

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03163187 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053446

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE GARDENS TRUST**

Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon
Surrey
CRO OXZ

THE GARDENS TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
03163187 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1053446

Registered office 70
Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EJ

Trustees

Jo Barnes (appointed 17th September 2024)
Christopher John Blandford
Deborah Jane Evans
Dr Clare Hickman
Catriona Hoyes
Peter Thomas Hughes KC (resigned 17th September 2024)
Francesca Murray
Paul Anthony Rabbitts (resigned pt October 2024)
Rachel Jane Savage
Gillian Sian Sinclair
Victoria Louise Thomson (appointed 17th September 2024)

Elizabeth Jane Watson

Ex officio and non-voting members of the Board:
Joanna Elizabeth Davidson

Company Secretary

Catriona Hoyes

Independent examiner

Rekha Shah
Able 6: Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
Purley Way
Croydon Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

CAF Bank Limited
PO Box 289
West Malling Kent,
ME194TA

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of the companies law) present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of The Gardens Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", further details being set in the accounting policies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted under Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolution dated 24 July 2015, and is a Registered Charity number 1053446, Registered Company number 03163187 (England and Wales).

Method of election of Board of Trustees

Board members are elected for a three-year term of office and are then required to retire at the next Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election for a further three-year term. The names of those who are due to retire and wish to stand for re-election to the Board are listed in the papers for the Annual General Meeting.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Board Members

Newly elected Trustees are provided with copies of the previous Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Trust's Articles of Association, the Trust's Business Plan, the Risk Register, Trust policy documents, Minutes of previous Board meetings and Charity Commission advice on the duties of Trustees. All Trustees serve on Committees or otherwise have responsibilities within the Trust in addition to serving as Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Board has Committees responsible for: Conservation; Audience Development, Marketing, and Communications; and Education and Training. There is also a Management Committee comprising the Officers and the Chairs of Committees. The Board meets quarterly, with additional ad-hoc meetings as required, the Management Committee meets monthly, and the Committees meet on a regular basis.

The Trust had a complement of staff comprising: Head of Operations and Strategy; Administration and Membership Officer; Finance Officer; Conservation Officer; Casework Manager; Assistant Casework Manager; Audience Development and Engagement Officer and three Volunteer Support Officers, one of whom was engaged during the year on a specific project assisted by a grant from Historic England. All staff apart from the Head of Operations and Strategy were employed part-time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Charitable objectives

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit:

- to promote the study of the history of gardens and gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects;
- to promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes and to promote and advise on their conservation;
- to promote the County Gardens Trusts and through them, education, appreciation and involvement of the public in matters connected with the arts and sciences of Garden Land; and
- to encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscape.

2. Public benefit

The Board of Directors, as Trustees, confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW

The Gardens Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system, which means that local planning authorities must consult us, and we must respond, on any planning applications that may affect sites on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. Whilst Historic England are only statutory consultees for Grades I and II*, we are additionally consulted on Grade II, which comprise 65% of the Register. In 2024 we received 1,744 planning consultations as a statutory consultee, 911 of which were for Grade II sites. In 2024 we made full written responses to 534 consultations. The inadequacy of government funding for our statutory consultee work means that in Summer 2024 we had to make some changes to our way of working. Regrettably, we can currently only undertake our statutory remit, which is to respond to planning applications which impact on Registered parks and gardens. We are currently unable to offer wider advice and have had to lean heavily on the goodwill and understanding of the County Gardens Trusts. Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) increasingly came across our desk, placing huge demands on the time of expert volunteers, locally and nationally. In September 2024 we started a two-year volunteer training project 'Green Futures: new infrastructure and historic gardens in the East of England', with thanks to Historic England funding. In this project we will train volunteers to understand NSIPs, how to know how to assess and engage with an NSIP application; and how to research, record and understand the significance of historic designed landscapes that may be affected by them. By adding this research to the historic record, via platforms like Historic Environment Records and the National Heritage List for England, so that it is available to all, we can help developers, planners and statutory consultees like Historic England and the Gardens Trust to take into account the effect of NSIPs on historic parks, gardens and other designed landscapes.

The GT is now Certified Carbon Literate, following staff and volunteer training on the impacts of climate change on both our personal lives and in the workplace. The Gardens Trust is committed to minimising its environmental impact, inspiring others to do the same, and playing an active role in demonstrating and supporting the contribution that historic designed landscapes can make to managing the climate emergency.

