



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	01	2020		31	12	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Our Chartist Heritage

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1176673

Charity's principal address

18 Ruperra Close, Bassaleg

Newport

S Wales

Postcode

NP10 8NP

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	Dr MJ Drowley	Chair		
2	Dr EM Jones			
3	CJH England	Treasurer		
4	M Anderson		From 21.04.2020	
5	NA Vignoli		From 21.04.2020	
6	HL Vaughan			
7	GJ Inight			
8	E Mortell			
9	JC Ferris			
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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)	CIO - Foundation
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Trustee interview

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.

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Section C Objectives and activities

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

THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT BY THE PROVISION OF ARTS EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, TALKS, EXHIBITIONS, CONFERENCES, SPORTS AND HEALTH RELATED ACTIVITIES, EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND BY SUCH OTHER MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

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)

The Trustees have undertaken a range of activities during 2020, with due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

These activities included:

- the appointment of a new Chair of the Board of Trustees (Melinda Drowley) to succeed the founding Chair (Pat Drewett)
- discussion at a full Board meeting of the Charity Commission's document *The Essential Trustee* and its implications for the future development of OCH
- implementation of strengthened arrangements for financial control implemented under the guidance of the new Treasurer (Chris England)
- consideration of the Charity Commission's guidance on conflicts of interest, which led to the development of a new OCH Conflicts of Interest Policy
- rigorous risk assessments for the limited activities and events OCH was able to organise, to ensure the safety of participating volunteers and members of the public in the context of Covid 19
- fundraising for projects that further the charitable object of OCH, including one successful bid for £20K made to The People's Postcode Trust for the *Fighting for Facts* project, which will deliver digital news media literacy workshops designed to empower voters (including future voters) to discern and challenge fake news
- virtual arts events and activities, including film nights with interactive Q&A sessions and a joint event with Newport and Gwent Literary Club featuring a live presentation and Q&A on the *Chartism Redrawn for Schools* project
- a virtual conference presentation to mark the annual Chartist Convention
- sports and health-related activity, notably a guided, socially distanced sponsored walk from The Chartist Bridge in Blackwood to the Westgate Hotel in Newport, along Chartist routes
- the production of educational materials including the comic book *Newport Rising Chartism Redrawn: An assembly of superheroes gathered from schools across Newport* and a short video documenting the project
- digital output enabling a wider range of people to engage in the work of OCH, for example, the virtual Chartist Commemoration on 4 November 2020.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The progress Our Chartist Heritage (OCH) was able to make on its Workplan in 2020 was seriously curtailed by the Covid 19 pandemic, which halted all but virtual activity for ten months of the year. Fundraising events were cancelled and funding bodies understandably decided to prioritise groups and organisations operating at the front-line of the response to the pandemic or those in imminent danger of catastrophic financial failure. Despite this unexpected turn of events, and sometimes because of it, good things happened. For example, immediately prior to lockdown, the Acting Chair of the Board had found it necessary to comment on poor attendance at face-to-face Board meetings and there was concern that a move to virtual meetings could make matters worse. In the event, the move to virtual meetings has proved transformational, with high attendance and increased levels of engagement, participation and readiness to take on responsibility. As a result, OCH may well choose to continue with some of the new ways of working forced upon us by repeated, lengthy periods of local and national lockdown.

For ease of reference the structure of this report follows the structure of the OCH Workplan 2020.

AIM 1: TO INCREASE THE RESILIENCE OF OCH AS AN ORGANISATION

OBJECTIVES:

- 1a Review the effectiveness of the governance and organisational structure of OCH against Charity Commission criteria and other external reference points
- 1b Design and implement a programme of development for the Board of Trustees and its sub-committees
- 1c Design and implement a three-year development programme to achieve external recognition for OCH's good practice in volunteer management, through the Investing in Volunteers Scheme

Aim 1 and its accompanying objectives formed the basis of an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (Wales) (NLHF) for a project entitled *Strengthening organisational resilience to build a sustainable future for Newport Rising Festival*. OCH sought £160K funding over a three-year period. On 1 April 2020, a few weeks after receiving the green light to submit from our designated Investment Officer, OCH received the disappointing news that all available moneys were to be diverted to a Covid 19 Emergency Fund and that our application, which had taken several months and multiple iterations to draft, had been closed and withdrawn.

