



This year has been one of progress and achievement in a time of financial difficulty. Roots and Shoots continues to thrive and to expand our educational and environmental services to schools, disadvantaged young people and the local community by developing further income streams and reaching our fundraising targets.

The substantial funding awarded this year by LandAid will enable our remaining wartime pre-fab building to be refurbished into an educational space fit for the twenty first century. This will be completed in 2014 and reflects the charity's commitment to increasing our educational capacity.

Funding generously received from the London Community Foundation has enabled improvements to our meeting rooms and the revitalisation of our trading initiatives. Further development of our social enterprise will bring essential unrestricted income to underpin our charitable objectives, whilst also providing excellent and affordable meeting facilities for charities, community groups and small businesses. This year also sees the complementary development of Hospitality and Floristry as part of the training opportunities for our young people – they can now contribute to the income-generating meetings and conferences in the hall and meeting rooms.

We continue to work with many community organisations and businesses – a good example this year being with Pennard Plants, a nursery specialising in heritage seeds, South African rare plants, fruit and vegetable growing, all from a Victorian walled garden in Somerset. They have attended all our fairs since they were expanded at the opening of the new building in 2005. This year we were invited by them to take part in Chelsea Flower Show in May (the 100th anniversary of the show) presenting two vegetable gardens reflecting a century of growing techniques. Entitled 'A Moment in Time' the project involved much more than a moment of time and commitment from staff, trainees and volunteers under the experienced eyes and guidance of Chris and Mike at Pennard Plants. The project certainly utilised the many artistic and gardening talents within our own organisation. The resulting beautiful and innovative garden was awarded a Gold Medal, the highest accolade at Chelsea. From Pennard's disciplined, elegant Edwardian



Kate Hoey MP, patron of Roots and Shoots gives trainees their certificates each year at the AGM

walled vegetable garden you passed through a gate inspired by David's Wildlife Garden gate into the urban grit of murals, broken slate and fruit and veg in old tanks and builders' bags. We are all thrilled with the result: it was Pennard's first Gold medal in their history of showing at Chelsea.

Our greenhouse was originally opened in 1990 by Kate Hoey MP and by early 2013 it was in need of urgent refurbishment. Local trusts, the Peter Minet Foundation, the Morel Trust, the Worshipful Company of Gardeners, Lambeth Parish and London Gardens Network came to our rescue and we were able to complete the works this year. It is now a fully automated, climate-controlled greenhouse: another excellent horticultural teaching space for our young people.

We are most grateful to City of London Parks and Open Spaces, in collaboration with the Royal Parks, who actively fundraised from the City Bridge Trust to benefit our horticultural trainees. This has enabled them to have very structured work experience leading to apprenticeships for three successful candidates. Ricky, who started as an apprentice this September, has just been awarded the 'Young Gardeners Against the Odds' Award (sponsored by the Telegraph) to reflect how horticulture has turned his life around, we are all delighted to hear this news.

This summer the Emerton-Christie Charity (who previously funded collaborative science-art projects for schools with our late friend Reen Pilkington) enabled the delivery of an innovative environmental programme called 'Wings and Dreams' for children and their families to investigate how insects fly. Awards for All are sponsoring a much improved Dragon's Den for storytelling in the Wildlife Garden this winter. The highly valued funding from Sheepdrove for David's post came to an end this year - we are extremely grateful for their support over the last 10 years.

This year we said goodbye to our Administration Coordinator, Elsa Cole, who has retired after eight years at Roots and Shoots. We wish her well in her new life and exciting travel plans and look forward to receiving postcards from faraway places. We also said hello to David Curtis, our new Employment Coordinator, in March. He has settled in and quickly become a key and active member of staff.

My thanks go to all the staff and trustees whose energy and commitment make our charity such a vibrant and interesting place for us all to enjoy and in which we can thrive.

Linda Phillips, Director

Education and training and the new Study Programme.

As always it's been another busy year at Roots and Shoots. Firstly, excellent qualification outcomes from last year's trainees - well done! We also now have trainees settled into Apprenticeships. We are expanding our provision for secondary schools. We have increased our range of accredited courses for the young people and we have developed the off-site training provision.

