



THE ALNWICK
GARDEN



The Alnwick Garden Trust

Social Impact Report

April 2022 - March 2023



THE
ALNWICK
GARDEN
TRUST

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Awards and Accolades

2023

Better Health At Work
Food For Life

Better Health At Work
Soil Association

Silver
Bronze



2022

Large Visitor Attraction of The Year
Experience of The Year
Resilience and Innovation
Gold Accolade

North East Tourism Awards
North East Tourism Awards
North East Tourism Awards
VisitEngland

Gold
Gold
Gold
Gold



2021

NewcastleGateshead Family Magazine
Visitor Welcome
Gold Accolade
Quality Food and Drink

Best Family Day Out
VisitEngland
VisitEngland
VisitEngland

Nominated
Nominated
Nominated



Previous years' awards have included:

Large Visitor Attraction of The Year
Experience of the Year
Hall of Fame – 5 Years of Excellence
Award of Excellence
Loo of the Year
100 Best Gardens
Great Place to Eat

North East Tourism Awards
North East Tourism Awards
Trip Advisor
Trip Advisor
Loo of the Year
Garden News
Heritage Awards

Silver
Bronze

Platinum
Winner
Winner



Welcome



In a year of political and international turmoil The Alnwick Garden Trust has had to be even more responsive and agile to meet the needs of the communities we serve. We expected a year of post-pandemic stability but the impacts of the war in Ukraine and upheaval in national government quickly ushered in the latest cost of living crisis.

I'm extremely proud of the Community and Education team for their hard work this year delivering more social impacts than ever before at a time when our community needed it most. This involved not only intensifying our existing programmes but introducing new ones.

We opened the Warm Spaces initiative in the Autumn, with the provision of soup and refreshments throughout the colder months in a warm and comfortable space, helping to support those in need to save on energy and heating costs.

The Alnwick Garden Community Fridge opened to the public for the first time in 2022. The Community Fridge is a space open to all, where food can be shared to save from going to waste and includes surplus from our Roots and Shoots allotment and our restaurant.

This year also saw great strides with our new Climate Action programme with the aim of tackling the challenge of global warming. We managed to measure our carbon footprint which will be the benchmark as we introduce initiatives to become carbon neutral by 2030. Year-on-year measurements will mark our progress and we are pleased to include an overview later in this report.

At the time of writing, we have successfully opened our new Lilidorei play village which is the start of an exciting new chapter for The Trust, providing further support to local suppliers and the wider visitor economy.

Thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy this year's report and look forward to welcoming you to The Garden soon.

Mark Brassell

CEO The Alnwick Garden

Who are The Alnwick Garden Trust and what do we do?



The Alnwick Garden is an award-winning visitor attraction in Northumberland, with the community at its heart. The 12 acres of magnificent gardens are home to the world's largest Taihaku Cherry Orchard, a Grand Cascade comprising of 120 water jets and the world's largest Treehouse. It is a tranquil haven for horticulturalists, families and tourists alike and welcomes over 350,000 visitors per year.

The Alnwick Garden Trust became a registered charity in 2003, and has since developed an array of programmes and initiatives to:

Improve physical and mental wellbeing

Reduce social isolation

Help people learn new skills

Increase life expectancy and quality of life for our ageing population

Move people into employment

Educate on how to live healthy lifestyles

Prevent drug related harm

Educate and address the climate emergency

Our Social Purpose



The Alnwick Garden Trust is a hard-working community charity that seeks to support those in our region who need it most. Overseeing a range of charitable programmes, its primary objectives are to improve the wellbeing, educate and empower our most vulnerable community members.



Wellbeing

ELDERBERRIES

Purpose: To address the impact of loneliness and isolation for people aged 55 and over living in Northumberland. The programme aims to support people to age well in our community using NHS England guidance - 5 steps to mental wellbeing, through connecting people, encouraging daily activity, learning new skills, sharing with others, and being mindful.

YOUNG GARDENERS

Purpose: To provide an inclusive learning experience for young people with additional support needs and their families, using horticulture to improve confidence, communication and social skills.

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Purpose: To reduce food wastage whilst providing a positive social space for local visitors and the community to learn more about food, sustainable eating, growing your own and eating on a budget.

ROOTS AND SHOOTS

Purpose: To reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity through learning about healthy eating and the importance of physical activity.

DRUGS EDUCATION

Purpose: To prevent harmful drug use, allowing young people to make informed choices and consider safer options.

Education

CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME

Purpose: To develop climate & ecological emergency themes into our education and community engagement programmes, linked to the curriculum, wellbeing and practical action. Educate and inspire business leaders to understand the climate crisis and how they can become change makers.

