



Hampshire Gardens Trust

Annual Report

2020

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I would like to thank the trustees and all committee members for their continued commitment – without their support, and the diligence and enthusiasm of our loyal administrator, Jo Bolt, the HGT would not be able to continue with the good work we do.

As with all organisations, the 2020 Coronavirus Pandemic has curtailed most activities since 23 March, however, in spite of this, our membership has grown a little as we continue to ensure that the work and activities of the HGT are drawn to the attention of a wider audience. The key areas of focus remain Events, Research, Conservation & Development, and Friends Groups, but we are now also concentrating on making sure the Education Committee is successfully re-launched and hope a 'template plan for garden activities in schools' will shortly be tested, and then rolled out across Hampshire. Our ambition is that more pupils will be given the opportunity to take part in gardening activities and learn more about plants and the environment in and around their schools. An outline plan has been put in place by trustee Jill Walmsley, and we shall be seeking appropriate funding for this activity, but new volunteers will be needed to raise money and execute the plan.

The Research Group, led by Sally Miller, has continued their work with regular meetings (remotely if necessary), as has the C&D team led by Mike Ricketts, and assisted by Russell Gordon-Smith – who has worked hard on the successful new Winchester Walking Trail leaflet. Both of these teams would welcome new volunteers if you would like to assist with their excellent work, please do get in touch with HGT office. The Events committee's work has been very adversely affected this year, but they should be congratulated on achieving one outing in August when a select group made a socially distanced (but highly successful), visit to Bramdean House and Weir House gardens. Arrangements are already in place for 5 confirmed visits in 2021 with bookings open from 01 February 2021 - these are excellent day trips, and apart from the pleasure of spending time with like-minded HGT enthusiasts, participants have the opportunity to witness the fruits of someone else's labours.

The positive relationship between the HGT and HCC continues, and our role as one of the key scrutinisers of planning applications is much appreciated by them, as is our work as custodian of the official register of over 800 parks and gardens in Hampshire. Changes in the Government's National planning strategy need to be watched closely as new Local Plans and on-going pressure to meet house building targets are pushed through. As ever, we never assume that planning officers will make sensible decisions as they do their best to take balanced views in their efforts to take account of a wide range of vested interests – and close attention is being paid to sites such as Bushfield Down (a relatively large site), and the Water Close Garden on a very small scale but in a highly sensitive historic site adjacent to Winchester Cathedral.

The pandemic has reminded us all that our physical and mental well-being will be improved if everyone has some private garden space, as well as access to public green spaces, and perhaps the opportunity to join an allotment group, and access to the landscape and countryside beyond via the extensive network of footpaths. We need to help planners and developers achieve the right balance in this regard, especially where social housing is included which tends to offer gardens which are too small to offer real benefit. With our campaigning hat on, there is a need for the HGT to forge closer links to other relevant organisations such as the CPRE, the South Downs National Park, the Hampshire Wildlife Trust, as well as a large number of smaller local organisations, and we can and should do more to work more closely with all these groups with whom we share many common goals.

Unfortunately the Gilbert White Tercentenary 'GW300' celebrations had to be postponed until next year – but we look forward to supporting their efforts again in 2021. Other on-going activities of a more general nature include raising awareness of the need to reduce reliance of chemical fertiliser or insecticides – gardeners can collectively make a real difference by adopting more low input, organic practices which can reduce pollution and enhance soil health. Indeed, soil has become a hot topic for both gardeners and farmers, who are increasingly aware that mixed farming and the addition of grass-fed livestock is, contrary to the views of some of the more fashion-conscious, pro-vegan celebrities... actually good for the planet! I am not alone amongst gardeners in my

passion for seeking out only the finest quality, well-rotted animal dung to ensure my plants and veg is of the highest quality – and it is pretty good for the insect population too, what's not to like about that?

Finally, although the Hampshire Gardens Trust with its 373 members is one of the largest County Gardens Trusts, we need more members to join and need to continue our campaign to grow to 450 members over the next two years. With more members, once the Brave New World has arrived – we can once again plan more ambitious events and activities that will ensure the HGT remains as a thriving, dynamic organisation that is at the heart of many aspects of Hampshire's public and private gardens, landscapes and parks. If you know anyone who might like to join, don't hesitate to contact the HGT office by email or telephone – we need your support, and would be very grateful for any help that you can offer.

