

The Children's Wood
Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 October 2024



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The Children's Wood
Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Reference and Administration Details

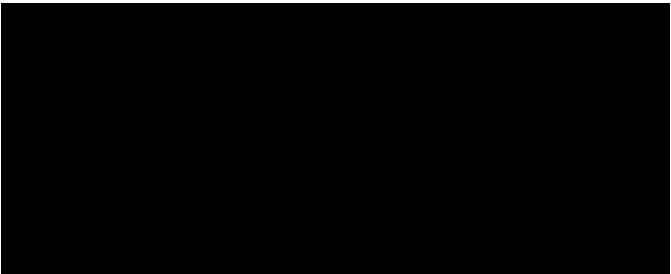
Charity Name The Children's Wood

Charity Number SC045378


Principal Address 76 Fergus Drive
Glasgow
G20 6AP

Operating Address North Kelvin Meadow
76 Kelbourne Street
Glasgow
G20 8PR

Trustees



Independent Examiner


Brett Nicholls Associates
Herbert House
24 Herbert Street
Glasgow
G20 6NB

Bankers

TSB Bank
Henry Duncan House
120 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 4LH

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 27th January 2015. It has a two tier structure and as such the charity's structure consists of members and the board of trustees.

The Charity Trustees hold regular meetings, communicate with each other regularly and generally control the activities of the SCIO. The Charity Trustees are referred to collectively as the "Board". Trustees can be elected at any point throughout the year.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Purposes

The advancement of education by;

- Providing outdoor learning for children and their carers
- Organising public and schools' events
- Working with schools and other organisations to educate about the benefits of learning and playing outside in nature.
- Working with local, young people and their families to support and encourage young people's personal and professional development.

The provision of recreational facility, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, by;

- Preserving a woodland experience in the city so maintaining and protecting our local environment.
- Creating opportunities for children and the community to play outside in nature and meet each other by organising playgroups and events
- Developing space for participants to explore in a safe and secure outdoor environment for the benefit of the community and its cohesion
- Providing activities or services which aim to relieve the impact of poverty and income inequality on people living in the operating area. This could include food related activities.

The advancement of citizenship or community development by;

- Training teachers, young people and volunteers
- Working with the local community around North Kelvin Meadow in the nearby wards within City of Glasgow (geographically this covers those living predominantly in the Maryhill/Kelvin, Canal, and Hillhead wards of the city)
- Creating intergenerational opportunities and engaging with harder to reach groups through events and linking up with other groups within the community.

The advancement of arts, heritage, culture or science;

- Through community projects and events.

Trustees' Annual Report

Achievements and Performance

Charitable Activities

This is the charity's first set of annual accounts fully separated from the G20 Youth Festival.

- Our website has been restructured and modernised thanks to the generosity of the Scottish Tech Army. It retains our very unique branding thanks to the skills and generosity of one of our volunteers. The number of beneficiaries is calculated to be over 8000 during the year. Of these 302 are volunteers who help at events, maintain the land and its perimeter, assist with security and provide a friendly greeting for the many people who simply walk through or take a breather in a busy day.
- Our OVO Schools Programme provide children with experiences that enable them to connect, value and understand their environment. They learn the real-life impact of climate change on their own eco systems and community. Schools taking part included St Charles, Dunard, North Kelvinside and Maryhill Primaries. The project concluded with an exhibition of the children's work at the Children's Wood. Reporting on the project was so regular and the content so impressive as evidence of children's learning about the climate crisis, that OVO agreed to fund a second year.
- Our popular transition days for Nursery to Primary and for Primary to Secondary were in great demand. Our Schools and Community Education Officer designs and leads a day of team challenges for the Primary 7s which includes preparing and eating "Meadow" soup and the deadly spider web experience. The day includes a chance to chat to secondary students about High School life.
- Continuing our commitment to developing literacy skills we have partnered with the Scottish Book Trust to provide a rich and diverse range of arts projects. Children have enjoyed meeting award winning authors, illustrators and story tellers. Many events are held out of doors under a canopy on the land while others take place as outreach visits. Teachers express appreciation for this support in developing literary skills which they are struggling to improve.
- Our Community Garden welcomes volunteers twice weekly for lessons in horticulture, growing vegetables and fruit. The art of scything has been fostered as this permits the meadow flowers to emerge. In addition, an ancient form of oats was grown successfully and eaten as a bannock at the volunteer evening at the end of the session.
- Our community composting facility is heavily used and appreciated.
- We run a year-round programme of seasonal events – for example – Harvest Festival, Spring-time, Summer Fest and Hallowe'en that welcome young and old to share music, storytelling & food. From 300-400 local residents attend these events.
- Outdoor Toddler groups met twice a week during which the Education and Community Engagement Coordinator (ECEC) led activities which encouraged engagement in outdoor play by children and their carers. The very old and broken mud kitchen was replaced by a splendid new model designed and installed by a volunteer. This together with the new tree house provide local children in flats with no access to gardens, to play imaginatively.
- Several groups use the land. Licketyspit ran sessions – picnic and play over the summer months culminating in a final large party when the land resonated to the sound of singing games and the laughter of children many from war-torn countries who are now New Scots