Empowerment

SEEDS FOR SUCCESS (Enterprise)

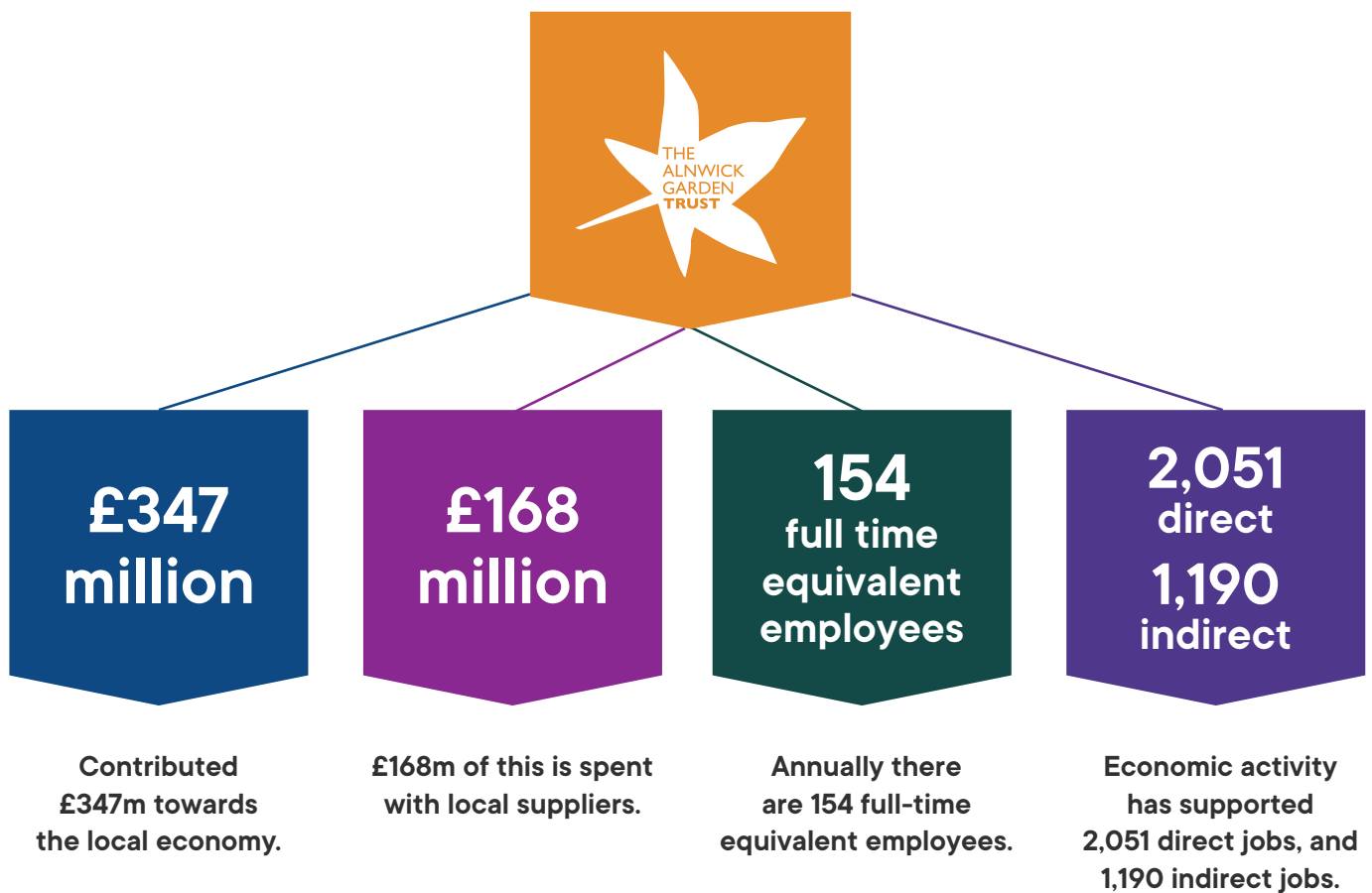
Purpose: To provide a platform for people to develop the practical business skills required to start up their own businesses. Support with initiatives to allow beneficiaries to earn an income.

GROW INTO WORK (Employability)

