

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 09069349 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1159058

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**  
**for**  
**Gilbert White & The Oates Collections**

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## **Gilbert White & The Oates Collections**

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# **Gilbert White & The Oates Collections**

## **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 2019).

## Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Our Vision

To inspire journeys of discovery in the natural world to make better lives for people and the planet.

#### Mission

To create a place where everyone can connect with nature and learn from explorers of the natural world, showing the way to a sustainable future, collaborating widely and, following in the footsteps of Gilbert White, sharing our passion to observe and record nature.

#### Purpose

In furtherance of our mission, our purpose is to create a stimulating environment where people can discover and learn about the natural world. We do this by offering a wide range of activities that appeal to all kinds of visitors — from exhibitions, our historic house, gardens and estate, to inspirational museum displays, rare artefacts and books, and learning experiences for students of all ages. We aim to inspire people to become explorers of the natural environment and, through this, to lead better lives.

We deliver this public benefit by:

- Opening the house and garden to the public and providing an outstanding visitor experience
- Caring for the land, buildings and collections in accordance with proper professional standards
- Providing educational courses for schools, colleges and the general public
- Delivering a programme of events and activities
- Facilitating courses for special interest groups
- Working with like-minded organisations to emphasise the importance of the study of the natural world, both in terms of heritage and the present day

Admission and activity fees are benchmarked to remain accessible and compare favourably with other regional museums. The trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and charitable purpose when determining the scope and direction of our work.

#### Our Values

Our work is underpinned by a clear set of values that shape our practice, guide our decisions, and define our contribution as a heritage and nature-based learning charity. These values reflect both our historic legacy and future ambitions.

Our Values that lead our practice are:

- **Inclusive** - Being inclusive and welcoming to all.  
We believe nature and heritage are for everyone. We are committed to creating welcoming, accessible experiences that reflect the diversity of our visitors, volunteers, and communities. We seek to remove barriers to engagement and reach groups underrepresented in the heritage and environmental sectors.
- **Connected** - Connecting with those that journey in the natural world.  
We foster deep connections - between people and place, history and ecology, science and imagination. Our approach is rooted in the idea of "Nature Connectedness": using senses, emotion, beauty, meaning and compassion to build lasting bonds with the natural world.

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

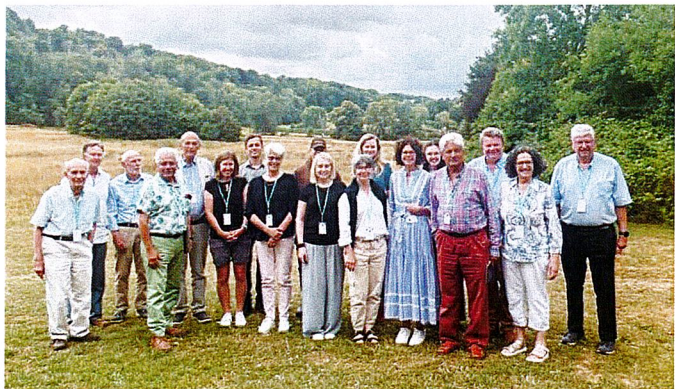
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- **Educational** - Educational in what we share with others.  
We are a learning charity. Whether through a school visit, a volunteer opportunity, a public lecture, or a museum exhibition, we aim to spark curiosity and share knowledge. Inspired by the example of Gilbert White - a pioneer of observational science - we champion exploration, interdisciplinary thinking, and citizen engagement in learning.
- **Sustainable** - Seeking a sustainable way of doing our work.  
We aim to lead by example in managing our site, collections and programmes in ways that are environmentally and financially sustainable. From nature-friendly gardening to climate-conscious events, we are embedding sustainability in all that we do.

These values are not simply statements they inform our education programmes, collections care, garden management, governance, and visitor experience. They define how we act, what we prioritise, and the kind of organisation we aspire to be.

#### Looking Forward ("Growing Stronger")

In July 2025, trustees and staff adopted a new forward strategy titled Growing Stronger, developed through a cross-organisational strategic process and supported by specialist consultants Charity Spark. This work was made possible through a development grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, forming the foundation of a comprehensive organisational review, engagement exercise, and implementation plan for 2025- 2027.



The Growing Stronger strategy sets a clear path to resilience and renewal, enabling Gilbert White & The Oates Collections to grow its income, reach and impact, while remaining grounded in our values, collections, and place. It establishes five strategic pillars which now underpin all charitable and trading activity:

#### 1. Place and Purpose

We will care for and 'bring to life' our historic house, collections, and landscape to preserve and share the stories of Gilbert White and the Oates family for current and future generations.

#### 2. Visitor Engagement

We will deepen and diversify our relationship with visitors through more compelling storytelling, clearer wayfinding, and an improved welcome. Our aim is to create a more inclusive and accessible experience, with repeat visitation and participation at its core.

#### 3. Education and the Natural World

We will expand our educational reach across all age groups, focusing on the urgent relevance of natural science, climate awareness, nature as a part of wellness, and citizen exploration. Our commitment to "Nature Connectedness" and the "Be More Gilbert" philosophy will guide how we equip future generations with curiosity, empathy, and insight.

#### 4. Revenue to Achieve Our Aims

We will strengthen financial sustainability by developing commercial and philanthropic income streams that support our mission. This includes enhancing membership, building strategic partnerships, and diversifying trading activities while remaining mission led.

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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#### 5. Working Sustainably

We will lead by example in sustainable operations and behaviours in how we manage our site, curate our collections, through our trading and events to the best of our ability as a Grade I heritage site in a National Park.

