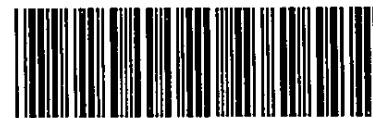


323 3796

**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

THURSDAY



\*AHJ23P04\*

A14 11/11/2010 267  
COMPANIES HOUSE

\*A02V021000\*

A02 17/09/2010 140  
COMPANIES HOUSE

**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**  
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2010**

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**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2010**

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30th June 2010

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was to promote the education of the public on matters connected with the history, arts and sciences of garden land, and to preserve, enhance and recreate for the education and enjoyment of the public, garden land that may exist or have existed in Essex

**DIRECTORS**

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1st July 2009 to the date of this report

F Wells (Acting Chairman)  
M R Meads (Treasurer and Company Secretary)  
M L Wakelin  
G M Plater  
D D Andrews  
P A Moxey

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows

G Gunning appointed 17th October 2009  
S E Nicholson retired 17th October 2009  
J V Miller retired 17th October 2009  
I C McCleave retired 9th March 2010  
J E Valentine retired 9th March 2010

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**



Director  
F Wells Acting Chairman



Director  
M R Meads Treasurer

Date 7th September 2010

## **ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**

*Registered Charity No 1057876 Company No 3233796*

**President: The Lord Petre**

**Vice Presidents: Hugh Johnson Fiona Cowell Marion Swetenham**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

The trustees present their annual report for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010

The trustees who have managed the charity throughout the year, unless otherwise indicated, are as shown in the Report of the Directors

The registered office is at     5 Earlsmead  
   Chipping Hill  
   Witham  
   Essex CM8 2EH

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The governing document of the charity, which is also a company limited by guarantee, is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Its trustees are elected by the members in general meeting. The trustees may co-opt persons to the board from time to time, any person so co-opted must stand for election at the next Annual General Meeting.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The objects of the charity are to promote the education of the public on matters connected with the history, arts and sciences of garden land, and to preserve, enhance and recreate, for the education and enjoyment of the public, garden land that may exist, or have existed, in Essex.

To achieve these aims, the charity organises events such as visits to gardens and lectures on subjects related to historic parks and gardens and designed landscapes with particular reference to Essex. It also fosters and encourages interest in gardening within primary schools. In the year under review the charity has supported many Essex schools by funding transport to attend Education Days held by the RHS at Hyde Hall. The Schools CD's are also still available to help stimulate gardening interest within the schools themselves. The charity also submits comments as appropriate on planning issues where relevant to an existing or pre-existing garden environment, and it conducts research into designed landscapes and publishes books and articles on them. Despite the wide range of activity, the charity runs almost entirely on voluntary effort, but with some professional help when the lack of a specific skill is identified.

### Review of the year

This is covered fully in the separate Chairman's Annual Report

### Financial Review

This is a summary of the main salient points of the financial affairs of the Trust for the year 2009/10. Detailed information is available within the Financial Statements

The deficit of income over expenditure for the 12 months to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 was £10,251, but some of this was attributable to planned "one-off" expenditure such as the new Living Landscapes book, the new EGT promotional leaflet, research, and a donation of £2000 to RHS Garden Hyde Hall

The value of subscriptions was down by approximately 7% compared to 2008/09, reflecting perhaps the general recession across the economy. There was no increase in subscription fees during the year

Our reserves now stand at £17,242 and may continue to diminish, but a committee is looking at further fund raising, and since the year end we have received a grant of £3000 from Essex Heritage Trust

Essex Gardens Trust has pledged to make a donation of £2000 to RHS Garden Hyde Hall during the 2010/2011 financial year

### Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report given above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Fiona Wells  
Acting Chairman  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Acting Chairman's Report to Essex Gardens Trust**  
**October 2009 - September 2010.**

Although Essex Gardens Trust has not had a Chairman this year I would like to think that it has nonetheless been a busy and productive period. Jane Valentine kindly agreed to help out by guiding us through Trustee meetings until March which was extremely helpful.

As Acting Chairman, putting together this report gives me the opportunity to say thank you to the many, many people involved in the varied facets of the Trust's work. I point this out now rather than at the end of the report in the hope that as I touch upon some of the activities of the past year that at least some of you will think 'this sounds like something I would like to be more involved with'. We are all part of a team but one that would really welcome anyone that would like to be more actively involved.

