

Annual Report & Accounts 2015

President Sir Euan Anstruther-Gough Calthorpe Bt



THE **BIRMINGHAM**
BOTANICAL
GARDENS
AN EDUCATIONAL CHARITY



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society Limited will be held at the Botanical Gardens and Glasshouses, Westbourne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham on Monday 28 September 2015 at 6pm to transact the following business:

To receive and adopt the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 and the reports of the Trustees and of the Auditors.

1. To re-elect existing Members and elect new Members of the Committee:
Mr M. Liberson, Mrs J. Lyle, Mr A. Sharma and Mr M. Addison.
2. To approve the following resolution:
That with effect from 1 April 2016 the annual charges for membership of the Society, inclusive of Value Added Tax shall be:

(i) Family Membership (Entry for up to 2 adults and 3 concessions)	£65
(ii) Adult Membership (One adult plus guest)	£40
(iii) Corporate Season Ticket (Entry for five people)	£117.50
(iv) Concession Membership (Students and over 60's plus guest)	£27.50
(v) Life Membership (Entry for one person plus guest)	£795
(vi) Senior Life Membership (Entry for one person over 60 plus guest)	£450

NOTE:

A discount of £2 is allowed to Family, Adult and Concession Members who pay by Direct Debit.

3. To appoint the auditor and authorise the Committee to agree their remuneration.
4. To transact any other business which may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE
M. A. LIBERSON
Chairman

Registered Office

Birmingham Botanical Gardens & Glasshouses
Westbourne Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3TR

Telephone:
+44(0)121 454 1860
Facsimile:
+44(0)121 454 7835
email:

admin@birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk

THE BOTANICAL GARDENS' STAFF AT 31 MARCH 2015**Management Team**

Chief Executive and Curator	J. Wheeler
Finance Manager	M. Purcell
Education Officer	D. Knott
Maintenance Manager	M. Taylor
Marketing Officer	K. Hill

Finance

K.Kang

Horticulture

C. Morris
W. William
N. Hopes
L. Villedieu

Maintenance

D. Husselbee
M. Donavon
J. Openshaw
V. Jones

Education

V. Weston
R. Howsen
N. Keyte

Retail and Reception

M. Brown
Y. McLaren
E. Savage
S. Meese
A. Begum
R. Frost
A. Humphries
M. Walker

Apprentices

B. Lee
A. Smith
W. Durrant

BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2015

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 528981

Company number: 248827

General Committee (Trustees of the Society)

Mr M. A. Liberson	(Appointed Chairman 9 January 2014, Reappointed 24 September 2012)
Mr V. A. Aspland	(Reappointed 23 September 2013)
Mrs R. M. Graville	(Resigned as Treasurer 22 September 2014, Reappointed 23 September 2013)
Dr B.S.C. Leadbeater	(Reappointed 23 September 2013)
Mr P. H. White	(Reappointed 22 September 2014)
Mr A. J. Jones	(Reappointed 22 September 2014)
Mr J. R. Taylor	(Reappointed 22 September 2014)
Mrs K. J. Hartigan	(Reappointed 22 September 2014, Appointed Treasurer 22 September 2014)
Ms P. Pickavance	(Reappointed 22 September 2014)
Mrs C. Clutton – Brock	(Reappointed 22 September 2014)
Mrs J. Lyle	(Appointed 22 September 2014, Appointed Secretary 3 November 2014)
Mr A. Sharma	(Appointed 26 January 2015)
Mr M. Addison	(Appointed 26 January 2015)
Mr G. Oakley	(Resigned 22 September 2014)
Mr C. Beesley	(Resigned 22 September 2014)

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Martyn Liberson, Julia Lyle, Amit Sharma and Michael Addison retire and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Other Committees and their Chairmen at 31 March 2015

Development Committee: Mr P. H. White

Education Committee: Dr B.S.C. Leadbeater

Finance Committee: Mrs K. J. Hartigan

Horticultural Committee: Mr V.A. Aspland

Operations Committee: Mr J.R. Taylor

Birmingham Botanical Gardens (Enterprises) Ltd Chairman: Mr M.A. Liberson

The Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens Chairman: Mrs R.K. Radford

Auditor

Mazars LLP

45 Church Street, Birmingham B3 2RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
36, Harborne Road, Edgbaston B15 3BS

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

Trustees and Organisation

Trustees are appointed on recommendation to the Board based on the contribution they can make to the Charity with the skills they possess. Trustees receive an induction programme on appointment with periodic updates on trustee responsibilities.