Ted Wake
Chairman

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Results and Funds

The results for the year ended 31 March 2020 show a deficit of £6,833. This entirely relates to unrestricted funds, with no change in restricted funds. Unrestricted income increased slightly from £33,527 last year, but unrestricted expenditure was also up by just over £1,200 (£39,601 for 2019).

Action is continuing, both to seek to increase membership and to bring in more donations.

Cash at bank at 31 March 2020 amounted to just over £61,000, with net assets of £54,590.

Reserves Policy

Money continues to be set aside in designated funds for conservation and development (£5,500) and for education (£2,000). There also continues to be a need for some emergency conservation work.

In addition, it is deemed prudent to retain sufficient funds to meet at least six months normal expenditure.

Richard Green-Wilkinson
Honorary Treasurer

RESEARCH GROUP REPORT

At the beginning of 2020 we reviewed what we are doing – and why! We are all aware of the increasing pressure on land in Hampshire and at the same time we are learning more about the value of our green spaces for health and well-being. Our *Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks and Gardens* <http://research.hgt.org.uk/> holds information on over 800 sites of varying degrees of importance. But over half of them are private parks and gardens first listed around 2000. In the very nature of things many of those sites have disappeared under housing or are gardens where the historic features have gone. So we have an audit process underway to identify sites that should be taken off the Inventory.

Over the past few years our group have been surveying the condition of many of our public parks using a 1997 HCC Survey as our baseline (those reports can also be found on our website). Increasingly, we feel that we should be keeping a closer eye on more of our public green spaces: they can be at greater risk of disappearing. So that is what we aimed to do this year: identifying and recording those urban green spaces.

We held a very well attended Research Group Annual Review Day in February – and then Covid struck!

Much garden history research can now be conducted searching the world-wide web although as with other subjects the proportion of biased, false, misleading or just scrambled information is high. But nothing replaces the value of getting to primary sources and so, needless to say, most of the research group's activity ceased abruptly in March when archives and libraries closed. Making site visits to check or update our data, take photographs, interview owners also had to stop. So the group has not been able to move on with our plans. We continued to respond to emailed requests for information from the public and organisations and as always our research informed HGT's responses to planning applications that could affect Inventory sites. Most notably, in October and November, we vigorously opposed a planning application for the construction of a house on the Water Close garden in Winchester, which attracted perhaps a record of almost 700 objections lodged on Winchester City Council's planning portal!

The group is looking forward to resuming normal service in 2021 with plans for some interesting research projects.

Sally Miller
Chair, Research Group

CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT

This being an extraordinary year, the full Committee met only once back in January. Lockdown meant that our activities were confined to remote working, but nevertheless the 'normal' work of the Team seemed to carry on with the usual vigour in responses to planning consultations and giving advice. However, a few of us (below six and suitably 'socially distanced') did manage to gather in October being hosted by our Chairman Ted Wake at *The Holt*, for a catch-up and to discuss a possible direction of our interests for the future. Besides discussing the future trends afoot for town and country planning, one aspect that came out of that meeting was how to bring more influence on developers and local planning authorities to act on best practice towards historic landscapes and gardens. This will be something for the Team to consider in more detail.

Planning application consultations: Since the list in the Summer Report, the various members of the Team have continued to deal with the recent applications, of which some of the main ones are as follows: – '*Bishopswood*', Fareham; Brunswick House and '*Hoglands*' as they affect the Central Parks in Southampton; Water Close Garden, Winchester and South Stoneham House in Eastleigh. The Team was also consulted on Proposed Management Changes to the II* Registered Parks in Southampton.

Among the larger development sites to keep a watch upon are Bushfield in Winchester (an old airfield which is surrounded by downland, SSSI etc); Welborne Garden Village, north of Fareham and Upper Swallick (Portsmouth Estate) southwest of Basingstoke. The latter is of particular concern due impact on a historic landscape and to the breaking of the M3 barrier. We continue to work closely with our colleagues at The Gardens Trust, where the national body is involved and also with the CPRE.

