

**BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

# **BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST**

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **Trustees:**

Stuart Bankier – appointed 24 January 2021

John Elliott – appointed 24 March 2022

Julien Lake – re-appointed 24 March 2022

Jonathan Lang – re-appointed 25 October 2023

Sir Philip Mawer – reappointed 26 May 2021

Scott Sherrard – appointed 24 March 2022

### **Charity Number:**

1173070

### **Principal Address:**

c/o Berwick Community Trust

William Elder Building

56-58 Castlegate

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Northumberland

TD15 1JT

### **Independent Examiner:**

Robert Ian Guthrie

4 Tweed Close

East Ord

Berwick-upon-Tweed

TD15 2LU

### **Bankers:**

TSB Bank plc

Excel House

30 Semple Street

Edinburgh

EH3 8BL

## **BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**For the Year ended 31 March 2023**

The objects of the Trust focus on the preservation and promotion of Berwick-upon-Tweed's Grade 1-listed Barracks as a culture and heritage centre for Berwick and its surrounding area. They also give Trustees discretion to undertake other activities which advance the Arts, cultural, educational and heritage activities. The year under review saw further progress in both these respects.

#### **The Redevelopment of Berwick Barracks**

Along with other organisations including the Maltings (Berwick) Trust and the regimental association of the Kings Own Scottish Borderers, the Trust is a key local stakeholder in the planned redevelopment of Berwick Barracks. The significance of this project goes far beyond securing the future of the Barracks themselves. It links to related plans – including, for example, the redevelopment of the Maltings Theatre on Eastern Lane, Berwick, and the acquisition of new premises to house Berwick's important collection of archival material – which are all aimed at furthering the regeneration of the town through better showcasing its history and its many cultural assets.

In our last annual report, we referred to the vision for the Barracks' redevelopment as a 'Living Barracks' which had been developed by the Barracks Partnership Group, chaired by English Heritage, in which the Trust had participated. We reported that, as March 2022 drew to a close, a grant of £4.2million had been awarded to the Partnership from the Government's Cultural Development Fund which, together with a further £1.1million of Borderlands funding given by Northumberland County Council (NCC), would enable work on the site to begin.

The size of the Barracks site, its prominence and listed status, together with the number of partners currently active on it, mean that its planned redevelopment is inevitably complex and is certain to be spread over several years. However, further progress has been enabled by the award in 2023 by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) of a grant of £476,000 to fund the preparation of detailed designs for the site and a detailed business plan, which together will enable the plans for the 'Living Barracks' to reach fruition. These plans and designs must be submitted to the NLHF by April 2024, following which they will be evaluated and NLHF will decide whether to award the further multi-million pounds of funding needed to realise them. We expect to be able to refer to the outcome of that process in our next Annual Report.

During the period of preparation of the business case, Trustees have continued to contribute their knowledge and expertise in various ways, for example by participating in meetings of sub-groups of the overall Partnership Board and workshops organised by the consultants leading different aspects

of the work. They also continue to accept invitations to speak to local community groups and societies to brief their members on the project's progress.

Meanwhile progress has continued to be made in other respects. These include:

1) Work began in the summer of 2023 following the granting of planning permission for the conversion of the Mobilisation Store on the North-East corner of the Barracks site for use as a temporary cinema during the period when the current Maltings Theatre is demolished and a new cultural complex is built on its Eastern Lane site. This development – which illustrates the complex and interlocking nature of the Barracks project - is significant not just in relation to the Maltings but because the work done to achieve the Store's conversion will facilitate it then becoming a new home for the storage of Berwick's archives, some of which date back to Tudor times and which are currently housed in unsatisfactory conditions elsewhere in Berwick. This is a prudent use of public money and the inclusion of the Berwick Record Office in the redeveloped site will help ensure that the site achieves its full potential as a cultural and heritage centre.

2) The decision of Museums Northumberland to withdraw from the Barracks Partnership shortly before publication of the 'Living Barracks' proposals threw into question the future location of the Berwick Town museum and in particular of that part of its collection gifted to Berwick by Sir William Burrell, who lived at nearby Hutton castle and is more widely known for the much larger collection of artefacts which he generously gave to the City of Glasgow.

In May 2023 Northumberland County Council (which holds Berwick's mini-Burrell collection in trust for the town) made clear that it wished the Berwick museum and art collections to be retained on the Barracks site as part of the 'Living Barracks' initiative. This clarification is both welcome and vital in enabling planning for the museum component in the redeveloped Barracks to proceed.

