



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date
From 1st Jan 2022 To 31st Dec 2022
Period end date

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			
2	Derek Marley	Treasurer		
3	Francesca Arundel			
4	Denise Marley			
5	Kenneth Wellicome	Chair		
6	Hugh Symes-Thompson		18.1.22. - 31.12.22.	
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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.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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).

After the constrictions on activities of the last two years brought about by the Covid 19 pandemic it was fantastic to be able to get back to 'business as normal' in 2022 and continue working on our objectives for the future of Menacuddle Well. Five general meetings were held during the year to discuss past progress and future plans, and these were regularly attended by the charity trustees, volunteers and our contact and advisor from the Cornac organisation. The main activities carried out to further the charity's objectives for the public benefit, as given above, were as detailed below:

1. The condition of the Baptistery was monitored regularly to ensure it's continued integrity. The adjacent area was kept clear of litter and leaves and the drain was rodded as necessary to prevent flooding from overflow of the spring water from the Holy Well. The remaining segment of the lead leading to the settlement tank was kept clear and weed-free, and weed suppressant membrane and granite scalplings were laid along the bottom between the stone side walls to prevent more overwhelming weed growth.

2. It was gratifying that the trustees were able to interact more with the public again this year to further spread information on the site and to gain some insight from them on their feelings about the work we have been doing so far. To this end we were involved in a number of local events:

In September the trustees set up a display stand at the St Austell Garden and Environment Festival. This attracted much interest from visitors and enabled us to speak to a large number of people and collect written comments about the Gardens and ideas for future planning. Encouragingly, everybody we spoke to was very positive and gave some useful feedback on our philosophy for developing the gardens.

One of our group manned a table at a 'Help the Climate' event at the local library and handed out information leaflets.

Members of the U3A Gardening Club arranged a visit to Menacuddle Well and were escorted around the Gardens by another of our trustees.

We delivered a well-received talk to Rotary Club members on the historical significance of the Well to the local area.

In November we again held a memorial service in conjunction with the local Methodist church and the Royal British Legion. This was, as ever, a very moving occasion to remember all those affected by wars past and present in all parts of the world.

3. Eleven 'Welly Days' were held this year when we were able to carry out the majority of the maintenance and development work on the gardens with the help of local volunteers. The days involved much weeding, litter picking and transporting of fresh top-soil, along with infill and bulb planting and the creation of a small triangular shaped woodland garden near the pond, as well as adding more hedging plants along the road boundary. A number of trees were planted, including a walnut tree and an Amalanchier canadensis 'October Flame' to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Work also continued on maintaining and improving the pathways around the gardens, and a riverside bench made from a fallen tree on the site was installed.

Maintenance pruning of the magnificent Cornish Red rhododendrons was carried out after consultation with the Lost Gardens of Heligan and some unsafe branches were removed from our prized Western Red Cedar tree.

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.

Our occasional volunteer force was strengthened this year by a number of new and enthusiastic participants who have become regular and valued members of the team. Their expertise, good humour and love of the site makes 'Welly Days' enjoyable occasions, and it was good that we could re-instate tea and cakes as a small thank you on some days.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2022 was a busy and successful year for the Friends of Menacuddle Well, marking good progress with the objectives set for the year.

Early in the year we were approached by the St Austell Rotary Club with an offer of help with a project on the site. This was a fantastic opportunity to create the new picnic area and pathways in the South Garden that we had planned, and the Rotary Club awarded us a grant and volunteer help to complete this. The Rotarians supplied materials and labour to make a flat, gravelled area for the Friends to install a picnic table overlooking the gardens and river, and helped with the laying of a new hardwood-chipping path to the far Southern end of the gardens. We were also honoured that later in the year the Rotary Club chose our gardens as an area to donate and plant 2,000 crocus bulbs in support of their polio eradication campaign.

Our planned enhancements to the gardens were made with the addition of hundreds of infill and ground-cover plants, native wild-flower bulbs, more native saplings for the wildlife hedging and a number of larger trees and shrubs. After completing the work we were rewarded by being able to watch butterflies visiting the flowers, small birds hopping around foraging in the hedgerow, and dragonflies keeping the duck and drake mallard company on the pond. Public access was also improved by filling in the very boggy areas on the pathways and beginning the laying of hardwood chippings to form a more resilient surface finish.

