

## **Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements**

for the Year ended 31 October 2021

Registered Charity No: 1004009/SC041785 Company Registered No 2222953 Patron

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

President	Alan Titchmarsh				
	Vice-Presidents Lawrence Banks Christopher Brickell Jamie Compton Lady Hamilton Roy Lancaster Sir Roy Strong				
	<b>Trustees</b> Mrs C Bufton (Chairman) Mr J Marshall (Vice Chairman) Mr G Morgan (Treasurer) Mrs C Penny Mrs E Crawforth Mrs S Nex Ms E Fontaine Ms H Triggs Mr A Stones Ms P Bracken Mrs M Lloyd				
Charity Number	1004009/SC041785				
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# **Annual General Meeting 2022**

All members of Plant Heritage have been invited to meet members of the Board (who are Trustees of Plant Heritage) and ask questions on past performance and future plans at the 2022 Annual General Meeting which will be a virtual event on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

Questions about anything contained in this report or the accompanying Financial Statements, should be addressed to the Chairman, by email chairman@plantheritage.org.uk or if that is not possible, by mail Plant Heritage, 12 Home Farm, Loseley Park, Guildford GU3 1HS, or telephone 01483 447540.

## **President's Remarks**

# March 2022

We need enthusiasts in life: folk who are prepared to pursue their passion come what may. When that passion involves plants, then not only does the enthusiast benefit, but nature itself and gardeners across the globe are enriched by the efforts of individuals who care. Last year 47 new plant collections were accredited, bringing the total to 690, but there are still individual groups of plants needing to be taken to someone's heart and safeguarded for future generations.

Plant Heritage is a meeting place for these enthusiasts – people like Roger Hammond whose National Collection of *Epimedium* has won him this year's Brickell Award for 30 years of commitment to a genus that he clearly loves and treasures. Roger tends 45 species and 180 cultivars of *Epimedium*, and he is not alone in caring for a group of plants he reveres. Hundreds more gardeners do their bit to conserve valuable plant material and a gene pool whose riches are of immeasurable, though often underrated, value.

Sometimes would-be collection holders face a daunting task. That did not put Louise Danks off re-locating 2,000 individual dahlia plants from the National Collection in Penzance, Cornwall, to a different part of the county. She cajoled 30 friends into helping her and the result is that the collection is now under her care as a newly accredited collection holder in Camborne.

It would be a mistake to imagine that only institutions and grand gardens can play host to National Collections. Some – such as *Kniphofia* and *Echinops* - are cultivated on allotments. Andrew Gladman is hosting them in Warwickshire. Five new plant collections have found their home on council-administered plots, proving that anyone with dedication and know-how can do their bit for conservation regardless of the modesty of their patch of earth. Julian Reed's Sevenoaks allotment plays host to a National Collection of ferns – *Polystichum* – while Adrian Thorne cultivates part of his *Actaea* and *Veronica* (*Parahebe*) collections on his own Kent allotment.

Could you do the same? If there's a group of plants you love and you have access to a suitable patch of ground, why not make enquiries and contribute to an important and ever-growing initiative to save our garden plants for future generations.

Plant Heritage's efforts have been recognized this year by the award of a Heritage Lottery Grant of £68k towards the completion of our vital recording system so that data can be stored and accessed more efficiently. For the first time in 8 years our membership grew but, as ever, there is always room for more enthusiasts, like those in Ireland who have been accredited as the Irish Heritage Plants National Plant Collection, which celebrates Ireland's rich horticultural heritage in 75 different locations, conserving plants with an Irish connection, from the well-known Irish yew to *Iris* 'Kilbroney Marble' – a real rarity with only one listed supplier.

Ventnor Botanic Garden on the Isle of Wight has been awarded National Collection status for its palm trees – some of them dating back to the 1860s. With global warming an ever-growing concern, palms are capable of withstanding outdoor temperatures in the UK far more readily than they were a century or more ago and monitoring their progress at Ventnor will give us a clearer picture of their likely impact on our landscape in the future.

So, you see, Plant Heritage is not simply there to preserve old plants in aspic; it is a vibrant, go-ahead organisation keen to recognise the ongoing value of a wide range of garden plants and to demonstrate the need to move forward with as rich and as diverse a plant palette as possible, not just for decorative reasons, but for the very survival and improvement of our botanical riches and legacy.

Worthwhile? I should say so.

Alan Titchmarsh MBE VMH DL President

# **Chairman's Review**

Conserving the diversity of cultivated plants is essential to all our futures. The plants grown in National Plant Collections<sup>®</sup> or held by Plant Guardians<sup>®</sup> contain unique combinations of genetic material which are the legacy of generations of plant collectors and breeders who have built our nation's rich and unique horticultural landscape. The work of Plant Heritage spans four decades and in the light of climate change and an increasingly urban society, which values horticulture as important to its health and well-being, the charity's work is as important now as it was in the 1970s, when the charity's founders identified that a significant part of the nation's rich horticultural heritage was at risk of disappearing.

Our work is spearheaded by a network of National Collection Holders who come from all walks of life and live across the length and breadth of the British Isles. The beauty of the National Plant Collections is that anyone who has an interest, passion or expertise in a certain group of plants, whether amateur or professional can potentially become a collection holder. In doing so they curate and cultivate their own living collection which then forms part of the largest living collection of garden plants held outside botanical institutions in the UK.

Our National Collection Holders are supported by a dedicated Central Office team including three Plant Conservation specialists who provide technical support across the British Isles. This network is strengthened by our regional network of volunteer Collection Coordinators who regularly visit Collection Holders whilst also seeking out new and potential collections. All applications are then

### What are the threats to our garden plants?

#### Changing fashions

Changes in styles of planting and taste can cause groups of plants to go out of fashion. We don't want to lose the range of cultivars available for when they inevitably come back into fashion.

#### Changes to the plant sales trade

The requirement for plants to be of a specific size and in flower at the point of sale by garden centres and supermarkets can lead to a diminution of the range of plants grown in our gardens. We are also losing specialist plant nurseries who carry a much wider range of plants.

#### Climate change

Climate change over time will have a continuing effect on the range of cultivated plants available to the UK.

#### Pests and pathogens

Due to the nature of modern trade and travel there is an increasing risk of new pests and diseases being introduced to the UK. Recent examples of these include box blight, ash dieback, and agapanthus gall midge.

#### Loss of propagation or cultivation skills

A lack of horticultural skills, particularly in propagation, is causing a loss in the availability of specialist cultivated plants.

guided through the process by the Plant Conservation Committee. Members of this committee are independent advisers, experts in taxonomy, horticulture, botany and the horticultural trade and area group representatives, all volunteers who freely give their time to ensure National Plant Collections are maintained and looked after to a consistent standard.

