



**ANNUAL REPORT
AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
2014/2015**

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www.rhs.org.uk

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* These sections form part of the Trustees' Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2015

All members of the Society will have the opportunity to meet Members of Council (who are Trustees of the Royal Horticultural Society), the Director General and Leadership Team, and ask questions on past performance and future plans at the 2015 Annual General Meeting which will be held at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, North Yorkshire, at 2pm on Thursday 25 June 2015. For further information about the meeting, go to www.rhs.org.uk/AGM or contact The Secretary at the address shown below.

If you have any questions about anything contained in this Report or the accompanying Financial Statements, please address these in the first instance to The Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE, telephone: 020 7821 3034, email: agm@rhs.org.uk.

We also welcome your suggestions upon how the Report can be improved in future years, and invite you to join us at this year's AGM.

President's Introduction: Review of 2014/15

2014/15 proved to be a good year for the RHS. High temperatures provided a wonderful backdrop to our world-leading shows, whilst our gardens combined fine weather with exciting events that encouraged record numbers of people to resist the lure of other attractions and choose instead to visit an RHS garden. The bar was set high in 2013, but yet again, through hard work and dedication, we have exceeded expectations.

There are however, important issues that have not yet been laid to rest. As those involved in the horticulture sector know, a tremendous amount of unseen and largely unheralded work goes into creating the gardens, the floral displays and the community and village plots that lift all our spirits. The lack of recognition of the less visible aspects of the industry is a major factor that is dissuading a new generation from seeing horticulture as a viable career option. We see it as our role, as the leading charity in the horticultural sector, to seek to change this for the better.

The need for the horticulture industry and Government to come together to address the growing green skills crisis has been a thread that has run through past Presidents' reviews, and one that I have no doubt will be mentioned again in the future. Last year, however, I was delighted to see the sector grasp the nettle and come together with DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) Minister Lord de Mauley to develop an Action Plan to highlight the steps both the Government and the industry should take to ensure the sector thrives. This group, chaired by Sue Biggs, our Director General, produced a five-year plan, which builds on recommendations from the Horticulture Matters report, and was launched at Chelsea this year. The development of this plan is a major achievement that could make a huge difference to the sector and the 300,000 people who work within it.

But our work to support the sector and introduce horticulture to new audiences hasn't stopped there. In November, the Society met a commitment it had formed in 2013 to recruit high-profile ambassadors to promote horticulture to both established and new audiences. RHS Vice President Alan Titchmarsh was named as our founding Ambassador and he paved the way for the recruitment of other leading figures, including Mary Berry CBE, RHS Chelsea Gold Medal winning garden designer Adam Frost, TV presenter Nick Knowles, and scientist, author and Countryfile presenter James Wong. Over the past year, these Ambassadors have invested a huge amount of energy and expertise into enthusing audiences in schools, gardens and community projects about horticulture - from garden design to science.

Wonderfully warm weather, together with vibrant and innovative exhibitions of world-class horticulture in our shows and gardens, helped the RHS achieve a record-breaking year, with more than 1,760,000 visitors coming to our four gardens between February 2014 and January 2015. This remarkable figure was a 9% increase on 2013/14 and beat the previous record of 1,644,000 visitors set in 2009.

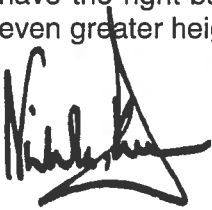
Wisley did particularly well, with over a million visitors last year, while Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Harlow Carr all enjoyed their best year ever.

It is clear that we did a lot to delight garden lovers last year and, as in previous years, the hard work we have done to translate that delight into increased membership has borne fruit. For the third year in a row UK gardeners have delivered a massive vote of confidence to the work and vision of the Society and increased our membership by more than 15,000. This means that the RHS ended the 2014/15 financial year with a new record membership of 428,472, which is a tremendous achievement. But as I mentioned in last year's Review, with eight million gardeners in the country, there is still considerable scope for us to grow our membership much further and ensure more gardeners are surprised and delighted by the work we do.

2014 also saw us reach a major milestone in the life of the Britain in Bloom campaign which celebrated its 50th anniversary. Over the decades the campaign, which for many is their first direct contact with the charitable work of the RHS, has helped revive communities by harnessing the transformative power of horticulture. The power and reach of the campaign is truly staggering, and 300,000 Bloom volunteers across the country were quite rightly applauded at the Bloom Awards in Bristol for the work they do to improve all our lives.

As I reflect on what has been a remarkable year, I am heartened by the strides we've made to position the charity and horticulture as being relevant in a fast moving and constantly evolving world. That we have enjoyed such a successful year is a direct result of the many distinct and varied but wholly positive works carried out by all who work in the Society.

It is with both hope and expectation that I look to the coming year, because I'm confident that we have the right balance of leadership, expertise and desire across the RHS to push the Society to even greater heights.



Sir Nicholas Bacon
President

Date : 13th May 2015

Director General's Introduction: Looking to the Future

That we continue to grow and achieve the financial success needed to fuel our charitable purpose is testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of our fantastic team here at the RHS, all our volunteers and our many partners, to our Members, our Fellows and so many individuals and organisations who support our work. Thanks a million to all of you; we couldn't achieve anything without you!

It is especially encouraging that we ended our 2014/15 financial year on such a high as we have now embarked on our Strategic Investment Programme, committing £100 million of investment into the future of horticulture over the next 10 years. Through the significant and exciting projects that this investment is funding, as detailed on the following pages, we will bring the joy of gardening to millions more people and help to create a more sustainable future and better society, now and for generations to come.

This year we launched our Vision to enrich everyone's life through plants and make the UK a greener and more beautiful place. We are a life-enhancing charity, not a life-saving charity, and we're proud that we play a part in enriching so many people's lives in so many ways; from a child's sense of wonder and achievement at growing their first carrot, to creating social change through flourishing communities coming together through gardening. It's one of the reasons why we believe everyone in every village, town and city should benefit from growing plants to enhance lives, build stronger, healthier, happier communities and create better places to live.

A survey we conducted recently showed that more than 90% of us in the UK say that just looking at a garden lifts our mood. The increasing evidence that domestic gardens and cultivated plants are a 'natural public-health service' further demonstrates that everyone deserves access to beautiful green and planted places and to be able to grow plants. To quote our President's ancestor, the philosopher Francis Bacon, "gardening is the purest of human pleasures".

Our plans will give more people access to beautiful gardens and plant displays, provide further gardening inspiration and help people achieve greater success at home in their own outside spaces. We have a critical role to play in helping to achieve a more sustainable gardening community across the country that can enjoy their gardens while reducing their impact on the planet.

As well as our ten year Strategic Investment Programme, we continually strive to innovate and improve ways of working across all our activities with exciting plans and developments for the coming years. We have begun a whole new era for digital. This year we have the launch of our new Campaign for School Gardening website and have many more exciting and interactive changes planned; watch out for updates online and in The Garden magazine.

This year we will be celebrating the 25th RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show which is an exciting moment for all of us who have been involved in the Show for this amazing quarter of a century, as a visitor or as part of our team. Our gardeners at our four RHS Gardens continue to work hard to provide visitors with year-round interest and new horticultural sights and scents and there are a number of exciting new planting projects taking place, including the development of a Science garden at Wisley.

It is undoubtedly a challenge to combine our day to day business of the RHS, with the work involved in embarking on ten significant major new projects, but this is an exciting time and we have a strong, talented team who believe in these projects, as well as in the positive impact increasing our work and reach can have today and into the future. We will be further investing in training and developing our people to make sure we're equipped to continue to successfully deliver our business as usual, as well as our Strategic Investment Programme.

The environmental and health and well-being benefits of gardening are vast and range from helping to strengthen communities and build resilient societies, supporting biodiversity, cooling our cities, protecting against flooding to improving air quality. What we do in our garden, balcony or community plot will play a part in making a difference; collectively, every household's outside space can have a dramatic effect on the overall environment globally.

This is why we believe in investing £100million in horticulture over the coming ten years. We hope you do too. Thank you for all your much appreciated support.



Sue Biggs
Director General
Date: 13th May 2015

Activities in 2014/15: What the RHS does

The following is a summary of the Society's principal activities and shows how we provide benefit both to our members and the wider public.

Gardens

We have four renowned Gardens; RHS Harlow Carr in North Yorkshire, RHS Hyde Hall in Essex, RHS Rosemoor in Devon and our flagship garden, RHS Wisley in Surrey. Here the Society provides gardeners across the UK with access to diverse plant collections, innovative and attractive planting design and the highest horticultural standards and practices. The RHS Gardens hold trials to judge plant performance and those considered to perform particularly well receive the RHS Award of Garden Merit (AGM) so gardeners can identify plants that will thrive in most garden situations. Plants that are particularly good for pollinating insects (so vital for a healthy, sustainable environment) are identified by the RHS Perfect for Pollinators logo.

In 2014/15, we welcomed more than 1.76 million visitors to our Gardens - a 9% increase on the previous year.

Retail

The RHS offers excellent shopping opportunities for members and visitors in our four Gardens and at our Shows. Sales are generated through our plant centres, gift shops and bookshops, with RHS Garden Wisley offering the best selection of horticultural books in the UK. Sales through our online sales facility are increasing. We earn further income for our charitable purposes from licensing the use of images from our library.

Shows

The RHS is responsible for organising inspirational Flower Shows at Chelsea in central London, Hampton Court Palace in south west London and Tatton Park in Cheshire, as well as seasonal shows in RHS Garden Wisley in Surrey and Hyde Hall in Essex. We have an established programme of shows at our Horticultural Halls in London and shows held in partnership include the RHS Flower Show Cardiff (with Cardiff Council), the RHS Malvern Spring Festival and Malvern Autumn Show (with the Three Counties Agricultural Society) and the RHS Flower Show Birmingham at BBC Gardeners World Live (with River Street Events). The Society also collaborate with groups and societies to deliver specialist shows at our Gardens and Horticultural Halls in London.

Collections

The RHS Herbarium at Wisley holds an internationally important collection of dried and pressed plant specimens of cultivated ornamental plants. It is the largest herbarium dedicated to the conservation of ornamental plants in the UK.

The history and art of horticulture is centred in the RHS Lindley Library which holds a renowned collection of botanical art, a rich archive and an extensive collection of photographs covering all aspects of gardening. The collections provide an unmatched reference for the influences and knowledge that underpin our perspective on horticulture and are used by gardeners, scholars, garden writers, journalists, members and the public from the UK and overseas. The Library at Vincent Square in central London and its branches in each of the RHS Gardens, are open most days of the week and access is free to everyone.

In the adjacent RHS Lindley Hall and at our four Gardens, art exhibitions and talks are held for the benefit of our members and the wider public.

Media

The RHS shares its knowledge online and in print. Our newly designed website (www.rhs.org.uk), which went live in April 2014, attracted 1.27 million unique users a month, a 36% increase in traffic year on year.

We also publish a monthly magazine, *The Garden*, as well as *The Plantsman*, *The Orchid Review*, *Hanburyana* and a host of horticultural books to keep our members and the public informed about the latest skills, design and practice of horticulture.

Science

RHS Science is the recognised centre of excellence for independent horticultural science and advice. Our scientists are committed to helping gardeners improve and develop their horticultural skills, as well as identifying and promoting solutions to major issues. We carry out scientific research into plants, their physiology, cultivation, identification, the pests and diseases affecting them and the role they play in our environment. We also provide evidence-based horticultural advice to our members and the wider public via our website, through lectures and seminars and by leading the debate on issues influencing horticulture and gardening.

Education

The Society aims to share practical knowledge and to inspire those of all ages and abilities with an interest in plants and gardening.

We provide a 'ladder of qualifications', from the RHS Level 1 Certificate (accessible to amateurs and a first step in vocational training for professional horticulturists), through to the prestigious Master of Horticulture (RHS), a degree-level qualification. The RHS is an Awarding body recognised by the Office of Qualifications and Examination Regulations (Ofqual), ensuring accessibility to RHS qualifications through colleges and other partners across the UK. We offer practical training schemes through the School of Horticulture, RHS apprenticeships and National Gardening Scheme apprenticeships within our own Gardens.