##### Public benefit

In setting its plans and priorities for areas of work, the Trustees of Gilbert White & The Oates Collections have had regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit and confirm they have complied with section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

A principle of equity of access to the charity's services is upheld to any member of the public who needs them irrespective of capacity, ethnicity, faith or social economic activity.

##### Volunteers

Our volunteers continued to play an essential role in the life of the charity during 2024-25. We had around 90 volunteers this year many of whom contribute regular weekly hours to their area of support in the garden and the house in particular. Their contribution plays a role in almost every aspect of our work, from welcoming visitors at reception and supporting daily operations in the house, gardens and galleries, to assisting with the delivery of major events such as the Book Festival, and the Eco Light Festival (ELF). Their dedication, skills and generosity of time significantly enhance the quality of the visitor experience, extend our capacity, and help ensure that the organisation remains an inspiring and accessible place for all. We are deeply grateful to our volunteer community for their ongoing commitment and enthusiasm.

##### Case Study



"I've been volunteering at Gilbert White's House since September last year. I live in Selborne and volunteer every Monday and Friday morning. I work in the Garden Team and look after the bird feeders and the bird hide. I do lots of different things depending on the season: hedging, weeding, clearing leaves, moving snowdrops and even building a path in the Naturalist Garden. I enjoy looking at the birds and our 11 o'clock break with the Garden Team where we have hot chocolate and biscuits. Volunteering here makes me feel useful and happy. I'd tell someone who is thinking about volunteering to come and try it, it's great fun!" - **Federica- Gardening Volunteer**



## Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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### STRATEGIC REPORT

#### Achievements and performance

#### Charitable activities

#### Operational Review

2024 - 25 marked a critical year in the charity's strategic renewal. Against a backdrop of ongoing economic volatility and sector-wide pressure, Gilbert White & The Oates Collections successfully delivered core charitable activities whilst establishing a new strategic plan, Growing Stronger. This work sets out the foundations for long-term resilience, supported by greater operational discipline and a clearer articulation of purpose.

Operationally, the charity went through a period of change, with the co-directors departing and the role being re-provisioned with a General Manager (via an internal appointment). This change then informed aspects of the strategic direction for the "Growing Stronger" project including winning funding to support change from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

To strengthen the day-to-day operations of the organisation, the charity also began a recruitment process for a Visitor Engagement and Operations Manager. This new role will play a pivotal part in shaping the visitor journey - from the quality of welcome and interpretation to on-site service standards and volunteer support. The role has been designed to ensure operational consistency, improve responsiveness to visitor needs, and embed a culture of "walking the visitor journey" to continually refine and elevate the experience.

We are pleased to say that we welcomed over 21,866 visitors to site this year, we also supported a further 6,061 children through our education department including on-site school workshops, home education events, holiday activities and outreach. As such the charity supported **27,947 people** to engage with heritage, nature and exploration.

### Heritage

Heritage sits at the heart of our charitable purpose. As stewards of The Wakes - the Grade I listed former home of Reverend Gilbert White - we are responsible for preserving and interpreting one of Britain's most significant sites of natural history and environmental thought. This is the place where White wrote *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne*, a foundational text in the development of ecology, observation science, and nature writing. It is also home to the nationally important Oates Collections, which explore the lives and legacies of Frank and Lawrence Oates, key figures in British exploration and natural science.

The house, gardens, and collections offer a unique platform for public engagement with the natural world, combining literary, scientific, and expeditionary heritage in a single immersive experience. This layered significance gives us a dual responsibility: to conserve the physical fabric of the site to high standards, and to interpret it in ways that connect past to present - particularly around the themes of nature connection, climate, and sustainability.



In 2024-25, we focused on improving the visitor journey, refreshing interpretation, and investing in essential infrastructure. This included both visible enhancements to the visitor experience and behind-the-scenes work to protect the collections and landscape for future generations. Through events, partnerships, and reimagined storytelling, we continued to make heritage an active tool for education, wellbeing and engagement.

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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#### The Wakes

The Wakes, the Grade I listed home of Gilbert White, remained a central focus of our heritage stewardship during 2024-25. As both a historic building of national significance and the heart of our visitor experience, its care and long-term resilience are essential to the charity's mission. A major milestone this year was the completion of the quinquennial review, providing a comprehensive assessment of the building's condition and identifying maintenance and conservation priorities across short, medium and long-term horizons. This review has given the charity a clear roadmap for safeguarding the fabric of the house, addressing structural needs, and planning for future investment. It will form the basis of fundraising, maintenance scheduling and strategic planning over the next five years.

In support of environmental sustainability, a full energy audit of the house and wider site was conducted, funded by the South Downs National Park Authority. This audit provides an evidence-based assessment of current energy use and identifies opportunities for cost reduction, decarbonisation and improved energy independence. It also establishes a baseline dataset to inform future funding applications and track progress over time. The findings will help guide decisions on heating, insulation, renewable technologies and resource management, as part of the charity's commitment to working sustainably.

Collectively, these activities have strengthened stewardship of The Wakes, setting a clear direction for preserving its heritage value while improving environmental performance and enhancing the quality of the visitor experience.

#### Collections

Our collections are central of the charity's mission and day-to-day activity: safeguarding both physical artefacts and stories, while making them accessible through interpretation, galleries and public engagement. In 2024-25, the Collections team concentrated on two interlinked objectives: care and conservation, and dynamic, inclusive presentation through exhibitions and outreach.



We delivered ***Migrant Journeys***, a Royal Society Places of Science-funded project exploring the movement of insects, birds and people. Working with The Rural Refugee Network, we welcomed a group of young migrants from Sudan, Eritrea and Vietnam for a day connecting their personal journeys with those found in the natural world. The kites reflect journeys.