I was lucky enough to attend the Association of Gardens Trusts AGM & Conference in Lincolnshire last October. This was my first experience of an AGT event and it is one I would thoroughly recommend to all. The AGT is our umbrella organisation and its officers work tirelessly liaising with partner organisations such as English Heritage to promote and co-ordinate the work of county trusts, raising the profile of historic and designed landscapes. Martin Wakelin attended the 2010 AGM on the Isle of Wight on our behalf earlier this month and we can look forward to reading about this and current projects of AGT in a future newsletter.

Closer to home, the Programme & Publications Group organised a fantastic variety of winter lectures by nationally renowned speakers on the theme of *Animals in the Landscape*. Topics ranged from rabbits to the historic approach to the management of grass, on to exotic birds and menageries, then through to doves, their accommodation and the symbolism of doves in the landscape.

Special thanks too to Mr David Barker of Danbury and Mr and Mrs Jones of Billericay who so kindly opened up their gardens for summer evening visits. Numbers attending the guided trip to Coton Manor and The Menagerie at Horton in Northampton were a little disappointing. Nonetheless those that did go along had a fantastic day. Hopefully we can increase the numbers attending events over the coming year as this helps not only to encourage high calibre speakers to make the journey to Essex but also helps to defray their expenses. Thank you to the P & P group: Cassy McCleave, Gill Payne, Jill Raggett, Sally-Ann Turner, Rosie Welchman and Ailsa Wildig for their input and especially to Michele Freeman who coordinates the group, takes all of our bookings and ensures that everything runs smoothly.

Membership has declined slightly over the past year with the current membership number at c 250. Despite several gentle reminders from Vanessa our Membership Secretary, several people have not renewed their membership and so we have now reluctantly removed them from the mailing list. On the positive side, several new members have joined us and are already actively involved with the Research Group and the new Fund Raising sub Committee. We welcome these new members to the group as well as others who have joined to participate in garden visits and lectures. I should like to take this opportunity to thank Vanessa for her continuing patience and hard work not only ensuring that new members receive all the appropriate communications but also in keeping the Trustees up to date on the membership facts and figures.

The biannual Newsletter is core for many members and thank you to both Cassy McCleave and Andrew Westman for continuing to work on this together. I know some issues are harder work than others, but between them they always manage to persuade or otherwise cajole people to write informative and well researched articles that make excellent reading.

The Research Group has had an extremely busy and productive year. Thank you to Dr Michael Leach who collated and edited the Inventory of gardens of historic importance for the Maldon District Council Inventory. Although not one of the larger inventories so far produced, this nonetheless was a time consuming project that required much patience on Michael's part.

Spring 2010 saw the completion of eighteen months work by the Research Group on past associations of animals and birds with designed landscapes in Essex. This culminated in the publication of our latest book - *'The Living Landscape'*. Thank you to Twigs Way who cracked the whip, kept us all to our deadlines, corrected and commented on draft chapters for inclusion, and generally held the whole project together as well as editing and coordinating the publication of the book. Although EGT have already published an impressive range of books this is the first to have an ISBN number. This will enable it to be catalogued more easily in library collections and, it should also make it easier to sell through local independent bookshops. Thank you to Jill Plater for organising this. If you do not already have a copy or would like to purchase one (or more!) for Christmas and other gifts do please visit the book stall here at the AGM, or contact Michael Leach.

Special thanks are also due to Jill who has continued to coordinate the Research Group. This year the group has been working on a garden inventory for the Borough of Chelmsford. Earlier in the year Jill made a successful grant aid application on behalf of EGT to the Essex Heritage Fund who I am pleased to report agreed to donate £3,000.00 towards work on the Chelmsford Inventory. These monies will be used to help pay towards the costs of the technical input and guidance of Twigs Way without whom the project would not happen within a reasonable time frame, copies of original documents held in Essex Record Office and other archives and the production of the final document. Those District Councils that have already received an inventory from EGT have found them to be a really helpful tool within the planning system in highlighting what are often unrecognised designed landscapes of varying size. The on-going work on the Chelmsford Inventory has been greatly aided and enhanced by the production of GIS map overlays by Rob Adams. Rob is a long time member of the Research Group who has just completed his first degree at Writtle College. EGT was fortunate enough to be able to offer Rob a funded four week Graduate Internship the majority of the cost of which was funded by central government. Rob's skills in being able to marry up and overlay First Edition Ordnance Survey and even earlier Estate plans over modern day aerial photography and maps has made site interpretation so much more straightforward. Thank you to Writtle College for offering EGT this opportunity and to Rob for the hard work that he put into the project.