We're proud that the Gardens Trust is now an official Appointing Body to the National Trust Council, after securing an impressive 54,220 votes in their 2024 AGM, demonstrating the value that National Trust members place on historic parks and gardens and the role that the Gardens Trust can play. As an Appointing Body, the Gardens Trust will be better placed than ever to support the work of the National Trust in caring for historic parks and gardens and championing their protection.

In Summer 2024 the two-year Suffolk's Unforgettable Gardens Story Project was completed. The project, delivered by the Gardens Trust in partnership with Suffolk Gardens Trust and funded by Historic England, has helped tell the stories of the county's parks and gardens and brought attention to the value of its historic designed landscapes. The hard work of volunteers has resulted in the research of more than twenty historic parks and gardens and seven new additions to the Register of Parks and Gardens, giving these sites a better level of protection in the planning system.

In March 2024 the two-year Volunteers Saved Space! Project was completed. With funding from Historic England, Volunteers Save Space! enabled us to run multiple training, networking and support activities, all aiming to tell more people about our country's designed landscape heritage and to build capacity in the volunteer organisations working to understand and protect these landscapes. Volunteers Save Space! has helped over 1600 people, many of them from new audiences, better understand historic designed landscapes, the threats they face, and how volunteers can help to protect them.

The 36 County Gardens Trusts and the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust are critical to our work, supporting our statutory consultee role as well as delivering vital research and recording activity and helping to engage with communities across the country. As well as ongoing availability to all CGTs, in 2024 our Volunteer Support team were able to give specific support to 21 CGTs, helping them to continue their vital local work.

Founded over 50 years ago, the Journal continues to offer a range of scholarly papers furthering understanding of garden history, under Dr Barbara Simm's editorship. The full contents list from 1969 to 2024 has been updated and is now available and searchable at: thegardenstrust.org/resources/journal/ In Spring 2024 we ran a webinar on ways to share garden history research, to promote diverse contributions to interdisciplinary scholarly discussion, including how to submit papers to the Journal, to encourage knowledge sharing, and promote international dialogues.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

The submissions guide has been updated, and is on our website: thegardenstrust.org/garden-history-submissions-guide/. In 2024 the New Research Symposium received a high number - and high standard - of entries, and hosted two free online sessions on Saturday afternoons in November to showcase the chosen presentations. We look forward to welcoming submissions again in 2025 from researchers approaching garden and landscape history and conservation from various academic disciplines and vocational backgrounds. A full list of researchers featured and topics covered in the symposia over the past 13 years is available on our website: thegardenstrust.org/new-research-symposium/. The winner of the Gardens Trust's 2024 Mavis Batey Essay Prize was Emma Poynter (MPhil) for her essay on 'The production, use, and significance of the Hortus Malabaricus (1678-1693) in the creation of colonial botanical knowledge.'

There's been a catastrophic dearth in recent years of places to study garden history, so the Gardens Trust is delighted to partner with the University of Buckingham on postgraduate degree courses. This gives the opportunity to pursue research at Master's level in any one of a wide range of garden and landscape related topics. In the 2024-25 cohort there are eleven new MA students.

In November 2024 the Gardens Trust published its first book - *Unforgettable Gardens: 500 Years of Historic Gardens and Landscapes*. It covers around 60 individual gardens, specially selected to give a broad historical overview of British garden design from the Early Modern Period up until the Millennium. Each chapter also includes an essay exploring the wider changes in social context, taste and style in each period. Sales look good, with almost 1,200 copies sold globally in the first few weeks of its publication.

In 2024 we ran over 85 events (online and in person), with almost 9000 tickets sold, to attendees from all across the world. Online highlights included a roundtable on 'Why Garden History', the first half of our new 6-series programme A History of Gardens, sponsored by Wooden Books, a new partnership with the County Gardens Trusts exploring Restoration in Action, and popular series on People's Parks, Community Landscapes, Roman Gardens, Gardens & the Written Word and Head Gardeners Working at Historic Sites. In-person events included successful trips to the MERL and Forbury Gardens in Reading, Dorneywood in Buckinghamshire, Exbury Gardens in Hampshire, Charlton House and Garden in southeast London, Gravetye Manor in Sussex, a multi-day study trip to Suffolk, and partnership sessions with the Royal Horticultural Society exploring the archives at the Lindley Library.