Our Campaign for School Gardening encourages children at primary and secondary level to become involved in gardening and for adults, we organise lectures, courses and workshops in our Gardens and around the country.

We also offer a number of bursary funds to support plant research, expeditions, study tours and conference attendances around the world.

Outreach

The RHS is the national organising body for the Britain in Bloom and It's Your Neighbourhood community gardening movement working in partnership with 18 regional and national 'Bloom' bodies. RHS Britain in Bloom promotes environmental and horticultural good practice in local communities and enables the RHS to support gardeners throughout the UK at a local level. We link to schools and other groups such as Affiliated Societies (including gardening clubs) to expand our outreach and

increase the national and international network of gardeners and encourage gardening in prisons through our Windlesham Trophy award.

How we ensure access for all

We aim to ensure that anyone with an interest in horticulture and gardening can benefit from our work and we do sometimes need to make a charge for access to our services and work. We try to ensure that as many people as possible benefit, whatever their means. In particular, we provide free access to an extensive knowledge base through our website and libraries; offer free open days and facilitate educational visits at all our Gardens; award bursaries for horticultural study; make available the benefit of our trials programme to the public and horticultural industry through our Award of Garden Merit and Perfect for Pollinators schemes; and support community gardening initiatives through the RHS Campaign for School Gardening, RHS Britain in Bloom and the affiliation of local Horticultural Societies. We also ensure that there is extensive coverage of our Shows on free-to-air television, radio, various websites and social media.

We are grateful to our generous donors and those who leave us legacies - without their kind donations we could not undertake all the work we do. We rely on the welcome support of our 428,472 members to deliver our charitable purpose and we provide them with access to a range of services and activities such as free entry for themselves and a member of their family to our Gardens and more than 150 recommended gardens (free entry for member only in recommended gardens); reduced admission prices to our Shows; a monthly magazine; additional gardeners' advisory services; and the knowledge that their membership has helped enable us to undertake much of our scientific and charitable work. We place no restrictions on membership and endeavour to keep membership subscriptions at an affordable level.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Objectives, Achievements and Developments

The RHS was founded in 1804, and our core objective is to be the world's leading gardening charity by inspiring passion and excellence in the science, art and practice of horticulture. We have now embarked on a long-term investment plan that will change the face of the RHS and help secure and improve the future of horticulture. In everything we do, we will aim to use our Guiding Principles, which are to: **Inspire. Involve. Inform. Improve.**

Our Strategic Objectives for 2014/15

Our key achievements against our Strategic Objectives are summarised on the following pages.

1. To be known, loved and trusted as the charity for all gardeners. We believe the pleasure and benefits of gardening should be available for everyone.

- An RHS exhibition, explaining our work, was staged in RHS Flower Shows at Cardiff, Malvern, Chelsea, BBC Gardeners' World Live, Hampton Court Palace and Tatton Park.
- We welcomed 1.76 million visitors to our gardens – a 9% increase on 2013/14.
- Our website attracted an average 1.27 million unique visitors every month (an increase of 36% on the previous year). Our "friends" on Facebook increased to 86,911 and we now have 74,300 followers on Twitter, 73,505 on Pinterest and 3,081 on Instagram.
- Our Gardening Advice service answered 88,661 enquiries.
- We organised our third National Gardening Week from 14-20 April 2014, an event supported at our four gardens, private and public gardens and by garden centres and nurseries across the UK.

2. To safeguard and advance the science, art and practice of horticulture for the benefit of future generations and the environment. Who will protect the nation's individual gardens and plants if we don't?

- We published the second *Horticulture Matters* report. Coordinated by us with organisations from across the sector, including the Horticultural Trades Association and Chartered Institute of Horticulture, it was an update of achievements so far and set out a timetable of goals to raise the profile of horticulture as a "career to be proud of".
- As part of our commitment to *Horticulture Matters*, we recruited 8 more apprentices to work in our gardens, bringing the total to 12.
- Our bursaries scheme provided financial support for a range of horticultural projects including overseas expeditions, study tours, conference attendance and work placements at botanic and historic gardens around the world. We received 212 applications, 89% of which received a bursary. A combined total of £140,000 was awarded to professional and student horticulturists to broaden their skills, knowledge, and experience.

3. To transform communities through gardening. We want to make the UK a better, greener and more beautiful place.

- Our Campaign for School Gardening now has 18,760 schools which equates to 5 million UK children now involved in gardening at school. We also trained 1,000 teachers in 2014 through our extensive and varied teacher training programme.
- We reached our target of raising £1 million through our Chelsea Centenary Appeal to support the next generation of gardeners through the RHS Campaign for School Gardening.
- RHS Britain in Bloom had an exceptionally successful year as we celebrated its 50th year. Over the last half century the campaign has grown from its roots as a floral tourist initiative into the UK's largest community gardening campaign, coordinated by the RHS. The special anniversary was marked with a year of celebrations, including a Growing for Gold for pollinators' theme which saw groups across the UK planting over half a million sunflowers. 1,859 'Bloom' groups were involved and 2,273 more local groups took on the It's Your Neighbourhood challenge. More than 300,000 volunteers across the country invested some 10.9 million hours
- Working with the National Garden Scheme, we continued to administer the annual Elspeth Thompson Bursary. This provides financial assistance to amateur gardeners within community groups in England and Wales, to enable them to create a garden or horticulture-based project for the benefit of the community, or to enable them to acquire horticultural knowledge and skills.

4. To create world-leading horticulture that inspires people to garden. We want to delight our visitors with the wonder of gardening and inspire people to grow.

- Our successful and acclaimed Flower Shows continued to attract thousands of gardeners. Tickets to RHS Chelsea Flower Show again sold out in advance and it welcomed more than 165,000 visitors. The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show attracted more than 140,000 visitors, while the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park attracted 70,000. In Wales, some 22,000 visitors were welcomed to the RHS Flower Show Cardiff.
- Our fortnightly series of RHS Podcasts receive an average of 144,000 downloads per month. Our most popular were special editions produced for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and the 50th anniversary of Britain in Bloom. We continued our relationship with British Airways to provide podcasts every quarter for those on BA long haul flights to and from the UK.
- As part of our Strategic Investment Programme, we have started our search for a Fifth Garden and 2 smaller urban gardens. Planning for a new learning centre at RHS Garden Hyde Hall is underway as are plans for a new front of house and science centre at RHS Garden Wisley.

5. To nurture and grow our membership throughout the UK. We want to be open, relevant and indispensable to all gardeners so that increasing numbers want to join us.

- At the end of the financial year, we had 428,472 members, a record high and a net increase of 13,773 members on the previous year. In the year 69,104 members joined the Society. Our retention rate of existing members was 85.2%, 0.5% lower than the previous year.
- The number of Fellows, our top membership tier and another important source of support, reached 112.

6. To provide a voice for all gardeners. Our aim is to be the trusted voice of authority for the many and the few.

- We meet regularly with Affiliated Societies, their specialist panels and plant committees and aim to improve the service we give to gardeners with specialist interests.
- Our Plant Trials and Relations team worked closely with the gardening trade to explore ways for the Award of Garden Merit (AGM) to appear more frequently at points of sale. We continue to work closely with organisations such as the Horticultural Trades Association to help ensure that the AGM and Perfect for Pollinators logos are used to maximum benefit.
- Through *Horticulture Matters* and other trade collaborations, we continue to work together to build a united front to Government, for example, when needed for the benefit of gardeners.

7. To share and build expert knowledge. Anything anyone from beginners to experts ever wanted to know about horticulture and gardening.

- Our Gardening Service handled a record 88,661 gardening enquiries, ranging from pest and disease identification to the best ways of growing individual plants.
- We launched our new website in April 2014. Additional functionality included premium content for registered users and members. This included the merger of Plant Selector and Plant Finder into a single Find a Plant section. This new plant search attracted 9.3 million pageviews accounting for 20% of site traffic. Our most popular section overall are the Advice profiles which attracted 15.6 million pageviews accounting for 24% of site traffic.

8. To delight our customers with exceptional service and products. We will put our customers at the heart of everything we do throughout our organisation, improving their experience at every opportunity.

- With Company of Cooks, our catering partner at RHS Garden Wisley, we have redeveloped the Conservatory Café, which re-opened in January 2014. Together, we continue to develop the Taste of Wisley food menu, where fresh seasonal produce grown in the garden is used, making our catering part of our visitors' experience of the garden.
- We have started to develop a new approach to orientation and interpretation signage across all four gardens. This project aims to enhance visitors' enjoyment by improving way-marking and introducing discreet interpretation panels designed to increase understanding of how and why our curators have developed the plantings in the gardens.

9. To be a great place to work where everyone makes a difference. We want the RHS to be an enjoyable place to work where everyone knows they make a difference and play their part in creating an exciting future together.

- We recognise long service of people who have been with us between 5 and 40 years. In 2014 we gave 70 long service awards. This included one for 30 years and one for 40 years.
- Towards the end of 2014 we utilised an independent provider to run our Employee Satisfaction Survey. "Best Companies" provide external benchmarking and enable us to improve internal confidence in anonymity. Our response rate was 65% and provided a good starting point for our continued use of this survey. Results showed that our employees are positive about most aspects of their employment with the RHS. They are particularly positive about the RHS itself,

their team and their manager. It also gave us a steer on future issues on which to focus, particularly pay, opportunities for learning and development and two-way communication.

10. To have efficient business practices that deliver maximum income for our charitable purpose. We want to move fast and keep things simple, strip out bureaucracy, wage war on waste and have an effective, stable infrastructure.

- We are continuing with the development of a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system in-house, this will provide a comprehensive understanding of our members' and other customers' interactions with us, thereby enabling us to provide them with a more targeted and satisfying personal service.
- Internal Audit reviews continue to lead to improved procedural efficiencies and cost savings across the Society. We have invested in a data analytics tool, so that we can ensure that internal controls within our systems are robust.
- Secretariat and Finance continue to conduct detailed reviews of our high value contracts, providing us with assurance that the Society is adequately protected when entering into new commercial agreements.

The Year Ahead

Our Strategic Investment Programme first outlined in 2012, remains a major focus. We believe the key investment projects contained within the Programme will change perceptions of us and deliver significant improvements for the benefit of our members, the public and horticulture. We will increase our income by improved performance and also by the much-appreciated donations of our supporters so we can fund our charitable projects to make a world of difference to people and horticulture.

We firmly believe that through our work, including the Strategic Investment Programme, we will, in the years ahead, deliver more benefits to an increasingly broad range of people of different ages, backgrounds and skill levels throughout Britain.

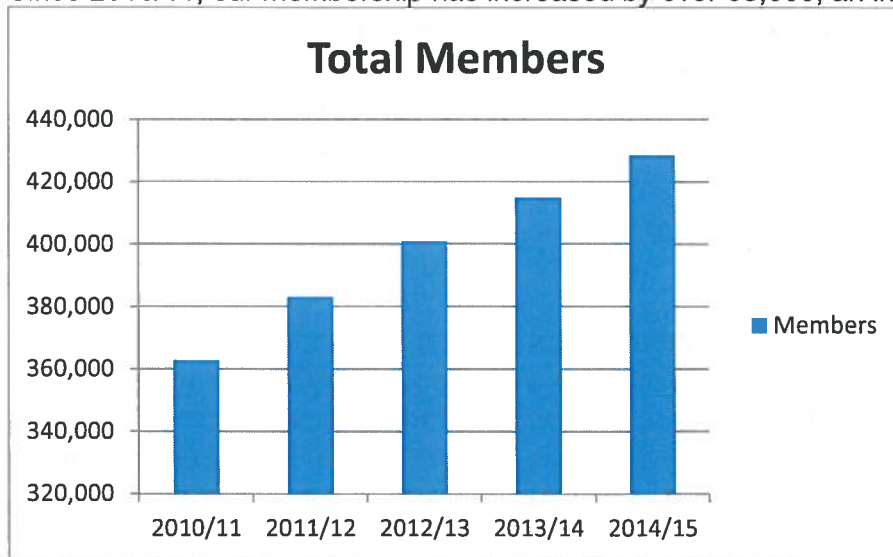
Financial Review by the Treasurer

Results for Financial Year 01 February 2014 – 31 January 2015

The year ended 31 January 2015 has again been financially successful for the Society, which generated a net surplus of £8.2m, exceeding our budget expectations by £1m. This was below the record surplus of £9.3m achieved in 2013/14 as, whilst income increased by 2%, the increase in expenditure resulting from the start of our Strategic Investment Programme more than offset this. Nonetheless, this was a very satisfactory outcome for the year.

