

# KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1159390

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2014-11-27

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Knoll Gardens  
Stapehill Road  
Wimborne  
BH21 7ND

**Phone** 01202 873931

**Email** [foundation@knollgardens.co.uk](mailto:foundation@knollgardens.co.uk)

**Website** [www.knollgardensfoundation.org](http://www.knollgardensfoundation.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS: TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES WHICH CONSERVE, PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS ESPECIALLY BY, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE UNDERTAKING OF RESEARCH, THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES AND BY ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF KNOLL GARDENS AS A SHOWCASE FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES WHICH BENEFIT BIODIVERSITY.

**Activities:** Researches and promotes sustainable, environmentally friendly horticulture, as practised at Knoll Gardens, through events, educational courses, masterclasses and publications.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,186	£869	-	-
2023-12-31	£1,166	£1,012	-	-
2022-12-31	£1,670	£861	-	-
2021-12-31	£1,373	£1,051	-	-
2020-12-31	£356	£1,222	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Dr Rowena Jecock</b>	Chair	2018-04-18
ANDREA MICHELLE D'SOUZA		2014-02-17
Helen McIlmurray		2021-02-20
NEIL RAYMOND LUCAS		2014-02-17
ROSS ANDREW HUMPHREY		2014-02-17
Rebecca Bourdon		2022-11-18

**KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159390

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# Accounts

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# Knoll Gardens Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statement for year ending 31st December 2024

### Charity Information

<b>Charity Registration No.</b>	1159390
<b>Registered Office</b>	Knoll Gardens, Stapehill Rd, Hampreston, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7ND
<b>Trustees</b>	Rebecca Bourdon Andrea de Souza Nicola Haswell Ross Humphrey Rowena Jecock (Chair) Neil Lucas Helen McIlmurray

This report covers the financial period 1 January - 31 December 2024.

The objects for which the Foundation was incorporated as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2014 are:

- to promote, for the benefit of the public, environmentally responsible horticultural practices which conserve, protect and improve the physical and natural environments especially by, but not limited to, the undertaking of research, the provision of educational courses and by encouraging the development of Knoll Gardens as a showcase for environmentally responsible practices which benefit biodiversity.

The Foundation is managed by a committee of Trustees, each of whom is elected for a period of up to three years. The trustees operate with regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### Activities

The valuable work of Foundation garden volunteers continued, supporting Knoll's full-time gardener. As in previous years, work continued to develop new areas of planting in the Gardens, using species and varieties tolerant of a wide range of climatic conditions, as well as demonstrating how gardens can be adapted to accommodate unplanned changes. An example of this was an unexpected tree fall in the Garden in February.

Instead of removing the 5m vine-clothed trunk of the old Monterey Pine, the gravel garden was extended around it, incorporating it as an attractive garden feature. The trunk continues to provide a habitat for insects and other wildlife and shows the public how biodiversity can be increased in a garden environment.

Native plant seed mixes were sown in areas of the gravelled drive and car park to show how utilitarian areas such as these could be made more attractive and wildlife-friendly. There were some additions to a new series of garden message boards, to assist visitors in understanding Knoll's naturalistic style of planting, how plants are chosen, and their interaction with local wildlife, including a welcome board to explain the "greening" of the car parking area. As with all the message boards, a QR code was added, linking to planting plans and plant galleries on the Knoll website.

Thanks must go to our entire volunteer cohort: the gardening team already mentioned; the nursery team who assist with the care and maintenance of the large number of plants propagated and grown at Knoll; those who undertake wildlife surveys, and those who undertake other valuable tasks such as ongoing work to provide regular visitor displays about the work of the Foundation, and continuation of work to capture all Knoll's extant planting on a database, and unobtrusively label the plants for the benefit of visitors.

The Foundation is also fortunate to have the assistance of other surveyors who undertake regular or ad-hoc monitoring of the garden's wildlife.

