

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021



The Caley

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

Supporting Horticulture & Gardening in Scotland since 1809

www.thecaley.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number SC006522

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Reference and Administrative information

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
38 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 2YR

Examiner of Accounts

Henderson Loggie LLP
11-15 Thistle Street
Edinburgh
EH2 1DF

Investment Advisors

Rathbone Investment Management Ltd
28 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 1AF

Insurers

NFU Mutual
The Old Farmhouse, Rural Centre
West Mains of Ingliston
EH28 8NZ

Society’s registered address:

2 Halmyre Loan, Romanno Bridge, West Linton, EH46 7DN

Patron

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal

Honorary President

George Anderson, MBE, SHM, DHE

Honorary Vice-Presidents

The Lady Provost, Edinburgh
President of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh
Regius Keeper Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Pamela Whittle, CBE
Jasmin Cann

Caley Council

President

Colin Ainsworth

Vice Presidents

Jim Jermyn SHM

Karen Laing

Robert Ross

Colin Wren

Council Members

Janis Bain (BISCOT)
Sarah Bennett
Anne Carlaw
Colin Crosbie

Nepolie Kennedy
Lewis Normand
Carolann Philp
Kathryn Pitts

M.T. O'Donnell
Colin Stirling
Charlotte Whittle

Co-opted Members

Stan da Prato
Pam Whittle

Editor of *The Caledonian Gardener*
Spring Bulb Show/Saughton Park

Officers

Neil Woodcock
Julie Muir
Jean Gavin

Honorary Treasurer
Caley Administrator
Grow & Learn Development Officer

Report by the Council of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society to members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting, to be held online at 19:00 on Tuesday 15th March 2022.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Structure

The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society was founded in 1809 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1824 “for the purpose of forming a Society for the improvement of horticulture in all its branches.” A further Royal Charter was granted in 1898 when some alterations and additions were made. In 2008 a Supplementary Charter was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. As well as the Rules and Governance set out in the Royal Charter, the Society has a series of Byelaws, first approved on 11th January 1899 and amended on 15 occasions (the last being in 2007).

The Society is a Charity registered in Scotland. Scottish Charity number SC006522.

Management of the Society is undertaken by a Council of members, who act as Trustees of the charity supported by a Treasurer and Administrator (incorporating Secretary and Membership Secretary roles).

Public Liability Insurance for the Society is arranged through the Society’s insurers.

Active links are maintained with a number of organisations, institutes, trusts, charities and horticultural societies which make a positive contribution to horticulture and gardening in Scotland.

Council

As required by its 2008 Royal Charter, the Society is managed by a Council comprising the President, two to four Vice-Presidents, and between ten and twelve Council Members. Members of the Council are trustees of the charity and are responsible for the governance and management of the Society.

Council members are elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to serve for periods of up to four years. The Treasurer and Administrator do not need to be elected Councillors, as they are appointed by the Council. An Honorary President and up to four Honorary Vice-Presidents are elected at each AGM; additionally, the Council may invite three Honorary Vice-Presidential appointments by virtue of office, viz. the Lady Provost, the Regius Keeper Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, and the President of the Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh.

Administrator (incorporating the roles of Secretary and Membership Secretary).

We employ an Administrator on a part-time basis on a contract which is renewable annually. The Administrator role incorporates the roles of Secretary to the Society and Membership Secretary. The Administrator also plays considerable organisational role in many other aspects of the Society's work.

Membership

The number of memberships in the Society on 30th September 2021 was 643 which is an increase of 45 on the 2020 figure. The Caley's move to an online platform for its talks and other activities has contributed to this rise in membership, with new members joining from as far afield as the USA. We have also seen an increase in memberships taken by young families – a result of the activities taking place at Saughton Park.

The split for each type of membership category was 367 Individual, 124 Family, 40 Student, 51 Honorary, 4 Guest, 2 Life, 6 Corporate, 2 groups and 47 Organisational. Organisational membership is given as part of our Grow & Learn package. It should be remembered that a Family membership comprises more than one member, so the total number of 643 is for memberships rather than members.

Members who do not already pay their subscription renewal by standing order or other form of recurring payment are urged to complete a standing order mandate. A considerable amount of time and expense is spent in sending reminder notices to members. Where possible, we try to contact members by email if we have an email address. Postage rates are increasing steadily, and it is something we spend a considerable amount on.

We also spend a considerable amount of time chasing a relatively small number of arrears, mainly caused by members not having updated their standing order payments when subscription rates were last increased in 2014.

The current arrears policy in place is:

- I. For arrears of under £5, one postal reminder will be sent and then followed up by email reminders where possible.
- II. For arrears of over £5 one reminder will be sent followed by a final demand, both by post. If arrears are still not paid, then the member will be removed from the mailing lists.

