

THE FORESTERS HERITAGE TRUST

(Registered Charity No.1109859 in England and Wales)

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2020

Introduction

This is the fourteenth annual report. The period covered by the Report is 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020.

Details of the Trust

The name of the registered charity is **The Foresters Heritage Trust**.

The number of the registered charity is **1109859**.

The principal office of the Trust is at **Station Chambers, The Boulevard, Tunstall, Stoke on Trent. ST6 6DU**.

The address for e-mail contact is www.forestersheritagetrust@outlook.com

The website address is www.forestersheritagetrust.org

Constitution of Trust

The Trust is constituted by a **Trust Deed** dated **19th April 2005**.

The Trust was registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on the **3rd June 2005**, with the following objects.

"The Trustees shall hold the trust property and apply it to promote education in the history and background of the friendly society movement in Great Britain (in particular that of the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society) by the collection and maintenance of relevant materials, artifacts and publications; and to make such materials, artifacts and publications freely available for public inspection."

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Trustees consider that the following responses to the questions posed in the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance demonstrate their understanding of the Public Benefit Requirement.

- What the charity is set up to achieve – this is known as the charity's purpose **Providing education in the history of the friendly society movement.**
- How the charity's purpose is beneficial – this is the 'benefit aspect' of public benefit **Development of a wider knowledge of the history of the friendly society movement.**

- How the charity's purpose benefits the public or a sufficient section of the public – this is the 'public aspect' of public benefit. **Extending the understanding of the role of the friendly society movement by the population at large.**
- How the trustees will carry out the charity's purpose for the public benefit – this is what is known 'furthering' the charity's purpose for the public benefit **Providing a fully accessible Research Enquiry Service, Website, and Museum and Archive.**

Tenure information

The Trust did not own any land or property during the Report period. A lease of the ground floor and basement of premises at **Station Chambers, The Boulevard, Tunstall, Stoke on Trent** was commenced on the 25th February 2016 for a term of ten years with a break clause after five years.

Details of Trustees in post at the date this Annual Report was signed:-

Andrew J Pooley	Chairman
Malcolm J Prechner	
Kevin G Carpenter	
Janet Pooley	
Cheryl P Eagleson	
Anthony R E Lewis	
Michael Charlton-Hubble	Appointed Ex-officio June 2019

Appointment of new Trustees

The appointment of new Trustees is provided for in the Trust Deed. As and when it becomes appropriate existing Trustees issue invitations for anyone wishing to serve as a Trustee to make application in writing. Such applications are considered and voted on by the Board of Trustees.

One Trustee is appointed annually (ex-officio) by the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society Ltd. This is in accordance with the Trust Deed.

The Trust does not have an induction or training programme for new Trustees, however all applicants for a post are advised to familiarize themselves with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales as to fitness and suitability.

The day to day administration of the Trust for the period 1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020 was carried out by Janet Pooley, Trustee who also held the role of Treasurer.

The provision of front-line services was provided by Peter Nixon (Curator).

Income and Expenditure

The gross income of the Trust during 2020 amounted to £40,662.76 (2019 £38,425.77), with total expenditure of £33,420.22 (2019 £28,594.55). A copy of the 2020 Accounts is appended.

Principle Sources of Funding

The major financial funding received by the Trust during 2020 was derived from delegates to the Foresters Friendly Society annual national conference in June 2019 passing a resolution authorizing financial support from Branch funds as at the end of 2019. The amount paid into the Trust's Bank Account in May 2020 was £40,195.80

Policy on Reserves

In September 2020 it was agreed that the Trust would look for and invest £30,000 in a suitable interest bearing investment with a maximum of £10,000 invested in units and £20,000 in deposits

Funds in Deficit

None of the funds of the Trust are in deficit.

Independent Examination of Accounts

The Trust uses an honorary Independent Examiner, C P Morris, FFA, FFTA, FIAB, for the examination of its annual accounts. A copy of his report is appended.

Progress of the Foresters Heritage Trust during 2020

Governance matters

The Museum has now been open to the public on the first and third Saturday of each month since September 2018 and groups can be accommodated on other days by arrangement with the Curator.

