

FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM BOTANICAL GARDENS

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Charity Reg. No. 1151347



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month January	Year 2022		Day 31	Month December	Year 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens

Other names charity is known by Friends of JBG

Registered charity number (if any) 1151347

Charity's principal address

100 Green Lane	
Edgware	
Middx	
Postcode	HA8 8EJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Aaron Bertelsen	Co-Chair		
2	Jill Kowal	Co-Chair		
3	Malcolm Goldstein		Until 31.10.2022	
4	Brandon George			
5	Linda Smith		From 01.03.2022	
6				
7				
8				
9				
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14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

Barbara Sherling – Operations Manager

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by the Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

Reviewing the structure of the Board with the aim of creating opportunities to appoint new Trustees with particular skills to advance the charity's activities.

The Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens (JBG) continued its membership of the NCVO in order to be kept aware of current governance, organisational and charity best practice and to access training.

Work alongside the CEO and senior staff members of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens; the Israel-based Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens and two of the Trustees of the UK Friends represent the UK Friends on the international advisory panel of the Board of the JBG.

The Trustees have adopted the following policies and procedures: Conflict of Interests; Data Protection, Equality and Diversity; Grievance; Privacy, Register of Interests, and a Reserves Policy. The Trustees continue to review the financial position of the charity regularly.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

To advance the education of the public on Israel's biodiversity, plant conservation and cultural uses of plants, in particular but not exclusively by supporting the work of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens.

This is achieved by supporting the Gardens in:

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

- its cross-cultural education of school-age children in Jerusalem;
- its social action and environmental outreach programme which aims to engage disaffected and disadvantaged members of the community through working with plants; and
- by offering qualified gardeners the opportunity to extend their education through learning about Israel's biodiversity etc.
- Online talks given via Zoom on botanical aspects and, in the UK, talks by the Operations Manager to various communal organisations.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in the undertaking of all their activities.

In 2022, the work of the charity began to return to normal, following the effects of Covid-19.

Israel lifted its travel restrictions and Liam Cannon from Eire (who had been awarded a nursery propagation internship in 2019) was safely able to travel there. Liam spent six months at the JBG before returning to Eire to continue his career.

Gabrielle Schatz from the USA was also awarded an internship which was terminated by mutual agreement in July after 3 months. The circumstances were reviewed informally in case lessons could be learned for future interns.

In the autumn three new interns began in Jerusalem. Eyup-Emri Karakeci from Germany was awarded a three-month internship as he had already been accepted for a Masters' programme. As well as being a passionate botanist, he was a talented watercolourist who produced some botanical illustrations for the Scientific Director.

The Tropical Conservatory internship was awarded to Sam Slotin, an American who had emigrated to Israel. His internship began at the end of August 2022 and he intends to stay for 12 months.

The final internship in 2022 was awarded to Ezile Tyutwana from South Africa whose arrival in November was delayed due to industrial action at Israel's Consulates when no visas were issued. He also hopes to stay for 12 months.

The Friends continued to seek opportunities to continue their aims of informing about plants and the environment and in 2022 this was achieved by:

- The final ticketed zoom talk (following the series in 2021) was given in March by horticulturist Andrew Luke, who spoke about his experiences of plant collecting in Vietnam;
- In June a visit was arranged to the private Malverleys Garden near Newbury with a tour by its talented head gardener, Mat Reece. Trustee and alumnus Aaron Bertelsen explained his experiences on the internship program and it was a successful day.

Although the online talks in 2021 had been very successful, by 2022 the demand for online talks had waned and is the reason that only one was booked with Andrew Luke took place.

In December, a Co-Chair and the Operations Manager began a review of the Friends' social media and information goals with the Executive Director of Strategic Development at the JBG. The Trustees are aware that COVID 19 and time have had an effect on membership and efforts are being made to make the charity more attractive online to a worldwide audience.

The Friends thank supporters and acknowledge the donations from individuals which have supported our projects in 2022.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

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

Grant-making

The policy in awarding internships as part of our International Horticultural Internship Programme is to select students who are most likely to benefit from the education and experience provided at the Gardens. Candidates apply using a standardised form and their experience and qualifications are assessed. Short-listed candidates are then interviewed by a panel to assess their suitability to the conditions and lifestyle in Israel and to identify what they wish to gain from the experience and how to achieve their aims.