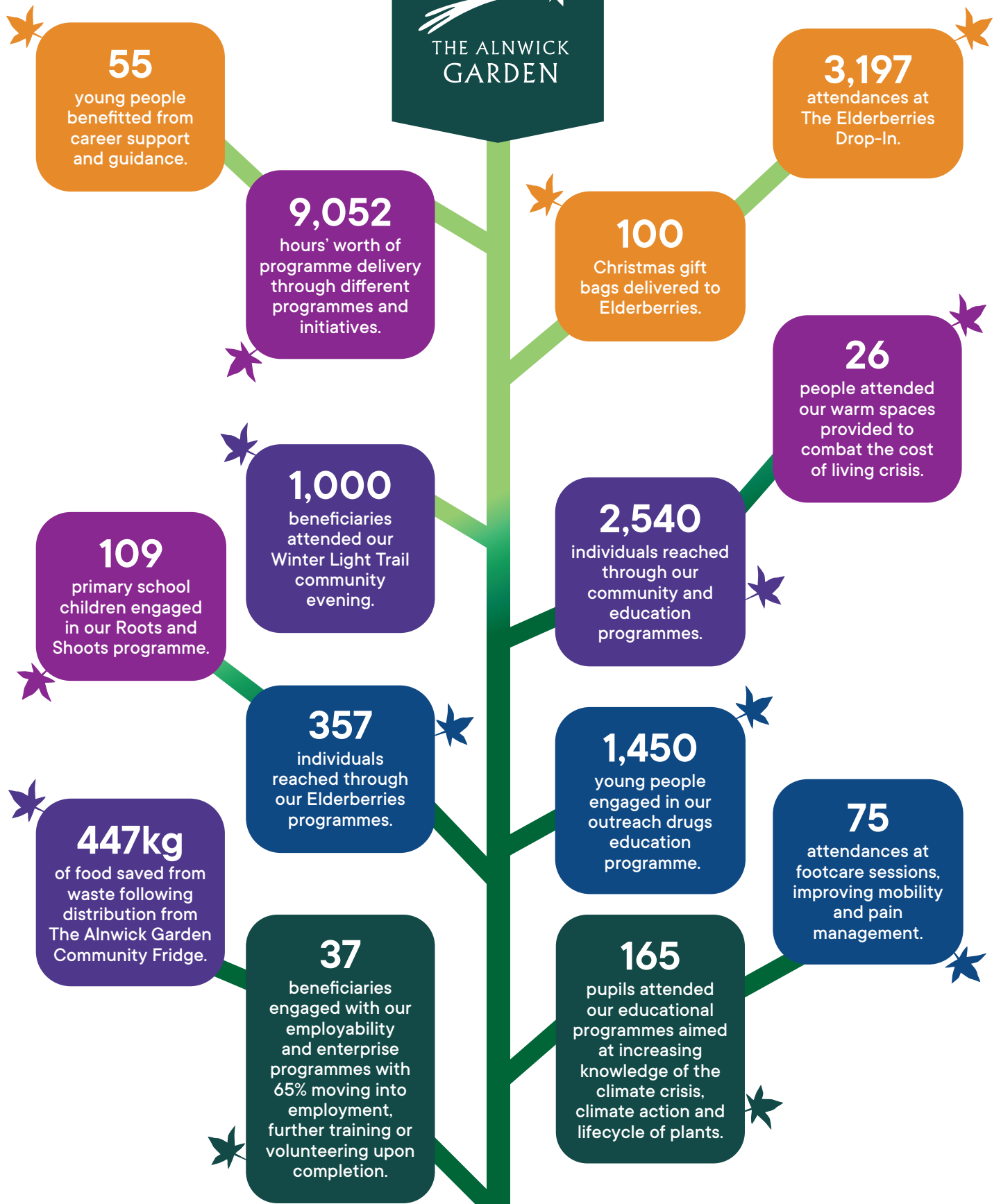
Purpose: To provide an inclusive learning experience for young people with additional support needs and their families, using horticulture to improve confidence, communication and social skills.

Economic Impact

Beyond the impact of our community programmes, The Alnwick Garden contributes significantly from an economic and social perspective to the wider region. Based on research conducted independently and extrapolated to 22 years, it is estimated that The Garden has contributed over **£347 million** to the local economy over the last 22 years, of which **£168 million** was spent with local suppliers. Annually there are **154** full-time equivalent employees, whilst The Trust's economic activity has supported **3,241** jobs regionally since opening.



Key highlights 2022 / 2023





How We Make A Difference

- Our Community Programmes

Fact

357 individuals have been reached through our Elderberries programmes



Elderberries

Elderberries is the longest running and most established programme at The Alnwick Garden. The programme works with people aged over 55 to combat isolation, provide stimulating and mind provoking activities, as well as increase physical exercise and promote mental wellbeing. The Trust ensures that every activity and group follow at least one of the NHS 5 Steps to Wellbeing, which are:

- ✦ Connect with other people
- ✦ Be physically active
- ✦ Learn new skills
- ✦ Give to others
- ✦ Mindfulness

There are Elderberries activities delivered 6 days per week and they run all year round. **357 beneficiaries** were reached through our Elderberries programmes in 2022/23, with a total of **6,991 hours'** worth of activities.



Walking Group

A weekly walking session encouraging Elderberries to **be physically active** and gain health benefits through exercise. **57 individuals** attended the walking group in 2022/23 with **871 attendances**. They noted an improvement in wellbeing by being close to nature, as well as **connecting with others** and making friendships along the way.