One of the purposes of our events programme is to raise funds for our work and this year ticket sales contributed over £30,000 to the cause. We also partnered with other organisations, such as the Garden Museum for an Introduction to Garden History course, and welcomed around 30 delegates to our annual study weekend arranged in partnership with Oxford University, this year with the theme New Perspectives on Botanical Gardens. We are fortunate to have a team of long-standing volunteers making our events programme possible and highly value their help.

To complement the GT News magazine for members, our bulletin covering sector highlights, went out monthly to over 2,100 readers, with an extra edition for non-GT members. Social media stats for 2024 include: our posts on X (previously Twitter) were viewed over 30380 times; Facebook posts reached over 32,000 users; Instagram won 300 more Followers and our posts have reached over 126,000 users; LinkedIn gained 200 new followers and posts have been viewed 10,000 times; 19 TikTok videos have been viewed over 75,000 times. We're grateful to have the help of 6 volunteers under the age of 30 to help with our social media.

In 2024 two community garden projects in historic designed landscapes were able to progress thanks to our Gardens Trust Community Grant, supported with the generosity of members Peter and Rosy Gent. Friends of Brunswick Square & Terrace in Hove, East Sussex, received £2500 to help restore the garden not only for the mental, physical and social benefits of the volunteers who go every Saturday, but for the many local residents and tourists that appreciate the Square too. Dawber Garden Community Trust, Lincoln, received £1000 for a project around the restoration, ongoing maintenance, and significant improvement of the garden to ensure long term survival. We look forward to seeing work progress on the projects awarded GT Community Grants in autumn 2024, which are: Arnos Vale Cemetery in Bristol; Broomhill Community Library Garden in Sheffield; a still-used historic mental health hospital garden known as 'Warneford 200' in Oxfordshire; and biodiversity plantings in historic parks as part of the Your Park Bath project.

Barbara Moth won our Volunteer Award 2024 for her outstanding contribution to all of Cheshire Gardens Trust's activities, management, research and leadership over a period of more than 20 years. Barbara has made a huge impact, through her involvement in activities including organising conferences and study days, leading the Caldwell Nurseries Project, writing articles and delivering outreach events which have engaged new audiences.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

Due to the outstanding calibre of nominees, we created a new award this year so Claire de Carle was given the brand new award for Exceptional Contribution, recognising her achievements in reaching out and engaging new audiences with garden history, including the setting up of the Buckinghamshire Gardeners' Network, leading Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust's audience development strategy over the next five years and delivering activities like a Heritage Open Day and sessions for the Chiltern Young Archaeologists' Club.

Special mention was also given to Zhixin Zheng, for her work helping to publicise our events to a wider audience. Zhixin is one of the youngest volunteers ever nominated and in light of this we are exploring ways we recognise the achievements of our new and younger volunteers in the future. Other nominees for 2024 Volunteer Award were: Dr Sarah Rutherford, Buckinghamshire GT Joanne Mirzoeff, Buckinghamshire GT Suffolk's Unforgettable Garden Story Volunteers; and Sally Miller, Hampshire GT. The Award was presented at the annual Gardens Trust Volunteer Celebration, held in July at the Sheffield Botanical Gardens. This celebration is a valued milestone in the Gardens Trust calendar as an opportunity to thank and celebrate the volunteers caring for historic designed landscapes.

In October we welcomed Chairs from 21 County Gardens Trusts to a Chairs Meet Up at our offices in London, where we discussed ways in which the CGTs and GT could work more productively together. This was the first step in what we expect to be a multi-year project to review and refine the GT-CGT relationship that was first established in 2015, so that we can together be fit-for-purpose for another ten years and beyond.

CGT achievements in 2024 include:

- Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust's new Mission Statement project includes a focus on audience development. The team has worked hard to introduce new people to garden history with at least six public events over the summer.
- Sussex Gardens Trust began a new research project based on Marine Gardens, West Sussex. The team supplemented its archival research with oral histories, collected during a drop-in day in May, in partnership with the Friends of Marine Gardens.
- Yorkshire GT got 3 previously non-designated sites onto the Register of Parks and Gardens, including Waterton Park (Grade II), thought to be the world's first nature reserve.
- The southwest County Gardens Trusts have reinvigorated their research groups with a kick-off event at Wiltshire Record Office in April.
- Gloucestershire Gardens & Landscapes Trust is partnering with Gloucestershire Orchards Trust to identify, research and map historic orchards.
- Hertfordshire Gardens Trust has restarted its research group with a walled kitchen garden project.
- In September, Devon Gardens Trust celebrated the addition of two sites to the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest at Grade II: Larkbeare House in Exeter - probably the only surviving British villa garden by James Veitch; and Peamore Park, which developed from an 18th century picturesque landscape.
- The Essex Gardens Trust provided a grant to restore two paintings of now vanished allotments at Grays - rare early examples of allotments being used as the primary focus of a painting.
- London Parks & Gardens worked with the Gardens Trust and two young students from University College London who identified an amazing twenty parks, gardens and other green spaces that were either missing from the London Inventory or had incomplete entries.
- Lincolnshire Gardens Trust's Committee member Elizabeth Bowskill was integral to developing the Grantham Green Spaces Forum (GGSF), which will champion the value of the town's parks and green spaces, ensuring they are preserved and maintained to standards that befit their intended purpose - community health and recreation.

Peter Hughes KC stepped down as Chair of Trustees at the end of his term in September 2024. We owe him a great debt of thanks for his work taking the Gardens Trust through an ambitious and challenging period.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

TRUSTEES' OVERVIEW (continued)

Plans for 2025 are well underway and bold, as is fitting for our 10th anniversary year, and we look forward to working with the new Chair to help deliver them. In particular;

- We will work with CGTs on Historic England-funded scoping report into a multi-year project to review and refine the GT-CGT relationship that was first established in 2015, so that we can together be fit-for-purpose for another ten years and beyond.
- The GT Community Grant will run again, with an increased grant pot of £8000, with thanks to the generosity of members Peter and Rosy Gent.
- The GT News will be relaunched as a fresher revitalised magazine.
- A grant from the National Archives, with thanks to Lottery Players, as part of their Archives Revealed, programme, will enable us to scope the contents of the Garden Trust's archive of papers to assess its significance and potentially apply for a further grant in order to make the collection available to researchers in future.
- We will continue to deliver our Fundraising Strategy, designed to reduce reliance on public funding and put the GT on more secure financial foundations.

Please refer to The Gardens Trust Committee Reports 2024 for further detail, and see <https://thegardenstrust.org/what-we-do/our-impact/> for the Impact Report 2024.

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

In 2024 the operating outcome for the Gardens Trust's was a negative figure of (£67,173), before gains/losses. That this negative figure was not considerably worse was down to the indefatigable efforts of the team running our Events and those involved in seeking sources of fundraising. To those people we are extremely grateful. We are also very grateful for the many, many hours of voluntary time that have been contributed to achieving what is a very impressive list of successes for the year under review.

The Gardens Trust continued to benefit from support from Historic England funding, not only in respect of our statutory casework and County Gardens Trusts support activities, but also in other project work. As discussed in the Overview, *Suffolk's Unforgettable Garden Story* research project was completed in 2024. We also delivered *Volunteers Saved Space!* Project. The Gentian Trust continued to be very generous in facilitating the Gardens Trust to fund other small projects.

The value of our investments began to rise again, and at the end of the year our net gain was £10,310. Taking account of this increase and our operating loss the negative outcome for the year was (£56,863), with total funds carried forward of £361,470.

THE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Gardens Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Risk Management

Following Charity Commission guidance, the Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy and agreed a Risk Register. This is monitored and reviewed annually and actions agreed to manage significant risks. The Board has reviewed the Risk Register during the year and agreed actions to address or mitigate the identified significant risks.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 16th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Elizabeth Jane Watson - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GARDENS TRUST

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Gardens Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its 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 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rekha Shah
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Able & Young Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Airport House
PurleyWay
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 0XZ

Date: 16th June 2025

THE GARDENS TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes	£	£		
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Subscriptions and donations	2	103,690		103,690	80,660
Historic England			99,810	99,810	124,897
Historic England Projects			3,567	3,567	4,000
Other Projects		8,771	3,799	12,570	5,404
Publications		5,631		5,631	7,658
Advertising		2,036		2,036	906
Events		70,117		70,117	67,647
Investment income	3	9,285		9,285	11,902
Total		199,531	107,177	306,709	303,245
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	2,655		2,655	3,426
Charitable activities					
Events		39,673		39,673	39,428
Wages and salaries		129,835	113,889	243,724	273,828
Printing and distribution		10,029		10,029	21,842
Membership		9,770		9,770	2,430
Office management costs	5	64,249		64,249	36,152
Other support costs	5	3,780		3,780	3,960
Other Projects		---			<u>37,935</u>
Total		259,992	113,889	373,881	419,001

NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE GAINS AND LOSSES		-60461	-6712	-67,173	-115,756
Net gains/ (losses) on investments		10,310		10,310	8,638
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		-164,040	107,177	-56,863	-107,118
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		523,150	-104,818	418,333	525,451
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>473,000</u>	<u>-111,530</u>	<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,111</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

THE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	63,715		63,715	63,715
Investments	10	<u>291,754</u>		<u>291,754</u>	<u>337,961</u>
		355,469		355,469	401,676
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayment	11	2,108		2,108	1,187
Debtors	11	28,391		28,391	50,823
Cash at bank and in hand		31,103		31,103	6,731
		61,603		61,603	58,741
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(55,601)		(55,601)	(42,085)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>6,002</u>	--	<u>6,002</u>	<u>16,656</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		361,470		361,470	418,333
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	13				
NET ASSETS		<u>361,470</u>	--	<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,333</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				473,000	523,150
Restricted funds				<u>-111,530</u>	<u>-104,818</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>361,470</u>	<u>418,333</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 4n of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the charitable 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 directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) 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.

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 16th June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by

Elizabeth Jane Watson - Trustee

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 2020)', 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, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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.

Furniture, fixtures Et fittings	• 25% on reducing balance
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No depreciation is provided for on the Trust's library as, in the Board's opinion, the library will be maintained in perpetuity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Board for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES- continued

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company are the Board members named in the reference and administrative details. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments are held for the long-term to generate income or capital growth.

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	32,409	27,412
Subscriptions	70,825	52,960
CGT Insurance surplus	-----1.2Q	□
	<u>103.690</u>	<u>80.660</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Dividends and interest from investments	9,026	11,648
Interest receivable on liquid investments	259	254
	<u>9,285</u>	<u>11,902</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment management fees	2,655	<u>3,426</u>

5 SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Other	Totals	Totals
	£	£	2024	2023
			£	£
Postage and stationery	9,587		9,587	6,391
IT	22,882		22,882	12,567
Bank charges	415		415	798
Office sundries	13,236		13,236	8,694
Insurance	7,947		7,947	
Rent	3,555		3,555	4,020
Communications advisor	5,160		5,160	3,635
Independent Examiner		3,780	3,780	3,960
Exchange difference				48
Bookkeeping	<u>1,468</u>		<u>1,468</u>	
	<u>64,249</u>	<u>3,780</u>	<u>68,029</u>	<u>40,112</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses reimbursed for the year ended 31 December 2024.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	222,080	251,855
Social security costs	<u>21,654</u>	<u>21,973</u>
	<u>243,724</u>	<u>273,828</u>

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

	2024	2023
Management and administration	2	2
Conservation	7	8
	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

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

8. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	80,660		80,660
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable		134,301	134,301
Publications	7,658		7,658
Other trading activities	68,724		68,724
Investment income	<u>11,902</u>		□
Total	168,944	134,301	303,245

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8.	2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
	EXPENDITURE ON			
	Raising funds	3,426		3,426
	Charitable activities			
	Events	39,428		39,428
	Wages and salaries	93,833	179,995	273,828
	National insurance			
	Printing and distribution	21,842		21,842
	Membership	2,430		2,430
	Other management costs	36,152		36,152
	Other support costs	3,960		3,960
	Historic England			
	Historic England Projects			
	Other Projects	12,277	25,658	37,935
	Heritage Lottery Fund - Repton	--	---	---
	Total	213,349	205,652	419,001
	Net gains on investments	___Jill§		□
	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	-35,767	-71,351	-107,118
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
	Total funds brought forward	558,915	-33,467	525,451
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>523.150</u>	<u>-104.818</u>	<u>418.333</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Library £	Furniture, fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2023	63,715			
At 31 December 2024	<u>63,715</u>			
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2023				
At 31 December 2024				
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2023				<u>63,715</u>
At 31 December 2024				

The library comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time and is valued at the estimated cost when donated. The library is housed at the Library of the University of Bath, BA2 7AY and the Library of the University of York, YO10 5DD.

10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2023	337,461	500	337,461
Additions	47,348		47,348
Disposals	(103,865)		(103,865)
Revaluations	<u>10,310</u>		-1,011.0
At 31 December 2024	<u>291,254</u>	200	<u>291,754</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024		<u>500</u>	<u>291,154</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>337,461</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>337,961</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Unlisted investments comprises a Pen and Wash painting that was donated in earlier years and is included at its estimated market value.