As a charity, the gift aid we can obtain from the government is a vital income. Many thanks to those members who have renewed their new gift aid declaration in recent years. Huge thanks also to those members who have generously given donations this year. This income will help the Caley to fulfil its remit to represent the whole country and all aspects of Horticulture

To ensure that the Society continues to thrive, all members are asked to encourage recruitment of new members. If you know of anyone who might enjoy The Caley but is not yet a member, please direct them to the membership section of the website at www.thecaley.org.uk or bring them along to one of our meetings or events. You may also consider giving a membership subscription as a gift.

Secretary

The role of Secretary covers all administrative tasks within the Society. The Secretary is involved in all aspects of the Society's work including administrative support for Grow & Learn and Grow & Learn in Nature (GLiN). As the Society continues to develop its strategic direction and management structure, the role of the Secretary will change and develop accordingly.

Financial Review for year ended 30th September 2021.

During the past year the Society's activities continued to be restricted by COVID-19. The Harrogate Flower Show trip, deferred from 2020, was successful and yielded a small net surplus of £359. The Norfolk trip was further deferred into the current financial year and the Society is grateful to members' forbearance. Our Grow & Learn activities have expanded as outlined later in this report. The GLiN project involving primary schools had to be curtailed for a second time and reporting on the project concluded in March 2021 in agreement with nature.scot. The GLiN project now focuses on community initiatives, with financial support of £16,607 received from Coalfield Regeneration Trust (CRT). Our 2021 Spring Show was virtual, which limited net costs to £587, and plant sales activities yielded £1,132 in support of the Saughton Greenhouse Project.

Against this backdrop it is heartening that membership has increased and we received £14,253 in subscriptions, investment income of £2,717 and donations and legacies totalling £5,185, including £3,131 in Gift Aid. £1,379 of the total donated supported the Saughton Greenhouse Project.

As reported last year, Grow & Learn activities received significant support from the RS MacDonald Charitable Trust with a grant of £23,880 over two years, of which the second instalment of £11,940 was received in the financial year, enabling the continued employment of Jean Gavin for three days a week. Our Grow & Learn and GLiN initiatives in the year ended 30 September 2021, taking into account support from RS MacDonald and CRT, broke even. These two initiatives represent a substantial investment by the Caley and they will continue to require external support if they are to be sustainable in the longer term.

We spent £953 on growing materials and infrastructure for the Saughton Garden from the 2020 Stanley Smith Trust donation. Our publications, The Caledonian Gardener and two editions of Preview, cost a net £6,935. Lectures and Demonstrations incurred net costs of £160.

Support Costs of £27,499 comprise principally £14,903 in Staff Salaries for our part time Administrator. Other support costs included professional fees, IT and social media, storage and Insurance.

The Society's total income for the year was £68,663 (2020 - £68,945). Total expenditure was £82,351 (2020 - £76,504) resulting in a net expenditure of £13,688 (2020 - £7,559) before taking account of net realised and unrealised gains on our investment portfolio of £15,931 (2020 - net loss of £7,553). Consequently, our reserves at the end of the financial year increased by £2,243 (2020 - decreased by £15,072) from £200,666 to £202,909.

OFFICER REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Reserves Policy

Council has reviewed our reserves policy and agreed that it should hold a level of unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover at least 12 months of expenditure. We were compliant with this policy during 2020/21 and will be compliant for at least the financial years to 30 September 2022 and 2023.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Society are:

- To advance education in gardening and horticulture for the public benefit
- To encourage and improve the science, art and practice of horticulture in all its branches.

President's overview of activities October 2020 to September 2021

2021 has been a challenging year for the Caley and for everyone else. The Covid-19 situation has eased somewhat, but the threat has not yet gone away, and it will be something that has to be considered for quite some time.

For The Caley, normal service was not possible, and the Spring Bulb Show was once again a virtual one. Walks, visits and educational activities had to be changed in the way they were delivered to ensure everyone stayed safe and adhered to the Scottish Government guidelines in place at the time.

On the positive side, during earlier lockdowns when we were all unable to travel any great distance, the value and importance of plants, gardens and our local greenspace was finally being recognised as being beneficial and important to our health and wellbeing.

Post the second lockdown, work at Saughton Park was allowed to restart (following all social distancing guidelines and working closely with Edinburgh City Council) and on The Caley allotment work was again possible. Saughton proved to be a very popular with the public and the park was busy all summer.

A special mention must be made of the many Caley members who regularly and willingly volunteer and undertake so many different tasks. Thank you for all your hard work and time - The Caley benefits enormously from all your efforts. Mention must also be made of the increase in volunteers at Saughton on a Monday and, in particular, on a Friday. The interaction with the public and Caley volunteers only helps put our name forward in people's minds, and it has also had the benefit of increasing memberships as well!