Fact

9,052 hours' worth of programme delivery through 22 different programmes and initiatives

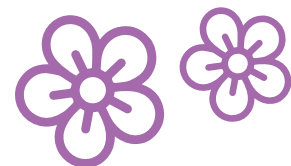


Gentlemen's Garden

A weekly gardening session that allows gentlemen to socialise through **connecting with others**, share traditional skills and **learn new ones**, all whilst benefitting from the positive impact gardening has on mood and wellbeing. Through the growing season the gentlemen work on their own allotment plots, growing their own produce, not only keeping them **physically active**, but also allowing them to eat healthily. Through the winter months the sessions continue indoors where the gentlemen make crafts to sell at a Christmas market. All profits go back into the project and enable the gentlemen to enjoy a trip out at the end of the year. In 2022 the group engaged in a project to produce Gentlemen's Gin. They harvested botanicals from The Alwick Garden, to their own taste, and worked with Northumberland Spirit Company who distilled 100 bottles. All profit from selling the gin will be reinvested into the Gentlemen's Garden programme. **15 gentlemen** engaged in Gentlemen's Garden in 2022/2023 with **385 attendances**.



Blooming Well



Twice weekly initiative to support over 55s who have early onset dementia, and their carers. The sessions offer a range of activities from arts and crafts to therapeutic horticulture as well as allowing those who attend to **connect with others** to reduce social isolation. **33 people** benefitted from these groups in 2022/23 with **673 attendances**.

More Community Programmes

Fact

100 Christmas gift bags were delivered to our more vulnerable Elderberries



Yoga and Pilates

Weekly sessions to improve strength, flexibility and wellbeing. For our Elderberries, this means being involved in physical activity, mindfulness and connecting with others who attend. **247 individuals** attended these sessions over the year.



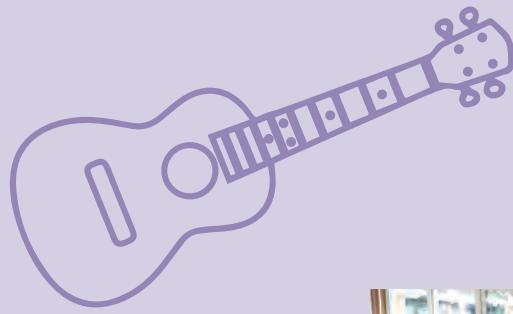
Drop-In Centre

The Drop-In opens every Thursday, Friday and Sunday for those over the age of 55. The Drop-In is volunteer led and provides a welcoming space for Elderberries to connect with others, **reducing social isolation** and nurturing friendships. There were **3,197 attendances** in 2022/23.

Tea'n'Tech

Weekly sessions for our over 55s to bring in their gadgets, whether a laptop, mobile phone or tablet, and receive support and advice on how to use it. The sessions aim to help our Elderberries adapt to a digital world and **learn new skills** that will help them with things such as online shopping, online banking and using the NHS app. Technology also allows us to **connect with others** through communication methods such as emails and social networking sites, helping to reduce loneliness and isolation. **72 Elderberries** attended these sessions in 2022/23 with **309 attendances**.





“You may or may not know but coming to Elderberries has made my life worthwhile”
Elderberries Attendee
2022

Ukulele for fun

A 12-week course for beginners where Elderberries are able to **learn a new skill**, make new friends and **connect with others**. Evidence shows that learning to play a musical instrument improves memory, attention and concentration as well as promoting wellbeing. **26 individuals** attended.



Tunes on Tuesday



A new initiative for 2022/23, promoting wellbeing through singing and helping to lower stress, enhance memory and improve mental health. The singing group runs monthly and is open to all regardless of singing ability. **26 individuals** attended Tunes on Tuesday throughout the year.

Footcare

Providing pedicure sessions to our Elderberries to help them avoid foot ailments and problems. There were **75 attendances** at footcare sessions in 2022/23.



More Community Programmes

Wellbeing talks

Monthly talks and presentations from services and professionals offering advice and information on topics such as health and wellbeing, fraud and scams and energy efficiency. There were **118 attendances** in 2022/23.



Christmas Gift Bags

Were delivered to **100 Elderberries** who had been referred by external services. Main reasons for referral were social isolation and knowing that this may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

Afternoon Tea Parties

320 Elderberries attended the ticketed parties for afternoons of entertainment, singing and dancing. Afternoon tea was provided alongside live music and performances from singers, a ukulele band and school choirs.



Employability and Enterprise

★ Grow Into Work

Our Grow Into Work initiative is an employment support programme aiming to help people in Northumberland to gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence to secure sustainable employment. The programme, funded through The Mercers Company and North of Tyne Combined Authority, is a mix of work experience and classroom-based sessions where beneficiaries develop CV writing skills, application form completion, and interview and presentation skills. Support is offered and can continue once beneficiaries have completed the programme for up to six months afterwards. **55% of those who engaged with the programme** moved into employment, went on to further training, or volunteering.

