

TRING AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1053276

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1996-02-26

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Green Meadows
Longfield Road
Tring
HP23 4DF

Phone 01442825491

Website www.tringlocalhistorymuseum.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY OF TRING AND THE SURROUNDING AREA BY THE PROVISION OF A MUSEUM, MEETINGS, LECTURES AND OTHER SIMILAR EDUCATIONAL EVENTS.

Activities: To enhance the education of the general public in the history of Tring and the surrounding area, in particular by the provision of a museum, meetings, lectures and other similar educational events.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** TRING, ALDBURY WIGGINTON
- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£30,707	£31,852	-	-
2024-03-31	£16,980	£16,136	-	-
2023-03-31	£15,866	£16,891	-	-
2022-03-31	£9,007	£12,367	-	-
2021-03-31	£21,222	£14,689	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
TIM AMSDEN	Chair	
Clara Willett		2021-09-15
David Robert Armstrong		2025-05-21
Ernesto Jaconelli		2019-05-15
Gillian Simpson		2021-09-15
JOHN MARTIN WELLS		2014-01-20
Jessica Field		2025-05-21
MICHAEL JAMES		2012-10-30
RICHARD TREGONING		2011-11-30
ROGER CARLYLE HOPKINS FCA		
SUSAN LIPSCOMBE		2015-05-20
Stephen John Hearn		2019-05-15

Accounts

Annual Report 2024-25 Adopted by the trustees on 23 April 2025

This has been a highly satisfactory and momentous year for the Society and its museum.

Membership of the committee (which is the trustee body of the charity) remained unchanged, although regrettably towards the end of the year our Membership Secretary, John Savage, told us he would be unable to continue owing to poor health. John held the position for ten years, and brought his customary integrity, exacting standards and efficiency to bear on the task, for which we are most grateful. David Armstrong kindly stepped in to help with the annual subscription renewals.

At the AGM in 2024, members agreed to convert the Society from Registered Charity status to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Regrettably, owing to the ill health of the consultant advising us and the perversities of the online conversion process, we were not able to achieve the change by the year end, but it is hoped that it will be made very soon.

Our programme of speaker evenings, assembled by Shelley Savage, brought us yet again a variety of fascinating topics. Mike Hutchinson recounted the history of Tring Park School, enlivened with hair-raising memories of former pupils. Paul Rabbitts took his book *Leighton Buzzard in 50 Buildings* as the basis for a tour of our neighbouring market town, and Liz Young described the ancient but endangered craft of bookbinding. Local resident Liz Green told us about the role of a High Sheriff, along with her own charitable activities. Frank Iddiols identified and explained the numerous but largely forgotten Ordnance Survey bench marks still to be found, and the ever-dependable Julian Hunt spoke of the representation of Bucks and Herts in the Domesday Book.

We remained as ever grateful to Tring Town Council for their moral support, and their grant which largely offsets the rent. Steps have been taken towards the renewal of the museum lease next year.

Museum activity has been dominated by the loan of two complete and two fragmentary examples of the medieval 'Tring tiles' from the Victoria and Albert Museum. It remains highly unusual for a museum of our size to achieve a loan from a national institution, and yet this is our second such loan, following that of the 1315 Charter from The National Archives in 2015. Many hurdles had to be jumped before the loan could be agreed, but the display has proved very striking and popular.

Alongside the V&A tiles have been shown the remarkable interpretations of tiles thought once to have existed, using the same comic-book style and made by artist Susan Elaine Jones, who also produced an explanatory book on the subject. Various groups were invited to make private visits to the exhibition and the response was remarkable. Prehistory returned in the form of fibreglass dinosaurs, bringing us at least to the attention of a large number of parents. These initiatives all contributed to a 24% upturn in annual museum attendance, bringing the number of visitors by the end of March to 2,952.

We have at last achieved the restoration of an oil painting from our collection which was in no state to be displayed, being damaged and discoloured and without its frame. *Home Farm*, painted in the 1890s by Kate Gardiner Hastings, sister of Richardson Carr who lived there, has now been repaired by conservators Therese and Al Prunet-Brewer, and it will go on display soon. We were delighted to receive a generous grant towards this work from the Hertfordshire Heritage Fund.

Driven principally by insurance requirements, our landlord Tring Town Council presented us with a number of compliance obligations, on matters ranging from electrical and fire safety to the potential presence of legionella and asbestos. These have necessitated some expenditure, without raising any

insurmountable problems. An expensive upgrade to the sliding doors also had to be carried out, as well as security improvements needed for the V&A display.

We have maintained an ample number of volunteer stewards, on whose support the museum depends. We remain anxious to improve the comfort of the Outer Gallery and hope to be able to install additional insulation and better heating before cold weather sets in again.