Projects: Following finishing of last year's projects, such as Home Nursery Green and Hyde Abbey Garden, the Team has been involved in the following:-

Winchester Gardens Walking Trail: The new brochure was finally completed and printed this autumn. Thanks must go to Russell Gordon Smith for completing the design and publication and all those who contributed in its compilation, including Sue Gordon and Janet Hurrell.

Alresford Memorial Garden: A new project which is a particular initiative of the Team and is an area that came to our notice in New Alresford and that was used in the past as 'local swimming pool'. In recent years the landscape has deteriorated and there is an opportunity to rescue what could be an attractive public space on the local footpath network. In consultation with the Town Council, a site survey has been carried out and some sketch scheme options will be drawn up for future public consultation.

Aldershot Military Museum Garden of Remembrance: This is a project which is to be considered for our support, which is to be run by the Hampshire Cultural Trust for a garden for the use of both military personnel and civilians. Also helping to form the garden will be the Rushmoor Voluntary Services through their 'Blooming Marvellous Project', who work with those recovering from mental health issues. The scheme is at an early stage and funding is being sought from various bodies.

The 'New Normal': With big changes forecast on the planning front with two Government consultation documents entitled '*White Paper: Planning for the Future*' and '*Changes to the Current Planning System*', change is on the agenda. The White Paper is hailed as a radical change to the UK Planning system, with amongst its proposals changes to the method for calculating housing numbers. This may put more pressure on historic landscapes in certain instances, although there are

certain constraints already existing which will resist harm and deflect development. There have been other occasions in the past to reform the Planning system, so the jury is out as to whether these latest proposals will produce any real change.

Finally, many thanks must go to the Team members for their continuing efforts in these trying times. But perhaps special mention is due for Jennifer Adams, Nikki Barker and Sally Miller, who for one reason or another appear to have had the bulk of enquiries and work to deal with.

Michael Ricketts

Chairman, Conservation & Development Team

EVENTS TEAM REPORT

As we all know, due to the pandemic we had to cancel our Spring/Summer Events programme. Most of the visits were fully booked and as they seemed very popular we thought we would just book them up for 2021. The programme can now be found on our website and booking will be open from 1st February.

There was a little hiatus during all the constraints imposed on us by the pandemic and we managed to squeeze two garden visits on the same day in August. Thirty members welcomed the opportunity to have a day out near Alresford.

Bramdean House was our morning visit. Maggie, the Head Gardener, gave a short introduction to the garden and its management after which we were able to wander at will through the grounds. Following a break for lunch, we regrouped at Weir House, a spectacular riverside garden with an attractive Arts and Crafts style house. The day was thoroughly enjoyable and a welcome chance to forget about the pandemic for a while!

Gillian Taylor, the latest member of our Events Team has already started work on putting together our Autumn programme and a special thanks to her for making the Alresford day trip, one to remember!

Teresa Yeates

Events Chair

THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF THE GARDENS REPORT

We normally have two meetings per year, one in March/April and the other in October. The last meeting we were able to hold was in October 2019, when we were hosted by Petersfield Physic Garden. The meeting due to be held this year in late March at Dean Garnier Garden had to be cancelled, as indeed did the second meeting in mid-October, both due to the restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic. The affiliated gardens are: Hyde Abbey and Dean Garnier, Winchester; King John's, Romsey, Southampton Old Cemetery and Townhill Park House Gardens, Southampton; Crescent Garden, Alverstoke; Petersfield Physic Garden; Porter's Garden, Portsmouth; and the Gazebo Garden, Havant.

When the restrictions were eased in late May, the many participating garden volunteers began to get itchy fingers and it was necessary to establish how the enthusiasts could return to work safely. The Friends of Old Southampton Cemetery had received guidelines from Southampton City Council, which were then made known to all the garden representatives.

The regulations are as follows:

- a) 6 persons may work in Community Gardens, as long as a Risk Assessment is taken:
- b) Social distancing applies, keeping 2m apart
- c) No refreshments to be supplied, each must bring their own
- d) Each volunteer to be told in advance in which area(s) they are to work, to avoid gathering
- e) If gardening tools are provided, then they must be cleaned before and after use
- f) Sanitising cleaner must be available at all times

Several of the affiliated gardens began working again in June, but, as can be imagined, most of their time was taken up by removing the vast numbers of weeds which had grown unchecked. Dean Garnier Garden, Winchester, The Crescent Garden, Alverstoke, and King John's Garden, Romsey were amongst the first community gardens to begin work again. At Townhill Park House Gardens, which is privately owned, only two members of the Gregg School's gardening staff have been permitted to carry out garden maintenance, and they are both relatively inexperienced part-time apprentices, who were not really capable of keeping up with the tasks necessary to maintain the two acres of formal gardens. No volunteers have been allowed to return, for the safety of the schoolchildren. Hence, the gardens are weed-ridden and overgrown and not fit to be seen by visitors. I'm sure that this is the case in many other gardens.

