

## Annual report April 2024/April 2025 The Callister Trust Charity no: 520017

Contact address: 29, Grafton Street, Prenton CH43 4UJ

Trustees: Catherine Warren, Allan Brame, Melanie Routledge, Laura Penn, Mary O Neill

### Introduction

The charity's purposes are 'for the welfare of girls and women in Birkenhead' and derive from a declaration of trust within a conveyance dated April 20<sup>th</sup> 1925.

The charity owns a property in Argyle Street, Birkenhead tenanted by Wirral Children and Young People's department. The lease was renewed in March 2023 for a further four years.

The Charity also owns a half acre garden in Slatey Road, Birkenhead which had been boarded up and neglected for 15 years up until the appointment of new trustees in 2018.

The plan for April 2024/25 was to continue developing and restoring the Garden and to expand the use of the Garden for community activities. The trustees would also proceed with plans for the new garden pavilion.

The public benefit of the charity is as stated in the introduction. The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's policy on public benefit.

The trustees do not at present have a policy on reserves.

#### 1. Tasks planned for 2024/25

The main tasks for 2024/25 were:

1. To continue the restoration and improvement of the garden for its use for the purposes of the charity.
2. To proceed with plans for the new garden pavilion with a view to commencing the build in September 2024.
3. To enable the volunteer gardeners comprising long term local residents and recent arrivals, mainly refugees and asylum seekers to continue gardening throughout the year.
4. To work with local community groups to run small events to further the purposes of the charity.
5. To apply for local grants for community activities in the Garden and to continue to work in partnership with other local organisations.
6. To continue the 'hops' project working with Make Hamilton Square, local growers and Brimstage brewery.

#### 2. The Pavilion

The trustees looked forward to bringing this project to fruition offering an indoor space to support the work of the charity, offer modern, accessible facilities and enable the Garden to be used all the year round. The trustees continued to work with the architects, to follow the funding plan for the new Pavilion and to proceed to

contract with the builders identified by the tender process with a view to commencing the build of the new garden pavilion in August/September 2024. The trustees continued to identify small grants for the fit out of the new pavilion and were delighted to receive further grants from: Wirral Green grants, Hubbub, the Duchy of Lancaster, Medicash, Pilkingtons, the Hemby Trust, the Price Parry trust, the Cheshire Freemasons, The Oxton Society and other donations from local community organisations and individuals. The trustees would continue to work on plans for the running of the pavilion.

### 3. Activities: April – July 2024

- a. Women's groups – community organisation Neo Ladies group used the Garden for a summer event. Heswall ladies gardening group visited and Grow – Wellbeing CIC ran 2 x Nature Babies sessions for mothers/carers and babies under one which were greatly appreciated.
- b. Weekly reading group: This continues to be held outdoors as long as weather makes it possible.
- c. Open Days and public access: This year those that live in the neighbourhood have been encouraged to make use of the garden. The Garden is now open for volunteers every Wednesday and Saturday and is open to the general public every Saturday. A 'twilight' gardening session was held during Spring/Summer 24/25 to encourage volunteers who were working in the day time. Over 100 visitors came to the Garden as part of the 'Oxton Secret Gardens' event.
- d. Gardening programme with local refugees and Asylum seekers: Attendees from this programme have become much valued members of our volunteering team.
- e. EsSEntial early years: The nursery for children with additional needs have continued to use the garden on a regular basis and held a summer event attended by over 60 family members.
- f. Occasional events included a Wirral Poetry Society afternoon, a visit by the Urban Sketchers and a celebration of the installation of a blue plaque on the family house of Mallory the climber attended by the Mayor of Wirral.
- g. Activities except for the maintaining of the garden and harvest of the hops ceased during the build of the pavilion from mid August 2024 – March 2025.
- h. March 2025 saw the recommencement of community workshops on Spring gardening, Composting, Womens wellbeing, and Growing food/shared meal.

### 4. Links with local organisations:

- GROW – Wellbeing CIC delivered woodland and wellbeing workshops.
- Wirral Environmental Network delivered gardening sessions.
- Members from Spider (Recovery project) continue to grow vegetables in a designated area in the Garden.
- EsSEntial early years have delivered forest school sessions for their children.

- Heart for Refugees have participated in gardening and family outdoor activities.
- Local community groups have used the Garden for outdoor events.
- The Callister Trust became part of the Cool Wirral network and became a 'Nature Hub'.

5. RHS North West in Bloom: The Callister Garden was visited by the judges from RHS North West in Bloom in July 2024 and was again awarded an 'outstanding' certificate. The feedback was very useful and has informed work in the Garden going forward.