July 2010 saw the second year of EGT being able to sponsor several education days at the RHS Garden at Hyde Hall. By all accounts the arrival of wet weather that seemed to coincide with the start of the EGT sponsored trips in July did not dampen the children's spirits. Those of you who were at last year's AGM will have heard Jill Baker the RHS Education Officer talk about the value of garden visits for children of all backgrounds.

EGT funds the cost of transporting children to Rettendon. The high cost of the hire of a coach is often the factor that precludes schools from undertaking visits and Jill is able to 'target' the EGT offer at school catchment areas where she feels they would most struggle to fund the cost of transport. This year the fantastic number of 326 children from seven schools was able to attend. These were three Basildon primary schools in addition to schools from Wickford, Romford, Colchester and Chelmsford. Several schools were able to bring a whole year group – an aspect that was particularly appreciated by teachers as it enhances the further learning opportunities back in the classroom that arise from visits. It also meant that the overall number of children that EGT were able to bring to a garden this year increased considerably. Visiting pupils are fully accompanied by their teachers and the RHS staff but as sponsors we like to have at least two EGT members at each visit. This raises the awareness of the Trust with the teachers and older pupils as well as providing an extra pair of eyes and ears to help the children with their various planned activities. Thank you to Martin Wakelin for coordinating the sponsorship role and our link with Jill and her team at Hyde Hall and also for organising the EGT volunteers. We aim to make the school visits the focus of our fund raising in the next year or so so, any donations would be gratefully received. Martin would also welcome additional EGT helpers during the school visits in July 2011.

As one of the longest serving Trustees, Sandra Nicholson had to stand down from the Board for one year as required by our constitution. Nonetheless, Sandra kindly agreed to continue in her role as Conservation Officer and this past year has probably been one of the most time consuming in this regard. Not all members may be aware that the county gardens trusts

along with the Garden History Society are statutory consultees in relation to planning applications within, or affecting, historic designed landscapes that are included in the English Heritage *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England*. Proposed large scale development on the edge of Chelmsford and other planning applications elsewhere in the county have taken up a considerable amount of Sandra's time as she has prepared and submitted comments on behalf of EGT. I am delighted that Sandra has agreed to stand for re-election to the Board. Following on from a member's suggestion, Martin Wakelin, who has recently taken over the management of the EGT web site, is developing a page hi-lighting this aspect of the Trust's work. It is hoped that this will encourage a more proactive dialogue between owners of historic landscapes and EGT prior to planning consent submission.

Just before moving on to the forthcoming year I should like to especially mention Marian Fell our Administrator. Without her patience and good humour very little would actually be achieved. Marian is brilliant not only at writing meeting minutes, but also at anticipating what needs doing and when and, keeping all of the Trustees 'up to speed'. I should also like to single out our Treasurer Michael Meads for special thanks – Michael is completely unflappable and has what I have found to be a rare gift – the ability to explain maths in a comprehensible form!

An increase in the number of EGT members is a further core objective for the year ahead. To this end a new EGT leaflet has been produced to raise awareness of the activities of Essex Gardens Trust. Working with a committee is never easy and a very large vote of thanks goes out to Michelle Freeman, who worked so hard on the design and content of the leaflet for several months. The end result would not have been possible without the skills of Jelena Mone and the CADE team at Writtle College. Thank you too to Dr Jill Raggett of Writtle College for helping to organise this for the Trust. Please remember to mention EGT to your friends and encourage them to join. Membership application forms are available on the web site or by post from Vanessa Stopford.

I also hope that by this time next year we shall have found a new home for the EGT library. Over the years we have built up a fantastic collection of books that are so useful for reference when working on inventories or projects as well as for use by members pursuing their own studies. Special thanks to Denis Hance who each year donates his lecturing fees specifically to enable the Trust to purchase new books for the collection. During this past year we have purchased *Landscapes of Taste: The art of Humphry Repton's red books* by Andre Rogger and also been given a copy of *Richard Woods (1715-1793) Master Of The Pleasure Garden* by Dr Fiona Cowell.