The trustees express their thanks to Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Bournemouth Natural Science Society, and the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC), who continue to provide advice and assistance with aspects of our wildlife surveys.

More information about our surveys can be found on the Foundation website, <http://www.knollgardensfoundation.org>

## **Educational and community events and activities**

The Foundation currently has three areas of focus for public engagement:

1. Foundation Fridays – local clubs such as painting and photography groups use the garden free of charge, to enable them to enjoy and learn about the garden and its ethos.
2. Special Access days – Monday and Tuesday when the gardens are closed to the public. Groups who will benefit from the garden for their wellbeing are amongst groups given access.
3. Community presentation – Foundation Trustee and Knoll Gardens Ltd co-Director, Neil Lucas, offers an annual free-of-charge presentation to a community group in Dorset or its neighbouring counties.

In addition, the Foundation facilitated some guided walks for small groups of the public to see and learn about some of the insect life to be found in the Garden – notably butterflies and bumblebees. In addition, displays were provided of some of the numerous species of moths, following monthly night-time moth-trapping surveys organised by Mitch Perkins, our Wildlife Survey Co-ordinator.

We ran an Open Day on 13<sup>th</sup> September to raise funds, with all garden entrance fees being kindly donated to the Foundation by Knoll Gardens Ltd. Volunteers were on hand to assist visitors and explain how the garden is managed for the benefit of wildlife. Also, art and creative writing from community groups that had visited the garden were put on display. Thanks to Rachel Limb and Julia Pullman from White Sheep Projects for donating their time and materials for the display, which was well-received by visitors.

With regard to other outreach activities, the Foundation facilitated the donation of plants to Wimborne Community Garden, created to provide therapeutic and productive gardening for people in Wimborne, and to students at Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester, for their winter garden project. The Foundation trustees were pleased to be invited to visit both projects once planting was complete.

We hope to be able to expand similar outreach activities in future years.

In conclusion, I and my fellow trustees thank all our volunteers, together with the staff at Knoll Gardens for their help and support, without which none of the above would have been possible.

Rowena Jecock, Chair  
October 2025

KGF		Income & Expenditure 2024 (Jan - Dec 2024)									
INCOME				EXPENDITURE							
Date	Item	Amount	Notes	Date	Item	Ref	Amount	Notes			
	Balance bf 2023	£ 3,280.31									
05-Jan	Paypal	£ 0.01		11-Jan	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.33				
14-Mar	Enid May	£ 100.00		20-Jan	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.92				
30-Apr	Knoll Gardens	£ 30.00		12-Feb	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 44.04				
01-May	From Petty Cash	£ 90.00		08-Feb	LDS (Website Maintenance)	100042	£ 238.80				
10-May	Ferndown Town Coucil	£ 100.00		20-Feb	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
03-Jun	Paypal	£ 119.41		11-Mar	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
16-Jul	Knoll Gardens	£ 30.00		21-Mar	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.40				
02-Jul	Donation Box	£ 70.00		11-Apr	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
30-Jul	Knoll Gardens	£ 18.00		20-Apr	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.80				
29-Aug	Knoll Gardens	£ 52.00		13-May	ICO	DD	£ 35.00				
09-Sep	Wimborne Gardening Club	£ 50.00		13-May	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
10-Sep	Coach Trip U3A	£ 135.00		21-May	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
18-Sep	Donation Box	£ 50.00		12-Jun	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
17-Sep	Coach Trip U3A	£ 42.00		20-Jun	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.76				
24-Sep	Open Day - Knoll Gardens	£ 248.30		11-Jul	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
15-Oct	Tour - Frank G Ltd	£ 51.00		21-Jul	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
				11-Aug	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
				20-Aug	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.68				
				12-Sep	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
				20-Sep	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
				11-Oct	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
				21-Oct	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 6.00				
				13-Nov	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
				20-Nov	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
				12-Dec	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 43.98				
				21-Dec	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00				
	<b>2024 Income</b>	£ 1,185.72									
	<b>Total</b>	£ 4,466.03			<b>Total</b>		£ 868.53				
	<b>Balance to carry forward</b>	£ 3,597.50									