The policy of grant-making to the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens involves identifying those areas which most effectively meet the UK Friends' objectives. In 2022 a grant was allotted towards accommodation for the interns.

Volunteers

Help from our members continues to be of crucial importance to the Friends. Involving volunteers continues to be an on-going area of development as the Trustees recognise that volunteering is a key element of the charity's sustainability and diversity.

Section D

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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Achievements and performance

Five interns were sponsored of whom one was able to complete an internship offered before the beginning of COVID-19.

The charity continues to be in a stable fiscal position.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees take seriously their fiscal responsibility to ensure that the charity is sustainable. A reserves policy was adopted which states that funds which have not been designated for specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to six months' expenditure.

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in income, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to the way in which additional funds may be raised. The Trustees recognise that many charities only operate on a 3-month policy. They are satisfied that the reserves more than meet the requirements to maintain the charity as an ongoing concern. The charity has no contracts which could not be met by its current reserves.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no deficits.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

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

A donation from a UK-based charitable trust provides the charity with its main source of funds. Its largest expenditures are the salary of the Operations Manager and expenses associated with the International Horticultural Internship Programme. These expenditures are funded by donations and fundraising events, as highlighted in Section C above and bequests. The Trustees recognise that a generous bequest from the estate of Mrs Philippa Rakusen enables the Internship Programme to continue.

Investment

The charity is financially cautious, maintaining only a current account and an interest-paying savings account.

Section F Other optional information

The Trustees will continue to seek opportunities to strengthen the Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens' Board; develop its programmes in response to its on-going objectives and review the day-to-day activities to optimise the charity's future.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Aaron Kaen Bertelsen

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Co-Chair

Date

20 September 2023

FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM BOTANICAL GARDENS					
Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st December 2022					
		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Y/E 31.12.21</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
	Notes	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Income and endowments from:					
Membership subscriptions		1,395	0	1,395	1,450
Donations and legacies	1	19,535	0	19,535	18,013
Fund Raising	2	813	0	813	3,330
Other trading activities		0	0	0	0
Interest Received		40	0	40	16
Total		21,783	0	21,783	22,809
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	2	15	0	15	286
Charitable activities	3	24,414	0	24,414	16,416
Other	4	15,030	0	15,030	18,265
Total		39,459	0	39,459	34,967
(Net expenditure)		-17,676	0	-17,676	-12,158
Net movement in funds		-17,676	0	-17,676	-12,158
Total funds brought forward		136,020	11,095	147,115	159,273
Total funds carried forward		118,344	11,095	129,439	147,115

FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM BOTANICAL GARDENS
Notes to the Accounts - Year Ended 31st December 2022

1	Restricted Fund Donations	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Y/E 31.12.21</u> <u>Total</u>
	Craps CT	0	16,000	16,000	16,000
	General donations	0	3,535	3,535	2,013
		0	19,535	19,535	18,013
2	Fund Raising activities	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Profit/(Loss)</u>	<u>Y/E 31.12.21</u>
	Talks	213	15	198	3,044
	Visit	600		600	0
		813	15	798	3,044
3	Charitable Activities	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Y/E 31.12.21</u>
	Internships	19,414	0	19,414	11,416
	Apartment	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
		24,414	0	24,414	16,416
4	Other Expenses		<u>31.12.22</u>		<u>31.12.21</u>
	Salaries & NIC		13,500		17,500
	Travel		910		0
	Bank charges		45		35
	Computer expenses		294		491
	Subscriptions -NCVO/BGCI		0		0
	Insurance		169		203
	Web site costs		42		36
	Accountancy fees		0		0
	Office expenses		70		0
	Telephone & broadband		0		0
			15,030		18,265
5	Total Funds at 31st December 2022 are represented by the following:				
	Bank Current account	2,000			
	Bank Deposit account	135,197			
			137,197		
	Less:Accruals		7,758		
			129,439		