### Conclusion

The continued work and dedication of the volunteers throughout the build of the pavilion has enabled the garden to develop and flourish during the year April 2024 – 2025. The work of the volunteers continues to improve both the appearance of the Garden, its pathways and hedges, the variety of plants and encouragement of biodiversity.

Opening to the public on Saturday mornings has brought local visitors and those from further afield and also added to our volunteers. Workshops have all received very positive feedback.

The income from the property in Argyle Street ensures maintenance costs for the garden and the new pavilion.

The trustees were delighted that the new pavilion was nearly complete by the end of March 2025 and would be ready for use and a formal opening soon after the charity's centenary in April 2025.

The trustees thank all the volunteers for their hard work and thank community groups and local people for their support and enthusiasm. They would also like to thank all their grant funders, the architect and the builders whose commitment to the garden pavilion project has led to the completion of a resource for the charity and for the local community for years to come.

*This report was approved by the Trustees at their annual meeting on 05/01/26 and it was agreed that the Chairperson should sign on their behalf.*

Signed.......... Catherine M Warren (Chairperson)



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Callister Trust

520017

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Rent	14,000	14,000	-	28,000	10,346
Pavilion Fund Donations	-	5,529	-	5,529	6,597
Other Donations	150	-	-	150	-
Duchy Of Lancaster Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	1,656	-	1,656	-
Oxon Society Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Pilkingtons Fund Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Wirral Society Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	500	-	500	-
Hubbub Foundation Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Wallasey Van Hire Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Veolia Environmental Trust Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	37,454	-	37,454	-
WBC Green Grant (Pavilion Fund)	-	9,890	-	9,890	-
Hemby Trust (Pavilion Fund)	-	1,500	-	1,500	-
Sales (Pavilion Fund)	-	4,265	-	4,265	-
Ardonagh Trust (For Shed)	-	1,300	-	1,300	-
Price Parry Grant (For furniture)	-	2,300	-	2,300	-
Wirral SOUP Grant (Childrens equipment)	-	1,055	-	1,055	-
WBC Councilor Grant (Winter Volunteering)	-	200	-	200	-
WBC Green Grant (Winter Workshops)	-	1,310	-	1,310	250
WBC Plants For Wellness Grant	-	-	-	-	10,000
Garfield Weston Pavilion Grant	-	-	-	-	3,656
Historic Gift Aid Claim	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>14,150</b>	<b>101,959</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116,109</b>	<b>30,849</b>

<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>				
	-		-	
	-		-	
<b>Sub total</b>	-		-	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>14,150</b>	<b>101,959</b>	<b>116,109</b>	<b>30,849</b>

<b>A3 Payments</b>				
Consultants Fees	-	8,477	-	8,820
Capital Building Works (Pavilion)	-	215,598	-	215,598
Garden Shed	-	1,299	-	1,299
Workshop Facilitation	-	971	-	971
Garden Materials	31	655	-	686
Garden Work Non-Capital	150	-	-	150
WBC Plants For Wellness Grant Spend	-	-	-	-
Bridging Communities Grant Spend	-	-	-	-
Publicity	243	-	-	243
Stock	181	-	-	181
Open Day Costs	266	-	-	266
Fundraising Platform Fees	216	-	-	216
Insurance	257	-	-	257
Planning/Building Control Fees	-	743	-	743
Contributing 3rd Party Payment	-	7,491	-	7,491
Utilities	-	-	-	-
Joint Fundraising Transfer to Make CIC	-	-	-	-
Other Fees	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>235,234</b>	<b>236,578</b>	<b>14,498</b>

<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>				
	-		-	
	-		-	
<b>Sub total</b>	-		-	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>235,234</b>	<b>236,578</b>	<b>14,498</b>

<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	12,806	-	133,275	-	-	120,469	16,351
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,469	-	146,944	-	151,413	151,413	116,002
Cash funds this year end	17,275	-	13,669	-	30,944	30,944	132,353

# Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Total held by Callister Trust	17,275	13,669	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>17,275</b>	<b>13,669</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	19 Argyle Street	The Callister Trust	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

**B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use**

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
34A Slatey Road	The Callister Trust	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

**B5 Liabilities**

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	LAURA PENN	05/01/2026

## Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of The Callister Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Callister Trust (the trust) for the year ended March 2025

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011('the Act')

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:

E J Ward

Name:

ELIZABETH JANE WARD

Address:

60 SHREWSBURY ROAD, CH43 2HY

Date:

15 JANUARY 2026