

The Norfolk Gardens Trust
Charity number 801984

Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2022

Principal address

Hill House
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**Chairman's Report
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The death of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in September brought to a close a reign of extraordinary service. The Queen enjoyed extensive gardens at Sandringham, which are an excellent example of a late Victorian landscape park, significantly improved in Edwardian and later times. Sandringham offered the Queen seclusion and she regarded it as one of her special places. We mourn her passing.

Earlier in 2022 we celebrated Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. The undoubted highlight of our year was the Platinum Jubilee competition in which 5000 Norfolk primary school children painted or drew a posy for the Queen to celebrate the Jubilee. Following this the winner, Sila Hamed of North Denes Primary School in Great Yarmouth, was presented to the Princess Royal at the Norfolk Show in June. The competition was devised and arranged by committee member Hilary Talbot and the bulk of the credit was due to her.

The drought in the summer of 2022 brought many challenges to garden and park owners. It is a sign of what may be in store for us all as a consequence of climate change.

Over 40 members enjoyed a three day trip to the Cotswolds brilliantly organised as usual by Karen Moore. We saw Hidcote and Kiftsgate Court Gardens there and other gardens on route including one at Bledlow created by the late Lord Carington. The present Lord Carington was there to greet us.

Another outing was to Burghley House near Stamford. *'The garden of surprises'* there, designed by NGT Vice President George Carter, was a particular feature capturing our attention. It uses traditional ideas of fountains, shell grottoes, and a mirror maze, but in 21st century style.

During 2022 our members visited 5 gardens. These were at Elmham House, Bagthorpe Hall, Lexham Hall, Shropham Vicarage and Hunworth Hall. We were extremely grateful to all the garden owners. We truly appreciate all the time and trouble they take in bringing their gardens to a viewable state and hosting us on open days.

We also had three talks during the year. The first was an illustrated talk by Joe Whitehead, Head Gardener at Burghley House and was principally about the walled garden project at Burghley. John Knowles talked about Beverley Park at Timaru in New Zealand, Friar Park and Bagshot Park where his forebears had been head gardeners. Finally Andrew Sankey talked about 6 gardens at Kightshayes Court, Hestercombe House, Powis Castle, Hodnet Hall Dorothy Clive Garden and Chatsworth.

Our half yearly Magazine continues to receive high praise. It is a marvellous way to keep in touch with our large membership and full credit is due to its editors Clive Lloyd and Sue Roe.

Finally, I wish to give all our committee members my sincerest thanks for all their hard work. I believe Norfolk Gardens Trust is firing on all cylinders and this is only possible as a result of their individual industry.

Matthew Martin
Chairman
7 March 2022

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report and receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

President

The Marquess of Cholmondeley

Trustees

Mr Matthew Martin (Chairman)

Mrs Sally Bate (Vice Chairman)

Mr Graham Innes

Mr Roger Last

Mrs Lyn Burroughes (Membership Secretary)

Mr Nicholas Sandford

Mrs Karen Moore (Events Secretary)

Ms Sue Roe (Magazine Co-editor)

Mrs Caroline Keene (Website)

Mr Roger Lloyd (Secretary)

Mrs Hilary Talbot (Public Relations)

Mr James Warren (Treasurer)

Mr Keri Williams (Planning)

Members

Mr Clive Lloyd (Magazine Co-editor)

Mrs Christina Douglas (Grants Co-ordinator)

Ms Karen Roseberry (Design)

Structure, governance and management

The unincorporated Trust was established by a Declaration of Trust dated 6 December 1988 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 30 August 1989.

Appointment of Trustees

The Trust has a policy for the recruitment of Trustees. Nominations are considered from any source, but any potential Trustee would be expected to bring specific skills and/or experience to the Trust. In selecting new Trustees, the Trust follows the guidance laid down by the Charity Commission.

Induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under Charity Law, the content of the Declaration of Trust and recent financial information of the Trust. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Volunteers

A great contribution is made by volunteers (who are members) including Trustees who devote many hours organising events for the benefit of our members and guests.

Risk management

The Norfolk Gardens Trustees have assessed the major risks to which they believe the Trust is exposed and are satisfied that systems have been established to mitigate against them. The Trust has appropriate public liability insurance arranged through the National Association: The Gardens Trust.

Public benefit

The Trustees of The Norfolk Gardens Trust accept the need to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. They recognise that it is their responsibility to ensure that the benefits are realised in Norfolk and further afield by promoting all aspects of gardening both within the membership of the Trust and the wider community

Charitable objectives

- To promote the education of the public on matters connected with the arts and sciences of garden land.
- To preserve, enhance and re-create, for the education and enjoyment of the public, whatever garden land may exist or have existed in and around Norfolk.

**Trustees' Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Main activities, achievements and performance

The activities and related events supported by the Trust during the year are outlined in the Chairman's Report on page 1.

Financial review

On 31 December 2022 the charity held bank and cash balances of £23,361.38. These unrestricted funds are held in order to maintain the activities of the charity. The charity still has an investment, started on 7 November 2014, when £45,000 was invested by purchasing units in the M&G Charifund income fund in order to generate additional funds. An additional £10,000 was invested in this fund on 1 July 2019. The value of this fund at 31 December 2022 is £55,837.25.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees on 7 March 2023

Matthew Martin (Chairman)

Receipts & payments accounts
Year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Unrestricted 2021 £
Receipts		
Voluntary sources		
Donations	80.00	14.50
Subscriptions and life memberships	7,639.00	6,774.00
Functions and events (including deposits held)	26,818.60	8,144.44
Other income		
Book sales (Excl. Enticing Paths)	201.14	368.37
Book sales (Enticing Paths)	4,737.21	12,386.71
Gift aid	1,425.11	1,093.78
Investment income	3,153.75	2,811.76
Bank deposit interest	15.90	1.24
Total receipts	44,070.71	31,594.80
Payments		
Direct charitable expenditure		
Functions and events	25,271.43	3,635.94
Postage	2,706.67	2,557.21
Printing and stationery	1,116.40	317.24
Website	548.25	788.23
Examiner's fee	300.00	300.00
Committee expenses	520.60	499.33
Subscriptions (including insurance)	1,503.00	1,311.25
The Magazine	2,207.93	1,614.00
Bursary	3,000.00	-
Publishing costs (Enticing Paths)	-	15,333.21
Equipment	-	132.80
Grants and donations	2,300.00	1,325.00
Total payments	39,474.28	27,814.21
Excess of receipts over payments	4,596.43	3,780.59
Balance of funds at 1 January 2022	18,764.95	14,984.36
Balance of funds at 31 December 2022	23,361.38	18,764.95
Monetary assets		
Current account	6,977.73	7,077.41
Deposit account	16,383.65	11,687.54
	23,361.38	18,764.95

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 7 March 2023

Matthew Martin (Chairman)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Norfolk Gardens Trust

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I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on page 4.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Robert E Collin
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