Participants examined moths from an on-site Moth Night, learned about butterfly and insect migration in the meadow, explored global specimens in the museum, and took part in a creative workshop decorating kites inspired by long-distance insect travellers. The programme was designed to support wellbeing, foster a sense of belonging, and offer a welcoming introduction to

the English countryside.

The project also highlighted the often-overlooked phenomenon of insect migration, marking 250 years since Gilbert White's 1774 paper on bird migration to the Royal Society. Through ongoing moth and butterfly recording and public Moth Nights, we continued White's tradition of citizen science and encouraged visitors to engage directly with ecological change.

This year we won grant funding to acquire the "**Loveday Letter**" - a historically significant item which returned to Gilbert White's home to go on public display at the site; obtained with the support of Friends of the Nations' Libraries.



### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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Throughout 2024 we hosted a number of temporary exhibitions. *Biophilia* which followed local artist Jackie Aimes in her studies of the nature in and around Selborne. The installation included an intricate display of small items which visitors were encouraged to focus on and observe closely. Presented in old technology boxes there was an interesting juxtaposition on natural objects (nuts, berries, feathers) with litter picked up by the artist on her walks (hair ties, bottle caps, etc.). We also hosted print maker Kate Dicker, who ran print making workshops as part of her exhibition. And we marked the 150th anniversary of Frank Oates' reaching Victoria Falls and his death shortly after, with an exhibition, which coincided with the publication of *The Ndebele, Frank Oates, and Knowledge Production in the 1870s: Encounters at the Edge of Empire* by Professor Christopher Prior and Dr Joseph Higgins whose primary research was conducted using our archives.

During the year, the Collections team continued to uphold professional standards in conservation and documentation. Preventive conservation remained a priority, supported by environmental monitoring and improved storage protocols. Work continued on our ongoing project to accurately catalogue, archive and digitise our collection, so it is easily managed and accessible to all.

In summary, 2024-25 was a year in which our collections were not only preserved - but activated. Through targeted exhibitions, renewed curation and a commitment to conservation, the charity reaffirmed its role as a living heritage organisation: one that honours the past while engaging deeply with present-day issues of environment, identity and community.

#### Garden

We are proud that 2024 was our first year as an RHS Partner garden. We organised monthly garden themed events to demonstrate seasonal gardening activities. Held on weekdays when RHS visitors were entitled to free admission they included Rose Pruning Day, Meadow Day and Heritage Gardening Day, and included tours, talks and demonstrations.

A key part of our work is of course to maintain and manage our grounds with regard to best practice and heritage techniques. Two projects that evidence that this year were:

- The implementation of the Selborne Small Meadows and Grassland Network Project supported the South Downs National Park Trust (SDNPT).
- This summer was the first year that we were able to use our mini baler funded by South Downs National Park through the FiPL (Farming in Protected Landscapes) fund and our hay mower funded by South Downs National Park Trust. Meaning that we are able to time cutting and baling hay from our traditional meadow to produce good quality hay while aiming for optimum wildflower growth. The hay is used by two local horse riding charities and individual local horse owners, and the equipment is also used to produce hay in other local small meadows as per the conditions of the grants.

A highlight from our Garden team this year includes the continued contribution of our 45 volunteers who make what we do possible. In particular they contributed to work on making the garden more accessible supported by a generous donation by a local building firm Coomers. We laid a permanent brick path through the Six Quarters and a gravel path through the Naturalist's Garden giving a solid path surface for the inaugural Eco Light Festival in autumn 2024 and providing greater accessibility for these parts of the garden more generally.

The garden has also continued to offer work experience placements in coordination with Sparsholt College. Twice a year we welcome a group of Level 2 Horticultural students for the week who contribute to work across the site, including this year the work on the paths.



### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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#### Events

Events continued to play a central role in activating the site, attracting diverse audiences, and reinforcing the charity's mission to inspire connections with the natural world. In 2024-25, the programme continued to evolve to focus on seasonal resilience, thematic coherence, and high-quality experiences. Key examples are:

The **Eco Light Festival (ELF)** was piloted during the 2024 winter season as a new creative engagement initiative. Designed to counteract off-peak visitor drop-off, it used low-impact lighting and storytelling to bring the garden and heritage spaces to life after dark. Most importantly it is designed to have a minimal impact on the natural world, using renewable energy, solar power, UV (among others) to power its lights. The trail takes light pollution into account and does not up-light trees and keeps tight hours to ensure our wildlife is as undisturbed as possible. Where possible reusable or natural materials are used. ELF attracted over 1,500 attendees over 15 evenings, generated positive press coverage, and helped broaden the charity's demographic reach. The event will continue in winter 2025, and will be reviewed for future expansion, supported by feedback from audiences and partners.

A major milestone in 2024-25 was the launch of **Watching Narrowly: A Natural History Book Day in Selborne**, also described internally as the Book Fair, in March 2025. This inaugural one-day event brought together leading voices in nature writing, including Richard Mabey and Chloe Dalton (Raising Hare), and attracted widespread attention from visitors, cultural peers, and the press. Framed around themes of observation, nature, and narrative, the event reflected the intellectual legacy of Gilbert White while offering a platform for contemporary environmental voices. Attendance exceeded expectations at around 100, which matched the capacity for the venue, and plans are now in place to develop the format into an annual highlight.