3) The long-term sustainability of the redeveloped Barracks is also likely to benefit from Berwick's designation by the County Council as the home of one of the North East's Culture and Creative Zones. The Council has attracted funding of £1.5m from the North of Tyne Combined Authority to develop an ambitious Culture and Creative Zone (CCZ) for Berwick-upon-Tweed to support the growth of its already strong culture and creative sector, to attract tourism and to benefit local people. Plans for the Zone – in which the Barracks Partnership is participating – are currently being developed.

Looking ahead, Trustees will continue to do all they can to support the successful redevelopment of the Barracks and to ensure that a supportive local voice continues to be heard during this exciting and unavoidably protracted process. As indicated, the project is of long-term strategic significance for the town and all the organisations involved in the site, and the Trust will continue to work alongside them and other partners to foster a united approach.



## **Publications**

We referred in our last report to the successful publication by the Trust of “Berwick Barracks: A History and Guide” to mark the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Barracks in 1721. The publication was made possible with the help of a generous grant from the Lough Fund, through the Community Foundation, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland.

This handsome booklet continues to sell steadily through various local outlets, including the English Heritage shop at the Barracks. By the end of August 2023, total sales since its publication had reached 223 units, raising sales income representing 30% of the project production costs: these costs have been covered with the help of the donation from the Lough Fund mentioned earlier. The booklet also continues to be a useful way in which the significance of the Barracks and of the wider project for their redevelopment can be brought to the attention of visitors to the site, including potential funders. Both Trustees and Dr Stephen Platten, the author of the Guide, have continued to give talks to local groups during the past year based on the research done during the preparation of the booklet.

During 2022, a more substantial Guide to the County of Northumberland, again written by Dr Platten, was also published with the assistance of the Trust. This Guide to the county – which of course includes material about Berwick and its Barracks – was published in August 2022 and was the subject of three separate launch events during the latter part of the year in, respectively, Alnwick Castle (where it was hosted by His Grace the Duke of Northumberland), Berwick and London. The Guide has received much praise and the first print run of 500 copies has now sold out and a second run has already been significantly depleted. Thanks to the success of Dr Platten in raising donations towards its publication, we were able to return a grant of £2,000 awarded by the Lough Fund to the project.

The success of this Guide has prompted requests for Dr Platten to produce a similar Guide to County Durham. After consideration of the Trust’s remit and bearing in mind the important part played by successive Bishops of Durham over many centuries in the history of Berwick and of Northumberland more generally, the Trust agreed to offer similar assistance to Dr Platten in the production of this publication to that which it had afforded to publication of his Guide to Northumberland. Work on assembling the funding required to underpin publication of this Guide to County Durham is already underway.

## **Financial Report**

During 2022-23, the Trust received income from sales of the Berwick Barracks History and Guide and continued to receive donations made to fund the Guide to Northumberland, which were then drawn on for that purpose. Details of all income received and of expenditure by the Trust can be found in the Accounts appended to this Report, which have been independently examined.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which was established by a constitution dated 18 April 2017.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the terms of the constitution. The Trustees during the period covered by this Report are listed on page 2. All the Trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

There was no change in the make-up of the Trustee body during virtually the whole of the year under review, except that Mr Jonathan Lang's then term of appointment as a Trustee lapsed on 10 March 2023. He was re-appointed as a Trustee for a further three-year term on 25 October 2023.

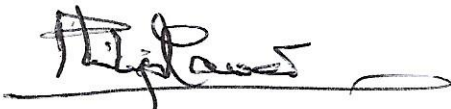
This Trustees' report has been approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on the Board's behalf by -



**Stuart Martin Bankier**

Trustee

Dated: 28th October 2023



**Sir Philip Mawer**

Trustee

Dated: 28th October 2023

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Berwick Barracks Heritage Trust**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Berwick Barracks Heritage Trust (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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


I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed: 

Name: ROBERT IAN GUTHRIE

Date: 28 October 2023

**BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST**
**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31st March 2023**

	Year Ending 31st March 2023	Year Ending 31st March 2022
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Sales of Barracks Books	654	953
County Guide Donations	290	3,100
County Guide Gift		
Aid	0	124
Grant: Community Foundation	0	5,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>9,177</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>		
Barracks Books	0	(4,684)
County Guide	(9,768)	(359)
English Heritage	0	(12,875)
Grant repaid to Community Foundation re County Guide	(2,000)	0
Governance Costs	0	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>(11,768)</b>	<b>(17,918)</b>
<b>(Loss) / Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>(10,824)</b>	<b>(8,741)</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023**

	Year Ending 31st March 2023	Year Ending 31st March 2022
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at Bank	34,163	44,987
Debtors	0	0
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	0	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>34,163</b>	<b>44,987</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Unrestricted Funds		
Barracks	32,088	31,434
County Guide	2,075	13,553
Restricted Funds	0	0
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>34,163</b>	<b>44,987</b>