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	30,499	52,010
		<u>52,010</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	6,224	8,673
Accruals and deferred income	<u>49,377</u>	<u>33,412</u>
	<u>55,601</u>	<u>42,085</u>

Accruals and deferred income for 2024 includes grants received from Historic England in respect of the following year.

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	-	-

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	313,496	-50,150	263,346
Library Fund	63,715		63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758		30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341		112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>	<u>---</u> -	<u>2,840</u>
	523,150	-50,150	473,000
Restricted funds			
Other Projects	-106,347	-6712	-113,059
Frank Clark	1,000		1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	<u>---</u> iii	<u>---</u> -	<u>---</u> iii
	-104,818	-6712	-111,530
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>418,333</u>	<u>-56,863</u>	<u>361,470</u>

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>199,531</u>	<u>(259,992)</u>	<u>10,310</u>	<u>-50,151</u>
	199,531	(259,992)	10310	-50151
Restricted funds				
Historic England	103,378	(113889)		-10511
Other Projects	<u>1,122</u>			<u>1,122</u>
	107,177	(113889)		-6712
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>306,709</u>	<u>(373,881)</u>	<u>10310</u>	<u>-56,863</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	349,261	-35,767	313,494
Library Fund	63,715		63,715
Fighting Fund	30,758		30,758
Fund for Conservation	112,341		112,341
College Lectures	<u>2,840</u>		<u>2,840</u>
	558,915	-35,767	523,150
Restricted funds			
Historic England			
Other Projects	-34,996	-71,351	-106,347
Frank Clark	1,000		1,000
G Drummond Volunteer Award	□		□
	-33,467	-71,351	-104,818
TOTAL FUNDS	525,451	-107,118	418,333

THE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>168,944</u>	<u>(213,349)</u>	□	<u>-35,767</u>
	168,944	(213,349)	8,638	-35,767
Restricted funds				
Historic England	124,897	(159,261)		-34,364
Other Projects	<u>9,404</u>	<u>(46,391)</u>		<u>-36,987</u>
	<u>134,301</u>	<u>(205,652)</u>		<u>-71,351</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>303,245</u>	<u>(419,001)</u>	<u>8,618</u>	<u>-93,088</u>

The purpose of each material fund may be summarised as follows:

Designated funds:

The Library Fund comprises books and journals donated to the Trust from time to time.

The Fighting Fund comprises funds designated by the Board as such from time to time to help build a general reserve.

The Fund for Conservation comprises gifts to the Trust designated to be held to support the Trust's objectives in conservation work.

The College Lecture Fund is designated to be used for educational purposes.

The G Drummond Volunteer Award Fund was contributed by CGTs.

General funds:

The General fund represents net assets of the charity that are not Designated Funds or Restricted Funds.

Restricted funds:

The grant from Historic England has been applied to conservation and localism work in England.

The Frank Clark Fund contains a grant to be used towards work on a publication of the life and work of the Trust's founding President, Frank Clark.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024 or 2023.

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Subscriptions and donations		
Donations	32,409	27,412
Subscriptions	70,825	52,960
CGT Insurance surplus	456	□
	103,690	80,660
Other trading activities		
Advertising	2,036	906
Contributions from member's events etc.	70,117	<u>67,818</u>
	72,153	68,724
Investment income		
Dividends from investments	9,026	11,648
Interest receivable on liquid investments	259	<u>lli</u>
	9,285	11,902
Charitable activities		
Publications	5,631	7,658
Grants receivable	<u>115,947</u>	<u>136,856</u>
	<u>121,578</u>	<u>144,514</u>
Total incoming resources	306,709	303,245
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Investment management fees	2,655	3,426
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	243,724	273,828
Events	39,673	39,428
Printing and distribution	10,029	21,842
Membership	9,770	2,430
Historic England Projects		<u>37,935</u>
	303,196	374,468
Support costs		
Management	64,249	36,152
	64,249	36,152

THE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Other		
Independent Examiner	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,960</u>
	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,960</u>
Total resources expended	<u>373,881</u>	<u>419,001</u>
Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses	-67,173	-115,756
Realised and unrealised gains and losses		
Net realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	195	6,145
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets investments	<u>10,115</u>	<u>2,493</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>-56,863</u>	<u>107,118</u>