

Charity registration number 1175362 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 09301164

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Dr PA Averley Mr WM Howard Mr RJ MacAlister Mr AR Sanderson Mr DJ Spurling Professor JL Taylor Mr R Zack Mr J Larkin	(Appointed 23 December 2024)
Charity number	1175362	
Company number	09301164	
Principal address	Matthew Bank Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear NE2 3RE	
Independent examiner	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ	
Bankers	HSBC UK Bank PLC 110 Grey Street Newcastle Upon tyne NE1 6JG	
Legal advisors	Hay & Kilner Helix, The Lumen St James Boulevard Newcastle Upon Tyne NE4 5BZ	

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

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JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The Jesmond Dene Real Tennis Club charity has two objectives:

The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the inhabitants of Newcastle upon Tyne by the provision of facilities for playing Real Tennis.

To conserve, preserve and improve for the public benefit as buildings of historic interest the Real Tennis Court and house at Matthew Bank, Jesmond Dene Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE2 3RE and to educate the public about the history and heritage of the buildings.

Public benefit

The Trustees have consulted the guidance made available by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on the Public Benefit requirement of the Charities Act. The Trustees are confident that they have complied with their duty under the Charities Act in that they have had due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Achievements and performance

Playing Real Tennis

Reporting on the year to 31st March 2025 we see a successful 12 months for the Club. The substantial works we have undertaken, since our acquisition of the freehold from Newcastle City Council in 2018, to improve the fabric of the historic court building and the playing facilities maintains Jesmond Dene Real Tennis Club as one of the best of the 47 courts in the world. It puts "Geordieland" on the international stage.

Like all sports, Real Tennis seeks to attract the players of the future. With support from the Dedanists Foundation and the Club itself, we are promoting lively club activities for university students at Durham and Newcastle, with a growth focus on the other universities in the area. We also encourage involvement of local schools, not only in playing the game, but also simply taking an historical interest in the original "bat and ball" game – now with over 1,000 years of history.

The medium-term effects of the COVID pandemic persist with changed patterns of day-to-day playing resulting from the flexibility of "working from home" for many and changed attitudes to weekends. Around this, intra and inter club competitions remain popular.

The traditional model of club membership is evolving over many sports, and so we have been promoting an approach to membership which involves a single monthly payment which enables as much play as (physically) possible for no extra cost. This is proving attractive to some, but the concept of annual subscription plus a charge for each game played prevails. We are also considering a simple "walk-in" type of membership.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Safeguarding the Real Tennis Court

The Jesmond Dene court is considered to be one of the best constructed in the world. It was built by a fabulously wealthy industrialist in 1894 with what seems to have been a "money no object" approach. Architecturally the court building is a gem and the quality of the internal playing surfaces is of "Rolls Royce" standard.

The Trustees and membership as a whole are aware of their responsibilities in safeguarding the building for the wider community and not just the ardent players of Real Tennis. During the year, further works have been undertaken to improve the infrastructure of the building. We wait patiently for the day when the Court is no longer surrounded by a wilderness as the Council is successful in selling the surrounding lands for development. The Club's ownership of the freehold is such that the presence of the court building and its access will be enhanced by the eventual development of the site. In the meantime, small but important access improvements have been carried out.

We participate in various heritage days and welcome a number of local history, community and walking groups to admire the Court and catch a glimpse of the at times intricate game known as Real Tennis.

Financial review

Our accounts reflect the narrative above in that our core "trading" as a real tennis club is satisfactory with operating income covering operating expenditure, however it is recognised that new members must be attracted to the game to compensate for the eventuality of longer-standing members being able to play no longer. A specific role of growing membership is to be identified at Board level to support the efforts of the Club Professional.

The Club is indebted to *Queensway Dental* and several generous members for their continuing financial support.

To ensure that playing Real Tennis in this architectural gem continues for decades to come, early consideration is in hand to provide for the renewal of the 131 year-old roof, with the capital investment that will entail. For that we are indebted to the Catherine Cookson Foundation for their very generous grant to support the renewal project – which is expected to cost in the region of £500,000. Members are also contributing to a "Heritage Fund" to aid this endeavour.

Structure, governance and management

The role of the Board is summarised as being responsible for managing the Resources, Regulation, Risk, Reputation and Resilience of the Charity.

The Board establishes a business plan and budget for each membership year (April to September). In ensuring financial viability, the Board sets membership fees and court usage charges. The Board is responsible for employment matters.

The Board is supported by a Tennis Committee which must contain at least two trustees plus other non-trustee members. The Club Professional, and Club Administrator are members of the Tennis Committee. The primary purpose of the Tennis Committee is to steer the playing and development of the game of Real Tennis in terms of club play, tournaments, matches, coaching and general development of the sport. A scheme of delegation from the Board exists to enable the Tennis Committee to fulfil its role.

An annual General Meeting is held where the Statutory Accounts are presented and members wishing to be considered for roles as Board Trustees or Tennis Committee members are identified. The achievements and any areas of concern may be discussed by the membership at this meeting.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Dr PA Averley
Mr WM Howard
Mr RJ MacAlister
Mr AR Sanderson
Mr DJ Spurling
Professor JL Taylor
Mr R Zack
Mr J Larkin

(Appointed 23 December 2024)

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr WM Howard
Trustee

Date: 26th October 2025

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Jesmond Dene Real Tennis Club (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.