Closing Petty Cash Balance									
Closing Bank Balance as at 31 Dec 2024	£ 3,597.50								
Petty Cash	£ -								

**KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159390

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# Accounts

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# Knoll Gardens Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statement for year ending 31st December 2023

### Charity Information

<b>Charity Registration No.</b>	1159390
<b>Registered Office</b>	Knoll Gardens, Stapehill Rd, Hampreston, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7ND
<b>Trustees</b>	Rebecca Bourdon Andrea de Souza Nicola Haswell Ross Humphrey Rowena Jecock (Chair) Neil Lucas Helen McIlmurray Bob Sweet (to March 2023)

This report covers the financial period 1 January - 31 December 2023.

The objects for which the Foundation was incorporated as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2014 are:

- to promote, for the benefit of the public, environmentally responsible horticultural practices which conserve, protect and improve the physical and natural environments especially by, but not limited to, the undertaking of research, the provision of educational courses and by encouraging the development of Knoll Gardens as a showcase for environmentally responsible practices which benefit biodiversity.

The Foundation is managed by a committee of Trustees, each of whom is elected for a period of up to three years. The trustees operate with regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### Activities

2023 saw Foundation garden volunteers continue work to "future-proof" areas of planting in the Gardens, using species and varieties tolerant of a wide range of climatic conditions. Implementation of a new series of garden message boards has begun, to assist visitors in understanding Knoll's naturalistic style of planting, how plants are chosen, and their interaction with local wildlife. Volunteers in the nursery assisted with

care and maintenance of the large number of these plants propagated and grown at Knoll. Other tasks undertaken by our volunteer cohort included a project to capture all Knoll's extant planting on a database, and unobtrusively label the plants for the benefit of visitors, as well as contributing to an ongoing programme of wildlife surveys and monitoring. The Foundation is fortunate to have the assistance of other surveyors who undertake regular monitoring of the garden's butterflies, moths, dragonflies, bumblebees and reptiles, and occasional surveys of other fauna.

Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Bournemouth Natural Science Society, and the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC), have continued to provide assistance with aspects of our wildlife surveys. Of note in 2023 was the big jump in the number of newts recorded in both the Dragon & Mill ponds since ARC volunteers assisted in improving the access and attractiveness of both ponds to newts in 2021.

More information about this and other surveys can be found on the Foundation website, <http://www.knollgardensfoundation.org>

We are grateful for the continuing support of all our surveyors. In particular, the trustees would like to acknowledge and offer our special thanks to Keith Powrie, assisted by his wife Ann, for their dedication in surveying Knoll's butterfly, dragon- & damselfly populations for the past 15 years, beginning in 2009. Keith has produced annual reports of his survey data (available through the Knoll Gardens Foundation website), providing a valuable longitudinal picture of changes in these populations over the period.

## **Educational and community events and activities**

During the Summer, the Foundation facilitated guided walks of the Garden and also on some of the insect life to be found therein – notably butterflies and bumblebees, as well as providing displays of some of the numerous species of moths, following nighttime moth-trapping surveys.

The Foundation offered several community open days during 2023. These open days provided free access to the garden for a variety of local community groups, to enable them to enjoy and learn about the garden and its ethos. Those attending included local art and camera clubs, as well as two local nurseries which promote therapeutic horticulture for those struggling with their mental health.

A variety of events were hosted in the garden for the benefit of the local community, including yoga sessions, photography workshops and art/craft events.

Additionally, we ran an Open Day on 6<sup>th</sup> October, with volunteers on hand to assist visitors and explain how the garden is managed for the benefit of wildlife. All garden entrance fees on that day were kindly donated to the Foundation by Knoll Gardens Ltd.

With regard to other outreach activities, the Foundation facilitated the donation of plants to Wimborne Community Garden, created to provide therapeutic and productive

gardening for people in Wimborne, and to students at Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester, for their winter garden project. We hope to be able to expand similar outreach activities in future years.