The Threatened Plants Programme underpins our conservation work and is an ongoing research initiative which identifies plants threatened and worthy of conserving. The Plant Guardian<sup>®</sup> scheme encourages members to actively seek out and conserve individual plants. Plant Heritage's education objective is delivered by both our regional groups and the Central Office through a diverse range of events, shows, publications, workshops and other activities. In 2021, many of these were delivered virtually. As a charity, Plant Heritage is funded through membership subscriptions, donations from individuals and industry, sponsorship and donations from charitable trusts.

The coronavirus pandemic interrupted, once again many of the plans of the charity with many of the shows and fundraising activities of Groups and Central Office being cancelled. As of March 2022, most restrictions have been lifted and whilst we can't be certain they won't return we are now more confident that we can get back to our normal activities, which should help with our fundraising programme in 2022.

Whilst lockdowns reduced opportunities to meet face to face, our work to keep in touch with members with virtual talks, organised by central office and local groups, in addition to our regular e-newletters and printed materials has been well received and contributed to our membership growing in 2020/21 for the first time in 8 years. Some local groups also started their own virtual talks and hybrid meetings.

The Conservation Committee took on the task reviewing and updating our Conservation Strategy, with a final version sent to members in March 2022. Detailed workplans have been identified to help us achieve these strategic aims. The Conservation team also consulted National Collection Holders on their use of peat, to inform our response to the Government's Consultation Document. As we move away from using peat-based products, Plant Heritage plans to help members identify suitable alternative growing media and understand the differences in plant growing techniques that may be required

We were able to run the Threatened Plant of the Year competition for the second year and were delighted to be able to award the judges' prize in person to Peter Westbrook, at the RHS Hampton Court Garden Festival. We were delighted to have been awarded an RHS Gold medal for our display at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2021. With the RHS moving the flower show to Autumn, plants that never get to shine at the usual Spring event, such as *Canna*, *Hedychium* and *Salvia* came into their own and helped us showcase how National Plant Collections can be held in a variety of different environments and be of any size. Our Seed Shop, with the donation of rhizomes of Irises bred by Sir Cedric Morris, at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival was also a great financial success, raising more than £12,000 in donations for seed collected our members.

Staff and the volunteer Persephone working group have made good progress on rebuilding of our Persephone plant collection recording tool and work to transfer the development and maintenance of the software to a commercial organisation is now almost complete. The refreshed system consolidates and improves existing features whilst adding a number of new elements requested by existing users of the software. Work continues to train users and test the new system.

In December 2021 we were notified that Plant Heritage has been awarded National Lottery funding to launch a digital volunteering initiative and break down barriers to heritage. We were one of seventeen projects awarded funding to create digital volunteering opportunities, supporting volunteers to develop and contribute their digital skills. Our project, *Saving and sharing our digital plant heritage*, will recruit and train 15 new volunteers to provide support for the network of collection holders in getting records digitised and stored consistently on to Persephone.

There were no resignations from the Board in 2020 and two additions, with Phoebe Bracken (confirmed at the April 2021 AGM) and Mandy Lloyd (to be confirmed at the April 2022 AGM) joining the Trustee body. Emma Fontaine resigned from the Board in February 2022.

Our Mission is to conserve the rich diversity of cultivated plants in the UK and Ireland but this would not be possible without the commitment of our staff, members, National Collection Holders, Groups and all who volunteer their time and expertise to support and spread the word of our essential work. I would like to record the collective thanks to you all, from the Board of Trustees.

Cecilia Bufton Chairman

# **Trustees Report – Objectives and Achievements**

The Board, who are the Trustees of Plant Heritage ("the Charity"), present their annual report for the year ended 31 October 2021, prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the small companies regime s419(2) Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

# **Objectives:**

Plant Heritage's charitable purposes seek to

- promote the conservation of cultivated plants with a focus on endangered or rare garden plants
- encourage and carry out research into the cultivation of rare or endangered plants and related information
- encourage the education of the public in horticultural skills, particularly with regards to cultivated plant conservation
- encourage the introduction and the propagation of rare, cultivated plants not represented in the UK, within the law

We aim to do this by:

- Conserving our horticultural heritage by keeping living examples of plants in the **National Plant Collections**<sup>®</sup> scheme which enables us to coordinate collections, ranging from cultivated and species, to historical, heritage and scientific
- Identifying cultivars at the highest risk of extinction, with the ambition that these can be conserved. We do this through our **Threatened Plants Programme™**
- Encouraging individuals to conserve individual plants in the **Plant Guardian**<sup>®</sup> scheme, a register of holders of rare and unusual plants
- Sharing rare plants with gardeners across the UK, through our annual **Plant Exchange**<sup>™</sup>
- Documenting and recording collections of rare plants. This is done by our National Collection Holders and Plant Guardians and in our publications such as the *Directory, The Journal,* and through our online plant recording database **Persephone**
- Increasing the variety of garden plants available for gardens in the UK through supporting and undertaking group propagation activities and plant sales
- Ensuring rare plants and collections are supported in perpetuity (for future generations)
- Supporting Plant Guardians and National Collection Holders in their conservation work
- Educating the public in the importance of our work
- Working in partnership with organisations that can support our objectives
- Raising **funds** to support this work

# Achievements:

# **Our Conservation Work**

Plants growing in gardens might seem safer than those in the wild, but they can easily be lost forever if nobody is looking after them. Plant Heritage is the only organisation with the aim of conserving garden plants across the British Isles and Ireland.

Our cultivated flora is incredibly rich, resulting from development and care over centuries by dedicated gardeners. The heritage contained in these living organisms can only be preserved by active gardeners in living collections. These plants are a valuable historical and future resource, whether for their beauty, or having edible, medicinal or other useful properties. Each has a unique genetic code making it impossible to replace if lost. Conservation of a diverse range of plants underpins our resilience to a changing world, while meeting challenges such as climate change, pests and diseases and biodiversity loss.

Our conservation work is carried out in line with a five-year strategy that helps us to keep to the highest conservation standards and is delivered through working with National Plant Collection<sup>®</sup> holders, our volunteers and supporters.

Our conservation strategy aims to:

- increase the number of cultivated plants conserved
- develop and maintain good standards of curation
- inform and engage others with our conservation work
- influence global thinking on issues around plant conservation

## Why do we do it?

Plants have always been selected and bred, whether for their beauty, flavour, scent or other reasons. This breeding involves an enormity of human effort and inventiveness that is wasted if the plants cease to be grown.

Climate change, the advance of new pests and diseases, loss of gardens, a diminishing nursery trade and lack of knowledge in the general population all conspire to reduce the diversity of our garden flora. If garden plants go, a tantalising slice of social, cultural and horticultural history dies with them.

We believe that cultivated plants deserve to be a target for conservation. Each one contains a unique combination of genetic material and is testament to human effort and inventiveness.

