

GIFFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

EST. 1848

Registered Scottish Charity No SC006996

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year from November 1st 2024 to 31st October 2025.

1. Charity Name Gifford Horticultural Society

2. Charity No. SC006996

3. Address

Rosemary Everett, 1 Slateford Steading, Gifford, East Lothian, EH41 4JB.

4. Trustees - Office Bearers

President	Roger Wilson
Secretary	Rosemary Everett
Treasurer	Sandra Banks
Membership Secretary	Jackie Fry.

5. Trustees - Management Committee

Sandra Banks	Jeanie Cole
Rosemary Everett	Jackie Fry
Jill Hyslop	Frank Kirwan
Emma Martindale	Katherine Porter
Kathy Sethi	Gordon Steele
Elizabeth Stewart	Jane Will
Roger Wilson.	

6. Trustees – elections and resignations

Beryl McNaughton, Sarah Curtis and Helen Lee resigned as Trustees at our AGM in November 2024. Jill Hyslop, Emma Martindale and Katherine Porter were elected as Trustees.

7. Structure and Governance

The Society is a charitable unincorporated association. It is governed by its constitution which was amended in September 2004.

8. Trustee appointment

All Trustees are elected or re-elected at the Annual General Meeting of members which is held in November each year. The management committee, chaired by the President, meets a minimum of five times a year to plan, organise and administer the affairs of the Society.

Sub-committees that report to the management committee are responsible for organising the educational programmes of talks and outings, the catering for events and the annual reviews of the Show Schedule.

9. Charitable Purposes

The objects of the Society are primarily to advance education in the practice and knowledge of gardening and horticulture for public benefit. However, the Society also endeavours to assist in working directly or via another body, to improve the environment and fabric of the village and its neighbourhood.

10. Activities and Achievements

Membership

At October 31st 2025, there were 197 members of the society and five Honorary Life members. Ian Currier was made an Honorary Life member at our AGM in November 2024 in recognition of his contribution as a former Vice President, Committee member and his assistance at the Flower Show and other events.

Our members live mainly in Gifford but also within a roughly 30-mile radius (Pencaitland, Garvald, Tranent, East Saltoun, Haddington, Musselburgh, Haddington and Aberlady). This confirms that we continue to be a society which encourages the enjoyment of plants and gardening for everyone in our local area.

Talks

As part of our educational objective, a programme of five talks was organized which were well attended by members.

Open Gardens

In June, we took part in Scotland's Open Gardens scheme. Several village gardens were open alongside Broadwoodside and Gifford Bank. Our local Art Group offered teas in the Village Hall as their exhibition was on display that weekend. This was very successful.

Outings

We enjoyed an evening Wildlife Walk at Aberlady and Longniddry with Stan da Prato in June.

We arranged a trip to the Japanese Garden at Cowden and to Dowhill, Cleish, also in June.

In September, we organised a Foraging session in Gifford Community Woodlands.

Flower Show

We held our annual Show in August which attracted 730 entries from 53 children and young people and 110 adults. Visitor numbers held up and feedback remains very positive.

We received assistance from staff from Yester Estate to transport equipment, set up and take down the Show. We are discussing other ways to work more closely with the estate as part of our local networking and support aims.

The potato-growing competition attracted 59 entrants with the funds raised helping to meet the costs of the Flower Show.

The weekend ended with a community concert, bringing together talented performers from our area including from nearby Humble village.

Plant Sales

We held our popular plant sale in May, once again proving a great success. We discontinued the plant delivery service that we had introduced during the pandemic, but we offered a wide variety of bedding plants for sale at the well-attended event instead (reverting to arrangements pre-2020).

Communications

Regular emails and hand-delivered updates were sent to all members during the year to keep them informed of talks, outings, events, activities and other news.

Our website www.giffordhorti.org continues to be well visited and gains positive responses and feedback. It is updated regularly with information on events (as our Facebook page is linked to it).

We arranged to have our archive of Minute Books digitized. They date back to the Society's inception in 1848 (although 1873 – 1911 is missing). We have published them on our website and are investigating a local archive to hold the original copies so that they are preserved for the future.

As well as our Facebook page, we have a Facebook group which is open to members as a place to ask questions, swap plants or share photos. There are currently 46 members of the group.

Community engagement

We took part in the annual Inter Horticultural Societies quiz event in April.

Gifford Playgroup had a cake stall at our Plant Sale in May to raise funds.

We supported Dirleton Primary school with their sweet pea growing competition. Two of our committee members attended an event in June to judge the entries.