In conclusion, I and my fellow trustees thank all our volunteers, together with the staff at Knoll Gardens for their help and support.

Rowena Jecock, Chair  
October 2024



	Closing Bank Balance as at 31 Dec 2023	£ 3,280.31							
	Petty Cash	£ 93.74							

**KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159390

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# Accounts

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# **Knoll Gardens Foundation**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31st December 2022**

The Knoll Gardens Foundation is based at Knoll Gardens near Wimborne in Dorset, nationally recognised for its use of grasses in its naturalistic planting style.

The objects for which the Foundation was incorporated as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2014 are:

- to promote for the benefit of the public environmentally responsible horticultural practices which conserve, protect and improve the physical and natural environments especially by, but not limited to, the undertaking of research, the provision of educational courses and by encouraging the development of Knoll Gardens as a showcase for environmentally responsible practices which benefit biodiversity.

### **Trustees**

In November 2022, Peter Gear, our former Chair, stepped down as a trustee after 8 years, and also gave up his role in surveying the birds in the gardens. We offer him our warmest thanks for his contributions. We were delighted to welcome two new trustees, appointed in November 2022: Rebecca Bourdon & Nicola Haswell. Between them they have considerable relevant experience including marketing, communications, fund-raising, education, trusteeship and top management posts for other charitable bodies. We anticipate that their input will be a great asset in helping The Foundation move forwards with its ambition to advance surveying and educational activities, increasing its reach locally as well as attracting a wider online audience.

### **Activities**

In the current reporting year, 2022, The Foundation met its objectives via its continuing contribution to “future-proof” areas of planting in the Gardens, using species and varieties tolerant of a wide range of climatic conditions, as well as via wildlife surveys and monitoring, together with educational and community activities.

The Foundation works in close harmony with Knoll Gardens Ltd in order to maintain and, where desired, re-shape aspects of the planting in accordance with the naturalistic planting philosophy. The Foundation has an active team of volunteer gardeners who assist with both tasks, and additionally other volunteers who help manage our administration and website, contribute to plant labelling, and co-ordinate our wildlife surveys. We are lucky to have the excellent help of other surveyors who undertake regular monitoring of the garden's butterflies, moths, dragonflies, bumblebees and reptiles, and occasional surveys of other fauna.

Our thanks also to Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Bournemouth Natural Science Society, the RSPB, and the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC). Following ARC's advice and practical help in improving two of the garden's ponds in 2021 to improve access and mating display conditions for newts. The data from our newt surveys has been submitted to the National Amphibian Monitoring Survey. More information about these activities and others can be found on the Foundation website, <http://www.knollgardensfoundation.org>

We held a Wildlife Focus Day on Reptiles (16 June) entitled "Dragons in your Garden" – using the garden at Knoll to show people how to encourage and support reptiles and amphibians in their own gardens. Our thanks to Owain Masters from the ARC Trust for his expertise and input to the day.

The Foundation offered several community open days during 2022. These open days, referred to as "Foundation Fridays", provide free access to the garden for a variety of local community groups, to enable them to enjoy and learn about the garden and its ethos. Additionally, the Foundation ran an Open Day on 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, with volunteers on hand to assist visitors and explain how the garden is managed for the benefit of wildlife. All garden entrance fees on that day were kindly donated to the Foundation by Knoll Gardens Ltd, and we are grateful to everyone who donated to the Foundation during the year.

Our monthly Saturday morning nature club for young children (and their parents/carers) reconvened during 2022, following closure during the Covid-19 outbreak. Sadly, numbers of participants did not recover, and Tracy Standish, who designed and led the classes, decided to move on for personal reasons. Our warmest thanks to Tracy, and to Mitch Perkins, our Wildlife Survey Co-ordinator for their dedication in running these classes.

