

Charity number: 1154161

Agroforestry Research trust
Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2025

Agroforestry Research Trust

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Agroforestry Research Trust

Trustees Annual Report

for the period 01.01.2025 to 31.12.2025

Reference and administration details

The Agroforestry Research Trust is a registered Charitably Incorporated Organisation (CIO), No. 1154161.

Its principal address is at 46 Hunters Moon, Dartington, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6JT.

The charity Trustees during the year to 31 December 2025 were:

Ms M Rose
Mr D Edge
Ms M Jain

Senior staff: Mr M Crawford, Director

Structure, governance and management

The Agroforestry Research Trust is constituted as a CIO under a constitution dated 18th September 2014.

New Trustees are appointed by resolution of the existing Trustee body.

Objectives and activities

Objects

To advance education for the public benefit into all aspects of temperate agroforestry systems including tree shrub and perennial crops through research and the dissemination of all useful results arising from the research, courses to teach various aspects of growing tree crops and agroforestry systems and tours of the research sites.

Main activities

Three research sites in and near Dartington, totalling 20 acres in size, are managed as agroforestry demonstrations and experiments.

- (1) The two-acre Forest Garden site in Dartington demonstrates intensive agroforestry, having been started in 1994. The maturity of this site means that there is greatest public interest in visiting this, also increasing interest from researchers in the fields of carbon sequestration, wildlife surveys and sustainable agriculture.
- (2) An eight-acre site at Dartington site has trials of nut trees, persimmons and other unusual crops
- (3) A nine-acre site at Littlehempston hosts the plant nursery, three more recent forest gardens, a forest garden greenhouse and other agroforestry experiments.

Courses are run to teach aspects of agroforestry, particularly forest gardening.

Guided tours of our research sites are conducted for the public and also private groups.

Books are published and sold on different aspects of agroforestry and tree/shrub crops.

Seeds of many unusual agroforestry species are collected from our sites and made available.

Plants of many unusual agroforestry species are propagated and made available.

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A consultancy service gives advice on agroforestry systems from garden scale to large farm scale systems.

The work through 2025 was undertaken by a team of 5.5 led by the ART founder Martin Crawford.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year 2025 was a year of productive progress with projects. There was also a surprising episode in the spring when the landlords of the ART oldest forest garden site (The Dartington Hall Trust) gave notice quit. A large public protest helped convince them to retract the notice, but the episode did confirm that the ART would ideally like to purchase the site for long term security, should that ever become possible.

As usual, a mixture of public tours and private bookings from diverse groups were undertaken on all three of our research sites. Private tours were undertaken for businesses, official bodies, Colleges, Community organisations and land-based organisations.

The Forest garden site at Dartington continues to be the most popular site for visiting, with 80% of tours and courses happening on this site.

Interest continues in the nut trials taking place on the 8-acre site at Dartington, and a course run on growing nut crops happens here in October. The interest in nut milks and nuts as alternative sources of oils is driving increased interest in nut crops in general.

Planting continued at the Littlehempston site, mainly underplanting in one of the forest garden areas.

The processing kitchen on this site was very well used and enabled more processing and experimental use of novel crops.

We ran six of our own courses in 2024 which were all fully booked, and remain as hybrid courses with some online content. Our main online forest gardening course is integrated under license into a certified forest gardening course run by the Orchard Project in the UK, and is also translated into French and sold under license there. It is also being translated into Spanish under a similar arrangement. A new Propagation course proved highly popular, selling out on all 4 of the dates it ran.

The ART Facebook and Instagram pages are also used to disseminate news and information and have over 7000 thousand followers. A substack blog is also published.

Some 450 different species of seed and 750 different species/varieties of plant were made available online and through a mail order catalogue. Less plants were grown for sale than usual, owing to the intentional planned sale of the plant nursery to one of the ART workers in January 2026.

Financial review

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, 31 Fore St, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5HH.

Independent examiner/accountant: Triple Bottom Line Accounting Limited, The Enterprise Centre, University of East Anglia, Norwich Research Park, Norwich, NR4 7TJ

Further details

The worldwide economic situation, having affected the charity in 2024, meant that substantial changes started to be planned in 2025 to enable the charity to continue on a financial even keel. In consultation with ART, the owners of the Littlehempston site (where one the ART research sites is based) decided to sell part of it – the plant nursery and two other small plots. This fitted with the charity's need to reduce labour costs, hence by the start of 2026 the labour force reduced to two via natural loss and redundancy. The plant nursery itself was taken over by a former employee at the start of 2026 and will continue the work that ART built.

