to produce Theories of Change to help them articulate the aims of their forest school programme. For an example see https://www.canning.newcastle.sch.uk/Forest-School/

Newcastle University produced an impact report covering schools year 22/23. Research Lucy Tiplady collected and analysed feedback from schools in the network showed that network schools had greatly benefited from the network and valued it. Teachers appreciated the opportunity to network, to talk and connect with fellow professionals, share practice and experiences, gain new knowledge, and develop their professional practice.

School staff recognised:

> ***"Forest School as particularly productive in enabling children and young people to develop relationships."***

School staff gave a large number of examples of children who, before Forest School, had struggled or were unable to interact with others (particularly peers) but who had developed these skills within the Forest School environment. They reported that "children and young people use skills and interests developed at Forest School elsewhere in school life, for example in the classroom, at break times and/or during special events." All schools believed that Forest School has a positive impact on wellbeing. Examples given included enjoyment and engagement, developing relationships, increased emotional awareness and regulation and celebrating successes.

School staff also believed that Forest School had helped develop learners' environmental awareness and connection with nature. The impact report also reflected how the Breeze project had helped forest schools become embedded schools.

'The network has supported us in keeping ideas up to date. New knowledge also has supported how I approach children and what things I offer.'

' At school he wouldn't communicate with adults or peers. He was very quiet and introverted. As the weeks progressed he has become more vocal and his confidence has grown. He has developed new friendships and talks freely now. It has been lovely to see the change in him. Also in school, he has made new friendships. There has been such a significant change in his demeanour and his confidence both socially and emotionally.'

At the end of this project we were successful in securing funding for the next stage of the project; to continue to support the network and work intensively with 3 new schools. We recruited Alice Holliday as project coordinator who started in post in January 2024. Alice has already started working in partnership with an SEMH school in Ashington to plan, deliver and review sessions to meet the social, emotional and sensory needs of their young people, and will be working with 2 additional schools. She has hosted a network meeting, consulted with network schools about their training needs, organised forest school training and specialist CPD. Our Education Manager has spoken at 2 events (both at Newcastle University) to share learning from the project over the last 6 years.

Forest School Training

We have had another fantastic year of forest school training. We delivered 3 fully booked level 1 courses including a lovely course over the summer for young leaders from two other forest school organisations.

Feedback from one of the young leaders:

'From chopping wood and crafting pendants to creating meaningful natural art mosaics with new rules like 'respect each other' and 'love nature,' every moment was filled with learning and fun. We bonded with friends made from natural materials and embraced the Forest school 3 lookafters: ourselves, each other, and nature. Exploring the woods through playful activities like making potions, enjoying garlic rosemary camembert over a fire, interacting with pet chickens, and understanding the woodland's impact on us was truly eye-opening. It's been an enriching experience, and I can't wait to share these skills and insights with others!'

We also delivered one level 3 course and started another. We continue to offer 2 half price places on all courses for people on low income, prioritising disabled people and people of colour. We have started the process of becoming a Forest School Association Endorsed Training Provider.

Youth & Play Programme

A record **326 children, young people and parents** joined us for friendship and fun learning and play opportunities in 2023-24. Delivering 7 sessions per week, our programmes have worked with the garden environment and local community to help us engage with the following beneficial themes:

More Connected - to others and nature

Well-being - mental and physical

Physical Activity - play and green exercise

Healthy Eating - access to food, trying new things and developing cooking skills

Taking Pride in Our Achievements - making, doing, learning

We have been delighted to be part of Groundwork UK's national New to Nature project, that funded a full-time paid work placement for Heather Hewitt to train and develop as a Play, Youth and Education Worker. This was such a success that Heather has secured a contracted Officer post with us.

Healthy food and refreshments were subsidised with a grant from **Tesco Community Grants.**

Nature Rangers

Our 6-9 year olds come together every Saturday morning to enjoy eating breakfast together, making friends, and learning about nature. They are supported by 3 regular Young Volunteers from the Nightshades Rangers. Favourite activities include cooking pitta pizzas on the fire, playing games and going to treasure trails around the garden. Thanks to **BBC Children in Need** for funding this work.

Adventure Rangers

Funded by **Community Foundation: #iWillFund and George & Peggy Fund**

Like Nature Rangers, our 10-13 year olds love playing games in the garden and cooking together, but as they meet on Wednesday evenings they've been experiencing the garden in the dark and in cold frosty conditions under the winter moonlight. These young people have also been branching out into the community, funded by #iWill Fund they have been working in partnership with Friends of Denton Dene to take care of this local green space and encourage others to use it more. They took part in monthly litter picks, recorded wildlife found in Denton Dene on iNaturalist and helped to plan and deliver two free family fun day events, including the nature themed Halloween event with a Bats, Bugs & Beasties trail.

Early Explorers

Funded by the **National Lottery Heritage Fund**

Our pre-school and home educated children have been exploring and tending to the Butterfly Garden. With older children supporting the younger ones, facilitated play and creativity, connected to nature and the wonderful creatures and plants we find in the garden are helping to grow our next generation of naturalists. Other favourite activities are growing flowers and vegetables, cooking up tasty treats in the mud kitchen and brewing potions.

Art & Music Garden

Funded by the **National Lottery Heritage Fund**

We love seeing our families move, create and play together on Saturday afternoons, children with disabilities enjoy an inclusive space where they play on equal terms with their non-disable friends, peers and siblings. Parents and carers also enjoy this small oasis of nature based calm in their week and tell us how valuable this relaxed family time is. This project is a partnership with Newcastle City Council's Arts Connect Team, experienced artist Sally Southern and music & movement practitioner Jo Templey deliver a flexible programme of activities.

In August 2023 Arts Connect worked with us to deliver Beach Connect, with 72 of our Art & Music Gardeners, Early Explorers, Nature Rangers and Adventure Rangers coming together for a day of family fun and sun at Whitley Bay.

Nightshade Rangers, (nc Young Volunteers Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scotswood Rangers)

Funded by **BBC Children in Need, Newcastle's Make Your Mark fund, Newcastle Youth Fund and John Lewis Foundation.** Young people have enjoyed a very wide range of activities this year chosen by them, some designed to give people a glimpse of independence and life beyond school. Young people have hiked, fundraised, created videos and completed art projects as well as taking part in taster sessions to experience our two social enterprises - Canny Plants and Sticky Business.

Outreach, Community & Events

Our 3 community days at the Garden were bigger and better than ever before. **269 adults and children** enjoyed Blossom Day 2023 including 45 people from West End Refugee Service who had never been to the Garden before.

We welcomed Newcastle University who ran a popular session on wildlife identification and people also enjoyed making badges, singing and music around the fire and took part in a. women in STEM trail. A fantastic day!.

Sadly our 2023 Summer Fun Day had to be cancelled owing to a yellow weather warning but we were able to run a fab Halloween Event in Denton Dene instead.

The sun shone on Apple Day though with **305 people** enjoying a Wasp trail leading to waspy activities, apple pressing, apple toss, apple hanging and a visit to the hen. People were entertained by the Bangshe drumming group while they enjoyed their free hog dogs.

Winter Wonderland was a great success with Santa giving our books and treats, our famous 12 trees of Christmas trail, elf workshop and homemade mince pies.

Principle sources of funds

Our main sources of funding are governmental, trust funds and increasingly earned income from services.

Funders

We are very grateful for support from all our funders - they include:

- Tudor Trust
- BBC Children in Need
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund
- National Lottery Awards for All
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- The Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear -Kellett Fund, Northern Powergrid Foundation, the Partiger Trust, Prime Fund, Wellesley Trust, Plattern Family Fund, #iWillFund and George & Peggy Fund
- Henry Smith Charity
- Newcastle City Council
- Tesco Community Grants
- Hays Travel Foundation

Reserves Policy and Investment Performance

The trustee's policy is to maintain reserves to ensure that in the event of a funding shortfall the project can continue for at least three months. The Management Committee sanctions future use of the reserve to enable the continuation of project work while continuing to seek funding. The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005 edition).

Bank

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited banks with the Cooperative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

Accountants

The Independent Examiner is:
J T Hogg ACA of TPA Connect Ltd, 38 Stanhope Road, South Shields, NE33 4BT

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was an unincorporated registered charity (date of registration 30 May 2000), governed by a constitution adopted 16 December 1999 as amended 9 March 2000. On 1st April, 2012 the charity was incorporated into a company limited by guarantee. It is managed by a Management Committee which consists of the Trustees and is attended by the CEO and Administrator. Meetings are held quarterly.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The management committee may also appoint 1/3rd co-opted members. A third of trustees retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting following their election/appointment.
All new trustees are given an induction pack detailing the charity's constitution, strategic plans, recent annual report and accounts, Charity Commission Leaflet - CC3 (a). Trustees are advised of training on their responsibilities at the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service.

Decision Making Process

The CEO sends a quarterly report of activities to the Management Committee. Decisions and actions are recommended and taken at this meeting.

Risks and Risk Management

The charity is dependent on grant funding for most of its income; this presents a considerable risk. The charity has a strategy in place to source alternative sustainable sources of income to reduce this risk.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with (applicable law, regulations and trust deed). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have compiled with the duty in Section 17/5 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to public benefit statements.

Small Company Provisions

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

Hel[illegible]vick (Dec 19, 2024 12:18 GMT)

…….

On behalf of the Trustees Helen McStravick Chair

Date: ……

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Scotswood Natural Garden Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

J T Hogg
J T Hogg (Dec 20, 2024 10:55 GMT)

J T Hogg
ACA
Independent Examiner
38 Stanhope Road
South Shields
NE33 4BT

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities
(including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 **Total funds** £	2023 Total funds £
Income					
Donations and legacies	**5**	11,816	541	12,357	14,416
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	**6**	11,973	508,118	520,091	443,603
Capital grants	**7**	–	110,664	110,664	146,640
Other trading activities	**8**	72,252	4,693	76,945	50,481
Investment income	**9**	2,844	–	2,844	220
Total income		98,885	624,016	722,901	655,360
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Operation of the charity	**10**	88,983	547,219	636,202	521,824
Total expenditure		88,983	547,219	636,202	521,824
Net income		9,902	76,797	86,699	133,536
Transfers between funds		33,368	(33,368)	–	–
Net movement in funds		43,270	43,429	86,699	133,536
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		399,321	80,398	479,719	346,183
Total funds carried forward		442,591	123,827	566,418	479,719

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	**14**	260,586	225,621
Current assets			
Debtors	**15**	97,391	36,275
Cash at bank and in hand		422,316	471,734
		519,707	508,009
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(213,875)	(253,911)
Net current assets		305,832	254,098
Total assets less current liabilities		566,418	479,719
Net assets		566,418	479,719
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		123,827	80,398
Unrestricted funds		442,591	399,321
Total charity funds	**19**	566,418	479,719

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Miles Henderson (Dec 20, 2024 10:53 GMT)

Miles Henderson
Trustee

The notes on pages 31-47 form part of these financial statements

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	86,699	133,536
Adjustments for:		
Other interest receivable and similar income	(2,844)	(220)
Accrued (income)/expenses	(60,772)	23,850
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	(344)	27,382
Trade and other creditors	(40,036)	81,337
Cash generated from operations	(17,297)	265,885
Interest received	2,844	220
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	(14,453)	266,105
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(34,965)	(133,695)
Net cash used in investing activities	(34,965)	(133,695)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(49,418)	132,410
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	471,734	339,324
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	422,316	471,734

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6TU.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £442,591 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.=
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies ***(continued)***

Resources expended ***(continued)***

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliable by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Garden sculptures	-	10% straight line
Garden structures	-	10% straight line
Tools and equipment	-	25% reducing balance
Office equipment	-	25% reducing balance

Property, which is under construction, will be depreciated when completed.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

4. Limited by guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Donations			
Donations and gifts	11,816	541	12,357

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations and gifts	14,416	–	14,416

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Grants and contracts			
Bailey Thomas	–	6,500	6,500
BBC Children in Need	–	24,282	24,282
Charles Lewis	–	1,836	1,836
Cost of Living	–	5,000	5,000
D'oyly Carte	–	2,000	2,000
Prime Fund	–	10,000	10,000
Flag Project	–	490	490
Enterprise Dev fund	–	27,000	27,000
Floral Fusion	–	4,880	4,880
George & Peggy Fund	–	6,070	6,070
Groundwork UK	–	14,490	14,490
Henry Smith	–	74,000	74,000
Heritage Lottery Fund	–	168,713	168,713
I Will Fund	–	6,018	6,018
J Lewis Foundation	–	8,404	8,404
Karbon Homes	–	2,250	2,250
Kellett Fund	–	30,433	30,433
Lloyds Bank Foundation	–	15,333	15,333
National Lottery	–	961	961
Newcastle City Council	–	4,998	4,998
Nightshades	–	19,244	19,244
Pargiter Trust	–	3,482	3,482
Peoples Health Trust	–	2,579	2,579
Plattern Family Trust	–	6,000	6,000
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Power to Change	–	2,500	2,500
Schools of Sanctuary	–	8,086	8,086
Shears Foundation	–	1,500	1,500
Society of the Holy Jesus Child	–	9,000	9,000
Community Foundation T & W - Storage	–	4,089	4,089
Tesco Community Grant	–	1,080	1,080
Tudor Trust	–	10,000	10,000
Woodland Wellbeing	–	6,600	6,600
Other small grants	4,500	300	4,800
Other income	7,473	–	7,473
	11,973	508,118	520,091

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
Grants and contracts			
Active Communities	–	15,473	15,473
Ashden Trust	–	4,918	4,918
Bailey Thomas	–	8,500	8,500
BBC Children in Need	1,100	32,040	33,140
Community Foundation T&W	750	6,127	6,877
Connected Voice-Water Collection	1,000	3,050	4,050
Apprentice Kickstart	12,374	–	12,374
Enterprise Dev Fund	–	3,000	3,000
Hayes Travel	–	1,100	1,100
Heritage Lottery Fund	–	201,587	201,587
Henry Smith	–	15,000	15,000
Joicey Trust	–	3,300	3,300
Kellett Fund	–	10,563	10,563
Lloyds - Bank Foundations	–	34,962	34,962
New to Nature	–	3,198	3,198
Newcastle City Council	–	12,964	12,964
Newcastle University	–	2,000	2,000
Postcode Local Trust	–	4,988	4,988
Power to Change	–	7,500	7,500
Schools of Sanctuary	–	9,886	9,886
Trust House	–	3,333	3,333
Tudor Trust	–	31,085	31,085
YHN	–	3,000	3,000
NE Youth Limited	3,181	–	3,181
Well Newcastle	–	1,000	1,000
Other small grants	1,566	–	1,566
Other income	5,058	–	5,058
	25,029	418,574	443,603

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

7. Capital grant income

	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
North East LEP	–	–	68,790	68,790
Community Foundation T & W	–	–	1,250	1,250
Kitchen Spacehive	–	–	8,000	8,000
Rothley Trust	–	–	1,600	1,600
HCR Hewitsons	–	–	2,500	2,500
The Clothworks Foundation	1,000	1,000	41,000	41,000
Garfield Weston	6,500	6,500	23,500	23,500
Neighbourly Foundation	1,000	1,000	–	–
Wolfson Foundation	75,000	75,000	–	–
Tudor Trust	15,000	15,000	–	–
Community Foundation T & W - Ron & Louise Fund	4,000	4,000	–	–
Locality	8,164	8,164	–	–
	110,664	110,664	146,640	146,640

8. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Income generating	96	–	96
Produce sales	12,315	4,693	17,009
Internal Quality Assurance	6,287	–	6,287
OCN charges	48,423	–	48,423
School visits	4,771	–	4,771
Workshop income	360	–	360
	72,252	4,693	76,945

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income generating	48	–	48
Produce sales	18,810	–	18,810
Internal Quality Assurance	4,241	–	4,241
OCN charges	27,202	–	27,202
School visits	180	–	180
	50,481	–	50,481

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

9. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	**£**	£	£
Bank interest receivable	2,844	2,844	220	220

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**
	£	£	**£**
Direct costs			
Project staff salaries	8,433	431,666	440,099
Project staff other costs	1,093	2,132	3,225
Activities	845	5,250	6,095
Event costs	2,936	113	3,049
Garden materials and equipment	1,367	9,632	10,999
Vehicle hire	–	–	–
Other project costs	537	15,234	15,771
Food	3,403	8,705	12,108
Project Office/Admin Costs	1,642	20,938	22,580
Project Service User Costs Membership	2,053	2,663	4,716
Support Costs			
Support staff salaries	28,449	354	28,803
Support staff other costs	28	–	28
Volunteer costs	10	28	38
Office costs	9,645	5,777	15,422
Establishment costs	12,459	12,664	25,123
Repairs and renewals	6,574	105	6,679
New Building Costs	–	–	–
Professional fees	4,008	31,958	35,966
Insurance	2,697	–	2,697
Sundry	524	–	524
Depreciation	–	–	–
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	2,280	–	2,280
	88,983	547,219	636,202

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Direct costs			
Project staff salaries	4,998	318,138	323,136
Project staff other costs	1,853	1,569	3,422
Activities	–	6,243	6,243
Event costs	–	1,308	1,308
Garden materials and equipment	–	11,232	11,232
Vehicle hire	–	120	120
Other project costs	2,706	18,302	21,008
Food	–	6,713	6,713
Project Office/Admin Costs	–	12,592	12,592
Project Service User Costs Membership	–	5,969	5,969
Support Costs			
Support staff salaries	51,172	14,752	65,924
Support staff other costs	765	–	765
Volunteer costs	180	–	180
Office costs	6,372	1,978	8,350
Establishment costs	17,552	11,145	28,697
Repairs and renewals	2,824	775	3,599
New Building Costs	–	–	–
Professional fees	5,611	7,694	13,305
Insurance	–	6,897	6,897
Sundry	–	84	84
Depreciation	–	–	–
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	2,280	–	2,280
	96,313	425,511	521,824

11. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,280	2,280

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	421,910	350,923
Social security costs	29,462	23,927
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	17,530	14,210
	468,902	389,060

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the part time CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,811 (2023: £36,243).

The average head count of employees during the year was 26 (2023: 21). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable activities	25	20
	26	21

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefit from an employment with their charity or related entity.

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Property Extension £	Garden Sculpture £	Office Equipment £	Garden Structures £	Tools and Equipment £	**Total £**
Cost						
At 1 Apr 2023	225,621	16,830	14,705	13,956	2,819	273,932
Additions	34,965	–	–	–	–	34,965
At 31 Mar 2024	260,586	16,830	14,705	13,956	2,819	308,897
Depreciation						
At 1 Apr 2023 and 31 Mar 2024	–	16,830	14,705	13,956	2,819	48,311
Carrying amount						
At 31 Mar 2024	260,586	–	–	–	–	260,586
At 31 Mar 2023	225,621	–	–	–	–	225,621

15. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	10,094	9,750
Accrued income	87,297	26,525
	97,391	36,275

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	27,313	28,967
Deferred income	174,388	209,420
Accruals	2,280	2,280
Social security and other taxes	2,643	2,299
Other creditors	7,251	10,945
	213,875	253,911

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

17. Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	209,420	117,990
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(209,415)	(117,990)
Amount deferred in year	174,383	209,420
Balance carried forward	174,388	209,420

18. Defined contribution pension scheme

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £17,530 (2023: £14,210).

19. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	**At 31 March 2024**
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	173,700	98,885	(88,983)	(1,597)	182,005
Designated fund - New building	225,621	–	–	34,965	260,586
	399,321	98,885	(88,983)	33,368	442,591

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	179,867	90,146	(96,313)	–	173,700
Designated fund - New building	91,927	–	–	133,694	225,621
	271,794	90,146	(96,313)	133,694	399,321

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Ashden Trust	2,722	–	(2,928)	206	–
Bailey Thomas	448	6,500	(6,948)	–	–
BBC Children in Need	4,387	24,282	(27,240)	440	1,869
Charles Lewis	–	1,836	(1,836)	–	–
Connected voice Water	1,386	–	–	–	1,386
Community Pantry	9,085	–	(9,085)	–	–
Cost of Living	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
D'Oyly Carte	–	2,000	(1,604)	–	396
Elderberries Hen Project	–	10,000	(9,995)	(5)	–
Enterprise Development	–	27,000	(27,000)	–	–
Flag Project	–	490	(391)	–	99
Floral Fusion	–	4,880	(4,193)	(687)	–
George & Peggy	–	6,070	(5,375)	(643)	52
Groundwork	–	14,490	(14,589)	99	–
Hays Travel	1,100	–	(1,100)	–	–
Henry Smith	1,043	74,000	(74,561)	–	482
Heritage Lottery	–	168,709	(168,709)	–	–
I Will Fund	–	6,018	(5,359)	(659)	–
J Lewis Foundation	–	8,404	(8,210)	–	194
Karbon Homes	–	5,458	(2,507)	178	3,129
Kellett Fund	234	29,724	(26,348)	(2,005)	1,605
Lloyds Bank Foundation	–	15,333	(12,811)	–	2,522
National Lottery	–	961	(74)	–	887
Newcastle City Council	–	4,998	(5,061)	63	–
Nightshades	814	19,244	(18,540)	(1,518)	–
Partiger	1,122	3,482	(7,207)	2,603	–
Peoples Health Trust	–	2,579		(2,579)	–
Platten Family	–	6,000	(5,555)	–	445
Postcode Neighbourhood	4,988	20,000	(24,272)	–	716
Power to change Programmes	2,815	2,500	(5,315)	–	–
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	998	–	–	–	998
Newcastle University	2,481	3,039	(3,099)	–	2,421
Schools of Sanctuary	4,740	8,086	(13,154)	–	(328)
Shears Foundation	–	1,500	(539)	–	961
Society of Holy	–	9,000	(5,976)	–	3,024
Storage	–	4,089	(4,089)	–	–
Tesco	–	1,080	(1,073)	(7)	–
Tudor Trust	10,253	10,000	(16,051)	–	4,202
Ward Committee	1,457	–	(1,457)	–	–
Woodland Wellbeing	3,268	6,600	(9,595)	327	600
Other small Grants	2,864	–	(2,793)	28	98
New Build	24,193	110,664	(7,579)	(29,209)	98,069
	80,398	624,016	(547,219)	(33,368)	123,827

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Active Communities Peoples Health	–	15,473	(15,473)	–	–
Ashden Trust	–	4,918	(2,196)	–	2,722
Bailey Thomas	7,106	8,500	(15,158)	–	448
Ballinger Charitable Trust	619	–	(619)	–	–
BBC Children in Need	12,552	32,040	(40,205)	–	4,387
Best Summer Ever	313	–	(313)	–	–
Community Foundation T&W	139	–	(139)	–	4,387
Asian	734	–	(734)	–	–
Curtain PARP	214	–	(214)	–	–
Connected voice Water	–	3,050	(1,664)		1,386
Cooperative Foundation	(18)	–	18	–	–
Community Pantry	–	12,150	(3,065)		9,085
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	409	–	(409)	–	–
Enterprise Development	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Groundwork Youth Education	–	4,896	(4,896)	–	–
Hadrian Trust	1,457	–	(1,457)	–	–
Hays Travel	–	1,100	–	–	1,100
Henry Smith	5,458	15,000	(19,415)	–	1,043
Heritage Lottery	115	201,587	(201,702)	–	–
Joicey Trust	–	3,300	(3,300)	–	–
Kellett Fund	437	10,563	(10,766)	–	234
Lloyds Bank Foundation	3,132	34,962	(38,094)	–	–
Nightshades	–	814	–	–	814
Partiger	–	1,161	(39)	–	1,122
Postcode Neighbourhood	–	4,988	–	–	4,988
Power to change Programmes	–	7,500	(4,685)	–	2,815
Power to Change, Colours	196	–	(196)	–	–
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	1,118	–	(120)	–	998
Newcastle University	1,081	2,000	(600)	–	2,481
Schools of Sanctuary	–	9,886	(5,146)	–	4,740
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	222	–	(222)	–	–
Tudor Trust	8,422	31,085	(29,254)	–	10,253
Trust House	11,929	3,333	(15,262)	–	–
True Colours Trust	80	–	(80)	–	–
UK Youth	51	–	(51)	–	–
Well Newcastle	607	1,000	(1,607)	–	–
Willan Charitable Trust	2,036	–	(2,036)	–	–
Ward Committee	1,457	–	–	–	1,457
Woodland Wellbeing	–	3,268	–	–	3,268
YHN	–	3,000	(300)	–	–
Other small grants	3,277	–	(413)	–	2,864
New Build	11,247	146,640	–	(133,694)	24,193
	74,390	565,214	(425,512)	(133,694)	80,398

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Purpose of major restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Bailey Thomas	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
BBC Children in Need	Detached Youth Work / Nature Rangers Youth Group
Charles Lewis	Gardening for Dementia Programme
D'oyly Carte	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Prime Fund	HenPower
Enterprise Development Fund	Core Costs
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear	Flag Project
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear	Floral Fusion, Late Bloomers
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear - George & Peggy Fund	Youth Work
Groundwork UK	Youth & Education Assistant
Hays Travel	School Visit Programme
Henry Smith	Core Costs
Heritage Lottery Fund	Environmental renewal, contribution to several programmes
I Will Fund	Youth Work
John Lewis Foundation	Youth Work
Karbon Homes	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Kellett Fund	Elderberries Older People's Programme
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
Newcastle City Council	Community Pantry and Warm Space
Newcastle City Council	Nightshades Youth Group
Pargiter Trust	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Peoples Health Trust	Gardening for Dementia Programme
Platten Family Trust	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	Wildlife Superheroes School Visits Programme
Power to Change Programme	Core Costs
Community Foundation T&W Wellesley Trust	Schools of Sanctuary
Shears Foundation	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Society of the Holy Jesus Child	BREEZE Forest School for wellbeing programme
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear	Garden Storage
Tesco Community Grant	Youth & Play Programmes – Food Costs
Tudor Trust	Core Costs
Awards for All, National Lottery	Woodland Wellbeing
The Clothworks Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2
Garfield Weston Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2
Locality Community Ownership Fund	Building Extension Work phase 2
Neighbourly Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 1
Community Foundation T&W, Ron & Louise Fund	Building Extension Work phase 2
Tudor Trust	Building Extension Work phase 2
Wolfson Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 2

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Tangible fixed assets	–	260,586	–	260,586
Current assets	395,880	–	123,827	519,707
Creditors less than 1 year	(213,875)	–	–	(213,875)
Net assets	182,005	260,586	123,827	566,418

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	225,621	–	225,621
Current assets	427,611	–	80,398	508,009
Creditors less than 1 year	(253,911)	–	–	(253,911)
Net assets	173,700	225,621	80,398	479,719

TPA Connect Ltd
38 Stanhope Road
South Shields
NE33 4BT

Dear TPA Connect Ltd,

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as we consider necessary in connection with your independent examination of the charity's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate and are sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can make each of the following representations. All representations are made to the best of our knowledge and belief.

General

1 We acknowledge that the work performed by you is substantially less in scope than an audit performed in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and that you do not express an audit opinion.

2 We confirm that the charitable company qualifies as small in accordance with the conditions set out in chapter 1 of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

3 We confirm that the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 the requirement to have its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2024 audited. We also confirm that the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the financial year in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

4 We have fulfilled our responsibilities as directors / trustees as set out in the terms of your engagement letter, under the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 for preparing financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you.

5 All the transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records.

6 All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your independent examination. We have provided you with unrestricted access to all appropriate persons within the charity, and with all other records and related information requested, including minutes of all management and trustee meetings and correspondence with The Charity Commission.

7 The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

8 The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial both individually and in total.

Assets and liabilities

9 The charity has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the charity's assets, except for those that are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

10 All actual liabilities, contingent liabilities and guarantees given to third parties have been recorded or disclosed as appropriate.

11 We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and where relevant the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

Accounting estimates

12 The methods, data and significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures, are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement and disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.

Loans and arrangements

13 The charitable company has not granted any advances or credits to, or made guarantees on behalf of, directors.

Legal claims

14 We have disclosed to you all claims in connection with litigation that have been, or are expected to be, received and such matters, as appropriate, have been properly accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.

Laws and regulations

15 We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.

Related parties

16 We are not aware of any related party matters which require disclosure in order to comply with legislative and accounting standards requirements.

Subsequent events

17 All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements which require adjustment or disclosure have been properly accounted for and disclosed.

Going concern

18 We believe that the charity's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the charity's needs. We have considered a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

Grants and donations

19 All grants, donations and other income, the receipt of which is subject to specific terms or conditions, have been notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms or conditions in the application of such income.

Yours faithfully

Hel[redacted]ick (Dec 19, 2024 12:18 GMT)

.....

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees

Helen McStravick

Date: 19 December 2024

Scotswood Natural Garden Limited 31.3.24 Final Accounts

Final Audit Report 2024-12-20

Created:	2024-12-19
By:	Kay Walker (kay@jfstorbitt.co.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAbiQlvYud7R2iEsq36Mwxz1njHTEZdE1o

"Scotswood Natural Garden Limited 31.3.24 Final Accounts" History

Document created by Kay Walker (kay@jfstorbitt.co.uk)
2024-12-19 - 11:59:01 GMT

Document emailed to helen.mcstravick@hotmail.co.uk for signature
2024-12-19 - 12:00:59 GMT

Email viewed by helen.mcstravick@hotmail.co.uk
2024-12-19 - 12:15:16 GMT

Signer helen.mcstravick@hotmail.co.uk entered name at signing as Helen McStravick
2024-12-19 - 12:18:05 GMT

Document e-signed by Helen McStravick (helen.mcstravick@hotmail.co.uk)
Signature Date: 2024-12-19 - 12:18:07 GMT - Time Source: server

Document emailed to milesjhenderson@me.com for signature
2024-12-19 - 12:18:09 GMT

Email viewed by milesjhenderson@me.com
2024-12-20 - 10:51:11 GMT

Signer milesjhenderson@me.com entered name at signing as Miles Henderson
2024-12-20 - 10:53:08 GMT

Document e-signed by Miles Henderson (milesjhenderson@me.com)
Signature Date: 2024-12-20 - 10:53:10 GMT - Time Source: server

Document emailed to trevor@tpacc.org.uk for signature
2024-12-20 - 10:53:16 GMT

Adobe Acrobat Sign

Email viewed by trevor@tpacc.org.uk

2024-12-20 - 10:54:12 GMT

Signer trevor@tpacc.org.uk entered name at signing as J T Hogg

2024-12-20 - 10:55:05 GMT

Document e-signed by J T Hogg (trevor@tpacc.org.uk)

Signature Date: 2024-12-20 - 10:55:07 GMT - Time Source: server

Agreement completed.

2024-12-20 - 10:55:07 GMT

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1144976

Accounts

DocuSign Envelope ID: 87B9B6AB-4598-4859-AC00-E0B8C9B5C08C

COMPANY NUMBER: 07523792 (ENGLAND & WALES)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1144976

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

DocuSign Envelope ID: 87B9B6AB-4598-4859-AC00-E0B8C9B5C08C

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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Balance Sheet	page 24
Notes to Accounts	page 25-34

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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Chair's Comments:

2022/23 has been an exciting and challenging time for the garden with the development of the Garden House into much needed extra space for the growing team of staff and volunteers. I am very proud of the excellent team that runs the garden and the way they have continued to offer vital services to our local community despite the disruption caused by the new building.

The garden goes from strength to strength. It seems that every square inch provides something for people and wildlife. I spent a brilliant day in the summer with Andy and volunteers looking after the bees. What a fantastic experience. Make sure that you pick up some of our honey and some of the various preserves and pickles produced by Sticky Business from the garden produce.

The garden that we all enjoy is only possible due to the support of our volunteers. They excelled this year with the restoration of the Dragonfly Pond. A huge undertaking. The restored pond looks brilliant and I'm sure is much appreciated by our great crested newts.

Over the last ten years or so, the diversity of people visiting the garden, and benefiting from the range of services that we offer, has increased enormously. The team is determined to continue this trend and to see more diversity among our volunteers, staff, and trustees. The work with Ngozi Lyn Cole, in partnership with West End Refugee Service, to develop a new anti-racist EDI strategy and action plan for the Garden has been a positive experience. We look forward to implementing the action plan in the coming years.

We continue to welcome school groups to learn in the garden and our youth groups continue to be oversubscribed. We have been running the Duke of Edinburgh Award at the garden for several years and 2023 was a landmark year when Matthew Leask became Scotswood Garden's first Gold Award recipient. Very well-done Matthew and very well done to the team that made it all possible.

Ten years ago, most of the garden's work was focused on the garden itself. It has been wonderful to see the growth in the number of different groups who now use the garden as part of their social lives. The Elderberries, Late Bloomers, and Dementia Garden participants are three excellent examples of the types of groups that use the garden in such a positive way. The benefits to physical and mental wellbeing are obvious to all.

I do not have the space to cover all our work. Please take the time to read the rest of this report that covers all the excellent work that we do. Also note the long list of funders, without whose generous support, none of this would be possible. The trustees are extremely grateful for their continued support.

Chris Francis, Chair

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Company Information

Company Number: 07523792 (England and Wales)

Status: The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1

Charity Registration Number: 1144976

Address: Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 6TU

Patrons

Ed Tyler and Rob Higgins

Trustees/Directors at 31st March 2023

Christopher Francis	Chair
Stephanie Cole	Deputy Chair
Miles Henderson	Treasurer
Vanessa Cutter	Secretary
Chris Warburton- Brown	

2022/23 Staff

Karen Dobson	Chief Executive Officer
Farah Kurji	Development Manager
Claire Forman	Business Development Officer
Ann Stafford	Office & Finance Administrator
Harriet Menter	Education Manager
Rosie Tyson	Education Officer
Kay Scott	Education Officer
Nicky Sargeant	Play & Youth Manager
Amber Cooperthwaite	Lead Youth Worker
Caroline Roach	Youth Worker
Alice Holliday	Detached Youth Worker
Heather Hewitt	Assistant Youth Worker
Leanne Defty	Adult Wellbeing Manager
Jenny Hopper	Older People' Garden Officer
Rosie Woods	Garden Officer
Sean Clay	Garden & Community Manager
Mike Whatmore	Plant Nursery Garden Officer
Claire Metcalfe	Plant Nursery Garden Assistant
Andrew Downey	Garden Assistant

We also employ a number of sessional staff for volunteer, youth and education sessions.

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Scotswood Natural Community Garden was established:

- To provide and maintain a public garden or gardens for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the north east region and others in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants:
- To advance knowledge and understanding of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability.

Mission

To inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health & wellbeing.

Values

- We listen to the people in our community using their views to plan and deliver our work.
- We treat people with dignity and respect.
- We ensure equality of opportunity and access.

Strategic Objectives

- To maintain the community garden for the benefit of the wider community and provide a haven for native flora and fauna to flourish.
- To improve the health, wellbeing and fitness of the wider community.
- To support and enable people to gain new skills and knowledge and to develop their creativity.
- To develop a cohesive and sustainable community in Scotswood.
- To educate people about how to better live sustainably.
- To maintain long term sustainability of Scotswood Natural Community Garden.

Core Strands of Work 2022/23

- Volunteering & Training
- Adult Wellbeing Services
- Education and Training
- Youth & Play Programme
- Outreach & Community Events
- Stick Business and Canny Plants

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Eco Building

We are delighted to report that considerable progress to our new eco building has been made which will bring much-needed office, kitchen, classroom, toilets, youth, education and volunteers space and storage facilities for our ever expanding work. Extensive groundworks have been completed and donated shipping containers were craned onto site in March 2023, amid much excitement, completing stage 1 of the build. We are taking a brief pause before starting phase 2 which will be completed in 2024.

It's been a long and sometimes frustrating process and we are grateful to Architect Henry Amos from Brightblue Studios in North Shields for his ongoing advice and to the staff team for their flexibility and patience in moving into temporary space in the John Marley Centre. Fundraising for the new building is ongoing to respond to global price hikes but we are thankful to our funders at the **Clothworkers Foundation**, **Wolfson Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, Tudor Trust** and many others for their support. Videos based on Architect's drawings are on our YouTube Channel SNCG Video A

Anti Racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Review

We have continued working with consultant Ngozi Lyn Cole, in partnership with West End Refugee Service, to ensure that anti discriminatory practice is embedded throughout all our work and the Garden continues to be a welcoming, safe and inclusive place for the whole community. The staff and trustee team have benefitted from 4 illuminating training workshops in anti racist and inclusive practice and a working group made up of staff and

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trustees have drafted a new anti-racist EDI strategy and action plan for the Garden. To inform this, we ran workshops and developed a questionnaire to ask the views of adults and children who use the Garden who gave feedback on what is working well and useful suggestions for improvements.

Next Year and Beyond

We are looking forward to launching our new strategy and action plan in January 2024 and becoming an accredited Garden of Sanctuary.

Environmental Impact Review

2022 saw a renewed focus on improving our environmental credentials by starting a full environmental audit of our work. The first step has been to sign up for Investors In The Environment, through the Going Green Together initiative led by VONNE, with the ultimate aim of reaching 'green' accreditation. So far staff have participated in training sessions on how to conduct environmental audits, sustainable transport options, how to measure CO_2 emissions, and a SmartCarbon™ (app for measuring greenhouse gas emissions) on-boarding session.

Volunteering & Training Programme

Growing Together Project

The Garden wouldn't be the special place it is without the dedication and commitment of our incredible team of volunteers who gave their time and energy to the Garden whatever the weather. This year 75 people volunteered contributing **5936 hours**! We are very grateful to each and every one of them.

We are pleased to continue our partnership with West End Refugee Service and are working closely with the Scotswood Garden Link Worker, Val Amonsenkov, to ensure that people seeking sanctuary are welcomed as volunteers and we are extremely grateful for their skills and the commitment they have given to the Garden. We were proud to be awarded our 17th Community Green Flag Award in 2022 and received some lovely feedback from the panel, testament once again to the dedication and skill of our garden volunteers.

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Our adult volunteering programme, Growing Together, is now into its seventh year. The success of this project owes a huge amount to **Lloyds Bank Foundation,** who were the first charitable foundation to support the project back in 2016. This year substantial support for Growing Together has also come from **The Green Recovery Challenge Fund and The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund.**

The project has had another very busy year. **295 volunteering sessions** have been run in the Garden with volunteers working on ambitious gardening and conservation projects all year round. Volunteers can work on anything from making Christmas decorations for sale, helping us move offices to making the paths safe for children who use the Garden. A big achievement this year was restoring the pond habitat in our Dragonfly Pond which had sprung a leak and we were worried that the habitat was becoming unviable for the species that make it their home. Our amazing team of volunteers worked over winter to dig out and reline the pond with a clay lining and replant the edges with plants from our nursery Canny Plants. No small task and we couldn't be happier with the results. The pond is holding water well and wildlife is thriving.

Long term evaluation of our Growing Together project shows that nearly all our volunteers report increased confidence, physical activity and wellbeing, better connectedness to nature, more social connections and improved skills after attending the sessions for 3 months or more.

Canny Plants

Since the nursery was established in late 2021, the nursery team have grown around **15,000 pollinator-friendly perennials across 160 different species,** using peat-free compost and pots made from recycled plastic. Plants were chosen to increase local biodiversity in a wide range of locations, throughout the year. A plant pot return scheme has also been set up where approximately 2000 pots have been returned for cleaning and re-use, reducing both cost (£346) and plastic waste.

The nursery has provided an average of one therapeutic gardening session a week with our volunteers in the greenhouses and polytunnels. Sessions have included general nursery practice from watering and moving plants according to growth and reaction to environmental conditions, to potting on and pricking out juvenile plants, and later, the

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ongoing maintenance and care of mature plants. The plants have then been planted in the Garden itself and donated to over 30 local schools and community organisations. Over the year, **4020 plants were donated,** doubling the original target of 2000. The nursery has also provided plants for Urban Green's 'Beelines' project, which aims to increase biodiversity in Newcastle's public parks and green spaces.

Next Year and Beyond

The aims for the nursery heading into the 2023 - 2024 period are to increase the number of plant species, reduce the dependency on mains water by installing a water catchment system, to continue building links with local schools and community organisations, as well as improve access to horticultural training and education for local people. We would also like to establish a 'nursery-specific' volunteer day for those with a particular interest in the day-to-day running of a commercial sized nursery.

Sticky Business

Sticky Business has had another great year increasing the range and number of products sold, despite the challenges of cooking in a temporary kitchen. A fantastic 2318 **products** were sold over the year - 1819 jars of preserves and honey, 137 bottles of apple juice and 362 bottles of cordial. We have continued to stock 3 shops as well as selling at our own community fun days and at markets. Our most popular product was once again the Summer Fruits jam but this year has seen new flavours, such as Blackberry, Raspberry and Cocoa Nib jam which have also proved to be very popular.

Next year and beyond

Setting up a new training kitchen in the new eco building will be a good opportunity to involve more volunteers and young people in Sticky Business. We are planning on running some taster sessions for our Nightshades youth group to give them a flavour of running a small business and making gorgeous preserves.

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Older People's Services

Dare we say it? The first year of normality after the separation, hardship, and isolation of the covid pandemic. Our community of older people have had a joyous year of reconnecting, and it has been amazing to see the Garden playing a central role within that. Whether they are helping to tend our vegetable crops, creating new craft items, or learning about the needs of our newts, the enthusiasm that our older participants have for nature, sustainability and nurturing a welcoming environment for all is wonderful to be a part of. As always, the wellbeing needs of our community has been at the forefront of what our services deliver and with this in mind, our current Older People's Services offer includes:

Elderberries

- Supported volunteering
- Late Bloomers older women's group
- Nature-based workshops
- Outreach programme
- Partnership with West End Refugee Service

Gardening for Dementia

- Therapeutic gardening and nature-based activities
- Outreach programme
- Supported volunteering for those living with Young Onset Dementia (YOD)

Partnership with Marie Curie - The Good Life Project

- Monthly sessions held at Marie Curie for inpatients and outpatients

Winter Wellbeing

- Scotswood Socials
- Community Pantry

Elderberries

Another busy and successful year for the Elderberries group. Now that the pandemic is in our distant memories, delivery of the project has been entirely garden based with the exception of the outreach programme. The table below shows the number of people engaging with different parts of the programme and how many sessions were delivered.

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Group	Number of people	Number of sessions
Late Bloomers	12	48
Supported volunteering	20	255
Outreach	39	10
Older persons month event	20	1
Nature based sessions	47	18
Training (intro to Permaculture, bird, pollinator and pond life ID)	7	7

Across the different groups within Elderberries, many activities have been enjoyed. The Late Bloomers experienced their first year of cut flower abundance and came up with lots of ideas for next year. Nature based sessions this year included butterfly feeders, getting up close and personal with our honey bees, creating bird boxes and holding an Environmental Action Day.