There have, of course, been changes. The Foundation Learning course Roots and Shoots has been delivering for the past couple of years has now been replaced by the new learning provision called Study Programme. This central government-led change has had an impact on our delivery but still sits well with the holistic R&S model. The Study Programme consists of vocational training and qualifications, a PSD (personal and social development) accredited course, the individual learner's functional skills provision and an 'enrichment' programme which includes our many workshops, activities and events. There is also more emphasis on the young person attending a Work Placement as part of the learning programme. Roots and Shoots has always recognised that a structured learning programme with focus on 'work readiness' including sound personal development is the best way to equip a young person for starting out on the journey in the increasingly challenging world of work. To widen and maximise the options for the learner, we have expanded the Study Programme to include City and Guilds Floristry and Hospitality. These fit well with our established Horticulture and Retail Skills and there are excellent opportunities to deliver lots of practical, exciting activities developing real work-place skills-and to have fun learning! This year we have also included an accredited City and Guilds Textile Enterprise unit within the Retail Skills programme. To enrich the practical requirements of the Hospitality qualification, we have developed on-site initial work placements enabling the trainees to start taking responsibility, work independently and develop appropriate professional behaviour. It is important for the young person to experience R&S as a work place right from the start. When the trainee feels ready, an external placement can be found. It can be challenging finding suitable placements and trainees must take them seriously. **David Curtis**, who joined the team earlier in the year deals with trainee recruitment and work placements. He also supports placements in the Royal Parks leading to Apprenticeships. This is an excellent development and we hope to do more.

The Discovery Channel came to Roots and Shoots for a second successful year. The focus was on communication skills, specifically in the context of preparing our trainees for a job interview. It was very well received by the trainees, more than eager to squeeze together for a group shot.



Albert began a one day per week placement with the eco-inspired furniture maker Tristan Titeux and his company Custom Carpentry. Albert pleased Tristan so much that he's been with him throughout the summer, ably supporting regular staff on assignments in private homes throughout west London. Well done Albert for making such great progress.

Greg Smith, our Horticulture Skills trainer, has delivered an excellent course equipping potential horticulturists with relevant skills to prepare for employment. He also supports trainees and ex-trainees on their apprenticeships. As part of the provision, trainees work one day a week off-site in Kennington Park: an opportunity to train in a real work-place alongside professionals. A group of trainees are also attending a woodland management course for a day per week, a wonderful learning experience. **Jean Willmott**, a qualified florist, runs a new Floristry course and there is keen trainee interest. **Alva Wilson** runs the Retail Skills course and supervises the Hospitality provision. He has developed the R&S Retail shop outlet and supports trainees to run pop-up shops on site during conferences. Alva now also delivers Textile Enterprise, accredited creative work developed by the Retail trainees. **Angela Barredo** continues to deliver our Functional Skills provision, supervising exams and assessments and working with other trainers to maximise practical learning activities that support theory. **Amanda Rew** leads the 14-16 school provision for one day per week and also supports the delivery of the Study Programme vocational element to secondary schools, supported by **Sarah Wilson** (Additional Learning Support). Last year we began delivery of courses to a group of Wandsworth secondary school students from Ernest Bevin School; this year it is Oak Lodge School. We deliver a challenging and exciting programme through the academic year. The students have new opportunities and experiences with us and there is good feedback. We hope to further expand this provision. Finally, our work is again to be used for research: for the Third Sector Implementation Board looking at learning, skills and the strategic framework. Even with funding challenges and constraints, we have always managed to maintain a cost-effective, quality provision for the young people. It's good to have this recognised.



2012 -2013 was a busy, exciting year for horticulture at Roots and Shoots. Clearly the first thing to mention is the **gold medal at Chelsea Flower Show**. Pennard Plants kindly invited us to build half of their fabulous exhibit celebrating 100 years of Chelsea. Tony Danford and Linda did a wonderful job with design and plants, Sarah, Mark and Tony created the artificial old London brick wall, David added wildlife expertise and helped to build and break down and trainees contributed to Greg's mural, grew plants and planted containers. Some students also spent time at the show promoting us and we were very pleased with the amazing reaction from the public.



We are very excited about working with the Corporation of London/Royal Parks as part of the City Bridge Trust apprenticeship scheme. Three of our students are now full time apprentices. We continue to develop our partnership with other employers. Quadron is giving two of our students temporary work in Peckham and they do excellent work in developing the careers of graduate apprentices from previous years. One former student has been shortlisted for the National Apprentice Award. Thanks also to Veolia and the "Friends" of the park for supporting our work experience scheme at Kennington Park.



Greg Smith
Horticulture



Ruth Mitchell
Education Co-ordinator



This year we were joined by the London Orchard Project in the Barn along with our regular visitors, Sonia from the Lions part, Andy from Heritage Fruit Trees, Pennard Plants - and - Westminster Morris Men with their dancing, whispering unicorn!



Apple Day always leads to the grand pageant that is **OCTOBER PLENTY** run by:



Each year we build the giant **CORN QUEENE** - the trainees begin her in the greenhouse, Sarah and David finish her at Borough Market. Then she is on the road on our old Lambeth Walk market barrow...