Trustees' Annual Report

Plans for future periods

- We plan to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the charity with a summer event to which our volunteers and funders will be invited. The event will demonstrate the contribution of The Children's Wood to the Woodland and Forestry Strategy of Glasgow City Council and the importance of children's informal play outdoors.
- Sadly, we have not yet identified funding for the much-needed water and electricity connections for the land. However, we have plans for collecting more rainwater, and a generous donation from a Trustee's company may enable us to complete the connections within the next financial year.
- The refurbishment of the old shed remains an ambition including reinstating the windows.
- We continue to seek funding for a compostable toilet for use by staff and volunteers.
- We have a new strategy for the BeeDookit which should ensure the health of the bees and the opportunity for children to have a unique experience safely clad in protective bee suits
- We shall take part in WestFest 2025 WestFest demonstrating our part in creating a cohesive community.

Financial Review

The charity incurred a net deficit of £4,409 in the year ended 31 October 2024 (2023: deficit of £35,965). At 31 October 2024, total reserves stood at £46,336 (2023: £50,745), with £8,844 of these being unrestricted free reserves (2023: £9,642) and £37,492 being restricted reserves (2023: £41,103).

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain reserves at a level sufficient to meet the total estimated obligations required in the event of winding up, plus working capital to cover day to day expenses and potential gaps between funding. This is estimated to be approximately £10,000. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that they will be able to continue the charity's activities in the time taken to secure new projects.

At 31 October 2024, unrestricted free reserves equalled £8,844. The trustees are therefore satisfied that this policy is broadly being achieved, and are confident that unrestricted net income will be generated such that the target level of reserves will be maintained.

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the trustee.

Date:

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of	The Children's Wood
Registered charity number	SC045378
Accounts of the charity for the period	1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024
Set out on pages	8 - 12

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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity 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 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 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 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 Accounts Regulations, and
- 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.

 Date: 21 March 2025

Fellow, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Brett Nicholls Associates
Herbert House, 24 Herbert Street, Glasgow, G20 6NB

The Children's Wood
Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

		<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>	<i>2023 Total</i>
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Receipts					
Grants	3	-	57,455	57,455	100,051
Donations	4	1,648	15,163	16,811	3,525
Charitable Activities	5	1,422	1,504	2,926	9,507
Other Income	6	857	-	857	2,795
		<u>3,927</u>	<u>74,122</u>	<u>78,049</u>	<u>115,878</u>
Payments					
Charitable Activities Costs	7	<u>4,725</u>	<u>77,733</u>	<u>82,458</u>	<u>151,843</u>
Net Receipts/-Payments		<u>(798)</u>	<u>(3,611)</u>	<u>(4,409)</u>	<u>(35,965)</u>
<i>Funds Brought Forward</i>		9,642	41,103	50,745	86,710
Funds Carried Forward	9	<u>£8,844</u>	<u>£37,492</u>	<u>£46,336</u>	<u>£50,745</u>

The Children's Wood
Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Statement of Balances

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total £
Opening Cash and Bank Balances	9,642	41,103	50,745	86,710
<i>Surplus/-Deficit for the year</i>	<u>(798)</u>	<u>(3,611)</u>	<u>(4,409)</u>	<u>(35,965)</u>
Closing Cash and Bank Balances	<u>8,844</u>	<u>37,492</u>	<u>46,336</u>	<u>50,745</u>

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Date: 17/03/2025

Notes to the Accounts

1. General Information

The Children's Wood ("the charity") is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution. It was registered as a charity in Scotland (registered number SC045378) on 27 January 2015. Its registered address is 76 Fergus Drive, Glasgow, G20 6AP.