Public interest in the Gardens continued to grow, with ever increasing numbers of visitors, and 509 followers on the Facebook page posting photographs and comments by the end of the year. The St Austell Voice covered many of our projects with pictures and articles, including featuring Menacuddle Well in their 'Queen's Platinum Jubilee' Supplement.

After the disruptions of the last few years The Friends decided it was time to again enter the Royal Horticultural Society and South West in Bloom 'It's Your Neighbourhood' competition for 2022. We were delighted to be awarded the top 'Level 5 - Outstanding' ranking by the judges, and this was publicised by our partners 'Comac' on their social media platforms and staff bulletin.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

£846 of unrestricted cash funds were held in the current account at year end, along with £770 remaining from the Eden Geothermal Community Fund grant. We are scheduled to complete the Eden allowance spending during 2023, and this will leave cash funds within our planned reserve holding range.

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.

Sufficient funds were held in unrestricted reserves to cover the planting carried out this year, as well as for the purchase of the picnic table and benches for the South Garden. We were very grateful to be additionally donated a number of primulas and mixed bulbs from Cornac, Hawthorn and Blackthorn saplings from Treverbyn Community Trust and piles of woodchips delivered by supportive local tradesmen. A very generous cash donation of £50 was also received from a couple visiting from Australia who were enthralled by the gardens.

The grant awarded in 2021 by the Eden Geothermal project continued to fund work on the paths.

The grant of £1,600 from the Rotary Club of St Austell supported the work on the South Garden picnic area, and residual funds will be used on providing more amenities for wildlife in the coming year.

Section F

Other optional information

The main plans that the Friends have to continue improvements at Menacuddle Well in 2023 are to:

- Work on succession planting to ensure continuation of the legacy of the heritage rhododendrons
- Create a small wildflower area and a bee/bug hotel to encourage more insects into the gardens
- Continue plant infilling, especially beside the river in the North Garden
- Finalise expenditure of the Eden Geothermal grant on improving pathways
- Provide small identification labels to enable the public to identify notable plants
- Improve sustainability wherever possible, eg by co-operating with Cormac on the addition of more compost bins to the site
- Continue investigation into replacing the old concrete bridge with a more site-sympathetic, wheelchair friendly alternative
- Develop a 5 year plan of action to share with Cornwall Council's representatives, Cormac, as owners of the site

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>K.S. Wellcome</i>	<i>D. Marley</i>
Full name(s)	Kenneth Wellcome	DEREK MARLEY
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	TREASURER
Date	8.8.23.	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Friends of Menacuddle Well	CC (if any) 1170532
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 1.1.22.	To	Period end date 31.12.22.
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Grants			-	-	3,000
Donations	124	-	-	124	300
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	124	-	-	124	3,300
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	124	-	-	124	3,300
A3 Payments					
Construction of New Paths		1,029	-	1,029	1,201
Insurance	63	-	-	63	64
Flora Planting and Maintenance	972	-	-	972	144
Info Boards Design and Construction		-	-	-	
Public Events and Information	213	-	-	213	24
Infrastructure Repair and Maintenance		-	-	-	
Provision for wildlife	74	-	-	74	
Sub total	1,322	1,029	-	2,351	1,433
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Purchase of Picnic Table + Benches	668		-	668	
	-		-	-	
Sub total	668	-	-	668	
Total payments	1,990	1,029	-	3,019	1,433
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,866	- 1,029	-	- 2,895	1,867
A5 Transfers between funds			-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,712	1,799	-	4,511	2,644
Cash funds this year end	846	770	-	1,616	4,511

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	846	770	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	846	770	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	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	758	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
	British Legion Poppy Day Expenses	Unrestricted	25	01 January 2023
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
K.S. Wellcome	Kenneth Wellcome	8-8-23
D. Marley	DEREK MARLEY	8.8.23.