The Board of Trustees, which can have up to 18 members, administers the Charity. The Board meets up to 10 times a year and there are sub committees covering development, education, finance, horticulture and operations which meet regularly.

Related parties

The Charity has a wholly owned subsidiary, Birmingham Botanical Gardens (Enterprises) Limited which was established to operate the retail and other commercial activities of the Society and gift aids its profits to the Charity.

Risk management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- The annual review of risks the Charity might face.
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate such risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

This work has identified only a few minor risks during the year and appropriate mitigating actions have been or are in process of being implemented.

Objectives and activities

The aims of the Charity are:

To further public education in botany, horticulture and zoology and provide facilities for research.

To maintain and operate the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and Glasshouses for the above purpose and for the recreation of the public.

The Charity's objectives continue to be to maintain the Gardens at Westbourne Road, Edgbaston to an outstanding quality and to continue to develop them by introducing new and innovative features for education and recreation. The Charity's educational programmes include education for schools in partnership with the Outdoor Learning Service, higher education provision with Birmingham Metropolitan College from our purpose built Study Centre, horticultural apprenticeships and leisure learning courses. The Charity's horticultural activities concentrate on maintaining and developing the Gardens and Glasshouses and encompass both conservation and interpretation for the pleasure of the public and for educational purposes.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Charity has given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit. The Charity has a policy that access to our facilities and education should be available to those who cannot afford to be members or pay the full admission price. Residents of Birmingham who have a passport to leisure pay a concessionary rate. This rate is available to those who have severe mental or physical disabilities. Children are also given a reduced admission price.

The Charity, its commercial subsidiary and sub contractors operate commercial activities such as banqueting and conferencing from purpose-built suites within the Gardens. These activities make a significant financial contribution to the Society annually.

Volunteers are vital to the successful operation of the Charity. The Charity receives a substantial input of volunteer help in all aspects of running the Gardens for which we are extremely grateful.

Achievements and performance

We report below the key achievements during the year ended 31 March 2015 in pursuance of our aims and objectives.

The Charity offers grateful thanks to all who contribute to the Gardens including Trustees, Volunteers, Staff and above all, our Members and Visitor Audience. Your support is vital if we are to secure the future of these Gardens because we are entirely self funding and have no other means of remaining open. You enable our vital work in horticulture and education to continue in this unique historic and green location. Because of you, this priceless attraction can continue to be enjoyed by all

who visit from across Birmingham as well as from the wider world.

Highlights of our horticultural year have included the building of a Pool of Memory and the achievement of a Silver Medal for our apprentices at Gardeners' World Live. The Charity's educational provision for schools successfully surmounted the challenge of the withdrawal of public funding and closure for our



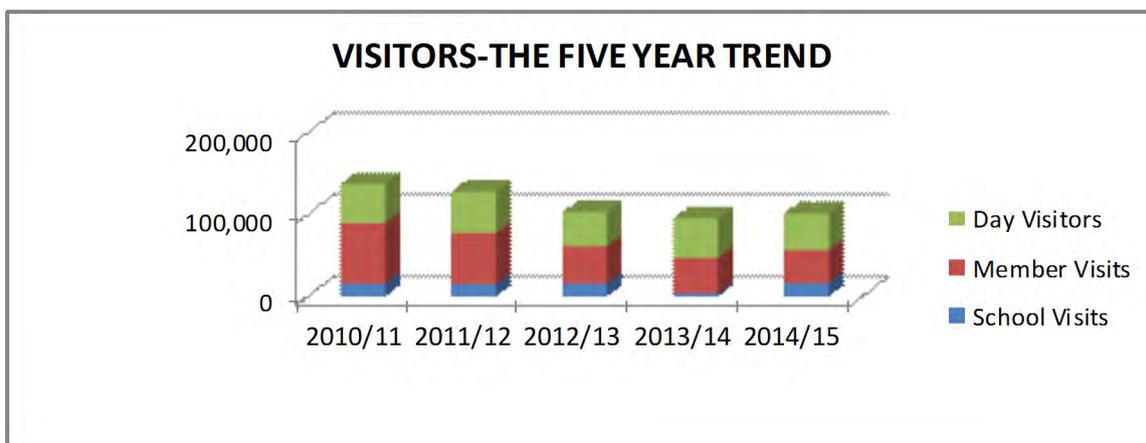
Memory Pool

education partner the Outdoor Learning Service and education at the Gardens continues to flourish. The Charity's partnership with Birmingham Metropolitan College progressed positively, students receiving the accolade of a Highly Commended Award for a 'Spice' garden from the Royal Horticultural Society at Gardeners' World Live.

