

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100201

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2014-06-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	36 Ardglass Road Kilclief Downpatrick Co Down. BT30 7ns BT30 7NS
Phone	02844881736
Email	info@trueharvestseeds.org
Website	www.trueharvestseeds.org

Activities

Purposes: The purposes as stated under clause 4 of the Articles of Association of True Harvest Seeds Ltd are: 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the convention on international trade in endangered species (CITES). (b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed. 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of: i. Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; ii. The principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development; iii. The design and application of seed conservation projects in the community; iv. Educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum; v. The benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles. 3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds. 4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science, The advancement of environmental protection or improvement

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Community development, Cross-border/cross-community, Education/training, Environment/sustainable development/conservation, Heritage/historical, Research/evaluation, Rural development, Volunteer

development

Who the charity helps: Adult training,Children (5-13 year olds),General public,Learning disabilities,Older people,Voluntary and community sector,Volunteers,Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£67,883	£78,310	£0	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miss Rebecca Knight		
Mr Mark William Bryson Bsc Sociology		
Ms Joanne Murray		

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: NI621885 (Northern Ireland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 100201

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended
31 December 2024

for

True Harvest Seeds

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

True Harvest Seeds

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association.

- 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

(b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed.
- 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of:
 - a) vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation;
 - b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;
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 - d) educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum;
 - e) the benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles.
- 3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.
- 4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

We would like at this point to acknowledge and remember Gill Start who passed on 24th April 2024. Gill loved life and we miss her contribution in work but most of all her unwavering positive attitude and absolute love of life. Gill donated her funeral donation in lieu of flowers money to us. In her memory we bought a garden bench with a commemorative plaque.

True Harvest Seeds

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our main activities undertaken to further our aims

- Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have had many challenges in continuing our conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora.

The new year started as 2023 ended, with ongoing communications with the planning department regarding our planning application to build a purpose-built building to house works for True Harvest Seeds. The final substantiation document sent in July is in ANNEXE 1 of this document. It outlines the activities that could be held at THS going forward.

Administration of charitable duties was addressed with our accountant Jennifer of McGrady's. We were helped greatly with her suggestion to start and use an online version of Sage. Debbie had prior experience using Sage from 2008 and with Jennifer's help got the 2023 accounts and also the 2024 accounts up to date by end of July 2024. This will greatly reduce the yearly burden and also the accounts should be ready earlier in the year at a lesser cost.

Continuing funding from the CRESI, Covid Recovery Employment Skills Initiative from the Department for Communities administered by Heritage Lottery Fund:

In March, after a prolonged illness, our Marketing Coordinator resigned effective 12th April 2024. THS obtained external HR advice and joined the Federation of Small Businesses to ensure fairness throughout.

We re-created the role under the title Marketing Officer and employed Emily Osborne starting 1st July. Emily had previous marketing experience and wished to expand her capabilities in a small organisation that would allow her to see and understand a greater overall picture of how marketing benefits - and in what places, in terms of an organisation as a whole. Emily's achievements have been and continue to be an enormous benefit to the charity. We signed a contract to take us to the end of the CRESI funding.

Emily stayed until 24th December 2024. We wish her every success in her new home and her career, and thank Emily for her hard work and lasting results for the charity.

Unfortunately trustee Mike Thompson had to resign for personal business commitments. Giving us 3 months notice, to 30th June 2024, was highly beneficial and to take his place Joanne Murray came on board. Mike handed over his responsibilities over this period making the transition as smooth as it could be. Mike's appointment terminated on 8th July 2024.

We would take this opportunity to thank Mike for the fabulous achievements throughout his 4 year tenure and wish him every success in his business ventures.

Joanne joined THS officially on 4th April 2024. Joanne was instrumental in helping the charity advertise and recruit the new CRESI appointment. Joanne has extensive teaching, HR and recruitment experience and brings naturally an enormous amount of energy and enthusiasm.

Joanne was also instrumental in the recruitment of Sebastian as Nursery Assistant via the JobStart scheme. We were able to secure a 9 month placement for Sebastian starting 15th January 2024 and lasting until 23rd September, when he had secured a permanent job working on boats to service wind farms. We were very pleased as this was the point of the JobStart scheme.

- Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours much the same as previous years.

- She continued to lay the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our island's flora through:

- Ongoing training with Clare to look after customers both in person and via the online shop.

This includes product development and population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging. Seed packing of all seed.

- Completion of training with Sebastian for the Nursery Assistant role and also external training. The training started with a power boat course that was to enable an island Seed Collection Project across the islands of Strangford Lough. The Seed Collection Project had to remain on hold due to planning uncertainties, so Sebastian continued in the boat theme and received more training that would enable him to apply for jobs by the end of his time with THS.

- Ongoing training for all staff

- Overseeing and managing the HR for all staff.

- Writing quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.

- Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.

- Seed bank maintenance.

- Kilclief maintenance of machinery and equipment.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Coordinating the work of our staff and volunteers, including training.
- Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll. Assisted by Rebecca Knight Treasurer and accountant Jennifer Murphy of McGrady's Accountants.
- Developing and looking after conservation projects.
- Making seed collections

- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.
- "Working as CEO of THS is certainly challenging and at times tiring, but a lot can be said for living a life with an altruistic purpose, which seems to lend its own kind of energy to the project and of course attracts help from all kinds of very kind and wonderful people, to whom I am entirely grateful.

The greatest lessons learnt by me as CEO in 2024 is that of time management. As a small and specialised charity, we have welcomed temporary staff, who so often bring energy and ideas. They also require training and we are learning how to manage that time commitment in such a way that it benefits all." Debbie

- Joanne now provides management structure for the CRESI Marketing Coordinator post and Debbie provides the working environment. Trustee Katie has supported Joanne in this role as necessary.

- The Live Here Love Here (LHLH) subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases continues to be availed of. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2025.

- The Google Not for Profits programme continues to provide \$10,000p/month in free advertising and access to Google Workspace for document sharing and storage, how to best utilise these funds are under constant review.

- Our team of volunteers comprises Mike, Sue, Fergus, Marian and Philip. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents.

Mike our longest standing volunteer has the greatest all round experience and handles seed collecting and cleaning with skill.

Sue is our best plants' woman particularly skilled in nursery plant production.

Fergus grows our vegetables, onions, shallots and garlic for direct sale as well as tending the results of germination tests. He also helps greatly with harvesting.

Marian is a professional herbalist and under her guidance we have begun to develop our Medicinal plants capabilities. In spring Marian wrote a book on herbal medicines for THS and on her instruction we started a medicinal section of the website. In the latter part of the year we applied for a grant to develop a community physic garden, designed by Marian and maintained by all.

Last but by no means least Philip continues to help us with site maintenance. Looking after the grass cutting, hedge maintenance for site lines, composting and general upkeep.

We also welcome our SERC students volunteering, from their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering ranging from digging, to seed collecting to washing pots for recycling, our students bring with them youthful energy and fun.

We also welcome occasional volunteering activities from industry, In 2024 this came from CDE, a large engineering company <https://www.cdegroupp.com/>. A group joined us in June and helped us plant out Marram, Lyme and Sand couch plants with the Strangford Lough and Lecale and Council partnership, to help alleviate coastal erosion at Tyrella beach.

Report on the fulfilment of charity's purposes:

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continues to be maintained by Debbie. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales.

As of December 2024 the seed bank continues to maintain its collections.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with DAERA and Karl Hamilton to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We attempted, yet again, collection of *Saxifraga oppositifolia*. We were expediently given permission by DAERA, but to no avail, again, distance and availability of everyone to attend together was not successful. Despite this we will continue to try in 2025.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds are now 3 in number however conditions during the year were such that none set flower so no seed could be collected.

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions of *Rhinanthus minor*, yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoyle. Both generously allowed Debbie and team to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations.

- In August Debbie attended the LIFE of Machair project in Co Mayo, meeting with Caitriona and Mark who led a group to learn how to make seed collections of native Marram and how to plant them out. Debbie spent 2 days with the team in person and the team can follow up with questions they later may have.

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

- Debbie continues to give talks and presentations.

- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2024, despite the list for Schedule 8 plants increasing to include 121 species, up from 88 previously. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.

- Volunteers changed throughout 2024.

- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to continue to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance.

The students can also now count volunteering hours to their Duke of Edinburgh portfolios.

Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.

- In March, as a continuation of our work with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel came to visit THS. We discussed ideas for the project and fund raising options as partners with Rachel being the lead partner.

You can access a talk here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>

- We held one training day on "Seed Conservation Techniques" in August, educating 7 participants. A great day was had by all.

- In late August training was delivered to 10 participants of the above mentioned LIFE on Machair project.

- In early September we were delighted to receive the group from the GAIA Seed Training course, to our Kilclief site. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling.

- Late September saw Debbie travel to Glenveagh National Park in Donegal to deliver training to staff on making collections of woodland species on their site and investigate how to grow them on in their nursery.

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and
(b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

- We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of volunteer Fergus, we continue to grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

- We have added to our range with the help of volunteer Marian and her expertise on Medicinal plants and design of the new THS Community Physic Garden. From here we intend to provide natural remedies and advice for the general public.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

- We continue to grow and supply grasses for the restoration of the fore dunes at Tryella beach for 2025. By using seed from our raised beds at Kilclief we continuing to furnish a contract from Newry Mourne and Down Council's Darren Rice. Our raised beds were originally populated by previous collections made from the local area. On principle we believe that it is important to use local seed. To avoid inbreeding depression we made collections from several different locations over a 15 mile stretch of coast.

Species are: *Ammophila arenaria*, *Leymus arenarius* and *Elytrigia juncea*. Marram, Lyme and Sand couch resp..

The contract covers the period 2024 and 2025, the plants being available for collection each spring. Debbie and team will be helping plant out the plugs and pots.

Planting took place in June 2024. Monitoring has shown very positive results. We continue to grow the same amount of plants for planting out in the final planting of Phase 1, due in 2025.

- We applied to LHLH for funding for the below projects:-

1. Building the Physic Garden.
2. Installation of a Pond for Biodiversity.

Neither attempts to secure funding were successful.

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We have maintained our organic status in cooperation with the Soil Association:

- 1, Growing at Kilclief and
2. For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).

Debbie looks after inspections and certification.

- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.

- Mark continues to help maintain the field's weeding by tractor.

- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, using the tractor.

This year Sebastian helped greatly with the removal of Schedule 9 weeds.

Philip helped with putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas and has taken over the maintenance of the site around the buildings, mowing, cleaning, cutting back and general tidying which is much appreciated.

Both Sebastian and Philip helped maintain site visibility along the road which was vastly improved in spring time with the help of David Thompson who very kindly brought his hedging experience, knowledge and chainsaw over 2 days voluntarily.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

True Harvest Seeds

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information in particular the new product ranges in Medicinal seed, plant food and cleaning materials. The idea is that everything you buy from THS is guaranteed to meet with organic and our own high standard of environmental principles.
- This continues to provide unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs.
- With the shop expansion brought recognition that the old website was out of date and Emily took on the huge task of revamping the website. This in particular enables our website to function much more easily over mobile phones and tablets. It also ironed out several other practical problems e.g. with postage and unclear donation/subscription/membership options.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.

- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections.

We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.

- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days.

The work Emily did on the shop we hoped to pay dividends. She put up many gift ideas, combinations of gift sets and many items from Debbie's Farm marketed professionally and the proceeds divided equally between Debbie and the charity.

The websites remain as shop.trueharvestseeds.org and the main conservation website trueharvestseeds.org.

- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

- The monthly email newsletter also saw regeneration from July by Emily.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

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Our main activities undertaken to further all our aims

- Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have had many challenges in continuing our conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora.

The new year started as 2023 ended, with ongoing communications with the planning department regarding our planning application to build a purpose-built building to house works for True Harvest Seeds. The final substantiation document sent in July is in ANNEXE 1 of this document. It outlines the activities that could be held at THS going forward.

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Emily stayed until 24th December 2024, her reason for leaving was needing more time to move house. We wish her every success in her new home and her career, and thank Emily for her hard work and lasting results for the charity.

True Harvest Seeds

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Unfortunately trustee Mike Thompson had to resign for personal business commitments. Giving us 3 months notice, to 30th June 2024, was highly beneficial and to take his place Joanne Murray came on board. Mike handed over his responsibilities over this period making the transition as smooth as it could be. Mike's appointment terminated on 8th July 2024.

We would take this opportunity to thank Mike for the fabulous achievements throughout his 4 year tenure and wish him every success in his business ventures.

Joanne joined THS officially on 4th April 2024. Joanne was instrumental in helping the charity advertise and recruit the new CRESI appointment. Joanne has extensive teaching, HR and recruitment experience and brings naturally an enormous amount of energy and enthusiasm.