★ Seeds for Success

Seeds for Success, funded through North of Tyne Combined Authority, provides workshops offering in-depth support on the basics of starting a small business. Opportunities to link in with The Alwick Garden platform to initially promote the business are also offered as part of the programme.

★ Careers Fair

A jobs and careers fair was held in collaboration with the Education Development Trust and the National Careers Service, to engage potential employees with a range of local companies and organisations. **175 jobseekers attended** the event with **7 being offered employment** as a direct consequence.

★ Young People Careers Support

55 young people engaged in outreach sessions in schools to increase knowledge and the skills needed and raise aspirations for future career pathways.

Fact

37 beneficiaries engaged with our employability and enterprise programmes with 65% moving into employment, training or volunteering upon completion.



Education Programmes



Climate Crisis Education

The Alnwick Garden Trust is committed to tackling the climate crisis through carefully determining our own carbon footprint and establishing a plan to implement our journey to becoming carbon neutral. We aim to become an industry leader in educating other organisations on how they can also become carbon neutral.

2022/23 saw the erection of our Climate Action Hub with an extension of our apiary. Through our observation hive and apiary, we are able to educate about the decline of our bee population in the UK and teach others how to be proactive in bee-friendly practices. Having this resource allows us to engage with others in innovative ways, to inform about the climate crisis and the impact it is having on our planet's biodiversity. Passing this knowledge to others empowers them to make the changes needed to live in a more sustainable way.



165 pupils engaged in interactive workshops that were focused on the climate crisis, teaching them how to take action to address the issues facing us all.

HOW TO HELP BEES

Bee friendly

Here are some tips to help you "bee friendly". With a changing climate and increasing habitat loss, bees need all the help they can get.

Give bees shelter by letting the grass grow
Let part of your lawn grow without mowing. Bees love flowering weeds and grasses.

Build a bee / bug hotel
Bees like to rest in walls, bits of bare ground, long cool grass and piles of wood. You could build or install a bee hotel.

Provide lots of flowers
Provide a long season of nectar and pollen rich flowers for bees and other pollinators to feed on. Ensure you have flowers, shrubs, trees and plants in bloom for as long as possible in the garden.

Make a bee pond
Bees can't swim or get their wings wet, but they need water too. Try filling a shallow bowl with pebbles and water so bees have somewhere to land and sip some H₂O.

Buy local, organic produce
Support farmers who are doing their best to support bees. Choose organic food, so you know pesticides that can harm our pollinators were not used. Buy local honey!

Grow some fruit & herbs
Fruit trees and plants are great for bees, they also provide us with tasty fruit and can help save the bees, win-win. Herbs are also good for bees, plant in your garden or in a pot.

Plant bee friendly trees
Willow, Maple, Horse Chestnut, Acacia and Linden, these trees provide high levels of pollen and nectar in the UK.

Please don't swat!
Honey bees very rarely sting, but they can be curious creatures. If a honey bee approaches you, be still as she checks to see if you have any nectar. Once she knows you're not a flower, she'll buzz along. Once you know what a honey bee looks like, help your friends learn, too!

Fact

109 primary school children from 8 different schools engaged in Roots and Shoots during the 2022/23 growing season.



Roots and Shoots

The Roots and Shoots programme supports schools across Northumberland to tackle childhood obesity and promote healthy living in children and young people. Successful applications are selected from schools with higher levels of obesity and deprivation. Throughout the growing season schools are allocated their own plot where they prepare the soil, plant produce and harvest the vegetables.



The practical sessions are coupled with classroom education around healthy eating, living well and the importance of exercise. An outreach session at the school is also offered with family invited to attend. The children and their families can then take this learning home and help transform their own garden and prepare healthy meals with the produce they have grown.

Young Gardeners

Young Gardeners is a horticulture programme supporting young people with additional needs and their families. The programme allows our young gardeners to learn new skills, as well as building friendships and relationships with others. **6 families** engaged with the 2022/23 programme and the following outcomes were achieved:

- Increased time outdoors and spending time together as a family as a result of attending the programme.
- Increase in knowledge around healthy eating.
- Learning new skills that can be transferred to gardening projects at home.





600 young people

600 young people engaged with the drugs education project. They increased their knowledge of the health risks associated with drug and alcohol use, explored reasons why young people may use substances, discussed alternative choices, and considered other harms including social consequences and the law.



78,546 visitors

There were 78,546 visitors to The Poison Garden, all receiving information about the drug plants within.



850 young people

850 young people engaged in our “Pop up Poison Garden” in Northumberland’s Children’s Countryside Day.

Drugs Education Programme

The programme consists of innovative and engaging workshops to educate young people around the dangers of substance use, using a harm reduction approach.

We aim to give young people the confidence to make informed and positive choices around lifestyle choices, prevent early onset of substance use, and reduce the risk of drug-related harm. Our project, although physically separate and mainly outreach, is an expansion of our Poison Garden.

