

FRIENDS OF GRANTON CASTLE WALLED GARDEN SCIO

Scottish Charity No. SC048884

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

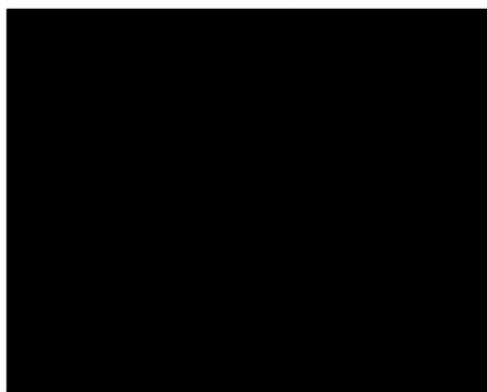
FRIENDS OF GRANTON CASTLE WALLED GARDEN

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

for the year to 31 December 2024

Scottish Charity number SC048884

Current Trustees



Contact Address: c/o Social Bite Village, 23 West Shore Road, Edinburgh, EH5 1QB
Website: grantoncastlewalledgarden.org.uk

Governing Document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation incorporated on 4 December 2018 and governed by a constitution effective from that date and approved by the Trustees.

Charitable Purposes

The organisation's purposes are

- a. The advancement of citizenship and community development by opening up the Granton Castle Walled Garden to community use, developing initiatives in the garden and producing local food, encouraging volunteering on site, whilst working together in a safe and inclusive environment by encouraging participation of all residents in the area regardless of age, ethnic origin, ability, sex, gender identity, career status, disability, sexual orientation, belief or political affiliation.
- b. The promotion and advancement of heritage by protecting and utilising this heritage asset
- c. The advancement of education by developing horticulture and other learning and training
- d. The provision of recreational facilities in the development of greenspace and ancillary facilities on the site

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of trustees is 12 and minimum is 4. Trustees are appointed each year at the AGM. In addition the Board of Trustees may appoint other trustees at any time.

Activities and Achievements

a. Gardener and Administrator

Funding was obtained from the Robertson Trust and Awards for All to continue to employ a part-time gardener and administrator.

The gardener stood down in July 2024 and a new gardener took up the position the following month. The administrator stood down in December 2023 and a new administrator took up the post in February 2024.

b. Volunteering

Regular volunteer sessions were supervised by the gardener on 2-3 weekdays per week and the garden was also open for volunteers at weekends during visiting hours. Many regular volunteers were introduced to the garden through the Volunteer Edinburgh scheme and we were able to promote our organisation by taking part in the annual Volunteer Recruitment Fair. In July we welcomed a group of volunteers from the Confucius Institute at Edinburgh University. In October a group of Edinburgh University students (Dirty Weekenders) helped with gardening work and in November a group from the Lothians Conservation Volunteers carried out work at the garden.

c. Visitors and events

The garden was open for visitors on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and for a wide variety of events.

Groups from Edinburgh University visited for Guided Tours on 4 occasions throughout the year.

A wassailing event took place on 21 January led by Penny Stone, a local song leader. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Apple tarts prepared for the event by students from Edinburgh College were greatly appreciated.

Children from the local Waterfront Nursery regularly visited the garden on Thursdays and loved playing there.

A midsummer picnic attracted a large number of visitors and volunteers who enjoyed food and drinks provided. Music was provided by Nigel's Allstars band. Many appreciative comments were received such as:

'We loved all the wildflowers, the live music and delicious cake!'

'What a stunning garden! Congratulations on a wonderful event, it was perfect'

The garden was open for Doors Open Days on 28th and 29th September and attracted a total of around 200 people over the two days.

A group from Edinburgh Garden Partners had a very enjoyable time when they came to the garden to sketch in June.

d. Workshops

Ochre Botanical Studios carried out two flower arranging workshops and two wreath making workshops during the year.

Mycobee Mushrooms carried out 14 workshops on mushrooms and mushroom growing including 2 which focussed on teaching children.

The beekeeper led three bee and pollinator walks during the year.

In November, a pruning workshop, held at the garden and led by John Hancox, a Scottish fruit tree expert, attracted volunteers and people from local community groups. The event was funded by a grant from the RHS.

e. Kitchen Garden, Orchard and Forest Garden

A wide range of vegetables including potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, onions, garlic, courgettes, beans, kale and turnips was grown. Some were donated to Pilton Community Health Project and Empty Kitchens Full Hearts which prepare free meals in the local area and some were also donated to the Community Renewal Trust in Muirhouse and to Fresh Start Community Pantry. Apples, plums and quince from the orchard and blackcurrants, blueberries, redcurrants and gooseberries from the kitchen garden were available for visitors and volunteers.

A path meandering through the Forest Garden was created by volunteers and strawberries and raspberries were planted.

f. Water harvesting

Water continued to be harvested from roofs to help with watering plants during periods of drought.

g. Other Developments

A pond was created within an area close to the kitchen garden and plants introduced. It was hoped that frogs would find it suitable for spawning.

h. Award from Keep Scotland Beautiful

The Friends of Granton Castle walled Garden received a Certificate of Distinction (Level 4-Thriving) for the year 2024.