While it has not be possible to start work in 2020 on the third objective concerning participation in the Investment in Volunteers Scheme, the Trustees committed themselves to making as much progress on the first two objectives as they could, despite the fact that OCH was unable to generate income and held no reserves. They realised that, although the grant-making process had stalled, the application OCH had crafted still provided the Board with a viable starting point: an analysis of organisational need and a project plan.

In July 2020, following a presentation about and discussion of the Charity Commission's guidance document *The Essential Trustee*, the Board approved a broad outline in-house programme to review and strengthen the governance, financial controls and resilience of OCH, based where feasible on the plan submitted to NLHF, which specified the following actions:

- appointment of new Chair to Board of Trustees
- engagement of full-time equivalent Project Director
- review of governance and programme of development for Board of Trustees and subcommittees
- review of financial controls

- review of policies and procedures, including development of a welsh Language Policy and an Environmental Policy
- development and implementation of a business plan
- development of project baseline data, design and implementation of an evaluation framework
- development and implementation of an income diversification plan (fundraising, sponsorship, sales of merchandise).

The Board noted that a new Chair was now in place and that financial controls had been strengthened by the new Treasurer. Members agreed that dealing with conflicts of interests should be the next priority. A new policy was developed and was approved at the 2021 AGM.

Progress has been solid and thorough but slow and all three objectives associated with Aim 1 will be rolled over to subsequent OCH Workplans, until they are fully achieved and embedded in OCH's rolling programme of organisational quality review. The pace will increase in 2021 by the addition of dedicated online Board development sessions between full meetings of the Board.

AIM 2: TO DELIVER OCH'S KEY ANNUAL EVENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID 19

OBJECTIVES:

2a Oversee organisation of the Schools Chartist Event Wednesday 4 November 2020

2b Oversee organisation of the Annual Chartist Convention Wednesday 5 December 2020

2c Oversee organisation of the Chartist Commemoration Event Wednesday 4 Nov 2020

2d Oversee organisation of the third Newport Rising Festival

2e Oversee organisation of the Senedd Chartist Celebration

The objectives associated with Aim 2 were severely affected by the pandemic. The Schools Chartist Event, the Chartist Commemoration Ceremony in the churchyard of Newport Cathedral, the annual guided walk to the Chartist cave, live spoken word and music events and the Senedd Chartist Celebration of Democracy were all ultimately cancelled. Both the Convention and Festival Sub-Committees spent months, in well attended virtual meetings, making ever-shifting provisional plans and contingency plans for their annual events. The challenge was to strike the right balance between face-to-face and virtual events as different areas of Wales and the UK moved in and out of multiple versions of lockdown.

It was finally decided that the Chartist Convention would take the form of three online presentations: *Henry Vincent: The Monmouth Prison Letters* by Peter Strong; *in Search of Jenkin Morgan* by Ray Stroud; and *Legality and Injustice in the Age of the Chartist, with special reference to Regina vs Frost 1840*. The first of these was made available for viewing online in November/December 2020 and followed by an excellent live Q&A event, which attracted circa 30 participants, about a third of the number who attend the face-to-face annual event. Attendance was lower than hoped or anticipated but the numbers were conducive to open discussion and participants were appreciative and actively engaged. Interestingly, interaction with the presentation online tells another encouraging story as 350 engaged with the talk on the Chartist Magazine Facebook site. For technical and other reasons, the other two presentations have been postponed to later in 2021.