The Poison Garden informs our visitors of the risks of substance use, using the analogy of plant toxicity in the unique surrounding of poisonous plants. Being able to reference to The Poison Garden not only provides an understanding of the origins of some drugs, but is an effective way to break down barriers and encourage interaction.

Fact

2,540 individuals reached through our community and education programmes



Poisons in The Garden Event

An award-winning event in collaboration with Northumbria University and The North East Region Analytical Science Division, 'Poisons in the Garden' was held over a weekend in July 2022 and the event attracted over 2,200 visitors to The Garden. A variety of unique and fun educational resources to suit all ages were delivered over the weekend with the opportunity to encourage people to engage in and enjoy science.

The main legacy of the event was the development of four unique chemistry storyboards, containing scientific details in the form of how analysis of poisons is done using chromatography-mass spectroscopy, and the human toxicology of plant poisons. These storyboards will be used as part of our Drugs Education programme and will reach thousands more young people in the coming years.

The event received the Royal Society of Chemistry "Inspirational Committee Award 2023" for the development and delivery of a major initiative to bring chemistry to the public in collaboration with The Alwick Garden, under the theme of 'Poisons in the Garden'.



The Climate Emergency

Our commitment to addressing the Climate Emergency

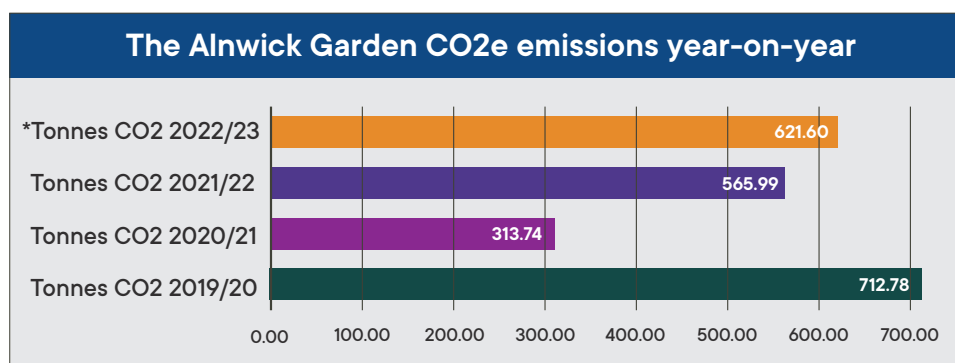
With the current climate emergency across the globe, The Alnwick Garden has made the commitment to reducing its impact on the environment. We have reviewed all areas of the business and are putting into place policies, procedures and actions that will initially reduce our effect on climate change by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions (primarily carbon dioxide and their atmospheric equivalents) with our targeted goal of generating zero emissions. We hope to move forward to become a carbon sink and then, ultimately, we aim to teach others about our journey to net zero allowing us to help, assist and support other establishments to do the same.

Carbon Footprint Analysis

Reporting Scope	Emission Factor	Tonnes CO2e 2022/23
2	Electricity	311.73
3	Electricity Trans & Dist	28.12
1	Natural Gas	160.57
1	Calor Gas	7.93
1	Company Vehicles	1.27
1	Equipment Fuel Use	5.84
1	Refrigerant	25.55
N/A	Water	7.70
N/A	Wood	0.47
3	Business Travel	2.35
3	Employee Commute	60.27
3	Waste Disposal	9.80
	TOTAL	621.60

To achieve our climate action goals, we have made an accurate measure of our carbon emissions, known as our carbon footprint benchmark. This annual report will now evaluate the emissions we have made during the last 12 months and show our year-on-year progress towards net zero in 2030.

Carbon Footprint Analysis Year-on-year



*Addition of Lilidorei infrastructure.



Overall Annual Carbon Emissions of
The Alwick Garden 2022/23

=

621.60 tonnes

Overall Annual Carbon Emissions of The Garden

=

172.26 tonnes

The net overall CO2 emissions for which The Alwick Garden
must now reduce is calculated as follows:

Emissions - Sequestration

=

Net Carbon Footprint

621.60 tonnes - 172.26 tonnes

=

449.34 tonnes

Carbon Reduction Plan

The Alwick Garden is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2030.