The Foundation website began to be developed and expanded in 2022, to include photographic galleries of some of the wildlife seen in the garden. We are very grateful to Roy Mortimer for maintaining the website. Further plans are underway to enhance the Foundation's online profile by linking it more prominently to the Knoll Gardens website.

Finally, I would like to personally thank the staff of Knoll Gardens Ltd for their help and support, my fellow trustees, and our volunteers for their dedication in contributing to this very special garden.

Rowena Jecock, Chair

October 2023

KGF Income & Expenditure 2022 (Jan - Dec 2022)									
INCOME					EXPENDITURE				
Date	Item	Amount	Notes	Date	Item	Ref	Amount	Notes	
	Balance bf 2021	£ 2,410.94							
23-Feb	Amazon	£ 11.68		11-Jan	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.33		
01-Mar	Hardy Plant Society	£ 250.00		20-Jan	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
09-May	Amazon	£ 7.61		11-Feb	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.68		
29-May	Holbeche Corfield Charitable	£ 500.00		10-Feb	LDS (Website Maintenance)	100038	£ 238.80		
07-Jun	Easy Fundraising	£ 17.47		20-Feb	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
05-Jul	Knoll Gardens	£ 53.50		11-Mar	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
04-Aug	Knoll Gardens	£ 20.00		21-Mar	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.40		
12-Aug	Donation Box	£ 50.00		11-Apr	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
15-Aug	J Harcourt	£ 50.00		20-Apr	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
16-Aug	Amazon	£ 5.84		11-May	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
23-Aug	Knoll Gardens	£ 22.00		21-May	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
30-Aug	Knoll Gardens	£ 15.00		13-Jun	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
04-Oct	Knoll Gardens	£ 543.00		20-Jun	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
17-Oct	Donation Box	£ 60.00		11-Jul	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
08-Oct	Knoll Gardens	£ 22.00		21-Jul	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.80		
15-Nov	Amazon	£ 6.78		11-Aug	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
22-Nov	Knoll Gardens	£ 30.00		20-Aug	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
13-Dec	Knoll Gardens	£ 5.50		12-Sep	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
				20-Sep	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 6.00		
				11-Oct	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
				21-Oct	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
				11-Nov	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
				20-Nov	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.64		
				12-Dec	NFU (Employers & PI)	DD	£ 46.59		
				21-Dec	HSBC (Bank Charges)	DD	£ 5.00		
	<b>2022 Income</b>	£ 1,670.38							
	<b>Total</b>	£ 4,081.32			<b>Total</b>		£ 860.55		
	<b>Balance to carry forward</b>	£ 3,220.77							
	<b>Closing Petty Cash Balance</b>								
	Closing Bank Balance as at 31 Dec 2022	3127.03							

	Petty Cash	93.74							

**KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159390

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# Accounts

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# **Knoll Gardens Foundation**

## **Trustees' Annual Report 2021**

The Knoll Gardens Foundation is based at Knoll Gardens near Wimborne in Dorset, a nationally-recognised garden particularly renowned for its use of grasses in its naturalistic planting style. The Foundation's objectives are to promote, for the benefit of the public, environmentally responsible horticultural practices that support and sustain wildlife and benefit biodiversity within the garden. In 2021 The Foundation met these objectives through its wildlife surveys and monitoring, educational and community activities.

The Foundation's active and enthusiastic team of volunteer gardeners assisted with maintenance of the garden throughout the period that the garden was open to the public. In addition, we were lucky to have the excellent help of our volunteer wildlife survey co-ordinator, Mitch Perkins, together with surveyors who undertake regular monitoring of the garden's birds, butterflies, moths, dragonflies, bumblebees and reptiles, and occasional surveys of other fauna.