Planning continued to secure the future of the Charity's listed and historic buildings, in particular our glasshouses, which are in urgent need of renovation. We are grateful for the positive response and financial support we have received in response to our appeals for help to fund vital repairs but we know we have a long way to go. These buildings enable the Gardens to offer the widest possible range of plants and educational opportunities and they are a key element in our future success.

The Charity's trading and fundraising activities show positive progress. Our caterer Ampersand has continued to invest in our site, improving our catering service for all visitors.

Most encouragingly, the number of day visitors and school admissions in the year increased by 9% from 52,530 to 57,482. Visitor receipts including schools income increased from £262,564 to £264,579. Membership and gift aid income increased to £228,724 from £225,013 in the previous year, partly due to an increase in gift aid collection. Membership numbers amounted to 4,379 and we welcomed 40,621 visiting members during the year. We thank all our members for their loyalty and support and we look forward to welcoming new members in the year ahead. We have improved our membership offer by adding additional benefits to encourage all our visitors to join. This includes offering life membership for the first time which





enables all visitors to give our charity immediate and long term support.

The Charity has continued to keep tight control of all costs including staff remuneration to ensure that all available resources are devoted to our charitable objectives. Staff departing during the year included David Airey and Eugene Roche, Maintenance Assistants; Sue Billingham, Financial Administrator; David Walton, Horticulturist; Drew Freeman, Rebecca Holmes, Dan Sommers and Liberty Smith, Apprentices. We are grateful for the commitment shown by all staff in their service to the Gardens. We aim to deliver the highest possible standard of service to all our visitors and to this end, new appointments have been made as follows: Ben Lee, Enterprises; Kam Kang, Finance Department; Lucy Villedieu, Aaron Smith and Wyl Durrant, Horticulture; Matthew Donovan, Valerie Jones and James Openshaw, Maintenance Department; Rachel Frost, Anne Humphries and Megan Walker, Reception. New Trustees joining the Board this year were Julia Lyle, Amit Sharma and Michael Addison. Volunteers provided us with 7,000 hours of work during the year. All bring fresh energy and expertise to the Charity and we look forward to working with them in coming years.

We offer our sincere thanks to all our Staff, Trustees, Friends and Volunteers for their work on the Gardens' behalf in the past year. We look forward to working with you all to improve the Charity for the greater enjoyment of all who visit.

Horticulture

The horticultural year has been a year of planning to secure the future. We have been identifying the challenges that lie ahead in the maintenance of our heritage glasshouses and making provision for their repair and renewal. Our plans for renovation are now well advanced and will result in an improved standard of care for our plant collection in the future. These plans will require substantial expenditure. To this end, we have begun to seek funding for glasshouse repairs and we have continued to keep close control of horticultural costs. At the same time, we have improved our gardens for the greater enjoyment of our visitors wherever possible.

Our dedicated horticultural team have continued to work hard to cultivate our gardens and plant collections to the highest horticultural standard. In addition to meeting a workload increased by previous efficiency savings, members have completed NVQ Qualifications in



Queen of Sweden , Rose Garden

Management and Training, generously funded by a grant received from Department for Business, Innovation & Skills in partnership with Heart of England Attractions. The dedication and enthusiasm of our staff continues to deliver a garden of high quality which has received many favourable comments from our visitors during the year.

Our latest recruit to our permanent staff is Lucie Villedieu who trained at Birmingham Metropolitan College and has a particular interest in rose cultivation: our Rose Garden has already enjoyed a comprehensive renovation. Lucie successfully interviewed for a new horticultural post after proving her commitment and generosity by working as a Gardens volunteer in the first instance.



Aaron Smith, Apprentice

Volunteering is a great way to begin a successful career in horticulture and our horticultural staff have continued to enjoy our volunteers selfless and invaluable assistance throughout the past year.



Wyl Durrant, Apprentice

Our four apprentices employed under the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme at the Charity continued to enjoy success in their academic studies and practical work. Rebecca Holmes and Liberty Smith entered their original design for an Evolution Garden for Birmingham Botanical Gardens at Gardeners' World Live. They were rewarded

with a Silver Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society, a triumph for a first attempt and the source of much favourable publicity for the Gardens. The expertise gained in the execution of the exhibit will be invaluable in building our new Evolution Trail in our Subtropical House. Rebecca Holmes has continued her studies at Northampton University and Liberty Smith has secured employment at the National Trust's Hidcote. In September 2014, we welcomed two new apprentices to the Gardens. Aaron Smith and Wyl Durrant have proved to be valuable additions bringing their own specialist skills to our team. It is a source of great encouragement to all our staff that our apprentices enjoy learning and working here and are inspired to commit to a career in horticulture as a result.