We also held our very first Older Persons month event! Mirroring this year's theme of 'celebrating the contribution of older women', we showcased the work of the Late Bloomers, enjoyed some mindful movement and music in the woods and crafted while listening to songs from 'the good old times'.

'Thank you for continuing to offer Elderberries to us. The companionship, learning and creativity I get is great for me. Scotswood Garden is a special place.'

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Gardening for Dementia

Over 47 sessions, 25 individual people have accessed our Gardening for Dementia programme. Highlights this year have included moving forward with our support for people living with young onset dementia and a trip open to all our participants with dementia to Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens.

We have worked with a small number of people with young onset dementia, but we have seen huge benefits among this small group. Keeping a sense of independence and having a routine are important reasons for attending according to both the people living with dementia but also the people who care for them.

Winter Wellbeing

The winter did bring new challenges with the rise in cost of living and the crisis that unfolded but our team responded quickly, listened to the needs of our older community, accessed new funding sources and created a much-needed support system. A membership with Fare Share and grants from Newcastle City Council allowed us to provide low-cost food items, wellbeing essentials and a warm social space to spend time as well as support over Christmas.

'I love the Thursday socials; can we have them when it's warm outside too?'

Across the whole older people's programme this year, we have achieved the following outcomes:

- A wider range of people have been involved in heritage.
- People have developed skills both in face to face and remote settings.
- People have improved knowledge about heritage of the natural world, leading to a change in ideas and actions.
- People have greater wellbeing and security particularly over the winter months.
- People have participated in social activities and improved their social connections as a result.
- Older people have taken a hands-on role in project delivery and decision making.
- The Garden spaces reflect what our older community want from their green space - more area is used for cut flowers and plants for dyeing with.

None of this vital work would have been possible without support from our funders: -**The Green Recovery Challenge Fund, The Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear, The People's Health Trust, Newcastle City Council and YHNCommunity Fund**

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Education & Training

Wildlife Superheroes

This year we ran **110 school visits** with **2292 child** attendances from 21 different schools covering topics such as bees and pollination, minibeasts, life cycles, and learning about different species of plants as well as full day sessions on the stone age and even some food tech!

As well as meeting National Curriculum objectives and making our sessions active and fun, we have continued to make time for nature connection and supported play times which are invaluable to children whether that is listening to bird song, watching the trees move in the wind, touching the bark on trees or simply the joy of finding minibeasts. Play is supported by a range of resources such as potions making box, den making and cuddly birds.

This year 100% teachers strongly agreed or agreed that the children had enjoyed their visit.100% agreed or strongly agreed that the children had learnt something new about nature. 100% strongly agreed that the children connected with nature. We have also supported schools to take action to help nature including taking pollinator friendly plants, making bird feeders, litter picking, growing food, revamping their forest school areas and making bug hotels.

It feels chilled here

This is the first time I have ever climbed a tree.

I love it here. So many cool areas

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Schools of Sanctuary

This year we started offering new sessions to schools who are applying to become Schools of Sanctuary to welcome children who are seeking sanctuary around the theme of welcome and belonging led by a new member of the Education team Kay Stott. We ran 4 sessions for 3 different schools, in addition to sessions for Canning Street school.

Welcome banners in different languages made during SOS sessions using natural paints and hapa zome.

Breeze Forest School Project, Research and Network

Lucy Tiplady from Newcastle University published her evaluation of Breeze based on data she had collected and analysed over the previous 3 years. The research found,

"a wealth of evidence of the ways in which the Breeze Forest School Project has supported children and young people both in their sense of wellbeing and in developing skills to enable engagement in learning."

Children and young people enjoyed and engaged with forest school, which was significant because they did not enjoy or engage with schooling. The sessions led to improved relationships, social and communication skills, both between the children and young people, and with school staff. It also facilitated connection to nature, and this led to increased well-being. Improvements in behaviour and emotional regulation were also found as well as a more positive sense of self. All these outcomes contributed to increased well-being for the children and young people and increased engagement within the classroom.

The Breeze project continued to work with 5 schools and started work with 4 new schools. As well as regular network meetings, we arranged for 2 specialist training sessions. Harriet, our Education Manager, presented at a national conference on using art and nature to support wellbeing, and her book chapter was published in a book called Supporting New Digital Natives: Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing in a Hi-Tech Age.

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Forest School Training

We ran a well-attended level 1 Forest School training course in May, and a level 1 for parents and carers at West Denton Primary school in October. We also ran two level 3 Forest School Leaders Courses.

We hosted a delegation of teachers, lecturers and policy makers from an Iraqi led charity who hope to create a similar Garden in Iraq and ran a session for childcare students from Excelsior academy. We started running forest school sessions on Friday with local charity Friends Action Northeast, for adults with learning disabilities.

Education staff also visited St Lawrence's primary, and Benton Park primary to advise them on making best use of their outdoor spaces.

I have absolutely loved every second I have spent at Forest School training. I will remember this experience for a long time to come

This course has completely changed my life and led me to a job I absolutely love. Thank you so much

Youth & Play Programme

The Play & Youth team supported **370 young people** during 22-23 delivering **322 sessions** over the year including:

Early Explorers for pre-school and home schooled to age 8
Nature Rangers for 6–9-year-olds
Adventure Rangers for 10–13-year-olds
Nightshades Rangers for 13–18-year-olds
Art, Music & Movement Garden - inclusive family creativity
Scotswood Street Rangers - detached youth work

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Our regular weekly sessions ran throughout the year along with additional free trips and garden-based events. We celebrated the return of our favourite trip, Beach Connect, a free coach trip for families from Art & Music Garden, Early Explorers, and Nature Rangers to come together at Whitley Bay with art, music, movement, sport and paddling, attended by 67 parents, carers, young volunteers and children.

In addition to our weekly work we supported 6 under 25's to continue working toward their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. We also developed some new partnerships which allowed us to expand our offer. Curious Arts helped us to host a Mini Pride event at the garden to celebrate diversity and inclusivity and Urban Green helped our groups learn about bees and pollination with their Beelines project.

We are very proud that Matthew Leask was Scotswood Garden's first **Gold Award completion,** with a trip to London to receive his award. Well done, Matthew!

There are two more young people hoping to achieve Gold in the coming year. Five of our Nightshade Rangers completed their Bronze Expedition section in scorching weather on Hadrian's Wall and the Northumberland coast; hard work has continued with the other sections of their awards throughout the year.

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Our

Nightshades produced a short video for Newcastle's Youth Fund to explain why they love coming to the garden and the benefits it offers - as a result they secured further funding for the project. You can find the video on our YouTube channel. Big thanks to all our funders for making this work possible including the **Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear, the Green Recovery Challenge Fund**

Next year and beyond

As well as running our regular awesome groups and activities we are excited about delivering new activities with our Nightshades group to give them a flavour of all the opportunities and enterprises we have at the Garden.

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Outreach, Community & Events

Our 4 community days at the Garden were bigger and better than ever before.

Summer fun day saw us celebrating all things friendship as part of the 2022 Great Get Together in memory of the late Jo Cox MP.

145 adults and 128 children got to know new people by enjoying a picnic together on the meadow, making friendship bracelets and playing human bingo. We gathered to plant a tree in honour of our new patron (and former trustee) Councillor Rob Higgins who has volunteered for the Garden since it was first set up.

Apple Day 2022 saw **383 adults and children** celebrating the apple harvest with pressing and juicing workshops, our first ever permaculture trail apple crafts, face painting, apple pancakes and free tea and cake and plants to take home.

The year ended with a frosty Winter Wonderland celebration at the Garden with Santa kept very busy in his grotto giving out books to over **150 children** and the stunning 12 trees of Christmas making the garden look magical. Feedback from all the events has been fantastic with everyone reporting that they have learned about and felt more connected to nature by coming.

We also ran some fantastic outreach sessions at West End Refugee Service in their beautiful Garden to connect people with our work who have not been to the Garden before. Families enjoyed planting pea shoots and taking home windowsill salad boxes and botanical printing, bench making in their brand new forest school area which will be used for events.

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Financial Review

The financial statements show the state of the finances and activity during the last year.

Principle sources of funds

Our main sources of funding are governmental, trust funds and increasingly earned income from services.

Funders

We are very grateful for support from all our funders - they include:

- Tudor Trust
- North West Youth
- Well Newcastle Gateshead Arts Fund
- Joicey Trust
- NE LEP Local Growth Fund
- BBC Children in Need
- New to Nature
- The Green Recovery Challenge Fund
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- Baily Thomas Charitable Fund
- The Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear
- People's Health Trust
- Henry Smith Charity
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- The Wolfson Foundation
- Postcode Neighbourhood Fund
- Hays Travel Foundation

Reserves Policy and Investment Performance

The trustee's policy is to maintain reserves to ensure that in the event of a funding shortfall the project can continue for at least six months. The Management Committee sanctioned future use of the reserve to enable the continuation of project work while continuing to seek funding. The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005 edition).

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Bank

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited banks with the Cooperative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

Accountants

The Independent Examiner is:

J T Hogg ACA of TPA Connect Ltd, 38 Stanhope Road, South Shields, NE33 4BT

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was an unincorporated registered charity (date of registration 30 May 2000), governed by a constitution adopted 16 December 1999 as amended 9 March 2000. On 1st April, 2012 the charity was incorporated into a company limited by guarantee. It is managed by a Management Committee which consists of the Trustees and is attended by the CEO and Administrator. Meetings are held quarterly.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The management committee may also appoint 1/3rd co-opted members. A third of trustees retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting following their election/appointment.

All new trustees are given an induction pack detailing the charity's constitution, strategic plans, recent annual report and accounts, Charity Commission Leaflet - CC3 (a). Trustees are advised of training on their responsibilities at the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service.

Decision Making Process

The CEO sends a quarterly report of activities to the Management Committee. Decisions and actions are recommended and taken at this meeting.

Risks and Risk Management

The charity is dependent on grant funding for most of its income; this presents a considerable risk. The charity has a strategy in place to source alternative sustainable sources of income to reduce this risk.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the

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end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with (applicable law, regulations and trust deed). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have compiled with the duty in Section 17/5 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to public benefit statements.

Small Company Provisions

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

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……

On behalf of the Trustees **Helen McStravick Secretary**

12/21/2023
Date: ……

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Scotswood Natural Community Garden Ltd
I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 23 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) 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 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.
it is my responsibility to:
examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention to indicate that:
• accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
• the accounts do not accord with such records:
• they fail to comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
• there is any matter which, in my opinion, should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts

DocuSigned by:
Trevor Hogg
9C399FF1F13946B...

J T Hogg ACA
38 Stanhope Road
South Shields
NE33 4BT
Date: 21ST December 2023

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	14,416	-	**14,416**	10,053
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	25,029	418,574	**443,603**	406,554
Capital grants	8		146,640	**146,640**	103,174
Other trading activities	9	50,481		**50,481**	58,173
Investments	10	220		**220**	39
Total income		90,146	565,214	**655,360**	577,993
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	11	96,313	425,511	**521,824**	466,848
Total expenditure		96,313	425,511	**521,824**	466,848
Net income/(expenditure)		(6,167)	139,703	**133,536**	111,145
Transfers between funds		133,694	(133,694)		-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds		127,527	6,009	**133,536**	111,145
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		271,794	74,389	**346,183**	235,038
Total funds carried forward		399,321	80,398	**479,719**	346,183

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 29 to 42 form an integral part of these accounts.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1144976
Company Number 07523792

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2023

	notes	£	Total 2023 £	£	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	18		225,621		91,927
Total fixed assets			**225,621**		**91,927**
Current assets					
Debtors	19	36,275		86,824	
Cash at bank and in hand	20	471,734		339,324	
Total current asset		**508,009**		**426,148**	
Creditors: amounts failing due within one year	21	253,911		171,891	
Net current assets			**254,098**		**254,257**
Total assets less current liabilities			**479,719**		**346,183**
Total net assets or liabilities			**479,719**		**346,183**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			399,321		271,794
Restricted income funds			80,398		74,389
Total funds			**479,719**		**346,183**

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 23 to 31 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 23/12/2023

and are signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
Miles Henderson
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Miles Henderson
Treasurer

12/21/2023

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED Charity Number 1144976
(A company limited by guarantee) Company Number 07523792

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

As at 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net movement in funds	133,536	111,145
Depreciation	-	3,002
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(220)	(39)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	50,549	(64,146)
increase (decrease) in creditors	82,020	18,318
Net cash from operating activities	**265,885**	**68,280**
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(133,695)	(91,927)
Sale of property, plant and equipment		-
Interest received	220	39
Net cash used in investing activities	(133,475)	(91,888)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	132,410	(23,608)
Cash and cash equivalents at start of year	339,324	362,932
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	471,734	339,324

The notes on pages 29 to 42 form an integral part of these accounts.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £399,318 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows.. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliably.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital1 grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.
Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Donated goods and services

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 Interest receivable 1

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

3.7 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 Investment gains and losses .

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investment and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of garden projects, education projects, youth projects and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Garden sculptures	10%	Straight line
Garden structures	10%	Straight line
Tools and equipment	25%	Straight line
Office equipment	25%	Straight line

Property, which is under construction, will be depreciated when completed.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED Charity Number 1144976
(A company limited by guarantee) Company Number 07523792

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at 31 March 2023

Analysis of income	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
6 Donations and legacies					
Donations and gifts	14,416	-	-	14,416	10,053
	14,416	-	-	14,416	10,053
7 Charitable activities					
Income from a grants					
Active Communities	-	-	15,473	15,473	-
Ashden Trust	-	-	4,918	4,918	-
Bailey Thomas	-	-	8,500	8,500	15,000
BBC Children in Need	1,100	-	32,040	33,140	59,423
Community Foundation T & W	750	-	6,127	6,877	6,930
Connected Voice-Water Collection	1,000	-	3,050	4,050	-
Apprentice Kickstart	12,374	-	-	12,374	-
George and Peggy Trust Foundation	-	-	-	-	10,000
Cooperative Foundation	-	-	-	-	3,037
D'Oyly Carte	-	-	-	-	2,500
Enterprise Dev Fund	-	-	3,000	3,000	-
The Froebel Trust	-	-	-	-	2,880
Hadrian Trust	-	-	-	-	6,103
Hayes Travel	-	-	1,100	1,100	-
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	-	201,587	201,587	47,700
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	-	4,134
Henry Smith	-	-	15,000	15,000	119,022
Joicey Trust	-	-	3,300	3,300	-
Kellett Fund	-	-	10,563	10,563	16,500
Uoyds -Bank Foundation	-	-	34,962	34,962	33,934
New To Nature	-	-	3,198	3,198	-
Newcastle City Council	-	-	12,964	12,964	-
Newcastle University	-	-	2,000	2,000	
Postcode Local Trust	-	-	4,988	4,988	-
Power to Change	-	-	7,500	7,500	-
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	-	-	-	-	1,576
Schools of Sanctuary	-	-	9,886	9,886	-
Trust House	-	-	3,333	3,333	-
True Colours Trust Foundation	-	-	-	-	28,957
Tudor Trust	-	-	31,085	31,085	20,415
YHN	-	-	3,000	3,000	1,000
NE Youth Limited	3,181	-	-	3,181	3,832
Well Newcastle	-	-	1,000	1,000	9,423
Willan Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	5,000
Other small grants	1,566	-	-	1,566	4,150
Other income	5,058	-	-	5,058	5,038
	25,029	-	418,574	443,603	406,554
8 Capital grant income					
North East LEP	-	-	68,790	68,790	81,210
Power to Change	-	-	- -	-	11,000
Community Foundation T & W	-	-	1,250	1,250	1,000
Kitchen Spacehive	-	-	8,000	8,000	-
Rothley Trust	-	-	1,600	1,600	-
HCR Hewitsons	-	-	2,500	2,500	-
Clothworks	-	-	41,000	41,000	-
Garfield Weston	-	-	23,500	23,500	-
Neighbourly Foundation	-	-	- -	-	5,000
Other small grants	-	-	- -	-	4,964
			146,640	146,640	103,174
9 Other trading activities					
Produce sales	18,810	-	-	18,810	7,942
School visits	180	-	-	180	710
Other visits and hire of facilities	-	-	-	-	1,122
Internal Quality Assurance	4,241	-	-	4,241	5,361
Income generation	48	-	-	48	-
OCN charges	27,202	-	-	27,202	43,039
	50,481	-	-	50,481	58,174
10 Income from investments					
Bank interest	220	- -	-	220	39
	220	-	-	220	39

Income was £655,360(2022: £577,993) of which £90,146 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £77,570) and £565,214 was restricted (2022: £500,423)

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 31 March 2023

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
11 ***Charitable activities***	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs					
Project staff salaries	4,998	-	318,138	323,136	296,234
Project staff other costs	1,853	-	1,569	3,422	6,182
Activities	-	-	6,243	6,243	7,858
Event costs	-	-	1,308	1,308	1,338
Garden materials and equipment	-	-	11,232	11,232	11,645
Vehicle hire	-	-	120	120	2,640
Other Project Costs	2,706	-	18,302	21,008	17,978
Food		-	6,713	6,713	4,776
Project Office/Admin Costs		-	12,592	12,592	28,870
Project Service User Costs Membership		-	5,969	5,969	3,413
Support costs		-	-	-	-
Support staff salaries	51,172	-	14,752	65,924	23,819
Support staff other costs	765	-	-	765	558
Volunteer Costs	180	-	-	180	150
Office costs	6,372	-	1,978	8,350	15,404
Establishment costs	17,552	-	11,145	28,697	10,316
Repairs and renewals	2,824	-	775	3,599	10,972
New Building Costs		-	-		-
Professional fees	5,611	-	7,694	13,305	15,110
Insurance		-	6,897	6,897	6,096
Sundry		-	84	84	(1,117)
Depreciation		-	-	-	3,002
Governance costs		-	-	-	-
Trustee Meeting Costs		-	-	-	8
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on	2,280	-	-	2,280	1,597
	96,313	-	425,511	521,824	466,848

Expenditure on charitable activities was £521,824 '(2022: £466,848) of which £96,313 was unrestricted or designated (2021: £68,749) and £425,511 was restricted (2022: £398,099).

12 **Fees for examination of the accounts -** Unrestricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	2,280	1,597
Other accountancy services paid to the examiner	-	1,504
	2,280	3,101

13 **Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel**	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	350,923	288,255
Social security costs	23,927	19,161
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	14,210	11,915
	389,060	319,331

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2022: nil)
The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the part time CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £36,243 (2022: £35,877).

14 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 21 staff (2021: 16 staff) and'the average monthly number of full-time - equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	2023 Number	2022 Number
Fundraising	1	0.3
Charitable activities	20	9.2
	21	9.5

15 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

16 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charitable company contributes to individual private staff pension schemes.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £14,210 (2022: £11,915). There was £2,299 outstanding as at 31 March 2023(2022: £2,045).