OBJECTIVES (CONTINUED)

President's overview of activities October 2020 to September 2021 (continued)

Like everyone else, The Caley has had to embrace technology. The Caley Council has been meeting regularly on the Zoom platform. There were a number of new Council members elected at the last (online) AGM from as far south as Dumfries and north to Inverurie and all points in between. Fortunately, having the online Council meetings has cut out the need to travel to Edinburgh. Regular updates on The Caley's website and social media platforms have allowed us to keep Caley members updated. With the current increase in interest in plants and gardening, having lectures and talks online has enabled The Caley to reach new audiences and this is something we very much hope to build on in the future. Special mention here must be made of Caley Administrator, Julie Muir and Vice President Robert Ross, for keeping the virtual wheels on track so to speak! This move to a virtual world has also allowed the Caley's educational programmes, Grow & Learn and Grow & Learn in Nature (GLiN), to be available to new and wider audiences. Whilst it was again very challenging for the educational programmes, Jean Gavin very ably kept participants on track, valued and ultimately successful in their individual Grow & Learn and GLiN participation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programme

Talks

The Winter lecture series running from autumn 2020 to spring 2021 went ahead, online, for the first time. One lecture was delivered per month, compared with the usual 2 per month as we mastered the technology. Initially with Microsoft Teams, then with Zoom, the lectures were open to both Caley members and the general public who were able to register through Eventbrite. They were well attended and positively received, particularly by members who aren't usually able to attend in person in Edinburgh. Lectures held were:

Gardening for Butterflies & Moths by Anthony McCluskey of Butterfly Conservation
People, Plants, Planet & Picnic by Eve Keepax of Keep Scotland Beautiful
Feelgood Factor in a Flowerpot: Therapeutic Gardening & the work of Trellis by Fiona Thackeray
Petticoats & Plants: The Untold Story of Scotland's Women Gardeners By Deborah Reid
Grow & Learn: Helping to Change Lives by Jean Gavin
China: Beyond the Crowds by Richard Green
Stan da Prato held his entertaining **Christmas Quiz** online too.

Visits

We took a cautious approach for visits in 2021. The rescheduled 6-day trip to Norfolk gardens was rescheduled again to June 2022. We planned only one trip, a wildflower walk, at Holyrood Park to be led by Stan da Prato. Due to low interest this was rescheduled and instead held in August at Saughton Park covering a combination of herbaceous and wildflower plants, inside and outside the walled garden. The walk was very well attended.

We were delighted that in September, the Harrogate Autumn Show trip, rescheduled from 2020, went ahead as planned. It was very well attended by Caley members, 32 in all, who visited the Autumn Show, Harrogate Valley Gardens and RHS Harlow Carr.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Saughton Update

At the start of The Caley year the restrictions and lockdowns meant activity was initially very limited. Fortunately, four student members who lived within walking distance were able to do much of the preparation of the Teaching Garden. As all were new to gardening, support was provided via WhatsApp. As restrictions began to ease, two or three other members were able to return, and we were well placed. Our Initial thinking about how the area would be used had envisaged school groups utilising the space. However, our experience this year has had a significant influence on future plans. We have learnt that the gap in the market is young families - parents and children as a unit. Feedback from families and others has been extremely enthusiastic, so our plans moving forward will now include some family workshops.

From our interactions with visitors, we knew that during the first lockdown in 2020 many people had wanted to, or tried to, grow things for themselves - often for the first time and often with mixed results. This year the weather during lockdown had not been so kind, with a long cold winter. As a result, during May The Caley offered seeds, pots and compost for people, particularly for newbies or struggling growers, including those without a garden. Seeds chosen were all easy and reliable and could be grown in pots or in the garden. We provided hints and tips and 'don't panic' notes and the kits were shared with households who visited the Park on Friday or Saturdays during May with postcode locations mapped.

In addition to the volunteer activity in the Teaching Garden, the Winter Border and Demonstration Garden areas also have small regular crews. Volunteer hours averages: Monday (am) 20 hours; Fridays (mainly am) 35 hours.

Saughton Sundays were sadly put on hold until August when we felt able to restart our activities as the things we had planned - a guided walk, an auricula workshop and a volunteer gardening session in the wider park - could all be undertaken outdoors, and the numbers controlled. In September the activities were deadheading and weeding for the maintenance activities and a successful Autumn Flower Show staged in the courtyard. Saughton Sundays on this scale significantly increased the volunteer hours to 80hrs.

The Caley continues to work in close partnership other members of the Saughton team; The Bistro, the City of Edinburgh gardens team at Saughton, and The Friends of Saughton Park. Together with The Friends of Saughton Park we hosted a week of apple related activities in October 2020 and managed to have a small but effective apple display at Saughton in the courtyard. The Garden Bistro have provided The Caley with glass fronted bookcases to create the planned library corridor and in return many of the vegetables grown at Saughton are used by The Bistro. Plus, we tailor support volunteering/maintenance sessions to areas that support the Council gardens team in addition to managing our own specific areas.

The need for a glasshouse has become even stronger during the past year. Whilst a working glasshouse was included in the plans it was initially thought to be outside the scope of a project aimed at restoration. However, there is evidence that at some stage, probably prior to the 1908 exhibition, there had been a glasshouse in the same place. The Caley has recently made progress in raising the required monies and hopes that following a crowd-funding appeal to raise the balance enabling the project to proceed in 2022.