We have also benefited from further donations of books from the collection of Fiona Cowell who is one of our founders and now lives in France. David Barker has also generously donated several books. In addition, we have received a bequest of books from the estate of the late Nancy Edwards. The EGT library is currently housed in Jelena Mone's office at Writtle. Although this is an accessible location enabling members to access the books by arrangement, the collection is unfortunately now taking up too much of Jelena's limited space. The Trustees are currently exploring options for storing the entire collection in another accessible location. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas do please contact me.

Lastly but by no means least, I should also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Trustees for the time and effort that they all put into EGT.

Fiona Wells  
Acting Chairman  
September 2010





**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2010**

	<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Grant and donations		45		560
Subscriptions				
Annual	2,368		2,550	
Life	-	-	-	
Gift-aid	-	2,368	407	2,957
Jim Stanton memorial lunch				109
Bank deposit interest		40	-	782
Book sales				
Paper Landscapes	7		21	
Historic Designed Landscapes	-		18	
Living Landscapes	699		-	
Rooted in Essex	93	799	96	135
Event income		1,352		1,287
AGM income		850		378
Sundry income		40		140
		<u>5,494</u>		<u>6,348</u>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Administration		1,469		1,771
Postage and telephone		177		585
Travel expenses		350		269
Insurance		200		189
Newsletter, printing and stationery		1,881		2,363
Subscriptions and registrations		284		266
Bank charges		128		-
Accountancy		217		184
Legal fees		282		-
AGT conference		320		275
Book costs				
Paper Landscapes	-		-	
Historic Designed Landscapes	-		-	
Living Landscapes	2,360		-	
Rooted in Essex	-	2,360	-	-
Archive group include inventory		2,536		1,750
Education including grants to schools		2,180		-
Library purchases		75		218
Cost of events		1,826		2,224
AGM costs		1,177		752
Other		283		143
		<u>15,745</u>		<u>10,989</u>
<b>(DEFICIT) OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>		<u>(10,251)</u>		<u>(4,641)</u>

**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF FUND MOVEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2010**

	<u>General</u> <u>Fund</u> £	<u>Library</u> <u>Fund</u> £	<u>Total</u> £
Balances at 1st July 2009	26,836	657	27,493
Archive group costs	(2,030)		(2,030)
Education costs	(2,180)		(2,180)
Other donations		(75)	(75)
Other net receipts	(6,006)	40	(5,966)
Balances at 30th June 2010	<u>16,620</u>	<u>622</u>	<u>17,242</u>

**Treasurer's Report**

1 The deficit of income over expenditure for the 12 months to 30th June 2010 was £10,251, but some of this was attributable to planned "one-off" expenditure such as the production of the Living Landscapes book, the new EGT promotional leaflet, and a donation of £2000 to RHS Garden Hyde Hall

2 The value of subscriptions was down by approximately 7% compared to 2008/9, reflecting perhaps the general recession in the economy. There was no increase in subscription fees during the year

3 Our reserves now stand at £17,242, and may continue to diminish, but a committee is looking at further fund raising, and since the year end the Trust has received a grant of £3000 from the Essex Heritage Trust

4 Essex Gardens Trust has pledged to make a further donation of £2000 to RHS Garden Hyde Hall during the 2010/2011 financial year

**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 30TH JUNE 2010**

	<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Bank Accounts				
CAF Bank cash account	500		500	
CAF Bank gold account	17,186		23,155	
NatWest current account	<u>82</u>		<u>3,662</u>	
		17,768		27,317
Debtors and prepayments		507		360
		<u>18,275</u>		<u>27,677</u>
Less Creditors Amounts falling due within one year		1,033		184
		<u>17,242</u>		<u>27,493</u>
<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>				
Balance At 1st July 2009		27,493		32,134
(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments		(10,251)		(4,641)
		<u>17,242</u>		<u>27,493</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30th June 2010

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30th June 2010 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

The financial statements were approved by the directors on 7th September 2010 and were signed by

Director  
F Wells Acting Chairman

Director  
M R Meads Treasurer

**ESSEX GARDENS TRUST**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2010**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Essex Garden Trust**

We report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 2010, which are set out on the previous pages

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed

It is our responsibility to

- a examine the accounts (under section 43 of the Act)
- b to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7) of the Act), and
- c to state whether particular matters have come to our attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiners's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention

- 1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that

proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act), and

accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act, or

- 2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



M Burwood ACA  
A S A P Accounting Services Ltd  
Chartered Accountants

Date 7 September 2010