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED Charity Number 1144976
(A company limited by guarantee) Company Number 07523792
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at 31 March 2023

18	Tangible fixed assets	Garden Sculpture £	Garden Structures £	Tools and £	Office equipment £	Sub Total £
	Cost					
	Balance brought forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
	Additions	-	-	-	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
	Balance carried forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
	Depreciation					
	Basis	SL	SL	SL	SL	
	Rate	10%	10%	10%	10%	
	Balance brought forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
	Depreciation charge for year					
	Disposals					
	Balance carried forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
	Net book value	-	-	-	-	-
	Brought forward	-	-	-	-	-
	Carried forward	-	-	-	-	-

		Property Extension £	Sub Total £	Total £
	Cost			
	Balance brought forward	91,927	48,310	140,237
	Additions	133,694	-	133,694
	Disposals	-		
	Balance carried forward	225,621	48,310	273,931
	Depreciation			
	Basis			
	Rate			
	Balance brought forward		48,310	48,310
	Depreciation charge for year	-	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	-
	Balance carried forward	-	48,310	48,310
	Net book value	-	-	-
	Brought forward	91,927	-	91,927
	Carried forward	225,621	-	225,621

19	Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)	2023 £	2022 £
	Trade debtors	9,750	16,438
	Salary holding account	-	20,694
	Accrued income	26,525	49,692
		36,275	86,824

20	Cash at bank and in hand	2023 £	2022 £
	Short term cash deposits	251,226	222,005
	Bank current account	220,382	117,268
	Cash in hand	126	50
		471,734	339,324

21	Creditors and accruals (payable Unrestricted Funds	2023 £	2022 £
	Trade creditors	28,967	50,259
	Pension	2,299	2,045
	Accruals		
	Independent examination of accoui	2,280	1,597
	Salary Holding account	10,642	-
	Deferred income	209,420	117,990
	Other creditors	303	-
		253,911	171,891

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22 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance brought forward	117,990	133,585
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(117,990)	(133,585)
Amount deferred in year	209,420	117,990
Balance carried forward	209,420	117,990

Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

24 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Unrestricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General unrestricted fund	179,867	90146	96313	-	173,700
Designated funds					
New building	91,927	- -	-	133694	225,621
	271,794	90,146	96,313	133,694	399,321

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Unrestricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General unrestricted fund	167,473	77,570	(65,176)	-	179,867
Designated funds					
Tudor Trust	572	-	(572)	-	-
Fixed asset fund	3,001	-	(3,001)	-	-
New building	-	-	-	91,927	91,927
	171,046	77,570	(68,749)	91,927	271,794

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	
Building fund	This is designated to contribute towards the new building

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED Charity Number 1144976
(A company limited by guarantee) Company Number 07523792
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at 31 March 2023

24 Analysis of movement in restricted funds
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Active Communities Peoples Health	-	15,473	15,473		-
Ashden Trust	-	4,918	2,196		2,722
Bailey Thomas	7,106	8,500	15,158		448
Ballinger Charitable Trust	619		619		-
BBC Children in Need	12,552	32,040	40,205		4,387
Best Summer Ever	313		313		-
Community Foundation T & W	139		139		-
Asian	734		734		-
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	-				-
Curtin PARP	214		214		-
Connected voice Water	-	3,050	1,664		1,386
Cooperative Foundation	(18)		(18)		-
Community Pantry	-	12,150	3,065		9,085
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	409		409		-
Enterprise development	-	3,000	3,000		-
The Froebel Trust	-				-
Groundwork Youth £ Education	-	4,896	4,896		-
Hadrian Trust	1,457		1,457		-
Hays Travel	-	1,100			1,100
Henry Smith	5,458	15,000	19,415		1,043
Heritage Lottery	115	201,587	201,702		-
Joicey Trust	-	3,300	3,300		-
Kellett Fund	437	10,563	10,766		234
Lloyds Bank Foundation	3,132	34,962	38,094		-
Nightshades	-	814	-		814
Pargiter	-	1,161	39		1,122
Postcode Neighbourhood	-	4,988	-		4,988
Power to change Programmes	-	7,500	4,685		2,815
Power to Change, Colours	196		196		-
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	1,118		120		998
Newcastle University	1,081	2,000	600		2,481
Schools of Sanctuary	-	9,886	5,146		4,740
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	222		222		-
Tudor Trust	8,422	31,085	29,254		10,253
Trust House	11,929	3,333	15,262		-
True Colours Trust	80	-	80		-
UK Youth	51	-	51		-
Well Newcastle	607	1,000	1,607		-
Willan Charitable Trust	2,036		2,036		-
Ward Committee	1,457	-	-		1,457
Woodland Wellbeing	-	3,268	-		3,268
YHN	-	3,000	3,000		-
Other Small Grants	3,277	-	413		2,864
New Build	11,247	146,640	-	(133,694)	24,193
	74,390	565,214	425,512	(133,694)	80,398

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24 Analysis of movement in restricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Active Communities Peoples Health	2,987	-	(2,987)	-	-
Bailey Thomas	-	15,000	(7,894)	-	7,106
Ballinger Charitable Trust	1,097	-	(478)	-	619
BBC Children in Need	5,604	34,477	(27,529)	-	12,552
Best Summer Ever	971	-	(657)	-	313
Community Foundation T & W	-	6,930	(6,791)	-	139
Asian	734	-	-	-	734
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	3,215	10,000	(13,215)	-	-
Curtin PARP	2,677	-	(2,463)	-	214
Cooperative Foundation	4,169	3,037	(7,224)	-	(18)
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	919	2,520	(3,029)	-	409
The Froebel Trust	1,025	2,880	(3,905)	-	-
Hadrian Trust	2,155	6,103	(6,801)	-	1,457
Henry Smith	12,106	119,037	(125,684)	-	5,458
Heritage Lottery	-	47,727	(47,612)	-	115
Kellett Fund	643	16,503	(16,709)	-	437
Lloyds Bank Foundation	11,372	33,934	(42,174)	-	3,132
Power to Change, Colours	196	-	-	-	196
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	1,268	1,921	(2,071)	-	1,118
Newcastle University	-	2,000	(919)	-	1,081
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	500	1,500	(1,778)	-	222
Tudor Trust	-	43,934	(35,512)	-	8,422
Trust House	-	28,957	(17,029)	-	11,929
True Colours Trust	1,460	-	(1,380)	-	80
UK Youth	2,012	-	(1,960)	-	51
Well Newcastle	4,132	9,423	(12,948)	-	607
Willan Charitable Trust	3,296	5,000	(6,261)	-	2,036
Ward Committee	1,457	-	-	-	1,457
Other Small Grants	-	6,367	(3,086)	-	3,281
New Build	-	103,174	-	(91,927)	11,247
Totals	63,995	500,424	(398,096)	(91,927)	74,394

Purpose of major restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Active Communities Peoples Health	Gardening for Dementia
Bailey Thomas	Growing Together Volunteer Programme
BBC Children in Need	Resources costs for programmes benefiting young people
Community Foundation T & W	Youth
Asian	Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	BREEZE Forest School Programme
Ward Hadaway	BREEZE Forest School Programme
Curtin Parp	Refugee & Asylum Seeker, volunteer match programme
Community Led Local Development	Growing Together Programme
Cooperative Foundation	Youth Work Programme
Doyly Carte	Older People Programme, partnership work with Marie Curie
The Froebel Trust	BREEZE Forest School Programme
Hadrian Trust	Nature Rangers, youth work programme
Henry Smith	Nightshades Youth Group
Heritage Lottery	Environmental renewal, contribution to several programmes
Kellett Fund	Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Growing Together Programme
Power to Change, Trade Up	Trading activity development
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	Youth & Play work Programme
Newcastle University	Bee Information board
Skipton Building Society	Art and Music Garden
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	Staff and volunteer wellbeing
True Colours Trust	Art and Music Garden
UK Youth	Education and Youth Programme
Well Newcastle	Early Explorers
Witlan Charitable Trust	Growing Together Programme
Ward Committee	Environmental Information campaign
North East LEP	Building Extension Work phase 1
Power to Change	Building Extension Work phase 1
Community Foundation	Building Extension Work phase 1
Neighbourly	Building Extension Work phase 1
Spacehive	Building Extension Work kitchen costs

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24 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Transfers between funds
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Reason for transfer	Amount £
Between unrestricted and restricted funds	Asset purchased from capital funds	133,694

25 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2023, the charity had no capital commitments (2022 -£nil)

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets		225,621		225,621	91,927
Cash at bank and in hand	391,336		80,398	471,734	339,324
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(217,636)			(217,636)	(85,068)
	173,700	225,621	80,398	479,719	346,183

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1144976

Accounts

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COMPANY NUMBER: 07523792 (ENGLAND & WALES)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1144976

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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Trustees Annual Report	page 3-24
Independent Examiners Report	page 25
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Balance Sheet	page 27
Notes to Accounts	page 29-42

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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Chair's Comments:

Reading this report fills me with huge pride at the wide range of activities that the staff and volunteers continue to deliver to the Scotswood Community. It would be easy to forget that all of this work has been completed as society emerged from covid restrictions and while the garden embarked on an ambitious rebuilding of the Garden House.

Please take the time to read the whole report as it really does capture the fantastic work that the charity does.

I have been involved with the Garden for over 10 years now and that has given me the opportunity to witness the growth of activities delivered by Karen and the team. I remember the start of our first Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award group. In 2023 we expect to see our first Gold Award recipients head off to Buckingham Palace to receive their awards. I recall the beginnings of the Forest School programme and am delighted to see how that has flourished. The evidence of its success is confirmed by the research carried out by the Breeze project. It has been exciting to see the garden improve in recent years. It now feels much more connected.

I have also been impressed by the growth of Sticky Business and excited at the new opportunities for plant sales now that we have access to greenhouse and polytunnel facilities. Anyone who has attended our Open Days over the last 10 years cannot have failed to notice the changes to the diversity of people now enjoying all that the charity has to offer. You will see from the report that staff and volunteers are involved in an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Review. We have a lot to be proud of, but we want to do more to welcome a diverse range of people to the garden as visitors, volunteers, staff and trustees.

Chris Francis, Chair

Company Information

Company Number: 07523792 (England and Wales)

Status: The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1

Charity Registration Number: 1144976

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Address: Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 6TU

Patrons

Ed Tyler and Rob Higgins

Trustees/Directors at 31st March 2022

Christopher Francis	Chair
Stephanie Cole	Deputy Chair
Miles Henderson	Treasurer
Vanessa Cutter	Secretary
Chris Warburton- Brown	Appointed 26/01/2022
Victoria Whincup	Stepped down 08/12/2021
Alice Holliday	Stepped down 30/06/2021

2021/22 Staff

Karen Dobson	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Farah Kurji	Development Manager
Claire Forman	Business Development Officer
Ann Stafford	Office & Finance Administrator
Harriet Menter	Education Manager
Rosie Tyson	Education Officer
Nicky Sargeant	Play & Youth Manager
Amber Cooperthwaite	Youth Worker
Susan Byrnes	Youth Worker
Michaela Wate	Youth Worker
Luke Bailey	Lead Detached Youth Worker
Caroline Roach	Youth Worker
Alice Holliday	Detached Youth Worker
Nikita Wetherson	Youth Work Assistant - Kickstart Placement
Leanne Defty	Older People's Services Manager & Wellbeing Officer
Jenny Hopper	Older People's Garden Officer
Sean Clay	Garden & Community Manager & Garden Officer
Mike Whatmore	Plant Nursery Garden Officer
Claire Metcalfe	Plant Nursery Garden Assistant
Dylan Mackell	Garden Assistant - Kickstart Placement
Sam Atkinson	Garden Assistant - Kickstart Placement
Andrew Downey	Garden Assistant

We also employ a number of sessional staff for volunteer, youth and education sessions.

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Scotswood Natural Community Garden was established

- To provide and maintain a public garden or gardens for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the north east region and others in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants:
- To advance knowledge and understanding of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability.

Mission

To inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health & wellbeing.

Values

- We listen to the people in our community using their views to plan and deliver our work.
- We treat people with dignity and respect.
- We ensure equality of opportunity and access.

Strategic Objectives

- To maintain the community garden for the benefit of the wider community and provide a haven for native flora and fauna to flourish.
- To improve the health, wellbeing and fitness of the wider community.
- To support and enable people to gain new skills and knowledge and to develop their creativity.
- To develop a cohesive and sustainable community in Scotswood.
- To educate people about how to better live sustainably.
- To maintain long term sustainability of Scotswood Natural Community Garden.

Core Strands of Work 2021/22

- Volunteering & Training
- Older People's Services
- Education and Training
- Youth & Play Programme
- Outreach & Community Events

It's been another busy year at the Garden and fantastic to be back outside delivering mostly face to face work and seeing the Garden being used by our community again. The Garden has gone from strength to strength and this year has seen us expanding our staff team, starting new projects and partnerships and developing work which will strengthen the organisation and make us more equitable, inclusive and sustainable in the longer term.

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Eco Building Project

Anyone who has visited us at the Garden House will know that we have needed additional indoor space for many years. We are very pleased and relieved that the new building project has made progress this year after considerable covid-related delays and setbacks. We have been working closely with Eco Architect Henry Amos, from Brightblue Studio in North Shields, to finalise the design and ensure that the relevant permissions are in place. We were delighted to be awarded planning permission in December 2021 which was shortly followed by an office and kitchen move into rented space at the John Marley Centre where we'll be while construction is taking place until we can move into the new building in September 2023. Fundraising for the building is ongoing to respond to global price hikes but we are very grateful to our funders at **NE LEP Local Growth Fund , Tudor Trust** and others for their continued support and flexibility through what has been a long and sometimes frustrating process. The new building will triple our indoor space and will provide much needed classroom, volunteer meeting space, a new training kitchen, storage and office facilities allowing us to further develop our work and start new projects that we don't currently have space for. The building has been designed with permaculture principles and environmental sustainability at its heart. Videos based on Architect's drawings are on our Youtube Channel and updates posted on social media.

Stills taken from video of new building

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Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Review

2021 has brought renewed determination to ensure that as an organisation, we are as inclusive and welcoming as we can be. In partnership with West End Refugee Service, we have embarked on a process of review and training with a view to making long lasting improvements and embed anti-discriminatory and anti-racist practices across all our work, communications and structures. We have started a process of training and internal self assessment and have been lucky to have worked with consultant Ngozi Lyn Cole who will continue to provide training, guidance and support over the coming year. Huge thanks to **Lloyds Bank Foundation** for their support and for funding the review. This work with Ngozi will result in a renewed EDI strategy and yearly action plan implemented by a working group, regular training for staff and mutual peer support with West End Refugee Service (WERS). We are also in the process of becoming a designated 'Garden of Sanctuary'.

Environmental Impact Review

As an organisation we are reviewing how we can minimise our negative impact and maximise our positive impact on the environment. We have formed a working group and are revisiting the One Planet Principles, working through the framework suggested by BioRegional. https://www.bioregional.com/one-planet-living/

Communities Looking After Wildlife in Scotswood Project

In August 2021, we were delighted to be awarded a grant of £249,400 from the **Green Recovery Challenge Fund** which is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency. Communities Looking After Wildlife in Scotswood started in September 2021 and brings together all of our core strands of work into one project which aims to improve wellbeing and knowledge of the natural environment through deeper connection to nature. By the end of the project people who use the Garden will have taken action to protect wildlife through regular participation in nature based activities, environmental education workshops, conservation volunteering and

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training. The funding has allowed us to improve habitats supporting UK Biodiversity Action Plan protected species and work with new partners including the fantastic West End Refugee Service (WERS), Environmental Records Information Centre NE (ERIC) and Marie Curie Hospice. 5 full time equivalent jobs have been retained and we have created two new posts for young people through the Kickstart scheme, three new part time posts at the Garden and two part time Linkworker posts at WERS to provide information and support for adults and children seeking sanctuary to participate in the Garden's activities. 114 WERS clients have enjoyed coming to our regular groups and a further 49 people have come to outreach sessions. Regular participants include 2 older people who are participating in our Elderberries programme, 13 new volunteers, 99 adults and children who have come to our community events or joined our youth groups. In addition, we have delivered 5 nature based sessions at WERS Garden as a way to build a connection with nature and our staff in a familiar setting before people come to the Garden.

Volunteering & Training Programme

Garden Volunteer Team

We must start by thanking all of our incredible volunteers who have given their time, skills and energy to make the Garden such a special place. April 2021 saw us once again reopening after having to close the garden during the COVID lockdown. Volunteer sessions restarted with 6 shorter sessions for small groups every week, with social distancing in place. These sessions have grown slowly in size over the year as restrictions have eased. We were really happy to once again be able to welcome new volunteers to the garden team in June 2021, having had to keep the team a closed group since the first COVID lockdown.

Amid all the restrictions and challenges brought by the pandemic, our amazing volunteer team have worked so hard over the last year to keep the garden looking beautiful, ensure it remains a haven for local wildlife and is ever more productive with fruit and veg. We have worked with **80 volunteers** this year (a new record we think!) who have contributed **over 4500 hours** to the garden. We are truly grateful for all their generous support. The new paths in the veg garden area were completed this year; they look fantastic and have made the area much more accessible. Our volunteer team also helped transform the old butterfly garden into a new growing area and base for the Early Explorers group. In March 2022, willow worker and former trustee Ruth Thompson came to work on our many willow structures around the garden to restore and repair these where needed. Volunteers enjoyed a great day learning how to create and repair simple willow structures.

We were proud to be awarded our 16th Community Green Flag Award in 2021, testament once again to the dedication and skill of our garden volunteers.

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2021 also saw the start of an exciting new project for the garden team with the opening of our community plant nursery, based in the John Marley Centre. Mike Whatmore joined the team in November 2021 to run the plant nursery and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the role. The nursery will focus on growing pollinator friendly perennials, lots of which will be distributed for free to local schools, groups and residents as well as going into our own garden. We are aiming to increase and diversify the pollinator friendly planting in the garden and across the whole local area, while also generating some income for the garden. Mike and the volunteer team have been busy putting a new cover on the large polytunnel, getting the glasshouses back up and running, sowing seeds and growing on many thousands of plants. The new nursery project has been funded by the **Green Recovery Challenge Fund** and **Your Homes Newcastle.**

In March 2022 we also welcomed two new staff members to the garden team, Dylan Mackell and Sam Atkinson, who joined on the government's Kickstart Scheme for 6 months. Sam and Dylan have settled into the garden team really well and it has been a great opportunity to work with two local young people, helping them gain experience in the outdoor sector.

Growing Together

Our adult volunteering programme, Growing Together, is now into its sixth year. The success and development of this project owes a huge amount to **Lloyds Bank Foundation,** who have supported this work since its first year back in 2016. This year substantial support for Growing Together has also come from **The Green Recovery Challenge Fund and The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund.**

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In 2021 we further strengthened our partnership work with West End Refugee Service (WERS). Our supported volunteer sessions for asylum seekers and refugees from WERS skillsmatch programme were established with the help of a grant from the **Curtin PARP Fund at the Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear**, which finished in November 2021. **The Green Recovery Challenge Fund** grant then allowed WERS to employ a link worker to help the people they support to access all the different projects at the garden. Welcoming new asylum seekers and refugees into the volunteer team has brought valuable new energy and skills to the garden, and we are really pleased to develop this partnership.

In the autumn of 2021 ten of our volunteer team completed accredited First Aid training; Volunteers were really pleased to add some new skills to their CV but we hope they won't have to use these skills any time soon!

Long term evaluation of our Growing Together project shows that nearly all our volunteers report increased confidence, physical activity and wellbeing, better connectedness to nature, more social connections and improved skills after attending the sessions for 3 months or more.

Next Year and Beyond…..

Establishing our new plant nursery is a big focus of our work in 2022/23. We are also planning major habitat improvement work in the garden in the winter of 2022 to improve the natural forage for garden birds and work to deepen and repair the large pond at the centre of the garden. Our staff and volunteer team will be trained in 3 different wildlife identification workshops over the summer of 2022 to help us to monitor and record the wildlife living in the garden.

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Older People's Services

For many of our older garden users, the effects of the pandemic were still very much being felt this year. Feelings of anxiety about socialising were juggled with a desire to get life back to normal and so our Older People's Services programme continued to offer a bespoke approach to the delivery of our projects. All of our learning and adaptations over the pandemic also allowed us to create covid-safe spaces to inspire confidence in returning to group, face to face activities which has been essential to improving wellbeing in our older community.

In November 2021, we were really pleased to welcome a new member of staff, Jenny Hopper, to our Older People's Services team. Jenny has brought a wealth of experience, skills and creativity to her role. She works across the Older People's Services programme supporting participants, building relationships with local accommodation schemes and coming up with exciting new nature-based activities. Welcome Jenny!

Our current Older People's Services offer includes:

Elderberries

- Supported volunteering
- Older Women's Gardening Group - the Late Bloomers
- Nature-based workshops
- Bespoke support
- Partnership with West End Refugee Service (WERS)
- Nature-based outreach sessions for YHN schemes

Gardening for Dementia

- Therapeutic gardening and nature-based sessions
- Supported volunteering for those living with Young Onset Dementia (YOD)
- Nature-based outreach sessions

Partnership with Marie Curie - The Good Life Project

- Therapeutic gardening and nature-based sessions
- Training for Marie Curie staff and volunteers

Elderberries

From April until summer 2021, delivery was still based around covid safety and offering bespoke opportunities to connect with nature. A big thank you to the **Kellett Fund at the Community Foundation** for once again supporting our Elderberries programme and understanding the need for continuing a mixed approach to delivery of the project. 7 people benefitted from some form of remote or bespoke support from us, ranging from short term interventions to more complex longer term needs. Examples of support given include: 1-1 volunteering, care home visits, contact over Christmas, bereavement support and emergency responses to the need for food and debt advice. This was invaluable and meant that we

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were able to provide consistency and a reliable source of support at what has been some difficult times for our participants.

The Kellett Fund also supported the development of a new group at the garden in August 2021 which have been fondly named the 'Late Bloomers'. 13 people have been involved in this group for older women interested in gardening and learning new skills. They have decided that they would like to learn to grow cut flowers and how to arrange them so that they can donate bouquets to Marie Curie. We're really looking forward to seeing them bloom!

Support from the **Green Recovery Challenge Fund, Hadrian Trust** and **the Kellett Fund** over the year has enabled our popular nature-based workshops to return and the continuation of our supported volunteering sessions. This work is the 'bread and butter' of the Elderberries programme and we've had another successful year welcoming our older community into the garden to learn, work, socialise and be creative. They have told us that these opportunities have been even more important to them after the pandemic as they are able to feel useful again and connected to people and nature.

In the garden, 17 Elderberries volunteers have contributed nearly 1500 hours of their time to maintain and improve the space for all who visit. They have enthusiastically got involved with everything from apple juicing to scything and willow maintenance to fruit picking. Thank you Elderberries!

Our nature-based workshops have continued to be popular, seeing 37 people attend one either at the garden or on one of our outreach programmes at YHN accommodation schemes. They have been focussing on increasing their knowledge and skills around making improvements for wildlife and have taken part in a wide range of activities as part of this. We have saved seeds, planted up pollinator friendly pots, bulb planting, made seed bombs, enjoyed a more sustainable Christmas and so much more!

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Across the whole of our Elderberries programme, all participants reported improved knowledge and skills around the natural world and said that they had learned new things about sustainable living that they will carry on into their everyday lives.