The year has delivered several horticultural highlights. These include the cleaning and restoration of stonework and planting in our Rock Garden and Pool. The new plantings of *Iris* and *Astilbe* now add colour throughout the year. An exquisite new Pool of Memory was



Ben Lee, Apprentice

constructed in this area, generously sponsored by Taylors Funeral Services and The Friends of the Gardens. The pool contains a serene and restful water feature accompanied by a planting of white *Rhododendron* for remembrance. The Pool offers a new and unique opportunity to commemorate loved ones in a beautiful setting at the Gardens. The Rhododendron Walk has been planted with a Hosta collection lifted from other areas of the garden. Recycling is a great way to rejuvenate any area of your garden and we waste nothing here. The tender plants from our Terrace removed to make way for forthcoming glasshouse restoration are now thriving throughout the garden. While renovation works are in progress, the Terrace will be planted with a vibrant display of annual bedding plants.

Within our Glasshouses, construction of a new evolution trail has begun which will be of

great benefit to our school groups and visiting public. The trail will culminate in a dazzling display of the most highly evolved plants in our collection, growing in the new Orchid Case made possible by a kind donation from Stephen Raine, a former Trustee. Education is the primary charitable object of the Gardens and we make every effort to improve the interpretation of our plant collection wherever possible to do so. We have also completed refurbishment of the pathways in our Arid House. Our Butterfly House returned for another successful summer and our Spring Bulb display filled our Entrance Foyer with choice spring flowering plants. Both attractions were hugely appreciated by all our visitors.

We have commissioned a creative and educational design for our play area and we are now fundraising for a new and exciting playground. Contributions to the 'Fund for Fun' will be gratefully received.

A final tribute must be paid to David Walton who passed away in January 2015. Dave was a much loved member of our horticultural team who enthused us all with his love of plants. We miss him greatly. We will continue to care for his orchids and for the garden in his memory and for the enjoyment of all who visit in the future.



Jovi the Tenrec

Education

Our primary educational objective has been to complete the successful transition from our partnership with the Outdoor Learning Service to the provision of school's education from the Charity's resources alone. This change, which occurred in July 2014, ended a longstanding successful partnership between the Gardens and Birmingham City Council, which provided a unique learning experience to hundreds of thousands of school children over three decades. Thanks to the unstinting efforts of our Education Officer Deborah Knott, staff and education volunteers, we are delighted to report that the transition has been successfully achieved and schools' education at the Gardens continues to flourish.

Schools' Programme

The number of school pupils and adults who visited the Gardens in 2014-15 was 15,948, marginally reduced from 16,541 in the previous year. The number of groups was reduced to 321 from 389 in 2013-14. 55% of visits came from Birmingham schools. 45% of visits came from areas further afield including Shropshire and Wales. This is a good result when the challenges surmounted during the past year are taken into account. Customer satisfaction continues to be very positive with 60% of schools rating teaching sessions as outstanding and 40% as good. Evaluation comments from teachers included 'Thank you, a great experience that enhanced the topic and science work.' and 'The students showed such a keen interest in what was being told to them. This was refreshing and enjoyable to see.' A Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge was awarded to the education team as a nationally recognised indicator of good quality educational provision.

In response to growing demand from school groups, a number of animals, including a Tenrec mammal from Madagascar, were added to the Charity's teaching collection. These are now in high demand for teaching sessions and workshops.

Family Activity Sessions and Events

The Charity's Halloween event took place in October and was well attended. Visitors were able to see a range of 'creepy crawlies' and other animals during the event. They were also able to have their face painted and join in a spooky trail and crafts. Family explorer backpacks and trails continue to attract good attendances. These activities will continue to offer even more entertainment to our visitors during the coming years.