## How do we do it?

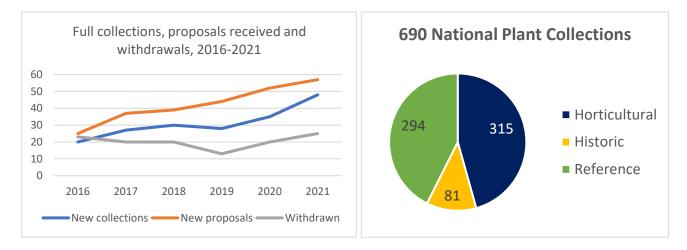
## **National Plant Collections®**

National Plant Collections are held by individuals or organisations who undertake to document, develop and conserve a comprehensive collection of plants within a defined scope and hold them in trust for the future. The scope can be defined botanically by plant group, either taxonomically, such as all the *Penstemon* cultivars or *Rhododendron* subsect. *Falconera*; or have a shared history such as plants collected by Harold Comber; or a geographic link, such as North West English cultivars. Plant Heritage supports collectors, helping them to tend, monitor and share their collection, guaranteeing the preservation of our garden flora. Members of our Groups all over the country, work together propagating plants and running plant exchanges and sales for funding. The groups also provide collection co-ordinators to advise the collectors and assess the collections.

The National Plant Collections scheme is overseen by the Plant Collections Committee, a sub-committee of the Board, whose members are independent advisers, experts in taxonomy, horticulture, botany and the horticultural trade and area group volunteers. The committee rigorously assesses new applications for scope and coverage.

There were 47 new National Plant Collections accredited in 2021, up from 35 in 2020. There has also been two new scientific collection accredited, as well as 57 new proposals for collections. There were 690 Collections as of December 2021, of which 315 were Horticultural, 294 Reference and 81 Historic collections, with 19 having been awarded Scientific status.

24 collections were withdrawn, but thanks to our policy of encouraging Collection Holders to prepare for the time when they can no longer look after their collection, 7 of these collections have been safely transferred to new owners and a further 4 have offered plant material to secure their future



National Plant Collections are made available for people to view, either by appointment, on special open days or as part of a garden open to the public. They contain about 95,000 plants, held across the 690 collections. Together this represents a huge resource for gardeners, nurserymen, garden designers, researchers, plant breeders and those interested in historical gardens and landscapes. Having these plants part of a registered conservation scheme ensures that they will be a resource for generations to come.

National Plant Collections are valuable for assessing the best cultivars for gardeners to enjoy and are used for scientific research, as a source of live plants and genetic material available for investigating a group of plants. They also provide insurance, being "living libraries" of the genetic diversity of garden plants. There are still some important groups of garden plants that are not represented in National Collections.

## Missing genera campaign

The 'Missing Genera' campaign, launched in 2016, encourages people with a passion for plants to bring together a National Plant Collection of their own and join the Plant Heritage community in growing, sharing and saving plants.

From 2016 to 2021 we have highlighted 45 plant groups; eleven of these are now the subject of new National Plant Collections (*Achillea, Arisaema, Aeonium, Gingko, Alcea, Eryngium, Tradescantia, Echinops, Verbena, Hoya, Cosmos*). This equates to a 24% success rate on new National Collections accredited from this campaign.

## **Threatened Plants Programme**

The Threatened Plants Programme (TPP) tracks the locations and availability of garden cultivars and works out how rare or threatened they are. Information from the Threatened Plants Programme helps collection holders prioritise their sourcing and propagation.

Work has been ongoing to integrate data from National Collections, public and botanic gardens and our other conservation schemes, to facilitate provision of reports for collections and in 2021, 29 reports were written for new collection holders.

*Hemerocallis* was recently assessed as part of this. Nine National Collections hold 2,605 cultivars of daylily. These represent 39% of all known *Hemerocallis* which have been grown in the UK or Ireland and cover 67% of those Threatened in cultivation. Even across their diverse scopes, 24% of cultivars held are duplicated between current Collections.

The work of the TPP and Plant Heritage was cited as a methodology for tracking the genetic resource of cultivated plants in the 2021 Nature Scot report 'Scotland's Biodiversity Progress to 2020 Aichi Targets'

## Plant Guardians®

To preserve plants, it is essential that we keep them growing in gardens. Plant Heritage encourages members to take active part in conservation work by becoming a Plant Guardian. Through the scheme, rare plants are grown in multiple locations as an insurance against loss. Plant Heritage retains a record of plants in guardianship and encourages Plant Guardians to propagate the plants they are caring for and share them with other members via plant sales and the Plant Exchange. New plants recorded this year include *Tropaeolum* 'Hermine Grashoff', noted in 1880 to be 'of considerable value for decorative purposes' and *Santolina* 'Weston' – awarded an AGM at the Chelsea Flower show of 1966.

We have 1,844 plants in the Plant Guardian scheme, with over 300 new registrations in 2021. These plants are held by the 157 registered Plant Guardians. There are 386 cultivars, recorded in over 500 locations, highlighted as "red label plants", threatened in cultivation by the Threatened Plants Programme.

## **Plant Exchange**

The best way to conserve rare plants is to propagate and share them. The Plant Exchange enables hard to find plants being cultivated and conserved by members around the country to be shared with other members. By distributing plants around the country, we can re-establish plants in danger of being lost and give members the chance to get hold of something rare or unusual. We encourage members to propagate these plants and pass them on, to help secure their future.

We were unable to hold the Exchange in 2020 due to the pandemic, and to ensure it could happen in 2021, a one-off event was held at Hill Close Gardens, Warwickshire. Twenty-three Plant Heritage Groups participated, finding new homes for 1,040 plants, including 135 threatened taxa.

## **Brickell Award**

The Brickell award recognises the vital plant conservation work undertaken by Collection Holders to secure plants in cultivation, for example through the rediscovery and propagation of lost taxa and is awarded to those considered to have demonstrated excellence in this field.

The Brickell Award winner 2021 was announced at the RHS Hampton Court Garden Festival, with Roger Hammond, National Collection Holder of *Epimedium*, the recipient of the prestigious award. Roger has built (from scratch) one of the largest collections of *Epimedium* in the country and is fast becoming one of the leading authorities on the genus, making him this year's worthy recipient.

The Award judges commended Roger's deep and ongoing commitment to *Epimedium* over the last 30 years and recognised his successes in the propagation and cultivation of this genus. Roger has built up his collection in his small private garden in Essex, which now contains 45 species and 180 cultivars of *Epimedium*.

## **Digital Recording**

It is important that we record the information gathered by National Collections Holders to create an enduring resource for the future. The use of the Persephone online recording system, which is the preferred method for recording the National Plant Collections, continued to grow and we now have 324 full and proposed Collections on the system. All new applications are being added to Persephone and all proposals for new collections are being supported with getting their records onto the system.

As of December 2021, there are over 48,039 accessions recorded on Persephone along with an increasing library of photographs and other information about collections. Development of the upgraded version made good progress throughout the year, and it is anticipated that the new version will launch in Autumn of 2022, after testing and user training

The Board would like to record its thanks to the whole working group for the hours they continue to give towards this project.

