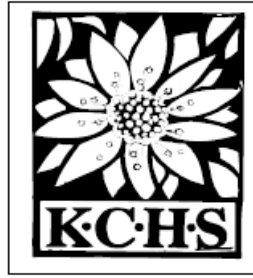


Killearn Cottagers' Horticultural Society (KCHS)

Trustees' Annual Report

From 1 January to 31 December 2022

Hon. Secretary Mrs Glenda Asquith



Killearn Cottagers' Horticultural Society (KCHS)

Scottish Charity Number: SC046701

Website: www.killearnhorticulturalsoc.co.uk

Facebook: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/killearnhorti/>

Charity Trustees

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. John Phillips | 12.7.16 – 31.12.22 |
| 2. Susanna Blackshaw | 12.7.16 – 31.12.22 |
| 3. Glenda Asquith | 12.7.16 – 31.12.22 |
| 4. Grant Farquharson | 12.7.16 – 31.12.22 |
| 5. Tim Bedford | 12.7.16 – 31.12.22 |
| 6. Neil Metcalfe | 11.2.17 – 31.12.22 |

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 7. Heather Wright | 06.2.19 – 31.12.22 |
| 8. Paul Searle | 29.2.22 – 31.12.22 |

Objectives and activities

Killearn Cottagers' Horticultural Society was formed:

- To promote interest, knowledge and skills in the practice of horticulture and crafts amongst the public, in particular in Killearn and the nearby Strathendrick villages.
- To organise an annual flower show with various categories in horticulture and craft.
- To support the local voluntary and charitable organisations which contribute to the development and wellbeing of the local community.

To this end it usually organises trips to local and more distant gardens of interest, occasional talks and lectures, an annual plant sale (which also acts as a fund-raiser), an annual whist drive (which also raises funds) and – most importantly – the Show, held in the village in late August each year. It also provides support (financial and logistical) to related voluntary organisations in the village and local area.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Society is governed by a written constitution that sets out its purpose and structure, and describes how it operates.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

When it became a Charity the Society appointed 5 Trustees, being the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Show Convenor (all positions that are elected at the Annual General Meeting each year). At the 2017 AGM there was a change of Treasurer (Tim Bedford being replaced by Neil Metcalfe), and so Neil Metcalfe was made a Trustee; Tim Bedford was retained due to his experience in setting up the Society's charitable status. Two further Trustees were added at the AGM in February 2019: Heather Wright (the incoming Chair of the Society) and Jennifer Anton (the incoming Vice-Chair). Jennifer Anton then resigned in January 2021 upon stepping down from office; Paul Searle was appointed a Trustee when he became the new Vice-Chair in February 2022.

Achievements and performance

This report covers the period from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022 (the end of the reporting year for 2022).

The main aim of the Society is to promote interest, knowledge and skills in the practice of horticulture and crafts amongst the public, in particular in the village of Killearn and its neighbouring villages. Under normal circumstances this is achieved primarily by organising an annual Plant Sale (in May) and an annual Show (in late August); an annual coach trip is also usually organised each summer so that supporters can attend a major garden or flower show. These activities are funded through organising an annual Whist Drive (in March), through the proceeds of the Plant Sale, and through selling Show schedules and schedule advertisement space to local businesses. Excess funds are dispersed through donations to other local organisations and charities.

Due to concerns over covid we decided not to hold our usual whist drive in March 2022. However, the lifting of restrictions meant that the rest of our usual activities were possible. The plant sale in May was very successful, raising almost £800 (the 2nd highest on record). The Society arranged a very successful coach trip to Glamis castle and gardens, underwriting the cost of the coach rental; ticket sales were so good that the event made a slight profit.

In late August the Society was able to mount its first full Show since 2019; this was highly successful, with good numbers of entrants in all of the usual classes (horticultural, art, home crafts etc). It was well attended, and was greatly appreciated by exhibitors and visitors alike.

Thanks to the excellent support that it receives from the villagers the Society ended 2022 as a healthy and viable organisation in a stable financial position.

Financial review

The Society continues to be in a sound financial state. At the start of 2022 the KCHS had £5797 in its bank account as a result of earlier activities (the Society has been in existence for over 150 years). The cancellation of the Whist drive at the start of the year resulted in a small loss of typical income, but this was offset by higher than usual profits on the Plant sale. The Annual Show is normally the largest cause of both income and expenditure; income comes from the selling of schedules and entrance tickets, and from advertisements from local businesses placed in the schedule. Meanwhile the major expenditure associated with the Show comes from room hire, costs of printing schedules and prize money. As usual the Show just covered its costs, and so the funds raised from the plant sale were used to cover the other Society outgoings related to website costs, PLI

insurance, room hire and minor secretarial expenses. However, the Society was still able to make a small number of donations to organisations in the village (£308). The finances for 2022 showed a small surplus of £495 – which partially offset the covid-related loss from the previous year and left the Society with a healthy reserve of £6292.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society aims to break even each year and hold only sufficient reserves to fund its activities and to cover any short-term shortfalls in income generation or unexpected additional expenditure. Given that its gross annual income and expenditure are usually below £3000, the amount of reserves that it holds should therefore be below £10,000. The reserves of £6292 at the end of the reporting period satisfy this policy.

Details of any deficit

The Society does not have a deficit at the end of the reporting period.

Donated facilities and services

The Society does not have any donated facilities or services.

Future plans

The Society aims to continue to operate in its current form, with the main focus being the annual Show in the village in late August, and with associated fundraising activities and other smaller events designed to promote its aims (e.g. the plant sale, trips to gardens etc). The covid pandemic is no longer having an effect on the Society's activities, and so its finances are thus likely to be more like those in pre-pandemic years, resulting in the Society remaining healthily in the black.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Neil Metcalfe

Print name

Neil Metcalfe

Designation

Treasurer T

Date

21 August 2023