

Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	Day 1	Month November	Year 2024		Day 31	Month October

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	North Eastern Railway Association		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1164199		
Charity's principal address	2 McNay Street		
	Darlington		
Postcode	DL3 6SW		

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Andrew Neil Mackay	Chairman		Members of the charity
2	Christine Joyce Richardson	Treasurer		Members of the charity
3	John McCree Scott	Secretary		Members of the charity
4	John Dilworth Carr		1/11/2024 – 12/04/2025	Members of the charity
5	Ian William Mitchell		12/04/2025 – 31/10/2025	Members of the charity
6	Edward John Orwin			Members of the charity
7	Keith Richardson			Members of the charity
8	Peter David Sykes		12/04/2025 – 31/10/2025	Members of the charity
9	Alan Tully			Members of the charity
10	Ian Watson		1/11/2024 – 12/04/2025	Members of the charity
11	Claire Williamson			Members of the charity
12	David John Williamson			Members of the charity

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance, and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Normally elected by members at the AGM. Exceptionally can be co-opted by the Trustees at one of their meetings subject to confirmation at the following AGM.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.
- relationship with any related parties.
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the history of all the railways that have operated in the North East of England, particularly the North Eastern Railway, its constituents, and successors. The charity will achieve this object by: collecting and preserving historical records, regularly publishing a Journal, arranging a programme of meetings/exhibitions, encouraging the construction of accurate models of the railways, encouraging the writing of appropriate books and their publication, and working with public and private bodies such as Community Rail Support Groups and Train Operating Companies, Network Rail, Heritage Railway Associations and organisations representing railway staff.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Darlington Archives Team During the year **91** queries have been received and dealt with by the Archives Department based at McNay Street in Darlington and **47** through the webpage via the General Secretary, thus making a total of **138**. The Archives Team is continuing with an ongoing programme of digitisation and by maintaining an extensive library of video talks, which also contributes towards education, and recording aspects of North Eastern Railway history, thus satisfying part of our charitable aims.

Main Activities

NERA continues to provide a series of evening presentations arranged via Zoom Video technology which allow a worldwide audience to participate directly from the comfort of their own homes.

There were five talks this year.

Community Engagement has increased during the year with talks given to promote the reopening of the Northumberland Line and the North Shields 800 festival.

Special **NERA Banners** were produced to promote the work of NERA at community events and included in the design were QR codes for ease of access to more information using mobile telephones.

The programme of Railway Walks continued with a walk from Middleton-in-Teesdale to Barnard Castle. It was well attended by 20 people, 10 of whom were non-members.

There were nine public events during the year which included two at York (one of which included the Annual General Meeting), two at Hull, and three at Hopetown Museum in Darlington. All offered a varied programme for members and guests attending. We also attended **Rail 200 Events** at the **Stainmore Railway** in August and at the **Stephenson Steam Railway Museum** in North Shields, which took place in late October. The Robert Stephenson Trust, North Eastern Locomotive Preservation Group, ASLEF and the Mining and Mechanical Institute from Newcastle also participated at this event.

All the facilities and activities are available to the public and are advertised on the charity's website (<http://www.ner.org.uk>)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making.
- policy programme related investment.
- contribution made by volunteers.

The charity continues to be run by volunteers and their contribution across the full range of our activities has been essential to the success of the Association during the year.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Four issues of our *North Eastern Express* journal together with four accompanying supplements were published. A special issue was produced in August to mark the bicentenary of the opening of The Stockton & Darlington Railway. (Rail 200)

Membership The membership currently stands at 669 of which 175 are digital only, meaning those members can receive copies of the *North Eastern Express* journal online instead of by post, thus saving the cost of postage.

Publications and Sales

Sales stands at NERA presentation events and Model Railway Exhibitions at York Racecourse, North Shields, Kirkby Stephen (Stainmore Railway) and Newcastle and NERA events at the Bar Convent in York have performed well helping to promote NERA books and facsimiles of historical railway related documents. These events are also an opportunity to interact with other interested parties from the wider railway community. New Sales Stands Banners have been produced to assist in promoting NERA.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity holds a reserve fund of £45,000 which is adequate to meet all its obligations in the event of winding up. It has four designated funds for archive acquisitions, membership development and IT development, and publications. At year end, the total value of the designated funds was £25,027

Details of any funds materially in deficit

No fund is in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Membership fees and publication sales are the principal source of funding.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	A N Mackay	J M Scott
Full name(s)	Andrew Neil Mackay	John McCree Scott
Position (e.g., Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	General Secretary
Date	15 th November 2025	

Charity Name NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION		No (if any) 1164199	
Receipts and payments accounts			
For the period from	Period start date 01-Nov-24	To	Period end date 31-Oct-25

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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions	19,834	-	-	19,834	19,564
Donations	1,385	-	-	1,385	1,024
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Publications	18,472	-	-	18,472	17,093
Miscellaneous	2,757	-	-	2,757	3,342
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Archive services	170	-	-	170	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	42,618	-	-	42,618	41,023
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	42,618	-	-	42,618	41,023
A3 Payments					
Magazine	11,654	-	-	11,654	13,981
Donations & Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Meetings & Visits	1,174	-	-	1,174	986
Archive	9,610	-	-	9,610	3,947
Publications	13,822	-	-	13,822	11,595
Publicity	912	-	-	912	165
Administration	1,222	-	-	1,222	1,708
Miscellaneous	254	-	-	254	68
Show expenses	658	-	-	658	-
Sub total	39,304	-	-	39,304	32,451
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	39,304	-	-	39,304	32,451
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,314	-	-	3,314	8,573
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	113,091	-	-	113,091	-
Cash funds this year end	116,405	-	-	116,405	8,573

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	113,091	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	113,091	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement	Error	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				
	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	CJ Richardson	Christine Joyce Richardson	15 November 2025	

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

North Eastern Railway Association - Charity Number 1164199

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of North Eastern Railway Association for the period 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the financial statements 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. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- The financial statements did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The financial statements did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I 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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed CW Jagger

4th December 2025