Other employment:

Joanne was also instrumental in the recruitment of Sebastian as Nursery Assistant via the JobStart scheme. We were able to secure a 9 month placement for Sebastian starting 15th January 2024 and lasting until 23rd Sept, when he had secured a permanent job working on boats to service wind farms. We were very pleased as this was the point of the JobStart scheme.

- Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours much the same as previous years.
- Continuing laying the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our island's flora through:
 - Ongoing training with Clare to look after customers both in person and via the online shop. This includes product development and population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging. Seed packing of all seed.
 - Completion of training with Sebastian for the Nursery Assistant role and also external training. The training started with a power boat course that was to enable an island Seed Collection Project across the islands of Strangford Lough. The Seed Collection Project had to remain on hold due to planning uncertainties, so Sebastian continued in the boat theme and received more training that would enable him to apply for jobs by the end of his time with THS.
- Ongoing training for Emily in the work of THS. Integration of Emily's ideas for example regular weekly staff meetings on Mondays.
- Overseeing and managing the HR for all staff.
- Writing quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.
- Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.
- Seed bank maintenance.
- Kilclief maintenance of machinery and equipment.
- Coordinating the work of our staff and volunteers, including training.
- Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll. Assisted by Becky Knight Treasurer and accountant Jennifer Murphy of McGrady's Accountants.
- Developing and looking after conservation projects.
- Last, and in the case of 2024, making the seed collections, least.

- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.
-

"Working as CEO of THS is certainly challenging and at times tiring, but a lot can be said for living a life with an altruistic purpose, which seems to lend its own kind of energy to the project and of course attracts help from all kinds of very kind and wonderful people, to whom I am entirely grateful.

The greatest lessons learnt by your CEO in 2024 is that of time management. It is relatively easy to take things on in the hope that they will lighten one's burden, only to discover they do the opposite. Through the fault of no particular person, I was required to engage in staff training x 3. 2 of those staff we knew were on temporary contracts, but needed time none the less. Recruiting temporary staff into such a small and specialised charity brought with it many unpaid training hours. We had successfully secured the funding to cover trainee staff wages, but had not secured funding to recover the full economic cost and therefore paid the price." Debbie

- Joanne now provides management structure for the CRESI Marketing Coordinator post and Debbie provides the working environment. Trustee Katie supports Joanne in this role as necessary.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The Live Here Love Here subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases continues to be availed of. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2025.

- The Google Not for Profits programme continues, previously looked after by Emily, it has been somewhat under utilised, but continues to provide \$10,000p/month in free advertising and access to Google Workspace for document sharing and storage.

- Our team of volunteers comprises Mike, Sue, Fergus, Marian and Philip. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents.

Mike our longest standing volunteer has the greatest all round experience and handles seed collecting and cleaning with skill.

Sue is our best plants' woman particularly skilled in nursery plant production.

Fergus grows our vegetables, onions, shallots and garlic for direct sale as well as tending the results of germination tests. He also helps greatly with harvesting.

Marian is a professional herbalist and under her guidance we have begun to develop our Medicinal plants capabilities. In spring Marian wrote a book on herbal medicines for THS and on her instruction we started a medicinal section of the website. In the latter part of the year we applied for a grant to develop a community physic garden, designed by Marian and maintained by all.

Last but by no means least Philip continues to help us with site maintenance. Looking after the grass cutting, hedge maintenance for site lines, composting and general upkeep, Philip's contribution keeps us looking respectable.

We also welcome our SERC students volunteering, from their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering ranging from digging, to seed collecting to washing pots for recycling, our students bring with them youthful energy and fun.

We also welcome occasional volunteering activities from industry, In 2024 this came from CDE, a large engineering company <https://www.cdegroupp.com/>. A group joined us in June and helped us plant out Marram, Lyme and Sand couch plants with the Strangford Lough and Lecale and Council partnership, to help alleviate coastal erosion at Tyrella beach.

Report on the fulfilment of charity's purposes:

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continues to be maintained by Debbie. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales.

As of December 2024 the seed bank continues to maintain its collections.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with DAERA and Karl Hamilton to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We attempted, yet again, collection of *Saxifraga oppositifolia*. We were expediently given permission by DAERA, but to no avail, again, distance and availability of everyone to attend together was not successful. Despite this we will continue to try in 2025.

- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds are now 3 in number. They did so badly none set flower so no seed could be collected.

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions of *Rhinanthus minor*, yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoyile. Both generously allowed Debbie and team to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations.

- In August Debbie attended the LIFE of Machair project in Co Mayo, meeting with Caitriona and Mark who led a group to learn how to make seed collections of native Marram and how to plant them out. Debbie spent 2 days with the team in person and the team can follow up with questions they later may have.

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Debbie continues to give talks and now we request payment.

- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2024, despite the list for Schedule 8 plants increasing to include 121 species, up from 88 previously. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.

- Volunteers changed a fair bit in 2024. An observation that an increase in staff has led to a decrease in volunteers, due to the time it takes to train new people, only so many can be catered for at this point, This is mainly because the training has to be done by Debbie.

- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to continue to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance.

The students can also now count volunteering hours to their Duke of Edinburgh portfolios.

Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.

- In March, as a continuation of our work with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel came to visit THS. We discussed ideas for the project and fund raising options as partners with Rachel being the lead partner. You can access a talk here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>

- We held one training day on "Seed Conservation Techniques" in August, educating 7 participants. A great day was had by all.

- In late August training was delivered to 10 participants of the above mentioned LIFE on Machair project.

- In early September we were delighted to receive the group from the GAIA Seed Training course, to our Kilclief site. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling.

- Late September saw Debbie travel to Glenveagh National Park in Donegal to deliver training to staff on making collections of woodland species on their site and investigate how to grow them on in their nursery.

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and
(b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

- We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each.

We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of volunteer Fergus, we continue to grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

- We have added to our range with the help of volunteer Marian and her expertise on Medicinal plants and design of the new THS Community Physic Garden. From here we intend to provide natural remedies and advice for the general public.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- We continue to grow and supply grasses for the restoration of the fore dunes at Tryella beach for 2025. By using seed from our raised beds at Kilclief we continuing to furnish a contract from Newry Mourne and Down Council's Darren Rice. Our raised beds were originally populated by previous collections made from the local area. On principle we believe that it is important to use local seed. To avoid inbreeding depression we made collections from several different locations over a 15 mile stretch of coast.

Species are: *Ammophila arenaria*, *Leymus arenarius* and *Elytrigia juncea*. Marram, Lyme and Sand couch resp..

The contract covers the period 2024 and 2025, the plants being available for collection each spring. Debbie and team will be helping plant out the plugs and pots.

Planting took place in June 2024. Monitoring has shown very positive results. We continue to grow the same amount of plants for planting out in the final planting of Phase 1, due in 2025.

- We applied to LHLH for funding for the below projects:-

1. Building the Physic Garden.
2. Installation of a Pond for Biodiversity.

Neither attempts to secure funding were successful.

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We have maintained our organic status in cooperation with the Soil Association:

- 1, Growing at Kilclief and
2. For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).

Debbie looks after inspections and certification.

- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.

- Mark continues to help maintain the field's weeding by tractor.

- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, using the tractor.

This year Sebastian helped greatly with the removal of Schedule 9 weeds.

Philip helped with putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas and has taken over the maintenance of the site around the buildings, mowing, cleaning, cutting back and general tidying which is much appreciated.

Both Sebastian and Philip helped maintain site visibility along the road which was vastly improved in spring time with the help of David Thompson who very kindly brought his hedging experience, knowledge and chainsaw over 2 days voluntarily.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information in particular the new product ranges in Medicinal seed, plant food and cleaning materials. The idea is that everything you buy from THS is guaranteed to meet with organic and our own high standard of environmental principles.

- This continues to provide unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs. In this way the charity continues to function.

- With the shop expansion brought recognition that the old website was clunky and Emily took on the huge task of revamping the website. This in particular enables our website to function much more easily over mobile phones and tablets. It also ironed out problems with postage, the ongoing website costs and unclear donation/subscription/membership options.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections.

We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.

- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days.

The work Emily did on the shop we hoped to pay dividends. She put up many gift ideas, combinations of gift sets and many items from Debbie's Farm marketed professionally and the proceeds divided equally between Debbie and the charity.

Emily spent 3 weeks working from home on the website with a view to learning how it worked and how to improve its many foibles. She was unable to change the website as is. She worked mainly to port it to the Shopify hosting, but on further discussion with Debbie it was decided that Shopify didn't suit the needs of the charity.

The websites remain as shop.trueharvestseeds.org and the main conservation website trueharvestseeds.org.

- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

- The monthly email newsletter also saw regeneration from July by Emily who was firmly in control of its delivery.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Restricted funds

- Ongoing funding from Department for Communities CRESI funding administered by Heritage Lottery Fund for position of Marketing Coordinator changed to Marketing Officer in July 2024 with a new person, Emily, in post.

- Ongoing delivery of Live Here Love Here funding to subsidise wild flower seeds for schools and community groups.

- Funding from Department for Communities via the JobStart program for Nursery Assistant from January to October.

Unrestricted funds

- Sales of wild flower, vegetable, herb and garden flower seeds raised cash which was used to pay for ongoing overheads, and new stock.

- Donations.

- Memberships

Reserves policy

- THS have secured property from which to operate and buildings to work from for the long term, with no ongoing costs other than council rates and utilities.

However, whilst the land is secure the temporary buildings were only granted temporary planning status by the planning department.

- The membership scheme continues to run, the quarterly magazine run by Emily saw a rebirth in July and reads very well. Current membership stands at 43.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going concern

- At the close of 2024 we are happy that the charity will continue to be a going concern.

- THS' shift from submitting funding applications to various bodies to reflect a more self sustaining attitude is ongoing. The natural capital of the seed bank has been given a value for insurance purposes.

- Our market research had shown a reduced appetite for small seed packets of wild flowers in 2024. Probably because large seed companies have moved into marketing wild flower seed in Ireland.

As far as we can tell, the companies are without exception importing species native to Ireland and marketing them cheaply and aggressively as "Native Irish Wildflowers". This has obvious, detrimental consequences for the native populations.

We have been in touch with the Advertising Agency and they agree with our view that many seeds are being marked as 'Native Irish'. They say they will take up the case for us once we provide the evidence and paperwork. To date we don't have the resources to do this work.

We continue to provide our Native Origin" option, however our hand grown, picked and processed seed is more expensive and we find it difficult to compete.

- We continued to import vegetable, herb and non-native seeds - (other) into NI from the EU throughout 2024. There are no vegetable / herb crops which we import that are currently grown in Ireland for which there are native alternatives.

- We continue to:

to use our expertise to provide seeds to the small packet market in Ireland as a whole. This service was used by many customers throughout 2024.

- Keep prices low and offer postal service as an extra, rather than subsume the cost of postage into raised seed prices, this remains under review. A 5% price increase was added to products in October 2024.

- Provide "Open Pollinated" other seeds. The seeds we provided are either Organic or Demeter standard and are of a quality that can be used in seed breeding. This decision was taken with a view to potentially alleviating food shortages in the future, empowering people to save their own seeds, to swap viable seeds going forward.

- Wild flower seed mixtures continue to prove to be more popular than individual seed packets. They are better value for money and marketing assessment has shown - that it is our expertise in putting together the seed mix remains of greatest value.

FUTURE PLANS

- Marketing trustee Mike, CEO Debbie and Marketing Coordinator Kathryn had started investigating corporate membership and sponsorship.

With the need to develop a new seed bank building project fundraising will be of the essence. However future plans are on hold until we submit amended drawings and receive decision from the planning department. Work is ongoing and we would like to show our appreciation to the Planning Department for working with us to provide a suitable facility.

- Continuing on into 2024, discussions with HIP Architects and seed banking experts from various sources we started to develop a plan for a permanent building. To pay for this we must use unrestricted funds, raised from the shop and courses.

Debbie's Farm, THS' land owner remains in a position to allow THS to build a replacement farm building, that could be used by THS going forward with rent remaining the same onacre.

A consultation with our neighbours in February 2024 saw no objections raised.

From May to August 2024, 12 support comments were added to the planning portal. We received information that further comments could not be added. We received further support verbally from many other supporters.

- THS trustees and CEO would welcome help and or trustee applications from persons interested in advancing the charity through use of their expertise in finance and fundraising.

True Harvest Seeds

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

- The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 11 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 14th April 2014. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

- The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

- All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Mrs R Knight, Ms J Murray and Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Mr M Thompson resigned effective 9th July 2024.

Miss K Lawrence resigned on 14th December 2024.

Ms J Murray was appointed on 4th April 2024.

