

# **Killearn Cottagers' Horticultural Society (KCHS)**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

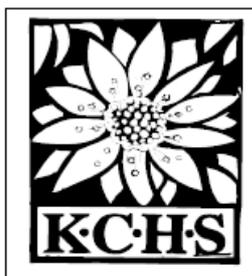
From 1 January to 31 December 2024

**Hon. Treasurer Neil Metcalfe**

**Burn Cottage, Drumtian Rd**

**Killearn**

**G63 9QB**



## **Killearn Cottagers' Horticultural Society (KCHS)**

Scottish Charity Number: SC046701

### **Contact details:**

Burn Cottage, Drumtian Rd  
Killearn  
Glasgow G63 9QB

Neil.metcalfe@glasgow.ac.uk

Telephone number 077717 04231

Website: [www.killearnhorticulturalsoc.co.uk](http://www.killearnhorticulturalsoc.co.uk)

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

### **Charity Trustees**

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. John Phillips     | 12.07.16 – 31.12.24 |
| 2. Susanna Blackshaw | 12.07.16 – 31.12.24 |
| 3. Glenda Asquith    | 12.07.16 – 31.12.24 |
| 4. Grant Farquharson | 12.07.16 – 31.12.24 |
| 5. Tim Bedford       | 12.07.16 – 31.12.24 |
| 6. Neil Metcalfe     | 11.02.17 – 31.12.24 |
| 7. Heather Wright    | 06.02.19 – 31.12.24 |

8. Paul Searle 29.02.22 – 31.12.24
9. Sharon Bowness 07.02.23 – 31.12.24

## **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 fundraiser), 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. These events resulted in the Society slowly gathering Trustees, and so it was agreed that Trustees should step down from this role upon ending their term as Office Holders; the Constitution has now been revised such that Trustees cease in this role when stepping down from holding other Offices in the Society. This change was formally adopted at the AGM held in February 2025, and so the number of Trustees will be reduced at that point.

## **Achievements and performance**

This report covers the period from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2024 (the end of the reporting year for 2024).

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. 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.

In 2024 the Society conducted all of its usual activities. Both the Whist Drive and the Plant Sale were successful, with good numbers of people attending. The Society arranged a very successful coach trip to Dumfries House and Gardens, subsidising the costs to make it as accessible to as many people as possible.

On the last Saturday in August the Society held its annual Show, which had 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 2024 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 2024 the KCHS had £6,054 in its bank account as a result of earlier activities (the Society has been in existence for over 150 years). Both the Whist drive and the Plant sale went well, raising £225 and £1055 (the first time we have exceeded £1000) respectively. The Annual Show is normally the largest cause of both income and expenditure; income comes from the selling of schedules, entrance tickets and teas/coffees, and from advertisements from local businesses placed in the schedule. Meanwhile the major costs associated with the Show are the hire of the village hall and church hall, costs of printing schedules, and prize money. This year the Show made a slight profit (due to selling more advertising space than usual). The profits from this and the other Society activities were used to cover the Society outgoings related to website costs, PLI insurance, room hire for meetings and minor secretarial expenses. However, the Society was still able to make a donations worth almost £600 to organisations in the village. The finances for 2024

showed a surplus of just over £1000, leaving the Society with a healthy reserve of £7,119.

### 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 £7,119 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

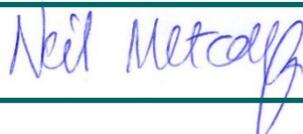
The Society does not have any donated facilities or services.

### 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). Its income and expenditure are likely to remain similar as in recent years, resulting in the Society remaining healthily in the black.

### Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name

Neil Metcalfe

Designation

Treasurer T

Date

21 July 2025