As a result of the Government's Covid-19 restrictions the Museum was closed to the public from 23 March 2020.

Various items including Honour Boards, historical documents and photographs are held in storage in Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent.

Continuing activity

Climate control with the use of dehumidifiers in the Basement so that documents can be stored there safely without deterioration, continues.

A major project for the digitisation of the collection held by the Museum is being planned which will make it more accessible.

Work continues on the acquisition, preservation and stabilization of exhibits. In respect of Banners this has entailed working with a design company to build a suitable unit to display them at their best. Regrettably due to the size of the Banners and lack of space only one can be displayed at a time.

Meanwhile work continues on indexing the documents in the archive storage racks.

Volunteers are being sought through local branches of the Foresters Friendly Society and contact continues with the Stoke on Trent museum services.

Conclusion

The Trustees continue to manage the Trust and promote education in the history and background of the friendly society movement with the Museum being the focus of this activity.

Enquiries from around the world continue to be received for information on the history and people involved in the friendly society movement. Requests are also received for the loan of material held by the Trust for exhibitions and Meetings around the Country. A new website was launched in 2020 with the existing website being retained to hold archive material. The Trust's FaceBook page has a growing number of followers with an interest in the history of friendly societies.

The digitisation project will enable us to make key elements of the collection more widely accessible to our members, the public and academics.

The upper floor of the Museum's premises continues to be occupied by staff of the Foresters Friendly Society whose assistance has been invaluable.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above Trustees Report.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Signature.....

Full Name.....

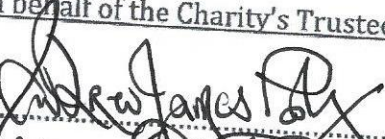
Position.....

Signature.....

Full Name.....

Date.....

Position.....


ANDREW JAMES POOK

CHAIRMAN of TRUSTEES



CHERYL PATRICIA EAGLESON

TRUSTEE

THE FORESTERS HERITAGE TRUST

Registered Charity No. 1109859

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
Income		
Foresters' Friendly Society Special Donation from Courts	40,195.80 ✓	37,606.66
Court General Donations	360.00 ✓	775.00
Other Donations (inc Gift Aid, where applicable)	0.00 ✓	0.00
Sale of Books & Publications	0.00 ✓	6.00
Interest	26.96 ✓	38.11
Sundry Income	80.00 ✓	0.00
	40,662.76	38,425.77
Expenditure		
Tunstall Building Running Costs	12,000.00 ✓	12,000.00
Tunstall Curator Services	11,312.40 ✓	11,311.36
Trustees' Indemnity Insurance	556.97 ✓	556.83
Acquisitions & Preservation	6,138.91 ✓	1,356.49
Equipment & Web Site	1,584.94 ✓	28.81
Business Rates	883.20 ✓	855.07
Stationery	41.96 ✓	119.23
Postage & Telephone	37.77 ✓	1.72
Travel, Food & Accommodation	614.07 ✓	2,134.06
Setting Up Costs (Tunstall)	0.00 ✓	0.00
Sundries	250.00 ✓	230.98
	33,420.22	28,594.55
Surplus for Year	7,242.54 ✓	9,831.22

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors & Prepayments	0.00 ✓	0.00
<u>Cash at Lloyds Bank plc:</u>		
Instant Access Account	80,710.04 ✓	80,683.08
Current Account	11,358.54 ✓	3,978.96
	92,068.58	84,662.04
	92,068.58	84,662.04
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	270.00 ✓	26.00
TOTAL ASSETS	£ 91,798.58	£ 84,636.04

9/12/2021

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FORESTERS HERITAGE TRUST.

(Charity Registration No 1109859.)

I report on the accounts of The Foresters Heritage Trust for the year ended 31st December 2020 set out on the attached page.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- *Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act.
- * To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5)b) of the Charities Act, and
- * To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. Any examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an Audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me a reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met:
or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Christopher P Morris

C.P.Morris FFA/ FIPA Incorporated Financial Accountant M/Ship no 157311
9 Herbert Human Close Practising Certificate no 11464 in Public Practice.
Soham

Ely

CB7 5ZT

5th August 2021.