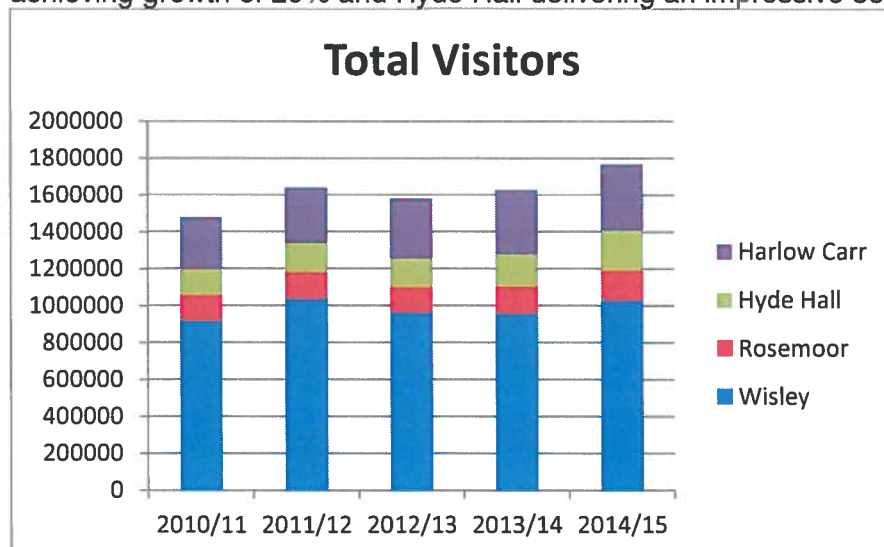
Membership of the Society continued to expand, and grew to a record 428,472 (2013/14: 414,699), an increase of 3.3% over last year's record membership.

Since 2010/11, our membership has increased by over 65,000, an increase of 18%:



Visitor volumes to the Society's Shows and Gardens achieved substantial growth with record visitor attendances at Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall and Rosemoor. In 2014/15, Wisley once again welcomed over 1 million visitors.

Visitor volumes at all four Gardens have increased by 20% since 2010/11, with Harlow Carr achieving growth of 29% and Hyde Hall delivering an impressive 55%:

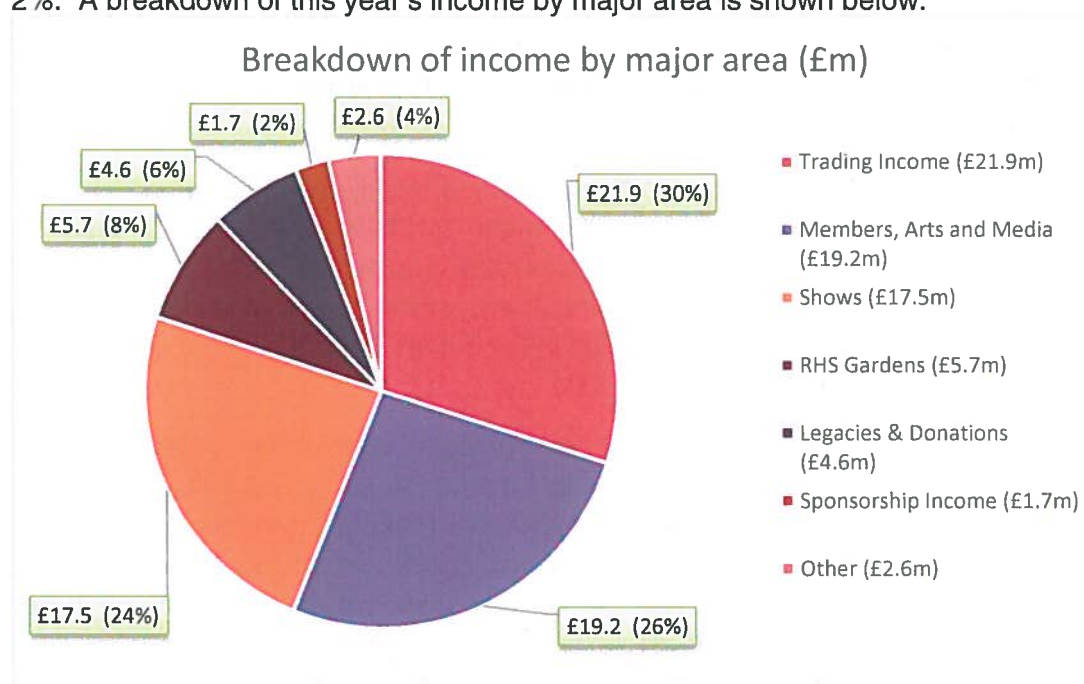


As was explained in the 2013/14 Review, the RHS has developed a £100m, 10 year Strategic Investment Programme. These long term projects will enable us to achieve our ambitious charitable aims and the Society is therefore investing a substantial part of its reserves and anticipated future net income into this inspirational long term undertaking, as well as seeking to raise in excess of £20m from fundraising. During the 10 years of this programme, it will be necessary to designate further elements of the Society’s reserves to the Strategic Investment Programme Fund (currently £14.3m), in order to ensure sufficient funds are available to complete this ambitious programme.

The key contributors to our net income are explained below and further details are available in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on Page 30.

Income

The Society generated a total income of £73.2m, compared to £71.9m in 2013/14, an increase of 2%. A breakdown of this year’s income by major area is shown below:



Trading income includes retail operations from all four RHS Gardens; events income from gala nights at the Chelsea and Hampton Court Palace Flower Shows; and income from publications such as The Garden, at £21.9m (2013/14: £21.7m). It represents 30% of the total income of the Society and was £217k (1.0%) higher than in 2013/14. Within this area, retail income continued to grow on the back of increased visitor volume to the Society’s Gardens, together with significant growth in online plant sales. Income from ticket sales for the popular Flower Show Galas at Chelsea and Hampton Court Palace continued to increase, with 10,400 tickets sold to the public.

Income from the Members, Arts and Media division at £19.2m (2013/14: £19.3m), lower than last year by £150k (0.8%), represents 26% of the total income of the Society and continues to be a major individual source of funds to re-invest in our charitable projects.

Increased membership numbers, reaching a new record of 428,472 members by year-end, drove higher membership income in the year of £1.4m, an increase of 6.9% on 2013/14.

The RHS Gardens income, which includes gate receipts and catering but excludes income from retail operations, reached £5.7m (2013/14: £5.2m), £485k (9.3%) above 2013/14. Garden visitor volumes grew by 142k (8.7%) to 1.77m, with paying visitors increasing by 7.6%. RHS Garden Hyde

Hall had its best ever year, with visitor volumes increasing by 23% to 217k (2013/14: 177k) Catering customers at the Gardens continued to increase and the improvements to the catering facilities at RHS Garden Wisley generated an increase in sales over the previous year of 11.4%. The RHS Gardens in Rosemoor and Hyde Hall saw significant increases in their catering sales over the prior year, up 14.5% and 22% respectively.

RHS Shows income increased to £17.5m (2013/14: £17.3m), up £216k (1.3%), representing 24% of the Society's income. The Chelsea Flower Show was once again a sell-out, with 165,300 visitors. Attendances at the RHS Hampton Court Palace and Tatton Park Flower Shows were lower than in the prior year, down 7.8% and 8.0% respectively. It is anticipated that new show content and the 25th anniversary of the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show will increase 2015 visitor numbers.

Although lower than last year, receipts in the year from legacies and donations at £4.6m (2013/14: £4.9m) are still strong when viewed in the context of the substantially higher receipts received in 2013/14 compared to the year prior to that. This continues to emphasise the much appreciated, but always unpredictable, nature of this income stream. Legacies are critical in enabling the Society to pursue its charitable aims.

Included in the "Other" section (£2.6m, 4%) of the "Breakdown of income by major area" on Page 17, is Education and Communities income which decreased to £592k (down £233k, 28% on 2013/14). This was due to income from Affiliated Societies relating to subscriptions and insurance being included from the beginning of 2014/15 in Horticulture, which has seen a corresponding increase in income. Horticulture income is also included in the "Other" section of the breakdown on Page 17 with income for 2014/15 of £267k (2013/14: £1k).

In December 2014, an ex-employee was charged with conspiracy to commit fraud. The Society's Internal Audit team, which brought the alleged fraud to light, has worked with the police throughout the investigation and has determined that losses of £718k have been incurred since 2004. The Society has concluded a claim with its insurers and received £508k in settlement, the maximum payable under the policy. We intend to seek financial compensation for the Society through the criminal court process. The Society's Internal Auditors have thoroughly reviewed all processes and, as a result, further controls have been implemented to ensure systems and procedures are as robust as possible.

Expenditure

Total expenditure in the year was £65.0m (2013/14: £62.6m), an increase of £2.4m (3.8%).

The Society's Strategic Investment Programme gathered momentum in 2014/15 with £410k being invested as revenue expenditure (in addition to the capital expenditure of £1.1m discussed on Page 20). The RHS Community Outreach projects in Scotland and Yorkshire accounted for £214k of this revenue expenditure, with £111k being spent on the Hyde Hall Garden and £62k on Wisley Hilltop.

Trading costs were down 4.7% at £15.5m compared to the prior year's £16.2m. Show costs (up £209k, 1.4%) and expenditure on Education and Communities (down £39k, 1.2%) were broadly similar to the prior year.

The Society continues to make improvements to the RHS's four Gardens, including investment in new landscaping and planting schemes, regular property maintenance and recruitment of additional support and horticultural staff resulting in fewer vacancies by the end of 2014/15 than in the previous year. During the year, 8 additional horticultural apprentices were recruited into the Society as part

of the Horticulture Matters campaign, making a total of 12 apprentices recruited by the end of the year.

Fixed Asset Investments

At the year-end, the Society held Fixed Asset Investments valued at £77.5m (2013/14: £58.6m) and these are set out in Note 6. The Investments Committee oversees the Society's investments and is responsible for the review of the Society's investment performance.

Endowments gifted to the Society of £4.6m form a part of the Fixed Asset Investments. The Society's endowed investments are managed on a total return basis. Council agreed from 2013/14 to withdraw 3.5% each year from the endowment, based on the previous year's 3rd quarter closing endowment value. In accordance with this policy, Council transferred £127k from the endowment to restricted funds for spending in the year. In funds where these balances have not been fully expended, the unspent balances are carried forward for spending in the future periods.

Over three years to 31 January 2015, the endowed portfolio produced total returns of 8.2% per year. This was 4.7% per annum ahead of the charity's target return of 3.5% per annum. Council will continue to review the level of annual withdrawal to ensure that an appropriate balance of the needs and interests of current and future beneficiaries of the Society's activities is maintained.

The Society's policy is to invest Designated Funds which have been established for specific uses and where the expenditure is expected to be made within a five year period (for example, under the Strategic Investment Programme), in cash and liquid fixed income securities, allowing it to make annual withdrawal of funds to support expenditure towards its charitable objectives. The target return on the cash and liquid fixed income securities is "cash plus" (i.e. to exceed the return on cash). For Designated Funds which are expected to have an investment period of more than five years, the Society's overall investment objective is to preserve capital and to achieve positive real returns in excess of inflation.

The Society's cash and liquid fixed income securities are invested in three funds; the CCLA Investment Managers Limited Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Charities Deposit Fund and the Royal London Asset Management (RLAM) Cash Plus and Sterling Credit Funds. Over the year, the Charities Deposit Fund, which is a cash fund only, has essentially met its target return of the average LIBID rate over the period, which was 0.54%. The RLAM funds, which are invested in both cash and liquid fixed income securities, have returned an average of 5.3% for the year, being 4.8% ahead of the "cash plus" measurement. The first investment in the RLAM Funds was in September 2012 and therefore a three year investment return is not yet available. The remaining non-endowed investments within designated funds have generated a 5.9% per year return over the three years to 31 January 2015. This is 3.5% above the Society's target of achieving a positive real return in excess of inflation.