Director's skills

- The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

- All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Miss R Knight, Ms Joanne Murray and Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Director's skills

- Mark Bryson has run the worker's co-op EcoSeeds since 1997, growing out native origin wild flower seeds. EcoSeeds assists in native wild flower restoration projects both as consultant and / or contractor.

"True Harvest Seeds continues to undertake unique invaluable work in these times of biodiversity loss and climate crisis. The amount of insects and birds visiting the field is amazing due to all the ex situ plants grown. I would say it is now the most native species rich sites in Ireland if you include all the collections it holds.

Many organisations talk about the work they do but with little substance but THS has the substance, it has continued to make collections and grow plants. I firmly believe it has made an important contribution to reducing Biodiversity loss in Ireland."

- Rebecca Knight is a chartered accountant, with 9 years experience in practice in tax, she assists THS with governance.

- Julia Cross is a trained primary school teacher. She has extensive networking capabilities and is a perfect advocate for THS' ethos of saving our native and naturalised seeds.

- Joanne Murray is a teacher with SERC, Downpatrick. Debbie and Joanne met through the student scheme back in 2020. Joanne started volunteering herself with True Harvest Seeds in October 2023. Her role is that of Recruitment Consultant, seeking to select and recruit the right people to join our dedicated and growing team. With a BA Hons in Business Studies and a MSc in Management and Corporate Governance, Joanne also has over 10 years' experience in the Recruitment Industry. To help with the CRESI fund Joanne became a Trustee in April 2024 to help with HR and also training in the post as she also sports experience in marketing and fundraising.

True Harvest Seeds
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Operational Structure

- The chief executive officer is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. Four quarterly meetings are held with between CEO and directors. Issues are dealt with as they arise with the appropriate director.

Related parties

- The charity had no new related party transactions during the year.

- Ms Debbie Gillies (CEO) is a related party of Mrs Rebecca Knight's (Treasurer). However Mrs Knight has not undertaken any financial transactions (or other transactions) with Ms Gillies while acting as an agent of the charity. Mrs Knight was excluded from all employee on-boarding matters and has no oversight or input into Miss Laurence's role of staff liaison officer.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

NI621885 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number

100201

Registered office

36 Ardglass Road
Kilclief
Co. Down
BT30 7NS

Trustees

M W Bryson
J C Cross
R V Knight
K L Laurence (resigned 14/12/2024)
M D Thompson (resigned 9/7/2024)
J Murray (appointed 4/4/2024)

D Gillies CEO

Company Secretary

M W Bryson

Independent Examiner

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



R V Knight - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
True Harvest Seeds**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages eighteen to twenty eight.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

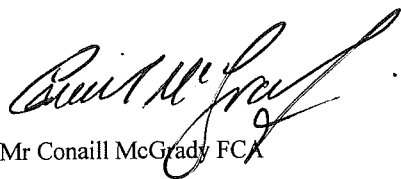
I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Mr Conaill McGrady FCA

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Date: 30 September 2025

True Harvest Seeds

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/24 Total funds £	31/12/23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes				
Donations and legacies		794	39,369	40,163	25,977
Other trading activities	2	27,602	-	27,602	48,705
Investment income	3	118	-	118	191
Total		28,514	39,369	67,883	74,873
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		6,628	-	6,628	5,825
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activity		31,416	40,266	71,682	53,668
Total		38,044	40,266	78,310	59,493
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(9,530)	(897)	(10,427)	15,380
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		158,278	9,247	167,525	152,145
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		148,748	8,350	157,098	167,525

The notes form part of these financial statements

True Harvest Seeds

Balance Sheet
31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/24 Total funds £	31/12/23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	7,744	2,987	10,731	12,292
Heritage assets	9	142,288	5,363	147,651	144,151
		<u>150,032</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>158,382</u>	<u>156,443</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		35,807	-	35,807	33,017
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(37,091)	-	(37,091)	(21,935)
		<u>(1,284)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,284)</u>	<u>11,082</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>(1,284)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,284)</u>	<u>11,082</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		148,748	8,350	157,098	167,525
NET ASSETS		<u>148,748</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>157,098</u>	<u>167,525</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				148,748	158,278
Restricted funds				<u>8,350</u>	<u>9,247</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>157,098</u>	<u>167,525</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

True Harvest Seeds

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30 September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R V Knight', written in a cursive style.

R V Knight - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Trust's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Heritage assets - seed collections

Seed collections are collection of wild flowers from all over Ireland. The cost of the collections have not been capitalised up to 2020 as many of the collections has been donated to True Harvest Seeds. However the Board of Trustees have revalued the collections as at 31 December 2020. The basis of this revaluation is detailed in note 9.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

True Harvest Seeds

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31/12/24	31/12/23
	£	£
Earned Income	<u>27,602</u>	<u>48,705</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/24	31/12/23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>118</u>	<u>191</u>

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/12/24	31/12/23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,154	2,594
Other operating leases	<u>250</u>	<u>-</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/24	31/12/23
Management	1	1
Other	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

True Harvest Seeds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,067	22,910	25,977
Other trading activities	48,705	-	48,705
Investment income	191	-	191
Total	<u>51,963</u>	<u>22,910</u>	<u>74,873</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	5,825	-	5,825
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	29,861	23,807	53,668
Total	<u>35,686</u>	<u>23,807</u>	<u>59,493</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	16,277	(897)	15,380
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	142,001	10,144	152,145
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>158,278</u>	<u>9,247</u>	<u>167,525</u>

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1 January 2024	12,036	6,700	2,190
Additions	-	-	115
At 31 December 2024	<u>12,036</u>	<u>6,700</u>	<u>2,305</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2024	5,640	5,626	1,546
Charge for year	640	269	177
At 31 December 2024	<u>6,280</u>	<u>5,895</u>	<u>1,723</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>5,756</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>582</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>6,396</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>644</u>

True Harvest Seeds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2024	1,556	9,544	32,026
Additions	-	478	593
At 31 December 2024	1,556	10,022	32,619
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2024	1,348	5,574	19,734
Charge for year	42	1,026	2,154
At 31 December 2024	1,390	6,600	21,888
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	166	3,422	10,731
At 31 December 2023	208	3,970	12,292

9. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2024	144,151
Additions	3,500
At 31 December 2024	147,651
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	147,651
At 31 December 2023	144,151

True Harvest Seeds is conserving Ireland's indigenous seed-bearing plants by securely storing their seeds. Through the generous donations of seeds from local public and private landowners we are populating a seed bank. The seeds and associated material are cared for at our Seed Centre, Kilclief, Co Down. This work will ensure the security of our natural capital into the future. Seed and access to material and data may be requested by bona fide individuals and organisations.

True Harvest Seeds have approximately over 300 seed collections from various native species, some of which are Schedule 8 species meaning they are endangered and require a licence to collect and grow.

The majority of True Harvest Seeds collections are held indefinitely and cared for to maintain their quality and to make them available to the public.

True Harvest Seeds

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

9. HERITAGE ASSETS - continued

The cost of the seed collections have not been capitalised before 2020. All collections are, by their nature, donations from land owners. Costs to collect were by True Harvest Seeds via various funding streams including voluntary work. Prompted via discussions with our insurance company, the Board of Trustees have taken the decision to revalue the assets and recognise them in the balance sheet as heritage assets (which are biological in nature) based on their fair value. To determine this value, for collections made in 2020 or earlier True Harvest Seeds have used the same calculation that is used by Kew's Millennium Seed Bank which is based on the cost to replace collections. For the additions in 2021, we have used the actual cost of the seed collections as the heritage asset value.

As a charity we do not charge for bona fide projects to withdraw seeds from the seed bank and therefore no cost to the users is associated.

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/24	31/12/23
	£	£
Accrued expenses	3,882	2,945
Deferred government grants	33,209	18,990
	<u>37,091</u>	<u>21,935</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/24	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	158,278	(9,530)	148,748
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	275	(69)	206
DAERA/SLL	423	(106)	317
Co Down Rural Community	151	(38)	113
DAERA/SOS8	364	(91)	273
Awards For All	5,849	(122)	5,727
Newry Mourne Down District Council	890	(222)	668
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for Heritage Fund	1,295	(249)	1,046
	<u>9,247</u>	<u>(897)</u>	<u>8,350</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>167,525</u>	<u>(10,427)</u>	<u>157,098</u>

True Harvest Seeds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	28,514	(38,044)	(9,530)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(69)	(69)
DAERA/SLL	-	(106)	(106)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(38)	(38)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(91)	(91)
Department for Communities	12,960	(12,960)	-
Awards For All	-	(122)	(122)
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	(222)	(222)
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for Heritage Fund	26,409	(26,658)	(249)
	<u>39,369</u>	<u>(40,266)</u>	<u>(897)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>67,883</u>	<u>(78,310)</u>	<u>(10,427)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	142,001	16,277	158,278
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	368	(93)	275
DAERA/SLL	564	(141)	423
Co Down Rural Community	202	(51)	151
DAERA/SOS8	486	(122)	364
Awards For All	6,011	(162)	5,849
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,187	(297)	890
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for Heritage Fund	1,326	(31)	1,295
	<u>10,144</u>	<u>(897)</u>	<u>9,247</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>152,145</u>	<u>15,380</u>	<u>167,525</u>

True Harvest Seeds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	51,963	(35,686)	16,277
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(93)	(93)
DAERA/SLL	-	(141)	(141)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(51)	(51)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(122)	(122)
Awards For All	-	(162)	(162)
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	(297)	(297)
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for			
Heritage Fund	22,638	(22,669)	(31)
LHLH	272	(272)	-
	<u>22,910</u>	<u>(23,807)</u>	<u>(897)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>74,873</u>	<u>(59,493)</u>	<u>15,380</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	142,001	6,747	148,748
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	368	(162)	206
DAERA/SLL	564	(247)	317
Co Down Rural Community	202	(89)	113
DAERA/SOS8	486	(213)	273
Awards For All	6,011	(284)	5,727
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,187	(519)	668
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for			
Heritage Fund	1,326	(280)	1,046
	<u>10,144</u>	<u>(1,794)</u>	<u>8,350</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>152,145</u>	<u>4,953</u>	<u>157,098</u>

True Harvest Seeds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	80,477	(73,730)	6,747
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(162)	(162)
DAERA/SLL	-	(247)	(247)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(89)	(89)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(213)	(213)
Department for Communities	12,960	(12,960)	-
Awards For All	-	(284)	(284)
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	(519)	(519)
Covid Recovery Employment and Skills for			
Heritage Fund	49,047	(49,327)	(280)
LHLH	272	(272)	-
	<u>62,279</u>	<u>(64,073)</u>	<u>(1,794)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>142,756</u>	<u>(137,803)</u>	<u>4,953</u>

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: NI621885 (Northern Ireland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 100201

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 December 2023

for

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Contents of the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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Statement of Financial Activities	12
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Notes to the Financial Statements	15 to 22

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/23 Total funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		3,067	22,910	25,977	11,008
Other trading activities	2	48,705	-	48,705	21,519
Investment income	3	191	-	191	39
Total		51,963	22,910	74,873	32,566
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	5,825	-	5,825	2,980
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activity		29,861	23,807	53,668	36,071
Total		35,686	23,807	59,493	39,051
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		16,277	(897)	15,380	(6,485)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		142,001	10,144	152,145	158,630
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		158,278	9,247	167,525	152,145

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Balance Sheet 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/23 Total funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	8,408	3,884	12,292	14,197
Heritage assets	10	138,788	5,363	144,151	138,901
		<u>147,196</u>	<u>9,247</u>	<u>156,443</u>	<u>153,098</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		33,017	-	33,017	42,393
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(21,935)	-	(21,935)	(43,346)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>11,082</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,082</u>	<u>(953)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>158,278</u>	<u>9,247</u>	<u>167,525</u>	<u>152,145</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>158,278</u>	<u>9,247</u>	<u>167,525</u>	<u>152,145</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				158,278	142,001
Restricted funds				<u>9,247</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>167,525</u>	<u>152,145</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Balance Sheet - continued
31 DECEMBER 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



R V Knight - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Trust's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Heritage assets - seed collections

Seed collections are collection of wild flowers from all over Ireland. The cost of the collections have not been capitalised up to 2020 as many of the collections has been donated to True Harvest Seeds. However the Board of Trustees have revalued the collections as at 31 December 2020. The basis of this revaluation is detailed in note 9.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Earned Income	<u>48,705</u>	<u>21,519</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>191</u>	<u>39</u>

4. RAISING FUNDS**Raising donations and legacies**

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>51</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,594	2,682
Other operating leases	<u>-</u>	<u>200</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/23	31/12/22
Management	1	1
Other	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	583	10,425	11,008
Other trading activities	21,519	-	21,519
Investment income	39	-	39
Total	<u>22,141</u>	<u>10,425</u>	<u>32,566</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	2,980	-	2,980
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	<u>25,214</u>	<u>10,857</u>	<u>36,071</u>
Total	<u>28,194</u>	<u>10,857</u>	<u>39,051</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(6,053)	(432)	(6,485)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	148,054	10,576	158,630
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>142,001</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>152,145</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1 January 2023	12,036	6,700	2,190
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>12,036</u>	<u>6,700</u>	<u>2,190</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2023	4,929	5,268	1,331
Charge for year	<u>711</u>	<u>358</u>	<u>215</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,640</u>	<u>5,626</u>	<u>1,546</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	<u>6,396</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>644</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>7,107</u>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>859</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2023	1,556	8,855	31,337
Additions	-	689	689
At 31 December 2023	1,556	9,544	32,026
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2023	1,279	4,333	17,140
Charge for year	69	1,241	2,594
At 31 December 2023	1,348	5,574	19,734
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	208	3,970	12,292
At 31 December 2022	277	4,522	14,197

10. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2023	138,901
Additions	5,250
At 31 December 2023	144,151
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2023	144,151
At 31 December 2022	138,901

True Harvest Seeds is conserving Ireland's indigenous seed-bearing plants by securely storing their seeds. Through the generous donations of seeds from local public and private landowners we are populating a seed bank. The seeds and associated material are cared for at our Seed Centre, Kilclief, Co Down. This work will ensure the security of our natural capital into the future. Seed and access to material and data may be requested by bona fide individuals and organisations.