## **Support for Collections**

There were 7 recipients of Plant Heritage bursaries in 2021, with projects ranging from installing rainwater irrigation, improving interpretation and protecting collections from the elements. Some local groups provided bursaries to collection holders and 5 collections received monies via these schemes.

## **Collection Holder's conference**

In November, we held our first, virtual collection holder conference, necessitated by the pandemic. Over 120 people signed up for the event, held on Zoom over two half days. Each day featured talks from collection holders, as well as guests including Tim Upson (RHS) and Fergus Garrett (Great Dixter). There were short workshops on Persephone, growing media, promoting your collection and researching your collection.

## Workshops

Many of our regular workshop plans had to be put on hold. We have been running virtual training and workshops for Persephone, taxonomy for beginners, photography, library research and researching your collection. More virtual workshops have been planned for the winter.

## **Collection Coordinators**

We are delighted that we were able to recruit additional volunteer Collection Coordinators in 2021 and now have 42, with vacancies now in 3 areas.

## **Policy Work**

Plant Heritage has participated in the UK Plant Genetic Resource group and contributed plant data on some collections to the EURISCO genetic resource database.

We have also inputted into the government consultation on biosecurity and are working on a response to the government peat consultation.

## **Raising Public Awareness of the Need for Plant Conservation**

By letting others know about what we do, we can gain their support for plant conservation, so Plant Heritage is actively engaged in sharing expertise. We continue to produce our in-print publications as we increase our presence on social media and we exhibit at many local and national shows.

## **Membership and Volunteers**

Trustees are delighted to report that membership has increased by 4.2% to 3,467. This is the first year of increase since 2012/13. We have recruited 444 new members this year and the loss of members this year is also the lowest recorded loss for many years.

Our increased recruitment overall is testament to

- the efforts of our groups to hold events and plant fairs in the summer and to keep in touch,
- a strong programme of virtual talks for both members and the public
- the wider awareness of the activities of Plant Heritage, through publicity both locally and centrally, and by press and social media coverage
- plus possibly a reflection of the increased interest in plants and gardening during the pandemic.

Members are usually encouraged to participate in the activities of their local Group, of which there are 28 across the UK. These groups are run by volunteer committees who put in a tremendous amount of effort to organise interesting activities for their members and raise funds for the charity. Due to the pandemic most group events (except virtual talks) were cancelled until May 2021, then groups cautiously restarted their programmes of talks (some as hybrid events), plant fairs, visits and open days, which resulted in local group membership recruitment.

The Board is extremely grateful to each and every volunteer for the time and resources they give so generously to the charity. Their value comes from the skills, experience and support provided by them, whether it is the direct help they give to the staff, or the Collections Coordinators who play such an important role with the National Collection Holders. Volunteers are also vital to the success of all local

group activities and provide the manpower needed to support activities such as shows and our seed shop.

### **Related Parties**

The charity has two affiliated groups (Isle of Man and Guernsey) that share the same objectives as Plant Heritage, who generously support our work. The charity also has links with the Wiltshire Gardens Trust who also support our work, and the Irish Garden Plants Society.

## **Publications, Shows and Campaigns**

### Website

The new website continues to promote and facilitate interest in Plant Heritage, particularly in the missing genera campaign, finding out about National Collections and forthcoming events. From data over a comparable period there has been a 34% increase in users of the website. The website shop has seen increased activity too.

## **Annual Directory**

The annual Directory of National Plant Collections 2021 listed all National Plant Collections with details of the Collection Holder and information about when the Collection is open. This is issued free to members, but the information can also be accessed on our website so is freely available to the general public. We encourage members and the public to visit the National Collections to see for themselves the conservation efforts of the Collection Holders, and to see the wide range of plants that are being conserved. We thank all our National Collection Holders for opening their collections to the public. All collections are accessible to visitors whether by appointment, through specific open days, or business open days.

## The Journal

We published two issues of The Journal with a continued focus on the work of Collection Holders undertaking conservation in action and how education in the widest sense is at the heart of what we do. We are grateful for the continuing work of our editor Clare Hogan in delivering this publication.

### **E-newsletters**

In 2021 we sent 6 e-newsletters (3 focussed on member news and 3 focussed on news for Collection Holders with additional specific event focused e-newsletters, to keep our membership to date with news and events; and collection holders informed on legal, policy and regulatory matters.

## Shows

RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival was the first national show since 2019. The Plant Heritage zone included a display of *Aeonium* by Mellie Lewis, *Aspidistra* by Philip Oostenbrink, *Hosta* (miniature and small) by Jonathan Hogarth, *Hemerocallis* by Paul Harris, *Hypericum* by Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, a display by Julian Reed of *Polypodium*, *Polystichum* and *Athyrium*, which was awarded Best Plant Heritage Exhibit and Barry Clarke showed four of his National Plant Collections. A full display of The Threatened Plant of the Year competition was featured, with the Plant Heritage Seed Shop raising a record amount of funds to support our conservation work. Thank you to all volunteers who helped at this show and to members who donated seed.

For the first time ever the RHS Chelsea Flower Show was held in September 2021. We had a display in the Discovery Zone entitled 'National Plant Collections Everywhere' designed by Collection Holder Jackie Currie and laid out by the Euphorbia Design team, with some collections on display at RHS Chelsea for the first time. The Urban Jungle and the Potted Paradise featured *Hedychium, Canna, Solonestemon, Salvia, Penstemon* and *Nerine*. A boutique indoor area included *Chlorophytum, Peperomia, Crassula, Streptocarpus* and *Neoregelia*. We were delighted to be awarded an RHS Gold Medal and thank the design team along with all the National Collection holders and volunteers who contributed.

We thank the RHS for their support at these shows.

### **Regional Shows and local plant fairs**

Plans by local groups at regional shows were generally cancelled particularly in the spring. The Worcestershire Group show team who previously created displays at RHS Malvern show retired. Displays were not at the Harrogate and Yorkshire shows, nor Gardeners World Live, nor the Shrewsbury Show in 2021. The Suffolk Group held a plant fair at Helmingham Hall.

Local groups were unable to hold spring plant fairs but where possible started to hold plant fairs in the summer and autumn months. Some local group members continued to hold kerb side plant sales where conditions permitted raising some funds locally.

### Seed Shop

The Plant Heritage Seed Shop was a great success in 2021 raising money from donations at the RHS Hampton Court Garden Festival, RHS Chelsea Flower Show and at other plant fairs around the country. In addition, seeds are available in the online shop.

### **Threatened Plant of the Year Competition**

The Threatened Plant of the Year competition was run for the second year and the judging carried out at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival. The competition, established in 2020, aims to highlight the message that cultivars can be lost if not actively grown. A secondary aim will be to attempt the reintroduction of winners and those shortlisted plants where possible. 12 entries were shortlisted and published on our website. *Camellia x williamsii* 'Yesterday', was the judges' winner and *Aspidistra* 'Irish Mist' was the winner of the public vote.