The Society's investments are held in funds across four investment managers to diversify the investment risk. During the year, the Society's holdings in funds managed by Ruffer LLP were disinvested and the proceeds reinvested in the Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Charities Deposit Fund. It also transferred £14m of cash held in the National Westminster Bank Plc to RLAM, with £9.8m being invested in the Royal London Cash Plus Fund and £4.2m into the Royal London Sterling Credit Fund. The Society's holdings in pooled investment vehicles managed by Troy Asset Management Limited and Veritas Asset Management LLP were maintained unchanged.

Reserves

In line with the Charity Commission guidance that a charity should maintain adequate reserves to ensure its ability to deliver its charitable objectives, the Society holds unrestricted reserves for a number of purposes which are set out in note 16 to the financial statements. These reserves, which are reviewed annually by Council, are summarised as follows:

- Fixed Asset Funds totalling £35.0m (including the Bicentenary Glasshouse Fund) representing the amount invested in the net book value of unrestricted completed fixed assets.
- Reserve Policy Fund of £7.5m. Having reviewed the risks to the Society, and the challenges to and calls upon its finances, Council considers it appropriate and prudent, in the context of the Society's commitments, to maintain the fund at this level, which is equivalent to approximately 2 months of the Society's charitable expenditure.
- Strategic Investment Programme Fund of £14.3m representing the funding support which has been specifically designated to date for the on-going Key Investment Projects within the Strategic Investment Programme for capital and revenue projects. The widening of the Strategic Investment Programme will lead in due course to further elements of the Society's reserves being similarly designated to this fund. It is envisaged that this investment programme will take a minimum of ten years to complete, commencing from 2013/14. The capitalisation of this major capital programme will lead to annual transfers between this fund and the Fixed Asset Fund.
- Wisley Development Fund of £379k, being the remainder of the fund established to improve the infrastructure and enable refurbishment of Society-owned properties in Wisley Village.
- Fifth Garden Fund of £7.0m to enable the Society to acquire and develop an additional Garden.

The balance on unrestricted reserves, after the above designations, is held in General and Trading Funds of £39.3m to provide working capital for the Society and its trading subsidiaries and to fund assets under construction.

Pensions

The consolidated and Society balance sheets include the pension net liability on the 1974 Defined Benefit Pension Scheme of £6.6m as at 31 January 2015 (2013/14: £6.0m). The deficit is disclosed for FRS17 purposes, valuing the Scheme's liabilities based on actuarial assumptions and assets at market rates as at the financial year-end.

The defined benefit pension scheme was closed to future service accruals in May 2009. Whilst the closure of the scheme helps to minimise the Charity's exposure, the Society will remain subject to future volatility in the pension scheme's liabilities as a result of changing actuarial variables. We will continue to seek and evaluate opportunities to reduce the pension scheme net liability.

Capital Expenditure and Disposals

In 2014/15, capital expenditure amounted to £2.5m (2013/14: £1.4m). Of this, £1.1m related to the Strategic Investment Programme which forms part of our landmark £100m investment in the future of horticulture by 2023/24. An investment of £0.6m was made for the purchase of a former pub, the Harrogate Arms, which will form part of the future developments in our Harlow Carr Garden; £0.3m on master planning fees for Wisley Hilltop and Front of House and £0.1m on Lindley Hall & Library.

Other large items of expenditure were £0.5m spent on the new car park at RHS Garden Harlow Carr and £0.2m on essential upgrading of the Society's IT infrastructure.

The balance of capital additions represents smaller projects and necessary items of investment in plant, equipment and infrastructure.

There were no sales of fixed assets in the year.

Outlook

As discussed in the Director General's Introduction, the Society has embarked on its Strategic Investment Programme and, over the next 12 months and indeed the coming years, a major part of our focus will be on the successful implementation of this hugely important 10 year programme while attending to the equally important day-to-day business of the RHS. Within the Society, we can feel the momentum building and the excitement mounting as we see the beginnings of our Strategic Investment Programme take shape, with significant progress being made in projects at, for example, RHS Wisley and RHS Harlow Carr. As I indicated in last year's report, we will need to deploy a significant part of both our investment reserves and our future annual operating surpluses to meet an investment programme of this scale. In addition, to supplement the Society's own resources, we will need to raise additional funds from donors and external funding bodies. Meanwhile, tight governance structures have been put in place around each of the 10 major projects in order to control carefully the financial and project management challenges that they present.

I look forward to the future with excitement and confidence as we see the results of our hard work and investment bear fruit.



Alastair Muirhead

Treasurer

Date: 13th May 2015

Structure, Governance and Management

The Society is a registered charity incorporated and governed by a Royal Charter and by Bye-Laws approved by the membership. A copy of the Charter and Bye-laws can be found in the 'About the RHS' section of the website (www.rhs.org.uk) or obtained on request from The Secretary at the address shown at page 4.

A summary of the Society's structure, governance and management arrangements in 2014/15 is provided below. This structure –which emphasises the 'H' for 'Horticulture' in RHS – has been in place since December 2012.

Council and Trustees

The governing body of the RHS is Council. This comprises the President, Treasurer and up to fifteen ordinary members, all of whom are elected by the RHS membership, and up to two co-opted members. The members of Council are the Trustees of the Society. The President is the Chairman of Council. The current members of Council are shown on page 2.

Election and Appointment to Council

The President and Treasurer are elected annually by the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The other fifteen elected members of Council usually serve for an initial term of five years with at least three retiring each year and their successors being elected at the AGM.

Co-opted members are appointed by Council to serve for up to one year to the date of the AGM with the opportunity of re-appointment for one further year. Co-option provides an opportunity to recruit additional members to Council who offer particular skills, knowledge and experience.

If a vacancy arises during the year, Council has the power to appoint a new member. An appointed member will serve until the date of the next AGM, after which the post will be filled by election.

All members of Council must be members of the RHS and eligible under charity law to serve as a trustee. No ordinary member of Council may serve for longer than 10 years unless made eligible to stand for election for one further term of up to five years in accordance with the Society's Bye-laws.

A Nominations, Appointments and Governance Committee comprising both serving members of Council and other members of the Society is responsible for identifying candidates for election to Council after having regard to the role description, the person specification and the skills, knowledge and experience of existing members. The Committee also makes recommendations on the candidates that should receive Council's support at elections.

The rules for the election of President, Treasurer and ordinary members of Council can be found in the 'About the RHS' section of our website. Copies of the role description and person specification for each of these positions can also be found within the same section.

Council Members' Induction and Training

Most members of Council have already served on one or more RHS committees before their election. However, on election, members receive a comprehensive information pack covering the Society's

plans and activities. The Society also operates an induction and on-going training programme for all members of Council aimed at increasing their knowledge of the RHS and the duties and responsibilities of trustees.

Council is responsible for:

- The future direction of the Society
- The investment and disposal of Society assets
- The strategic management of the performance of the Society.
- Acting as the guardian of the Society's role as a "Learned Society".

Although Council takes all major strategic decisions and those reserved to it by law, it delegates some decision-making powers to boards, committees and the Executive via the Director General. The RHS boards and committees may comprise of both members of Council and other members of the RHS and take decisions within the overall strategy and budgets agreed by Council. Council retains responsibility for the decisions taken by these bodies. The Society's governance and decision-making boards and committees and their responsibilities are:

Audit and Risk Committee – reports to Council and ensures that all aspects of the Society's financial and risk management policies, procedures and controls are effective and appropriate. The Committee also has responsibility for monitoring the approval of contracts involving the payment of a trustee or a connected party for the supply of goods and services to the RHS or its trading companies.

Commercial Board – responsible to Council for the proper management of all aspects of the Society's financial affairs and resources. The Board oversees the activities of the Society's trading companies.

Council Strategic Investment Programme (SIP) Group – reports to Council and is responsible for maintaining an overview of the SIP projects and in particular monitoring each project's operation against its approved budget and business case, as well as monitoring its related fundraising.

Horticulture Board – responsible to Council for all activities relating to the encouragement and improvement of the science, art and practice of horticulture in all its branches within the Society. In this respect, it is the guardian of the Society's role as Learned Society. The Board is responsible for offering horticultural, educational and scientific advice to Council on any major initiatives or developments being considered by the Society.

Investments Committee – reports to the Commercial Board and is responsible for reviewing and maintaining the Society's investment portfolio (including bursary funds).

Nominations, Appointments and Governance Committee – reports to Council and is responsible for identifying and recommending the candidates who should receive Council's support for election as members of Council. The Committee is also responsible for the approval of all appointments to advisory, governance and decision-taking boards and committees of the Society as well as representatives of the Society on outside bodies. It also monitors and makes recommendations to Council about any changes to the governance arrangements of the Society.

Pensions and Remuneration Committee – reports to Council and is responsible for approving the terms and conditions and levels of pay of the Leadership Team and also takes an overview of the policies for pay and conditions of the Society’s other employees. Further, the Committee is responsible for representing the Society as the ‘employer’ in the funding and support of The Royal Horticultural Society (1974) Pension Scheme and in the provision of alternative pension arrangements for employees if appropriate.

Advisory Groups and Forums

Council and the Leadership Team of the Society also appoint advisory groups and forums to provide specialist advice to the Society and the wider gardening public. Some 400 members of the Society have served on these committees during the past year in a voluntary capacity, generously giving their time and expert knowledge.

The terms of reference for all boards, committees and advisory groups can be obtained from The Secretary at the address shown at page 4. Further information about the governance and management arrangements of the Society can also be found on our website.

RHS Trading Companies

Our active trading companies are:

RHS Enterprises Limited (RHSE)

RHS Special Events Limited (RHSSE)

Both companies Gift Aid their profits to the Society, thereby assisting the funding of our non-commercial, charitable activities.

Each trading company has its own Board of Directors. The Directors’ Report and Annual Accounts for each of the RHS trading companies are available on request from The Secretary of the RHS.

Management of the Society

The day-to-day running of the Society is delegated to the Director General and her Leadership Team. A copy of the scheme of delegations to the Leadership Team can be found in the ‘About the RHS’ section of our website or on request from The Secretary. Each Leadership Team member has a division under their control and is responsible for the Society’s operational activities and delivery of the Strategic Objectives agreed by Council. The Leadership Team during 2014/15 were:

Ms Sue Biggs	Director General
Mrs Ruth Evans	Director of Education, Funding & Communities
Dr Alistair Griffiths	Director of Science & Collections (since 1 April 2014)
Mr James Hiley	Director of Finance (to 19 September 2014)
Ms Hayley Monckton	Director of Communications (appointed from Head 1 November 2014)
Mr David Morley	Director of Gardens, Shows & Retail (appointed 10 March 2014)
Mrs Jan Nix	Director of HR, IT & Internal Audit (HR since 1 November 2014)
	Interim Director of Finance (since 20 September 2014)
Mr Matthew Rooke	Digital Director (appointed 1 November 2014)
Ms Sandra Parsons	Head of Human Resources (to 17 July 2014)
Mr Dan Wolfe	Director of Members, Art & Media (to 28 October 2014)
Dr Tim Upson	Director of Horticulture (appointed 24 March 2014)

Two new members of the Leadership team have been appointed since the beginning of the 2015/16 financial year, Mark Norman, Director of Finance and Tom Shelston, Director of Members and Marketing.

Staff and Volunteers

As at the 31 January 2015, the Society employed 505 full-time and 167 part-time staff (31 January 2014: 534 and 184 respectively). Additional seasonal staff were employed during peak periods. The Society also received help from 1,200 volunteers during the year. This included 600 regular operational volunteers in the Society's Gardens with an additional 250 volunteers helping at its Shows and in the Membership Department and nearly 350 expert supporters of the Society who serve on its boards, committees and advisory groups.