Our ability to collect and store artefacts continues to be impacted by the constraints of the Heritage Store in Berkhamsted. We welcomed the appointment of Melissa Maynard-Linsey to the post of Museum Manager there and can only look forward to the eventual resolution of the storage issue.

Our very existence relies on a strong membership base and our numbers have held up well, as have our finances, despite the numerous costs incurred in meeting the V&A and Arts Council England's requirements in connection with the loan of the tiles. We were thrilled to hear that a local charity, on winding up its activities and distributing its capital, had chosen to make us a grant of £10,000, a generous endorsement of the work which the Society does and a recognition of the place which the museum has come to occupy in the local community.

Customary Society activities like the Reminiscence Group and the Quiz sheet have remained successful and popular. The Newsletter has thrived and the contribution of sixth form history students at Tring School has continued. The website has experienced over 126,000 visits. We returned to the Victoria Room to participate in the town's Christmas Festival, our display bringing 475 visitors. The indefatigable Wendy Austin has written a new volume, *Communications come to Tring*, and generously given us copies to sell. Our popular title *The Rothschilds and Tring* was reprinted, justified by strong sales at Waddesdon Manor and the Natural History Museum. Walks were conducted for Heritage Open Days and the Chiltern Society's heritage festival.

All of this requires leadership and direction, and the trustees have taken steps to plan for their succession, preferably involving younger people. While firmly believing that the Society punches above its weight and is well regarded in the local history world, it is clear that it can only continue to succeed if it attracts people who can bring energy and enthusiasm as well as adaptability to new ideas, methods and opportunities.

Our organisation is entirely voluntary, and we would like to thank all Society members, especially those who are active participants, for their continuing support. Without their dedication and hard work, the Society and its museum would be unable to make the strong contribution to Tring life that it does.

Tim Amsden
Chairman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'T Amsden', with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1053276

TRING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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- 2 Statement of Assets and Liabilities
- 3 Independent Examiners Report

TRING AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY							
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1053276							
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025							
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						2023/24	
				£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS		Notes					
Unrestricted funds							
Membership					2,958		2,579
Book sales					2,474		1,564
Merchandise sales					882		766
Fundraising		1			1,854		1,850
Donations & bequests					13,731		2,892
Grants - Tring Town Council					2,200		2,200
Bank interest					3,054		3,164
HMRC gift aid refund					1,055		1,062
					28,208		16,077
Allocated funds							
Appeals -				-		-	
Grants -		2					
Tring Town Council -	Year book		300				
Herts Heritage Fund -	Painting restoration		1,500				
Dacorum Borough Council	Tile demonstration		500				
Share Museums East -	CIO Costs		-			800	
Receipts and Donations							
Reminiscence group funds paid in		8d	199			103	
					2,499		903
TOTAL RECEIPTS					30,707		16,980
PAYMENTS							
Museum running costs		3	11,542			8,076	
Museum building development & improvement costs		4	2,388			-	
Equipment purchase & maintenance		5	5,523			637	
Artefact acquisition, display and maintenance costs		6	5,446			1,573	
Book publishing costs or purchased for resale			1,215			384	
Merchandise purchased for resale			311			502	
Hall hire, exhibition and fundraising expenses		7	703			1,133	
Speaker evening costs (excluding hall hire see note 7)			506			85	
Subscriptions			201			155	
Administration costs			488			302	
Bank and card machine costs			39			36	
Newsletter costs			1,438			1,208	
Publicity costs			513			-	
Stewards event			11			90	
Trustee, public liability and contents insurance			1,038			1,037	
Training & conference costs			-			96	
Website hosting costs			174			159	
Charitable Incorporated Organisation conversion costs			-			650	
Year book publishing costs			300			-	
Sundry expenditure			16			15	
TOTAL PAYMENTS					31,852		16,138
NET RECEIPTS/(DEFICIT)					(1,145)		842
Total Bank funds at 1 April 2024					67,278		66,436
TOTAL CASH & BANK FUNDS AT 31 March 2025					66,133		67,278

Date _____

Tring & District Local History and Museum Society

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TRING &
DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2025**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Tring & District Local History and Museum Society for the year ended 31th March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of this report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

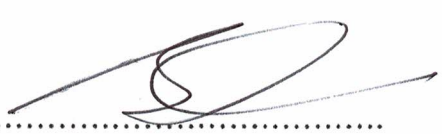
I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

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 accounts to be reached.


.....
B Johnson B Com FCA
9, Shrublands Road
Berkhamsted
HP4 3HY

20 May 2025
.....
Date

Tring & District Local History and Museum Society

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