APPLE DAY



Very long apple peels; Morris in the sun; child labour on the apple press; Andy Howard talks his green boots off; in the shop and finally **WINSTON NZINGA STORYTELLER!**



The **QUEENE** at the **GLOBE** for the start of the procession - Alex and David drag her to Market for 'ROBIN HOOD' dramas and her finale - pulled apart and thrown to the audience.





Snow on Witch Hazel flowers seen from beneath.

The old colony of snake's head fritillaries.

Blossom on the apple espalier row.

Two varieties of *Rosa moyesii* by the Paradise Corner.

Medlars in the Wildlife Garden.

Fruit from the quince tree, now released from its pot into the ground by the Wildlife Garden Study Centre.

Apples in the *Cellini* orchard.





Wings and Dreams was devised as a weekend 'Family Learning' project investigating the amazing structures of insect wings and the astonishing flight capabilities of, for example, dragonflies and bumblebees. We were treated to an excellent introduction to insect flight, and how it is achieved, by Prof. Robin Wootton of the University of Exeter.

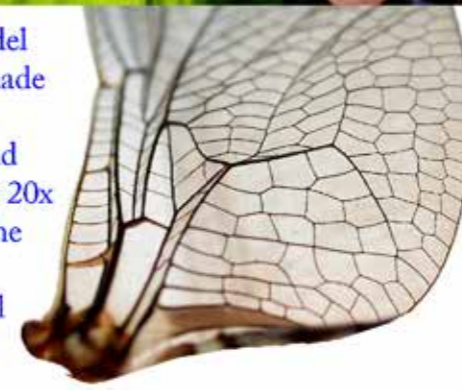
On Saturday, David led an observing session in the Wildlife Garden searching for bumblebees and dragonflies. Dragonfly nymphs were found in the pond along with some *exuviae* (the exoskeletons of the nymphs left by the adult dragonflies emerging from the pond). Dragonfly and bumblebee wings were examined under a microscope.



Environmental Education in the Wildlife Garden: well over 800 school children and nearly 1500 adults enjoyed events or organised, guided sessions in the Wildlife Garden. The garden is used a lot by nursery schools (*right, children from Ethelred Nursery carry a two and a half metre reedmace back to school*) but we have also added extra value to courses in higher education. Textile and design students for example, from Central Saint Martins and London Metropolitan University, have benefited from the knowledge and experience of urban biodiversity at Roots and Shoots. In addition there are many informal visits made by adults and children outside school hours for relaxation and self-directed learning. The garden is highly valued by local residents for its combination of a really wild, peaceful feeling whilst being safe and carefully watched over.



David and Martha then ran model making workshops - everyone made a 5x scale model of an Emperor Dragonfly (left) to take home and we continued building a massive 20x model. We finished by taking the wings and flight of dragonflies into our dreams through magical storytelling with Kate Corkery.





A biodiversity montage...



We continue to watch the flow of biodiversity in the Wildlife Garden (and you will always be watched by the fox). The long period of cool spring weather added to the problems for invertebrates inherited from last year's poor conditions. The butterflies and moths did not recover - with no burnets, no skippers and no common blue breeding (and the holly blue, above mating, occurred in small numbers). We did have one new species - the notably scarce Toadflax Brocade (caterpillar, left). Grasshoppers and crickets also bred, again, in far smaller numbers than in previous, wonderful, years.

A bonus this cool spring was the spawning of our small population of toads in the Paradise Corner. This is the first year they have given a respectable performance. The emergence of dragonflies and damselflies was disappointing given the number of nymphs in the large pond (here, large red damsels - mating and a female). Solitary bees had an average year - and we were graced for a second year by the handsome male *Anthophora bimaculata* (first right). The bumbles finally got going in mid-late May with many hundreds of workers on the *Echiums* - almost two months later than 'normal'. It seemed a good year for tiny parasitic wasps: above - a rose bedeguar gall (several wasp larvae live inside the swollen gall). Oak galls are also common this year.





Carlene Johnson, *Catering Assistant*



Issy Okonta,
Office coordinator



Phillip Costen,
Chef



A part of the main ball in action

Some groups are able to make use of our variety of spaces. When Friends of the Earth came to R & S for a second year to train members in helping bees and pollinators thrive, they were able to use the gardens and open spaces as well as the Hall. The Barn is also sometimes used - evening meetings for an autistic group from Lambeth College included a winter 'mystery walk' finishing at Roots with supper and a small, but perfect, bonfire. Later in the spring they had country dancing in the hall and another barbecue on an open fire.