Reimbursement of expenses

Members of Council do not receive any payment in connection with their position, other than the reimbursement of reasonable travel and subsistence costs. Members of RHS committees receive no payment for their work for the Society other than those expenses paid in accordance with a scheme approved by Council.

Subsidiary and related charities and other related parties

The Lindley Library Trust (registration number 222879-1) is a subsidiary charity of the RHS. The members of the Council of the RHS are also the trustees of the Lindley Library Trust.

The RHS jointly administers The Shropshire Horticultural Society (Wisley Trainee) Charitable Trust (registration number 701677) with the Shropshire Horticultural Society, with each charity entitled to appoint three of the six trustees.

The Northern Horticultural Society (NHS) merged with the RHS in 2001. To protect the name, The Northern Horticultural Society Limited (company number 06799077) was formed. It is not intended that this Company will trade. Any donations that continue to fall due to the NHS will in future be payable direct to the RHS.

The Royal Horticultural Society (1974) Pension Scheme is a related party to the RHS (see Note 23 to the Financial Statements).

The RHS has two trading subsidiaries, RHS Special Events Limited which organises events for fundraising purposes at the Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows and RHS Enterprises Limited, which is a garden related retailer operating at RHS gardens and online. The results of these trading companies have been consolidated in the RHS group accounts.

Risk Management

The Society has in place a risk management policy which documents the Society's underlying approach to risk management, the roles and responsibilities of Council and the Executive, the key requirements for reporting and how the effectiveness of the approach will be measured. The Society also maintains a risk management register that addresses the major governance, operational, financial, reputational and regulatory risks that might impact on the Society's objectives and its ability to meet them. The register is subject to regular review in order to take account of emerging new risks and areas where changes in the likelihood of a risk occurring or its impact have been identified.

Progress against risk action plans during the year was monitored by the Audit and Risk Committee and Council and was considered to be satisfactory.

While Council is of the opinion that it has undertaken all reasonable steps to ensure that the major risks to which the Society is exposed are identified and reviewed and that there are systems in place to mitigate them, it is aware that such processes are designed to manage rather than eliminate all major risks and that it can only provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance.

A major risk to the Society is adverse weather, which can significantly impact garden and show visitor numbers as well as sales income. Whilst this cannot be eliminated measures have been taken to reduce the impact, including increasing garden events, encouraging pre-booking of tickets and growing online sales.

Council is committed to ensuring that best practice for risk identification and its management is applied across the Society.

Health and Safety

The Society maintains rigorous procedures for ensuring the health and safety of its visitors, staff and volunteers based on proportionate principles of risk management. Council members keep health and safety under regular review.

Equal Opportunities

The RHS is committed to providing equal opportunities for all employees and to avoiding unlawful discrimination in employment. The Society regularly reviews practices and policies to ensure that they effectively assist in putting this commitment in to practice.

Employee Involvement

The decision-making processes incorporate regular feedback from the Employee Consultation Group, as a representative group for all employees across all RHS Sites. The ECG meets quarterly with the Director General, Head of Human Resources and Senior Managers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The trustees have to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient and proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's and group's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees confirm that:

- so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditors

Grant Thornton UK LLP were reappointed as auditors to the Society at the AGM on 2 July 2014.



Sir Nicholas Bacon
President of the RHS and Chair of Council
Date: 13th May 2015

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Royal Horticultural Society

We have audited the financial statements of the Royal Horticultural Society for the year ended 31 January 2015 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Society balance sheets, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 27, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view.

We have been appointed as auditor under sections 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts. 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 Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

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 financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 January 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity; or
- the parent charity's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Grant Thornton UK LLP
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants
London
Date: 13th May 2015

Grant Thornton UK LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 January 2015

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Endowment Funds £'000	Total 2015 £'000	Total 2014 £'000
INCOMING RESOURCES	<i>1 iii)</i>					
INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS:						
Voluntary Income						
Legacies & donations	2	3,246	1,339	-	4,585	4,865
Activities for generating funds						
Trading income		21,894	-	-	21,894	21,677
Sponsorship Income		1,682	-	-	1,682	1,727
Investment Income	2	1,021	-	68	1,089	934
INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES						
Members, Arts and Media		19,185	1	-	19,186	19,336
Community and Education		582	10	-	592	825
Shows		17,475	-	-	17,475	17,259
RHS Gardens		5,702	5	-	5,707	5,222
Horticulture		265	2	-	267	1
Science		60	-	-	60	62
OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES	9	620	-	-	620	29
Total Incoming Resources		71,732	1,357	68	73,157	71,937
RESOURCES EXPENDED	<i>1 iv),3</i>					
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS						
Costs of generating voluntary income						
Legacies & donations		1,232	-	-	1,232	966
Trading and other costs						
Trading costs		15,479	-	-	15,479	16,245
Sponsorship		387	-	-	387	411
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS		15	-	-	15	69
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES						
Membership, Arts and Media		8,542	22	-	8,564	8,308
Community and Education		2,770	331	-	3,101	3,140
Shows		15,038	-	-	15,038	14,829
RHS Gardens		17,289	195	-	17,484	15,659
Horticulture		863	134	-	997	612
Science		2,399	58	-	2,457	2,148
GOVERNANCE COSTS	3	237	-	-	237	220
Total Resources Expended		64,251	740	-	64,991	62,607
NET INCOME BEFORE FUNDS TRANSFERRED		7,481	617	68	8,166	9,330
Transfers between funds		112	2	(114)	-	-
NET INCOME		7,593	619	(46)	8,166	9,330
Gain/(Loss) on investment assets	6	3,429	-	468	3,897	(472)
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension scheme	22	(509)	-	-	(509)	1,057
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS	16	10,513	619	422	11,554	9,915
OPENING FUNDS		86,358	4,391	4,133	94,882	84,967
CLOSING FUNDS		96,871	5,010	4,555	106,436	94,882

There are no other gains & losses other than those disclosed above. All transactions are derived from continuing activities.

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2014/15

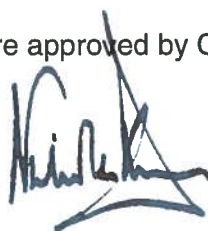
Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2015

Registered Charity Number: 222879/SC038262

	Note	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	37,860	37,287
Investments	6	77,540	58,564
		<u>115,400</u>	<u>95,851</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		1,344	1,415
Debtors	13	6,181	6,469
Cash at bank and in hand	20	19,570	20,738
		<u>27,095</u>	<u>28,622</u>
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Income in advance		(20,560)	(17,199)
Creditors		(7,781)	(5,496)
	14	<u>(28,341)</u>	<u>(22,695)</u>
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES) /ASSETS			(1,246)
			5,927
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	15		(1,127)
			(940)
NET ASSETS BEFORE PENSION LIABILITY		<u>113,027</u>	<u>100,838</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(6,591)	(5,956)
NET ASSETS AFTER PENSION LIABILITY		<u>106,436</u>	<u>94,882</u>
CAPITAL FUNDS			
Endowments	16	4,555	4,133
INCOME FUNDS			
Restricted funds	16	5,010	4,391
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	16	64,174	65,205
General & Trading funds	16	39,288	27,109
Pension Reserve	22	(6,591)	(5,956)
Total unrestricted funds		<u>96,871</u>	<u>86,358</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	16	<u>106,436</u>	<u>94,882</u>

These accounts were approved by Council on 13 May 2015 and signed on their behalf by:

Sir Nicholas Bacon
 President



Alastair Muirhead
 Treasurer



THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
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Society Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2015

Registered Charity Number: 222879/SC038262

	Note	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	37,849	37,236
Investments	6	77,540	58,564
Investment in companies	11	110	110
		<u>115,499</u>	<u>95,910</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		76	75
Debtors	13	11,749	14,148
Cash at bank and in hand		11,351	11,136
		<u>23,176</u>	<u>25,359</u>
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Income in advance		(16,400)	(13,825)
Creditors		(7,992)	(5,613)
	14	<u>(24,392)</u>	<u>(19,438)</u>
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES) /ASSETS			(1,216)
			5,921
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	15		(1,127)
			(940)
NET ASSETS BEFORE PENSION LIABILITY		<u>113,156</u>	<u>100,891</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(6,591)	(5,956)
NET ASSETS AFTER PENSION LIABILITY		<u>106,565</u>	<u>94,935</u>
CAPITAL FUNDS			
Endowments	16	4,555	4,133
INCOME FUNDS			
Restricted funds	16	5,010	4,391
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	16	64,174	65,205
General & Trading funds	16	39,417	27,162
Pension Reserve	22	(6,591)	(5,956)
Total unrestricted funds		<u>97,000</u>	<u>86,411</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>106,565</u>	<u>94,935</u>

These accounts were approved by Council on 13 May 2015 and signed on their behalf by:

Sir Nicholas Bacon
 President



Alastair Muirhead
 Treasurer



Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 January 2015

		2015		2014	
	<i>Note</i>	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<i>18</i>		15,295		9,396
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE					
Interest received		135		386	
Dividends received		<u>1,027</u>		<u>629</u>	
NET CASH FLOW FROM RETURNS ON INVESTMENT AND SERVICING OF FINANCE			1,162		1,015
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT					
Sale of Investments		10,369		15,681	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<i>10</i>	(2,546)		(1,369)	
Purchase of Investments		<u>(17,144)</u>		<u>(16,436)</u>	
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT			(9,321)		(2,124)
INCREASE IN CASH	<i>19</i>		<u>7,136</u>		<u>8,287</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

i) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments, which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and applicable accounting standards. The Trustees believe the Society is a going-concern and have prepared the financial statements on that basis.

Group financial statements have been prepared in respect of the Society and its wholly owned subsidiaries. The Society's trading subsidiaries are RHS Enterprises Limited and RHS Special Events Limited. These subsidiaries are consolidated on a line by line basis and have the same accounting reference date as the Society. As a result of paragraph 397 of the SORP the Society is not required to present a Statement of Funds and Activities for the RHS before consolidation. In addition, Horticultural Halls Limited, RHS Publications Limited and The Northern Horticultural Society Limited are dormant subsidiaries. The Society also jointly administers The Shropshire Horticultural Society (Wisley Trainee) Charitable Trust and its financial results are included in the group financial statements as is The Lindley Library Trust, a subsidiary charity of the RHS.

ii) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds comprise the Designated funds, the General fund, non-charitable trading funds, and the Pension Reserve. Designated funds are General Funds designated for specific purposes by Council. The General fund is the accumulation of surpluses and deficits and is available for use at the discretion of Council in furtherance of the Society's general charitable objectives. The non-charitable trading funds represent the reserves of the trading subsidiaries. The Pension Reserve represents the deficit or surplus on the Royal Horticultural Society (1974) Pension Scheme on an FRS17 basis. See Note 22.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors. Permanent endowment funds are capital funds where Council has no power to convert the capital into income. Income generated from the endowment funds is treated as restricted income.

iii) Incoming resources

Incoming resources represent the total income receivable during the year comprising membership subscriptions, income from shows, gardens, scientific and educational activities, income from trading subsidiaries, investment income, legacies, donations and sundry other income.

Legacy income and other donations are recognised in the accounts when the cash has been received or, if earlier, when there is certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Subscriptions are credited to incoming resources over the period to which the membership relates. Life subscriptions are credited to income in equal instalments over a ten year period. Income in advance for shows and other activities is recognised at the time of the show or other activity. Investment income is recognised on an accruals basis. Gift Aid is recognised on an accruals basis. All incoming resources from endowment funds are restricted income. No income has been reported net of expenditure.

iv) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resource.

Costs of generating funds include the costs incurred in generating voluntary income. Fundraising trading costs are the costs of those activities. Charitable expenditure represents the costs of shows, gardens, scientific, educational, editorial activities and membership services. Governance costs relate to the general running of the charity and include costs for external and internal audit, legal advice for Trustees, and costs associated with meeting constitutional and statutory requirements such as the cost of Trustee meetings and the preparation of the statutory accounts.

All resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT.

v) Deferred income

Deferred income arises from Members' subscriptions paid in advance, income for future shows and income for the future hire of our exhibition halls and conference facilities.

vi) Depreciation and impairment

Fixed assets are stated at cost or donated valuation. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets by equal instalments over their expected useful economic lives. The depreciation rates are as follows:

- Freehold and Leasehold Buildings 2%
- Motor vehicles 20%
- Plant & equipment, fixtures & fittings 5-33%

Where it has been identified that the recoverable amount of a fixed asset is below its net book value the asset is written down to its recoverable amount and the impairment loss is recognised on the Statement of Financial Activities. Equipment purchases below £2,000 are treated as revenue items. Fixed assets under construction are not depreciated until the asset has reached completion; upon completion the asset is transferred to the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated at the appropriate rate.

vii) Investments

Investments are stated at market value on the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year. The funds are largely invested to generate an above inflationary return.

viii) Operating leases

Operating lease rentals are charged to the SoFA on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

ix) Funds transfer

Funds transfers primarily arise from the expenditure of restricted funds on capital projects. The funds are transferred into general funds as the capital costs are expended. Fund transfers can also arise due to the reclassification of a restriction.

x) Pension schemes

The Society contributed during the year to a defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new entitlements in January 2002. The pension scheme was closed to future service accruals on 31 May 2009. The pension scheme is administered by trustees and the assets are held separately from those of the Society. Independent actuaries complete valuations at frequent intervals, usually triennially.

The fund movements and liabilities for this Scheme have been recognised in the accounts according to FRS17 and as detailed in Note 22.

The Society also operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in an independently administered fund. The amount charged against profits represents the contributions payable to the scheme by the Society in respect of the accounting period.

xi) Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. It substantially relates to products sold in the retail shops and plant centres at our gardens and shows. It does not include any work in progress.

xii) Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

xiii) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings made up to 31 January 2015.

xiv) Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

xv) Heritage Assets

Heritage assets acquired are not recognised in the balance sheet. The Council are of the opinion that, because valuation information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefits to users of the financial statements, a valuation approach is not practicable and so the Society has adopted a non-recognition approach. The Council are also of the opinion that, because the acquisition of new items for the collection is infrequent, the amounts involved are not material, either year-by-year in respect of income, or collectively, in relation to the balance sheet. Expenditure which is required to preserve or prevent further deterioration of individual collection items is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when it is incurred. The policies for management and preservation of the collections are stated in Note 12.

xvi) Total Return Accounting

The Society was granted permission by the Charity Commission on 28th November 2012 to adopt the use of a total return policy in relation to its permanent endowment funds. The Society adopted this policy from the financial year ended 31st January 2014. (See Note 16b)

2. Income

Legacy Income

At the date of signing these accounts the Society had not been notified of any material legacies which are not included within these accounts.

Investment Income

Investment income of £1,089k is made up of income from listed investments of £1,027k and interest from cash holdings of £62k.

3. Analysis of Total Resources Expended

The total resources expended during the year comprise the following:

	Direct costs £'000	Support costs £'000	2015 Total £'000	2014 Total £'000
Costs of generating funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income				
Legacies & donations	1,029	203	1,232	966
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs				
Trading costs	12,967	2,512	15,479	16,245
Sponsorship costs	366	21	387	411
Investment Management costs	15	-	15	69
Charitable expenditure				
Members Art and Media	7,077	1,487	8,564	8,308
Community and Education	2,435	666	3,101	3,140
RHS Shows	13,700	1,338	15,038	14,829
RHS Gardens	13,130	4,354	17,484	15,659
Horticulture	812	185	997	612
Science	1,711	746	2,457	2,148
Governance costs	237	-	237	220
Total Resources Expended	<u>53,479</u>	<u>11,512</u>	<u>64,991</u>	<u>62,607</u>

Support costs totalling £11.5m (2014: £8.8m) have been allocated across activities. These include costs associated with providing IT, payroll, human resources, finance, marketing and other central services to the charity's staff, volunteers, gardens and other activities. The majority of costs have been allocated on headcount, with marketing based on expenditure, to the various activities.

Governance Costs

	2015	2014
	£'000	£'000
Audit Fees	38	38
Internal Audit	120	113
Committees and AGM costs	79	69
	<u>237</u>	<u>220</u>

4. Net Movement of Funds

Net movement of funds is arrived at after charging / (crediting):

	2015	2014
	£'000	£'000
Depreciation (including trading companies)	1,973	2,040
Auditors' remuneration:		
- Audit current year	38	38
-Audit (over) under provision prior year	(24)	-
-Other professional services	21	23
Internal Audit	120	113
Operating lease rentals - Land & Buildings	67	79
- Other Assets	114	122

5. Employee Remuneration

	Permanent		Casual		Total	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
		Revised		Revised		
Employee costs during the period						
Salaries and wages	17,428	16,439	1,539	1,416	18,967	17,855
Social Security	1,617	1,530	93	96	1,710	1,625
Pensions	2,046	1,677	36	28	2,082	1,706
	<u>21,091</u>	<u>19,646</u>	<u>1,668</u>	<u>1,540</u>	<u>22,759</u>	<u>21,186</u>

The 2014 Casual employee costs have been revised to include both monthly and weekly casual employees. Monthly casual employees were included in Permanent costs last year. The Total cost remains the same.

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The average number of regular full-time and regular part-time employees calculated on a full-time basis during the year was:

	2015	2014
	Number	Number
		Revised
Staff employed in funds generation		
Trading activities	126	128
Fundraising activities	10	9
Staff employed in disbursement of Charitable expenditure		
Members, Art and Media	77	86
Community	38	33
RHS Shows	39	38
RHS Gardens	258	250
Horticulture	10	9
Science	46	41
Support	90	80
	694	674

The 2014 employee numbers have been revised as a result of the reworking of last year's numbers during the preparation of the 2014/15 financial statements.

The number of employees whose remuneration in the year, excluding pension contributions paid directly by the Society, exceeding £60,000 was:

	2015	2014
	Number	Number
		Revised
£60,001 – £70,000	8	5
£70,001 – £80,000	8	5
£80,001 – £90,000	2	2
£90,001 – £100,000	1	1
£100,001 – £110,000	-	3
£110,001 -- £120,000	1	1
£170,001 -- £180,000	1	1
	21	18

An adjustment has been made to the 2014 banding of one member of staff, who is now shown in the £170,000-£180,000 band. The member of staff was incorrectly shown in the £180,000-£190,000 band previously.

The number of these employees for whom the Society made pension contributions was:

Defined benefit	-	-
Defined contribution	20	18

The Society contributed £146,626 (2014: £169,141 revised) to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of employees whose annual remuneration exceeded £60,000. The 2014 contribution has been revised due to 7 employees' salary exchange contributions having been included in error. The previous 2014 number was £208,360.

No remuneration has been paid to any member of the Society's Council. Council members were reimbursed a total of £ 23,474 (2014: £31,728) for travel expenses during the period. The number of Council members reimbursed for expenses was 17 (2014: 17).

6. Fixed Asset Investments

Consolidated and Society

	UK Cash Instruments £'000	UK Property £'000	Unit Trusts £'000	Total £'000
Market Value at 1 February 2014	5,673	76	52,815	58,564
Less: Disposal proceeds	-	-	(10,369)	(10,369)
Add: acquisitions at cost	-	-	15,335	15,335
Add: net gain on revaluation at 31 January	-	4	3,893	3,897
Add: net movement in cash	10,113	-	-	10,113
Market value at 31 January 2015	<u>15,786</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>61,674</u>	<u>77,540</u>
Historical cost at 31 January 2015	<u>15,786</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>56,937</u>	<u>72,753</u>

Analysed as follows

	£'000
UK Fixed Interest	11,892
Overseas Fixed Interest	550
UK Equities	3,109
Overseas Equities	13,883
Index Linked	25,625
Commodities	1,787
Cash Instruments held within pooled investment vehicle*	4,828
Cash Instruments held separately**	<u>15,786</u>
Market value at 31 January 2015	<u>77,460</u>
UK Property	80
Market value at 31 January 2015	<u>77,540</u>
Investments in UK at market value	38,646
Investments outside the UK at market value	<u>23,028</u>
Market Value of UK and Non-UK Investments	<u>61,674</u>

Unrestricted funds at market value of £72.68m are invested in a diversified portfolio of equity, fixed interest and cash investments with a level of risk appropriate to the Society's charitable status.

All endowment funds are invested in compliance with the Trustees Act 2000.

Historical cost of Fixed Asset Investments includes, for each pooled investment vehicle, income received which has been reinvested during the financial period of that investment vehicle; this totalled £924k.

Investments that represented more than 5% of the total portfolio were as follows:

	£'000
Cash Instruments	15,786
RLAM Cash Plus Fund	22,868
RLAM Sterling Credit Fund	11,570
Troy Trojan Fund	13,744
Veritas Global Real Return Fund	13,492

*Cash instruments held within pooled investment vehicles managed by third party investment managers

**Cash instruments managed by RHS

7. Taxation

An amount equivalent to the profit chargeable to corporation tax has been paid each year by its two subsidiaries to the Royal Horticultural Society under Gift Aid. The two subsidiaries are subject to tax but gift aid all their profits to the charity.

8. Commitments for future expenditure

Future capital commitments on signed contracts are £283k (2014: £285k), relating to the Key Investment Projects within the Strategic Investment Programme. Included in this number are improvements to RHS Garden Hyde Hall £122k, Harlow Carr £112k and Rosemoor £46k.

9. Other incoming resources

Other incoming resources of £620k (2013/14: £29k) is primarily the claim settlement of £508k from the Society's insurers in relation to the ex-employee who has been charged with conspiracy to commit fraud.

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

a) CONSOLIDATED

	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold land and buildings £'000	Buildings on Wisley trust land £'000	Assets in Construction £'000	Plant and Equipment £'000	Fixtures and fittings £'000	Total £'000
COST							
At 1 February 2014	42,384	1,095	1,786	1,032	1,452	1,741	49,490
Additions	1,107	-	-	995	290	154	2,546
Disposals	(19)	-	-	-	(383)	(14)	(416)
Transfers	515	-	-	(598)	24	59	-
At 31 January 2015	43,987	1,095	1,786	1,429	1,383	1,940	51,620
DEPRECIATION							
At 1 February 2014	9,649	333	500	-	901	820	12,203
Charge for the year	1,428	22	36	-	295	192	1,973
Disposals	(19)	-	-	-	(383)	(14)	(416)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2015	11,058	355	536	-	813	998	13,760
NET BOOK VALUE							
At 31 January 2015	32,929	740	1,250	1,429	570	942	37,860
At 1 February 2014	32,735	762	1,286	1,032	551	921	37,287

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b) SOCIETY

	Freehold land buildings	Leasehold land and buildings	Building on Wisley trust land	Assets in Construction	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COST							
At 1 February 2014	42,384	1,095	1,786	1,032	1,311	1,441	49,049
Additions	1,107	-	-	995	290	154	2,546
Disposals	(19)	-	-	-	(383)	-	(402)
Transfers	515	-	-	(598)	24	59	-
At 31 January 2015	43,987	1,095	1,786	1,429	1,242	1,654	51,193
DEPRECIATION							
At 1 February 2014	9,649	333	500	-	714	617	11,813
Charge for the year	1,428	22	36	-	290	157	1,933
Disposals	(19)	-	-	-	(383)	-	(402)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2015	11,058	355	536	-	621	774	13,344
NET BOOK VALUE							
At 31 January 2015	32,929	740	1,250	1,429	621	880	37,849
At 1 February 2014	32,735	762	1,286	1,032	597	824	37,236

No assets are held under finance lease. All assets are used for charitable purpose.

The Trustees are aware that there is a material difference between the carrying value of Land and Buildings in these accounts and the market value of the Land and Buildings belonging to the Society, but do not believe that there is value, commensurate with the associated cost, in ascertaining that market value at this time. The Trustees are aware that the market value of the Society's Land and Buildings is greater than the carrying value in these accounts.

11. Investment in Trading and Other Companies

The Society's total investment of £110,101 consists of £100,000 in RHS Enterprises Limited; £100 in RHS Special Events Limited; £10,000 in Horticultural Halls Limited and £1 in RHS Publications Limited. The Society has 100% ownership in all four companies.