### Virtual talks programme

Our programme of virtual events continued in 2021 with approximately 50 webinars run in the year by groups and central office, with over 4,440 attendees. Our data shows that more than 26% of our members engaged in these talks throughout the year. Most were open to all for a small charge with some free for our members only. The added benefit has been to introduce more people to Plant Heritage and to increase awareness of our work. We estimate that we gained 90 new memberships related to the online talks. We continued to support our local groups run their events virtually too.

### Shows and talks plans for 2022

In 2022 we plan a display in the Discovery Zone at RHS Chelsea Show showcasing the research of four Collection Holders (was cancelled in 2020/21). Our usual Plant Heritage zone at RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival is also planned, to include a display of the Threatened Plant of the Year

### competition.

We plan to hold a Members Day & Plant Exchange, at Renishaw Hall & Gardens in Derbyshire on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022. We are also delighted that Arabella Lennox-Boyd, will open her garden at Gresgarth Hall, in aid of Plant Heritage on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

We also plan to continue with virtual zoom talks, and virtual workshops.

## Social media

Our website www.plantheritage.org.uk continues to be the main way we provide online information about the National Plant Collections around the country, how to apply for a collection or register a Plant Guardian, and also information about our 28 regional groups, 4 areas with local representatives, affiliated groups and their activities.

Plant Heritage's social media presence is through Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. The wordpress blog is also available.

Instagram https://www.instagram.com/plantheritage/	3009 followers
Facebook https://www.facebook.com/OurPlantHeritage	5250 followers
Twitter https://twitter.com/plantheritage	15.6K followers

The Plant Heritage e-newsletters keep members and others informed of news and events and encourage the public to visit National Collections and get involved in conservation. Meanwhile Twitter, Instagram and Facebook continue to be used to engage the general public and horticulturalists through promoting an understanding of the diversity of garden plants and the need for conserving them.

### **Press coverage**

Between November 2020 and October 2021, 190 items of media coverage about Plant Heritage were achieved, with an estimated total audience reach of over 245 million. This surpasses the previous year's total of 160 items of coverage with an estimated audience reach of 129 million. PR & Media coverage has been identified as attracting new members and has been noted by some groups as increasing interest in local activities too

Items of coverage include:

- 28 broadcast interviews by Plant Heritage staff, National Plant Collection (NPC) Holders and National Collection Coordinators
- Four national newspaper articles, from The Sunday Telegraph to The Irish Times
- 18 regional newspaper articles published local stories, such as the Brentwood Gazette covering Roger Hammond's Brickell Award win and the Isle of Wight Observer covering Ventnor Botanic Garden's new palm tree NPC
- 62 magazine features, including a four-page spread in Woman & Home about five NPC Holders
- 78 online articles, including 22 items about the Missing Genera 2021

### Top stories promoted since September 2020 include:

### Plant Heritage at RHS Chelsea

**Irish Heritage Plants - new National Plant Collection -** published by over 16 outlets to date. The story was also published in national newspaper, The Irish News, in Country Life magazine, and online on The Irish Times, The Irish News, HortWeek and www.GrowTrade.ie.

**September National Plant Collections with a focus on allotments** – another popular story, with nine items of media coverage - six interviews broadcast across BBC Radio Kent and BBC Radio Wiltshire, and three online articles including The Sun Gardening. Articles in Garden News, Garden Answers magazines, Countryfile magazine and The Daily Telegraph are in progress at the time of reporting.

# **Treasurer's Financial Review**

The year has been one of transition as the impact of COVID-19 slowly recedes. Plant Heritage has again demonstrated financial resilience with overall income of £410,095 (£400,213 in 2020) and expenditure of £341,747 (£347,870 in 2020). The net surplus for the year was therefore £68,348 compared to a net surplus of £52,343 in 2020.

## **Incoming resources**

Income from Donations and Legacies held up well in 2021 with income of £156,312 compared with £177,879 in 2020 which was an exceptional year including income from legacies of £71,603, 17% higher than the £61,000 in 2020. With continued uncertainty in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic during the first part of the year, income from charitable activities (Membership, Shows, Educational Meetings and Events) increased to £237,796 which is a 17% increase on the prior year total of £203,782 but down on 2019.

## **Resources expended**

Plant Heritage spent a total of £341,747 (£347,870 in 2020) on Charitable Activities, Fundraising and Governance in 2021. Charitable expenditure, including on plant conservation was £299,657 (2020: £303,426). The costs of generating funds was £42,090 (£44,444 in 2020).

## Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets include the cost of website development work as well as the costs of development of Persephone 2.0. These amounted to £41,490 during the year.

## **Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use, should be maintained at a level equivalent to six months general operating costs, including salaries. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year and there are a further £284,291 of reserves designated towards specific purposes. These funds include £30,000 towards the development of a new CRM and other necessary IT expenditure, £15,000 towards the costs of a future office move, and a £60,000 risk reserve to provide a cushion against possible future sudden changes in the Charity's operating environment similar to that presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. After these designations, the Charity has free reserves in the General Fund of £244,590 representing nearly 8 months of total annual expenditure.

## **Going Concern**

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the wider economy during 2020 and 2021 and has impacted on the Charity's operations with more remote working, limited ability to have and attend Shows and with Events being limited to virtual channels for much of the time however, the result for this financial year and last demonstrated the Charity's adaptability, and financial strength. Given this we consider our operations to be sustainable and that there is an optimistic outlook with no material uncertainty. The Charity has a healthy reserves position and has met its free reserves target and has also put aside designated funds to mitigate the risks of any similar sudden future change to the Charity's operating environment. The Charity also carefully manages its working capital position and maintains a healthy cash position.

The Trustees have also considered the Charity's plans including investment in Persephone 2.0 for 2022 and are of the view that the level of net current assets and liquid funds are sufficient to ensure future operations and that the Charity is a going concern.

## **Fundraising Activities**

### **Donations and Sponsorships**

Plant Heritage is indebted to its supporters, sponsors and advertisers – we thank them all for their generous support and in particular:

Griffin Glasshouses Johnsons Seeds Burpee Europe Ltd Melcourt Industries Ltd

Plant Heritage gratefully acknowledges grants and donations from the following charitable trusts and foundations, which help to support our core conservation work as well as the Threatened Plants Programme, National Collection Holder and membership workshops, the Plant Guardians scheme and our Persephone development work.

Sir Jeremiah Colman Gift Trust Esmée Fairbairn Foundation Hawthorne Charitable Trust Topinambour Trust Goulburn Charitable Trust William Dean Trust PF Charitable Trust Tanner Trust Anson Charitable Trust Mrs A A Clutterbuck's Charitable Trust

Donation from the Heather Society as the society closed, to help further work with heathers and to support plant conservation

### **Income from legacies**

We received income from three legacies this year, from members. We would like to express our gratitude to Rosemary Day, Gillian Barwick and the estate of Joan Tolley for helping us to save our cultivated plants for future generations.