Sadly, we were still unable to access the office or other buildings at Saughton during the year and we are grateful to our Administrator Julie Muir who continued to hold things together working from home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Spring Shows

Sadly, the Junior Groups Show and the main Spring Bulb Show once again had to be cancelled as a physical show and were held as virtual shows because of Covid-19 restrictions. Nevertheless, it was good to see participation and interest remaining high. Although the schedule for the main show was slimmed down for the virtual show, we created two additional virtual shows – Alpine & Woodland Plants and Cacti & Succulents. All presentations and the videos continue to be available on The Caley website, and featured on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and via the blog.

Publications

Our annual journal *The Caledonian Gardener* was published and sent to members in January 2021. It was larger than in previous years at 128 pages. The 22 articles covered the usual wide range of horticultural interests with a theme of responses to the Covid-19 pandemic. This also featured on the cover which showed a carpet bed thanking the NHS. The journal also summarised the contributions to Scottish horticulture made by individuals presented with awards by the Caley at its AGM in March 2020, just before lockdown. Feedback from members and others was very positive. The editor, Stan da Prato, was assisted by Anna Buxton, Clive Davies and Constance Gilleghan. Pam Whittle continues as advertising manager but our scope here is limited as our readership overlaps with other publications with larger circulations. 1000 copies are printed, more than needed for the membership, and the surplus used to promote the Society.

Preview was published twice during 2021, in spring and autumn. Colin Wren continues as editor and Alison Murison continues to produce the publication. This publication plays an important role in Society communications but, unfortunately, cannot keep pace with the, sometimes, last-minute changes that we need to make to activities and events. For this reason, we are highlighting the need for members to be signed up for the e-newsletter so that they can be kept up to date with news and events in a timely manner. The Society encourages ALL members to subscribe to the newsletter mailing list. This can be done easily on the website. Again, the excess copies of *Preview* are a useful marketing tool, given out when we have events and activities at Saughton and other venues.

The Society's social media presence continues to grow steadily - Facebook has 1390 followers (up from 1096 followers last year). The Caley Twitter account has over 1800 followers, with 593 on Instagram. To do social media properly takes more time than we have to devote to it but it remains a useful tool for The Caley to utilise.

Education

Caley Demonstration Allotment

Another year remembered for the restrictions on socialising due to Covid-19, but also as one with a warm summer, giving bumper crops on the fruit trees with some of the apple varieties fruiting as never before. We managed to continue cultivation on the plot by working flexibly and successfully grew the usual wide variety of fruit and vegetables providing fresh vegetables for picking every week of the year.

We were unable to hold our usual workshops but the plot notice board with its notes on what we did each week continued to be much appreciated by the other ploholders at the Bridgend Allotment site who used it as a checklist, and the weekly allotment blog on the Caley website reached a wider audience with our activities and photographs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Education (continued)

Caley Demonstration Allotment (continued)

The year started with the usual autumn maintenance programme but after breaking up in December the cold wet weather meant we didn't manage back until late February, but the planning was done, and the seeds and seed potatoes were to hand for another growing season.

The new crops of asparagus kale and oca proved hardy, adding to the variety of winter greens we grow and the broad beans from an autumn planting were on our Christmas menu.

A dry cold spring held things back but didn't affect the fruit blossom and the warm dry summer produced exceptional growth and good harvests.

Grow and Learn Overview

- At the start of October 2020, we had 45 groups and 203 people working towards their Grow & Learn Award. By September 2021 we had 61 groups and 293 people working towards their award.
- 26 people achieved their award.
- 14 brand new projects, from all over Scotland registered for Grow & Learn.
- 2 awards ceremonies took place in person: at Meldrum Academy and Ellon Academy, both in Aberdeenshire. We had 1 virtual ceremony for Parklea Branching Out, Port Glasgow.

With thanks to our funder RS MacDonald Trust, we have also:

- Continued to develop our relational approach to all of our projects.
- Continued to market and promote our awards through social media, print, website and online networking events.
- Delivered monthly online Grow & Learn/GLiN drop in sessions for anyone interested in finding out more about our awards.
- Delivered our online 'train the trainer' session to 14 new projects.
- Continue to develop our new Grow & Learn mentor opportunity.

With thanks to our funder The National Lottery, Community Fund we have:

- Continued our work on 'Grow & Learn Connections' and have been filming a series of new Grow & Learn training videos. This has been done onsite at Parklea Branching Out, Port Glasgow and Fair Deal, Help Yourself Grow, Glasgow when safe to do so.

Grow and Learn Awards

Grow & Learn is the Caley's flagship education programme, recognising individual progress and achievement in horticulture. Our awards are inclusive, individualised and offer life-skills based education. Our flexible framework offers the learner an alternative to more formal learning and is ideally suited for those who find mainstream education challenging. The award is person centred, giving the learner an opportunity to choose additional activities and set personal goals. Grow & Learn not only inspires people to reach their full potential and develop vital transferable life-skills, it also helps to reduce inequalities to learning and focuses on inclusion for all.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Education (continued)

Grow and Learn Awards (continued)

Since October 2020, we have seen many projects begin to reopen safely. But with months and months of lockdown and in most cases, projects catching up with maintenance tasks and with fewer numbers of people in the project at any one time, this has resulted in projects being slow to be able to focus on the delivery of Grow & Learn once more. More positively, 14 brand new projects have now registered for Grow & Learn. These include social care providers, 4 schools, 2 home schooled young people, a farm and an organic community garden. We are also beginning to develop our new Grow & Learn mentor scheme. We hope that the scheme will give past participants the opportunity to share their skills with others.