Horticultural Halls Limited and RHS Publications Limited are both dormant companies. The Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the two trading subsidiaries, RHS Enterprises Limited and RHS Special Events Limited are shown below.

	RHS Enterprises	RHS Special Events	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit & Loss Account			
Turnover	19,604	4,042	23,646
Cost of Sales	(8,597)	(894)	(9,491)
Gross profit	11,007	3,148	14,155
Administration expenses (net of interest receivable)	(6,301)	(198)	(6,499)
Other operating income	314	-	314
Net profit	5,020	2,950	7,970
Amount gift aided to the Society	(5,005)	(3,025)	(8,030)
Taxation	-	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the year	15	(75)	(60)

The figures above include the transfer of trading items between the Society and its subsidiaries which have been eliminated in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) to show income of £23.6m and net profit of £9.0m. These results form part of the Trading and Sponsorship activities on the SoFA.

Balance sheet	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets	133	-	133
Current assets	7,253	3,748	11,001
Unsecured Loan to the Society	1,170	-	1,170
Current Liabilities	(1,628)	(3,281)	(4,909)
Long Term Liabilities	(57)	-	(57)
Amounts owing (to)/from the society	(6,710)	(554)	(7,264)
	<u>161</u>	<u>(87)</u>	<u>74</u>
Net Assets/(Liabilities)			
Share Capital	100	-	100
Reserves	61	(87)	(26)
	<u>161</u>	<u>(87)</u>	<u>74</u>
Equity Shareholders' Funds			

12. RHS Heritage Assets

The RHS holds two categories of Heritage Assets, the Lindley Library Collection and the RHS Herbarium. These assets are not valued on a regular basis as the Trustees do not believe that the value of ascertaining their market value would be commensurate with the associated cost.

The RHS Lindley Library Collection

The RHS Lindley Library holds an extensive collection of Heritage Assets that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge of horticulture. They relate to the history of the Society, and its many activities – such as its scientific work and flower shows. Its collections also encompass the wider history of horticulture in this country, covering 500 years of the history of gardening and garden plants. They document the art, science and practice of horticulture including growing fruit and vegetables, social history of gardening, plant exploration, domestic produce and allied activities such as beekeeping and commercial horticulture.

The collections are in three main areas:

- **Printed works:** The Library contains over 80,000 books, dating from 1514 to the present day. Its special strengths are rare early gardening works and hand coloured illustrated works on garden plants, especially from the 19th Century. It has extensive holdings of ephemeral material including the largest collection of nursery catalogues in this country, plus garden guides, posters, postcards - all connected to gardens and gardening.
- **Archives, manuscripts and artefacts:** The Library holds the archives of the Society, which provide an unrivalled record of the development of the RHS since its foundation in 1804, as well as five hundred years of the history of gardening and flower shows. It also contains the archives of important horticultural personalities and commercial firms; the archive collection is a unique resource for historians.
- **Art and Images.** The collection includes over 23,000 botanical art works depicting garden plants, a special collection of 7,000 orchid award paintings, 200,000 photographs from the late 19th Century onwards (including rare auto chromes and cartes de visite).

Acquisitions to the collections are made by purchase or donation according to the Collections Policy. Disposals generally occur when an item is a duplicate of another item in the collection (some duplicates are kept for operational purposes) or an item does not accord with the Collections Policy. Any monies acquired from disposal of items e.g. via book sales, are used to purchase other items for the collections or to fund library projects.

Public Access

The Library is part of the charitable delivery of the RHS. Its collections are accessible to researchers and the wider public through its 5 libraries, its enquiry service, through a detailed online catalogue, exhibitions, publications and an on-going programme of digitisation. Over 50,000 visitors use the libraries each year.

Herbarium

The Royal Horticultural Herbarium at Wisley is the largest Herbarium dedicated to the study and research of ornamental plants in the UK and has an international role as a major repository of standard specimens of cultivated garden plants.

Composition and Remit:

- The current Herbarium is estimated to exceed 80,000 specimens, mostly collected post-1980 but many earlier specimens. Gathering of specimens began around 1960.
- The majority of specimens are of ornamental plants. Collections come principally from the following sources:
 - i RHS gardens, especially Wisley
 - ii RHS Trials
 - iii RHS Shows, primarily the plants that are given awards
 - iv Plant Heritage collections
 - v Plants sent for identification to the Botanists by members
- It incorporates the British Pteridological Society (BPS) Herbarium of fern cultivars and the Frederick Hanbury Herbarium of European plants collected mainly in the 19th Century.
- Around 1000 new specimens are collected and pressed each year.
- Wild collected plants are not a focus of the Herbarium, but are represented by a number of collections:
 - i Hanbury Herbarium
 - ii Botanical expeditions searching for garden-worthy plants, such as George Forrest, Ludlow & Sherriff, and some more recent Society funded expeditions.
 - iii Donated historical collections.
 - iv Native and naturalised plants, especially those of a weedy nature.
- Crop plants, including fruit and vegetables, are not represented to any extent in the Herbarium.

All new acquisitions and disposals are compared against the Accession Policy (May 2008).

Standards Collection:

- The Herbarium at Wisley was one of the foremost proponents of the Standard Specimen programme, now an integral part of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (2009).
- There are 10,050 standard specimens in the Herbarium to date (2,750 Herbarium specimens, 7,300 images).
- The Herbarium continues to add to its collection of standard cultivated garden plants from RHS Trials, RHS Shows and contributions directly from nurseries and breeders.
- The RHS Herbarium has been accepted as part of the Global Plants Initiative to scan and make available online all its nomenclatural standards and type specimens.

Image Collection:

- The current Herbarium is complemented by an extensive image collection, consisting of:
 - i Around 3,300 watercolour paintings of plants that received an award either in trial or at a show mainly between 1920 and 1955.
 - ii Around 50,000 colour transparencies of plants, mainly from the gardens, shows and trials between 1970 and 2010 (image acquisition is predominantly digital nowadays and dealt with separately to the Herbarium).

Access

The collections are occasionally sent on loan to other recognised herbaria or other institutions. However, the most frequent users of the collection are amateur gardeners and loans cannot be made to them. A programme has begun to digitise the Herbarium collections and make them available online. Loans are also more likely to be conducted by scanning the specimens in the future.

13. Debtors due within one year

	Consolidated		Society	
	2015 £'000	2014 £'000	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Trade debtors	2,880	1,945	1,719	907
Amounts due from subsidiaries undertakings	-	-	7,264	8,995
Other debtors	1,409	2,401	1,155	2,319
Taxation recoverable	147	959	147	959
Prepayments	1,745	1,164	1,464	968
	<u>6,181</u>	<u>6,469</u>	<u>11,749</u>	<u>14,148</u>

14. Creditors amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated		Society	
	2015 £'000	2014 £'000	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Income in advance: members deferred subscriptions	10,994	9,282	10,994	10,135
Income in advance: other	9,566	7,917	5,406	3,690
Income in advance total	20,560	17,199	16,400	13,825
Trade creditors	1,353	1,652	821	1,198
Loan from RHS Enterprises	-	-	1,170	1,170
Taxation and social security	1,131	545	1,132	233
Other creditors	904	701	682	592
Accruals	4,393	2,598	4,187	2,420
	<u>28,341</u>	<u>22,695</u>	<u>24,392</u>	<u>19,438</u>

All the income in advance at the start of the year was utilised during the year, except life membership. The balance at the start of the year for these life memberships was £1,023k, £194k was utilised during 2014/15 and deferred income for new life memberships was £432k, resulting in a balance of £1,261k at 31 January 2015.

15. Creditors amounts falling due after one year

	Consolidated		Society	
	2015 £'000	2014 £'000	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Income in advance: members' deferred subscriptions	1,068	856	1,068	856
Income in advance: other	59	84	59	84
	<u>1,127</u>	<u>940</u>	<u>1,127</u>	<u>940</u>

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
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16a. Funds

	Balance 01.02.14 £'000	Incoming Resources £'000	Resources Expended £'000	Transfers £'000	Gains/ (losses) £'000	Balance 31.01.15 £'000
ENDOWMENT FUNDS						
Coke Trust	1,975	34	-	(130)	236	2,115
Blaxall Valentine Scholarship	519	9	-	(37)	62	553
Guernsey Wilson Fund	280	5	-	(22)	33	296
Other Bursary Funds	186	4	-	24	27	241
Hyde Hall Endowment Fund	350	-	-	-	-	350
Wisley Endowment Fund	141	3	-	34	22	200
Eric Young Scholarship	155	3	-	27	23	208
Knowles Bequest	219	4	-	4	28	255
Shropshire Hort Society	140	3	-	14	20	177
Other Endowed Funds	168	3	-	(28)	17	160
Total Endowed Funds	4,133	68	-	(114)	468	4,555
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Northern Horticultural Society	996	-	-	-	-	996
Garden Development Fund	1,562	308	(225)	(79)	-	1,566
Education & Training Fund	1,701	791	(396)	2	-	2,098
Field Research Facility	3	-	-	7	-	10
Bursary Funds	67	2	(104)	37	-	2
Other Restricted Funds	62	256	(15)	35	-	338
Total Restricted Funds	4,391	1,357	(740)	2	-	5,010
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
Designated Funds						
Fixed asset Fund	28,937	-	-	642	-	29,579
Bicentenary Glasshouse Strategic Investment	5,800	-	(426)	-	-	5,374
Programme Fund	15,618	-	(1,474)	198	-	14,342
Reserve Policy Fund	7,500	-	-	-	-	7,500
Wisley Development Fund	350	-	29	-	-	379
Fifth Garden Fund	7,000	-	-	-	-	7,000
Total Designated Funds	65,205	-	(1,871)	840	-	64,174
General and Trading Funds	27,109	71,732	(62,254)	(728)	3,429	39,288
Pension Reserve	(5,956)	-	(126)	-	(509)	(6,591)
Total Unrestricted Funds	86,358	71,732	(64,251)	112	2,920	96,871
Total Funds	94,882	73,157	(64,991)	-	3,388	106,436
Society only, General and Trading Fund	27,162	56,770	(47,216)	(728)	3,429	39,417

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Coke Trust provides bursaries for horticultural students and training.

The Blaxall Valentine Scholarship established a scholarship for the collection of plants.

The Guerne Wilson Fund was established to further the horticultural work of the Society.

The Hyde Hall Endowment Fund was established on the transfer of the garden into the Society's care.

The Wisley Endowment Fund was established under the terms of the Hanbury Trust. It is vested in the Society only so long as the Society uses Wisley garden as an experimental garden.

The Eric Young Scholarship provides funds for an orchid student to train at Wisley.

Knowles Bequest for study of horticulture in N England.

The Shropshire Horticultural Society Scholarship provides funds for a student to train at Wisley.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Northern Horticultural Society Funds represent the assets acquired by the Society on the merger with the Northern Horticultural Society. These include the gardens at Harlow Carr.

Garden Development Funds are held for development projects within RHS Gardens.

Education & Training Funds are held for horticultural education and training.

Field Research Facility is for the development of the centre.

Bursary funds represent the income from the endowed bursary funds less the expenditure.

Other Restricted funds provide funding for awards, medals and other horticultural purposes.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Designated Fund

The Fixed Asset Fund represents the net book value of the Society's tangible fixed assets, excluding those in construction and in endowed, restricted or general and trading funds.

Bicentenary Glasshouse

The Bicentenary Glasshouse fund forms part of the Fixed Asset Fund, and arose following the completion of the Glasshouse at Wisley, funded from a range of sources, brought together in this designated fund.

Strategic Investment Programme Fund representing the funding support which has been specifically designated to date for the ongoing 'Key Investment Project' capital and revenue projects enabled by the lease sale of the Lawrence Hall in London. The widening of the Strategic Investment Programme will lead in due course to further elements of the Society's reserves being similarly designated to this fund. It is envisaged that this investment programme will take a minimum of ten years to complete. The capitalisation of this major capital programme will lead to annual transfers between this fund and the Fixed Asset Fund.

The Reserve Policy Fund represents the risk-assessed reserve required in the event of a significant disruption to the Society's activities.