True Harvest Seeds have approximately over 350 seed collections from various native species, some of which are Schedule 8 species meaning they are endangered and require a licence to collect and grow.

The majority of True Harvest Seeds collections are held indefinitely and cared for to maintain their quality and to make them available to the public.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10. HERITAGE ASSETS - continued

The cost of the seed collections have not been capitalised before 2020. All collections are, by their nature, donations from land owners. Costs to collect were by True Harvest Seeds via various funding streams including voluntary work. Prompted via discussions with our insurance company, the Board of Trustees have taken the decision to revalue the assets and recognise them in the balance sheet as heritage assets (which are biological in nature) based on their fair value. To determine this value, for collections made in 2020 or earlier True Harvest Seeds have used the same calculation that is used by Kew's Millennium Seed Bank which is based on the cost to replace collections. For the additions from 2021, we have used the actual cost of the seed collections as the heritage asset value. In the year ending 31 December 2023 we have additions of 15 new seed collections.

As a charity we do not charge for bona fide projects to withdraw seeds from the seed bank and therefore no cost to the users is associated.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Accrued expenses	2,945	1,446
Deferred government grants	18,990	41,900
	<u>21,935</u>	<u>43,346</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/23	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	142,001	16,277	158,278
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	368	(93)	275
DAERA/SLL	564	(141)	423
Co Down Rural Community	202	(51)	151
DAERA/SOS8	486	(122)	364
Awards For All	6,011	(162)	5,849
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,187	(297)	890
Department for Communities Heritage Fund	1,326	(31)	1,295
	<u>10,144</u>	<u>(897)</u>	<u>9,247</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>152,145</u>	<u>15,380</u>	<u>167,525</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	51,963	(35,686)	16,277
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(93)	(93)
DAERA/SLL	-	(141)	(141)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(51)	(51)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(122)	(122)
Awards For All	-	(162)	(162)
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	(297)	(297)
Department for Communitiies Heritage			
Fund	22,638	(22,669)	(31)
LHLH	272	(272)	-
	<u>22,910</u>	<u>(23,807)</u>	<u>(897)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>74,873</u>	<u>(59,493)</u>	<u>15,380</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	148,054	(6,053)	142,001
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	492	(124)	368
DAERA/SLL	752	(188)	564
Co Down Rural Community	270	(68)	202
DAERA/SOS8	648	(162)	486
Awards For All	6,426	(415)	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	(801)	1,187
Department for Communitiies Heritage			
Fund	-	1,326	1,326
	<u>10,576</u>	<u>(432)</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>158,630</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>	<u>152,145</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	22,141	(28,194)	(6,053)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(124)	(124)
DAERA/SLL	-	(188)	(188)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(68)	(68)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(162)	(162)
Awards For All	-	(415)	(415)
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	(801)	(801)
Department for Communitiies Heritage			
Fund	7,025	(5,699)	1,326
LHLH	2,700	(2,700)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>10,425</u>	<u>(10,857)</u>	<u>(432)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>32,566</u>	<u>(39,051)</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	148,054	10,224	158,278
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	492	(217)	275
DAERA/SLL	752	(329)	423
Co Down Rural Community	270	(119)	151
DAERA/SOS8	648	(284)	364
Awards For All	6,426	(577)	5,849
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	(1,098)	890
Department for Communitiies Heritage			
Fund	-	1,295	1,295
	<u>10,576</u>	<u>(1,329)</u>	<u>9,247</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>158,630</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>167,525</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	74,104	(63,880)	10,224
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(217)	(217)
DAERA/SLL	-	(329)	(329)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(119)	(119)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(284)	(284)
Awards For All	-	(577)	(577)
Newry Mourne Down District Council Department for Communities Heritage Fund	- 29,663	(1,098) (28,368)	(1,098) 1,295
LHLH	2,972	(2,972)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>33,335</u>	<u>(34,664)</u>	<u>(1,329)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>107,439</u>	<u>(98,544)</u>	<u>8,895</u>

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Annual report

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association.

- 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

(b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed.
- 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of:
 - a) vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation;
 - b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;
 - c) the design and application of seed conservation projects in the community;
 - d) educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum;
 - e) the benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles.
- 3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.
- 4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our main activities undertaken to further all our aims

- Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have had many challenges in continuing our conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora - plants that are indigenous to this island.

Administration of charitable duties and governance plus the burden of satisfying planning regulations, unfortunately led to a decrease in collecting activities. With a reluctance to apply for grant funding the team started working hard to raise funds through supplying seeds and related organic or sustainable items on the website. We were helped greatly with funding from Department for Communities continued administered very capably by Heritage Lottery Fund. In the former half of the year problems were ameliorated somewhat by the Marketing Coordinator position, unfortunately due to staff illness in that department, little benefit was seen in the final quarter of the year.

In and of itself the above problems wouldn't pose much of a concern, until we introduce the plight of our wild flowers. Importation of our native species remains unchecked, and thus follows the spread of foreign pollen via unwitting pollinators. This leaves the flora of the island of Ireland absolutely vulnerable. Little DNA testing has been done to prove that imported species pose no threat, instead regulations rely upon the assumption that our flora never adapted to island life.

We can see clearly the example of mammals in Tasmania, who over 12,000 years developed to be - up to 30% bigger in physical size than their ancestor cousins in Australia. Ireland has, arguably, been an island for 14,000 years. Mammals and plants alike, in the main, get one chance a year to reproduce.

In March 2020 Germany closed its borders to the importation of foreign seeds of native species to any of their 22 defined geographical zones. Native wild flower seed producers rose to the challenge and zoned the insides of their businesses to match.

In Ireland wild flower seed production is in its infancy. When THS started supplying small seed packets back in 2019, we were the first to do so, and we were advised against it as it wouldn't make money. Now there are multiple companies selling "Native Irish wild flowers" in small seed packets, yet few of them are growers, rather they are importers.

- Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours. Continuing laying the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our island's flora through:

- The maintenance of the online shop and its population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging.

Seed packing including creation of all seed packets. Assisted by Gill Start, volunteer.

Making up and posting out all orders. Now assisted by Clare Crow, part time Sales assistant.

Writing quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.

Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.

Seed bank maintenance.

Kilclief maintenance of machinery and equipment.

Coordinating the work of our volunteers, including training.

Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll. Assisted by Becky Knight Treasurer and MB McGrady & Co Accountants.

Developing and looking after conservation projects.

Planning permission: Working closely with our architect, Gerry Irvine of HIP Architects, councillor Colin McGrath and the planning department because the temporary planning permission on our temporary buildings ran out on 16th March. A new application was posted by Gerry of HIP Architects on 5th May 2023. A period of grace had been granted by the planning department to cover from 16th March to 5th May. The planning department processed the application on 28th July 2023 and this became our application date on the planning portal.

Debbie worked closely with Gerry and John, also of HIP architects to develop an application for a Replacement Farm building that would facilitate the island's first purpose built modern seed bank. As of 31st December 2023 we are working with the planning department to have their questions answered.

- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

"Working as ceo of THS is certainly challenging and at times tiring, but a lot can be said for living a life with an altruistic purpose, which seems to lend its own kind of energy to the project and of course attracts help from all kinds of very kind and wonderful people, to whom I am entirely grateful. Sometimes it feels hopeless that we can save our island's flora. Importation and free trade trump the day, to the detriment of our indigenous flora and the damage sadly, cannot be undone. In the absence of a cessation of importation, only seed banking can truly save our flora."

- Mike Thompson continues to lead the project to obtain the CRESI funding from the Department for Communities, administered by Heritage Lottery. Mike provides management structure for the CRESI Marketing Coordinator post and Debbie provides the working environment. Trustee Katie continues to support Mike in this role as necessary.
- The Live Here Love Here subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases continues to be availed of. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2024.
- In January Mike got THS accepted onto the Google Not for Profits programme which provides \$10,000p/month in free advertising and access to Google Workspace for document sharing and storage.
- Helen's voluntary contribution ended in May. She remains keen to join in with wild seed collections for the seed bank.
- Mike's (Forest Mike or Mike Bennett) regular and reliable weekly voluntary contribution offers much stability, dependable work contribution and his delightfully dry wit.
- Our team of volunteers comprised Fergus, Sue, Kathy and Bob, Mary, Gill and Marian. Philip came on board in November bringing relief to site maintenance efforts. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents and asked lots of seed growing questions. In spring time we were joined briefly by Luke a local resident, he fixed up our capillary matting beds outside and generally made the site look beautifully cared for and kempt.
- Marian has joined the team, she is a professional herbalist and together with Debbie and John and team of St Anne's Physic Garden in Dublin they plan to bank seed which has medicinal purposes. Debbie and Marian plan to maintain a small medicinal plants garden in the new botanical garden planned alongside the new seed bank build.

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continues to be maintained by Debbie. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales. As of December 2023 the seed bank contains collections. There are 18 more to be accessioned once they are ready.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with Aisling Gribben of Causeway Coast and Glens Partnership to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We made a collection of *Dryas octopetala*. We attempted to locate *Saxifraga oppositifolia* but had no luck, despite being given the coordinates by Karl Hamilton, we were not able to locate it. A major hold up to proceedings is the distance. To make things easier for Debbie, she rented a room there and visited Aisling at Binevenagh one day and Adam Mantel at Magilligan the next. With Adam, Debbie surveyed the *Hypochaeris glabra* that had been planted out in 2022, none had survived, Adam felt it was the cattle grazing that had killed them off.
- *Hypochaeris glabra* was sown again in February 2023 however we didn't collect it in August. The plants appeared somewhat hybridised, which would be possible with *Hypochaeris radicata* nearby. This means that the population we collected from in 2022 may be compromised and this collection can't be used for restoration or research going forward. Without the ability to do DNA testing, these results remain speculation. The collection has been stored with a question mark over it. It would be interesting the future to explore this. Our new laboratory in the new build will be sufficient to work on samples in a coherent manner.
- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds remain alive and well, but very few seed were collected in 2023. Organic seaweed feed was applied and will continue to be so.
- The collection of *Erigeron acer* from Ballykindler was the jewel in the crown this year. See further notes.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions of *Rhinanthus minor*, yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoyle. Both generously allowed Debbie to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations. We were joined at Ardtole in August by Grassroots Belfast making several collections of wild flowers. Much thanks to Michael and Rachel for having us.

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

- Debbie continues to give talks and now we request payment.

- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2023. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.

- Volunteers changed very little in 2023, losing only one long time volunteer who was our main and most experienced seed cleaner, Helen. However new starts from 2022, Gill and Fergus helped join the remaining team, keeping us cheerful and busy retraining. In so many ways spreading the knowledge again is a good thing.

- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to continue to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios.

In 2023 the students completed the practical element of their OCN Level 1 unit in skills for Gardening. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance. The students can also now count volunteering hours to their Duke of Edinburgh portfolios. Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.

- We attended Down High's Eco fun-day on 30th April. Funded by the council we were able to give away seed trays with seed in having shown people how to sow up the seeds. We gave out information on how to look after the young plants and bring them on to be large plants suitable for the garden.