Total income for 2025 was higher than the previous year mainly due to a significant donation towards running a Symposium in 2026. Course income also increased significantly. Generated income from selling seeds and books was roughly the same as the previous year. Sales of plants were down significantly, due to a smaller number being grown as a result of the impending sale of the nursery. Overall expenditure was significantly down compared with 2024. Wages and site costs reduced significantly. One-off redundancy costs meant that overall the accounts show a small loss; otherwise they would have nearly broken even. Expenditure has supported the key objectives of the Trust by maintaining land-based research sites, publishing useful information, maintaining the charity's website etc.

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Overall the charity made a small loss in 2025. The charity's financial outlook for 2026 is good though, with much reduced anticipated expenditure and somewhat reduced income expected.

The charity does not have an endowment fund.

Policy on reserves

The Trust requires reserves for:

1. Day-to-day operating capital.
2. To enable the charity to continue to develop the research sites.
3. Funding for possible purchase of one of the research sites currently leased.

The level of net monetary assets required is in the order of £220,000, consisting of £40,000 for No.1 above, £30,000 for No.2, and £150,000 for No.3.

The level of net current assets at 31.12.2025 stood at £351,511.

The policy on reserves is reviewed annually by the Trustees.

Funds materially in deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Declaration

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

Signed as a trustee on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Minni Jain

MINNI JAIN

03/03/2026

Signature

Print name

Date

Agroforestry Research Trust

Independent Examiners report to the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiners statement

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Triple Bottom Line Accounting Limited

The Enterprise Centre

University of East Anglia

Norwich

Norfolk

NR4 7TJ

24.02.2026

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Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	2024 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		55,675	2,740
Charitable activities	2	162,785	190,163
Total		218,460	192,904
Other Income:			
Bank Interest		6,159	6,676
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities		(246,995)	(275,572)
Total		(246,995)	(275,572)
Net income		(22,377)	(75,992)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		373,888	449,881
Total funds carried forward		351,511	373,888

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Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets		<u>4,369</u>	<u>6,646</u>
		<u>4,369</u>	<u>6,646</u>
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		343,403	363,494
VAT		<u>5,825</u>	<u>3,862</u>
		349,228	367,356
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2,086	115
Net current assets		351,511	367,242
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>351,511</u>	<u>373,888</u>
Net assets			
The funds of the charity			
unrestricted income funds		<u>351,511</u>	<u>373,888</u>
Total funds		<u>351,511</u>	<u>373,888</u>

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1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

Agroforestry Research Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
Donations and legacies	55,675	55,675	2,740

3. Income from charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Tours and Courses	47,266	36,891
Books and Publications	9,280	10,191
Seeds and plants	106,239	143,082
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	162,785	190,164

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4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
Tours and Courses	3,705	3,705	4,134
Books and Publications	4,940	4,940	5,511
Seeds and plants	61,749	61,749	68,893
Research/maintenance	176,602	176,602	197,034
	246,995	246,995	275,572

5. Staff costs and emoluments

	2025	2024
Total staff costs for the year ended 31 December 2025 were:	£	£
Salaries and wages	140,425	164,621
	140,425	164,621

6. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
VAT	5,825	3,862
	5,825	3,862

7. Tangible fixed assets

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	Plant and Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
At 01 January 2025	86,640	8,480	9,834	104,954
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	8,480	-	8,480
At 31 December 2025	<u>86,640</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,834</u>	<u>96,474</u>
Depreciation				
At 01 January 2025	86,640	8,480	3,188	98,308
Charge for year	-	-	2,278	2,278
Eliminated on disposal	-	8,480	-	8,480
At 31 December 2025	<u>86,640</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,466</u>	<u>92,105.85</u>
Net book values				
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,369</u>	<u>4,369</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,646</u>	<u>6,646</u>

8. Analysis of assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets/(liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General	4,369	347,143	351,511
	<u>4,369</u>	<u>347,143</u>	<u>351,511</u>

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets/(liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£	£
Previous year			
General	6,646	367,242	373,888
	<u>6,646</u>	<u>367,242</u>	<u>373,888</u>

Document Information

Document

Title	Financial statement 31 December 2025 new
ID	edb1ac20-a81d-473a-a111-9247a9e54bc7
Status	Signed
Sender	Tatiana Blana (tatiana@triplebottomlineaccounting.com)
Dept/business	Triple Bottom Line Accounting
Dept/business ID	triple-bottom-line-accounting
PDF Certified	True

Recipients

Name	Role	Authentication	Sign time
Minni Jain <minni@earthlinksall.com>	Signer	Email	Tue, 03 Mar 2026 21:28:35 +0000

History

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