## **Corporate Members**

We are grateful for the continued support of our Gold Corporate Members in 2021:

Barton Grange Garden Centre Candide Ltd Shanly Homes

We are also grateful for the continued support of our Bronze Corporate supporters:

Arboricultural Association	Floral Tours
Bayntun Flowers	Griffin Glasshouses
Broadband UK	Johnsons Seeds
Brother UK	Melcourt Industries Ltd
Canonteign Falls	National Trust Middlethorpe Hall
Capital Gardens Ltd	Prickly Fish Farm
Crafty Plants	Serenata Flowers
Doddington Place Gardens	Todd's Botanics

## **Transfers from Groups**

Despite another very challenging year, we remain very grateful for the generosity and creativity of our groups who, despite the continued challenges of the pandemic in the financial year, remained focused on engaging with Plant Heritage members and raising funds for our work.

The charity recognises the commitment and hard work put in by the members of the area groups who fundraise throughout the year and generously pass these contributions on to support the core work of the charity. In all, Groups transferred £21,026 (2020: £66,591) to Central Office. In another challenging year, the Groups made a profit of £30,254 (2020: loss of £227). Plant Heritage is also grateful to its affiliated groups in Guernsey and Manx, and the Wiltshire Gardens Trust who provide financial support.

# Structure, Governance and Management

Plant Heritage is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, adopted on 2 February 1988, amended in April 2004, April 2010 and July 2018

## **Directors and Trustees**

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the overall governance of the charity. The Trustees are also the Directors of the Limited Company. Trustees are appointed by the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). At each AGM, one-third of the directors must retire from office. The directors to retire by rotation must be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment. A director must retire after serving a total of eight years, consecutive or otherwise.

The following served during the year 2020-2021:

Mrs Cecilia Bufton	Chairman
	Appointed 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2017, re-appointed 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
Mr James Muir Marshall	Vice-Chairman
	Appointed 18 April 2018, re-appointed 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
Mr Gareth Morgan	Treasurer
	Appointed 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2020, confirmed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Mrs Catherine Penny	Appointed 5 October 2017, re-appointed 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
Mrs Emma Crawforth	Appointed 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2018, re-appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Mrs Sally Nex	Appointed 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2018, re-appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Ms Helen Triggs	Appointed 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2019, re-appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Ms Emma Fontaine	Appointed 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020 resigned 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022
Mr Adrian Stones	Appointed 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020, confirmed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Ms Phoebe Bracken	Appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Mrs Mandy Lloyd	Appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2021

The Board met formally on four occasions to discuss the management of the charity.

### **Governance changes**

Plant Heritage held its 2021 AGM virtually and plans to do so again in 2022. Members are able to vote either in person during the meeting, by mail (email or post) or by proxy.

### **Risk Management**

Plant Heritage Trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and review these at least annually through a documented risk register. Trustees are satisfied that established procedures are sufficient to manage and mitigate those risks.

## **Public benefit**

Plant Heritage conserves cultivated plants. Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding how to pursue our objectives. Our strategy details how we carry out our work and how we engage with the public.

# **Committees and Working Groups**

Finance Committee (FC)	Conservation Committee (CC)
Meetings every two months	Meetings three times a year
Responsible for finance	Development of Conservation Strategy
<ul> <li>Helen Moorcraft (Chair)</li> </ul>	and delivery of associated programmes
<ul> <li>Gareth Morgan</li> </ul>	and activities
Cecilia Bufton	• Jim Marshall (Chair)
<ul> <li>Philip Eastell (Corporate Sponsorship)</li> </ul>	• Emma Crawforth (Vice Chair)
	Simon Toomer
Membership & Supporters Committee	Tim Upson
(MSC)	Anne Tweddle
Neetings two-three times a year	Rosie Yeomans
Development of membership strategies and	Catrina Fenton
delivery of advice, support and guidance to	Chris Clennett
Groups	
Catherine Penny (Chair)	Plant Collections Committee (PCC)
Penny Ross	Meetings four times a year
Rosemary Buisseret	Accreditation of National Plant Collections
Maddy Ward	Tim Upson (Chair)
Linda Eggins	<ul> <li>Jonathan Webster (Vice-Chairman)</li> </ul>
Rhona Frayne	Chris Clennett
	Kevin Hobbs
Persephone Working Group (PWG)	Ross Kerby
Meetings up to four times a year	Rosie Yeomans
• Doug Smith (Chair)	Gary Firth
David Ross	Matthew Biggs
Penny Ross	Chris Trimmer
Barry Clarke	Chris Bird
Gary Firth	Dawn Edwards
Governance & People Committee (GPC)	
Governance, compliance, processes, policies and	
guidelines. Trustee appointments & HR issues	
Meetings four times a year	
Margaret Headen	
Helen Triggs	
Adrian Stones	
Jim Marshall	

# Staffing

The headcount at the end of October 2021 was 5.03 full time posts. The Board of Trustees wish to thank all the members of staff for their expertise, loyalty, resourcefulness and commitment to Saving Garden Plants.

# **Business Plan 2022**

## Conservation

- 1. Increase the number of cultivated plants conserved
- 2. Develop and maintain good standards of curation
- 3. Inform and engage others with our conservation work
- 4. Influence global thinking on issues related to plant conservation

## **Membership & Supporters**

- 5. Grow the membership of Plant Heritage
- 6. Develop programmes to raise funds from supporters
- 7. Improve and expand internal communication channels

## Finance & Fundraising

- 8. Oversee financial management
- 9. Develop a fundraising strategy to ensure Plant Heritage has sufficient income to achieve its charitable aims

### **Governance and People**

- 10. Oversee the appointment of Trustees and the operation of committees and working groups
- 11. Ensure that Plant Heritage systems, processes and data management are maintained to a good standard
- 12. Advise on governance, appointments and operation of national office and local groups

### **External Communications**

13. Inform and engage audiences with our work, with a view to increasing membership, donations and support by providing information across a wide range of media

# **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees have in their opinion:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ensured that the applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees have been responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which have enabled them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have also been responsible for the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### Statement of Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiner

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the Charity's Independent Examiner has not been informed.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Cala. U. Grata.