Thanks to our funder, the RS MacDonald Trust, we have continued to deliver 'Grow & Learn: Future Ambitions' despite the many challenges of a global pandemic. We are also grateful that this funding also supports additional training/coaching support from The Lens. These coaching sessions will enable us to develop our services to meet the needs of our projects and people, as well as ensuring the sustainability of Grow & Learn.

Grow & Learn in Nature Award Overview

- Since October 2020, we have registered a total of 35 projects, with an average 5-10 people per project working towards their Grow & Learn in Nature award (GLiN).
- A total of 35 people have achieved their GLiN award. A further 51 participants from CRT projects (see below) also completed their awards.
- 3 award ceremonies took place at Rossie Young People's Trust, Angus, Sacro (Bellahouston Park Allotments) Glasgow and NHS Community Outreach (Bellahouston Allotments) Glasgow.

NEW: Coalfield Regeneration Trust (CRT) GLiN Award Partnership

- With thanks to CRT for their funding support, since March 2021, we have been working in partnership, trialling our GLiN award with 5 CRT garden projects all round Scotland.
- A total of 51 participants from these projects have successfully achieved their GLiN award.
- 5 online gardening master classes were delivered to over 89 participants.
- 7 monthly online CRT/GLiN networking sessions were delivered to a total of 84 people.
- CRT funding has also secured the development of our GLiN evaluation video, which will capture the impact the award has made to the CRT projects and people involved.

Grow & Learn in Nature award

GLiN is a project-based award, helping people make that vital connection with nature and plants. It offers anyone an opportunity to learn new skills and reconnect with the natural world. The flexibility of GLiN has meant that many people are working at home to achieve this award as well as various projects. With 86 participants achieving their award this year, and demand continuing to grow in response to global issues, biodiversity and habitat loss, our GLiN award offers a practical solution for many people to mitigate these challenges to our world.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Education (continued)

Grow & Learn in Nature at Saughton Park, Edinburgh

Despite pupils returning to school in the Autumn of 2020, no external 3rd party providers were allowed to work with them, so unfortunately GLiN at Saughton Park was unable to resume. When restrictions lifted later in the year, Balgreen Primary returned for 2 sessions in December 2020, with other schools planning to return January 2021. Regrettably, a further lockdown prevented GLiN sessions from taking place. All participants were recognised for their GLiN efforts and presented with GLiN (School) 'Certificate of Achievement Awards'.

Funding support and note of thanks

A special thank you to all of our funders: RS MacDonald Trust, Coalfield Regeneration Trust, Nature Scot and The National Lottery, Community Fund.

Also, Julie Muir, The Caley's Administrator, Shona Nelson GLiN facilitator/G&L assistant (till Sept 2021), and the team of verifiers - Sallie Sillars, Colin Stirling, Chantal Fenton, Kate White, Derry Meredith who support the development officer in her role.

RCHS HORTICULTURAL AWARDS

An important feature of the Society's role is to recognise the expertise and contribution of gardeners and horticulturists of distinction by awarding medals and certificates of merit. In 2021, we took the unusual step of holding the award ceremony online as part of our virtual AGM.

The **Scottish Horticultural Medal (SHM)** is awarded to people who have demonstrated an outstanding contribution to Scottish horticulture. This award is strictly limited to 50 recipients at any one time. In 2021 the SHM award was presented to two worthy recipients, Elizabeth MacGregor and Stephen McCallum.

The Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Medal in Horticulture for outstanding service by a non-professional went to Nicola Cole.

The Dr Patrick Neill Memorial Medal: An award to a Scottish botanist or cultivator. This medal is awarded biennially. This medal was awarded to Brian Ballinger

The Dr Andrew Duncan Medal for distinguished service to horticulture by an educationalist, advisor or administrator was awarded to Colin Ainsworth.

The Carter-Patterson Memorial Award is awarded to a high achieving horticulture student or apprentice and this year it was awarded to Jamie Sinclair.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded at the discretion of the Awards Committee. There was no award in 2021.

The **Caley Certificate** was awarded to Pamela Whittle.

RCHS HORTICULTURAL AWARDS (CONTINUED)

RCHS Certificates of Merit acknowledge a wide range of significant service to gardening and horticulture in Scotland. In 2021 certificates were awarded to:

Mike Rossi

William & Myra Dyer

Stuart Ritchie

Christine Watson

Robert Moran

Carolann Philp

Mrs Graham Greenwell

Andrew Cathcart

Mary Holligan

APPROVAL OF REPORT

This report was approved by Council on 24 January 2022 and is signed on its behalf by President Colin Ainsworth and Vice-President Robert Ross.