Gardening for Dementia

Due to the vulnerability of this group of people and the continuing restrictions on care settings, we are unfortunately yet to welcome this group back to the garden. However, we are starting to see some positive steps forward. We were able to visit our friends at the Bradbury Centre in December 2021 to deliver our popular Christmas crafts as an outreach session. This was the first time since March 2020 that we had worked face to face with some of our Gardening for Dementia group and it felt like a bit of a breakthrough moment!

In January 2022, we also started to support people with young-onset dementia (YOD) to join our main volunteer team. This has been an important opportunity for one participant in particular who has had a very early dementia diagnosis and had to give up their job as a gardener.

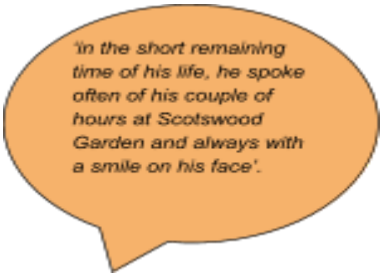
The **Active Communities Fund at the People's Health Trust** funds this project and they have been very supportive and flexible as uncertainty around covid is still a major barrier for this group. We have worked with just 12 people as a result this year, but with the support of Active Communities, we're looking forward to a much busier summer.

The Good Life Project

Working in partnership with our local Marie Curie Hospice in Elswick, we aim to support the staff and volunteers at Marie Curie to use horticulture and nature-based activities as part of their programme of therapies.

In September 2021, we hosted and delivered some bespoke training for four staff/volunteers from Marie Curie, looking at the theories behind why having a connection with the natural world is good for you, using adapted tools and equipment to make gardening easier and adapting tasks for different needs.

Infection control is still strict in the hospice environment, which has made it hard to work face to face with any patients, however in January 2022 we trialled working virtually from their new garden space to deliver therapeutic sessions over zoom. We were also fortunate enough to be able to invite a very poorly gentleman for a look around our garden and support him to feel connected to nature and useful again. In some feedback from Marie Curie staff about this bespoke session, we were told:



This work has been supported by **The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust** and **Green Recovery Challenge Fund**.

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Older People's Services next year and beyond…

In the coming year, we are looking to build new partnerships to increase our nature-based offer further and create new opportunities for our community of older people. We hope to be completely back to normal after the isolation of the pandemic, but in our own chaos of new building work and different spaces. We'll work together with our groups to make sure this time isn't too unsettling and the whole programme is still delivered as planned. We're hoping that the summer will bring our Gardening for Dementia group back fully and we plan to celebrate the contributions our older people's community make to the garden and everyone who enjoys it.

Education & Training

The education team has been as busy as ever. We have been working with staff at West End Refugee Service (WERS) to look at how we can better support children and young people who are refugees and asylum seekers. We have joined the Schools of Sanctuary network and hosted a meeting of staff from schools who are going through the process of gaining recognition as schools of sanctuary. We have also started developing a new programme of school visits to support these schools. We ran two campfire cooking sessions at WERS, and helped them come up with a flexible fire pit design that allows them to continue to use the space for different activities.

School Visits

From April 2021 until the end of March 2021 we ran 90 school visits for 1030 different children and 222 different adults. 100% of school staff agreed or strongly agreed that the children enjoyed their visits and learnt something new about wildlife.

We started this year getting back on our feet after the second lockdown. We caught up on postponed sessions and continued to run half day sessions for up to 15 children. Throughout the past year, Rainbird sent a group of children weekly, with every child from Year 1-6 visiting us over the course of the year. We also ran two blocks of forest school sessions for Year 4 children from St Bede's.

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Summer 2021 remained quieter than usual in terms of school visits. Some schools were reluctant to use coaches, so it was mainly our very local schools who visited us. Inevitably

some sessions were also cancelled due to covid but we did our best to rearrange those where possible. Thanks to our garden volunteers, we were also able to provide fire circle benches to three schools.

In the summer term, Rosie completed her online Nature Connectedness training course with the University of Derby. This is now a planned element in all school visits.

It is also worth mentioning that the springboard boxes, which were developed in the previous year, have been a huge hit with the children. Children use them during the planned play time of school visits to the garden. The most popular box has been the potions box, with children mixing their own combinations of herbs to create potions, food and magic spells. We've also added a box based around dyeing fabric which has gone down well with older children.

Feedback from teachers and children

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Breeze Project:

We continued to run our 4 year project working with 5 local schools and Newcastle University to explore how forest school sessions can be used to support children and young people who struggle in school. Following the second lockdown in 2021, the schools continued to find ways to deliver forest schools despite the disruption and restrictions caused by Covid. The freedom and chances to socialise with others were especially valued by parents, teachers and children following on from the second period of lockdown and school closure.

Funding for this stage of the project ended in August 2021 and we started the next phase of the project, supporting the existing schools to continue to run forest schools, and working with 3 new schools (Canning Street Primary, River Tyne Multi Academy Trust and St Lawrence's Primary) who are interested in using forest schools to support mental wellbeing.

We provided forest school training to 6 staff from the new schools, as well as 3 from the existing schools. Many of the schools in the network used the garden for their sessions, whilst others made use of school grounds, and green areas closer to school.

We also carried on sharing our work with others to demonstrate how forest school can be used in this way. We presented at the British Education Research Association conference (online) and wrote a chapter in a book on wellbeing in the digital age. Lucy Tiplady our partner at Newcastle University is currently writing up the final report on the whole project which we hope to publish by July 2022, but the draft report shows that the project had significant impact across 4 areas: Overcoming anxieties and achieving success; Relationships and social skills (supported through opportunities to play); Behaviour and emotional regulation; and Connection with nature and environment.

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"The substantial evidence obtained before the pandemic demonstrated the outcomes that could be achieved for children and young people through a regular and long-term FS intervention; this was particularly the case in relation to children experiencing an improvement in their emotional wellbeing" (Lucy Tiplady Draft Report)

Forest School Training

We have been busier than ever with forest school training, delivered by Harriet Menter, Susan Byrne and Kay Stott. We started 3 new level 3 courses during this year, and completed another. One of these was delivered at Kirkley Hall woodland centre which we have been scouting as an alternative venue to use during the planned building work. We also ran two level 1 courses at the garden and another at Kirkley Hall which was commissioned by Education Partnership North East for their nursery nurse lecturers and assessors. Feedback from the courses continues to be very positive:

During 2021/2022 we hosted a student on placement from Sunderland University B.Ed. programme, and Umara Shahid joined the team as a sessional worker, and Jose Muando and Rosalind Beaumont joined as education volunteers. We also delivered training on fire lighting and fire safety for staff at Cramlington Village Primary, hosted Denton Youth Project for 3 sessions over the summer, and ran 2 forest school taster sessions for Newcastle Young Carers. In the autumn term, at short notice, we ran workshops on outdoor learning for all the first year B.Ed. students from Northumbria University focussing on simple, practical ways to teach the National Curriculum outdoors.

Youth & Play Programme

Our youth and play offer includes:

Early Explorers - pre-school exploration
Nature Rangers - 6-9yrs
Adventure Rangers - 10-13yrs
Nightshades Rangers - 13-18yrs
Art, Music & Movement Garden - inclusive family creativity
Scotswood Street Rangers - Detached youth work

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The previous challenges of Covid resulted in some changes to the way we engage with families and young people, and some of those changes we made have been positive and stayed with us - although we are of course delighted to be delivering a full programme of opportunities at the garden once again.

Henry Smith Charity kindly gave us flexible support to continue our core Play & Youth offer, securing hours for our Play & Youth Manager. The **Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear** also generously contributed to employing our Play & Youth Manager to coordinate and develop our offer and be the Designated Safeguarding Officer. Our youth groups continue to value youth voice and our groups have been involved in Newcastle City Council's 'No Child Left Behind' consultation contributing to an 8 year plan for Children's & Young People's Services in the city. The insights and comments have also really helped us think about some changes we would like to make to our sessions

We started the year with a 'Festival of Friendship'. Sadly, covid restrictions in April 2021 meant that this had to be a 'remote' social event, hosted on our Facebook page but with lots of interactive projects designed by our youth members: local people and members of our groups completed the sentence 'Friendship is…' on labels that were tied to 'Billy the Friendship Tree', and we created a beautiful jigsaw puzzle of pieces decorated with thoughts, pictures and poems of what friendship means to people. Our Adventure Rangers worked with community artist and filmmaker John Quinn on a zoom based film exploring friendship which were also shared as part of our Festival of Friendship.

Our successful partnership with **Well Newcastle Gateshead Fund** and **Bluestone Consortium** continued to deliver creative and developmental outdoor activities for pre-school and home school children up to the age of 8 with their families; **Tudor Trust** provided match funding through a Covid Emergency grant.

This funding, along with the hard work of our volunteers has seen us move to a new base in the Butterfly Garden, and The Wood Hub CIC kindly created a beautiful mud kitchen and storage for us from reclaimed wood and the children have been busy making exciting mud creations and planting flowers and vegetables in their new space.

Newcastle City Council's Arts Connect project continued to work with us to deliver Art & Music Garden, an inclusive group for families enabling children with disabilities to create and play alongside their siblings, friends and neighbours. A Covid Recovery Grant from **Public Health England** enabled us to offer an extended

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summer programme including aerial & trapeze, photography, music and theatre with BalletLORENT.

Our long running relationship with **BBC Children in Need** keeps our Nature Rangers busy on Saturday mornings, learning about nature and wildlife, exploring friendship and community and getting active with fun and games. Sadly our Christmas trip to the theatre was cancelled at short notice due to Covid, but they have made up for it with trips to Northern Stage and the Alphabetti Theatre since.

BBC Children in Need also enables us to deliver our Scotswood Street Rangers initiative, taking detached youth work out to young people on our local streets and parks, reaching young people who do not normally access garden based sessions. Our detached youth workers also completed training to offer C-Card and M-Card schemes, enabling young people to access sexual health and period products. **Rotary Club of Newcastle upon Tyne** kindly donated cinema tickets and other trips included trampolining and SafetyWorks.

A partnership with British Cycling enabled us to deliver mountain biking sessions in Denton Dene, which was very popular, and led on to us hosting free 'Start to Ride' sessions for local families.

Our Nightshade Rangers applied for a **Happy & Healthy grant** from **NE Youth** which enabled them to learn to open canoe on the River Tyne; they completed 3 day trips of journeying from Hexham to Tynemouth, exploring the varying environment and wildlife along the way.

Rotary Club of Newcastle upon Tyne also supported our Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award group to complete training and a 4 day expedition along the River Tweed with Simonside Outdoors under challenging conditions - low water levels and a head wind meant that the team had to really pull together and work hard! We are incredibly proud of the 6 young people who all passed with flying colours and gave a really entertaining and insightful presentation to friends, family and supporters in September 2021.

One measure of our success has been that we have reluctantly had to introduce a waiting list for Nature Rangers and Adventure Rangers groups so that we can keep adult to child ratios safe and ensure that we are prioritising local children who have the greatest need for our services.

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Next year and beyond…

Our new Nightshades members are forming a new Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award group, with Expedition training and assessments planned for July 2022. The existing Gold group is finishing off their last sections, so we hope to present some Gold awards in 2022!
Our Nightshades are also contributing to the One Planet Living environmental review. And we look forward to training from ERIC about how to identify and record species found at the garden; some of our Nightshades plan to use this for the volunteering section of the DofE Award.The Scotswood Street Rangers are taking part in the region-wide Hadrian's Wall Challenge organised by NE Youth.The Beelines Project, organised by Urban Green will provide opportunities for our younger Nature Rangers and Early Explorers to learn about the important role our bees play as pollinators.We also look forward to hosting a Mini Pride event delivered by Curious Arts, and strong continuing partnership with Arts Connect to deliver Art & Music Garden.Secure funding from **Heritage Lottery Green Recovery Challenge Fund** ensures that all of our weekly Play & Youth opportunities will continue throughout the coming financial year.

Sticky Business

Sticky Business has really bounced back after the restrictions imposed by the pandemic selling an impressive 1747 items of preserves, juice, cordial and honey over the year making £5708. We continued to supply The Honey Tree and took on Ernie as a new stockist in Oct 21 who included our Chuckleberry Jam in their 'local heroes' Christmas hampers. We had 2 stalls at the fabulous Whitley Bay Fiesta and are grateful to our friends who organise the Fiesta for their continued support and to our loyal customers who returned to buy new items and gave us lovely feedback.

Our most popular jam this year was Summer Fruit with 134 jars sold and Glutney Chutney was by far our customers' favourite chutney with 87 jars sold. Claire has been as creative as ever developing new flavours which proved a hit with stockists and customers. Chuckleberry Jam, Strawberry & Gooseberry Jam, Jostaberry & Juniper Jam and Red Onion and Redcurrant relish all had excellent feedback and will become regular items on our stalls next year

We made 30 jars of Summer Fruit Jam to give to the volunteers for Volunteers Week. These were labelled

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with a special label with the Volunteers Week branding.

Next year and beyond

Claire will continue to develop and improve recipes throughout the year working on lowering the sugar content. She'll continue to work closely with the garden team, so that we can plan to grow even more of our own produce in the garden for Sticky Business.

Outreach, Community & Events

Spring Fun Day, Apple Day and Scotswood Winter Wonderland are back!

It's been wonderful to have welcomed people back in the Garden for 3 community fun days this year. 630 adults and children came and gave fantastic feedback. It was great to see the Garden being used by so many diverse people - online events last year were just not the same. Apple Day in October 2021 saw people enjoying apple pizza, tasting homemade apple juice and lots more apple based games and activities.

Our famous Scotswood winter wonderland was back in December bigger and better than ever. The Garden looked stunning with 12 trees decorated with recycled decorations, carol singers, a garden trail ending with people making gifts to

the planet, Santa's grotto and elf workshop, marshmallow toasting and mince pies. Thanks to Nicky for her creativity and curating the event and to our volunteers who gave their time to make it such a special day for everyone.

Our wildlife-themed spring open day was a great success with free food provided by The Samosa Sisters, our famous cake stall, an art workshop run by the Baltic, the Baltic Art bus, pea shoot planting workshop, bird making and our very own Scotwood Birdle game!

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Financial Review

The financial statements show the state of the finances and activity during the last year.

Principle sources of funds

Our main sources of funding are governmental, trust funds and increasingly earned income from services.

Funders

We are very grateful for support from all our funders - they include:

- Henry Smith Charity
- Tudor Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Well Newcastle Gateshead Arts Fund
- Children in Need
- The Green Recovery Challenge Fund. The fund is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency.
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Youth Investment Fund
- Froebel Trust
- Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- Baily Thomas Charitable Fund
- The Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear
- Wellesley Trust
- 1989 Willan Charitable Trust
- Kellet Fund
- Curtin PARP Fund
- People's Health Trust
- NE Youth
- Charities Aid Foundation
- Coop Foundation
- Your Homes Newcastle
- Harian Trust
- The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- Public Health England
- The Rotary Club of Newcastle Upon Tyne

Reserves Policy and Investment Performance

The trustee's policy is to maintain reserves to ensure that in the event of a funding shortfall the project can continue for at least six months. The Management Committee sanctioned future use of the reserve to enable the continuation of project work while continuing to seek funding. The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the

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Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005 edition).

Bank

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited banks with the Cooperative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

Accountants

The Independent Examiner is:

Michelle Wright
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 4BX

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was an unincorporated registered charity (date of registration 30 May 2000), governed by a constitution adopted 16 December 1999 as amended 9 March 2000. On 1st April, 2012 the charity was incorporated into a company limited by guarantee. It is managed by a Management Committee which consists of the Trustees and is attended by the CEO and Administrator. Meetings are held quarterly.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The management committee may also appoint 1/3rd co-opted members. A third of trustees retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting following their election/appointment.

All new trustees are given an induction pack detailing the charity's constitution, strategic plans, recent annual report and accounts, Charity Commission Leaflet - CC3 (a). Trustees are advised of training on their responsibilities at the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service.

Decision Making Process

The CEO sends a quarterly report of activities to the Management Committee. Decisions and actions are recommended and taken at this meeting.

Risks and Risk Management

The charity is dependent on grant funding for most of its income; this presents a considerable risk. The charity has a strategy in place to source alternative sustainable sources of income to reduce this risk.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the

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end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with (applicable law, regulations and trust deed). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have compiled with the duty in Section 17/5 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to public benefit statements.

Small Company Provisions

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

Christopher Francis: Chair

DocuSigned by:
Christopher John Francis
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On behalf of the Trustees

3/30/2023
Date: .....

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2022

I report on the financial statements of Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 26 to 42.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, 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 Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

DocuSigned by:
Michelle Wright
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Michelle Wright
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX

Date: 3/30/2023

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	5,336	4,717	**10,053**	3,122
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	14,021	392,533	**406,554**	460,786
Capital grants	8	-	103,174	**103,174**	-
Other trading activities	9	58,173	-	**58,173**	20,786
Investments	10	39	-	**39**	724
Total income		77,570	500,423	**577,993**	485,418
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	11	68,749	398,099	**466,848**	397,585
Total expenditure		68,749	398,099	**466,848**	397,585
Net income/(expenditure)		8,821	102,324	**111,145**	87,833
Transfers between funds		91,927	(91,927)	**-**	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds		100,748	10,397	**111,145**	87,833
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		171,046	63,992	**235,038**	147,205
Total funds carried forward		271,794	74,389	**346,183**	235,038

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 29 to 42 form an integral part of these accounts.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1144976
Company Number 07523792

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2022

	Notes	£	Total 2022 £	£	Total 2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	18		91,927		3,001
Total fixed assets			**91,927**		**3,001**
Current assets					
Debtors	19	86,824		22,678	
Cash at bank and in hand	20	339,324		362,932	
Total current assets		**426,148**		**385,610**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	**(171,891)**		**(153,573)**	
Net current assets			**254,257**		**232,037**
Total assets less current liabilities			**346,183**		**235,038**
Total net assets or liabilities			**346,183**		**235,038**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			271,794		171,046
Restricted income funds			74,389		63,992
Total funds			**346,183**		**235,038**

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 29 to 42 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 3/30/2023

and are signed on its behalf by: Miles Henderson
Treasurer

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Miles Henderson
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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1144976
Company Number 07523792

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net movement in funds	111,145	87,833
Depreciation	3,002	3,079
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(39)	(724)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	(64,146)	9,106
Increase (decrease) in creditors	18,318	71,258
Net cash from operating activities	**68,280**	**170,552**
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(91,927)	-
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Interest received	39	724
Net cash used in investing activities	**(91,888)**	**724**
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	**(23,608)**	205,341
Cash and cash equivalents at start of year	**362,932**	157,591
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**339,324**	**362,932**

The notes on pages 29 to 42 form an integral part of these accounts.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £271,794 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have revised their forecasts to take into account measures that they can take with the current resources available to mitigate the impact of the current adverse conditions. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliably.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

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3.4 **Donated goods and services**

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 **Volunteer help**

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

3.7 **Income from membership subscriptions**

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 **Investment gains and losses**

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investment and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 **Expenditure and liabilities**

4.1 **Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 **Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of garden projects, education projects, youth projects and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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4.3 **Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 **Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 **Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 **Assets**

5.1 **Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Garden sculptures	10%	Straight line
Garden structures	10%	Straight line
Tools and equipment	25%	Straight line
Office equipment	25%	Straight line

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Analysis of income	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
6 **Donations and legacies**					
Donations and gifts	5,336	-	4,717	**10,053**	3,122
	5,336	-	4,717	**10,053**	3,122
7 **Charitable activities**					
Income from grants					
Health Trust	-	-	-	**-**	3,400
Awards for All	-	-	-	**-**	3,000
Bailey Thomas	-	-	15,000	**15,000**	-
BBC Children in Need	-	-	59,423	**59,423**	17,582
Best Summer Ever	-	-	-	**-**	2,390
British Foreign School Society	-	-	-	**-**	2,500
Charities Aid Foundation	-	-	-	**-**	8,500
Community Foundation T & W	-	-	6,930	**6,930**	-
Covid-19 Response Grant	-	-	-	**-**	10,400
Curtin PARP	-	-	-	**-**	3,742
George and Peggy Trust	-	-	-	**-**	3,000
Foundation	-	-	10,000	**10,000**	5,000
Cooperative Foundation	-	-	3,037	**3,037**	48,011
D'Oyly Carte	-	-	2,500	**2,500**	1,000
The Froebel Trust	-	-	2,880	**2,880**	8,001
Grass Roots - Covid 19	-	-	-	**-**	2,052
Hadrian Trust	-	-	6,103	**6,103**	5,000
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	-	47,700	**47,700**	-
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	4,134	-	-	**4,134**	38,827
High Sheriff Award	-	-	-	**-**	981
Henry Smith	-	-	119,022	**119,022**	66,278
Kellett Fund	-	-	16,500	**16,500**	8,133
Lloyds -Bank Foundation	-	-	33,934	**33,934**	27,345
Newcastle City Council	-	-	-	**-**	1,000
Postcode Local Trust	-	-	-	**-**	4,500
Power to Change, Trade Up	-	-	-	**-**	32,540
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	-	-	1,576	**1,576**	4,810
Sub Total	4,134	-	324,605	**328,738**	307,992