**Trustee and Chairman** Mrs Cecilia Bufton

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**Trustee and Treasurer** Mr Gareth Morgan

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

#### TO THE TRUSTEES OF PLANT HERITAGE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Plant Heritage (the charity) for the year ended 31 October 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act). You are satisfied that the financial statements of the charity are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 44 (1) (c) of the 2005 Act and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity is required by company law to prepare its accounts on an accruals basis and is registered as a charity in Scotland your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Regulation 11(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

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Frances Wilde FCCA DChA

Dated April 2022

Warner Wilde Chartered Certified Accountants 4 Marigold Drive Bisley Surrey, GU24 9SF

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

Current financial year						
		Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds		
		-	designated			
		2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:	-					
Donations and legacies	3	98,002	4,024	54,286	156,312	177,889
Charitable activities	4	175,264	62,532	-	237,796	203,782
Advertising, publications,	F	10 611	1 205		12.006	15 074
sponsorship and trading	5	12,611	1,385	-	13,996	15,974
Investments	6	1,974	17	-	1,991	2,568
Total income		287,851	67,958	54,286	410,095	400,213
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Costs of generating donations and						
legacies	7	42,090	-	-	42,090	43,678
Trading costs	7	-	-	-	-	766
		42,090	-	-	42,090	44,444
Charitable activities	-	00.004		0.040	<u> </u>	00 500
Membership and Shows	8	32,624	-	6,210	38,834	38,533
Educational Activities	8	73,903	33,241	496	107,640	99,251
Plant Conservation	8	101,691	4,463	47,029	153,183	165,642
Total charitable expenditure		208,218	37,704	53,735	299,657	303,426
Total resources expended		250,308	37,704	53,735	341,747	347,870
Gross transfers between funds		(3,974)	3,974	-	-	-
Net income for the year/						
Net movement in funds		33,569	34,228	551	68,348	52,343
Fund balances at 1 November 2020		211,021	250,063	30,134	491,218	438,875
Fund balances at 31 October 2021		244,590	284,291	30,685	559,566	491,218

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

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### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### Prior financial year

		Unrestricted Unrestricted funds funds general designated		Restricted funds	Total	
	Notes	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020	
Income from	Notes	£	£	£	£	
Income from:	2	110 001	2 500	62 500	177 000	
Donations and legacies Charitable activities	3 4	110,801 164,396	3,588 39,386	63,500	177,889 203,782	
	4	104,390	39,300	-	203,762	
Advertising, publications, sponsorship and trading	5	12,613	3,361	_	15,974	
Investments	6	2,450	118	_	2,568	
	Ŭ					
Total income		290,260	46,453	63,500	400,213	
<u>Expenditure on:</u> <u>Raising funds</u>						
Costs of generating donations and legacies	7	43,678	-	-	43,678	
Trading costs	7	766	-	-	766	
	-					
		44,444	-	-	44,444	
<u>Charitable activities</u> Membership and Shows	8	29,248	-	9,285	38,533	
Educational Activities	8	58,830	40,421	-	99,251	
Plant Conservation	8	107,749	6,259	51,634	165,642	
Total charitable expenditure		195,827	46,680	60,919	303,426	
Total resources expended		240,271	46,680	60,919	347,870	
Net incoming resources before transfers		49,989	(227)	2,581	52,343	
Gross transfers between funds		66,591	(66,591)	-	-	
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		116,580	(66,818)	2,581	52,343	
Fund balances at 1 November 2019		94,441	316,881	27,553	438,875	
Fund balances at 31 October 2020		211,021	250,063	30,134	491,218	

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

## AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2021

		202	21	202	2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets	13		77,930		48,726	
Tangible assets	14		7,492		10,111	
			85,422		58,837	
Current assets					,	
Debtors	15	16,593		14,470		
Cash at bank and in hand		494,336		456,107		
		<u> </u>		470 577		
Creditore, emounte felling due within		510,929		470,577		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(29,443)		(30,480)		
Net current assets			481,486		440,097	
Total assets less current liabilities			566,908		498,934	
Creditors: amounts falling due after						
more than one year		7.0.40		7 740		
Deferred income	17	7,342	(7,342)	7,716	(7,716)	
			(1,042)		(7,710)	
					404.040	
Net assets			559,566		491,218	
Income funds						
Restricted funds	19		30,685		30,134	
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds	20	284,291		250,063		
General unrestricted funds		244,590		211,021		
			528,881		461,084	
			559,566		491,218	

## **BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**

### AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2021

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 October 2021.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 29 March 2022

Mr G Morgan Trustee

Company Registration No. 2222953

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### **Charity information**

Plant Heritage is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 12 Home Farm, Loseley Park, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 1HS.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

### 1.5 Expenditure

A liability is recognised when either a constructive or legal obligation is identified. Central costs are apportioned between costs of generating funds and charitable activities on the basis of the specific activities of members of staff. Irrecoverable VAT is allocated to the same expenditure heading as the cost to which it relates. Basic financial liabilities are recognised at transaction cost.

#### 1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the fair value of the asset can be measured reliably; the intangible asset arises from contractual or other legal rights; and the intangible asset is separable from the entity.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Website Persephone intangibles 8 Years Straight Line 4 years straight line

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and machinery	4 Years Straight Line
Computers	4 Years Straight Line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

(Continued)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	26,399	4,024	54,286	84,709	38,488	3,588	63,500	105,576
Legacies receivable	71,603	-	-	71,603	61,000	-	-	61,000
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	-	11,313	-	-	11,313
	98,002	4,024	54,286	156,312	110,801	3,588	63,500	177,889

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 4 Charitable activities

	and Shows M Eve			Ev	Educational leetings and rents held by Area Groups	Total 2020	
	2021	2021		2020	2020	1	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Sales within charitable activities	150,101	87,695	237,796	156,388	47,394	203,782	
Analysis by fund Unrestricted funds - general Unrestricted funds - designated	150,101	25,163 62,532	175,264 62,532	156,388	8,008 39,386	164,396 39,386	
	150,101	87,695	237,796	156,388	47,394	203,782	

### 5 Advertising, publications, sponsorship and trading

	Unrestricted funds general 2021	funds designated	Total 2021	Unrestricted funds general 2020	Unrestricted funds designated 2020	Total
	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £
Advertising, publications sponsorship and trading income Fundraising events	, 12,611 -	- 1,385	12,611 1,385	12,613 -	- 3,361	12,613 3,361
Advertising, publications sponsorship and trading	, 12,611	1,385	13,996	12,613	3,361	15,974

#### 6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Total	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Total
	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £
Interest receivable	1,974	17	1,991	2,450	118	2,568

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

### 7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	funds
Costs of generating donations and legacies		
Staging fundraising events	69	189
Staff costs	23,023	29,610
Depreciation and impairment	3,466	1,588
Support costs	15,532	12,291
Costs of generating donations and legacies	42,090	43,678
Trading costs		
Support costs	-	766
	42,090	44,444