Leisure Learning

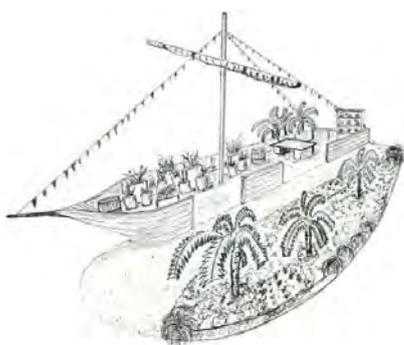
Photography courses spanning four weeks for beginners and advanced participants were offered in June and November. Two photography workshops, each lasting a day, were run in September and April.

Education staff

The Gardens committed additional resources and recruited additional staff to replace the Gardens' teacher previously funded by the Outdoor Learning Service. New arrivals in education included Victoria Weston in administration and Rebecca Howsen and Nerys Keyte as permanent part time teaching staff.

Volunteers

Currently we have 35 volunteers who make a valuable contribution to our educational activities. Since there is a considerable throughput of volunteers, our Education Officer is constantly on the lookout for new recruits. This year we recruited 17 new volunteers and provided training for them to join the education team. In the past year our education volunteers assisted with the Teddy Bears Picnic in August, the Halloween Funday in October and a Santa's Grotto event in November and December.



Spice Garden, Gardeners' World Live

Birmingham Metropolitan College (BMet)

This is the second year during which BMet have operated a range of full-time, part-time and short course programmes at the gardens including horticulture, conservation and floristry. Full time courses included NVQ level 2 diplomas in horticulture and conservation and NVQ level 3 diplomas in horticulture. In total 22 students successfully completed these courses. A rolling six-week course saw 50 candidates successfully completing an employability programme giving them a certificate in horticultural skills. 32 candidates were successful in achieving Royal Horticultural Society certificates in level 2 garden planning, level 2 practical gardening and level 3 plant science and physiology.

BMet offers an apprenticeship programme in horticulture which this year involved 10 learners. This year, two of these apprenticeships were held in collaboration with the Gardens' Charity which provides a salary and vocational training to complement the apprentices' studies with BMet. These places were highly sought after by students. Both candidates who commenced their studies this year will obtain diplomas in October 2015. BMet horticultural students designed and constructed a show garden for BBC Gardeners'

World Live called Spice gaining a 'Highly commended' award/recommendation. Additionally, this academic year saw 275 school children being involved in one day workshops which included activities such as pond dipping, making habitat hotels and plant propagation.

A highlight was BMet learners' involvement with the Horticultural Student of the Year Awards, getting to regional final stages. Students taking part had the opportunity to work with gardening celebrities on show garden projects and television work and to undertake community initiatives to help local schools and those in need: a wonderful educational opportunity which they would not have missed.

We have achieved our objectives for the year and continue to develop educational provision at the Gardens' in a very positive manner. We look forward to continuing growth in the number of educational visits and to improving the facilities we offer to learners at the Gardens. We continue to appeal for additional financial support for these most worthwhile activities.

Finance

The financial results for the Charity continued to be in deficit for the year at £87,583. This is an increase of £27,118 compared to the previous year's deficit of £60,465. However, the previous year's income included a one off receipt of £75,000 relating to the catering contract. So, under normal operating conditions, there has been an improvement of £47,882 in trading.

The Charity's overall income increased by £26,004 during the year, an increase of more than 2% compared to the previous year. Banqueting income has again increased this year. An additional £21,298 was received and we anticipate this will be a continuing trend. Income from Leisure increased by £33,827 for the year. Whilst membership and admissions income remained level with last year, the success of the Trustees Ball boosted our incoming resources by nearly £38,000, generating a net profit of almost £18,000. We are hopeful that this year's Ball will be even more successful.



Monty Don at the Trustees Ball

Disappointingly we saw a reduction in total Gift Aid of £15,578 this year. Continued efforts are being made to raise awareness that we are a self-funded charity that relies on gifting and donations. Donations and legacies were up this year by £22,345. The majority of the donations received were restricted donations and have enabled us to progress with our memory garden project and fund for fun activities. We also received a generous donation for an additional parrot, which will be purchased in the autumn. We express our great thanks to the donors who have contributed to these projects. Education income has increased by 12% despite a £10,000 reduction in rental income received from B-Met. School admissions income has increased by nearly £28,000 following the end of our partnership with the OLS in July 2014. Income from 'The Shop at the Gardens' has shown a small decrease of £1,085. This year a great effort has gone into implementing a fully functioning EPOS computing system. This will lead to improved stock management and increased profit in coming years.

