



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date		Period end date	
From	1st	Jan	2021	To	31st Dec 2021

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

Friends of Menacuddle Well

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1170532

Charity's principal address

Menadue

Menacuddle Hill

St Austell, Cornwall

Postcode

PL25 5QP

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Earl	Chair	1.1.21. - 29.3.21.	
2	Derek Marley	Treasurer		
3	Francesca Arundel			
4	Denise Marley			
5	Kenneth Wellicome	Chair	29.3.21. - 31.12.21.	
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### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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# Section B Structure, governance and management

## Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution, adopted 2nd December 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by existing trustees or members. One third of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting but are eligible for reappointment.

## Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment:

- (a) a copy of the constitution and any amendments made to it.
- (b) a copy of the CIO's latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.
- (c) a copy of the Charity Commission Trustee Guidance CC3.
- (d) a copy of the Charity Commission Trustee Welcome Pack

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.



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

1. The preservation and conservation of the Grade II\* Listed Baptistery and other historical remains associated with the Baptistery in Menacuddle Valley for the benefit of the public.
2. The advancement of education of the public about the history of the Baptistery and the ecological importance of the surrounding area.
3. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life of the public by the conservation, enhancement and maintenance of the original Victorian ornamental garden in Menacuddle Valley.

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

The scope of activities carried out by The Friends of Menacuddle Well in 2021 were again constrained by restrictions imposed to combat the spread of the Covid 19 virus, particularly at the beginning of the year. We did, however, continue with Trustee meetings to plan any activities that would fall within the Government guidelines (at first virtually via 'Zoom' and later in person, socially distanced and outside). Individual trustees, or those in 'bubbles', also managed to make occasional visits to the site and carry out minor maintenance tasks until we could get back to something approaching normality in May. Activities undertaken to further the charity's objectives for the public benefit were broadly as below:

1. A sluice gate which had originally been installed in the historic leat to facilitate the emptying of sediment into the river was recovered from where it had been partially buried on the river bank and will be restored and hopefully returned to the site in the future.

2. In June we were involved in the Green Whitegold Festival organised by the 'Austell Project' to celebrate what makes the St Austell area so special. Trustees spent the day manning a stall in the town centre set out with pictures and information about Menacuddle Well, and distributed leaflets to the many interested visitors. This resulted in offers of volunteer help in the future, and also strengthened links with other local community groups.

It was gratifying to be able to again hold our annual Remembrance Day Service in the Gardens after being forced to cancel it last year because of Covid restrictions. This was a moving occasion to commemorate all those affected by wars past and present, and was particularly appropriate this year as it marked 100 years since the donation of the Well and Gardens to the Parish of St Austell by Sir Charles Graves Sawle in memory of his only son lost in battle in the First World War. The trustees would like to express their thanks to John Keast for leading the service and to the Royal British Legion for providing standard bearers and a bugler.

3. Nine 'Welly Days' were held this year, as restrictions allowed, so that volunteers could get involved with the trustees in maintaining and improving the Gardens. Much new planting was carried out, along with the never-ending tasks of weeding, pruning and litter picking.

The planting saw the beginning of Phase 2 of the project, which consisted mainly of infilling between the existing structural specimens with groundcover and wildlife friendly plants such as comfrey, adding a small flower border between the fruit trees in the picnic area, and planting more bulbs and small shrubs all around the Gardens providing varied



seasons of interest from flowers, fruits and foliage.

Work was continued to provide more pathways to improve access for visitors; and wildlife wasn't forgotten, with a number of bird feeders, nesting boxes and a bat box installed around the site. Bird and bat boxes, and a bee brick were kindly donated by the Treverbyn Community Trust after contact was made with their Habitat Creation Manager for support and advice.

The Charity Commission guidance on public benefit is taken into account when planning all activities.

#### **Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

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

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

We were extremely fortunate to receive invaluable help throughout the year from our friendly band of volunteers both old and new. They ranged in age from 7 to 70 and included experienced gardeners, enthusiastic amateurs, people that just wanted to help in any way that they could - and the Mayor of St Austell and his Consort. We are indebted to them all and would simply not have been able to achieve all that we did without them.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Even though restrictions on the work that could be carried out were in place throughout much of the year, the Friends were able to achieve all of the significant aims set for 2021. A number of grant applications were made and we were delighted to receive an award from the Eden Geothermal Community Fund towards our 'Opening Up' project to improve access to the Gardens by restoring and creating additional pathways.

It was fantastic to see that Menacuddle Well was attracting more and more visitors as word spread about its beauty and tranquility. Organised 'Health Walks' regularly visited, along with a complete cross-section of the general public, and the occasional singing/walking group serenading around the pond. The only downside to this popularity was that, during wet weather, many areas of the Gardens were becoming increasingly muddy and slippery. A major objective for 2021 was to complete the 'Opening Up' project to tackle this problem, and the grant from the Eden fund went a long way in helping to achieve this.

