



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From January 2024 To December 2024**

**Charity name: The Northumbria Gardens Trust**

**Charity registration number: 1187196**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Northumbria.</p> <p>2) To advance the education of the public on matters concerned with the heritage, protection, conservation and enhancement of historic parks, gardens and other designated landscapes of Northumbria.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>A programme of visits to historic designed landscapes in the region was successfully held commencing with a visit and the AGM at Wallington in May, summed up as "pretty much a perfect NGT day"!</p> <p>In contrast, June saw a visit to Ravensworth, where the bones of the pleasure ground were explored, with a native guide! This was followed by a return to familiar ground at Gibside, just over the hill, to consider the progress with the restoration of that once "lost" landscape.</p> <p>In July Jane Armstrong arranged a visit to the restored walled garden at Creswell with an opportunity to visit the pele tower.</p> <p>In September a visit was arranged by Martin Roberts to look at the work of Victor Passmore in the SW area of Peterlee - local authority housing schemes and landscaping, culminating in a visit to his listed and registered Apollo Pavilion with two of those most involved in the restoration of the sculpture as our guides.</p> <p>For the Autumn Lecture in Newcastle in November we were fortunate to enlist Chris Mayes, now the National Landscape Advisor for Historic England.</p> <p>A small group of the trustees continued to respond to the weekly planning lists</p>

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	continue with the important conservation role of supporting The Gardens Trust in its role as statutory consultee and to respond to enquiries from the public about the conservation of designed landscapes in Northumbria.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	No specific fundraising activities were undertaken. The aim is to cover event costs if possible, with a modest charge to avoid drawing on the limited reserves. Martin Roberts has worked hard and with success in this area, drawing on his regional contacts to boost event numbers by inviting other conservation organisations to join in, and by keeping a close eye on event costs - aiming for a modest profit to boost funds.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The funds in the Northumbria Gardens Trust Community Account increased during the period. Membership subscriptions were up on last year, as was event income. The main items of expenditure were the Annual subscription and insurance payments to The Gardens Trust; Event costs and the Membership Secretary's overheads (printing/postage etc) The bank now charges for all transactions on the account. Outstanding membership payments were followed up thanks to the diligence of the Membership Secretary.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Northumbria Gardens Trust Community Account maintains a modest balance which serves as a reserve against forthcoming expenditure (such as events costs and future <i>Journal</i> production and circulation costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£3343
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	With no expenditure on a <i>Journal</i> in this period the increase in funds held during the period was modest. There may be a future requirement for a review of the membership subscriptions (which we have always tried to keep as low as possible) and/or a drive for additional members. A review of the calculation of the annual headage payment for subscriptions to The Gardens Trust was made and the appropriate insurance cover was undertaken. The cost of producing and distributing the occasional <i>Journal</i> will also require review. The bank's decision to charge for all transactions on the account has resulted in an additional draw on funds but it continues to be felt that attempting to change banks would involve a lot of additional administration which we do not have the capacity to manage and could result in loss of member's subscriptions as existing Standing Orders may not be amended.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Membership subscriptions and event income (aiming to cover event costs and ideally achieve a modest surplus)
		n/a

Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principal risk facing the charity continues to be the difficulty of getting new trustees/supporters to take up the administration and governance of TNGT in the future.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nomination at AGM and election to post by members present

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Close working links with, and support from, The Gardens Trust nationally and regular liaison with the Yorkshire Gardens Trust, including some joint events.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Northumbria Gardens Trust
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1187196
Charity's principal address	Margery Flatts Farm Lanchester Co. Durham DH7 0RS

### 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	Harry Beamish	Chair		
	2	Fiona Green	Secretary		
	3	Martin Roberts	Membership Sec.		
	4	Nick Owen	Contact for TGT/other CGTs		
	5	Vacant	Journal Editor		
	6	Vacant	Events		
	7	Vacant	Treasurer		
	8	Moira Jocelyn			
	9	Tom Yellowley			
	10	Tony Smith			
	11	Jane Armstrong			
	12				
	13				
	14				
	15				
	16				
	17				
	18				
	19				
	20				

### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		


## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

### Additional information (optional)

#### 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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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Henry John Hosford Beamish	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
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Date	20 September 2025
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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Northumbria Gardens Trust

1187196

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Period starting  
1/1/24

To


Period ending  
31/12/24

### 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>					
Membership subscriptions	618	-	-	618	-
Event income	574	-	-	574	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	1,192	-	-	1,192	-
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	1,192	-	-	1,192	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
TGT subs and insurances	356	-	-	356	-
Membership secretary's overheads (postage printing etc)	152	-	-	152	-
Event/lecture costs	422	-	-	422	-
Bank charges	65	-	-	65	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	995	-	-	995	-
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	995	-	-	995	-
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	197	-	-	197	-
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	3,146	-	-	3,146	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	3,343	-	-	3,343	-

## 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>	Bank Statement Dec 2024	3,343	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	3,343	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
<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)
			-	
			-	
			-	

		-	
Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	Henry John Hosford Beamish	21/09/2025	