One of the most disappointing aspects of 2020 was the loss of momentum in establishing the Newport Rising Festival as a significant and popular annual fixture in the life of the city. The centrepiece of the festival, the torchlit march from Belle Vue Park to the Westgate Hotel, is all about physical presence and a collective celebration that stimulates both the senses and the mind. Any number of attempts to capture something of this experience in representative virtual forms were dashed by ever-tightening restrictions. Nevertheless, a small, determined group of volunteers finally undertook a sponsored socially distanced guided walk from Blackwood to the Westgate Hotel in atrocious weather, when the regulations momentarily permitted. Equally encouraging were the virtual events, which attracted regular and new participants, some of whom would not have been able to attend face-to-face events even in normal circumstances. Two film nights, inspired by the US presidential election, were organised by Rachel Drowley; the first film chosen was Jordan Peele's horror/thriller *Get Out*, with a guest panel kindly sponsored by Winding Snake Productions; the second was Ava DuVernay's *13th*, a documentary/history about racial inequality and discriminatory disenfranchisement in the US. A joint event with Newport and Gwent Literary Club, featured a well received presentation by artists Rhys DW Jones and Josh Cranton about the *Chartism Redrawn for Schools* project. Western Power Distribution supported the design and delivery of a series of creative workshops, across nine Newport schools in late 2019 to early 2020. The artists presented participants with a team of supervillains, each with a superpower associated with a contemporary social or environmental threat, such as bullying or plastic waste. Participants then worked together to create superheroes, each with their own superpowers specifically designed to counteract those of the villains. Additional funding from Arts and Business Cymru's CultureStep programme enabled the team to print and distribute a comic book containing every one of the 426 superheroes created by the participants and to commission an excellent short video by Jack Henry that documents the project.

Perhaps most remarkable in terms of reach, was the virtual Chartist Commemoration event, streamed at 1800 on 4 November 2020 and available thereafter. The annual event in the churchyard of Newport Cathedral usually attracts circa 40 participants. The virtual event, which incorporated recorded contributions from many of the representatives who normally speak at the event, a rolcall of the Chartists killed outside the Westgate in 1839 and evocative images and sounds, was accessed by 163 via YouTube and 805 on the Newport Rising website. Whatever happens in 2021 and beyond, it is clear that OCH should continue to expand its virtual output alongside its face-to-face provision.

AIM 3: TO BUILD OCH'S CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE ITS CHARITABLE PURPOSES BY COLLABORATING WITH SELECTED PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

OBJECTIVES:

3a Strengthen virtual relationships with collaborative partner organisations including: Newport Live; NOW and NCC; Newport Museum; National Lottery Heritage Fund; USW; Tredegar House; Newport Ship; Art-on-the-Hill; Newport Ambassadors; Westgate Hotel; and identify and initiate new strategic partnerships

3b Strengthen virtual relationships with other Chartist groups e.g. Stroud, Blackwood, Kennington and national Chartist Conferences to promote reciprocal virtual participation in events of mutual interest

The reality of operating during the pandemic was that all the organisations listed under the objectives for Aim 3 were struggling to cope with its impact. Despite this, OCH experienced and contributed to a generally supportive local and wider network of partner organisations and these objectives were met to the extent that they could be in the extraordinary circumstances in which we all found ourselves. For example, Newport

Fusion wrote a letter of support for OCH's (unsuccessful) application to NLHF's *15-Minute Heritage Fund* and offered services in kind in the form of £250 worth of staff hours should our bid be successful. Members of the Convention Committee are supporting the Blackwood Chartist group with their plans to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the town's establishment. As we begin to move into a recovery phase, or at least to operate within the 'new normal', Aim 3 and its objectives should remain a key part of OCH's Workplans.

AIM 4: TO COMPLETE THE APPROVED PURPOSES OF THE HLF GRANT AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES:

- 4a Install circa 12 handmade A3 size wall panels
- 4b Install circa 5 plaques for Chartist Ale Trail
- 4c Establish a volunteer scheme for maintaining the Chartist Trails
- 4d Provide training for volunteers leading guided walks of the Chartist Trails

All four of the objectives associated with Aim 4 were negatively affected by the pandemic. Installation of the wall panels was scheduled for Spring 2020, when conditions would be favourable but by the time the weather had improved unnecessary travel was prohibited. Further complications arose when properties changed hands during the year and permissions became difficult to confirm. As things stand, 10 of the 12 wall panels have been installed and permission from the new owners of the eleventh property is expected imminently, while permission from the 12th is still being actively pursued. Manufacture and installation of the Chartist Ale Trail plaques has been rescheduled to Autumn 2021. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to secure funding for the Watchdogs for Democracy scheme to establish a team of dogs and their walkers to keep an eye on the maintenance of the Chartist Trails. Undaunted, OCH will continue to make applications until one is successful! Training for volunteers to lead guided walks along the Chartist Trails has been lined up and awaits the arrival of better weather and the easing of lockdown.

