

The Great Dixter Charitable Trust

Annual report 2015-16

Chairman's Review of the year

The twelve months ending 31 March 2016 continued to be extremely active at Great Dixter. We welcomed 53,712 visitors, an increase of 1,075 from the previous year and an all-time high. Sales of home grown plants from the nursery continue to be buoyant, as do vegetable sales from the porch. We held another successful Christmas Fair with 957 visitors enjoying the Christmas cheer in the Great Hall and the opportunity to buy superb quality crafts from local businesses. In early October we held our sixth annual Autumn Plant Fair and in early April our second Spring Plant Fair. At both Fairs, plants were sold and talks given by nurseries from Europe and the UK.

Other events and developments during this fiscal year included a horticultural careers conference, the launch of the Great Dixter Journal and the first Christopher Lloyd Lecture, which was given by Dan Pearson. There have also been exhibitions of historic photographs, specialized House openings and tours, successful symposia, study days, children's programmes and lecture tours. Accolades, acknowledgements and support still flow in. Fergus delivered dozens of lectures and talks at home and abroad.

Fergus continues to be an active and inspirational ambassador providing his expertise and messaging to RHS Committees, garden clubs, horticultural societies and botanical gardens around the British Isles, Europe, Japan and the United

States. He touches the hearts and minds of all who embrace him and has become an enthralling public figure in the world of horticulture.

We continue and expand on Christopher Lloyd's enthusiasm for training young gardeners and last year again welcomed students from a number of countries who benefited from Fergus' and his garden team's expertise in high quality, intensive horticulture. 23 students (including 4 Christopher Lloyd Scholars) gained Dixter experience this year.

In operating terms, the total incoming resources for the fiscal 2015/16 year were £1,372,399 (£1,265,488 in 2014/15) in admission fees, nursery and merchandise sales, lecture fees, educational activities, grants, donations and royalties. Against which there was expenditure of £1,334,334 (£1,184,567 in 2014/15). The operating activities created an unrestricted surplus of £83,651 which has been transferred to our Christo Reserve. In summary, the Trust met or exceeded most of its financial objectives for the year.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to thank all our staff, volunteers, supporters and donors for their continued hard work and support, without which Great Dixter could not continue to be the dynamic, vibrant place it is. ■

Geoffrey Dyer *Chair of the Trustees*

THE GREAT DIXTER CHARITABLE TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER 07181964)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2016

	Unrestricted funds General £	Designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
INCOME					
Donations	176,325	160,284		336,609	103,505
Gift aid	22,187			22,187	10,048
Income from charitable activities					
Admissions income	357,386			357,386	368,969
Heritage Lottery funding					5,115
Income from trading activities					
Nursery income	171,908			171,908	164,839
Merchandise income	259,811			259,811	238,901
Other business income	195,457		24,652	220,109	365,862
Royalties	2,564			2,564	4,347
Investment income					
Interest		1,825		1,825	3,902
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	1,185,638	162,109	24,652	1,372,399	1,265,488
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of raising funds					
Business costs	1,030,877	163,048	69,299	1,263,224	1,061,437
Fundraising costs	53,695			53,695	109,270
Expenditure on charitable activities					
HLF project costs					8,456
Governance costs	17,415			17,415	5,404
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,101,987	163,048	69,299	1,334,334	1,184,567
NET INCOME (Expenditure)	83,651	(939)	(44,647)	38,065	80,921
Transfers between funds	(83,651)	83,651			
Net Income (Expenditure) and Net movement in funds for the year		82,712	(44,647)	38,065	80,921
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	100,000	2,797,754	4,813,400	7,711,154	7,630,233
Total funds carried forward	100,000	2,880,466	4,768,753	7,749,219	7,711,154

THE GREAT DIXTER CHARITABLE TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER : 07181964)
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Great Dixter Historic House and Gardens	4,425,923	4,431,246
Dixter Farm	2,013,837	2,013,837
Great Dixter Historic House Contents	453,817	453,817
Other tangible assets	37,058	35,133
	6,930,635	6,934,033
CURRENT ASSETS		
Treasury reserve account	554,305	530,218
Bank and cash in hand	238,814	211,303
Stock	132,363	120,514
Debtors	2,346	4,290
	927,828	866,325
	7,858,463	7,800,358
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Creditors	89,062	80,224
Accruals	20,182	8,980
	109,244	89,204
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,749,219	7,711,154
FUNDS		
Restricted funds	4,768,753	4,813,400
Unrestricted funds		
General funds	100,000	100,000
Designated funds	2,880,466	2,797,754
	7,749,219	7,711,154

This is a summary of information extracted from the annual accounts on behalf of the trustees. These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full annual accounts and the auditors' report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from Great Dixter, Northiam, Rye, East Sussex, TN31 6PH. The annual accounts were approved by the trustees on 15th July 2016.