Colin Ainsworth
President

Robert Ross
Vice-President

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the Trustees of The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2021 which are set out on pages 16 to 29.

This report is made to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. My work has been undertaken to enable me to report my opinion as set out below and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the trustees, as a body, for my work or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of Council and examiner

The charity's Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The Council considers that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) 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 2006 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations. 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 council 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 view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention other than as disclosed below:

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 (as amended); and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended);

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.

24 January 2022

James Davidson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES **(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)**
for the year ended 30 September 2021

2021		2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:	<i>Note</i>				
Donations and legacies	2	3,806	1,379	5,185	11,917
Charitable activities	3	26,454	34,307	60,761	52,987
Investments	4	2,717	-	2,717	4,041
Total income		32,977	35,686	68,663	68,945
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(4,325)	-	(4,325)	(5,961)
Charitable activities	6	(53,762)	(24,264)	(78,026)	(70,543)
Total expenditure		(58,087)	(24,264)	(82,351)	(76,504)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	10	15,931	-	15,931	(7,513)
Net (expenditure)/income		(9,179)	11,422	2,243	(15,072)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,179)	11,422	2,243	(15,072)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		157,603	43,063	200,666	215,738
Total funds carried forward		148,424	54,485	202,909	200,666

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

BALANCE SHEET
at 30 September 2021

	Note	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Investments	10		166,194		169,403
Current assets					
Stock	11	1,283		1,283	
Debtors	12	2,392		3,605	
Cash at bank		46,627		41,937	
			50,302	46,825	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(13,587)		(15,562)	
Net current assets			36,715		31,263
Net assets			202,909		200,666
Funds					
Unrestricted	15		148,424		157,603
Restricted	15		54,485		43,063
Total funds	16		202,909		200,666

These financial statements were approved by the Council on 24 January 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Colin Ainsworth
President

Neil Woodcock
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
at 30 September 2021

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net cash provided by operating activities		(17,167)		(7,218)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Dividends and interest from investments	2,717		4,041	
Proceeds from sale of investments	175,447		49,470	
Purchases of investments	(167,618)		(33,121)	
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>10,546</u>		<u>20,390</u>
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(6,621)		13,172
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>54,519</u>		<u>41,347</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>47,898</u></u>		<u><u>54,519</u></u>
Cash and cash equivalents comprise:				
Cash at bank		46,627		41,937
Cash held for investment		1,271		12,582
		<u><u>47,898</u></u>		<u><u>54,519</u></u>

NOTES

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with the terms which are considered material in relation to the charity's accounts.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost convention. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity, registered in Scotland with the registered office as noted on page 1. The financial statements are compliant with the charity's constitution, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) FRS 102 "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (revised 2017), and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

The Society has faced a challenge this year relating to Covid-19. The Council Members are reviewing all aspects of the ongoing needs of the Society. Whilst there are short term implications, the Society is well placed to support all activities due to a combination of established cash reserves and careful cashflow management. As a consequence, the Trust continues to be a going concern.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. The charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly costs are shown gross of irrecoverable VAT. Where directly attributable, resources expended are allocated to the relevant functional category. Overhead and support costs are allocated to functional category on the basis of income received.

- ***Raising funds***
The costs of raising funds include expenditure incurred in supporting the charity and incurred on fundraising initiatives
- ***Charitable activities***
The costs of charitable activities include expenditure incurred in supporting the charity and its objectives as set out in the council's report. These include governance costs incurred in connection with the organisational administration and compliance with constitutional requirements.

Investments

Investments are valued at the closing market value at the end of the financial year. Gains and losses on disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited in the statement of financial activities.

NOTES (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar.

Debtors

Other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value other than listed investments which are held at fair value and any adjustment to fair value is recognised in the profit and loss account.

Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether leases entered into by the charitable company as a lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.
- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over a period to reflect their estimated useful lives. The applicability of the assumed lives is reviewed annually, taking into account factors such as physical condition, maintenance and obsolescence.
- Fixed assets are also assessed as to whether there are indicators of impairment. This assessment involves consideration of the economic viability of the purpose for which the asset is used.

NOTES (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

2 Donations and legacies

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Donations and legacies	3,806	1,379	5,185	11,917

In 2020 donations and legacies was split £5,009 unrestricted and £6,908 restricted.

3 Income from charitable activities

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Members annual subscriptions	14,253	-	14,253	13,361
Open gardens and plant sales	-	1,132	1,132	1,155
Other sales	87	-	87	-
Lectures and demonstrations	-	-	-	1,711
Publications	399	-	399	504
Visit and study tours	8,600	-	8,600	431
Government furlough grant	-	2,511	2,511	7,077
<i>Educational projects</i>				
- Grow & Learn	2,430	11,940	14,370	23,117
- Plant & Grow	-	-	-	5
- Grow and Learn in Nature	660	18,724	19,384	5,084
<i>Shows</i>				
- Spring Show	25	-	25	542
	26,454	34,307	60,761	52,987

In 2020 income from charitable activities was split £27,022 unrestricted and £25,965 restricted.