Future Plans

We will continue to promote volunteering at the garden and arrange workshops and activities for people to enjoy. The garden is a source of local fruit and vegetables which will be available to visitors and volunteers and donated to outlets in the local community. We will continue to develop the Forest Garden. We will maintain biodiversity in the garden. We will continue with development of a water harvesting project. Areas will be developed of peace and calm for spiritual reflection and mental wellbeing. The Walled Garden is owned by the City of Edinburgh Council and we will work with them to ensure that the Heritage of the site is maintained.

Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No Trustee received any remuneration or expenses in the year.

Financial Review

The income is from donations and grants, in addition to the benefit in kind of the labour of volunteers and fruit and vegetable production. To funds of £28,600 brought forward from the previous year, grants of £20,590 were added, plus other receipts of £3,008. Out of £52,198 thus at our disposal, £23,642 was spent, leaving funds of £28,556 in the bank to carry forward.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on *1st* August 2025 on their behalf by



Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden - SCIO

5.

Statement of Receipts and Payments Account For the year to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations, general	2,621		2,621	2,661
Gift Aid	76		76	134
Donations, total	2,697	-	2,697	2,795
Grants	-	20,590	20,590	20,000
Receipts from charitable activities:			-	
Open days, workshops, and sale of produce	311		311	281
Total Receipts	3,008	20,590	23,598	23,076
Payments	£	£	£	£
Cost of charitable activities	5,936	17,586	23,522	16,663
Governance costs - independent examiner	120		120	100
Total payments	6,056	17,586	23,642	16,763
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(3,048)	3,004	(44)	6,313
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(3,048)	3,004	(44)	6,313

Statement of Balances - As at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Opening cash at bank and in hand	7,356	21,244	28,600	22,287
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(3,048)	3,004	(44)	6,313
Closing cash at bank and in hand	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600
Bank and Cash Balances				
Bank current account	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-
	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600
Other assets: - revalued after 33% write-down	£			£
Green Gym - £4,901 addition 2022	1,452			2,178
Polytunnel - £1,749 addition 2021	345			518
Computer - £ 667 addition 2021	132			198
2023 small additions: generator + strimmer £526	238			357
	1,651			-
Pruning ladder - £512 addition 2024	341			-
Barrows - £191 additions 2024	127			-
Greenhouse and Asgard shed	267			400
Compost toilet and accessories	153			229
Small tools and equipment under £130 per item	196			285
	4,902			4,165

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on

1st August 2025

Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden

Notes to the Accounts

For the year to 31 December 2024

1. Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the garden.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

3. Detailed Statement of Receipts and Payments - per page 7.

Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden - SCIO

Notes to the accounts - for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Donations general	2,313	-	2,313	1,661
Donations : Edinburgh University	308		308	-
Donations: Workshops	311		311	281
Gift Aid	76		76	134
Donation : Kier Construction	-		-	1,000
Grants:				
Robertson Trust		10,000	10,000	10,000
Awards for All		10,000	10,000	
Edinburgh Council		590	590	
Royal Horticultural Society		-	-	5,000
Foundation Scotland	-		-	5,000
Total Receipts	3,008	20,590	23,598 #	23,076
Payments				
Cost of Charitable Activities				
Labour cost: development officer		-	-	-
Labour cost: gardener		7,987	7,987	10,641
Labour cost: administrator		4,712	4,712	2,325
Labour cost: website development		-	-	214
Cost: RHS community project		4,887	4,887	113
Garden sundries including small tools	634		634	760
Compost	349	-	349	357
Barrows	191		191	-
Shed and accessories	2,477		2,477	-
Tree surgery	750		750	-
Pruning ladder	512		512	-
Wood removal	211		211	-
Seeds, plants and turf	331	-	331	188
Key-cutting	116		116	187
Public Liability Insurance	155		155	145
Volunteer costs (LCVs)	55		55	143
Honorarium: independent examiner	120		120	100
Volunteer Edinburgh Stall and parking	80		80	59
Bank charges	75		75	53
Sundry garden repairs and maintenance				1,478
Total payments	6,056	17,586	23,642	16,763
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(3,048)	3,004	(44)	6,313
transfers between funds		-		
Opening fund balances	7,356	21,244	28,600	22,287
	-	-	-	-
Closing fund balances	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600
Bank Balance				
Bank Current account	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600
	4,308	24,248	28,556	28,600

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
FRIENDS OF GRANTON CASTLE WALLED GARDEN SCIO**

Registered Scottish Charity number : SC048884

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the independent examiner

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 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:

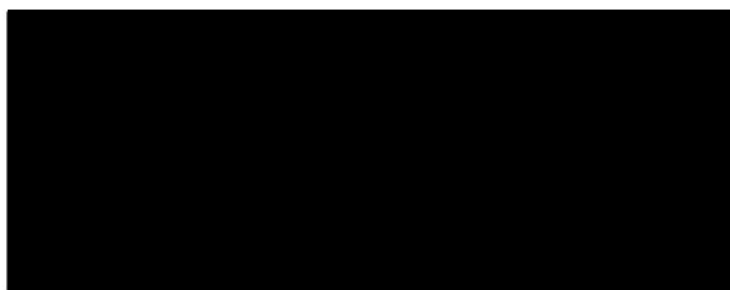
- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements;

to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have 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.



L. H. A.
..... August 2025