AIM 5: TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF OCH TO PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT WITH ITS CHARITABLE PURPOSES

OBJECTIVES:

- 5a Research, design and implement an educational programme to combat the threat posed by disinformation to our democratic processes
- 5b Promote tourism value of Chartism in association with Newport Rising Festival

Significant progress was made in 2020 on the first of the two objectives associated with Aim 5 of the Workplan. In July 2020, the Trustees gave careful consideration to a proposal for a substantial new strand of educational work: equipping citizens to combat the threat posed to our democratic processes by disinformation in all its forms. Following approval in principle, a small group conducted preliminary research into the topic, an exercise which culminated in a successful bid to The People's Postcode Trust for £20K for the *Fighting for Facts* project which will design and deliver digital news media literacy workshops to empower voters, including future voters, to discern and challenge fake news. OCH received news that its bid had been successful on 6 November 2020 but it was not permitted to make public announcements until the end of the year. Work on Phase One: Preparatory Research has been completed and included the gathering of information about existing educational approaches and materials. One of the many exciting aspects of the new strand of work is that it draws on the skills and experience of

all three of OCH's Sub-Committees: Education, Convention and Festival. The project is funded for the calendar year of 2021, with the possibility of seeking further funding following submission of a satisfactory project evaluation, subject to changing funding criteria.

Opportunities to promote the tourism value of Chartism in association with Newport Rising Festival were obviously limited in 2020. However, in December 2019, Jamie Owen interviewed the Trustees Patrick Drewett and Melinda Drowley for 'Jamie Owen's Wales' which was broadcast on Radio Wales in January 2020. Then on 4 September 2020, the first episode of the second series of *Hidden Wales with Will Millard*, on BBC ONE Wales & Wales HD, featured Dr Elin Jones, drenched but indomitable, at the Chartist Cave. Press and broadcast media coverage remained favourable and more frequent than could be expected during 2020, given the dearth of newsworthy activity. OCH owes a debt of gratitude to David Daniel, who worked voluntarily to sustain OCH's output on social media and in the local press throughout the year.

AIM 6: TO MAKE MEASURABLE PROGRESS ON OCH'S LONGER-TERM STRATEGIC GOALS

OBJECTIVES:

6a Secure the long-term sustainability of the Newport Rising Festival and of OCH

6b Promote Stow Hill with NCC as an asset of community value

The first of the objectives associated with Aim 6 was a high priority a year ago and remains one in 2021 as we find ourselves operating in an even more challenging environment. The Fundraising Summary can be misleading in this respect. As indicated above, a substantial bid for £160K to NLHF was closed and withdrawn in April 2020 because of the Covid 19 crisis, shortly after submission. In December 2020, a bid for £10K to the Wales Cultural Recovery Fund was rejected on the grounds that it did not meet threshold criteria, even though we had sought advice about our eligibility before developing the bid. In between those points, OCH scrutinised the eligibility criteria of successive recovery funds to no avail. We are immensely grateful to The People's Postcode Trust for supporting and recognising the importance and urgency of our major new strand of work, predicated on OCH's commitment to promoting and defending Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms the right of all to participate in the government of their country and civic life.

OCH has all but completed the work of making visible the hidden history and heritage of Stow Hill through the demarcation of the Chartist Trails, thanks to substantial funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund Wales in 2018-19. With the return to something closer to normality, the trails will be promoted to Newport's citizens and visitors alike.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We do not have a policy on Reserves at present as they are very small however all Reserves are available for fulfilling our Aims & Objectives

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

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.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Date



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Our Chartist Heritage

1176673

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2020

To

Period end date
31/12/2020

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					
Grants & Donations	7,180	20,000	-	27,180	46,300
Events & Merchandise	3,975	-	-	3,975	17,726
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	11,155	20,000	-	31,155	64,026
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	11,155	20,000	-	31,155	64,026
A3 Payments					
Events & Merchandise	12,567	-	-	12,567	49,831
Consultancy	3,750	-	-	3,750	13,750
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	16,317	-	-	16,317	63,581
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,317	-	-	16,317	63,581
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,162	20,000	-	14,838	445
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,242	336	-	5,578	5,133
Cash funds this year end	80	20,336	-	20,416	5,578

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 Current Account	80	20,336	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	80	20,336	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	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	
		CJH England		



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Our Chartist Heritage

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176673

Set out on pages

1 & 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

10/04/2021

Name:

Christopher J Donavon

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

34 Cae Perllan Road

Newport

S Wales, NP20 3FW

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.