Once again vandalism has occurred. A valued bench was broken by youths in Hyde Abbey Garden, Winchester, and will be expensive to replace.

I know that the Friends of Dean Garnier Garden are keen to host the next meeting of the Association, so let's hope that can take place in April 2021.

Peter Wilkinson

Trustee and Co-ordinator of the Association of Friends Groups

Education Report

In spite of the restrictions imposed on us this year, we have been liaising with four educational establishments in order to grow and develop our educational programme.

Grayshott C of E Primary School, Grayshott

We have been working with Grayshott Primary School to help them kickstart the renovation of their overgrown Wildlife Garden and the replanting of their Peace Garden. The Trust paid for a topographical survey of the site, and Richard Connell, Landscape Architect, kindly produced a design plan. Now this is in place, we are waiting for the school to implement a fundraising programme in order for the works to be carried out. The end result will be a natural area which the school children will be able to access safely in order to learn.

The Bridge Education Centre, Eastleigh

The Education Team have been helping the school practically with donated plants and volunteering as part of a working party. We are also working with a group of designers to help with the design and implementation of part of the garden.

The Arnewood School, New Milton

The school have recently approached the Trust for advice and support for their new Eco and Gardening Club in which they will be looking at amongst other things, recycling and creating a vegetable patch. A meeting has been scheduled and we hope to be in a position to report back on how we will be able to help the school in the Spring Newsletter.

Oliver's Battery Primary School, Winchester

We noticed that the school were looking to crowd fund a yurt for outside classes and decided to contact them to find out what they're plans were. After a meeting with the headteacher and contact with the PTA we felt that this school had great potential for us to develop a specific project with. Once again, discussions are in their infancy and more will be reported in the future.

Jill Walmsley

HGT Vice Chair & Education Team Co-ordinator

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hampshire Gardens Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2020 which are set out on pages 8 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material aspect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn to this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ralph Crump
Ralph Crump Accountants Limited
Drove House
14 Bakers Drove
Rownhams
Southampton
SO16 8AD

Date.....*12 November 2020*.....

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
INCOME					
Grants, donations and subscriptions	6,111	-	3,000	9,111	6,465
Hampshire County Council Grant	17,000	-	-	17,000	17,000
Income from trading activities	10,278	-	-	10,278	10,062
Interest received	152	-	-	152	-
Gift aid	500	-	-	500	-
	<u>34,041</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>37,041</u>	<u>33,527</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE					
Expenditure directly for charitable purposes	12,113	-	3,000	15,113	11,644
Expenditure for management and administration	28,761	-	-	28,761	28,378
	<u>40,874</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>43,874</u>	<u>40,022</u>
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(6,833)	-	-	(6,833)	(6,495)
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	45,618	7,500	8,305	61,423	67,918
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward 31 March 2020	<u>38,785</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>54,590</u>	<u>61,423</u>

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

		2020		2019	
Note	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Petersfield Physic Garden Centre	2		-		-
Current assets					
Debtors	3	962		218	
Cash at bank		61,115		70,032	
		62,077		70,250	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	4	7,487		8,827	
Net current assets			54,590		61,423
Net assets			54,590		61,423
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	5	46,285		53,118	
Restricted funds	1	8,305		8,305	
		54,590		61,423	
			54,590		61,423

The Trustees have acknowledged their responsibilities for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities for the year then ended in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Accounting Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

The accounts were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 12th November 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman, Hampshire Gardens Trust