- In May we started talks with Glebe House's Andrew McCracken for Debbie to help them with setting up their community gardens, "Seed Bed". Glebe House included Debbie as a consultant in their funding application. A payment was made to True Harvest Seeds in July. We held a plant sale which was very popular receiving a lot of support and we raised £1,200.

- Sunday 26th June saw our last monthly attendance at Saintfield Market. New owners came in and they didn't invite THS to come back. Thank you to Peter and Yvonne who gave us the stand free of charge for over a year over 2 springs and summers, which allowed us to raise funds, very much appreciated.

- Kathryn's contribution as Marketing Coordinator gained traction throughout the year. Her consistent and high quality social media engagement has been benefitting every aspect of our work. Because people can see we are active and what we are doing, we have been benefitting.

- In conjunction with Riverdale Primary School and with funding from Live Here Love Here, we made a video on how to make Protected Sowing, the video is available on our YouTube channel.

- The YouTube channel was taken up by Kathryn and made to work. She has been creating and publishing very informative and increasingly popular short videos. We will be creating content going forward, as time allows.

- In August we were delighted to receive the Irish group from the GAIA Seed Training course, to our Kilclief site. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling. The same is planned for 2024. We held two training days on "Seed Conservation Techniques", both days sold out, educating 20 participants.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- In September we participated in Belfast Naturalists Field Club, conversazione bringing information leaflets and seeds for sale. Much of the evening was used to discuss the merits of yellow rattle, *Rhinanthus minor* and how to sow and maintain it.
- In October we worked with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel was constructing an in depth study on seed and seed growers across Ireland. Rachel held an interview with Debbie on the work of THS and after editing published the talk as a podcast on the internet. You can still access it here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>
- In November Tracy Megoran kindly took a stock of our seed down to the Show in Dublin's RDS. She singlehandedly raised £184 for the charity over the weekend as well as raising awareness with the public.
- December saw a soft launch of our single Membership packs, this will be furthered in Qs 3&4 of 2023. The mailing list of people interested in following THS with our personalised emails containing insider information, first dibs on training course places, special offers was started. Volunteers, trustees and staff enjoyed Christmas dinner together at Denvir's of Downpatrick which was well attended by all our members.

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and (b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

- We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each.

We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of volunteer Fergus, we continue to grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

- We continue to supply grasses for the restoration of the fore dunes at Tryella beach. By using seed from our raised beds at Kilclief we were able to accept a contract from Newry Mourne and Down Council's Darren Rice. Our raised beds were originally populated by previous collections made from the local area. On principle we believe that it is important to use local seed. To avoid inbreeding depression we made collections from several different locations over a 15 mile stretch of coast.

Species are: *Ammophila arenaria*, *Leymus arenarius* and *Elytrigia juncea*. Marram, Lyme and Sand couch resp..

The contract covers the period 2024 and 2025, the plants being available for collection each spring. Debbie and team will be helping plant out the plugs and pots.

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We have maintained our organic status in cooperation with the Soil Association:

- 1, Growing at Kilclief and
2. For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).

Debbie looks after inspections and certification.

- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Mark continues to maintain the field's weeding by tractor.
- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, using the tractor and removal of Schedule 9 weeds. Putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas.
Philip has taken over the maintenance of the site around the buildings, mowing, cleaning, cutting back and general tidying which is much appreciated.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information. This in turn provides unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs. In this way the charity continues to function.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.
- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections. We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.
- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days.
Debbie now has help from Mike Thompson to maintain the website on Siteground server including the online shop. The work Mike did on the shop has paid dividends in user friendliness and speeding up the website shop.trueharvestseeds.org and the main conservation website remains as trueharvestseeds.org being easier and faster to load our story.
- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Restricted funds

- Ongoing funding from Department for Communities CRESI funding administered by Heritage Lottery Fund for position of Marketing Coordinator.
- Ongoing delivery of Live Here Love Here funding to subsidise wild flower seeds for schools and community groups.
- In partnership with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). The DIO got in touch with Debbie regarding the species *Erigeron acer*, blue fleabane at Ballykindler. We were very pleased and grateful to the department, to make a successful collection from 3 separate parts of the population.
We were expediently furnished with a license to collect from DAERA's wild life licensing department for which we were ever grateful and this allowed us to get the collection as the time between its discovery and seed drop was short.

Unrestricted funds

- Sales of wild flower, vegetable, herb and garden flower seeds raised cash which was used to pay for ongoing overheads, and new stock.
- Donations.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

- THS have secured property from which to operate and buildings to work from for the long term, with no ongoing costs other than conacre and utilities.

However, whilst the land is secure the temporary buildings were only granted temporary planning status by the planning department.

- Mike T, trustee was instrumental in setting up a membership scheme. By raising funds and ongoing work with the marketing coordinator, THS has launched its individual membership scheme.

Going concern

- At the close of 2023 we are happy that the charity will continue to be a going concern.

- THS' shift from submitting funding applications to various bodies to reflect a more self sustaining attitude is ongoing. The natural capital of the seed bank has been given a value for insurance purposes.

- Our market research had shown an appetite for small seed packets of wild flowers in 2023. However large seed companies have moved into the south of Ireland. They are importing species native to Ireland and marketing them cheaply and aggressively as "Native Irish Wildflowers". This has obvious consequences for the native populations.

We continue to provide a Native Origin" option, however our hand grown, picked and processed seed is more expensive and sales are showing a slow down.

- We continue to import vegetable, herb and non-native seeds - (other) into NI from the EU throughout 2022.

- We continue to:

to use our expertise to provide seeds to the small packet market in Ireland as a whole. This service was used by many customers throughout 2023.

to keep prices low and offer postal service as an extra, rather than subsume the cost of postage into raised seed prices, this remains under review.

to provide "Open Pollinated" other seeds. The seeds we provided are either Organic or Demeter standard and are of a quality that can be used in seed breeding. This decision was taken with a view to potentially alleviating food shortages in the future, empowering people to save their own seeds, to swap viable seeds going forward.

- We added wild flower seed mixtures to our range of products. These have proved to be more popular than individual seed packets. They are better value for money and marketing assessment has shown- by asking customers why that is, has shown us that it is our expertise in putting together the seed mix that has been of greatest value.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FUTURE PLANS

- Marketing trustee Mike, CEO Debbie and Marketing Coordinator Kathryn have been investigating corporate membership and sponsorship.

With the need to develop a new seed bank building project fundraising will be of the essence. However future plans are on hold until we receive decision from the planning department.

- Starting in February 2022, discussions with HIP Architects and seed banking experts from various sources we started to develop a plan for a permanent building. To pay for this we must use unrestricted funds, raised from the shop and courses.

A discussion in January 2023 with the planning department, kindly organised and attended by Colin McGrath, Councillor and Dominic O'Reilly Assistant Councillor, Gerry Irvine architect of HIP Architects, Bangor and Debbie of THS, highlighted the need for a building that blended in with the surrounding AONB of a permanent nature.

Debbie's Farm, land owner was in a position to allow THS to build a replacement farm building, that could be used by True Harvest Seeds going forward with rent remaining the same onacre.

A large, £880,880 capital funding application was submitted to DAERA for the building of a superior plant resource centre at Kilclief. This application was unsuccessful March 2023 and new ideas, for a much reduced building were conceived.

- An application was submitted to the planning department on 5th May 2023, acknowledged on 28th July, for a permanent building.

In line with our organic and sustainable principles. It will blend into the environment, it will be passive, generate its own power, harvest grey and rain water and be purpose built for swifts, swallows, bats and insects.

The building will be agricultural in nature, with facilities for staff and volunteers to enable selling seed and other economic activity, all profits remain in the charity to further our aims.

- The position for a Retail Assistant was filled by Clare Crow in November. Clare received on the job training. She works a part time contract and has turned out to be a real asset to the charity. She has a bright disposition and positive attitude which makes her a perfect ambassador at show and fairs, where she shows considerable flair in sales raising much needed revenue.

- THS trustees and CEO would welcome help and or trustee applications from persons interested in advancing the charity through use of their expertise in finance and fundraising.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

- The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 11 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 14th April 2014. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

- The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

- All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Miss R Knight and Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Director's skills

- Mark Bryson has run the worker's co-op EcoSeeds since 1997, growing out native origin wild flower seeds. EcoSeeds assists in native wild flower restoration projects both as consultant and / or contractor.

"True Harvest Seeds continues to undertake unique invaluable work in these times of biodiversity loss and climate crisis. The amount of insects and birds visiting the field is amazing due to all the ex situ plants grown. I would say its is now the most native species rich sites in Ireland if you include all the collections it holds.

Many organisations talk about the work they do but with little substance but THS has the substance, it has continued to make collections and grow plants. I firmly believe it has made an important contribution to reducing Biodiversity loss in Ireland."

- Katie Laurence has experience in being on the committee of another NI environmental charity and has made herself available as staff liaison officer for THS. Katie is currently studying a masters in environmental management.

" THS provides a haven for wildflowers, fauna and people. I love the way we connect people to nature and to others Its forward thinking approach to saving endemic species has now been demonstrated to be scientifically sound. I am proud to be associated with such a ground breaking charity."

- Rebecca Knight is a chartered accountant working for global tax justice, she assists THS with governance.

- Julia Cross is a trained primary school teacher. She has extensive networking capabilities and is a perfect advocate for THS' ethos of saving our native and naturalised seeds.

- Mike Thompson is a director at Iconic Biscuits, with 20 years in marketing, sales and digital content production for international brands. He is a keen environmentalist and expert photographer who appreciates that THS is protecting future biodiversity on the island.

Operational Structure

- The chief executive officer is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. Four quarterly meetings is held with between CEO and directors. Issues are dealt with as they arise with the appropriate director.

Related parties

- The charity had no new related party transactions during the year.

- Ms Debbie Gillies (CEO) is a related party of Miss Rebecca Knight's (Treasurer). However Miss Knight has not undertaken any financial transactions (or other transactions) with Ms Gillies while acting as an agent of the charity. Miss Knight was excluded from all employee on-boarding matters and has no oversight or input into Miss Laurence's role of staff liaison officer.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

NI621885 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number

100201

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Report of the Trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Registered office

36 Ardglass Road
Kilclief
Co. Down
BT30 7NS

Trustees

M W Bryson
Mrs J C Cross
R V Knight
K L Laurence
M D Thompson

Ms D Gillies CEO

Company Secretary

M W Bryson

Independent Examiner

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



R V Knight - Trustee

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Annual return

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
True Harvest Seeds**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages twelve to twenty two.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

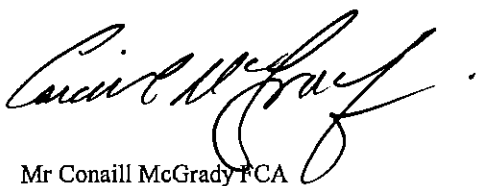
I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Mr Conaill McGrady FCA

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

26 September 2024

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: NI621885 (Northern Ireland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 100201

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 December 2022

for

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Contents of the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association.

- 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

(b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed.
- 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of:
 - a) vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation;
 - b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;
 - c) the design and application of seed conservation projects in the community;
 - d) educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum;
 - e) the benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles.
- 3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.
- 4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our main activities undertaken to further our aims

- Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have been able to continue conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora, plants that are indigenous to this island. Following on from 2021 wasn't easy and coming out of the pandemic in 2022 presented yet another set of challenges. Covid funding stopped entirely, yet the after effects were still in play.

- Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours. Continuing laying the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our islands' flora. The maintenance of the online shop and its population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging.

Seed packing including creation of all seed packets.

Making up and posting out all orders.

Saintfield market one Sunday a month.

Write quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.

Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.

Seed bank maintenance.

Kilclief site maintenance, including machinery and equipment.

Coordinating the work of our volunteers, including training.

Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll.

Developing and looking after conservation projects.

Maintaining contact with the architect, Gerry Irvine of HIP Architects, councillor Colin McGrath and the planning department because the temporary planning permission on our temporary buildings was to run out on 16th March 2023. A new application must be made. John Hutcheson of HIP architects was contacted in February and discussions with his business partner Gerry Irvine and outside assistance on seed bank requirements began. An application to Jobstart in February saw us successfully achieve funding for a person for 25 hours per week on living wage. However, we were not find anyone to recruit; no applications were received despite much local advertising.

- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.

- Mike Thompson led the project to obtain the CRESI funding from the Department for Communities, administered by Heritage Lottery. Starting in late January and working with Debbie they created and lodged an application on 16th March, for a marketing coordinator for £96,000 over a 3 year period. Professional assistance for the application was received from Glenn Oakes. Award was confirmed on 31st March. After a lengthy recruitment period, and the helpful guidance of our HLF funding officer Jacqueline Grant, we recruited Kathryn Shaw.