**The Plant Fair** continued as a signature calendar fixture - timed around the summer solstice in June. A celebration of horticultural diversity, it provided visitors with the opportunity to purchase unusual specimen plants from curated growers. In addition to supporting earned income and footfall, the Plant Fair reinforced the charity's commitment to biodiversity, sustainable gardening, and public engagement with botany & horticulture. Circa 20 stallholders and over 1,500 visitors attended over the two-day event, with strong return custom noted.

Alongside regular exhibitions, Nature Day, Christmas Fair, music events etc collectively, these events strengthened the charity's ability to engage the public in dynamic and mission-aligned ways, while contributing to financial sustainability and long-term visibility.

#### Education

Education remained at the heart of our charitable activity throughout 2024-25. The Field Studies Centre (FSC) continued to deliver a distinctive, nature-based learning offer, built around the principles of "Be More Gilbert" and "Nature Connectedness". Our programme spanned schools, families, community groups, home-educated learners and adult audiences, and was explicitly aligned to curriculum priorities, wellbeing outcomes, and environmental awareness.

Across the year, the FSC welcomed approximately 4800 school pupils from roughly 100 schools, covering Key Stages 1-4 and a growing number of home educated, and post-16 learners. Sessions were designed to link classroom science and humanities to the lived experience of nature and heritage, using the museum, gardens and surrounding landscape as an outdoor classroom.



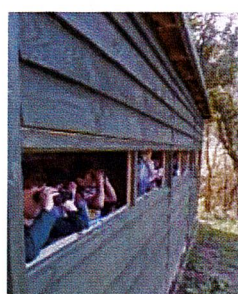
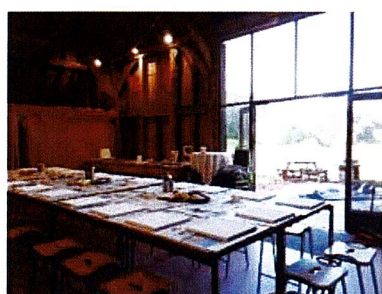
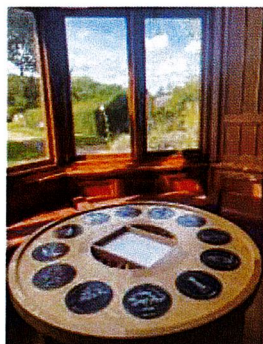
## Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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Our Home Education offer expanded significantly, with regular sessions now fully embedded and attracting a committed group of families. Outreach sessions and loan boxes have been developed to bring opportunities out into the community for those unable to come to our site.

We have a range of educational opportunities across the site:



Informal and family learning also featured strongly in our programme. Seasonal trails, activity days, and co-produced events drew in intergenerational audiences, helping embed our role as a community resource. The Legacy Room and Gardens offered additional platforms for storytelling and reflective learning, linking historical narratives to contemporary ecological themes.

Looking ahead, we aim to scale impact through new partnerships & targeted funding bids. In 2024-25, education remained not just a delivery strand, but a strategic driver - positioning Gilbert White & The Oates Collections as a voice in heritage-linked environmental learning.

#### GWOC Trading

We have a separate trading activity which continues to play an essential role in diversifying the charity's income base during 2024-25. Through GWOC Trading Ltd, the charity operated retail, hospitality, venue hire and a programme of commercial events, all of which contributed directly to the sustainability of the organisation and supported reinvestment in our charitable aims.

Trading activities generated a positive contribution of £96,000 by way of a gift to the Charity. While still sensitive to economic conditions and seasonal volatility, trading activities provided a critical complement to admissions income, grant funding, and donations, helping to reduce reliance on any single income stream.

Thus, trading activity made a meaningful contribution to organisational sustainability in 2024-25. Challenges remain in off-peak & winter trading; it will be critical that we continue to build resilience over the coming years through a diversity of trading and non-trading activities.

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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#### Stableyard Cottage

The self-contained holiday let ("Stableyard Cottage") has provided a steady income through wedding attendees, visitors, and corporate contracts. Through 74 bookings across 325 nights, it hosted 295 people.

#### Cottage Hospitality & Retail

Hospitality & Retail performance remained steady across the year, with footfall driven by strong summer visitation and the continued popularity of the Café & Jubilee Tap Room.

The Tap Room contributed both financial return and a stronger sense of place – linking in with Gilbert White's brewing history - enhancing year-round appeal. The brewery and bottled ranges continued to perform well, with increased interest from returning visitors and local customers.

Operational improvements included:

- Café: Reduced opening hours and improved rota management to control costs. Maintained simplified menu, to reduce labour and material costs.
- Gift Shop: Streamlined product lines, focusing on higher margin goods and favourable supplier terms. Optimised, and regularly refreshed, merchandising, aligning to seasonal trends and footfall patterns.



#### Events

Alongside core charitable events, the charity delivered a range of commercial and partnership events that generated additional income and broadened engagement. These included a corporate family fun day, live music performances, and outdoor theatre. Such events provided a flexible means of activating the site during quieter periods, supporting both financial return and local community use.

#### Venue Hire & Weddings



Venue hire and weddings continued to diversify income and attract new audiences to the site. The house, grounds and hospitality spaces hosted 14 private events across the year, including weddings, celebrations and corporate functions.

Weddings remained a reliable contributor to income despite sector-wide cost pressures. Positive feedback highlighted the uniqueness of the heritage setting, the quality of guest experience, and the personal service provided by the team.

The site also provided space for a number of regular community and wellbeing activities; including yoga, a craft club, and a friendship café.

During 2024-25, work began to refine packages, strengthen marketing materials and improve operational processes to increase conversion rates and enhance profitability. The Board recognises the importance of this income stream for long-term resilience and will continue to develop it in line with staffing capacity and infrastructure constraints.



### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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#### **Supporters**

We are very grateful to all of our supporters, both individual givers, our members and our grant funders all of whom allow us to maintain, curate, educate and provide a visitor attraction of unique importance.

This financial year we have benefited from the support of:

- The Linbury Trust
- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Arts Council England
- East Hampshire District Council
- Friends of the Nation's Libraries
- Museum Development South West
- Adrian Swire Charitable Trust
- The Worshipful Company of Gardeners
- Hampshire Country Council Reaching Out
- Goldman Sachs
- Coomers Ltd

We would particularly like to thank The Linbury Trust for their support in providing a core grant towards our campaign 'Building a Resilient Future'. This follows on from their generous support for our 2017 capital building project. We were also able to welcome visits from both The Linbury Trust and their sister Aurora Trust through 2025 taking the opportunity to discuss shared values for the future.

The end of this financial year we were able to secure grant support from National Lottery Heritage Fund for 2025-26 which shows an ongoing commitment to Growing Stronger.

We also had the opportunity to take part in the Big Give Green Match Fund in April 2024 which raised nearly £10,500.

Our Fund for the Future campaign continues with £27,836 raised at the end of the financial year to ensure that our valuable work can continue for the future.

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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**STRATEGIC REPORT**

**Factors Affecting Performance**

The financial performance of the charity in 2024-25 reflected a combination of external economic pressures and internal restructuring activity. Visitor numbers remained broadly in line with expectations during the peak season, but discretionary spend in retail, hospitality and events continued to be affected by the national cost-of-living environment. Inflation in energy, food, and staffing costs also contributed to higher expenditure across the charity and trading subsidiary.

This year saw a surplus of £28,788 (2024: £143,668 deficit). Total Income this year was £551,015 (2024: £546,064) holding steady, whilst our total expenditure was £522,228 (2024: £689,731) a decrease of 24% through bold action by trustees and management. These results allow us to look forward, but the charity remains in a challenging financial position.

The mid-year restructure, which reduced payroll expenditure and refocused leadership capacity, resulted in one-off transition costs which were offset in part by increased efficiency in service delivery and improved coordination between charitable and commercial functions later in the year.

Fundraising and grant income remained strong in targeted areas. Support from the Linbury Trust, South Downs National Park Authority, Arts Council England and other partners allowed us to progress key education, heritage and environmental projects. However, reliance on restricted project funding continues to constrain the flexibility of the charity's financial position.

The Board remains alert to the wider challenges facing the non-profit sector nationally, including rising labour costs, macro-economic pressures and legacy building maintenance costs.

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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#### **Reserves policy**

It is our policy to endeavour to maintain Unrestricted General Funds at a level which represents at least three months' operational expenditure. Reflecting on the experience of expenditure in recent years and future budgets, this equates to approximately £135,000. During the thinner winter months, this target was not maintained. In deciding on holding three months' Unrestricted General Fund Reserves, we have regard to the costs that would be involved in closing the Museum and Field Studies Centre, should the financial position become untenable.

Total reserves held are £1,904,794 of which £82,313 are restricted whilst £1,837,413 are designated as tangible assets and heritage assets, resulting in a unrestricted reserves deficit totalling £14,932.

The board recognises that unrestricted funds have fallen below the reserves policy as a result of weaker trading and higher costs over a sustained period. However, we have over a number of years implemented strategies to build financial sustainability for example:

- 2017 Towards Sustainability – a capital project aimed at developing the trading elements of the charity to support financial resilience,
- 2024 Building a Resilient Future – a core grant to support the charity through the lean period of the winter months following the impact of the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis,
- 2025 Growing Stronger – a grant to provide key roles and systems for a year to support the organisation grow stronger for the future.

These initiatives are showing positive returns, but the current economic climate still remains a challenge, as does the cost of maintaining a historic building and its upkeep.

We are currently implementing the following measures to rebuild our reserves:

- A governance and operational structural review of the charity to ensure effective and efficient management,
- Appointment of external Financial accountants and upgrading of financial systems from Sage to Xero.
- Appointment of new trustees including finance and a review of banking and financial processes,
- A detailed review of our operations to ensure that the correct skills to support future development are in place within a sustainable staffing scenario with regards to our current income,
- A renewed effort to identify ways in which to create income from our site so that we can maintain our heritage and collections for the long term,
- A substantial National Lottery Heritage grant was secured to support us grow stronger in fundraising, marketing, volunteering for the financial year 2025-26.
- A renewed effort to work with grant funders to plan ahead proactively so moving from a period of 'survival' to 'development for the future'.

#### **Investment Policy**

The current investment policy is to hold all funds on bank deposit so as to be available to meet needs as they arise.

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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#### Going concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approving the financial statements. This assessment takes into account current cashflow forecasts, the level of unrestricted reserves, expected trading performance, committed grant income, and the wider economic environment.

While, at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 year end, unrestricted reserves were well below the desired level of £135,000, trustees consider that the organisation has sufficient liquid resources, confirmed funding commitments for 2025–26, and a realistic financial plan under the Growing Stronger strategy to support its operations.