We supported our local Church at their annual social event in June by running a plant stall (proceeds were donated to the Church).

Gifford Village Hall and Gifford Playgroup helped make the Flower Show an attraction to visitors by providing teas which raised funds towards their aims. Gifford Community Woodlands and our local Beekeepers provided stalls in the Marquee to raise awareness of their activities. Donations were invited at the Community Concert which were passed to Gifford Village Hall. Taken together, we enabled local organisations to benefit by over £2,000 during the Flower Show weekend.

We again supported Macmerry Mens' Shed by offering them space at the Flower Show to sell items that they make.

We lent some of our flower vases to neighbouring Stenton Horticultural Society for their village show in August.

We made a donation to Amisfield Walled Garden in Haddington for the purchase of equipment for volunteers and trainees to use.

These activities help to meet our objective of assisting in the improvement of the village and neighbourhood.

Other information

The Society is a member of the Scottish Gardeners' Forum and an affiliated member of the Royal Horticultural Society.

11. Trustees Remuneration

No Trustee received any remuneration during the year.

12. Financial review for the year ending October 31st 2025 [last year's figures in brackets]

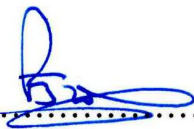
The accounts show a surplus of £2,695.06 [£574.26] on the Society's total income of £10,794.94 [£9,784.57] for the financial year ending on October 31st 2025.

With the current level of reserve funds of £10,127.09 [£9,952.13] in a Virgin Charity Account plus a year-end bank balance of £20,432.47 [£17,471.41], the Trustees consider that the Society is well placed to continue its charitable purposes in the coming 12 months subject to close monitoring of the impact of any significant changes that might arise.

We received sponsorship of £650 from the Yester Estate, £500 from Rettie & Co. and £100 from The Chippendale School of Furniture towards the costs of the Flower Show.

Approved by the Trustees on May 20th 2026 and signed on their behalf by

Roger Wilson, President.....



Independent Examiner's Report

For the Year Ended 31 October 2025

To the Trustees of Gifford Horticultural Society

Registered Scottish Charity Number SC006996

I report on the receipts and payments accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 October 2025, which are set out on the attached page.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44)(1) (c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

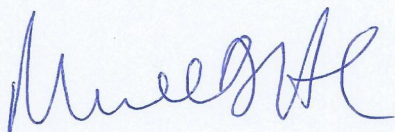
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Michael Hinton CA

Speedyburn House, Station Road, Gifford, EH41 4QL

17th November 2025

GIFFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Reg. Scottish Charity No. SC006996

ACCOUNTS TO 31 OCTOBER 2025

INCOME	2025	2024
Membership	£2,020.00	£1,970.00
Plant Sales	£1,899.85	£3,097.85
Flower Show Income	£2,711.88	£2,592.52
Outings	£1,058.89	£1,545.00
Scotland's Gardens	£2,708.32	-
Donations	£71.00	£62.20
Tattie Competition	£295.00	£320.00
Raffle	-	£177.00
Other	£30.00	£20.00
Total Income	£10,794.94	£9,784.57
Less Expenditure	£7,829.88	£9,210.31
Surplus	£2,965.06	£574.26
Virgin Account Interest	£174.96	60.59
Net Income	£3,140.02	£634.85

EXPENDITURE	2025	2024
Officers' Expenses	£213.49	£45.00
Plant Sales Costs	£463.02	£1,587.87
Flower Show Expenses	£2,921.58	£3,986.64
Outings	£1,359.00	£2,041.52
Hire of Hall	£331.50	£575.00
Meeting Expenses	£150.00	£132.70
Memberships	£107.00	£45.00
Public Liability & Trophies Insurance	£190.00	£155.00
Charitable Donations	£675.00	-
Website	£130.80	£160.06
Audio/IT Systems	£246.12	£455.06
Archiving	£652.50	-
Garage Repairs	£360.00	-
Miscellaneous	£29.87	£26.46
Total Expenditure	£7,829.88	£9,210.31

Opening Reserves


Bank of Scotland balance
Cash Float
Virgin Charity Deposit Account

£17,471.41
£7.00
£9,952.13
£27,430.54

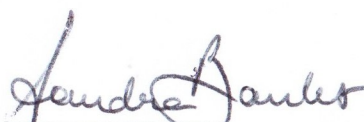
Year End Reserves

Bank of Scotland balance
Cash Float
Virgin Charity Deposit Account
Total Funds


£20,432.47
£11.00
£10,127.09
£30,570.56



President



Treasurer



Independent Examiner

14-11-2025