2. Basis of Preparation

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

3. Grants	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total Funds £</i>	<i>2023 Total £</i>
Area Partnership	-	955	955	10,162
Bellahouston Bequest Fund	-	-	-	3,000
BBC Children in Need	-	-	-	10,000
Commonwealth	-	-	-	4,000
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	-	-	4,000
Fleet Alliance	-	-	-	10,800
G20 Works	-	-	-	489
Greggs Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-
Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust	-	-	-	1,500
Hugh Fraser	-	4,000	4,000	4,000
Incorporation of Bonnetmakers & Dyers of Glasgow	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Incorporation of Gardeners	-	3,000	3,000	-
JTH Charitable Trust	-	500	500	-
MEB Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Merchants House of Glasgow	-	-	-	5,000
Mitchells Robertson	-	-	-	1,000
Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust	-	-	-	4,000
National Lottery - Awards for All	-	-	-	9,730
Ovo Charitable Foundation	-	25,000	25,000	12,500
PF Charitable Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Ross & Liddell	-	-	-	500
Stagecoach	-	-	-	500
Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Tennant Southpark Charitable Trust	-	-	-	1,000
The Endrick Trust	-	-	-	3,000
The Gannochy Trust	-	-	-	870
Thistledown Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Waitrose Grant	-	-	-	1,000
Winter Social Wellbeing Fund 22-23	-	-	-	5,000
WM Mann Foundation	-	-	-	1,500
YOMO	-	-	-	500
	-	57,455	57,455	100,051

Notes to the Accounts

4. Donations	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total Funds £</i>	<i>2023 Total £</i>
Individual Donations	1,648	15,163	16,811	<u>3,525</u>
5. Charitable Activities Income	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total Funds £</i>	<i>2023 Total £</i>
Delivery of Events	1,422	1,504	2,926	<u>9,507</u>
6. Other Income	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total Funds £</i>	<i>2023 Total £</i>
Employment Allowance	857	-	857	<u>2,795</u>
7. Charitable Activities Costs	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total Funds £</i>	<i>2023 Total £</i>
Staff Costs				
Salaries		48,592	48,592	72,663
Sessional			-	19,287
Staff expenses	381	1,244	1,625	659
Running Costs				
Accounting Support	2,130		2,130	2,201
Catering			-	466
Driving Lessons for Service Users			-	750
Equipment		216	216	150
Facilities Hire	50		50	-
Transfers to G20 Works		9,160	9,160	24,665
Heat, Light and Power			-	-
I.T. & Software	463	91	554	1,044
Insurance	594		594	703
Subscriptions	32	30	62	-
Materials & events	263	3,380	3,643	4,485
Payroll Fees	212		212	729
Professional Fees	100	3,530	3,630	16,522
Rent/Lease of Buildings	500	250	750	4,800
Subcontractor		9,587	9,587	-
Sundries			-	9
Telephone			-	969
Training		1,653	1,653	340
Travel & subsistence			-	385
Water Rates			-	<u>1,016</u>
	4,725	77,733	82,458	<u>151,843</u>

-Transfers to the G20 works of £9,160 represent the final transfer of remaining funds owed from the separation from the G20 Youth Festival. Lower Charitable Activities costs in the year ended 31 October 2024 reflect the reduced size of the charity after its separation from the G20 Youth Festival.

Notes to the Accounts

8. Related Party Transactions

During the year to 31 October 2024, no trustees received any remuneration (2023: nil). Expenses totalling £549 were reimbursed to two trustees in the year (2023: £138).

In the previous year, the husband of Sheila Penny (trustee) was employed by the charity as a community chef. The total amount of remuneration received for this role was £nil in 2024 (2023: £3,470).

9. Funds Analysis

	Opening Balance 1 Nov 23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing Balance 31 Oct 24 £
Unrestricted					
General	9,642	3,927	4,725	-	8,844
Restricted					
Area Partnership 23 - Haloween	(200)	480	280	-	-
Area Partnership 24 - Harvest Event	-	475	475	-	-
BBC Children in Need	9,160	-	9,160	-	-
Bee Legacy - Kathy Friend		12,500	777	-	11,723
Bushcraft Skills Course	2,511	2,722	3,507	-	1,726
Commonwealth	1,367		751	-	616
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	4,000		4,000	-	-
Greggs Foundation	-	20,000	18,000	-	2,000
Hugh Fraser - year 1 (23-24)	4,000		4,000	-	-
Hugh Fraser - year 2 (24-25)		4,000	2,523	-	1,477
Incorporation of Bonnetmakers & Dyers of Glasgow	989	2,000	68	-	2,921
Inc of Gardeners 2023	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
JTH Charitable Trust	-	500	500	-	-
JustGiving	728	1,445	681	-	1,492
Merchants House of Glasgow	177		177	-	-
MEB Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust	4,000			-	4,000
Ovo Charitable Foundation	9,980	25,000	24,443	-	10,537
PF Charitable Trust	2,000		1,000	-	1,000
Stagecoach	391		391	-	-
Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust	2,000		2,000	-	-
Thistledown Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
	41,103	74,122	77,733	-	37,492
Grand Total	50,745	78,049	82,458	-	46,336