The Wisley Development Fund has been established to improve the infrastructure and enable refurbishment of Society owned properties in Wisley Village.

The Fifth Garden Fund represents the proposed initial investment set aside to develop an additional Society Garden.

The Designated Pension Fund represents the actuarially-assessed reserve to fund the deficit on the Royal Horticultural Society (1974) Pension Scheme.

General and Trading Funds

The General and Trading Funds will be used to support the general working capital requirements of the Society. The proposed expansion of the scope of the Strategic Investment Programme will require further funds to be designated in their support in due course. Transfers between General Trading Funds and Designated Funds will be made accordingly.

Transfers

Transfers between restricted and unrestricted funds represent capital expenditure where asset purchase/development satisfies the fund restriction and as such assets will be held and depreciated in designated funds. In addition transfers have been made to reflect the adjustments required for the total return accounting policy. (See Note 16b)

16b. Endowment Funds

	Endowment £'000	Unapplied Total Return £'000	Total £'000
At beginning of reporting period:			
Trust for Investment/permanent endowment	2,636	1,147	3,783
Fixed Asset Endowments	350	-	350
Unapplied total return (in restricted funds)	-	-	-
Total	2,986	1,147	4,133
Movements in reporting period:			
Gift of endowment funds	-	-	-
Investment return: dividends and interest	-	68	68
Investment return: realised and unrealised gains and (losses)	-	468	468
Total	-	536	536
Unapplied total return allocated to income in the reporting period	-	(114)	(114)
Net movement in reporting period	-	422	422
At the end of the reporting period:			
Trust for Investment/permanent endowment	2,986	-	2,986
Unapplied total return	-	1,569	1,569
Total	2,986	1,569	4,555

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Endowment Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Designated Funds £'000	General & Trading Funds £'000	Pension Reserve £'000	Total Funds £'000
Tangible Fixed Assets	350	996	34,954	1,560	-	37,860
Fixed Asset						
Investments	4,205	4,014	29,220	40,101	-	77,540
Current Assets	-	-	-	27,095	-	27,095
Current Liabilities	-	-	-	(28,341)	-	(28,341)
Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	(1,127)	-	(1,127)
Pension Scheme Liability	-	-	-	-	(6,591)	(6,591)
Total Net Assets	4,555	5,010	64,174	39,288	(6,591)	106,436

18. Net cash inflow from operating activities

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Increase in Society funds	8,166	9,330
Pension Fund movement, excluding actuarial gains/losses	126	107
Investment income receivable	(1,162)	(1,015)
Depreciation charge	1,973	2,040
Fixed asset disposals	-	15
(Increase)/Decrease in stocks	71	(132)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	288	(1,882)
Increase in creditors	5,833	933
Net Cash inflow from operating activities	<u>15,295</u>	<u>9,396</u>

19. Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net cash funds

	£'000	£'000
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year	(1,168)	
Cash inflow to cash investments	<u>8,304</u>	
Movement in net cash funds		7,136
Net funds at 1 February 2014		33,048
Net funds at 31 January 2015		<u>40,184</u>

20. Analysis of changes in net cash funds

	Balance 01.02.14 £'000	Cash Flows £'000	Balance 31.01.15 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand	20,738	(1,168)	19,570
Cash included within investments	12,310	8,304	20,614
	<u>33,048</u>	<u>7,136</u>	<u>40,184</u>

21. Operating leases

As at 31 January the Society and its subsidiaries were committed to annual rentals expiring as follows:

	Consolidated		Society	
	2015 £'000	2014 £'000	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Land and Buildings:				
Within one year	-	59	-	59
Between two to five years	78	-	78	-
Other:				
Within one year	16	10	10	3
Between two to five years	74	94	66	76
	<u>168</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>138</u>

22. Pension scheme

The Royal Horticultural Society (1974) Pension Scheme (the Scheme) was closed to future service accruals on 31 May 2009. A full actuarial valuation of the Scheme was carried out as at 6 April 2014, which has been updated to 31 January 2015 by a qualified independent actuary. To ensure that the Scheme's Statutory Funding Objective is met (ie there are sufficient assets to cover the Scheme's technical provisions), an agreement was reached in October 2014 between the Trustees of the Scheme and the Society that additional contributions will be paid to the Scheme of £18,083 per month for a period of 10 years beginning 5 April 2014. During the year, contributions of £162,747 were paid by the Society. A triennial valuation will be conducted in 2017/18, the outcome of which will determine whether the Society will need to amend its future contributions to the scheme in respect of any deficit.

1) Employee benefit obligations – amounts recognised in the balance sheet:

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Present value of funded obligations	(28,537)	(25,590)
Fair value of plan assets	21,946	19,634
	<u>(6,591)</u>	<u>(5,956)</u>
Present value of unfunded obligations	-	-
Unrecognised past service cost	-	-
	<u>(6,591)</u>	<u>(5,956)</u>
Deficit	(6,591)	(5,956)
Net Liability	<u>(6,591)</u>	<u>(5,956)</u>

As required under the revised FRS17, the scheme's assets for this accounting period are based on bid price. The prior year scheme's assets were calculated on the same basis.

The pension plan assets do not include ordinary shares issued by the sponsoring employer nor do they include property occupied by the sponsoring employer.

2) The amounts recognised in the SoFA are as follows:

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Current service cost	118	102
Interest on obligations	1,090	1,082
Expected return on plan assets	(1,082)	(1,077)
	<u>126</u>	<u>107</u>
Total	126	107
Actual return on plan assets	2,655	1,070

3) Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations are as follows:

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	25,590	26,048
Current service cost	118	102
Member contributions	-	-
Interest cost	1,090	1,082
Actuarial (gains) / losses	2,245	(1,064)
Benefits paid	(506)	(578)
	<u>28,537</u>	<u>25,590</u>

Active members of the scheme ceased to accrue benefits in respect of pensionable service from 31 May 2009, although benefits earned prior to this date remain linked to pensionable salary on future withdrawal or retirement. The above service cost represents the cost of benefit accrual to 31 May 2009 plus the expenses payable to Aviva for running the scheme over the accounting period.

4) Changes in the fair value of plan assets are as follows:

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Opening fair value of plan assets	19,634	19,142
Expected return	1,082	1,077
Actuarial (losses) and gains	1,573	(7)
Assets distributed on settlements	-	-
Contributions by employer	163	-
Member contributions	-	-
Benefits paid	(506)	(578)
	<u>21,946</u>	<u>19,634</u>

5) The major categories of plan assets as a percentage of total plan assets, and expected return, are as follows:

	2015 %Total plan assets	2015 Expected return	2014 % Total plan assets	2014 Expected return
Equities	57.3%	5.5%	59.8%	7.0%
Bonds	34.2%	2.9%	31.6%	4.2%
Cash	8.5%	0.5%	8.6%	0.5%

The expected returns have been based on the current split by investment sector of the assets of the scheme, using average expected returns on each sector.

6) Movement in deficit during the year:

	2015	2014
	£'000	£'000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of the year	(5,956)	(6,906)
Movement in year:		
Current service cost	(118)	(102)
Contributions paid by the employer	163	-
Other financial (expenditure)/income	(8)	(5)
Actuarial (loss)/gain	(672)	1,057
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit in scheme at end of the year	(6,591)	(5,956)

In the period to 31 January 2015 employer contributions of £162,747 (2014: nil) were paid into the scheme. The cost of life insurance was paid in addition. In the Statement of Financial Activities, this amount has been offset against the gross actuarial loss of £(672)k to arrive at the net loss of £(509)k.

7) Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

a) Financial assumptions

	2015	2014
Discount rate	3.1% pa	4.3% pa
Expected return on plan assets	4.2% pa	5.7% pa
Future salary increases	3.0% pa	4.5% pa
Pension revaluation in deferment (Retail prices index – maximum 5%)	3.0% pa	3.4% pa
Pension escalation in payment (Retail prices index – maximum 5%)	2.9% pa	3.4% pa
Proportion of employees opting for early retirement	0%	0%
Inflation assumption	3.0% pa	3.5% pa

b) Demographic assumptions

(i) Assumed life expectancy in years, on retirement at 65

Retiring today		
Males	22.6	23.5
Females	24.7	25.5
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.7	25.7
Females	27.0	27.8

(ii) Pre retirement mortality rates

The following mortality rates represent the probability of a person of an exact age, as shown below, dying within one year.

Age	Males	Females
30	0.0003	0.0002
40	0.0005	0.0003
50	0.0011	0.0009
60	0.0033	0.0024

8) Amounts for the current and previous four periods are as follows:

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Defined benefit obligation	28,537	25,590	26,048	22,125	19,048
Plan assets	21,946	19,634	19,142	17,757	17,437
(Deficit)	(6,591)	(5,956)	(6,906)	(4,368)	(1,611)
Experience adjustments on plan liabilities	455	(99)	464	278	710
Experience adjustments on plan assets	1,573	(7)	586	(657)	620

23. Related Party Transactions

The Society maintains a Register of Interests of all Council members and senior staff. Also, the Society's financial regulations require an individual to declare an interest and withdraw from any commercial discussions should a conflict of interest potentially arise. Written assurances have been obtained from all Council members and senior staff that for the period ending 31 January 2015 they have not influenced any transaction between the Society and a related party, as defined by FRS8, Related Party Disclosures.

Commercial relationships with companies or other organisations that might be regarded as related parties have been reviewed. The Society requires members of Council, non-Council members of the Commercial Board, and the Directors to declare any material interests that they may have in the activities of the Society and its trading companies. Council and the Audit and Risk Committee consider and approve contracts between trustees and the Society and its trading companies. The total cost of these transactions to the RHS in the year is £3,544. The RHS also received commission from a related party totalling £222,596, and £57,015 catalogue insertion fees from a related party. Details are as follows:

Mark Fane - Crocus.co.uk Ltd (of which Mark Fane is a Director) has a contract with RHS Enterprises Limited under which Crocus.co.uk Ltd supply mail order plants under the RHS brands. Crocus.co.uk Ltd. has paid £222,596 in commission to RHS Enterprises Limited in the year ended 31/1/15. Crocus.co.uk also paid £57,015 for catalogues to be inserted into The Garden magazine. In addition, Crocus.co.uk Ltd was paid £118 for plants ordered through RHS Enterprises Limited for plants for flower beds in RHS Garden Harlow Carr and £500 for prizes for a photo competition. As at the 31st January 2015 the balance owed to Crocus.co.uk was nil.

James Alexander-Sinclair – was paid £450 for an article published in The Garden in December 2014. As at 31st January 2015 the balance owed to James Alexander-Sinclair was nil.

Neil Lucas – Knoll Gardens (of which Neil Lucas is a Director) was paid £663 for the supply of plants to RHS Harlow Carr, £490 for the supply of plants to RHS Wisley and £417 for the supply of plants to RHS Hyde Hall. In addition £537 was paid for a Growing for Success lecture and expenses at Pershore College and £369 for an article published in The Garden in November 2014. As at 31st January 2015 the balance owed to Knoll Gardens was nil.

All payments are shown net of VAT.

The Royal Horticultural (1974) Pension Scheme is a related party to the RHS, being the former Defined Benefit Pension Scheme, which is closed to future accrual (see Note 22).

There are no further related party transactions requiring disclosure.

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The RHS relies on the generous gifts, donations and bequests given by members and supporters.

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(ruthevans@rhs.org.uk), the Director of Education, Funding and Communities, at 80 Vincent
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Dame Mary Keegan
Mr Neil Lucas (from 2 July 2014)
Sir Anthony May
Mr Alastair Muirhead
Mr Dougal Philip (to 2 July 2014)
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Mr David Morley (to 9 March 2014)
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Mr Mark Porter
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Mr Alastair Muirhead

Horticulture Board (reporting to Council)

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Sir Nicholas Bacon
Mr Rupert Caldecott
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Mr Ross Reason

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Mr Michael Balston
Mr David Haselgrove
Ms Kate Lampard
Mr Neil Lucas
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Ms Lorna Parker

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Mr Keith Cameron
Mr Dennis Espley
Mrs Katherine Thomas (from 13 January 2015)
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