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Analysis of income continued	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
7 **Charitable activities** continued					
Brought forward	4,134	-	324,605	**328,738**	307,992
The National Lottery	-	-	-	**-**	42,547
The Swire Charitable Trust	-	-	-	**-**	1,042
True Colours Trust	-	-	-	**-**	5,300
Foundation	-	-	28,957	**28,957**	19,710
Tudor Trust	-	-	20,415	**20,415**	48,500
UK Youth	-	-	-	**-**	11,000
YHN	-	-	1,000	**1,000**	-
NE Youth Limited	3,832	-	-	**3,832**	-
Well Newcastle	-	-	9,423	**9,423**	13,305
Willan Charitable Trust	-	-	5,000	**5,000**	4,000
Other small grants	1,500	-	2,650	**4,150**	3,224
Other income	4,555	-	483	**5,038**	4,166
	14,021	-	392,533	**406,554**	460,786
8 Capital grant income					
North East LEP	-	-	81,210	**81,210**	-
Power to Change	-	-	11,000	**11,000**	-
Community Foundation T & W	-	-	1,000	**1,000**	-
Neighbourly Foundation	-	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Other small grants	-	-	4,964	**4,964**	-
	-	-	103,174	**103,174**	-
9 **Other trading activities**					
Produce sales	7,942	-	-	**7,942**	1,186
School visits	710	-	-	**710**	1,060
Other visits and hire of facilities	1,122	-	-	**1,122**	-
Internal Quality Assurance	5,361	-	-	**5,361**	5,730
Income generation	-	-	-	**-**	150
OCN charges	43,039	-	-	**43,039**	12,660
	58,173	-	-	**58,173**	20,786
10 **Income from investments**					
Bank interest	39	-	-	**39**	724
	39	-	-	**39**	724

Income was £577,993 (2021: £485,417) of which £77,570 was unrestricted or designated (2021: £118,848) and £500,423 was restricted (2021: £366,569)

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Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

11 ***Charitable activities***	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Direct costs					
Project staff salaries	4,102	-	292,132	**296,234**	206,538
Project staff other costs	1,271	-	4,911	**6,182**	9,565
Activities	1,191	-	6,667	**7,858**	15,039
Event costs	111	-	1,227	**1,338**	1,737
Garden materials	216	-	10,066	**10,282**	5,170
Garden equipment	-	-	1,363	**1,363**	3,655
Vehicle hire	-	-	2,640	**2,640**	285
Other Project Costs	13,299	-	4,679	**17,978**	-
Food	1,786	-	2,990	**4,776**	3,225
Project Office/Admin Costs	2,201	-	26,669	**28,870**	-
Project Service User Costs	697	-	2,716	**3,413**	-
Membership				**-**	2,846
Support costs					
Support staff salaries	21,610	-	2,209	**23,819**	47,113
Support staff other costs	456	-	102	**558**	-
Volunteer Costs	-	-	150	**150**	-
Office costs	4,703	-	10,701	**15,404**	6,777
Establishment costs	6,181	-	4,135	**10,316**	9,901
Repairs and renewals	5,860	-	5,112	**10,972**	13,207
New Building Costs	-	-	-	**-**	13,197
Professional fees	1,664	-	13,447	**15,110**	50,312
Insurance	(82)	-	6,177	**6,096**	3,620
Sundry	(1,117)	-	-	**(1,117)**	854
Depreciation	3,002	-	-	**3,002**	3,079
Governance costs					
Trustee Meeting Costs	-	-	8	**8**	-
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,597	-	-	**1,597**	1,465
	68,749	-	398,099	**466,848**	397,585

Expenditure on charitable activities was £466,848 (2021: £397,584) of which £68,749 was unrestricted or designated (2021: £71,977) and £398,099 was restricted (2021: £325,607).

12 **Fees for examination of the acc** Unrestricted Funds

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**1,597**	1,452
Other accountancy services paid to the examiner	**1,504**	1,988
	3,101	3,440

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13 **Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**288,255**	228,193
Social security costs	**19,161**	15,264
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**11,915**	10,112
	319,331	253,569

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2021: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the part time CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £35,877 (2021: £34,629).

14 **Staff numbers**

The average monthly head count was 16 staff (2021: 16 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	**2022** **Number**	2021 Number
Fundraising	**0.3**	0.3
Charitable activities	**9.2**	9.2
	9.5	9.5

15 **Transactions with trustees**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

16 **Defined contribution pension scheme**

The charitable company contributes to individual private staff pension schemes.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £11,915 (2021: £10,112). There was £2,045 outstanding as at 31 March 2022 (2021: £1,598).

17 **Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2022

18 **Tangible fixed assets**	**Garden sculpture** £	**Garden structures** £	**Tools and equipment** £	**Office equipment** £	**Sub Total** £
Cost					
Balance brought forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
Additions	-	-	-	-	**-**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
Depreciation					
Basis	SL	SL	SL	SL	
Rate	10%	10%	25%	25%	
Balance brought forward	15,147	12,638	2,819	14,705	**45,309**
Depreciation charge for year	1,683	1,318	-	-	**3,001**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
Net book value					
Brought forward	1,683	1,318	-	-	**3,001**
Carried forward	-	-	-	-	**-**

	Property Extension £	**Sub Total** £	**Total** £
Cost			
Balance brought forward	-	48,310	**48,310**
Additions	91,927	-	**91,927**
Disposals	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	91,927	48,310	**140,237**
Depreciation			
Basis			
Rate			
Balance brought forward	-	45,309	**45,309**
Depreciation charge for year	-	3,001	**3,001**
Disposals	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	-	48,310	**48,310**
Net book value			
Brought forward	-	3,001	**3,001**
Carried forward	91,927	-	**91,927**

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19 **Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	**16,438**	5,100
Salary holding account	**20,694**	17,578
Accrued income	**49,692**	-
	86,824	22,678

20 **Cash at bank and in hand**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Short term cash deposits	**222,005**	281,966
Bank current account	**117,268**	80,806
Cash in hand	**50**	160
	339,324	362,932

21 **Creditors and accruals (payable Unrestricted Funds**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	**50,259**	15,536
Pension	**2,045**	1,598
Accruals		
Independent examination of accou	**1,597**	1,452
Other accruals	**-**	-
Deferred income	**117,990**	133,585
Other creditors	**-**	1,402
	171,891	153,573

22 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2022	2021
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**133,585**	133,585
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**(133,585)**	(133,585)
Amount deferred in year	**117,990**	133,585
Balance carried forward	**117,990**	133,585

23 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

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24 **Analysis of charitable funds**

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
General unrestricted fund	186,343	77,570	(65,176)	**-**	**198,737**
Designated funds					
Tudor Trust	572	-	(572)	**-**	**-**
Fixed asset fund	3,001	-	(3,001)	**-**	**-**
New building	-	-	-	**91,927**	**91,927**
Totals	**189,916**	**77,570**	**(68,749)**	**91,927**	**290,664**

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
General unrestricted fund	177,522	77,570	(68,749)	-	**186,343**
Designated funds				-	
Tudor Trust	572	-	-	-	**572**
Fixed asset fund	6,080	-	(3,079)	-	**3,001**
Totals	**184,174**	**77,570**	**(71,828)**	**-**	**189,916**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	
Tudor Trust	This is designated to contribute towards Core Costs
Fixed asset fund	This represents the balance of the fixed asset value that appears on the accounts.

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24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Restricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
Active Communities Peoples Health	2,987	-	(2,987)	-	**-**
Bailey Thomas	-	15,000	(7,894)	-	**7,106**
Ballinger Charitable Trust	1,097	-	(478)	-	**619**
BBC Children in Need	5,604	34,477	(27,529)	-	**12,552**
Best Summer Ever	971	-	(657)	-	**313**
Community Foundation T & W	-	6,930	(6,791)	-	**139**
Asian	734	-	-	-	**734**
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	3,215	10,000	(13,215)	-	**0**
Curtin PARP	2,677	-	(2,463)	-	**214**
Cooperative Foundation	4,169	3,037	(7,224)	-	**(18)**
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	919	2,520	(3,029)	-	**409**
The Froebel Trust	1,025	2,880	(3,905)	-	**(1)**
Hadrian Trust	2,155	6,103	(6,801)	-	**1,457**
Henry Smith	12,106	119,037	(125,684)	-	**5,458**
Heritage Lottery	-	47,727	(47,612)	-	**115**
Kellett Fund	643	16,503	(16,709)	-	**437**
Lloyds Bank Foundation	11,372	33,934	(42,174)	-	**3,132**
Power to Change, Colours	196	-	-	-	**196**
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	1,268	1,921	(2,071)	-	**1,118**
Newcastle University	-	2,000	(919)	-	**1,081**
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	500	1,500	(1,778)	-	**222**
Tudor Trust	-	43,934	(35,512)	-	**8,422**
Trust House	-	28,957	(17,029)	-	**11,929**
True Colours Trust	1,460	-	(1,380)	-	**80**
UK Youth	2,012	-	(1,960)	-	**51**
Well Newcastle	4,132	9,423	(12,948)	-	**607**
Willan Charitable Trust	3,296	5,000	(6,261)	-	**2,036**
Ward Committee	1,457	-	-	-	**1,457**
Other Small Grants	-	6,367	(3,086)	-	**3,281**
New Build	-	103,174	-	(91,927)	**11,247**
Totals	63,992	500,423	(398,099)	(91,927)	**74,390**

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24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Restricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
Active Communities Peoples Health	87	3,400	(500)	**2,987**
Awards for All	4,200	3,000	(7,200)	**-**
Ballinger Charitable Trust	1,097	-	-	**1,097**
BBC Children in Need	344	14,750	(9,491)	**5,604**
BBC Children in Need	-	2,832	(2,832)	**-**
Best Summer Ever	-	2,390	(1,419)	**971**
British Foreign School Society	828	2,500	(3,328)	**-**
Charities Aid Foundation CAF -Covid	-	8,500	(8,500)	**-**
Community Foundation T & W				
Asian	1,000	-	(266)	**734**
George & Peggy Trust	151	3,000	(3,151)	**-**
The Swire Charitable Trust	2,080	1,042	(3,122)	**-**
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	2,273	5,000	(4,058)	**3,215**
Ward Hadaway	589	-	(589)	**-**
Covid-19 Response Grant	-	10,400	(10,400)	**-**
Curtin PARP	-	3,742	(1,064)	**2,677**
Community Led Local Development	3,818	-	(3,818)	**-**
Cooperative Foundation	381	48,011	(44,223)	**4,169**
Doyly Carte	1,096	-	(1,096)	**-**
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	-	1,000	(81)	**919**
The Froebel Trust	621	8,001	(7,597)	**1,025**
Grass Roots - Covid 19	-	2,052	(2,052)	**-**
Hadrian Trust	337	5,000	(3,182)	**2,155**
Henry Smith	(6,278)	66,278	(47,894)	**12,106**
Kellett Fund	2,216	8,133	(9,706)	**643**
Lloyds Bank Foundation	(4,656)	20,000	(3,973)	**11,372**
Lloyds Bank Foundation- Covid 19	-	7,345	(7,345)	**-**
Lottery Older People	-	7,904	(7,904)	**-**
Lottery Growing Together	-	14,032	(14,032)	**-**
Lottery Education	-	20,611	(20,611)	**-**
Morrisons Foundation	6,293	-	(6,293)	**-**
Ncle City Council Cohesion Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	**-**
Northumbria Water	2,455	-	(2,455)	**-**
Postcode Local Trust	423	4,500	(4,923)	**-**
Power to Change, Trade Up	-	12,783	(12,783)	**-**
Power to Change, Colours	-	19,757	(19,561)	**196**
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	-	4,810	(3,542)	**1,268**
Newcastle University	662	-	(662)	**-**
Sub Total	20,017	311,773	(280,655)	**51,135**

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24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Restricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
Brought forward	20,017	311,773	(280,655)	**51,135**
Skipton Building Society	500	-	(500)	**-**
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	-	500	-	**500**
True Colours Trust	-	5,300	(3,840)	**1,460**
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	682	19,710	(20,392)	**-**
UK Youth	424	11,000	(9,412)	**2,012**
Well Newcastle	931	13,305	(10,104)	**4,132**
Willan Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(704)	**3,296**
Ward Committee	476	981	-	**1,457**
Totals	23,030	366,569	(325,607)	**63,992**

Purpose of major restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Active Communities Peoples Health	- Gardening for Dementia
Bailey Thomas	- Growing Together Volunteer Programme
Ballinger Charitable Trust	- Gardening for Dementia
BBC Children in Need	- Detached Youth Work Programme
Best Summer Ever	- Summer youth & play programmes
British Foreign School Society	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Community Foundation T & W	- Youth
Asian	- Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Ward Hadaway	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Curtin Parp	- Refugee & Asylum Seeker, volunteer match programme
Community Led Local Development	- Growing Together Programme
Cooperative Foundation	- Youth Work Programme
Doyly Carte	- Older People Programme, partnership work with Marie Curie
The Froebel Trust	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Hadrian Trust	- Nature Rangers, youth work programme
Henry Smith	- Nightshades Youth Group
Heritage Lottery	- Environmental renewal, contribution to several programmes
Kellett Fund	- Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
Lloyds Bank Foundation	- Growing Together Programme

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24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Purpose of major restricted funds continued

Power to Change, Trade Up	- Trading activity development
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	- Youth & Play work Programme
Newcastle University	- Bee Information board
Skipton Building Society	- Art and Music Garden
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	- Staff and volunteer wellbeing
True Colours Trust	- Art and Music Garden
UK Youth	- Education and Youth Programme
Well Newcastle	- Early Explorers
Willan Charitable Trust	- Growing Together Programme
Ward Committee	- Environmental Information campaign
North East LEP	- Building Extension Work phase 1
Power to Change	- Building Extension Work phase 1
Community Foundation	- Building Extension Work phase 1
Neighbourly	- Building Extension Work phase 1
Spacehive	- Building Extension Work kitchen costs

Transfers between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Reason for transfer	**Amount £**
Between unrestricted and restricted funds	Asset purchased from capital funds to be depreciated over 40 years	91,927

25 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2022, the charity had no capital commitments (2021 -£nil)

26 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	91,927	-	-	**91,927**	3,001
Cash at bank and in hand	264,935	-	74,389	**339,324**	362,932
Other net current assets/ (liabilities)	(85,067)	-	-	**(85,067)**	(130,895)
	271,794	-	74,389	**346,183**	235,038

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1144976

Accounts

COMPANY NUMBER: 07523792 (ENGLAND & WALES)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1144976

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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SCOTSWOOD NATURAL GARDEN LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.
The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2019, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charites: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Chair's Comments:

When I wrote my introduction to the 2019/20 Annual Report, I predicted that the 2020/21 report would be dominated by the C-word. The Covid pandemic presented enormous challenges for us all, particularly the more vulnerable members of our community, including increased isolation, reduced incomes, and a detrimental impact on mental health.

As Trustees, we are immensely proud of the way our staff and volunteers rose to the challenge. Our work has looked very different over the 12 months covered by this report, but we have continued to provide Volunteering & Work Placements, Older People's Services, Education & Training, and Youth & Play Programmes. All these projects are described in this report and are testimony to the incredible resilience among our staff, volunteers and participants and are a reminder that our garden community is an amazing one; supporting each other despite individual circumstances.

We are immensely grateful to our funders, who also showed great flexibility during the pandemic to allow us to work differently or to pause programmes. The Trustees are also grateful to those staff who were furloughed at various times throughout the year, enabling the charity to prioritise our work and to emerge from the pandemic in a strong financial position. The financial strength of the charity has continued to grow, with over 40 grant making trusts supported the garden's work during the year.

Over the past year we have also been reminded of the importance of access to green spaces and connecting to nature, making our work promoting inclusivity and equality of access more vital than ever. It was wonderful to see so many people attend our Apple Day in October as the garden returned to a new normality. The garden is embarking on a year of change, with funding in place to extend the Garden House to meet the growing needs of the charity. We are also excited to be managing extra horticultural facilities within the John Marley Centre. Exciting times to be involved in this fantastic project.

At the 2020 Annual General Meeting, Councillor Rob Higgins stood down as a trustee. Rob has been involved in the garden since its inception, bringing wisdom, insight, and experience to the board, to make an enormous contribution to the garden's development. Rob also knew which door at the Civic Centre to knock on when the need arose! We are delighted that Rob has agreed to continue to support the work of the garden by becoming a patron.

Chris Francis, Chair

Company Information

Company Number: 07523792 (England and Wales)

Status: The Company is limited by guarantee. In the event of winding-up, the maximum amount required to be contributed by each member is £1

Charity Registration Number: 1144976

Address: Scotswood Natural Community Garden, John Marley Centre, Yewcroft Avenue, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 6TU

Patrons

Ed Tyler and Rob Higgins

Trustees/Directors at 31st March 2021

Christopher Francis	Chair
Stephanie Cole	Deputy Chair
Miles Henderson	Treasurer
Vanessa Cutter	Secretary
Victoria Whincup	
Alice Holliday	
Rob Higgins	resigned 28/10/20
Keith Robertson	resigned 28/10/20

2020/21 Staff

Karen Dobson	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Farah Kurji	Development Manager
Claire Forman	Business Development Officer
Ann Stafford	Office & Finance Administrator
Harriet Menter	Education Manager
Rosie Tyson	Education Officer
Nicky Sargeant	Play & Youth Manager
Amber Cooperthwaite	Youth Worker
Susan Byrnes	Youth Worker
Michaela Wate	Youth Worker
Luke Bailey	Lead Detached Youth Worker
Leanne Defty	Older People's Services Manager & Wellbeing Officer
Sean Clay	Garden & Community Manager & Garden Officer
Andrew Downey	Garden Assistant

We also employ a number of sessional staff for volunteer, youth and education sessions.

Scotswood Natural Community Garden was established

- To provide and maintain a public garden or gardens for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the north east region and others in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants:
- To advance knowledge and understanding of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability.

Mission

To inspire and promote learning about nature, the environment and sustainable living whilst having a positive impact on people's health & wellbeing.

Values

- We listen to the people in our community using their views to plan and deliver our work.
- We treat people with dignity and respect.
- We ensure equality of opportunity and access.

Strategic Objectives

- To maintain the community garden for the benefit of the wider community and provide a haven for native flora and fauna to flourish.
- To improve the health, wellbeing and fitness of the wider community.
- To support and enable people to gain new skills and knowledge and to develop their creativity.
- To develop a cohesive and sustainable community in Scotswood.
- To educate people about how to better live sustainably.
- To maintain long term sustainability of Scotswood Natural Community Garden.

Core Strands of Work 2020/21

During the covid pandemic our core areas of work have remained the same, our delivery has changed as outlined throughout this report.

- Volunteering & Work Placement
- Older People's Services
- Education and Training
- Youth & Play Programme
- Outreach & Community Events

Pandemic Response

We were very grateful to receive several grants specifically for covid relief work, these included grants from the **Community Foundation of Tyne & Wear, Neighbourly, Charities Aid Foundation, Grassroots, Power to Change and Lloyds Bank Foundation.**
We are also thankful that most of our funders were very flexible throughout the last year. Some grants were paused to allow funding for when we reopened face-2-face activities, whilst other grants were revised to be used for pandemic support work. regional voluntary sector network

At Scotswood Garden we support many vulnerable and marginalised people including people experiencing mental ill health, people living in poverty and people with disabilities, health conditions and/or other complex needs.

Our aim for the pandemic response for all our volunteers, older people, families and young people, (as well as other members of the local community) was simple. We wanted to:

- Ensure physical needs were met (access to food and medication)
- Support wellbeing and mental health
- Support people that were socially isolated
- Ensure people were able to remain connected to their friends at the garden
- Ensure people continued to feel connected to nature

All within the ever-changing government restrictions and what it felt 'right' to be doing in the context of the pandemic in our local area. We have certainly been challenged to adapt and be creative with our support!

During the first lockdown, in March 2020, we closed the garden to all our groups and furloughed just over half of our staff team. The remaining staff pulled together to call our various service users to find out what support they needed from us.

We were able to develop a tailored support package to meet the needs of our community, which included our existing service users and people with support needs through referrals from Newcastle City Council's coordinated response 'City Lifeline'.

We were then able to reopen most of our regular groups and services in July 2020 for 6 months), albeit with several staff still furloughed and strict covid procedures in place, before furloughing half of the staff and closing again in January 2021 for a further 4 months of lockdown.

Whilst the pandemic has, absolutely, been a challenge for the charity; it has also been a real learning experience for us. We have been able to:

- Reflect more fully on what people gain/need from their experiences at the garden
- Reassess how different groups are run and improve our service delivery and support
- Develop better relationships with individuals due to working in smaller groups/121
- Develop new ways for group members to stay in touch with each other, as well as us, when not at the garden
- Improve our use of digital technology to help achieve our strategic objectives

City Lifeline

In March 2020, we signed up to 'City Lifeline' which is Newcastle City Council's coordinated response to the pandemic. We are here to serve our local community and we knew that there would be people not known to us already who would need help if they were shielding.

City Lifeline referred 7 individuals to us, 3 of whom we supported long-term throughout the whole pandemic, with the last support given to one of them on 6th June 2021.

The support needed varied but the support we gave included:

- Weekly shopping
- Prescription pick ups
- Weekly befriending calls
- Emotional support
- Food parcels and emergency support for paying for gas/electric where needed
- Signposting to other services

In a thank you card from one of the people we supported from April 2020 to June 2021 we were given the following feedback:

'I can't thank you enough for everything you have done for me, from the weekly phone calls to getting my shopping each week. I will never forget your kindness and I don't know what I would have done without you while I was shielding'.

