

**Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon**  
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

**Report and Financial Statements**

**Year ended: 31 December 2021**

**Charity no: 1159641**



# **Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

### **Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors**

Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon

Registered Charity number: 1159641

Principal Office: Little Green, 12 Dagmar Street, Shaldon TQ14 0DU

#### **Trustees:**

The trustees during the period are:

Chair	Alison Mary Melville-Shreeve
Treasurer	Richard John Brett
Trustees	Carolyn Elizabeth Pash
	Hazel Dawn Todd (appointed 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2021)

#### **Bankers:**

Barclays Bank plc., Leicester LE87 2BB

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is governed by its Constitution last amended 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014 which establish its objects and powers.

### **Constitution of the Organisation.**

Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

### **Board of Trustees and Trustee selection.**

The body responsible for the management of Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon is the Board of Trustees.

The full complement of Trustees is eight and the Constitution requires that there shall never be less than three. Trustees serve for a term of three years and there are no restrictions on the number of terms that a Trustee may serve. Appointment of Trustees is by election at the Annual General Meeting. All Trustees must be members of Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon and members are invited to nominate people to serve. The Chair and Officers are appointed by the Trustees from among their number.

Upon their first appointment each new trustee is provided with the following information;

- A copy of the Constitution along with any amendments made to it;
- The latest trustee' annual report and statement of accounts.

The Trustees are supported by a management committee, members of which attend Trustee meetings and by volunteers who provide valuable assistance with work in the Gardens and with fundraising events.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity.

## **Risk Management**

The Homeyards Botanical Gardens is owned and maintained by Teignbridge District Council who operate appropriate risk management policies. The Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon organise events in the Gardens from time to time and for each event a risk assessment and risk management plan is prepared having regard to:

- Protecting the public from risk
- Protecting the Gardens and property from damage
- Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

## **Objectives and Activities**

The principal object of Friends of Homeyards Botanical Gardens in Shaldon is for the public benefit to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment and to advance the education of the public in the land and buildings at Homeyards Botanical Gardens, Shaldon Devon.

### **Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit**

The Friends run Easter, Summer and Halloween events to involve children and families in the gardens. These events are generally free but fundraising can be involved.

Volunteers open up the Castle on regular occasions to provide refreshments and information for visitors. As well as enhancing the experience of the gardens for visitors the facility is a meeting point for local people and volunteers, providing a social opportunity and increasing engagement with the gardens.

Continuing historical researches into the Homeyards story.

Conservation volunteering on a regular basis to maintain and improve specific areas of the gardens.

### **Summary of the main achievements of the Charity during the period**

It was again an unusual and difficult year for all of us, and activities in the Gardens continued to be somewhat constrained by the need to conform with Covid19 regulations and social distancing requirements.

The Easter event was once again cancelled this year, but the Halloween event took place on a glorious autumn day and attracted a good crowd; a total of 203 children were counted.



Gary the gardener has continued his time allocated to the gardens for 2 days a week from November 2019, kindly funded by Shaldon Parish Council. We are very grateful for their support and the further vote this year to continue this funding.

Volunteer gardening days continued through the winter 20/21 as best as possible under covid 19 rules before getting better under way as the year progressed.

We had hoped to have castle openings for tea and coffee up and running by summer, and we were pleased to be able to open at the end of June with appropriate Covid precautions. A number of new volunteers came forward, and we were able to open on most Tuesday and Thursday mornings throughout the summer. The castle also hosted a very successful Macmillan fundraising coffee morning in September, and a series of clay making workshops with a local artist in the autumn.

It is hard to pin point an exact date but Mr. & Mrs. Homeyard bought Ness Cottage in 1921 and we know that the castle, pond & rill and witches cave were built by 1927 – so we have a centenary to celebrate in the coming years. Wanting to create a lasting legacy and inspired by a mosaic octagonal fountain at Highgrove, the Friends decided to create a mosaic bench seat on the plinth that once supported a bird bath just below the castle.

We were lucky to be able to call on the skills of two incredibly talented local artists, Michelle Greenwood Brown and Alison Miles to work on the project. In August they ran a series of 6 family drop-in workshops based at the castle. These workshops proved very popular, and local adults and children created the special clay tile pieces that will be applied to the finished seat. The artists will finalise the ceramic work in readiness for the seat to be built and finished after last frost in Spring 2022.

The gardens were entered for the first time in the Britain in Bloom SW „It's your neighbourhood“ competition, and we were pleased to achieve a Level 4 „Thriving“ rating.

It was shocking to discover late in the year that the balustrade at the allotments end of the gardens had been deliberately pushed down. However, thanks to generous donations swift remedial action was taken to lift the stones and and carefully restore this look out point.

### **Financial Review**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in July 2014.

The Receipts and Payments account shows the gross income from all sources and the split of activity between restricted and unrestricted funds.

## **Review of the financial position**

There was an excess of receipts over payments of £4,465 during the year. The cash balance held in unrestricted funds was increased by this amount.

The largest element of income in the year was donations from members and supporters, amounting in total to £3,256 which included an anonymous donation of £1,000 in respect of balustrade repairs. We also received a number of grants during the year; £2,000 from Marjorie & Geoffrey Jones Trust, £200 from Shaldon Water Carnival, and £500 from our local Devon County Councillor's community fund for all of which we are very grateful.

