

Annual Review 2024

For the year ended 30 June 2024



* This Annual Review is an extract of the full Performance Report and Financial Statements. To view the full MG Charitable Trust Annual Report, visit www.mggroup.co.nz/mgtrust.

MG Charitable Trust

Overview

The MG Charitable Trust (MG Trust) was established in 2019 and launched in 2021 thanks to the generosity of Market Gardeners Ltd (MG Group).

Status:

Charitable Trust

Charitable registration number:

Charitable registration number: CC58378 (Charities Commission Registration Number), 50076869 (Charitable Trust Register Incorporation Number, Companies Office).

The MG Trust is a registered charitable trust which is run independently from MG but is closely supported by the co-operative. It focuses on providing funding to projects and initiatives which have a positive impact on the horticulture industry. The Trustees are particularly interested in initiatives in the areas of education, innovation/research, and industry profile/legacy.

The key objectives of the MG Trust are to:

- Advance the education of people within the horticulture industry.
- Support projects which help benefit the horticulture industry.
- Advance the development of the horticulture industry through research and innovation.
- Support programmes and organisations that promote the benefits of fresh produce and advocate for the industry more generally.
- Enhance the profile and preserve the heritage of the horticulture industry.
- Relieve poverty and improve health through programmes and initiatives to educate people about the benefits of consuming fresh produce and activities to encourage consumption.

The Trustees meet twice a year to assess applications for contestable funding and again, as necessary, to assess applications for the education fund.

Trust Structure

The Settlor of the MG Trust is Market Gardeners Limited. The MG Trust is a registered charitable trust which is run independently from MG but is closely supported by MG.

Governance and Management

The MG Trust is chaired by grower John Clarke, with a further three grower-trustees (Trudi Webb, Robin Oakley, and Catherine Lewis) and one Independent Trustee (Alastair Hercus). Together, they bring many years' experience in the horticulture sector and offer a broad range of professional skills to support the objectives of the MG Trust. Administration, accounting, communication, and marketing support is provided to the MG Trust by members of the MG Executive Management team. There is no charge for this support.

Funding

Initial seed funding of \$178,000 was provided to the MG Trust by the MG Group, with ongoing funding coming from annual distributions generated by shares held by the MG Trust, interest on funds held in the bank, together with donations (from MG and its associated entities, shareholders, and contacts) from time to time. In time, it is intended the Trust will seek to encourage donors to provide donations.



\$306,389
allocated by the MG Trust to date

MG Charitable Trust Chair's report



MG Charitable Trust Chair
John Clarke

As we reflect on another year, I am again proud of the journey the MG Charitable Trust has undertaken in 2024. Following on from last year's review, the Trustees worked together to put a greater emphasis on education, with the view that this is an area where the MG Trust can make the biggest difference with the available resources. This strategy was successful, with more funding directed towards opportunities for individuals or projects linked to education than in previous years.

The focus is firmly on upskilling current growers as well as supporting young people about to enter the industry, with community and junior school gardens being removed from the funding criteria.

In 2024, the MG Trust became a key primary industry partner for the Agribusiness in Schools programme which aligns with this approach. By supporting this nationwide initiative, we've been able to guarantee a greater level of exposure to horticulture within the course content.

Another project we were particularly pleased to get behind is the Vegetable Industry Centre of Excellence, which has been co-developed by vegetable growers, vegetable product groups, Horticulture New Zealand, and Ngāti Te Ata to address gaps in research, extension, and people support in the vegetable sector. The Trustees initially funded the development of a business case, which successfully contributed to the organisation securing seed funding. On the back of that, the team delivering the project have made good progress, with some additional funding provided by the MG Trust to support it through the set-up phase.



↑ MG Charitable Trust Board
Left to right: Trudi Webb, John Clarke, Robin Oakley, Catherine Lewis and Alastair Hercus.

Contestable Funding Rounds

November 2023 & JUNE 2024

Agribusiness in Schools



2024 Primary industry funding partner

\$23,000

Citrus NZ



Six growers subsidised to attend international conference

\$12,000

Women in Horticulture



Building confidence workshops

\$5,000

District Associations



Governance workshop for grower reps

\$17,000

Vegetable Industry Centre of Excellence



Set-up phase funding support

\$7,500

United Fresh



Funding support for industry Fresh Facts publication

\$5,000



“The course has given me a wider perspective on looking at a business industry through a governance lens, and how to make effective decisions through a focused strategy, knowledge, and an open mind to make the best decisions for the company; and effectively the shareholders.”

— Jasmine Franklin

MG Trust Education Fund

In addition to supporting education through the Contestable Funding round, the MG Trust targets specific opportunities which aim to support individuals.

Across the 2023-2024 year, the Education Fund contributed \$33,400 in subsidies, offering a broader range of grower-specific programmes across various tiers, catering for farm managers with just a few years’ experience through to high-level governance training for aspiring directors.

THE 2024 RECIPIENTS:

Rabobank Farm Manager Programme

Lincoln Roper

Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme

Whitney Conder

Rabobank Executive Development Programme

Ian Albers

Mayfield Governance Course

Jasmine Franklin

Looking ahead

As we look to the future, we are optimistic about the opportunities that lie ahead. We encourage growers to directly contribute to the MG Trust. Donating shares or making a cash contribution is a simple way to support the MG Trust’s initiatives and further advance the horticulture sector in New Zealand.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Trustees and the MG Management team for their support this year. We will continue to work to have a positive impact on the horticulture industry in the years ahead.

John Clarke

MG Charitable Trust Chair

MG Charitable Trust Financial Information for the 12 months ended 30 June 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE <i>How was it funded? and what did it cost?</i>	2024 \$	2023 \$
<i>Donations received from Market Gardeners Limited</i>	6,000	6,000
<i>Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</i>	382,161	439,477
Total Revenue	388,161	445,477
EXPENSES		
<i>Grants and donations made</i>	102,900	97,289
Surplus for the year	285,261	348,188

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION <i>What the entity owns? and What the entity owes?”</i>	2024 \$	2023 \$
TOTAL ASSETS	2,997,530	2,768,058
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,995,334	2,051,123
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	1,002,196	716,935

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS <i>How the entity has received and use cash</i>	2024 \$	2023 \$
Net cash flows (used in) / from operating activities	(70,443)	942
Net cash flows from investing and financing activities	-	-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH	(70,443)	942
Opening cash	175,464	174,522
CLOSING CASH	105,021	175,464

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