Volunteering & Work Placements

Throughout the pandemic we have run a range of support services for our volunteer team. This has included:

- ** minutes of phone calls -these have included connecting socially, covid measures guidance and reassurance, giving advice and referrals and more.
- ** zoom 'tea break 'meetings 3 times a week for a cuppa and a catch up together to encourage continued social connections for volunteers to connect socially with each other and with members of our Elderberries groups, encouraging intergenerational connections as well.
- 4 Facebook Messenger & What's App groups to encourage social connections, the groups have shared photographs, jokes and given guidance and words of support and encouragement to each other.
- ** 121 walk and talk sessions –for individuals struggling to leave the house for exercise or in need of a face to face social connection
- Delivered ** letters and cards
- Delivered ** bags of shopping
- Delivered ** activity packs including seed sowing, mindful colouring and more.

and other bespoke support as needed

These services have been essential for so many members of our volunteer team.

Even though the site has been closed for 6 months of this year, **54 volunteers** have contributed over **5200** hours to maintaining the garden – what an achievement!

The hard work of our wonderful volunteers was highlighted during the lockdowns, when the garden quickly reverted to a wild state, weeds took over and paths became unpassable.

Although we do like to keep things fairly wild, we are so lucky to have such a dedicated team to help us keep things a little tamed to ensure it is as safe as possible for school children and families to use.

We were also successful in being awarded our **15th Community Green Flag Award** - testament once again to the great work of the garden team.

Covid safe procedures have meant, working in small groups offering six shorter sessions each week. It was such a relief and joy to be able to come together again and work side by side - socially distanced of course! The lack of indoor mixing was particularly challenging through the winter, and we were able to begin providing homemade hot soup, which utilised garden produce, at the end of each session. This proved very popular and has been continued through the year.

The volunteering programme has seen many changes during the Covid pandemic, yet throughout all of the challenges and disruption of 2020/21 our amazing Garden team continued to look after the garden and support each other with hard work, smiles and resilience. The pandemic has surely taught us the value of community and access to green spaces, making the work of the garden volunteers even more vital.

Growing Together

Our adult volunteering programme for working age volunteers is now into its 5th Year. The success of the programme owes a huge amount to long term substantial support from **Lloyds Bank Foundation**. This year Growing Together was also supported by **The Willan Trust, The Bailey Thomas Foundation and The National Lottery Community Fund.**

Nearly all volunteers on the Growing Together project reported increased confidence, motivation, wellbeing and social connections after attending the sessions for 3 months or longer.

We have continued our partnership work with the **West End Refugee Service** (WERS) through a grant from **The Curtin PARP Fund at The Community Foundation of Tyne & Wear**. Although delayed by Covid, in September 2020, we restarted supported volunteer sessions for asylum seekers and refugees on WERS's Skills Match programme, which have been a great success.

A **Power to Change** grant enabled us to further develop and improve our outdoor kitchen area, including a smart new paved floor, and to finally put a living roof on to our bird watching area and outdoor classroom.

Volunteering Next year and beyond…

We will continue to look at ways to manage and adapt our volunteer programmes in line with covid safe practices. We will also be working closely with WERS to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers can fully access all opportunities on our volunteering programmes.

Older People's Services

We quickly realised that the pandemic was going to cause a lot of disruption to our Older People's Services and that national lockdowns meant an increase in social isolation and loneliness among a group where this was already a problem. With support from our funders we were able to provide a rapid response to the crisis for people already known to us and additional people referred to us through Newcastle City Council's coordinated response 'City Lifeline'.

Elderberries

For some of our Elderberries, the lockdowns were by far the longest period in several years that they hadn't accessed the garden either to volunteer or attend a nature-based workshop.

Alongside some of our younger volunteers we taught our Elderberries, how to access our social media groups and how to use Zoom so they could access the 'tea break 'meetings 3 times a week. We took emergency supplies of food and essentials to anyone struggling. We phoned everyone who wanted it at least once a week to check in and have a giggle and we visited people for a chat on the doorstep when it was needed or where they struggled to access online support.

Nature-based activity packs were also developed, and video instructions filmed on tablets which were loaned as part of the pack. This really tested our technological skills, but we wanted the Elderberries to feel like they were taking part in a workshop alongside other people. We completed botanical printing, bulb planting, Christmas crafts, hyacinth displays, seed bombs, beeswax wraps, dreamcatchers and macramé activities which were delivered in a covid safe way. We also put together some more bespoke activities for anyone who just wanted to plant a few seeds on their windowsill, take part in the RSPB's big garden bird watch, take up a new colouring in hobby or plant some bulbs in their garden.

With strict infection control procedures and social distancing measures in place, we welcomed our Elderberries volunteers back to the garden in July 2020. The relief for both staff and volunteers was huge and our older volunteers returned to tend to and enjoy the garden inclusively alongside our Growing Together adult volunteering team.

The remote, bespoke and online support continued after the garden reopened as some of our Elderberries group were still very anxious about socialising and being on public transport, especially if they were more vulnerable or had additional needs.

The winter lockdown was particularly challenging for some and so we stepped up our support by offering 1-1 volunteering, 1-1 walks in their local area, soup deliveries as well as continuing with remote and online support. We we were able to support through some life-changing events including bereavement, moving in to residential care and declines in mental health. Our more vulnerable users have not had a period of more than 5 days where we weren't in touch with them during the garden closures.

40 people have been supported in some or all of these ways during the pandemic through the Elderberries project. This is the Elderberries programme's 5th year and we really must thank our wonderful funders for their flexibility and understanding of our challenges during this time. The **Kellett Fund at the Community Foundation of Tyne and Wear** and **National Lottery Community Fund** understood that we know our community best and could deliver the support they needed and so helped us to successfully support the wellbeing of our older community during the crisis.

Gardening for Dementia

The pandemic arrived at a really unfortunate time for our Gardening for Dementia group. We were 6 months into a new project funded by the **Active Communities fund at the People's Health Trust** and we were looking forward to starting to welcome our members to the garden more regularly after the cold and wet winter months.
As the participants on this project were particularly vulnerable to the virus, and the priorities for our funders were around building social connections; we paused the project and as of the end of March 2021, we are yet to welcome this group back to the garden. We are very thankful to Active Communities for their flexibility and they were really supportive when discussing what was best for the project and our participants.

The Good Life Project

The Good Life Project is a new project working in partnership with our local Marie Curie hospice in Elswick. The seeds for this project were sown before the pandemic but funding was secured from **The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust** at the end of 2020 to begin the work.
Not strictly only for older people, this project aims to support the staff and volunteers at Marie Curie to begin using horticulture and nature-based activities as part of their programme of therapies. They have a wonderful outdoor space that they can use, but little expertise within the team around how to use it for the benefit of their patients and their families.

The pandemic has limited what we can deliver in person so far, however we have once again been creative and delivered 12 nature-based activity packs that can be done in 20 minutes without having to get out of bed if necessary. The Speedy Veg, Lavender Crafts and Drawing Birds packs have been popular in the hospice, and we received some lovely feedback from Marie Curie's Lead Allied Health Professional...

'One patient loved owls and took much enjoyment in drawing and colouring an owl. This patient was a very creative person so this activity helped her overall mood and wellbeing. Everyone who entered the patient's room commented on the owl drawing (which was displayed at patient's request!) much to the patient's delight!'

Once restrictions allow, we are aiming to run in-person horticultural therapy sessions at Marie Curie and deliver training for their staff and volunteers to make sure they have the skills within the team for it to be sustainable.

Older People's Services Next Year and beyond…

We still haven't welcomed some of our older volunteers back as some people are understandably very anxious to return and we will work with them to make sure they still feel connected and are able to return when they are ready. Going into summer 2021, we will work to resume face to face activity for all our Older People's Services, with covid safety procedures in place. There will be a transition period where we will continue to offer remote and bespoke support too. We hope to welcome back our Gardening for Dementia group and support them to feel connected to each other and nature after a difficult and isolating year for them.
We're also really looking forward to working more with Marie Curie and developing our partnership with them. We can't wait to see what we will achieve.

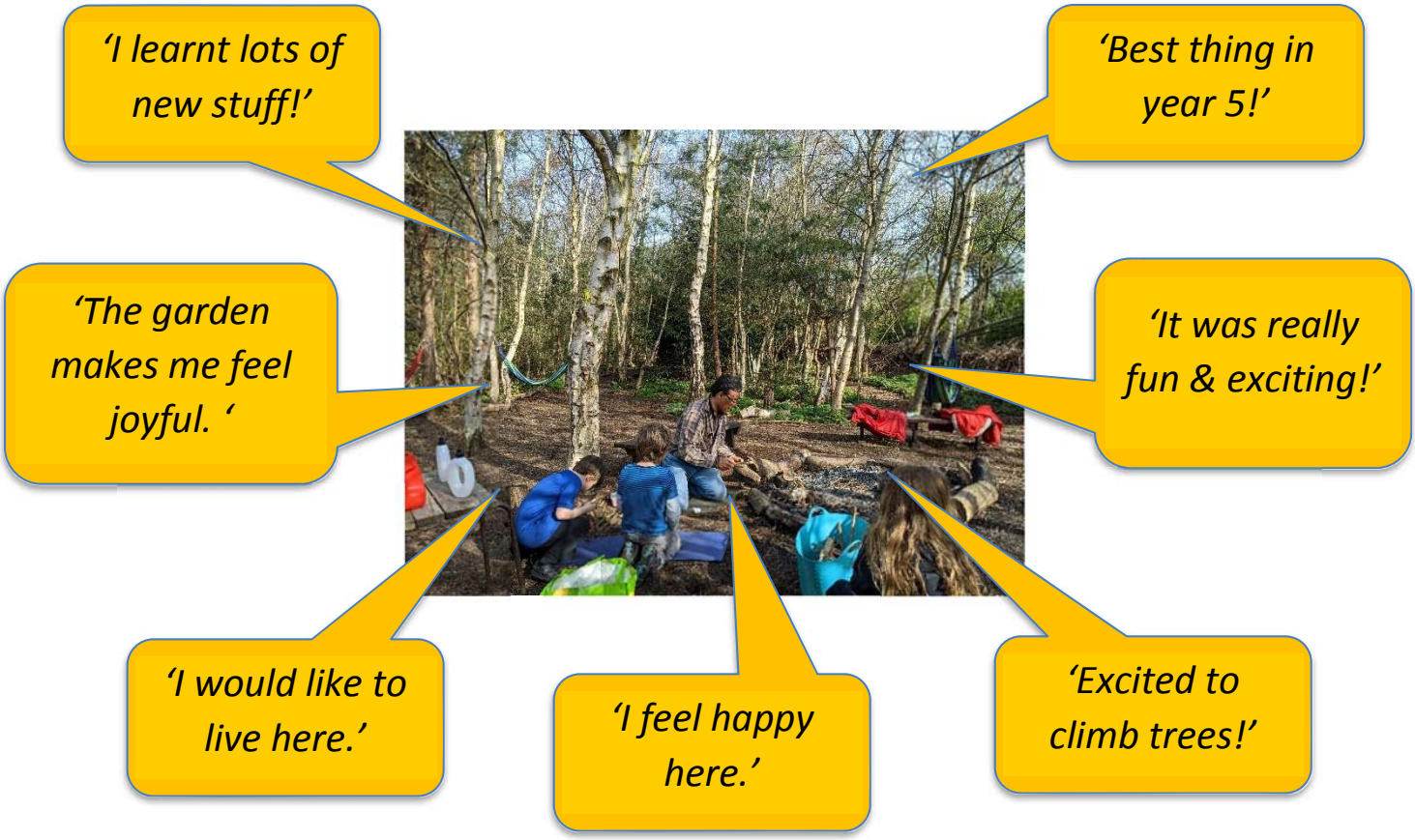
Education & Training

Wildlife Superheroes

We paused Wildlife Superhero school visit delivery March 2020 to September 2020 due to the pandemic and furloughed most of our education team. We looked for other ways to support children, families, and schools. We created beautiful downloadable resources that could be used by teachers setting work for children at home; these were also shared on our social media so they could be accessed directly by local families.

Education staff returned in September 2020 and considered how to revise our school visits programme. School visits were reduced to half a class (up to 15 children) at a time, with covid safe visits kept to a half day per group and managed in such a way that resources were not shared with other garden users. We were also able to offer subsidised forest school sessions for local children who had been identified as needing more support on their return to school. Some of these had experienced more than one bereavement or found lockdown a difficult time. It was mainly Rainbird, our most local primary school who were able to walk in who accessed this offer. Schools closed again in January 2021, but by the end of March we were back to delivering school visits. We delivered a total of **15 school visits**.

The visits have been as popular as ever Pupils shared their thoughts and feelings:



We also supported 18 schools to develop their outdoor learning areas to create more useful teaching spaces, especially important while they couldn't access outside provision. This included helping a school to plant 250 new trees in the school grounds, helping another to install a pond, and another to develop planting structures. Our volunteers also built benches for some schools, and we provided others with a range of outdoor resources, including binoculars and bug hunting pots.

In addition to this, we researched and put together 8 sets of 6 different "springboard boxes" each containing all the resources needed for children to engage in outdoor play and learning around a theme. One was "mini-dens" and another which has proved a firm favourite was "potions". These were shared with schools across Newcastle, Gateshead, Northumberland, North Tyneside and Sunderland.

'Thank you for the boxes, they have been a great addition to our intervention provision.'

Breeze Forest School Emotional Wellbeing Project

We were in year two of our three-year Breeze, forest school project when Covid struck. With the closure of the garden and staff furloughed we were unable to continue to deliver Forest School sessions. Many of the children involved in the project are classed as vulnerable children and as such continued to attend school throughout each lockdown. Staff in 4 of these schools (Sir Charles Parsons, Newcastle Bridges School, Hawthorn Primary and South Gosforth First School) that had received training from us as part of the project continued to deliver some version of forest school sessions in their school grounds. As lockdown eased, groups were able to return to the garden. Newcastle Bridges School ran their own sessions in the garden, and we provided sessions for South Gosforth First School. As children were in bubbles that couldn't be mixed, children from the original group came with other children in their bubble who had also been identified as needing extra support.
In this year **108 forest school sessions** were delivered as part of the Breeze project, **33 of these at the garden and 75 in school grounds or local green spaces.**

Lucy Tiplady from Newcastle University continued to gather data on the impact of the sessions. Lucy and Harriet, our Education Manager, wrote an information booklet about using forest schools for emotional wellbeing. This was sent to every Special Educational Needs Coordinator in Newcastle, and presented at the Newcastle SENCO network by Jo Fields, one of the teachers who has been involved in the project. Harriet and Lucy also wrote a journal article and a book chapter about the project to share what we have learnt from the project so far. Initial findings show that children and young people have significantly benefited from forest schools where they have had consistent sessions, and these benefits have transferred back to the classroom. (All reports are available on our website https://scotswoodgarden.org.uk/learn/forest-schools-research).

Forest School Training

We had to postpone our forest school training courses, but eventually were able to run a level 1 course and start a new level 3 cohort. We were also commissioned to deliver a level 3 course at the **Kirkley Hall Campus of Northumberland College**.

To ensure we were as covid safe as possible, we made adjustments to our delivery, all of the face to face training was delivered outside and the sections that are usually delivered indoors where done as interactive lectures delivered via zoom calls. This was an effective adaptation and allowed us to have long discussions which would have been a challenge when it is wet and cold outside.

Feedback from learners:

'Really appreciated range of delivery styles and sensitivity to different needs of learners at different times.'

'Harriet and Susan need a medal. Fabulous trainers.'

'Thoroughly enjoyed every aspect, made lifelong friends, gained knowledge and so much confidence.'

Education Programme: Next year and beyond

We will continue to expand our support for schools to develop their grounds as they have told us how useful this has been to them. We will continue to offer school visits for half a class, as well as accommodating full classes again. We are excited to include more opportunities for deep immersion and nature connectedness through our school visits programme, and to help schools understand the value of this for physical and emotional health, learning and environmental awareness.

The Breeze Forest School project for emotional wellbeing ends in its current form in August 2021. We had planned to end the project then, but the Breeze steering committee found that given the impact of Covid on children's emotional wellbeing we should continue to offer support and information on how forest school can be used to support children's wellbeing. As such we will move to a new phase where we continue to support the current network of 5 schools that are involved, and start working with 3 new schools that have expressed an interest. We will be doing less forest school delivery in this phase but facilitating skills sharing between schools, and making the garden available for forest school sessions where schools cannot access other green spaces.

We will be running our popular forest school training courses, including the postponed level 3 course at Kirkley Hall.

Youth & Play Programme

Our youth and play offer includes:

Early Explorers - pre-school exploration
Nature Rangers - 5-9yrs
Adventure Rangers - 10-13yrs
Nightshades Rangers - 14-18yrs
Art & Music Garden -inclusive family creativity
Young Women's Group
Scotswood Street Rangers - Detached youth work in Scotswood

The last year challenged us to rethink how we engage with families and young people to provide support and activities. Who would have thought that we would be delivering online youth sessions to produce digital outcomes?

We closed our services for just a couple of weeks while we created activity packs and planned how we could maintain contact and respond to the needs of families and young people in our community safely. We would like to acknowledge the invaluable work of the **National Youth Agency** in liaising with the government to provide clear guidance and safety advice for youth services.

All members of our Early Explorers, Nature Rangers, Adventure Rangers and Nightshades groups received activity packs to get them through the first few weeks. Then with help from **Your Homes Newcastle** and the flexibility of our existing funders **Co-op Foundation Building Communities Fund** and **Community Foundation of Tyne & Wear** we were able to launch our Book & Games Exchange. Families received and exchanged fortnightly boxes of children's books and games and other resources for some variety during the first, most extensive lockdown period.

As restrictions eased, we were able to offer a mixture of face-to-face outdoor provision and online provision for all of our groups. An additional grant from **Henry Smith** supported us to flexibly continue our core Play & Youth offer, and secured hours for our Play & Youth Manager.

Our youth provision to the wider community was once again acknowledged by the **High Sheriff of Tyne & Wear,** with an Award from Sarah Stewart OBE DL**;** we were delighted that the High Sheriff also joined our Adventure Rangers for an online filmmaking Zoom meeting, and now features in one of our short films about friendship.

Our Nightshades and Adventure Rangers worked with **digital artist John Quinn** to produce short films exploring youth loneliness, what it was like to be living through the Covid-19 restrictions and how we can build and maintain strong, valuable friendships. These contributed to the national #LonelyNotAlone campaign to raise awareness of youth loneliness and we were proud that they were selected to be shown as part of the national Mary's Film Festival organised online by **Mary's Youth Club in London**; our films are available on our **Scotswood Garden YouTube channel.**

We discovered how versatile our online provision could be. We've played games, made crafts and even cooked together online. One of our youth volunteers learned how to host Dungeons & Dragons online and taught us how to play; he became such an expert Dungeon Master that he now leads several international groups! Furlough of some staff and some reduced costs meant that our grants from **Ballinger Trust** and **Hadrian Trust** funded our Nature Rangers group for 5-9 year olds right through until March 2021.

During the summer we were proud to receive funding to be part of **Newcastle's Best Summer Ever**, delivering activity resources over 5 weeks that inspired local young people and their families to explore their local urban environment and the wildlife that lives there**. 57 adults and children** completed the Summer Wildlife Challenges, and to celebrate their achievements **19 families received a John Muir Award.**

Our successful partnership with **Well Newcastle Gateshead Fund** and **Bluestone Consortium** has continued to deliver creative and developmental outdoor activities for pre-school children and their families. As families became isolated at home during the first lockdown, we set up a WhatsApp group which enabled us to share ideas for activities, and for parents to keep in touch. We delivered resources to the doorstep, then as restrictions eased, we invited families to book visits to the garden as a single household or bubble; then later in groups of 2 to 4 families. This meant that dads and grandparents who never used to attend sessions before got involved too, with the whole family spending valuable time relaxing and playing together. Additional financial support from **Tudor Trust** meant that we could offer additional sessions and reimburse the cost of taxis, reducing the risk for families who would normally have travelled on public transport.

Thank you for a wonderful hour in your garden. The kids thoroughly enjoyed themselves and I feel revitalised. The weight of the world got lifted off my shoulders the minute I entered.' Jill

'It is a lovely feeling being in the garden. I really can't put into words how amazing it feels – the smell, the colours, so healing and welcoming, its home away from home. The kids really enjoyed being back in garden, Thank You' Amina

Thanks to additional Covid-response funding from **Children in Need** we were also able to offer single household/bubble visits with our partners from **Arts Connect**. The Art & Music Garden team delivered tailored hour-long visits with creative arts, music and movement to bring families together, especially inclusive of children with additional needs who might struggle to maintain social distancing and those who needed to shield.

Young Women's Outdoor Project (new project)

Funding from **Rise Sport Satellite Club** for a Young Women's Outdoor group started in the autumn of 2020, with the aim of building confidence and social relationships to increase physical activity. The group developed navigation skills in the Northumberland countryside. However, the lockdown in early 2021 resulted in us starting a WhatsApp group to reduce isolation and taking part in weekly social chats and learning to crochet on Zoom! Our staff were able to walk one to one with the young women in their local area, helping them to become more familiar and confident with routes, and as restrictions eased, enabling them to meet others in the group to get local exercise without using public transport or indoor spaces.

Scotswood Street Rangers (new project)

A new 3-year grant from **Children in Need** has enabled us to launch a new detached youth work project. Our new detached youth workers spent several months developing new policies, procedures, and risk assessments for this new area of work. They spent many hours walking around the local area identifying the best and safest places to engage with local young people, and building relationships with local shopkeepers, organisations, and community liaison officers. Tight covid restrictions in early 2021 meant that the project didn't launch quite as expected but we built relationships with the delivery of activity packs and an online pizza cook-along!