Some initiatives were introduced and scrutinised during 2022/23 to reduce our carbon footprint including:



Employee electric
car scheme



Waste reduction
recycling



Reduced deliveries



Sustainable purchasing

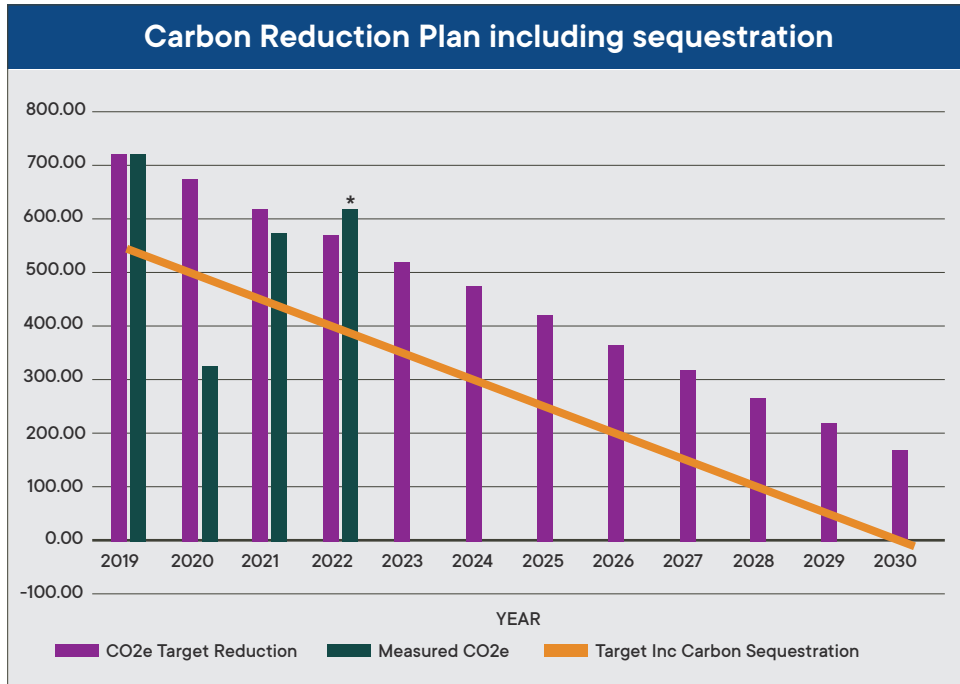


Single-use plastic
reduction



Increased employee and
customer education

Carbon Reduction Plan (continued)



*Addition of Lilidorei infrastructure.

Carbon Reduction Plan

Planned and measured decrease in carbon emissions.

Sequestration projects to increase CO₂ uptake through natural process.

Community Fridge

A community fridge is a space that brings people together to share food, meet up, learn new skills and prevent fresh food from going to waste. The fridge is open to all to share or take food, including surplus from supermarkets, local food businesses, producers, households and gardens. The Alnwick Garden opened its Community Fridge on a weekly basis in August 2022 and has helped to save **447kg of food** going to waste.



Fact

165 pupils attended our educational programmes aimed at increasing knowledge of the climate crisis, climate action and lifecycle of plants.



Supporting the wider community



The Alnwick Garden, always strives to support beyond its existing charitable programmes, and reaches out to a wide range of other initiatives in the community.

We provided over **£10,000** worth of tickets to other community groups and charities to assist them with their own fundraising activities, and support their own beneficiary outcomes through free access to The Garden.



137 tickets were donated to support an NHS family day, to thank them for their dedication and hard work during the pandemic.



300 carers benefitted from free tickets as part of National Carers' Week.



300 free tickets were given to refugees and asylum seekers, women's groups and community groups supporting families in poverty.



Free and discounted tickets were distributed to Adopt North East to use with families at risk of adoption breakdown to work with them in a therapeutic setting.



We continued to work with The Prince's Trust, providing community projects for **18** young people participating in their employability programme.



We opened our doors to **1,000** beneficiaries who attended our Winter Light Trail "Community Evening". The groups who benefitted from free access included carers and young carers, foster carers and looked-after children, local community groups, and those in recovery and attending mental health, and drug and alcohol treatment services.



We supported a group of Ukrainian Refugees to use The Alwick Garden to celebrate "Maslyana" a traditional Ukrainian event to celebrate the end of winter.



THIS WINTER @THE ALWICK GARDEN

SOUPER TUESDAYS
Every Tuesday 10AM-2PM
Hot drinks and soup available and supplied free of charge with free information sessions provided on energy efficiency. Available in the Roots and Shoots Community Room. All are welcome!



Souper Tuesdays – free soup and refreshments were offered every Tuesday during the winter, with advice offered on energy efficiency and healthy eating on a budget. Insulated cups were also given to attendees to reduce the amounts of time a kettle needs to be boiled, thus saving energy.



The Alwick Garden supported a national initiative and opened up to provide a warm space during the winter months, three evenings a week. **26** people benefitted from hot food and refreshments served in a warm space to help combat rising energy costs.



The Alnwick Garden through the years



1996

The Duchess of Northumberland decided to create The Alnwick Garden.



1997/8

Garden Designers Wirtz International were commissioned to interpret the Duchess's vision for the design of The Alnwick Garden.

2000

17th March 2000
Construction work began on site.



Phase 1 2001

1st October 2001

Phase One completed and opened to the public.



The Grand Cascade

One of the largest water features of its kind in the country.



The Ornamental Garden

A walled garden designed as a series of rooms containing 16,500 plants, making it one of the biggest collections of European plants in the UK.