Nicholas Cunningham FCCA
Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 1TJ
England

Dated: 29-10-2025

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	8,249	27,538	35,787	7,860
Charitable activities	3	50,651	-	50,651	52,304
Other trading activities	4	2,090	-	2,090	2,540
Other income		4,420	-	4,420	4,580
Total income		65,410	27,538	92,948	67,284
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	2,089	-	2,089	2,770
Charitable activities	6	73,194	-	73,194	80,869
Total expenditure		75,283	-	75,283	83,639
Net movement in funds	8	(9,873)	27,538	17,665	(16,355)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		399,167	-	399,167	415,522
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		389,294	27,538	416,832	399,167

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds 2024 £
	Notes	
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	2	7,860
Charitable activities	3	52,304
Other trading activities	4	2,540
Other income		4,580
Total income		67,284
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	5	2,770
Charitable activities	6	80,869
Total expenditure		83,639
Net movement in funds	8	(16,355)
Reconciliation of funds:		
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		415,522
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		399,167

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	371,346	388,554
Current assets			
Stocks	13	558	503
Debtors	14	8,028	8,766
Cash at bank and in hand		42,236	11,473
		50,822	20,742
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(3,336)	(2,129)
Net current assets		47,486	18,613
Total assets less current liabilities		418,832	407,167
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(2,000)	(8,000)
Net assets		416,832	399,167
The funds of the charity			
Restricted income funds	17	27,538	-
Unrestricted funds	18	389,294	399,167
		416,832	399,167

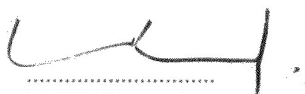
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The director acknowledges his responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on



Mr WM Howard

Trustee

Company registration number 09301164 (England and Wales)

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Jesmond Dene Real Tennis Club is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Matthew Bank, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE2 3RE.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straight line
Leasehold improvements	2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	20% reducing balance
Computers	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1.11 Retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

1.12 Short term debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no interest rate which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any loss arising from impairment are recognised immediately in profit and loss.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
Donations and gifts	-	2,538	2,538	2,856
Gift aid	6,587	-	6,587	5,004
Grants received	1,662	25,000	26,662	-
	<u>8,249</u>	<u>27,538</u>	<u>35,787</u>	<u>7,860</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Charitable activities		
Fees and subscriptions	<u>50,651</u>	<u>52,304</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Shop and hospitality sales	<u>2,090</u>	<u>2,540</u>

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025	2024
	£	£
Raising funds		
Shop and hospitality purchases	2,089	2,770
	<u>2,089</u>	<u>2,770</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities	Charitable activities
	2025	2024
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	29,150	28,442
Depreciation and impairment	17,208	19,559
Rates and water	1,124	1,194
Insurance	4,487	4,413
Light and heat	5,134	4,065
Telephone	1,349	2,411
Postage and stationery	157	43
Sundries	2,474	3,884
Equipment and tournaments	1,766	4,063
Professional fees	2,151	4,304
Repairs and renewals	4,845	5,831
Bank charges	612	465
Subscriptions	622	347
Bad debts	706	389
	<u>71,785</u>	<u>79,410</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Governance	1,409	1,459
	<u>73,194</u>	<u>80,869</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>73,194</u>	<u>80,869</u>

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Governance costs	1,409	1,459
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	1,409	1,459
Governance costs comprise:		
Independent examiner's fees	1,409	1,459
	1,409	1,459

8 Net movement in funds

	2025 £	2024 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	17,208	19,559

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
	2	2
Employment costs		
	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	28,490	27,540
Social security costs	-	272
Other pension costs	660	630
	29,150	28,442

Amounts paid to key management personnel in the year totalled £23,614 (2024: £22,202)

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Leasehold improvements	Fixtures and fittings	Computers	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	250,000	140,201	80,257	2,144	472,602
At 31 March 2025	250,000	140,201	80,257	2,144	472,602
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2024	30,000	18,667	33,237	2,144	84,048
Depreciation charged in the year	5,000	2,804	9,404	-	17,208
At 31 March 2025	35,000	21,471	42,641	2,144	101,256
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2025	215,000	118,730	37,616	-	371,346
At 31 March 2024	220,000	121,534	47,020	-	388,554

13 Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	558	503

14 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	4,568	5,306
Other debtors	3,460	3,460
	8,028	8,766

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	321	273
Trade creditors	1,210	-
Other creditors	-	133
Accruals and deferred income	1,805	1,723
	<u>3,336</u>	<u>2,129</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other creditors	<u>2,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>

17 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Club renovation fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,538</u>	<u>27,538</u>

Club renovation fund

This fund represents monies received from the Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust and specific donations to be spent on roof works to the Real Tennis club.

18 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Sinking fund	50,000	-	-	10,000	60,000
General funds	349,167	65,410	(75,283)	(10,000)	329,294
	<u>399,167</u>	<u>65,410</u>	<u>(75,283)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>389,294</u>

JESMOND DENE REAL TENNIS CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18 Unrestricted funds

(Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Sinking fund	40,000	-	-	10,000	50,000
General funds	375,522	67,284	(83,639)	(10,000)	349,167
	<u>415,522</u>	<u>67,284</u>	<u>(83,639)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>399,167</u>

General fund

The General fund represents the free funds of the charity, which are not designated for particular purposes.

Sinking fund

The Sinking fund represents monies set aside for full roof repairs in 10 years time.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	371,346	-	371,346
Current assets/(liabilities)	19,948	27,538	47,486
Long term liabilities	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
	<u>389,294</u>	<u>27,538</u>	<u>416,832</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	388,554	-	388,554
Current assets/(liabilities)	18,613	-	18,613
Long term liabilities	(8,000)	-	(8,000)
	<u>399,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>399,167</u>

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).