Youth work next year and beyond…

As we move into 2021 all of our Play & Youth services will return to face to face to delivery, albeit with on-going covid precautions.

Due to covid and restrictions on numbers all but one of our groups holds a waiting list, and we will continue to require participants to book in advance; we hope that more settled times and easing restrictions will allow us to return to full capacity and increase our detached youth work provision to two nights per week.

Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme was badly hit during 2020-21, but we have a Gold canoeing expedition planned, which was delayed from 2020. This is our first Gold group and we are very excited to see the hard work and commitment of these young people being tested and rewarded by this prestigious award.

Outreach, Community & Events

Blossom Week, Summer Fun Week and Santa on Tour!

Due to the pandemic our usual open days and events were cancelled, instead we ran some fantastic online events! During **Blossom Week** and our **Summer Fun Week**, we shared recipes, environmental crafts, scavenger hunts and gardening ideas, ran a photography competition and more. Families received activity packs of resources and ideas for activities that could be carried out either from home or in the local park to celebrate what we have on our doorsteps and make the most of the amazing weather we were having.

Whilst we were disappointed to be unable to run our usual Winter Wonderland event, we were pleased that thanks to a donation from **Newcastle Rotary Club,** for the children's gifts, we were able to take **Santa on Tour**! A big thank you to the volunteers that gave up their time to make this possible, Santa delivered gifts to 120 local children.

'Absolutely brilliant. Thank you so much for raising a smile during these difficult times.'

'simply amazing made our day!'

'Thank you Santa and elf for visiting today. You've made a young man's day.'

Financial Review

The financial statements show the state of the finances and activity during the last year.

Principle sources of funds

Our main sources of funding are governmental, trust funds and increasingly earned income from services.

Funders

We are very grateful for support from all our funders - they include:

- Active Communities Peoples Health Trust
- Awards for All
- Bailey Thomas Charitable Fund
- Ballinger Charitable Trust
- BBC Children in Need
- Benwell & Scotswood Ward Committee
- Best Summer Ever, Newcastle
- British Foreign School Society
- Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)
- Community Foundation of Tyne & Wear
    - Asian Fund
    - Covid-19 Response Grant
    - Curtin PARP
    - George & Peggy Trust
    - Kellett Fund
    - Wellesley Charitable Foundation
    - Ward Hadaway
    - 1989 Willan Charitable Trust
- Community Led Local Development
- Co-operative Foundation
- Doyly Carte
- The Froebel Trust
- Grass Roots
- Hadrian Trust
- Henry Smith
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- National Lottery Community Fund -Coronavirus Community Support Fund
- Morrisons Foundation
- Newcastle City Council Cohesion Fund
- Newcastle University
- North East LEP –Local Growth Fund
- Northumbria Water –Branching Out Fund
- Postcode Local Trust
- Power to Change, Community Led Organisations Recovery Scheme (CCLORS)
- Rise-Satellite Club Funding
- Skipton Building Society
- The Swire Charitable Trust

- Tudor Trust (Core costs & Wellbeing)
- True Colours Trust
- Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
- TK Max/M&S (Neighbourly)
- UK Youth
- Well Newcastle/Gateshead Fund
- Your Homes Newcastle

Reserves Policy and Investment Performance

The trustee's policy is to maintain reserves to ensure that in the event of a funding shortfall the project can continue for at least three months. At the 31 March 2021 the free reserves (unrestricted funds less amount invested in tangible fixed assets) were £168,075 (2020: £118,095) representing five months running costs (2020: four months). The Management Committee sanctioned future use of the reserve to enable the continuation of project work while continuing to seek funding. The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019 edition).

Bank

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited banks with the Cooperative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

Accountants

The Independent Examiner is:

Jim Dodds FCIE
Connected Voice Business Services Ltd
Higham House
Higham Place
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 8AF

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was an unincorporated registered charity (date of registration 30 May 2000), governed by a constitution adopted 16 December 1999 as amended 9 March 2000. On 1st April, 2012 the charity was incorporated into a company limited by guarantee. It is managed by a Management Committee which consists of the Trustees and is attended by the CEO and Administrator. Meetings are held quarterly.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The management committee may also appoint 1/3rd co-opted members. A third of trustees retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting following their election/appointment.

All new trustees are given an induction pack detailing the charity's constitution, strategic plans, recent annual report and accounts, Charity Commission Leaflet - CC3 (a). Trustees are advised of training on their responsibilities at the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service.

Decision Making Process

The CEO sends a quarterly report of activities to the Management Committee. Decisions and actions are recommended and taken at this meeting.

Risks and Risk Management

The charity is dependent on grant funding for most of its income; this presents a considerable risk. The charity has a strategy in place to source alternative sustainable sources of income to reduce this risk.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with (applicable law, regulations and trust deed). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have compiled with the duty in Section 17/5 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to public benefit statements.

Small Company Provisions

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

Vanessa Cutter: Secretary

…….
On behalf of the Trustees

Date: ……

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2021

I report on the financial statements of Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 23 to 37.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, 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 Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

Jim Dodds FCIE
Ellison Services Limited
Higham House
Higham Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 8AF
Date:

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2021 £**	Total 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	3,121	-	**3,121**	10,419
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	94,216	366,569	**460,785**	312,659
Other trading activities	8	20,787	-	**20,787**	53,959
Investments	9	724	-	**724**	602
Total income		118,848	366,569	**485,417**	377,639
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	10	71,977	325,607	**397,585**	347,571
Total expenditure		71,977	325,607	**397,585**	347,571
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds		46,871	40,962	**87,833**	30,069
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		124,175	23,030	**147,205**	117,137
Total funds carried forward		171,046	63,992	**235,038**	147,205

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 26 to 37 form an integral part of these accounts.

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1144976
Company Number 07523792

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	£	Total 2021 £	£	Total 2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	17		3,001		6,080
Total fixed assets			**3,001**		**6,080**
Current assets					
Debtors	18	22,677		29,368	
Cash at bank and in hand	19	362,932		247,626	
Total current assets		**385,609**		**276,994**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	**(153,572)**		**(135,869)**	
Net current assets			**232,037**		**141,125**
Total assets less current liabilities			**235,038**		**147,205**
Total net assets or liabilities			**235,038**		**147,205**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			171,046		124,175
Restricted income funds			63,992		23,030
Total funds			**235,038**		**147,205**

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 26 to 37 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: _____

and are signed on its behalf by: Miles Henderson _____
Treasurer

SCOTSWOOD NATURAL COMMUNITY GARDEN LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1144976
Company Number 07523792

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net movement in funds	87,833	30,069
Depreciation	3,079	3,997
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(724)	(602)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	6,691	2,416
Increase (decrease) in creditors	17,703	53,554
Net cash from operating activities	**114,582**	**89,433**
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Interest received	724	602
Net cash used in investing activities	**724**	**602**
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	**115,306**	90,035
Cash and cash equivalents at start of year	**247,626**	157,591
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**362,932**	**247,626**

The notes on pages 26 to 37 form an integral part of these accounts.

1 Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Scotswood Natural Community Garden Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £171,046 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have revised their forecasts to take into account measures that they can take with the current resources available to mitigate the impact of the current adverse conditions. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliably.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 **Donated goods and services**

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 **Volunteer help**

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

3.7 **Income from membership subscriptions**

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 **Investment gains and losses**

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investment and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 **Expenditure and liabilities**

4.1 **Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 **Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of garden projects, education projects, youth projects and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 **Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 **Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 **Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 **Assets**

5.1 **Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Garden sculptures	10%	Straight line
Garden structures	10%	Straight line
Tools and equipment	25%	Straight line
Office equipment	25%	Straight line

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2021

Analysis of income	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2021 £**	Total 2020 £
6 **Donations and legacies**				
Donations and gifts	3,121	-	**3,121**	**10,419**
	3,121	-	**3,121**	10,419
7 **Charitable activities**				
Income from grants				
Active Communities Peoples Health Trust	-	3,400	**3,400**	4,337
Awards for All	-	3,000	**3,000**	6,981
Ballinger Charitable Trust	-	-	**-**	7,000
BBC Children in Need	-	17,582	**17,582**	25,408
Best Summer Ever	-	2,390	**2,390**	-
British Foreign School Society	-	2,500	**2,500**	9,316
Charities Aid Foundation	-	8,500	**8,500**	-
Community Foundation T & W				
Asian	-	-	**-**	1,000
Covid-19 Response Grant	-	10,400	**10,400**	-
Curtin PARP	-	3,742	**3,742**	-
David Dockray	-	-	**-**	2,167
LEAF	-	-	**-**	5,500
George and Peggy Trust	-	3,000	**3,000**	1,248
NR Foundation Legacy Fund	-	-	**-**	10,000
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	-	5,000	**5,000**	7,000
Ward Hadaway	-	-	**-**	2,000
Community Led Local Development	-	-	**-**	25,853
Cooperative Foundation	-	48,011	**48,011**	19,204
D'Oyly Carte	-	1,000	**1,000**	3,000
The Froebel Trust	-	8,001	**8,001**	14,405
Grass Roots - Covid 19	-	2,052	**2,052**	-
Groundwork UK	-	-	**-**	1,000
Hadrian Trust	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	38,827	-	**38,827**	-
High Sheriff Award	-	981	**981**	1,158
Henry Smith	-	66,278	**66,278**	49,000
Kellett Fund	-	8,133	**8,133**	14,133
Lloyds -Bank Foundation	-	27,345	**27,345**	19,104
Morrisons Foundation	-	-	**-**	7,500
Newcastle City Council Cohesion Fund	-	1,000	**1,000**	-
Northumbrian Water	-	-	**-**	2,500
Percy Bilton Grant	-	-	**-**	-
Postcode Local Trust	-	4,500	**4,500**	15,500
Power to Change, Trade Up	-	32,540	**32,540**	3,000
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	-	4,810	**4,810**	-
Rotary Club West	-	-	**-**	1,560
Sub Total	38,827	269,165	**307,992**	258,874

Analysis of income continued	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2021 £**	Total 2020 £
7 **Charitable activities** continued				
Brought forward	38,827	269,165	**307,992**	258,874
Skipton Building Society	-	-	**-**	500
The National Lottery	-	42,547	**42,547**	-
The Swire Charitable Trust	-	1,042	**1,042**	11,458
True Colours Trust	-	5,300	**5,300**	-
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	-	19,710	**19,710**	8,000
Tudor Trust	48,000	500	**48,500**	20,324
UK Youth	-	11,000	**11,000**	1,053
Well Newcastle	-	13,305	**13,305**	7,000
Willan Charitable Trust	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
Other small grants	3,224	-	**3,224**	1,200
Other income	4,166	-	**4,166**	4,250
	94,216	366,569	**460,785**	312,659
8 **Other trading activities**				
Produce sales	1,186	-	**1,186**	5,563
School visits	1,060	-	**1,060**	5,560
Other visits and hire of facilities	-	-	**-**	7,200
Internal Quality Assurance	5,730	-	**5,730**	-
Income generation	150	-	**150**	10,553
OCN charges	12,660	-	**12,660**	25,083
	20,787	-	**20,787**	53,959
9 **Income from investments**				
Bank interest	724	-	**724**	602
	724	-	**724**	602

Income was £485,417 (2020: £377,639) of which £118,848 was unrestricted or designated (2020: £87,454) and £366,569 was restricted (2020: £290,185)

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

10 ***Charitable activities***	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2021 £**	Total 2020 £
Direct costs				
Project staff salaries	6,537	200,001	**206,538**	229,902
Project staff other costs	1,777	7,788	**9,565**	8,747
Activities	2,700	12,339	**15,039**	4,630
Event costs	245	1,492	**1,737**	2,466
Garden materials	920	4,250	**5,170**	4,757
Garden equipment	-	3,655	**3,655**	1,528
Vehicle hire	-	285	**285**	2,369
Food	-	3,225	**3,225**	4,306
Membership	1,283	1,563	**2,846**	2,120
Support costs				
Support staff salaries	22,189	24,924	**47,113**	13,752
Support staff other costs	-	-	**-**	606
Office costs	1,769	5,008	**6,777**	13,119
Establishment costs	4,663	5,238	**9,901**	9,522
Repairs and renewals	458	12,749	**13,207**	5,853
New build preparation costs	13197	-	**13,197**	11,334
Professional fees	9,806	40,506	**50,312**	23,179
Insurance	1,705	1,915	**3,620**	2,862
Sundry	184	669	**854**	1,070
Depreciation	3,079	-	**3,079**	3,997
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,465	-	**1,465**	1,452
	71,977	325,607	**397,585**	347,571

Expenditure on charitable activities was £397,585 (2020: £347,571) of which £71,977 was unrestricted or designated (2020: £57,822) and £325,607 was restricted (2020: £289,749)

11 **Fees for examination of the accounts**

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**1,452**	1,452
Other accountancy services paid to the examiner	**1,988**	1,559
	3,440	3,011

12 **Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**228,193**	219,506
Social security costs	**15,264**	14,788
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**10,112**	9,357
	253,569	243,651

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2020: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the part time CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £34,629.(2020: £34,595)

13 **Staff numbers**

The average monthly head count was 16 staff (2020: 16 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	**2021** **Number**	2020 Number
Fundraising	**0.3**	0.3
Charitable activities	**9.2**	9.2
	9.5	9.5

14 **Transactions with trustees**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

15 **Defined contribution pension scheme**

The charitable company contributes to individual private staff pension schemes.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £10,112 (2020: £9,357). There was £1,598 outstanding as at 31 March 2021 (2020: £1,352)

16 **Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

17 **Tangible fixed assets**	**Garden sculpture** £	**Garden structures** £	**Tools and equipment** £	**Office equipment** £	**Total** £
Cost					
Balance brought forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
Additions	-	-	-	-	**-**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	16,830	13,956	2,819	14,705	**48,310**
Depreciation					
Basis	SL	SL	SL	SL	
Rate	10%	10%	25%	25%	
Balance brought forward	13,464	11,242	2,819	14,705	**42,230**
Depreciation charge for year	1,683	1,396	-	-	**3,079**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	15,147	12,638	2,819	14,705	**45,309**
Net book value					
Brought forward	3,366	2,714	-	-	**6,080**
Carried forward	1,683	1,318	-	-	**3,001**

18 **Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)**

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	**5,099**	21,226
Salary holding account	**17,578**	1,167
Accrued income	**-**	6,975
	22,677	29,368

19 **Cash at bank and in hand**

	2021 £	2020 £
Short term cash deposits	**281,966**	191,242
Bank current account	**80,806**	56,246
Cash in hand	**160**	138
	362,932	247,626

20 **Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	**15,536**	1,366
Pension	**1,598**	1,352
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	**1,452**	1,452
Deferred income	**133,585**	131,495
Other creditors	**1,402**	204
	153,572	135,869

22 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**131,495**	73,209
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**(131,495)**	(73,209)
Amount deferred in year	**133,585**	131,495
Balance carried forward	**133,585**	131,495

23 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

24 **Analysis of charitable funds**

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	**117,522**	70,848	(39,241)	**149,130**
Designated funds				
Tudor Trust	572	48,000	(29,657)	**18,915**
Fixed asset fund	6,080	-	(3,079)	**3,001**
Totals	124,175	118,848	(71,977)	**171,046**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	
Tudor Trust	This is designated to contribute towards Core Costs
Fixed asset fund	This represents the balance of the fixed asset value that appears on the accounts.

24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

Restricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
Active Communities Peoples Health Trust	87	3,400	(500)	**2,987**
Awards for All	4,200	3,000	(7,200)	**-**
Ballinger Charitable Trust	1,097	-	-	**1,097**
BBC Children in Need	344	14,750	(9,491)	**5,604**
BBC Children in Need	-	2,832	(2,832)	**-**
Best Summer Ever	-	2,390	(1,419)	**971**
British Foreign School Society	828	2,500	(3,328)	**-**
Charities Aid Foundation CAF -Covid 19	-	8,500	(8,500)	**-**
Community Foundation T & W				
Asian	1,000	-	(266)	**734**
George & Peggy Trust	151	3,000	(3,151)	**-**
The Swire Charitable Trust	2,080	1,042	(3,122)	**-**
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	2,273	5,000	(4,058)	**3,215**
Ward Hadaway	589	-	(589)	**-**
Covid-19 Response Grant	-	10,400	(10,400)	**-**
Curtin PARP	-	3,742	(1,064)	**2,677**
Community Led Local Development	3,818	-	(3,818)	**-**
Cooperative Foundation	381	48,011	(44,223)	**4,169**
Doyly Carte	1,096	-	(1,096)	**-**
D'Oyly Carte - Marie Curie	-	1,000	(81)	**919**
The Froebel Trust	621	8,001	(7,597)	**1,025**
Grass Roots - Covid 19	-	2,052	(2,052)	**-**
Hadrian Trust	337	5,000	(3,182)	**2,155**
Henry Smith	(6,278)	66,278	(47,894)	**12,106**
Kellett Fund	2,216	8,133	(9,706)	**643**
Lloyds Bank Foundation	(4,656)	20,000	(3,973)	**11,372**
Lloyds Bank Foundation- Covid 19	-	7,345	(7,345)	**-**
Lottery Older People	-	7,904	(7,904)	**-**
Lottery Growing Together	-	14,032	(14,032)	**-**
Lottery Education	-	20,611	(20,611)	**-**
Morrisons Foundation	6,293	-	(6,293)	**-**
Ncle City Council Cohesion Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	**-**
Northumbria Water	2,455	-	(2,455)	**-**
Postcode Local Trust	423	4,500	(4,923)	**-**
Power to Change, Trade Up	-	12,783	(12,783)	**-**
Power to Change, Colours	-	19,757	(19,561)	**196**
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	-	4,810	(3,542)	**1,268**
Newcastle University	662	-	(662)	**-**
Sub Total	20,017	311,773	(280,655)	**51,135**

24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Fund balances carried forward £
Brought forward	20,017	311,773	(280,655)	**51,135**
Skipton Building Society	500	-	(500)	**-**
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	-	500	-	**500**
True Colours Trust	-	5,300	(3,840)	**1,460**
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	682	19,710	(20,392)	**-**
UK Youth	424	11,000	(9,412)	**2,012**
Well Newcastle	931	13,305	(10,104)	**4,132**
Willan Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(704)	**3,296**
Ward Committee	476	981	-	**1,457**
Totals	23,030	366,569	(325,607)	**63,992**

Purpose of major restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Active Communities Peoples Health Trust	- Gardening for Dementia
Awards for All - Art Garden	- Art and Music Garden
Ballinger Charitable Trust	- Gardening for Dementia
BBC Children in Need	- Detached Youth Work Programme
Best Summer Ever	- Summer youth & play programmes
British Foreign School Society	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Charities Aid Foundation CAF -Covid 19	- Emergency COVID19 community support work
Community Foundation T & W	
Asian	- Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
George & Peggy Trust	- Nature Rangers, youth work programme
The Swire Charitable Trust	- Core salary costs
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Ward Hadaway	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Covid-19 Response Grant	- Emergency COVID19 community support work
Curtin PARP	- Refugee & Asylum Seeker garden volunteer group
Community Led Local Development	- Growing Together Programme
Cooperative Foundation	- Youth Work Programme
Doyly Carte	- Older People Programme, core salary contribution
The Froebel Trust	- BREEZE Forest School Programme
Grass Roots - Covid 19	- Emergency COVID19 community support work
Hadrian Trust	- Nature Rangers, youth work programme
Henry Smith	- Core Costs
Kellett Fund	- Elderberries Older People's Prgramme
Lloyds Bank Foundation	- Growing Together Programme
Lloyds Bank Foundation- Covid 19	- Emergency COVID19 community support work

24 **Analysis of charitable funds** continued

Purpose of major restricted funds continued

Lottery - Older People, Growing Together and Education	- COVID19 community support work, education, volunteer and older people's programmes
Morrisons Foundation	- Garden works to improve accesibility
Ncle City Council Cohesion Fund	- Refugee & Asylum Seeker garden volunteer group
Northumbria Water	- Wildlife Superheroes (school visits)
Postcode Local Trust	- Wildlife Superheroes (school visits)
Power to Change, Trade Up	- Trading activity development
Power to Change, Community Led Organisations Recovery Scheme (CCLORS)	- Covid recovery support, includes salary costs & garden improvements to be a Covid secure site.
Rise-Satellite Club Funding	- Youth & Play work Programme
Newcastle University	- Bee Information board
Skipton Building Society	- Art and Music Garden
Tudor Trust - Wellbeing	'- Staff and volunteer wellbeing
True Colours Trust	- Art and Music Garden
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	- Core Costs
TK Max/M&S (Neighbourly)	- Recycling Improvements
UK Youth	- Education and Youth Programme
Well Newcastle	- Early Explorers
Willan Charitable Trust	'- Growing Together Programme
Ward Committee	'- Environmental Information campaign

25 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2021, the charity had no capital commitments (2020 -£nil)

26 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2021 £**	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,001	-	**3,001**	6,080
Cash at bank and in hand	206,816	27,239	128,877	**362,932**	247,626
Other net current assets/ (liabilities)	(57,687)	(8,324)	(64,885)	**(130,896)**	(106,501)
	149,130	21,916	63,992	**235,038**	147,205