For a workshop on installing planted roofs on small buildings, Dusty Gedge and John Little used the Hall and Barn for workshops and lectures, as well as the planted roofs of the buildings and the garden shed roof as examples of practical applications.



One of the two meeting rooms in the old stable





The Charity continues to perform well in extremely challenging times. Maintaining excellent standards and achieving a balanced set of accounts is due to the hard and diligent work of all the staff, including our volunteers and helpers. The Charity is equally supported by a hard working and committed set of Trustees who have contributed greatly to good leadership and the continuing success of the organisation overall. A real team effort.



Ian Parker, Chair

Gayle and David Whittingham pick and donate apples each year from their orchard for Apple Day and pressing



Our thanks to:

The Trustees of Roots and Shoots: David Sawyer (right, longest serving trustee), Ian Parker (Chair), Ann Bodkin, Graham Cocking, Glenda King, Vic Wilmott, A. Michael Mitchell (Treasurer).



The Staff: Linda Phillips (Director) Ruth Mitchell (Education coordinator), David Perkins (Environmental Education, Wildlife Garden, Events), Issy Okonta (Office coordinator), David Curtis (left, Employment Coordinator), Greg Smith (Horticulture trainer), Alva Wilson (Retail, Hospitality skills), Jean Willmott (Floristry), Sarah Wilson (gardening, ALS), Angela Barredo (Functional Skills), Amanda Rew (vocational schools programme), Carlene Johnson, Arfa Shah (Catering), Phillip Costen (Chef), Winsome and Ginette (Cleaning).

our wonderful volunteers:

Peggy Dean, Martha Macdonald; Ruth and Kurt Geiger, Dorset Road Allotments; loyal Tuesday volunteers Brenda, Fan, Christine, Nikki, Andrew; Ellen Fox, Catey Hillier, Lindsay Swan, Val Stapleton, all at Pennard Plants, Tony Danford, Eva Evangelakou, Prim Campbell (Central Training); Clive Watson and Paul for help in the garden and with the bees at October Plenty, Alan Bezzant; Marc Hankins, Joe Maher, Sarah and Jim (West Dean Gardens), Martin Rodman (West Ham Park), Amanda Cardinale (Discovery Channel); Katy, Raymond Ali, Paula from the Bede Centre with Mafido, Nathan and Ossie; David and Gayle Whittingham, Ella & Mary Jo.

The accounts show a further improvement this year with a surplus reported of £13,960; an increase of £12,000 from last year. The funding to support our students was up £37,000 which helped offset the absence this year of £50,000 from two other grant giving bodies.

Overall our income was down £32,000. Our underlying costs remained static, but we benefited by a one-off bonus of £50,000 when the auditors recommended an adjustment to the way we account for depreciation. This will not be repeated in the current year and so we will have to work hard if we are to report a third year of surplus in a row. To that end there has been a renewed push in the marketing of the hall and meeting rooms to charities and local enterprises.

Michael Mitchell
Treasurer

Roots and Shoots: Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2013

ppk accountants
www.ppk-accountants.co.uk

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2013 Total funds £	2012 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	356,537	-	356,537	382,597
Activities for generating funds	3	57,004	-	57,004	57,465
Investment income	4	368	-	368	356
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Sales		4,403	-	4,403	5,030
Wildlife Garden		319	-	319	560
Other incoming resources		(2,068)	-	(2,068)	2,207
Total incoming resources		416,563	-	416,563	448,215
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	6	419,925	-	419,925	410,606
Governance costs	8	4,200	-	4,200	4,152
Other resources expended		-	(21,522)	(21,522)	31,531
Total resources expended		424,125	(21,522)	402,603	446,289
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(7,562)	21,522	13,960	1,926
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		248,244	885,196	1,133,440	1,131,514
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		240,682	906,718	1,147,400	1,133,440

This is an extract from the audited Roots and Shoots accounts. For a full copy please contact the Director

- * Vocational training for young people
- * Environmental Education for schools and the wider community
- * Urban biodiversity, sustainability and conservation action
- * Small conference/meeting/training centre for hire
- * Events and Exhibitions

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Walnut Tree Walk, Lambeth, London, SE11 6DN

Trainees' Textile Enterprise

(felt-making)



Roots and Shoots provides training for young people from inner London. We aim to give them the skills and self-confidence that will equip them for work.

Alongside this training we involve local schools and the wider community by maintaining our site as an important green space and environmental resource.

We value people. We encourage staff, trainees, volunteers and all others involved with us to work together, enabling us all to fulfil our potential



funding from the
WALCOT FOUNDATION



LandAid Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION

Charity number: 1064070/0

Co. Ltd. by guarantee: 3400781