NOTES (continued)

4 Income from investments

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Dividends	2,714	-	2,714	4,023
Interest receivable	3	-	3	18
	<u>2,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,717</u>	<u>4,041</u>

In 2020 no income from investments was restricted.

5 Raising funds

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Investment management fees	1,452	-	1,452	1,524
Support costs (note 8)	2,873	-	2,873	4,437
	<u>4,325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,325</u>	<u>5,961</u>

In 2020 no income from raising funds was restricted.

6 Charitable activities

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Lectures and demonstrations	160	-	160	924
Publications	7,334	-	7,334	5,802
Visit and study tours	8,241	-	8,241	19
<i>Education projects</i>				
- Grow & Learn	989	2,132	3,121	1,771
- Grow & Learn staff costs	9,136	9,135	18,271	17,903
- Allotment	354	-	354	101
- Grow and Learn in Nature	-	12,044	12,044	17,532
- Saughton Garden Development costs	-	953	953	3,276
<i>Shows</i>				
- Spring Show	612	-	612	849
- Gardening Scotland Show	-	-	-	72
Donations	150	-	150	150
	<u>26,976</u>	<u>24,264</u>	<u>51,240</u>	<u>48,399</u>
Total direct costs	26,976	24,264	51,240	48,399
Support costs (note 7)	24,626	-	24,626	19,944
Governance costs (note 8)	2,160	-	2,160	2,200
	<u>53,762</u>	<u>24,264</u>	<u>78,026</u>	<u>70,543</u>

In 2020 charitable activities was split £58,280 unrestricted and £12,263 restricted.

NOTES (continued)

7 Support costs

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Staff salaries	14,903	-	14,903	13,661
Printing and stationery	1,192	-	1,192	1,288
Publicity	-	-	-	250
Insurance	2,202	-	2,202	2,065
Professional Fees	2,895	-	2,895	2,993
Storage	3,231	-	3,231	2,155
Bank charges	146	-	146	151
Miscellaneous	2,930	-	2,930	1,818
	<hr/> 27,499	-	<hr/> 27,499	<hr/> 24,381
<i>Support costs are allocated as follows;</i>				
Cost of generating funds	2,873	-	2,873	4,437
Charitable activities	24,626	-	24,626	19,944
	<hr/> 27,499	-	<hr/> 27,499	<hr/> 24,381

In 2020 support costs was split £24,381 unrestricted and £nil restricted.

8 Governance costs

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Independent examiner's fees	2,160	-	2,160	2,200

9 Staff costs and numbers

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	41,650	46,957
Pension contributions	720	852
	<hr/> 42,370	<hr/> 47,809

No employee earned more than £60,000 in either year.

The Society has an average of 3 (2020: 3) employees and no trustees received expenses during the year (2020: £nil).

The President and Treasurer are considered the key management of the organisation. The total remuneration of key management in the year was £nil.

NOTES (continued)

10 Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Market value		
At 1 October	169,403	194,817
Less: Cash held for investment	(12,582)	(14,134)
	156,821	180,683
Additions at cost	167,618	33,121
Disposal proceeds	(175,447)	(49,470)
Realised gains/ (losses)	13,818	(3,071)
Unrealised gains/ (losses)	2,113	(4,442)
	164,923	156,821
Cash held as part of portfolio	1,271	12,582
	166,194	169,403
	2021 £	2020 £
Historic cost		
At 1 October	146,133	159,834
Additions	167,618	33,121
Equalisations	-	(193)
Disposals	(150,749)	(46,629)
	163,002	146,133
At 30 September	163,002	146,133

FRS 102 requires the disclosure of information in relation to certain investment risks. These risks are set out by FRS 102 as follows:

- Credit risk: this is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.
- Market risk: this comprises currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.
- Interest rate risk: this is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial asset will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.
- Other price risk: this is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial asset will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

NOTES (continued)

10 Investments (continued)

Credit Risk

The charity invests in pooled investment vehicles and is therefore directly exposed to credit risk in relation to the instruments it holds in the pooled investment vehicles and is indirectly exposed to credit risks arising on the financial instruments held by the pooled investment vehicles.

Analysis of direct credit risk

Direct credit risk arising from pooled investment vehicles is mitigated by the underlying assets of the pooled arrangements being ring-fenced from the pooled manager, the regulatory environments in which the pooled manager operates and diversification of investments amongst a number of pooled arrangements. The Trustees carry out due diligence checks on the appointment of new pooled investment managers and on an ongoing basis monitor any changes to the regulatory and operating environment of the pooled manager. Pooled investment arrangements used by the charity comprise authorised unit trusts.

Interest rate risk

The charity is subject to interest rate risk through investments comprising bonds.

Other price risk

Other price risk arises principally in relation to equities held in pooled vehicles. The charity manages this exposure to other price risk by constructing a diverse portfolio of investments across various markets.