The Foundation is grateful for the continuing support of the volunteer surveyors and organisations including Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Bournemouth Natural Science Society, the RSPB, and the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC). We are particularly grateful to the latter, who helped train a KGF volunteer to survey the garden's reptile population, with data being submitted to the National Reptile Monitoring Survey. ARC also advised the Foundation on improvements to two of the garden's three ponds to enhance their attractiveness to newts. We wholeheartedly thank two teams of ARC volunteers who gave willingly of their time and energy to both construct newt access to the formal Dragon Pond and clear the overgrowth in the Mill Pond to encourage newts to breed there. The Foundation intends to begin newt surveys in Spring 2022, with data being submitted to the National Amphibian Monitoring Survey. More information about these activities and others can be found on the Foundation website, <http://www.knollgardensfoundation.org>

Our monthly Saturday morning nature club for young children (and their parents/carers) did not reconvene during 2021, but will do so in 2022.

Some of the Foundation's community open days were re-initiated as life began to return to a more normal footing following relaxation of COVID restrictions during the second half of the year. These days, referred to as "Foundation Fridays" provide free access to the garden for community groups, to enable them to enjoy and learn about the garden and its ethos. We expect the number of these events to return to usual levels in 2022. A Wildlife Discovery Day was organised by our wildlife survey co-ordinator on 3 August, with volunteers on hand to assist visitors and answer questions about gardening for wildlife. Although lower key than in previous years, the event was enjoyed by those attending.

Income generated during 2021 was again limited as a result of COVID restrictions. We are very grateful to those who kindly donated to the Foundation during the year.

During 2021, there were fewer than the usual annual visitor numbers of around 8,000. We hope for increased footfall in 2022. The massive increase in online activity during COVID seems to be here to stay, and during 2021 the trustees supported plans to enhance the Foundation website. Our thanks to Roy Mortimer, our voluntary website manager, for all his work.

Finally, but by no means least, I would like to personally thank the staff of Knoll Gardens Ltd for their help and support, my fellow trustees, and all our wonderful volunteers for their efforts to maintain and enhance this special garden for the benefit of the wildlife that occupies it and the public who enjoy and learn from it.

Rowena Jecock, Chair

October 2022



**KNOLL GARDENS FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159390

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# Accounts

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# **Knoll Gardens Foundation**

## **Trustees Annual Report 2020**

As for almost every other organisation, 2020 was not a normal year for the Knoll Gardens Foundation. The emergence of COVID 19 and the consequent UK lockdown from March meant that the garden at Knoll closed to the public and its volunteers for several months.

During this period of minimal human intervention, the garden and its wildlife continued to flourish.

When the volunteer gardeners returned in July, there was much work to do throughout the garden to bring some of the more exuberant growth under control, and to continue the implementation of new planting plans. The initial planting in the new Dry Meadow, started in the previous Autumn, had established well. Additional layers of plants were added from late Summer, together with new planting in the Rain Garden.

The Knoll Garden Foundation volunteers make an invaluable contribution, helping with the maintenance and development of the garden, contributing to educational activities, and undertaking wildlife surveys in the garden. All of this contributes to our core purpose to understand the relationship between the flora and fauna in the garden, and to promote an approach to gardening that supports and enriches that relationship.

Although visitor access to the garden was gradually resumed for members of the public during the Summer, visitor numbers were, not surprisingly, very much lower than usual. For public health reasons, the decision was made to cancel the remainder of the events scheduled for the Summer/Autumn.

The trustees were unable to meet in person during 2020 but agreed to undertake any essential business via email. I would particularly like to welcome Helen McIlmurray, who has a background in education, and who joined us as a trustee in 2020. We are looking to further broaden the skillset of our trustees, and will be actively seeking someone local who has ecological expertise.

While 2020 was a challenging year for us all, I know that many people across the country have discovered the importance of the natural world for their own

well-being, and have come to recognise that we must value green landscapes, including gardens, and the wildlife that inhabits them. We at the Knoll Gardens Foundation look forward to continuing our work to help people appreciate the importance of their own gardens in providing a healthy habitat for a rich diversity of wildlife.

I would like to thank to my fellow trustees and volunteers, together with the staff of Knoll Gardens Ltd, for their continued support of the Foundation.

Rowena Jecock

Chair, Knoll Gardens Foundation

September 2021