- Mike T also led the funding application to Live Here Love Here as part of their Climate Environment Challenge. A large part of the £3,500 was for THS to award a subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases from us. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2023.

- Last but by no means least Mike availed of Newry Mourne and Down Council's Digital Growth Programme, valued at £440, however the help we received from Johanne Jefferson was invaluable, many thanks to her.

An onboarding system for the new marketing position was developed to ensure all training materials and supplies are provided.

A brand book was developed to define official logo, colour scheme and font.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Helen's voluntary contribution is reliable and stable, she cut her days back to pre-pandemic levels of one afternoon a week. Her contribution to seed cleaning and processing makes her the most expert in this field in THS. She contributes greatly to Debbie in terms of advice and discussion on day to day issues as well as longer term thinking.
- Mike's (Mike Bennet) quiet and reliable weekly voluntary contribution offers much stability, dependable work contribution and a delightfully dry wit.
- Our team of volunteers comprised Fergus, Sue, Kathy and Bob, Isabella, Mary and new start Gill. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents and asked lots of seed growing questions. Unfortunately Isabella returned to England and had to leave us in January, but not before her valuable contribution was made.
- Karen largely ceased volunteering as the world opened up. To take over from her regarding funding applications was Mike Thompson, trustee.
- Kathryn started on 26th September 2022. She has a track record of organisational skills, moderate marketing skills and was highly enthusiastic about the mission of True Harvest Seeds. Mike T is Kathryn's manager, helping her with onboarding, outside training and day to day workload. Debbie is providing the inhouse training on an ongoing basis, onsite and HR support, time management on a day to day basis. Kathryn is proving to be a real help to develop and facilitate training courses for 2023.

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continued to be maintained by Debbie and Helen. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales.
As of December 2022 the seed bank contains 331 collections. There are 18 more to be accessioned once they are ready.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with Aisling Gribben of Causeway Coast and Glens Partnership to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We made a collection of *Dryas octopetala*. We attempted to locate *Saxifraga oppositifolia* but had no luck, despite being given the coordinates by Karl Hamilton, we were not able to locate it. A major hold up to proceedings is the distance. To make things easier for Debbie, she rented a room there and visited Aisling at Binevenagh one day and Adam Mantel at Magilligan the next. With Adam, Debbie surveyed the *Hypochaeris glabra* that had been planted out in 2022, none had survived, Adam felt it was the cattle grazing that had killed them off.
- *Hypochaeris glabra* was sown again in February 2022 from the seed collected in 2021 at 36 Ardglass Road raised bed, and a subsequent population of 108 plants were cared for, again in the raised beds and eventually a very successful seed collection was made and banked in the order of many grams. We did collect again from Magilligan sand dunes and can now cross breed in order to increase the genetic diversity of the samples in the seed bank as this population derives from just two plants, located side by side at Magilligan.
- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds remain alive and well, but very few seed were collected in 2022. Organic seaweed feed was applied and will continue to be so.
- An attempt was made to start SOS8 part 2, with kind help from Marcus Mally on a zoom meeting in January, however Karl was not available to continue this work. He gave his blessing that THS continue without him and the project remains on hold until we can manage it.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions were made to the seed bank via collections from Ardtole ASSI and also with an expedition out with Grassroots Group from Belfast to Minnowburn, with kind permission from Craig Somerville at the National Trust.
- Contributions of yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoye. Both generously allowed Debbie to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations.

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

- Debbie continues to give talks and now we are suggesting donations as the norm.
- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2022. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.
- Volunteer numbers dwindled slightly in 2022 because of the opening up of the world again after the pandemic.
- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance. Two students who loved the THS dogs, went on to study animal care. Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.
- We attended Down High's Eco fun-day on 30th April. Funded by the council we were able to give away seed trays with seed in having shown people how to sow up the seeds. We gave out information on how to look after the young plants and bring them on to be large plants suitable for the garden.
- In May we started talks with Glebe House's Andrew McCracken for Debbie to help them with setting up their community gardens. Glebe House included Debbie as a consultant in their funding application.
- Sunday 26th June saw our last monthly attendance at Saintfield Market. New owners came in and they didn't invite THS to come back. Thank you to Peter and Yvonne who gave us the stand free of charge for over a year over 2 springs and summers, which allowed us to raise funds, very much appreciated.
- In conjunction with Riverdale Primary School and with funding from Live Here Love Here, we made a video on how to make Protected Sowing, the video is available on our YouTube channel.
- The YouTube channel was taken up by Kathryn and made to work. She has been creating and publishing very informative and increasingly popular short videos. We will be creating content going forward, as time allows.
- In August we received the Irish group from the GAIA seed training course, onsite at Kilclief. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling. The same is planned for 2023.
- In September we participated in Belfast Naturalists Field Club, conversazione bringing information leaflets and seeds for sale. Much of the evening was used to discuss the merits of yellow rattle, *Rhinanthus minor* and how to sow and maintain it.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- In October we worked with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel was constructing an in depth study on seed and seed growers across Ireland. Rachel held an interview with Debbie on the work of THS and after editing published the talk as a podcast on the internet. You can still access it here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>

- In November Tracy Megoran kindly took a stock of our seed down to the Show in Dublin's RDS. She singlehandedly raised £184 for the charity over the weekend as well as raising awareness with the public.

- December saw a soft launch of our single Membership packs, this will be furthered in Qs 3&4 of 2023. The mailing list of people interested in following THS with our personalized emails containing insider information, first dibs on training course places, special offers was started. Volunteers, trustees and staff enjoyed Christmas dinner together at Summer Flame in Ardglass which was well attended.

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and

(b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

- We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each.

We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of Fergus, we grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

- We continue to supply grasses for Lecale Conservation and have featured in a few times on the BBC in various programmes, Debbie gives a short description of the essential conservation work the THS undertakes in general, and is, as before, then featured helping plant some of the grass plants at the shore in Ballyhornan beach. Grasses included native-origin Marram, Lyme and Sand couch grasses. They help maintain the integrity of the foreshore by mitigating coastal and water run off erosion. The funding from Lecale conservation £700 for THS paid for the above grasses in 2022.

- In conjunction with Newry Mourne and Down Council we participated in the Giant Festival at Warrenpoint. With their funding we brought seed trays, seeds and compost to the festival, we were located in the horticultural tent on both the Saturday and the Sunday in August. With a queue out the door both days we "sold out" of everything. We sent over 450 families home with seed trays, that we had shown them how to sow themselves and provided information on how to care for the seedlings going forward. A massive thanks to our volunteers Sue, Kathy and Bob for helping out, it wouldn't have worked without you!

- We were invited to the Newcastle Eats and Beats festival, but Debbie was too tired to do more, so we said we'd consider it for 2023.

- We joined up with Sonairte, co Meath and ran a Seed Collection Workshop. The workshop was attended by one person. It was a good day and we made a high quality seed collection for the seed bank, *Lapsana communis*. We realised that we must put a lower limit on participants for future courses.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We became fully certified as organic on 5th May with the Soil Association for our field. This means we are now fully certified for these areas:
 1. Growing at Kilclief and
 2. For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).
- Debbie looks after inspections and certification.
- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.
- Mark continues to maintain the field's weeding by tractor.
- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, grass cutting using the tractor, stormier and mower and removal of Schedule 9 weeds. Putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information. This in turn provides unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs. In this way the charity continues to function.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.
- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections. We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.
- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days. Debbie now has help from Mike T to maintain the website on Siteground server including the online shop. Mike separated out the shop from the main website to enable faster loading of both, the shop now exists on shop.trueharvestseeds.org while the main conservation website remains as trueharvestseeds.org. This was a large body of work and Mike's contribution was gratefully received.
- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Restricted funds

- In partnership with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). The DIO granted THS £1,200 in 2020 to work with 3 species from Magilligan, because of covid this work was delayed and re-scheduled for 2021. We weren't able to complete in 2021 so work has again been deferred to 2022. With this funding we were able to continue to work with *Hypochaeris glabra* here at head office in our raised beds. In 2022 we grew out our most successful population to date and made a good seed collection from the plants we grew. We left the old plant remains in place as a final check against hybridisation against *Hypochaeris radicata*, which is present in the surrounding area. *Glabra* is an annual and *radicata* a perennial, so if any plants survived to re-emerge in 2023 then we would know that in that plant hybridisation had occurred. Thankfully, none was seen. Debbie visited Magailligan with Adam Mantel to view the planted out plants from 2021. As mentioned above no plants survived. Other species of keen interest were sought out and photographs taken.

Unrestricted funds

- Sales of wild flower, vegetable, herb and garden flower seeds raised cash which was used to pay for ongoing overheads, and new stock.

Reserves policy

- THS have secured property from which to operate and buildings to work from for the long term, with no ongoing costs other than conacre and utilities. However, whilst the land is secure the temporary buildings were only granted temporary planning status by the planning department. Starting in February 2022, discussions with HIP Architects and seed banking experts from various sources we started to develop a plan for a permanent building. To pay for this we must use unrestricted funds, raised from the shop and courses.

- Mike T, trustee was instrumental in setting up a membership scheme. By raising funds and working with Debbie to fill our marketing coordinator position, THS has launched its individual membership scheme.

Going concern

- At the close of 2022 we are happy that the charity will continue to be a going concern.

- THS' shift from submitting funding applications to various bodies to reflect a more self sustaining attitude is ongoing. The natural capital of the seed bank has been given a value for insurance purposes.

- Our market research had shown an appetite for small seed packets of wild flowers in 2022.

- We continue to import seeds into NI from the EU throughout 2022.

- We continue to:

to use our expertise to provide seeds to the small packet market in Ireland as a whole. This service was used by many customers throughout 2022. to keep prices low and offer postal service as an extra, rather than subsume the cost of post to provide "Open Pollinated" seeds. The seeds we provided are either Organic or Demeter standard and are of a quality that can be used in seed breeding. This decision was taken with a view to potentially alleviating food shortages in the future, empowering people to save their own seeds, to swap viable seeds going forward.

- We added seed mixtures to our range of products. These have proved to be more popular than individual seed packets. They are better value for money, but asking customers why that is, has shown us that it is our expertise in putting together the seed mix that has been of greatest value.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

FUTURE PLANS

- Marketing trustee Mike, CEO Debbie and Marketing Coordinator Kathryn have been investigating corporate membership and sponsorship.

With the need to develop a new seed bank building project fundraising will be of the essence.

- With the above in mind a large, £880,880 funding application was submitted to DAERA for the building of a superior plant resource centre at Kilclief. This application was unsuccessful (March 2023) and new ideas, for a much reduced building were conceived.

- An application will be made to the planning department in early 2023, for a permanent building in line with our organic and sustainable principles. It will blend into the environment, it will be passive, generate its own power, harvest grey and rain water and be purpose built for swifts, swallows, bats and insects. The building will be agricultural in nature, with facilities for staff and volunteers to enable selling seed and other economic activity, all profits remain in the charity to further our aims.

- A position for a Retail Assistant has been created, we intend to search for initial funding to help us make this a paid permanent post. If Stormont reconvenes we may be able to avail of the Back to Work scheme and help someone local get back to work after a period of unemployment. This situation remains open for consideration.

- THS trustees and CEO would welcome help and or trustee applications from persons interested in advancing the charity through use of their expertise in finance and fundraising.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

- The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 11 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 14th April 2014. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

- The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

- All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Miss R Knight Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Director's skills

- Mark Bryson has run the worker's co-op EcoSeeds since 1997, growing out native origin wild flower seeds. EcoSeeds assists in native wild flower restoration projects both as consultant and / or contractor.

- Katie Laurence has experience in being on the committee of another NI environmental charity and has made herself available as staff liaison officer for THS. Katie is currently studying a masters in environmental management.

- Rebecca Knight is a chartered accountant working for global tax justice, she assists THS with governance.

- Julia Cross is a trained primary school teacher. She has extensive networking capabilities and is a perfect advocate for THS' ethos of saving our native and naturalised seeds.

- Mike Thompson is a director at Iconic Biscuits, with 20 years in marketing, sales and digital content production for international brands. He is a keen environmentalist and expert photographer who appreciates that THS is protecting future biodiversity on the island.

Operational Structure

- The chief executive officer is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. Four quarterly meetings is held with between CEO and directors. Issues are dealt with as they arise with the appropriate director.

Related parties

- The charity had no new related party transactions during the year.

- Ms Debbie Gillies (CEO) is a related party of Miss Rebecca Knight's (Treasurer). However Miss Knight has not undertaken any financial transactions (or other transactions) with Ms Gillies while acting as an agent of the charity. Miss Knight was excluded from all employee on-boarding matters and has no oversight or input into Miss Laurence's role of staff liaison officer.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

NI621885 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number

100201

Registered office

36 Ardglass Road

Kilclief

Co. Down

BT30 7NS

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Report of the Trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Trustees

M W Bryson
Mrs J C Cross
R V Knight
K L Laurence
M D Thompson

Ms D Gillies CEO

Company Secretary

M W Bryson

Independent Examiner

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R V Knight', is written over the line.