Costs to the charity have increased by £53,000 (4%) this year. £20,000 of these costs can be attributed to the Trustees Ball, with an additional rates bill of £18,000 also being incurred due to new arrangements with our caterers. The Charity has recognised that to ensure our visitors have the best experience possible, we need to have enough resources available;

therefore our payroll costs have increased by £41,868 this year, with the number of full time equivalent employees up from 19 in 2014 to 23.

Capital Expenditure during the year amounted to £85,626. It included £3,400 for signs and fixtures, £8,991 for computer equipment, £10,531 for CCTV, £45,787 for furnishings, £3,175 for a new telephone system and £13,741 for additions and improvements to the Gardens and glasshouses.

We will continue to monitor our costs and use our resources efficiently to enable us to improve both our visitor experience and to carry out our charitable objectives.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has established the level of reserves, that is those funds that are freely available that the Charity ought to retain. Adequate reserves are required for the unexpected costs and for future investment. The Charity has a policy of ensuring that cash or borrowing facilities are available to cover three months of normal expenditure.

Three months of normal expenditure now amounts to approximately £263,000 and year end cash amounted to £276,916. The Charity considers that in the current economic conditions, it is prudent to continue to maintain a higher than normal level of cash until future operating conditions become clearer.

Future

The Charity's five year business plan is focused on developing the business on a sustainable financial model in a rapidly changing economic environment. The Charity has long term development plans to further its aims with a potential expansion including changes to the entrance, a larger car park and visitor facilities. Renovation of the glasshouse areas, a new nursery complex and other improvements in various areas will follow. The Charity is also researching funding from sponsorship, making bids to funding bodies and seeking legacies to support the ongoing maintenance of the facilities of the gardens. These developments are designed to attract additional visitors from an increasingly diverse audience and to improve further our educational activities, and also to address issues of relevance to our changing world. We look forward to the further implementation of our plans to secure the future of the Charity and our historic site and to raise our attraction to a new level of excellence.

In all of these activities, the Charity will be guided by the invaluable feedback received from our visiting audience.

The Charity continues to recruit new Trustees, Staff and Volunteers to assist us. For further details, please contact the Chief Executive or view the Gardens' website www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make sound judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Disclosure of information to the auditor

So far as each of the Trustees is aware, there is no relevant audit information as defined in the Companies Act 2006 of which the company's auditor is unaware, and each of the Trustees has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information as defined and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

On behalf of the Trustees

Martyn Liberson

Chairman

Independent auditor's report to the members of Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society Limited for the year ended 31 March 2015 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Company Balance Sheets, and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 14, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practice Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors. This report is made solely for the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2015 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to Smaller Entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on the other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Trustees' Report.

Glen Jones (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Mazars LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

45 Church Street, Birmingham, West Midlands, B3 2RT

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Donations		4,257	38,104	42,361	11,016
Legacies		1,054	-	1,054	9,000
Activities for generating funds:					
Banqueting suites		300,000	-	300,000	278,702
Income from 'The Shop at the Gardens'		206,853	-	206,853	207,938
Other income		6,695	-	6,695	3,500
Investment income	6	753	-	753	409
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Leisure		504,707	-	504,707	470,880
Education		110,541	-	110,541	98,394
Other incoming resources:		9,240	-	9,240	76,361
Total incoming resources		1,144,100	38,104	1,182,204	1,156,200
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Cost of generating funds:					
Cost of generating voluntary income:					
Fund raising		4,500	-	4,500	2,669
Commercial activities:					
Banqueting suites		160,380		160,380	131,759
'The Shop at the Gardens'		228,680		228,680	178,470
Charitable activities:					
Leisure		631,617	58,359	689,976	654,858
Education		153,161	15,513	168,674	153,873
Governance:					
Professional and related fees		17,577	-	17,577	95,036
Total resources expended		1,195,915	73,872	1,269,787	1,216,665
Net outgoing resources		(51,815)	(35,768)	(87,583)	(60,465)
Fund balances brought forward 1 April 2014		926,033	377,876	1,303,909	1,364,374
Transfer between funds	10	79,472	(79,472)	-	
Fund balances carried forward 31 March 2015		953,690	262,636	1,216,326	1,303,909

The Group's income and expenditure all relate to continuing operations. There were no recognized gains or losses other than the result for the year.