Key assumptions underpinning the going concern assessment include:

- Projected visitor income of £151,000 based on 2024–25 trends and planned programme enhancements
- Secured grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support key staff roles and systems development over 2025–26 to support the charity to Grow Stronger
- Delivery of planned cost controls and efficiency measures
- Continued trading performance across hospitality, retail, venue hire and events
- No material adverse events affecting the site, collections or operations

The trustees recognise the ongoing pressures facing the heritage and environmental education sector but are satisfied that, with the measures in place, the charity has adequate financial resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those major risks. Risks are reviewed quarterly by the Finance Committee and reported to the board which assesses the implications at board meetings. The principal risks and uncertainties facing the trust are:

- **Financial resilience** - ongoing pressure on unrestricted reserves, volatility in visitor and trading income, and inflationary cost increases affecting utilities, staffing and maintenance. Mitigations included tighter budget management, revised pricing strategies, and the prioritisation of higher-margin activities.
- **Workforce capacity** - the need to maintain adequate staffing and volunteer levels, particularly in education, visitor services and trading. Actions included a restructure earlier in the year, targeted recruitment, and improved coordination of volunteer deployment.
- **Operational continuity** - primarily, ageing infrastructure. Preventive conservation, environmental monitoring, and planned maintenance programmes were used to manage these risks.
- **Governance and compliance** - the organisation's growth and diversification has created new requirements for robust oversight. Trustees are responding by undertaking a governance review and strengthening reporting procedures.
- **Reputational risk** - the importance of maintaining high standards of interpretation, safeguarding, visitor care and financial stewardship. These are addressed through staff training, policy updates, and quality assurance measures.

The trustees consider that appropriate controls and mitigations are in place, and that ongoing monitoring will remain essential given the external environment and the charity's current stage of development.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.



**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The charity has a policy to replace trustees who are recruited generally through existing Trustee and organisational professional contacts. New Trustees are invited to meet with current members of the Board to explore skill areas and are then invited to attend a meeting before making a firm decision.

An initial induction is given to new Trustees and further training is given if required.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of a winding up.

**Organisational structure**

The Trustees of Gilbert White & The Oates Collections (Trustees) are responsible for agreeing the policies and strategic direction of the organisation. Trustees delegate, the day-to-day management to the Senior Management Team under the immediate oversight of the Board.

- An Income Generation and Fundraising Group (4 Trustees and staff) meets to guide development and fundraising;
- A Finance sub-committee (3 Trustees and staff) meets to oversee financial reporting and governance monthly.

From time to time, task and finish sub-groups are convened to deal with specific matters.

No trustees joined in this financial year; Co-Directors left the organisation (Judith Ann Bowles, Stephen Atwood Green). The total number of trustees is now 12. Judith Ann Bowles resigned as Company Secretary.

Three Trustees make up the board of GWOC (Trading) Limited.

**Governance Review**

At the time of writing this Annual Report we are undertaking an internal review of our trustee board size and skills, governance processes and delegated operational structure to ensure that we meet best practice and increase effective and efficient work across the charity.

**Thanks**

The Trustees are grateful to everyone who has supported our work during the year, the staff, volunteers and members, whose commitment, enthusiasm and many skills have been indispensable.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

09069349 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1159058

**Registered office**

Gilbert Whites House  
High Street  
Selborne  
Hampshire  
GU34 3JH

## Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

#### Trustees

K Aziz  
J N Carter  
P J Cluett  
Y Ezra  
P C Geddes  
D E Jones  
S MacLeod (appointed 22.5.24)  
R G N Nabarro  
C A Parritt (appointed 20.5.25)  
M Patterson  
P G K Rodhouse  
E M Wallace

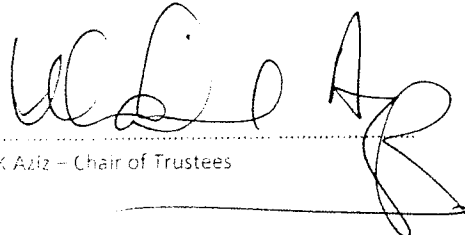
#### Independent Examiner

D A Sanders FCA  
Sheen Stickland  
Chartered Accountants  
2 Oriol Court  
Omega Park  
Alton  
Hampshire  
GU34 2YT

#### Senior Management Team

F Kitching

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the charities trustees, on 20.01.26 and signed on the board's behalf by:



K Aziz – Chair of Trustees

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

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### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Gilbert White & The Oates Collections ('the Company')

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

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 your 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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, 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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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 accounts 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.



D A Sanders FCA

Sheen Stickland  
Chartered Accountants  
2 Oriel Court  
Omega Park  
Alton  
Hampshire  
GU34 2YT

Date:

23/01/2026

# Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

## Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
	Notes				
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	132,856	158,904	291,760	272,465
Other trading activities	4	259,030	-	259,030	273,599
Investment income	5	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>392,111</u>	<u>158,904</u>	<u>551,015</u>	<u>546,064</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Charitable Activities	6	424,094	98,133	522,227	689,732
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>(31,983)</u>	<u>60,771</u>	<u>28,788</u>	<u>(143,668)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(31,983)	60,771	28,788	(143,668)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,854,464</u>	<u>21,542</u>	<u>1,876,006</u>	<u>2,019,674</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>1,822,481</u></u>	<u><u>82,313</u></u>	<u><u>1,904,794</u></u>	<u><u>1,876,006</u></u>



Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

Balance Sheet  
31st March 2025

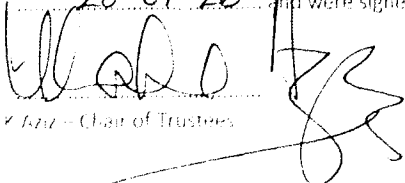
		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
	Notes				
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	11	1,828,492		1,828,492	1,828,492
Heritage assets	12	8,921	-	8,921	8,921
		1,837,413	-	1,837,413	1,837,413
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	13	35,845	-	35,845	35,845
Cash at bank		32,803	82,313	115,116	115,116
		68,648	82,313	150,961	150,961
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(83,580)	-	(83,580)	(83,580)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>(14,932)</u>	<u>82,313</u>	<u>67,381</u>	<u>(23,524)</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,822,481</u>	<u>82,313</u>	<u>1,904,794</u>	<u>1,904,794</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,822,481</u>	<u>82,313</u>	<u>1,904,794</u>	<u>1,876,006</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	17				
Unrestricted funds				1,822,481	1,854,464
Restricted funds				82,313	21,542
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>1,904,794</u>	<u>1,876,006</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20.01.26 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements.

## Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

### Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>90,081</u>	<u>34,267</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>90,081</u>	<u>34,267</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(559)	(8,898)
Interest received		<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(334)</u>	<u>(8,898)</u>
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		89,747	25,369
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>25,369</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u><u>115,116</u></u>	<u><u>25,369</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	28,787	(143,668)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	62,676	64,219
Interest received	(225)	-
Increase in debtors	18,714	(15,104)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(19,871)	128,820
Net cash provided by operations	<u>90,081</u>	<u>34,267</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET (DEBT)/FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	<u>25,369</u>	<u>89,747</u>	<u>115,116</u>
	<u>25,369</u>	<u>89,747</u>	<u>115,116</u>
<b>Debt</b>			
Debts falling due within 1 year	<u>(51,801)</u>	<u>15,223</u>	<u>(36,578)</u>
	<u>(51,801)</u>	<u>15,223</u>	<u>(36,578)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>(26,432)</u>	<u>104,970</u>	<u>78,538</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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**1. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Gilbert White & The Oates Collection is an incorporated charity registered in England, charity number 1159058 and company number 09069349. The registered office is Gilbert White's House, High Street, Selborne, GU34 3JH.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 as it applied to the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared 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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. Further details can be found in the Trustees Report under the Reserves Policy heading.

**Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

**Useful life of fixed assets**

Tangible assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The useful lives of these assets are estimated based on historic experience and future considerations and these are re-assessed annually.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.



**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, payroll and governance costs which support the Trust's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated as charitable activities. The breakdown of support costs are set out in note 7.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

The majority of costs are directly attributable to specific activities and are allocated on this basis. Overheads are apportioned to direct and other expenditure on a basis aimed to reflect use.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% on cost or revalued amount
Plant and machinery	- 20% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation, which is provided in equal annual instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets, and any provision for impairment. Individual assets over a cost of £1,000 are capitalised.

Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of fixtures and fittings are determined by comparing the proceeds from disposal with the carrying amount of fixtures and fittings, and are recognised within other income/expenses in profit or loss.

**Heritage assets**

All Heritage assets acquired prior to 1st April 2016, (which were purchased in the Oates Memorial Library and Gilbert White Museum prior to 1st January 2013), are excluded from the balance sheet on the basis that significant costs would be incurred in obtaining a valuation of the items acquired in previous periods as a collection, compared with the benefit that would be derived from including them. This cost would also have to be incurred following a subsequent addition to the collection on the basis that each addition becomes part of the whole collection and cannot be seen as a standalone item. With effect from the 1st April 2016, Heritage assets acquired are included in the balance sheet where the cost or valuation of the assets are readily available.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

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**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**Financial instruments**

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and cash at bank.

**Debtors**

Short term debtors are stated at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired.

**Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are measured at their settlement value.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	127,442	190,140
Gift aid	6,128	13,394
Grants (see note 17)	<u>158,190</u>	<u>68,930</u>
	<u>291,760</u>	<u>272,464</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Memberships	3,743	5,815
Admissions	144,627	144,489
Field Study Centre	58,943	64,160
Exhibitions and events	51,225	58,260
Rental income	<u>492</u>	<u>875</u>
	<u>259,030</u>	<u>273,599</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	<u>498,840</u>	<u>23,388</u>	<u>522,228</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Independent Examinations Fee	3,860
Accountancy & Legal Fees	18,580
Consultancy Fees	<u>948</u>
	<u>23,388</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

9. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	202,285	335,646
Social security costs	13,112	21,235
Other pension costs	<u>3,706</u>	<u>6,794</u>
	<u>219,103</u>	<u>363,675</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Staff	<u>18</u>	<u>33</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	272,465	-	272,465
Other trading activities	<u>273,599</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>273,599</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>546,064</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>546,064</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Charitable Activities	<u>634,971</u>	<u>54,761</u>	<u>689,732</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(88,907)	(54,761)	(143,668)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>1,943,371</u>	<u>76,303</u>	<u>2,019,674</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>1,854,464</u></u>	<u><u>21,542</u></u>	<u><u>1,876,006</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1st April 2024	2,081,749	49,865	167,764	2,299,378
Additions	-	-	559	559
Disposals	-	(6,925)	(33,675)	(40,600)
At 31st March 2025	<u>2,081,749</u>	<u>42,940</u>	<u>134,648</u>	<u>2,259,337</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1st April 2024	235,189	36,990	136,590	408,769
Charge for year	41,678	4,363	16,635	62,676
Eliminated on disposal	-	(6,925)	(33,675)	(40,600)
At 31st March 2025	<u>276,867</u>	<u>34,428</u>	<u>119,550</u>	<u>430,845</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31st March 2025	<u>1,804,882</u>	<u>8,512</u>	<u>15,098</u>	<u>1,828,492</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>1,846,560</u>	<u>12,875</u>	<u>31,174</u>	<u>1,890,609</u>

12. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025	<u>8,921</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31st March 2025	<u>8,921</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>8,921</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	9,225	16,058
Other debtors	3,668	18,594
VAT	20,840	19,787
Prepayments	<u>2,112</u>	<u>120</u>
	<u>35,845</u>	<u>54,559</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other loans (see note 16)	36,578	51,801
Trade creditors	32,450	24,969
Social security and other taxes	6,606	11,291
Other creditors	354	495
Accrued expenses	<u>7,592</u>	<u>14,896</u>
	<u>83,580</u>	<u>103,452</u>

15. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Related party loans (see note 19)	<u>36,578</u>	<u>51,801</u>

16. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	1,145	1,145
Between one and five year	<u>1,145</u>	<u>2,569</u>
	<u>2,290</u>	<u>3,714</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	1,854,464	(31,983)	-	1,822,481
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Adrian Swire Charitable Trust	-	14,000	-	14,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	38,161	-	38,161
Fund for the Future	21,542	6,294	-	27,836
Hampshire County Council - Reaching out Grant	-	2,316	-	2,316
	<u>21,542</u>	<u>60,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,313</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,876,006</u>	<u>28,788</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,904,794</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	392,111	(424,094)	(31,983)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Linbury Trust	75,000	(75,000)	-
Small grants	1,399	(1,399)	-
Adrian Swire Charitable Trust	14,000	-	14,000
Friends of the Nation's Libraries	3,100	(3,100)	-
The James Tuttieth Charitable Trust	1,450	(1,450)	-
The Worshipful Company of Gardeners	2,500	(2,500)	-
Arts Council England	7,000	(7,000)	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	38,161	-	38,161
Fund for the Future	6,294	-	6,294
Hampshire County Council - Reaching out Grant	<u>10,000</u>	<u>(7,684)</u>	<u>2,316</u>
	<u>158,904</u>	<u>(98,133)</u>	<u>60,771</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>551,015</u>	<u>(522,228)</u>	<u>28,788</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,943,371	(88,907)	1,854,464
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	54,761	(54,761)	-
Fund for the Future	<u>21,542</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,542</u>
	<u>76,303</u>	<u>(54,761)</u>	<u>21,542</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,019,674</u>	<u>(143,668)</u>	<u>1,876,006</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	546,064	(634,971)	(88,907)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	-	(54,761)	(54,761)
	<u>546,064</u>	<u>(689,732)</u>	<u>(143,668)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>546,064</u>	<u>(689,732)</u>	<u>(143,668)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	1,943,371	(120,890)	-	1,822,481
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	54,761	(54,761)	-	-
Adrian Swire Charitable Trust	-	14,000	-	14,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	38,161	-	38,161
Fund for the Future	21,542	6,294	-	27,836
Hampshire County Council - Reaching out Grant	-	2,316	-	2,316
	<u>76,303</u>	<u>6,010</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,313</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,019,674</u>	<u>(114,880)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,904,794</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	938,175	(1,059,065)	(120,890)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	-	(54,761)	(54,761)
The Linbury Trust	75,000	(75,000)	-
Small grants	1,399	(1,399)	-
Adrian Swire Charitable Trust	14,000	-	14,000
Friends of the Nation's Libraries	3,100	(3,100)	-
The James Tuttiott Charitable Trust	1,450	(1,450)	-
The Worshipful Company of Gardeners	2,500	(2,500)	-
Arts Council England	7,000	(7,000)	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	38,161	-	38,161
Fund for the Future	6,294	-	6,294
Hampshire County Council - Reaching out Grant	<u>10,000</u>	<u>(7,684)</u>	<u>2,316</u>
	<u>158,904</u>	<u>(152,894)</u>	<u>6,010</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,097,079</u>	<u>(1,211,959)</u>	<u>(114,880)</u>

**18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

**GWOC (Trading) Ltd**

(Related by common control.)

During the year the charity recharged costs totalling £138,292 (2024: £66,000) to GWOC (Trading) Ltd, and GWOC (Trading) Ltd made a donation of £96,000 (2024: £166,243) to the charity. At the balance sheet date, within other loans the amount due from GWOC (Trading) Ltd was £7,529 (2024: (£47,694)).

**Oates Memorial Library and The Gilbert White Museum**

(A charity related by common control.)

At the balance sheet date, within other loans the amount due to the Oates Memorial Library and The Gilbert White Museum was £44,107 (2024: (£4,107))

## Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	127,442	190,140
Gift aid	6,128	13,394
Grants	<u>158,190</u>	<u>68,930</u>
	291,760	272,465
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Memberships	3,743	5,815
Admissions	144,627	144,489
Field Study Centre	58,943	64,160
Exhibitions and events	51,225	58,260
Rental income	<u>492</u>	<u>875</u>
	259,030	273,599
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	551,015	546,063
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	202,285	335,646
Social security	13,112	21,235
Pensions	3,706	6,794
Rates and water	6,535	6,822
Insurance	28,544	27,128
Light and heat	30,446	18,357
Telephone	9,622	9,418
Postage and stationery	1,981	2,875
Advertising	18,515	23,676
Sundries	14,653	14,507
Repairs & Maintenance	54,882	75,599
Computer & IT	1,068	1,858
Staff Training	1,686	83
Travel & Subsistence	483	365
Professional Fees	1,035	218
Subscriptions	7,567	3,425
Carried forward	396,120	548,006

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

## Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

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	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Brought forward	396,120	548,006
Bank Charges	1,079	1,339
Fundraising Costs	40,917	53,120
Plant and machinery	<u>60,724</u>	<u>64,219</u>
	498,840	666,684
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy and legal fees	19,440	18,212
Consultancy	<u>3,948</u>	<u>4,088</u>
	<u>23,388</u>	<u>22,300</u>
Total resources expended	<u>522,228</u>	<u>689,731</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u>28,787</u>	<u>(143,668)</u>

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