The main items of expenditure in the year were £2,500 as the first payment in respect of the Mosaic seat, £212 for garden plants and equipment and £137 for web hosting.

## **Reserves Policy**

The trustees aim to hold sufficient reserves to provide funding for special events and fundraising efforts organized by the Friends Committee or by supporters.

Reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 amount to £12,170 of which £1,000 is committed for the balustrade repair, payment for which will be made in 2022, and £3,700 has been designated by trustees for the purpose of completion of the Mosaic seat in 2022.

Trustees consider the remaining free reserve to be adequate to cover planned expenditure commitments and the costs of arranging a typical programme of events for a year.

Reserves are unrestricted and held in cash at Barclays Bank and in a Paypal account.

## **Future Plans**

### **Gardener**

After Gary's initial Lottery funded appointment ended, Shaldon Parish Council funded his continued employment in the Gardens on a part time basis. The Trustees recognize the enormous impact that a resident gardener has had on the Gardens and as a priority will work with Shaldon Parish Council and other potential funders to ensure the continued employment of a gardener.



## Tree Trail

As part of the lottery funding Teignbridge District Council has arranged for many of the principal trees in the Gardens to be named and a Tree Trail leaflet has been prepared for publicising when conditions permit.

Homeyards History second edition

An updated version of 'Aturfuqil's Shaldon', Homeyards history was completed during Lockdown and following a final edit, should be ready for printing in 2022.

## Mosaic Seat

Our work has usually followed the path of conservation and restoration but after the gardens provided such an important area for respite and recreation during the times of restrictions during 2020 we started to plan fundraising for a more light hearted project in the creation of an octagonal outdoor seat.

This is to be decorated with ceramic mosaic tiles by local skilled independent artists Michelle Greenwood Brown and Alison Miles who have much experience in providing delightful designs.

It will be sited on the disused old birdbath base on a terrace in front of the castle folly. We aim to show scenes of water earth and sky elements which will be a fascinating focus for visitors to the gardens

The artists held a series of workshops in 2021 for local children make some of the tiles that will be included in the project, and are working over the winter months to have the tiles ready for the installation in spring 2022 after the last frosts.

## Restorations

### Castle maintenance

The castle has developed a serious problem with leaks and damp which it is evident stems from the design and implementation of the recent renovation. The trustees and committee will continue to work closely with Teignbridge District Council and local councillors to resolve the situation and ensure that the castle continues to make a significant contribution to the success of the Gardens.

### Witches Cave

The witch's cave has been condemned by council engineers as being unsafe and has been fenced off. Trustees propose to seek further information about the state of the cave and to establish the steps required and the potential cost to repair it.

### Castle wall

The efforts of volunteers have made a good impact on clearing the ground above the wall and uncovering the stonework. Trustees have agreed to take the effort forward by obtaining a programme of work and costings for the restoration of the wall and appropriate planting, recognising the importance of involving Teignbridge District Council in view of the many health and safety implications and the scale of the project.

## **Gardeners Hut**

We are encouraging Teignbridge District Council to repair the gardeners hut which is part of their programme, though this is likely to be delayed by funding limitations.

It seems there is clearly no public money for such projects for the foreseeable future so that it will be necessary to try and follow a programme of fundraising for the reinstatement of these important features over a period of time, including potentially a second phase application to Heritage Lottery.

## **Volunteers**

The work of the Friends depends upon volunteers and the trustees are very grateful for the time and effort given by the management committee and by all those volunteers who turn up regularly to work in the gardens.

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Melville', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Alison Melville - Shreeve  
Chair**

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2022**





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Homevards Botanical  
Gardens in Shaldon

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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	1st January 2021		31st December 2021

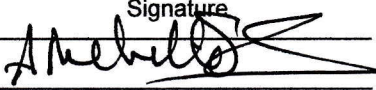
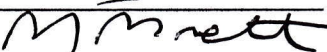
### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	3,256	-	-	3,256	1,635
Events & Fundraising	1,322	-	-	1,322	-
Merchandising	33	-	-	33	-
Marjorie & Geoffrey Jones Trust	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
Shaldon Water Carnival Grant	200	-	-	200	599
Devon County Councillor Grant	500	-	-	500	-
HMRC Gift Aid Repayment	325	-	-	325	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>7,636</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,636</b>	<b>2,234</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>7,636</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,636</b>	<b>2,234</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Subscription - Devon Gardens Trust	35	-	-	35	35
AGM & Membership Costs	180	-	-	180	86
Works in Gardens	212	-	-	212	1,503
Insurance	96	-	-	96	230
Mosaic Seat & Workshops	2,500	-	-	2,500	-
Web Site Maintenance & Hosting	137	-	-	137	678
Paypal Commissions	11	-	-	11	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3,171</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,171</b>	<b>2,532</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>3,171</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,171</b>	<b>2,532</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>- 298</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>7,705</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,705</b>	<b>7,993</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>12,170</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,170</b>	<b>7,695</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Barclays Bank Current Account	11,729	-	-
	Paypal Account	441	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>12,170</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alison Melville Shreeve	16/03/2022
	Richard Brett	16/03/2022