BALANCE SHEETS AT 31 MARCH 2015

Company no. 248827

	Notes	Group		Company	
		2015	2014	2015	2014
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7(a)	920,503	1,008,512	920,503	1,008,512
Asset Under Construction		21,340	-	21,340	-
Investments	7(b)	-	-	2	2
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		941,843	1,008,512	941,845	1,008,514
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		45,254	45,941	-	-
Debtors	8	121,411	67,857	178,967	117,777
Cash at bank and in hand		276,835	305,471	202,753	244,726
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		443,500	419,269	381,720	362,503
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR					
	9	(169,017)	(123,872)	(117,237)	(77,107)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net current assets		274,483	295,398	264,483	285,396
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET ASSETS		1,216,326	1,303,909	1,206,328	1,293,910
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Financed by:					
Restricted funds	10	262,636	377,876	262,636	377,876
Unrestricted fund		953,690	926,033	943,692	916,031
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		1,216,326	1,303,909	1,206,328	1,293,907
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements on pages 17 to 25 were authorised for issue and approved by the General Committee on 27th July 2015

M. A. Liberson
Director

K. J. Hartigan
Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES
Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (Effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2005).

The financial statements do not include a cashflow statement because the charitable company is a small entity and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), is exempt from the requirement to report a cashflow.

Group Financial Statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned trading subsidiary, Birmingham Botanical Gardens (Enterprises) Limited, on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities for the charity itself is not presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by the Companies Act 2006. The net outgoing resources of the parent charity for the year are £87,583 (2014: £60,465)

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Donations

Donations and legacies are accounted for as income on a cash receivable basis. Where donations are paid under gift aid, tax recoverable is included at the time the income is recognised.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

New tangible fixed assets are capitalised and are stated in the balance sheet at cost less depreciation, which is provided in equal instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Long leasehold improvements are depreciated over 25 years. For machinery and fixtures and fittings, the charge is 4 to 10 years as appropriate. All assets are for charitable use.

Basis of apportionment of overheads

General office overheads including administrative wages and salaries have been apportioned on the ratio of incoming resources from these three activities.

	2015	2014
Costs of generating voluntary income	1%	1%
Charitable activities - Education	18%	17%
Charitable activities - Leisure	81%	82%

Restricted funds expenditure, building expenses including utilities, repairs and depreciation have been apportioned in accordance with the space occupied as follows:

	2015	2014
Costs of generating funds – Banqueting Suites	-	22%
Costs of generating funds – The Shop at the Gardens	-	2%
Charitable activities - Education	21%	16%
Charitable activities - Leisure	79%	60%

During 2015, space related costs for the Banqueting Suites and The Shop at the Gardens have been apportioned throughout the year via management charges. In 2014 the space related costs for these activities were apportioned at year end as shown above.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

Stock

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

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Operating Leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is incurred.

Restricted funds

These are funds that can only be used for particular purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Depreciation is charged against the relevant fund in respect of fixed assets acquired with restricted funds.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a defined contribution scheme. There were no contributions due at 31st March 2015.

2 DISTRIBUTION FROM TRADING SUBSIDIARY

Birmingham Botanical Gardens (Enterprises) Limited operates 'The Shop at the Gardens' selling plants and giftware and since 1 July 2013 operates the conferencing and catering facilities. Profits, previously transferred under Gift Aid, are now transferred as a distribution to Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society Limited.

A summary of its trading results for the year is as follows:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Turnover	506,853	432,970
Cost of sales	(114,644)	(119,043)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Gross profit	392,209	313,927
Direct costs	(39,363)	(43,658)
Administrative charges	(235,053)	(242,631)
Bank interest received	49	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit	117,842	27,672
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Distribution	117,842	27,672
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit retained	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

3 ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Staff costs £	Other £	Depreciation £	Total £
Cost of generating funds:				
Cost of generating voluntary income:				
Fund raising	1,531	2,969	-	4,500
Commercial activities:				
Banqueting suites	16,977	91,313	52,090	160,380
'The Shop at the Gardens'	59,467	151,850	17,363	228,680
Charitable activities:				
Leisure	252,190	355,484	82,302	689,976
Education	66,667	80,129	21,878	168,674
Governance:				
Professional and related fees	-	17,577	-	17,577
	<u>396,832</u>	<u>699,322</u>	<u>173,633</u>	<u>1,269,787</u>

4 STAFF COSTS

	2015 £	2014 £
Wages and salaries	370,631	326,833
Social security costs	22,905	23,724
Pensions	3,296	4,407
	<u>396,832</u>	<u>354,964</u>

	Number	Number
The average number of full time equivalent employees was:		
Gardens	6	8
Maintenance	4	4
Curatorial and educational	2.5	1
Administration and reception	6.5	4
Shop	4	2
	<u>23</u>	<u>19</u>