Great Dixter Charitable Trust

trustees, staff and committees 2015-16

Trustees

Chair of the trustees

Geoffrey Dyer

TRUSTEE BOARD

John French, *Treasurer*

Charles Hind

Kemal Mehdi

Rosie Atkins

Keith Sangster

Thomas C Cooper

Phyllida Earle

John Massey

Rosemary Alexander

Henrietta Norman

Gyr King

Olivia Eller

TRUST SECRETARY

Victoria Williams

Staff

Full and part time staff

including leavers and starters

HEAD GARDENER & CEO

Fergus Garrett

Cornelia Steffen *PA to CEO*

BUSINESS MANAGER

Perry Rodriguez

PROJECT/

ADMINISTRATIVE

DIRECTOR

Victoria Williams

EDUCATION OFFICER

Catherine Haydock

FRIENDS/DEVELOPMENT

OFFICER

Linda Jones

ADMINISTRATION

Jude Churchman

May Reid

Nicolette Smith

Joe Rodriguez

GARDEN

Lewis Boshier, *Assistant Head*

Gardener

Kate Cox

Rachael Dodd

Graham Hodgson

Nicky Stewart

Maria Tavares

Siew Lee Vorley

NURSERY

Michael Morphy, *Nursery*

Manager

Kathleen Leighton, *Assistant*

Manager

Debbie Leam

Michelle Post

Jean Michel Tassoni

WOODSMAN

Rich Asher

WOODWORKING

Simon Johnson

Sam Wassell

ESTATE

Ben Robbins

Mike McGuinness

HOUSE

Aaron Bertelsen, *House*

Manager

Victoria Williams, *Curatorial*

Sam Crossley

Rachel Deacon

Zena Bailey

GUIDES

Anne Ainsley

Elizabeth Ashby

Janet Cheshire Martin

Edward Collins

Prue Crawshay Williams

Gill Duff

Dreda Glyde

Tony Green

Zuleika Harrison

Judith Hogg

Janet Hopkins

Hartmut Steffen

Claire Williamson

Paul Wood

SHOP AND

REFRESHMENTS

Alice Rodriguez, *Shop*

Manager

Joe Rodriguez

Ben Bishop

Joel Stubbs

Holly Wilson

GARDENING STUDENTS

Eve Charbonnel (France)

Baptiste Derouen (France)

Emma Dixon (UK)

Mark Dwyer (USA)

Fatima Gulenc (Turkey)

Lisa Haggvist (Sweden)

Yuko Hata (Japan)

Thies Koggel (Netherlands)

Siqi Lee (China)

Motoko Maekawa (Japan)

Mark O' Neill (Ireland)

Ben Preston (UK)

Amy Sanderson (Canada)

Makiko Sato (Japan)

Andrew Schuyler (USA)

Nihan Sevinc (Turkey)

Guilio Vegini (Italy)

Michael Wachter (Germany)

Alice Willet (UK)

Christopher Lloyd scholars

Jonny Bruce (UK)

Matt Burgesser (USA)

Susan Quinn (USA)

Committees

FINANCE COMMITTEE

John French, *Chair*

Geoffrey Dyer, *trustee*

Kemal Mehdi, *trustee*

Fergus Garrett

May Reid

Perry Rodriguez

Victoria Williams

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Charles Hind, *Chair*

Olivia Eller, *trustee*

Aaron Bertelsen

Giny Best

Roy Brigden

Peter Eller

Fergus Garrett

Wendy Hitchmough

Judith Hogg

Perry Rodriguez

Victoria Williams

DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE

Geoffrey Dyer, *trustee and chair*

Rosemary Alexander, *trustee*

Thomas C Cooper, *trustee*

Phyllida Earle, *trustee*

Gyr King, *trustee*

Henrietta Norman, *trustee*

Aaron Bertelsen

Fergus Garrett

Jayne Gillespie

Linda Jones

Juliet Roberts

Perry Rodriguez

Joe Rodriguez

Victoria Williams

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kemal Mehdi, *trustee*

Rosemary Alexander, *trustee*

Fergus Garrett

Catherine Haydock

HUMAN RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

Kemal Mehdi, *Chair*

Rosie Atkins, *trustee*

Fergus Garrett

Perry Rodriguez

Victoria Williams

Jackie Hammond (*consultant*)

Jo Hillier (*minutes*)

Dogs

Conifer and Miscanthus