In May, we were extremely fortunate to receive an offer of expert volunteer help from a locally based engineering company, supported by two of their suppliers, to lay two new gravel paths on the west side of the river. We had previously discovered a line of pebbles which we thought may have been a historic path edging following the course of the river, and an old photograph from 1955 along with a map from 1881 seemed to confirm this. We were delighted when the workers preparing the ground for the path discovered two parallel rows of pebbles which had formed the original edging, and followed the route that we had expected. The new path was laid between these pebbles and recreated the original design from when the gardens were first landscaped - but with a robust, compacted granite gravel finish. The project was covered by the local press, and it was good to see that families with young children in push chairs could now easily walk along the river and to the bridge to the baptistery. One wheelchair user posted on our Facebook page how they could, for the first time, make their own way down to relax by the side of the river.

A start was also made this year on the second phase of 'Opening Up', with grass grids laid over an extremely muddy area around the information board, and the beginning of an extensive new path running around the pond and up to the far north end of the site - this is being constructed from wooden boards forming an edging, with wood chippings laid between them. We had an amazing turnout of volunteers in September to help with this, and we were again grateful to the St Austell Voice for providing excellent coverage of the day.

Wildlife continued to show their appreciation of the improvements made to the Gardens, with robins, blue tits, wagtails, crows, herons, dippers and bats all spotted throughout the year. We also saw the welcome return of the female mallard duck and four new ducklings nesting on the island and sharing the pond with the resident frog population.



**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

£2,712.50 of unrestricted cash funds were held in the current account at year end, along with £1,798.58 remaining from the Eden Geothermal Community Fund grant . This exceeds our maximum planned reserve holding, however, the Eden allowance is scheduled to be spent by the middle of next year and more unrestricted cash will be needed for further improvements to the site.

The policy is to hold between £200 and £1,000 in reserve to cover expenses such as Public Liability Insurance, purchase of plants, equipment and herbicides etc for maintenance of the gardens, and unforeseen expenditure such as repair of damage caused by acts of vandalism.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

Not applicable

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

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

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

All of the planting carried out throughout the year was covered by unrestricted reserve funds and the receipt of a generous personal donation of £300.

The path laying work was supported by the Eden Geothermal grant and the amazing help of three local companies: NMCN engineering providing three workers for two days of labour; Steve Wills Haulage donating 20 tons of gravel; and Sunbelt Rentals allowing free hire of a mini excavator and plate compactor for three days. The trustees are extremely grateful for this support, without which the gravel paths could not have been completed.

Further grants will be sought in future years to cover costs of ongoing planting and infrastructure works.

## Section F

## Other optional information

In spite of the problems posed by the ongoing Covid pandemic, excellent progress was made with the objectives set for 2021.

Work will continue on improving the pathways through the gardens, specifically to link the baptistery to the North Garden paths over a number of currently very boggy areas. Plans are also in place to create a new picnic area and paths in the South Garden.

Further funding will be sought to realise the trustees ambitions to:

- Provide portable gazebos to give cover at public events
- Continue the planting of small trees and shrubs and more infill/groundcover plants
- Replace the old concrete and iron railing bridge across the river with a wheelchair friendly, sympathetically styled stone bridge - though it will require a significant grant to achieve this.

## Section G

## Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	K. Wellcome	D. Marley
Full name(s)	KEN WELLCOME	DEREK MARLEY
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TREASURER
Date	27.6.22.	





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Friends of Menacuddle Well

No (if any)  
1170532

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Period start date  
1.1.21.

To

Period end date  
31.12.21.

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Grants		3,000	-	3,000	
Donations	300	-	-	300	
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	300	3,000	-	3,300	-
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	300	3,000	-	3,300	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Construction of New Paths		1,201	-	1,201	
Insurance	64	-	-	64	63
Flora Planting and Maintenance	144	-	-	144	766
Info Boards Design and Construction		-	-	-	345
Public Events	24	-	-	24	12
Infrastructure Repair and Maintenance		-	-	-	138
Provision for wildlife		-	-	-	35
Construction of Compost Bins		-	-	-	700
Construction of Drystone Wall / Steps		-	-	-	750
<b>Sub total</b>	232	1,201	-	1,433	2,809
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	232	1,201	-	1,433	2,809
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	68	1,799	-	1,867	- 2,809
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>			-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	2,644		-	2,644	5,453
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	2,712	1,799	-	4,511	2,644



## 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 £
B1 Cash funds	NatWest Current Account	2,712	1,799	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>2,712</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Benches	Restricted	1,236	-
	Benches	Unrestricted	423	-
	Picnic Tables	Unrestricted	90	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
K. Wellcome	KEN WELLCOME	27.6.22
D. Marley	DEREK MARLEY	27.6.22