The Woodland Walk

Pathway down to the River Aln with views of Alnwick Castle and wooded parklands.

The Rose Garden

A total of 2,500 rose bushes and climbers create a massive splash of colour. The Alnwick Rose was created by David Austin Roses and unveiled at The Chelsea Flower Show in 2001.



2002

September 2002

Phase One of The Alnwick Garden is officially opened to the public by HRH The Prince of Wales.

2003

April 2003

The Alnwick Garden Trust is formalised as an independent charity to ensure the community projects work for the benefit of the North East.

November 2003

Construction begins on Phase Two: The Treehouse at The Alnwick Garden and the three themed gardens - The Poison Garden, The Serpent Garden and The Bamboo Labyrinth.



2004

November 2004

Home Office approval is granted to The Alnwick Garden Trust to grow cannabis and khat for educational purposes.

Phase 2 2005

January 2005

Phase Two completed and opened to the public.

The Treehouse

The largest wooden treehouse in the world was built around 16 mature lime trees, 18 metres above the ground. The restaurant has an open fire surrounded by hand crafted furniture.



The Poison Garden

An educational garden full of intrigue, contains some of the most deadly plants in the world.

The Serpent Garden

Eight interactive water sculptures show how water reacts on different surfaces, a great place to splash and have fun.



The Bamboo Labyrinth

Designed to form an ingenious challenge.



2006

April 2006

The Pavilion and Visitor Centre designed by Sir Michael Hopkins opened to the public 4th April.

2007

September 2007

Phase Two of The Alnwick Garden is officially opened to the public by HRH The Prince of Wales.



2008

February 2008

The world's largest Taihaku cherry orchard is planted consisting of 326 trees.

2011

June 2011

HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip visited for a Carers Garden Party 22nd June.



Roots & Shoots Garden opened to the public, a productive fruit, vegetable and flower garden which is used as a teaching resource.





2011

November 2011

Sparkle lighting was installed around The Grand Cascade and opened to the public by The Duchess of Northumberland.

2013

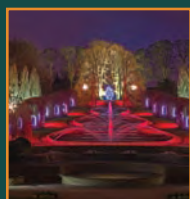
April 2013

The Japanese Duck House was unveiled on The Pond by the Japanese Ambassador.



November 2013

Sparkle Two was unveiled to the public with extended lighting into the trees behind The Grand Cascade by three founder friends of The Garden - Audrey Maddison, Sheila Maddison and Eileen Gearing.



December 2013

The original wooden pergola was blown down in a storm.



2014

March 2014

A replacement metal pergola was constructed in The Ornamental Garden.

2015

March 2015

Slate urns were installed in The Ornamental Garden and near the oldest tree in The Garden.



August 2015

The Duchess's Gates were installed at The Rose Garden.



2016

October 2016

The Stuart Halbert Elderberries Room was officially opened by Maureen Halbert on 13th October coinciding with the 15 year anniversary.



2017

May 2017

The swings in The Cherry Orchard were launched for sponsorship.



July 2017

The Forgotten Garden Adventure Golf opened.



2018

February 2018

The Beast From The East hit, closing many places in the UK due to snow. We were still open and a wedding managed to go ahead.



July 2018

Planning permission was granted for Lilidorei play village on 3rd July.



13th September 2018

HRH Prince Charles attended the Carers Garden Party and officially opened the Elderberries Drop In Centre.

2020

March 2020

Covid-19 pandemic closed The Garden for 3 months.

July 2020

The Garden reopened with restrictions for social distancing.

December 2020

Another lockdown was imposed closing The Garden from 31st December.



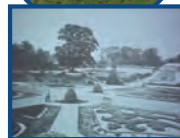
2021

April 2021

The Garden reopened with some social distancing restrictions in place.

November 2021

Storm Arwen (gale-force winds) caused devastation throughout Northumberland bringing down many trees in The Garden (see above left) including our second oldest from the 1900s (see below left).



2022

March 2022

3 Gold Awards were won at The North East Tourism Awards: Resilience and Innovation, Experience of the Year and Largest Visitor Attraction.

July 2022

Construction began on Lilidorei and the first clan house arrived.



August 2022

We welcomed our seven millionth visitor since opening.

December 2022

The Winter Light Trail was a massive success and continues to grow each year.



Contact Us

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www.alnwickgarden.com

Registered Charity Number: 1095435

Thank You!

The Alnwick Garden Trust, receives phenomenal support from a team of volunteers, whom without we could not deliver such a wide range of programmes. We would like to thank them all for their hard work and commitment over 2022/23 and for over 8,124 hours of volunteering time.

We would also like to thank our supporters, donors and our funders:

**The Mercers Company
Community Foundation**

North of Tyne Combined Authority

The Stuart Halbert Foundation

Community Action Northumberland

Lynn Manger

CEO Sleepout