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS
(FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Grants, service level payment, donations and subscriptions				
Hampshire County Council Grant	17,000		17,000	
Donations	100		295	
Subscriptions	6,011		6,170	
Gift aid	500		-	
	<u>23,611</u>	23,611	<u>23,465</u>	23,465
Income from trading activities				
Member's events	5,808		8,227	
Research group events	4,470		1,835	
	<u>10,278</u>	10,278	<u>10,062</u>	10,062
Income earned from assets				
Bank interest		152		-
Miscellaneous		-		-
TOTAL INCOME		<u>34,041</u>		<u>33,527</u>

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS
(FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure directly for charitable purposes				
Grants:				
Conservation	2,007		2,500	
Education	-		79	
	2,007		2,579	
Members' events	4,806		9,065	
Promotion	-		-	
Research	5,300		-	
	10,106		9,065	
		12,113		11,644
Expenditure for management and administration				
Secretarial salary (including PAYE and NIC)	21,371		18,011	
Office expenses, telephone and postage	2,728		2,715	
Printing and stationery	1,178		684	
Travel expenses	313		422	
Subscriptions	30		50	
Insurance	787		1,663	
Accountancy charges	870		933	
Website & IT	1,214		3,244	
Library	270		235	
	28,761		27,957	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		40,874		39,601

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED FUNDS
(FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME		-		-
IT Equipment	-		-	
Bursary Funds	-		-	
TOTAL INCOME		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
EXPENDITURE				
IT Equipment	-		171	
Bursary Funds	-		250	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>-</u>	<u>421</u>	

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - RESTRICTED FUNDS
(FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Repton Book Publishing	<u>3,000</u>		<u>-</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		<u><u>3,000</u></u>		<u><u>-</u></u>
LESS EXPENDITURE				
Repton Book Publishing	<u>3,000</u>		<u>-</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u><u>3,000</u></u>		<u><u>-</u></u>

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	2020			2019		
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
CASH FUNDS						
Bank savings accounts	35,000	-	35,000	18,086	-	18,086
Bank current accounts	17,810	8,305	26,115	43,641	8,305	51,946
	<u>52,810</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>61,115</u>	<u>61,727</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>70,032</u>
INVESTMENT ASSETS						
Fixed assets - Petersfield Physic Garden Visitor Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES						
Debtors	962	-	962	218	-	218
Creditors	(7,487)	-	(7,487)	(8,827)	-	(8,827)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>46,285</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>54,590</u>	<u>53,118</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>61,423</u>

	2020				2019			
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
ACCUMULATED FUNDS								
Balance brought forward	45,618	7,500	8,305	61,423	51,692	7,921	8,305	67,918
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(6,833)	-	-	(6,833)	(6,074)	(421)	-	(6,495)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>38,785</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>54,590</u>	<u>45,618</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,305</u>	<u>61,423</u>

HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
5. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
General Fund				
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	45,618		51,692	
Add: Income	34,041		33,527	
Less: Expenditure	<u>(40,874)</u>		<u>(39,601)</u>	
Fund carried forward		38,785		45,618
Designated fund - IT Equipment				
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	-		171	
Less: Expenditure	<u>-</u>		<u>(171)</u>	
Fund carried forward		-		-
Designated fund - Bursary Funds				
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	-		250	
Less: Expenditure	<u>-</u>		<u>(250)</u>	
Fund carried forward		-		-
Designated fund - Conservation and Development				
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	<u>5,500</u>		<u>5,500</u>	
Fund carried forward		5,500		5,500
Designated fund - Education				
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2019	<u>2,000</u>		<u>2,000</u>	
Fund carried forward		2,000		2,000
		<u>46,285</u>		<u>53,118</u>



Hampshire Gardens Trust

The Hampshire Gardens Trust is the only voluntary organisation in the County to identify the needs and opportunities to conserve, protect and enhance the County's rich heritage of parks, gardens and designed landscapes. We offer expert, free advice and appropriate project grants to raise awareness of the value of these special places.

Our Conservation and Development Team's resources and its expertise in planning, architecture and landscape design are vital to help conserve and protect public and private parks and gardens.

Our Research Group investigates and records the history of individual parks and gardens to identify their historic significance and to inform their future conservation and development.

Our Events Team organises talks and interesting garden visits which provide opportunities to enjoy the beauty and character of parks and gardens, and to learn why they are of interest and value.

Our Association of Friends' Groups and other groups work with the Trust and their local communities to enhance or create and maintain new gardens in our towns and on historic sites.

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