No Trustee received remuneration.
No Trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year.
No employee received remuneration in excess of £60,000 (2014 nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

5 NET OUTGOING RESOURCES

Net outgoing resources is stated after charging:	2015	2014
	£	£
Operating lease rentals		
-plant and machinery	5,280	5,280
Auditors remuneration		
-for audit services	7,940	7,600
-for non audit services	790	385
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	173,633	188,850
	=====	=====

6 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2015	2014
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	753	409
	=====	=====

7 FIXED ASSETS

Group and company

	Long leasehold	Machinery and others	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
(a) Tangible assets				
COST				
At 1 April 2014	3,896,027	801,282	483,556	5,180,865
Additions	-	11,196	74,430	85,626
Asset under construction	-	21,340	-	21,340
At 31 March 2015	<u>3,896,027</u>	<u>833,818</u>	<u>557,986</u>	<u>5,287,831</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2014	3,225,276	609,716	337,361	4,172,353
Charge	71,208	37,867	64,560	173,635
At 31 March 2015	<u>3,296,484</u>	<u>647,583</u>	<u>401,921</u>	<u>4,345,988</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2015	<u>599,543</u>	<u>186,235</u>	<u>156,065</u>	<u>941,843</u>
At 31 March 2014	<u>670,751</u>	<u>191,566</u>	<u>146,195</u>	<u>1,008,512</u>
b) Investments				

The company owns 100% of the £2 ordinary share capital of Birmingham Botanical Gardens (Enterprises) Limited.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

8. DEBTORS

	Group		Company	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors and commissions due	61,182	18,646	26,976	18,646
Intercompany balance	-	-	111,080	49,920
Prepayments	60,229	49,211	40,911	49,211
	<u>121,411</u>	<u>67,857</u>	<u>178,967</u>	<u>117,777</u>

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Company	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	88,227	71,713	54,406	48,780
Subscriptions received in advance	29,577	30,353	29,577	30,353
Other taxes and social security	8,268	7,023	(7,491)	(12,760)
Accruals	42,620	14,475	40,420	10,427
Other creditors	325	308	325	307
	<u>169,017</u>	<u>123,872</u>	<u>117,237</u>	<u>77,107</u>

10. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN RESTRICTED RESERVES

Restricted Funds:	Brought Forward	movement	Carried forward
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	364,101	(122,590)	241,511
Orchid Case	5,000	(5,000)	-
Disabled access	8,400	-	8,400
Aviary	-	5,000	5,000
Memorial Project	-	4,260	4,260
Shed	-	1,000	1,000
Other	375	2,090	2,465
	<u>377,876</u>	<u>(115,240)</u>	<u>262,636</u>

The transfer between funds of £79,472 represents a misallocation from the prior year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2015

11. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESERVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	700,332	241,511	941,843
Current assets	422,375	21,125	443,500
Current liabilities	(169,017)	-	(169,017)
	<u>953,690</u>	<u>262,636</u>	<u>1,216,326</u>

12. SHARES OF THE COMPANY

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital divided into shares. Each member guarantees to pay during their membership and for one year after membership ceases, the sum of up to £10 to the Society in the event of a winding up order. Any surplus on winding up is to go to a charity whose objects are of a similar nature.

13. TAXATION STATUS

As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax on its normal activities and is entitled to recover the tax paid by members whose subscriptions are gift aided.

14. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2015 £	2014 £
Capital expenditure contracted for but not provided for in the financial statements	105,500	-
Capital expenditure authorised but not contracted for	<u>35,000</u>	<u> </u>

15. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	Expires within 1 year	2-5 years	Expires more than 5 years	Total
Land and Buildings	-	-	500	500
Other	-	5,280	-	5,280
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Three Trustees have declared an interest in companies which entered into transactions with the Charity. The transactions are all on arms length basis and amounted to:

Emms Gilmore Liberson Ltd	£1,117
L & R Consulting	£7,120

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2015

17. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF PARENT COMPANY

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Total Incoming Resources	755,040	38,104	793,144	859,492
Total Resources Expended	(806,855)	(73,872)	(880,727)	(919,957)
Net outgoing resources	(51,815)	(35,768)	(87,583)	(60,465)
Fund balances brought forward 1 April 2014	916,033	377,876	1,303,909	1,365,374
Transfer between funds	79,472	(79,472)	-	
Fund balances carried forward 31 March 2015	943,690	262,636	1,206,326	1,293,909