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

### 8 Charitable activities

	Membership E	ducational	Plant	Total	Membership E	ducational	Plant	Total
	and Shows	Activities Co		2021	and Shows	Activities Co		2020
	2021	2021	2021	<b>c</b>	2020	2020	2020	c
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	20,150	20,150	84,562	124,862	20,135	15,677	84,398	120,210
Depreciation and impairment	3,029	3,029	6,041	12,099	1,215	1,215	5,325	7,755
Other charitable expenditure	775	69,102	24,635	94,512	913	71,673	10,824	83,410
	23,954	92,281	115,238	231,473	22,263	88,565	100,547	211,375
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	-	365	8,040	8,405	-	701	10,815	11,516
Share of support costs (see note 10)	13,359	13,473	26,872	53,704	15,684	9,399	51,710	76,793
Share of governance costs (see note 10)	1,521	1,521	3,033	6,075	586	586	2,570	3,742
	38,834	107,640	153,183	299,657	38,533	99,251	165,642	303,426
Analysis by fund								
Unrestricted funds - general	32,624	73,903	101,691	208,218	29,248	58,830	107,749	195,827
Unrestricted funds - designated	-	33,241	4,463	37,704	-	40,421	6,259	46,680
Restricted funds	6,210	496	47,029	53,735	9,285	-	51,634	60,919
	38,834	107,640	153,183	299,657	38,533	99,251	165,642	303,426

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 9 Grants payable

	Educational Activities Cor	Plant servation	Total 2021	Educational Activities	Plant Conservation	Total 2020
	2021	2021		2020	2020	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants to institutions: Other	-	8,040	8,040	-	10,815	10,815
Grants to individuals	365	-	365	701	-	701
	365	8,040	8,405	701	10,815	11,516

#### 10 Support costs

	Support Go costs	vernance costs	2021	Support costs	Governance costs	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Office running costs	69,236	-	69,236	89,083	-	89,083
Independent Examination and Accounts Preparation Other governance costs	-	3,859	3,859	-	3,797	3,797
including meetings and travelling	-	2,216	2,216	-	712	712
	69,236	6,075	75,311	89,083	4,509	93,592
Analysed between						
Fundraising	15,532	-	15,532	12,291	-	12,291
Trading		-		-	766	766
Charitable activities	53,704	6,075	59,779	76,793	3,742	80,535
	69,236	6,075	75,311	89,084	4,508	93,592

Support costs 'office running costs' includes administrative staff costs.

#### 11 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but none (2020: two) of them incurred £nil (2020: £486) travelling expenses.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 12 Employees

#### Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Fundraising	1	1
Plant Conservation	3	3
Membership	1	1
Finance and admin	1	1
	6	6
Employment costs	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	155,172	152,732
Social security costs	7,689	7,687
Other pension costs	7,711	7,637
	170,572	168,056

8 (2020: 8) part time employees equate to 5.5 (2020: 5.5) full time staff.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

#### 13 Intangible fixed assets

5	Website	Persephone intangibles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 November 2020	59,338	-	59,338
Additions - internally developed	-	41,490	41,490
At 31 October 2021	59,338	41,490	100,828
Amortisation and impairment			
At 1 November 2020	10,612	-	10,612
Amortisation charged for the year	7,417	4,869	12,286
At 31 October 2021	18,029	4,869	22,898
Carrying amount			
At 31 October 2021	41,309	36,621	77,930
At 31 October 2020	48,726	-	48,726

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery	Computers	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 November 2020	-	13,233	13,233
Additions	659	-	659
At 31 October 2021	659	13,233	13,892
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 November 2020	-	3,122	3,122
Depreciation charged in the year	71	3,207	3,278
At 31 October 2021	71	6,329	6,400
Carrying amount			
At 31 October 2021	588	6,904	7,492
At 31 October 2020	-	10,111	10,111

#### 15 Debtors

	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	2020 £
Trade debtors	4,946	5,740
Other debtors	3,806	3,527
Prepayments and accrued income	7,841	5,203
	16,593	14,470

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

·	orounderer amounte ranning aue mann one year			
			2021	2020
		Notes	£	£
	Other taxation and social security		2,766	2,766
	Deferred income	17	14,831	14,690
	Trade creditors		5,907	6,599
	Other creditors		887	931
	Accruals		5,052	5,494
			29,443	30,480

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 17 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Other deferred income	22,173	22,406 
Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:		
	2021 £	2020 £
Current liabilities Non-current liabilities	14,831 7,342  22,173	14,690 7,716  22,406

#### 18 Retirement benefit schemes

#### Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £7,759 (2020: £7637).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 19 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 November 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 1 November 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 31 October 2021		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		
Esmee Fairbairn (Conservation Manager)	26,553	50,000	(47,419)	29,134	40,000	(47,235)	21,899		
R Day (Finance Officer)	-	3,000	(2,500)	-	-	-	-		
Jack Paterson Charitable Trust (TPP)	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-	-	-		
John and Ruth Howard Charitable Trust (TPP)	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-	-		
Topinambour Trust	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	4,000	(4,000)	-		
Tanner Trust	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	2,000	(2,000)	-		
William Dean Countryside Educational Trust	-	-	-	-	500	(500)	-		
Heather Society	-	-	-	-	6,500	-	6,500		
Persephone	-	-	-	-	1,286	-	1,286		
West Midlands Shows Fund	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,000		
	27,553	63,500	(60,419)	30,134	54,286	(53,735)	30,685		

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 19 Restricted funds

(Continued)

**Directory** - annual publication of National Plant Collections, their locations, contact details and other useful information

Threatened Plants Project - assesses plants threatened in cultivation, at cultivar, not species, level.

**NCH Training -** workshops and education materials for National Collection Holders

Plant Guardians - records threatened plants conserved by Plant Heritage members in their own gardens

**Database** - Updating the National Collections database.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 20 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds					
	Balance at 1 November 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 November 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 October 2021	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Area Groups	236,881	46,453	(46,680)	(66,591)	170,063	67,958	(37,704)	(21,026)	179,291	
Project fund	80,000	-	-	-	80,000	-	-	(80,000)	-	
Office Move	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	
CRM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000	30,000	
Risk Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,000	60,000	
	316,881	46,453	(46,680)	(66,591)	250,063	67,958	(37,704)	3,974	284,291	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 20 Designated funds

(Continued)

#### Area Groups

Area Groups carry out activities throughout the year in accordance with the charity's objectives whilst remaining sympathetic and relevant to each group as defined by its members and geographical location. The Designated Fund represents the income and expenditure from group activities and the value retained in bank accounts as at the period end.

#### **Project Fund**

The Project Fund provides for spending on specific projects planned for the short to medium term.

#### Office Move

To fund the relocation costs associated with changing office.

#### CRM

To fund a new customer relationship management system.

#### **Risk Reserve**

For future operational shocks such as COVID.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

#### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	National Office G	Area roups and Project Fund	Restricted Funds	Total	National Area Groups Office and Project Fund		Restricted Funds	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2021 are represented by:								
Intangible fixed assets	77,930	-	-	77,930	48,726	-	-	48,726
Tangible assets	7,492	-	-	7,492	10,111	-	-	10,111
Current assets/(liabilities)	166,510	284,291	30,685	481,486	159,900	250,063	30,134	440,097
Long term liabilities	(7,342)	-	-	(7,342)	(7,716)	-	-	(7,716)
	244,590	284,291	30,685	559,566	211,021	250,063	30,134	491,218
							<u> </u>	