R V Knight - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of True Harvest Seeds

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages twelve to twenty three.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Mr Conaill McGrady FCA

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

27 September 2023

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £	31/12/21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		583	10,425	11,008	30,225
Other trading activities	2	21,519	-	21,519	19,942
Investment income	3	39	-	39	6
Total		22,141	10,425	32,566	50,173
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	2,980	-	2,980	10,897
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activity		25,214	10,857	36,071	31,467
Total		28,194	10,857	39,051	42,364
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(6,053)	(432)	(6,485)	7,809
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		148,054	10,576	158,630	150,821
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		142,001	10,144	152,145	158,630

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Balance Sheet
31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £	31/12/21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	9,416	4,781	14,197	15,272
Heritage assets	10	133,538	5,363	138,901	138,901
		<u>142,954</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>153,098</u>	<u>154,173</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		42,393	-	42,393	6,201
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(43,346)	-	(43,346)	(1,744)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(953)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(953)</u>	<u>4,457</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>142,001</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>142,001</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				142,001	148,054
Restricted funds				<u>10,144</u>	<u>10,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Balance Sheet - continued
31 DECEMBER 2022

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R V Knight', written in a cursive style.

R V Knight - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Trust's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Heritage assets - seed collections

Seed collections are collection of wild flowers from all over Ireland. The cost of the collections have not been capitalised up to 2020 as many of the collections has been donated to True Harvest Seeds. However the Board of Trustees have revalued the collections as at 31 December 2020. The basis of this revaluation is detailed in note 9.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Earned Income	<u>21,519</u>	<u>19,942</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>39</u>	<u>6</u>

4. RAISING FUNDS**Raising donations and legacies**

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Support costs	<u>51</u>	<u>-</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,682	3,153
Other operating leases	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022****7. STAFF COSTS**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/22	31/12/21
Management	1	1
Other	1	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,035	29,190	30,225
Other trading activities	19,942	-	19,942
Investment income	6	-	6
Total	<u>20,983</u>	<u>29,190</u>	<u>50,173</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	10,033	864	10,897
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	10,834	20,633	31,467
Total	<u>20,867</u>	<u>21,497</u>	<u>42,364</u>
NET INCOME	116	7,693	7,809
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	147,938	2,883	150,821
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>148,054</u>	<u>10,576</u>	<u>158,630</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1 January 2022	12,036	6,700	2,190
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	12,036	6,700	2,190
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2022	4,139	4,792	1,044
Charge for year	790	476	287
At 31 December 2022	4,929	5,268	1,331
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	7,107	1,432	859
At 31 December 2021	7,897	1,908	1,146
	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2022	1,556	7,248	29,730
Additions	-	1,607	1,607
At 31 December 2022	1,556	8,855	31,337
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2022	1,187	3,296	14,458
Charge for year	92	1,037	2,682
At 31 December 2022	1,279	4,333	17,140
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	277	4,522	14,197
At 31 December 2021	369	3,952	15,272

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>138,901</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2022	<u>138,901</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>138,901</u>

True Harvest Seeds is conserving Ireland's indigenous seed-bearing plants by securely storing their seeds. Through the generous donations of seeds from local public and private landowners we are populating a seed bank. The seeds and associated material are cared for at our Seed Centre, Kilclief, Co Down. This work will ensure the security of our natural capital into the future. Seed and access to material and data may be requested by bona fide individuals and organisations.

True Harvest Seeds have approximately over 300 seed collections from various native species, some of which are Schedule 8 species meaning they are endangered and require a licence to collect and grow.

The majority of True Harvest Seeds collections are held indefinitely and cared for to maintain their quality and to make them available to the public.

The cost of the seed collections have not been capitalised before 2020. All collections are, by their nature, donations from land owners. Costs to collect were by True Harvest Seeds via various funding streams including voluntary work. Prompted via discussions with our insurance company, the Board of Trustees have taken the decision to revalue the assets and recognise them in the balance sheet as heritage assets (which are biological in nature) based on their fair value. To determine this value, for collections made in 2020 or earlier True Harvest Seeds have used the same calculation that is used by Kew's Millennium Seed Bank which is based on the cost to replace collections. For the additions in 2021, we have used the actual cost of the seed collections as the heritage asset value.

As a charity we do not charge for bona fide projects to withdraw seeds from the seed bank and therefore no cost to the users is associated.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/22 £	31/12/21 £
Accrued expenses	1,446	1,044
Deferred government grants	<u>41,900</u>	<u>700</u>
	<u>43,346</u>	<u>1,744</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	148,054	(6,053)	142,001
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	492	(124)	368
DAERA/SLL	752	(188)	564
Co Down Rural Community	270	(68)	202
DAERA/SOS8	648	(162)	486
Awards For All	6,426	(415)	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council Department for Communities Heritage Fund	1,988	(801)	1,187
	-	1,326	1,326
	<u>10,576</u>	<u>(432)</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>158,630</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>	<u>152,145</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	22,141	(28,194)	(6,053)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(124)	(124)
DAERA/SLL	-	(188)	(188)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(68)	(68)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(162)	(162)
Awards For All	-	(415)	(415)
Newry Mourne Down District Council Department for Communities Heritage Fund	-	(801)	(801)
	7,025	(5,699)	1,326
LHLH	2,700	(2,700)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>10,425</u>	<u>(10,857)</u>	<u>(432)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>32,566</u>	<u>(39,051)</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,938	116	148,054
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	656	(164)	492
DAERA/SLL	1,003	(251)	752
Co Down Rural Community	360	(90)	270
DAERA/SOS8	864	(216)	648
Awards For All	-	6,426	6,426
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	1,988	1,988
	<u>2,883</u>	<u>7,693</u>	<u>10,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>150,821</u>	<u>7,809</u>	<u>158,630</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	20,983	(20,867)	116
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(164)	(164)
DAERA/SLL	-	(251)	(251)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(90)	(90)
DAERA/SOS8	17,201	(17,417)	(216)
Awards For All	10,001	(3,575)	6,426
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	-	1,988
	<u>29,190</u>	<u>(21,497)</u>	<u>7,693</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>50,173</u>	<u>(42,364)</u>	<u>7,809</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,938	(5,937)	142,001
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	656	(288)	368
DAERA/SLL	1,003	(439)	564
Co Down Rural Community	360	(158)	202
DAERA/SOS8	864	(378)	486
Awards For All	-	6,011	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	1,187	1,187
Department for Communities Heritage Fund	-	1,326	1,326
	<u>2,883</u>	<u>7,261</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>150,821</u>	<u>1,324</u>	<u>152,145</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,124	(49,061)	(5,937)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(288)	(288)
DAERA/SLL	-	(439)	(439)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(158)	(158)
DAERA/SOS8	17,201	(17,579)	(378)
Awards For All	10,001	(3,990)	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	(801)	1,187
Department for Communities Heritage Fund	7,025	(5,699)	1,326
LHLH	2,700	(2,700)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>39,615</u>	<u>(32,354)</u>	<u>7,261</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>82,739</u>	<u>(81,415)</u>	<u>1,324</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	31/12/22 £	31/12/21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	423	280
Grants	10,585	29,945
	11,008	30,225
Other trading activities		
Earned Income	21,519	19,942
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	39	6
Total incoming resources	32,566	50,173
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Purchases	2,929	10,897
Charitable activities		
Wages	16,899	7,457
Conacre	200	200
	17,099	7,657
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	851	929
Light and heat	1,165	761
Telephone	402	339
Postage and stationery	2,366	1,692
Advertising	226	-
Sundries	1,424	963
Equipment & Tools	116	827
Motor and travel	2,636	749
Subscriptions	51	893
Website	842	797
Professional fees	3,847	11,595
Depreciation of tangible and heritage assets	2,682	3,153
	16,608	22,698
Finance		
Bank charges	175	512

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	31/12/22 £	31/12/21 £
Finance		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,240	600
Total resources expended	39,051	42,364
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(6,485)</u>	<u>7,809</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Annual report



Trustees Report 2022

The Future of Seed Conservation

**TRUE HARVEST SEEDS IS A
PLANT CONSERVATION CHARITY**

At True Harvest Seeds we collect seeds from native origin plants growing in the wild. We preserve the collections in the Seed Bank at Kilclief, County Down, Northern Ireland. The seed is available for the restoration of plants back into the wild.



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Registered Company Number: NI621885 (Northern Ireland)
TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and Activities

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association.

- 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

(b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed.
- 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their

knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of:

a) vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation;

b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

c) the design and application of seed conservation projects in the community;

d) educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum;

e) the benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles.

3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

DEBBIE GILLIES, FOUNDER & CEO

Objectives and Activities

Our main activities undertaken to further our aims

“Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have been able to continue conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora, plants that are indigenous to this island. Following on from 2021 wasn't easy and coming out of the pandemic in 2022 presented yet another set of challenges. Covid funding stopped entirely, yet the after effects were still in play.”



Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours. Continuing laying the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our islands' flora.

Activities

- The maintenance of the online shop and its population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging.

- Seed packing including creation of all seed packets.
- Making up and posting out all orders.
- Saintfield market one Sunday a month.
- Write quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.
- Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.
- Seed bank maintenance.
- Kilclief site maintenance, including machinery and equipment.
- Coordinating the work of our volunteers, including training.
- Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll.
- Developing and looking after conservation projects.
- Maintaining contact with the architect, Gerry Irvine of HIP Architects, councillor Colin McGrath and the planning department because the temporary planning permission on our temporary buildings was to run out on 16th March 2023. A new application must be made. John Hutcheson of HIP architects was contacted in February and discussions with his business partner Gerry Irvine

and outside assistance on seed bank requirements began.

- An application to Jobstart in February saw us successfully achieve funding for a person for 25 hours per week on living wage. However we were not able to find anyone to recruit; no applications were received despite much local advertising.
- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.

Mike Thompson

Mike Thompson led the project to obtain the CRESI funding from the Department for Communities, administered by Heritage Lottery. Starting in late January and working with Debbie they created and lodged an application on 16th March, for a marketing coordinator for £96,000 over a 3 year period. Professional assistance for the application was received from Glenn Oakes. Award was confirmed on 31st March. After a lengthy recruitment period, and the helpful guidance of our HLF funding officer Jacqueline Grant, we recruited Kathryn Shaw.

- Mike T also led the funding application to Live Here Love Here as part of their Climate Environment Challenge. A large part of the £3,500 was for THS to award a subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases from us. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2023.
- Last but by no means least Mike availed of Newry Mourne and Down Council's Digital Growth

Programme, valued at £440, however the help we received from Johanne Jefferson was invaluable, many thanks to her.

- An onboarding system for the new marketing position was developed to ensure all training materials and supplies are provided.
- A brand book was developed to define official logo, colour scheme and font.

Helen

Helen's voluntary contribution was reliable and stable, she cut her days back to pre-pandemic levels of one afternoon a week. Her contribution to seed cleaning and processing makes her the most expert in this field in THS. She contributes greatly to Debbie in terms of advice and discussion on day to day issues as well as longer term thinking.

Mike Bennett (Forest Mike)

Mike's regular and reliable weekly voluntary contribution offers much stability, dependable work contribution and his delightfully dry wit.

Volunteers

Our team of volunteers comprised Fergus, Sue, Kathy and Bob, Isabella, Mary and new start Gill. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents and asked lots of seed growing questions.

Unfortunately Isabella returned to England and had to leave us in January, but not before her valuable contribution was made.

Karen

Karen largely ceased volunteering as the world opened up. To take over from her regarding funding applications was Mike Thompson, trustee.

Kathryn Shaw

Kathryn started on 26th September 2022. She has a track record of organisational skills, moderate marketing skills and was highly enthusiastic about the mission of True Harvest Seeds. Mike T is Kathryn's manager, helping her with onboarding, outside training and day to day workload. Debbie is providing the inhouse training on an ongoing basis, onsite and HR support, time management on a day to day basis.

Kathryn is proving to be a real help to develop and facilitate training courses for 2023.