11 Stock

	2021	2020
	£	£
Stock	1,283	1,283

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	243	840
Prepayments	2,149	2,765
	2,392	3,605

13 Creditors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	13,041	14,966
Other creditors	124	157
Tax and social security	422	439
	13,587	15,562

NOTES (continued)

14 Financial instruments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Fair value through income and expenditure	166,194	169,403

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss comprise listed investments.

15 Funds

2021

	2020	Incoming	Outgoing	Gains/ losses	Transfers	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
General fund	130,411	32,977	(58,087)	15,931	-	121,232
Designated – Bicentennial fund	27,192	-	-	-	-	27,192
	157,603	32,977	(58,087)	15,931	-	148,424
Restricted funds						
Patrick Neill Medal	300	-	-	-	-	300
Andrew Harley Benevolence	1,250	-	-	-	-	1,250
Children’s Prize Fund	389	-	-	-	-	389
R L Scarlett Bequest	632	-	-	-	-	632
N&J Carter Bequest	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Denise Henry Award	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000
P Last Bequest	362	-	-	-	-	362
BIScot Fund	5,277	-	-	-	-	5,277
Saughton Garden Development Appeal	2,258	-	(953)	-	-	1,305
Saughton Garden Glasshouse Project	14,390	2,511	-	-	-	16,901
Grow and Learn	15,205	11,940	(11,267)	-	-	15,878
Grow & Learn in Nature	-	21,235	(12,044)	-	-	9,191
	43,063	35,686	(24,264)	-	-	54,485
Total funds	200,666	68,663	(82,351)	15,931	-	202,909

NOTES (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

2020

	2019 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Gains/ losses £	Transfers £	2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
General fund	145,244	36,072	(64,241)	-	13,336	130,411
Investment reserve	20,849	-	-	(7,513)	(13,336)	-
Designated – Bicentennial fund	27,192	-	-	-	-	27,192
	<u>193,285</u>	<u>36,072</u>	<u>(64,241)</u>	<u>(7,513)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>157,603</u>
Restricted funds						
Patrick Neill Medal	300	-	-	-	-	300
Andrew Harley Benevolence	1,250	-	-	-	-	1,250
Children’s Prize Fund	389	-	-	-	-	389
R L Scarlett Bequest	632	-	-	-	-	632
N&J Carter Bequest	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Denise Henry Award	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000
P Last Bequest	362	-	-	-	-	362
BI Scot Fund	5,277	-	-	-	-	5,277
Saughton Garden Development Appeal	31	4,710	(2,483)	-	-	2,258
Saughton Garden Glasshouse Project	11,212	3,178	-	-	-	14,390
Grow and Learn	-	19,901	(4,696)	-	-	15,205
Grow & Learn in Nature	-	5,084	(5,084)	-	-	-
	<u>22,453</u>	<u>32,873</u>	<u>(12,263)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,063</u>
Total funds	<u>215,738</u>	<u>68,945</u>	<u>(76,504)</u>	<u>(7,513)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,666</u>

Restricted Funds – detail of restrictions on use

Patrick Neill Medal	to provide the Dr Patrick Neill Memorial Medal annually.
Andrew Harley Benevolence	for general benevolence.
Children’s Prize Fund	to fund any children’s prizes.
RL Scarlett Bequest	RL Scarlett Bequest for Garden History Lecture.
SHM Medal	to fund Scottish Horticultural Medal for outstanding service to Scottish Horticulture.
N&J Carter Bequest	to fund Carter-Patterson Memorial Medal and prize.

NOTES (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

Restricted Funds – detail of restrictions on use (continued)

Denise Henry Award	to fund Book token and Carter Medal.
P Last Bequest	to fund The Dr Andrew Duncan Medal.
BIScot Fund	to fund activities of Botanical Images Scotland.
Lecture programme	donation received and spent towards the lecture programme.
Saughton Garden Development Appeal	to fund the development of the Saughton Garden.
Saughton Garden Glasshouse Project	to fund the development of the Saughton Garden Glasshouse.
Grow and Learn	dedicated support to the Grow and Learn project.
Grow and Learn in Nature	schools initiative in partnership with nature.scot

Designated funds

The Bicentennial Fund was set up in 2008 with 2 large donations. The wish was to encourage and promote Scottish Horticulture by providing grants for educational opportunities. The disbursement of the fund is at the discretion of the council.

Transfers between funds

The transfer relates to the investment reserve.

16 Net assets reconciliation

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
2021			
Investments	111,709	54,485	166,194
Net current assets	36,715	-	36,715
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	148,424	54,485	202,909
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
2020			
Investments	126,340	43,063	169,403
Net current assets	31,263	-	31,263
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	157,603	43,063	200,666
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

NOTES (continued)

17 Cash flows from operating activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure)	2,243	(15,072)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(15,931)	7,513
Income from investments	(2,717)	(4,041)
Decrease in debtors	1,213	72
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(1,975)	4,310
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities	(17,167)	(7,218)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

18 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is governed by the appointed council members.