Kathryn Shaw

Purposes

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continues to be maintained by Debbie and Helen. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales. As of December 2022 the seed bank contains 331 collections. There are 18 more to be accessioned once they are ready.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with Aisling Gribben of Causeway Coast and Glens Partnership to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We made a collection of *Dryas octopetala*. We attempted to locate *Saxifraga oppositifolia* but had no luck, despite being given the coordinates by Karl Hamilton, we were not able to locate it. A major hold up to proceedings is the distance. To make things easier for Debbie, she rented a room there and visited Aisling at Binevenagh one day and Adam Mantel at Magilligan the next. With Adam, Debbie surveyed the *Hypochaeris glabra* that had been planted out in 2022, none had survived, Adam felt it was the cattle grazing that had killed them off.
- *Hypochaeris glabra* was sown again in February 2022 from the seed collected in 2021 at 36 Ardglass Road raised bed, and a subsequent population of 108 plants were cared for, again in the raised beds and eventually a

very successful seed collection was made and banked in the order of many grams. We did collect again from Magilligan sand dunes and can now cross breed in order to increase the genetic diversity of the samples in the seed bank as this population derives from just two plants, located side by side at Magilligan.

- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds remain alive and well, but very few seed were collected in 2022. Organic seaweed feed was applied and will continue to be so.
- An attempt was made to start SOS8 part 2, with kind help from Marcus Mally on a zoom meeting in January, however Karl was not available to continue this work. He gave his blessing that THS continue without him and the project remains on hold until we can manage it.

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions were made to the seed bank via collections from Ardtole ASSI and also with an expedition out with Grassroots Group from Belfast to Minnowburn, with kind permission from Craig Somerville at the National Trust.
- Contributions of yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoyle. Both generously allowed Debbie to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations.



Ragged Robin - *Silene flos cuculi*

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

- Debbie continues to give talks and now we are suggesting donations as the norm.
- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2022. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.
- Volunteer numbers dwindled slightly in 2022 because of the opening up of the world again after the pandemic.
- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance. Two students who loved the THS dogs, went on to study animal care.

Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.
- We attended Down High's Eco fun-day on 30th April. Funded by the council we were able to give away seed trays with seed in having shown people how to sow up the seeds. We gave out information on how to look after the young plants and bring them on to be large plants

suitable for the garden.



SERC Students

- In May we started talks with Glebe House's Andrew McCracken for Debbie to help them with setting up their community gardens. Glebe House included Debbie as a consultant in their funding application.
- Sunday 26th June saw our last monthly attendance at Saintfield Market. New owners came in and they didn't invite THS to come back. Thank you to Peter and Yvonne who gave us the stand free of charge for over a year over 2 springs and summers, which allowed us to

raise funds, very much appreciated.

- In conjunction with Riverdale Primary School and with funding from Live Here Love Here, we made a video on how to make Protected Sowing, the video is available on our YouTube channel.
- The YouTube channel was taken up by Kathryn and made to work. She has been creating and publishing very informative and increasingly popular short videos. We will be creating content going forward, as time allows.
- In August we received the Irish group from the GAIA seed training course, onsite at Kilclief. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling. The same is planned for 2023.
- In September we participated in Belfast Naturalists Field Club, conversazione bringing information leaflets and seeds for sale. Much of the evening was used to discuss the merits of yellow rattle, *Rhinanthus minor* and how to sow and maintain it.
- In October we worked with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel was constructing an in depth study on seed and seed growers across Ireland. Rachel held an interview with Debbie on the work of THS and after editing published the talk as a podcast on the internet. You can still access it here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>

- In November Tracy Megoran kindly took a stock of our seed down to the Show in Dublin's RDS. She singlehandedly raised £184 for the charity over the weekend as well as raising awareness with the public.
- December saw a soft launch of our single Membership packs, this will be furthered in Qs 3&4 of 2023. The mailing list of people interested in following THS with our personalised emails containing insider information, first dibs on training course places and special offers was started. Volunteers, trustees and staff enjoyed Christmas dinner together at Summer Flame in Ardglass which was well attended.



Membership Packs available online

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and

(b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each. We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of Fergus, we grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

- We continue to supply grasses for Lecale Conservation and have featured in a few times on the BBC in various programmes, Debbie gives a short description of the essential conservation work the THS undertakes in general, and is, as before, then featured helping plant some of the grass plants at the shore in Ballyhornan

beach. Grasses included native-origin Marram, Lyme and Sand couch grasses. They help maintain the integrity of the foreshore by mitigating coastal and water run off erosion. The funding from Lecale conservation £700 for THS paid for the above grasses in 2022.

- In conjunction with Newry Mourne and Down Council we participated in the Giant Festival at Warrenpoint. With their funding we brought seed trays, seeds and compost to the festival, we were located in the horticultural tent on both the Saturday and the Sunday in August. With a queue out the door both days we “sold out” of everything. We sent over 450 families home with seed trays, that we had shown them how to sow themselves and provided information on how to care for the seedlings going forward. A massive thanks to our volunteers Sue, Kathy and Bob for helping out, it wouldn’t have worked without you!
- We were invited to the Newcastle Eats and Beats festival, but Debbie was too tired to do more, so we said we’d consider it for 2023.
- We joined up with Sonairte, co Meath and ran a Seed Collection Workshop. The workshop was attended by one person. It was a good day and we made a high quality seed collection for the seed bank, *Lapsana communis*. We realised that we must put a lower limit on participants for future courses.

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We became fully certified as organic on 5th May with the Soil Association for our field. This means we are now fully certified for these areas:
 - Growing at Kilclief and
 - For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).

Debbie looks after inspections and certification.



- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.
- Mark continues to maintain the field's weeding by tractor.
- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, grass cutting using the tractor, trimmer and mower and removal of Schedule 9 weeds. Putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information. This in turn provides unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs. In this way the charity continues to function.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.
- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections.
- We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.

- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days.

Debbie now has help from Mike T to maintain the website on Siteground server including the online shop. Mike separated out the shop from the main website to enable faster loading of both, the shop now exists on shop.trueharvestseeds.org while the main conservation website remains as trueharvestseeds.org. This was a large body of work and Mike's contribution was gratefully received.

- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

Seed Database on THS Website



Search seed and herbarium collections by genus

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Ranunculus acris
Ranunculus ficaria
Ranunculus flammula
Rhinanthus minor
Rumex acetosa



Family: OROBANCHACEAE
Species: *Rhinanthus minor*
Collection number: THS029
Location: Co. Tyrone
Collection date: Seed: 24 July 2015
Herb. Spec.: 2 June 2015
Collected by: D Gillies, K Moore, B Sterling, D Jones, S Jones
Verified by:
Habitat: Regenerated meadow
Plant material held: Seed, herbarium specimen, DNA sample
Collection number: THS035
Location: Co. Down
Collection date: Seed: 22 July 2015
Herb. spec.: 22 July 2015
Collected by: S Miles, D Gillies
Verified by: S Miles
Habitat: Coastal ASSI meadow
Plant material held: Seed, herbarium specimen

If you would like to request a seed sample or inspect a herbarium specimen please contact: Debbie Gillies

True Harvest Seeds Tel: 07516 264 888 debbie@trueharvestseeds.org
Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC: 1191011



Hibernating ladybird in Wild Carrot

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Restricted funds

- In partnership with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). The DIO granted THS £1,200 in 2020 to work with 3 species from Magilligan, because of covid this work was delayed and re-scheduled for 2021. We weren't able to complete in 2021 so work has again been deferred to 2022.
- With this funding we were able to continue to work with *Hypochaeris glabra* here at head office in our raised beds. In 2022 we grew out our most successful population to date and made a good seed collection from the plants we grew.
- We left the old plant remains in place as a final check against hybridisation against *Hypochaeris radicata*, which is present in the surrounding area. *Glabra* is an annual and *radicata* a perennial, so if any plants survived to re-emerge in 2023 then we would know that in that plant hybridisation had occurred. Thankfully, none was seen.
- Debbie visited Magilligan with Adam Mantel to view the planted out plants from 2021. As mentioned above no plants survived. Other species of keen interest were sought out and photographs taken.

Unrestricted funds

- Sales of wild flower, vegetable, herb and garden flower seeds raised cash which was used to pay for ongoing overheads, and new stock.

Going Concern

At the close of 2022 we are happy that the charity will continue to be a going concern.

- THS' shift from submitting funding applications to various bodies to reflect a more self-sustaining attitude is ongoing. The natural capital of the seed bank has been given a value for insurance purposes.
- Our market research had shown an appetite for small seed packets of wild flowers in 2022.
- We continue to import seeds into NI from the EU throughout 2022.
- We continue to:
 - use our expertise to provide seeds to the small packet market in Ireland as a whole. This service was used by many customers throughout 2022.
 - to keep prices low and offer postal service as an extra, rather than subsume the cost of postage into raised seed prices, this remains under review.
 - to provide "Open Pollinated" seeds. The seeds we provided are either Organic or Demeter

standard and are of a quality that can be used in seed breeding. This decision was taken with a view to potentially alleviating food shortages in the future, empowering people to save their own seeds, to swap viable seeds going forward.

- We added seed mixtures to our range of products. These have proved to be more popular than individual seed packets. They are better value for money, but asking customers why that is, has shown us that it is our expertise in putting together the seed mix that has been of greatest value.



Pure Bee/Butterfly/Bird Wild Flower Mix

Reserves policy

- THS have secured property from which to operate and buildings to work from for the long term, with no ongoing costs other than council rates and utilities. However, whilst the land is secure the temporary buildings were only granted temporary planning status by the planning department. Starting in February 2022, discussions with HIP Architects and seed banking experts from various sources we started to develop a plan for a permanent building. To pay for this we must use unrestricted funds, raised from the shop and courses.
- Mike T, trustee was instrumental in setting up a membership scheme. By raising funds and working with Debbie to fill our marketing coordinator position, THS has launched its individual membership scheme.

Future Plans

Marketing trustee Mike, CEO Debbie and Marketing Coordinator Kathryn have been investigating corporate membership and sponsorship.

With the need to develop a new seed bank building project fundraising will be of the essence.

- With the above in mind a large, £880,880 funding application was submitted to DAERA for the building of a superior plant resource centre at Kilclief. This application was unsuccessful (March 2023) and new ideas, for a much reduced building were conceived.

- An application will be made to the planning department in early 2023, for a permanent building in line with our organic and sustainable principles. It will blend into the environment, it will be passive, generate its own power, harvest grey and rain water and be purpose built for swifts, swallows, bats and insects.

The building will be agricultural in nature, with facilities for staff and volunteers to enable selling seed and other economic activity, all profits remain in the charity to further our aims.

- A position for a Retail Assistant has been created, we intend to search for initial funding to help us make this a paid permanent post. If Stormont reconvenes we may be able to avail of the Back to Work scheme and help someone local get back to work after a period of unemployment. This situation remains open for consideration.
- THS trustees and CEO would welcome help and or trustee applications from persons interested in advancing the charity through use of their expertise in finance and fundraising.



Harvest Delivery Route



Site Entrance



Elevations

3D Renders of Proposed Seedbank



STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 11 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 14th April 2014. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Miss R Knight
Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer

themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Director's skills

- Mark Bryson has run the worker's co-op EcoSeeds since 1997, growing out native origin wild flower seeds. EcoSeeds assists in native wild flower restoration projects both as consultant and / or contractor.
- Katie Laurence has experience in being on the committee of another NI environmental charity and has made herself available as staff liaison officer for THS. Katie is currently studying a masters in environmental management.
- Rebecca Knight is a chartered accountant working for global tax justice, she assists THS with governance.
- Julia Cross is a trained primary school teacher. She has extensive networking capabilities and is a perfect advocate for THS' ethos of saving our native and naturalised seeds.
- Mike Thompson is a director at Iconic Biscuits, with 20 years in marketing, sales and digital content production for international brands. He is a keen environmentalist

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and expert photographer who appreciates that THS is protecting future biodiversity on the island.



Filming How-to Videos at Riverdale PS



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Operational Structure

The chief executive officer is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. Four quarterly meetings are held with between CEO and directors. Issues are dealt with as they arise with the appropriate director.

Related parties

- The charity had no new related party transactions during the year.
- Ms Debbie Gillies (CEO) is a related party of Miss Rebecca Knight's (Treasurer). However Miss Knight has not undertaken any financial transactions (or other transactions) with Ms Gillies while acting as an agent of the charity. Miss Knight was excluded from all employee on-boarding matters and has no oversight or input into Miss Laurence's role of staff liaison officer.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

NI621885 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number

100201

Registered office

36 Ardglass Road

Kilclief

Co. Down

BT30 7NS

Trustees

M W Bryson

Mrs J C Cross

Ms R V Knight

Ms K L Laurence

Mr M Thompson

CEO

Ms D Gillies

Company Secretary

Mr M W Bryson

Independent Examiner

M.B.McGrady & Co

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Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on
..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....
R V Knight – Trustee



www.trueharvestseeds.org

True Harvest Seeds

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100201

Annual return

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
True Harvest Seeds**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages twelve to twenty three.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Mr Conaill McGrady FCA

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

27 September 2023