

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1180861

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-11-27

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 12a High Street
Ascott-under-Wychwood
Chipping Norton
OX7 6AW

Phone 01993 831068

Email enquires@ascottmartyrs.co.uk

Website www.ascottmartyrs.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE SUBJECT OF THE ASCOTT MARTYRS BY THE PROVISION OF SUCH EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL AND RESEARCH AS THE TRUSTEES DEEM FIT.

Activities: The Ascott Martyrs were sixteen women who were imprisoned in 1873 for supporting striking farm workers in the Oxfordshire village of Ascott Under Wychwood. The traumatic event led to a major riot in Chipping Norton and a reprieve from Queen Victoria. Their legacy today is that picketing was made legal in 1874 and local religious leaders were phased out of being magistrates.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-05	£581	£393	-	-
2024-02-05	£2,824	£1,783	-	-
2023-02-05	£734	£212	-	-
2022-02-05	£396	£1,009	-	-
2021-02-05	£428	£523	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Carol Anderson	Chair	2018-11-21
Andrew Weaver		2018-11-21
Cynthia Briant		2018-11-21
Paula Nielson-Tickner		2020-09-18

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1180861

Accounts

Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust

Trustees Report 2024-25

During the year the Trust carried out a number of activities to provide opportunities for a wide spectrum of people to learn more about the Ascott Martyrs and to celebrate their actions. Working with the Wychwoods Local History Society, the Trust organised and delivered a Local and Family History event in Ascott on 22 June 2024. This was moderately successful, attracting both a local audience and those from further afield with an interest in the Martyrs and the wider history of the village.

The Trust has also supported what has now become an annual Cricket Match to be played between the junior members of the village club and the older more experienced players for the Martyrs' Trophy. This has enabled the Trust to take the story to a younger demographic.

Talks about the Martyrs have continued to be given to groups across Oxfordshire.

To enable one of the key publications about the Ascott Martyrs to remain in print, the Trust facilitated a reprint by Burford Tolsey Museum. They will now handle future sales.

At an Extraordinary AGM on 20th February 2025 the Trustees agreed that in future the objects of the Trust to 'advance the education of the public in the subject of the Ascott Martyrs by the provision of such educational material and research as the Trustees deem to be appropriate' could in future, with their agreement, be taken forward by the active and longstanding Wychwoods Local History Society.

The Wychwoods Local History Society have agreed to receive and archive AMET's paper and digital research archive. They will also take responsibility for any remaining publications and handle sales with proceeds supporting the continuation of work to promote the story of the Martyrs. The contents of the website currently operated by the Trust will be transferred to dedicated pages on the Wychwoods Local History Society website which will be accessible using the current url.

The blue dress and bonnet etc. originally belonging to Beverley McCombs has been transferred, with her agreement, to Chipping Norton Museum. The Mobile clothes rail used for the temporary display the commemorative textile, now housed in the parish church, has been transferred to Burford Tolsey Museum

Discussions are underway with the Parish Council to agree an improved, sustainable treatment for the surface beneath the Martyrs memorial seat which surrounds the horse chestnut tree on the village green. The cost of this work will be met by the Trust.



ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending February 5th 2025

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

INCOME

2024-2025

Sales, Lecture Fees & Donations

Donations	0
Grants	0
Book Sales	147
Textile Booklet Sales	14
Leaflet & Postcard Sales	35
Badge & CD Sales	2
Commemorative Wall Hanging	0
Lecture Fees	300
Events	84
	£581

Cost of Sales

Leaflet & Postcards	0
Textile Booklet	0
Badges & CDs	0
Commission/Book purchases	0
	£0

Gross Profit

£581

PAYMENTS

Administration Expenses

Website (yrs 2024-23)	0
Accountancy Fees	0
Printing/Stationery	27
IT Support	0
Insurance	0
Bank Fees	60
Donations	60
Sundries	0
	£147

Project Expenses

Venue Hire	0
Events	247
Commemoration (Interpretative Panels)	0
Video production Fees	0
Performer / Speaker fees	0
Subscriptions	0
Research Group Materials	0
	£247

Total payments

£393

SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD

£188

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS		<u>2024-2025</u>
	None	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
	Bank Balance	2228
	Stock of Books (Paid for)	666
	Stock of Textile Booklets	306
	Stock of CDs	149
	Stock of Badges	175
	Stock of Postcards	1
	Debtors	0
		<u>£3,525</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	Stock of Books (not paid for)	0
	Commemoration Plaques	0
	Creditors	0
		<u>£0</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£3,525</u>
REPRESENTED BY:-		
ACCUMULATED FUND		
	Cash funds Brought forward	<u>£2,040</u>
	Add SURPLUS for the period	£188
	Cash funds this year end	<u>£2,228</u>

Signed & dated

Trustee

Trustee

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1180861

Accounts

Ascott Martyrs' Educational Trust

Trustees Report report 2023-24

2023 marked the 150th anniversary of the incident that made secular Martyrs of 16 women from Ascott under Wychwood. This year the work of the Trust has therefore focused on marking and celebrating this event.

A programme of exhibitions in libraries and shop windows across west Oxfordshire was delivered from April – June, drawing attention to the story and promoting a programme of events in Ascott-under-Wychwood over two weekends in June, coinciding with the anniversary of the celebrations that took place on the village green in 1873 to mark the return of the 16 Martyrs from prison in Oxford.

A successful free family and local history afternoon, held in the village hall, was very well-attended. It drew participants from across the area and from as far afield as Kent, Newcastle and New Zealand. The afternoon featured the specially printed 11+ metre long Martyrs Family Tree, compiled by one of our volunteers. The event was supported by contributions from various other local groups, including the Oxfordshire Family History Association and the Wychwoods Local History Society. Local Morris sides also made a colourful contribution to the event by performing some of the traditional Ascott dances.

An evening performance of Three Acres and A Cow, supported by contributions from local singers proved very popular and sold out. A younger and broader audience was engaged via a cricket match in which the Martyrs (the village team, some of whom are descendants) took on the Establishment represented by older and past players. Appropriately, the Martyrs triumphed and will hold the trophy until the re-match already planned to take place in July 2024.

A printed walk leaflet was also produced to enabling people to follow the story around the village. Copies of the leaflet are now available in the Church.

The presence of the Trust's display at the annual Forest Fair continues to attract attention. The Trust has had a presence at this event for a number of years, but this year we encountered far fewer people than in previous years who were totally unaware of the story.

The year also saw an increased demand for talks about the Martyrs. Ten talks were delivered in person to groups across Oxfordshire, in addition to one to a Gloucestershire-based history group, and another at the Tolpuddle Radical History School in Dorset as part of of annual Festival in July. A guided walk around the village was given to another group from Gloucestershire. Further bookings for talks have been made for 2024-25.

The Chair contributed the opening chapter and Study Group members provided images and information, for a new book, edited by Keith Laybourn and published in March, which sets the Martyr's story in its wider context. Sales of Beverley McComb's book on the Martyrs and the booklet about the commemorative hanging in the parish Church also sold well.

The Study Group continues its work of adding to the archive of information about the women, and by gathering information and images that shed further light on life in the village during the lifetime of the Martyrs in the later 19th and the first half of the 20th centuries. Members have also dealt with an increasing number of enquiries, especially relating to the histories of the Martyr families.

The establishment of an Ascott Martyrs Facebook page and regular postings in real time telling the story of the Martyrs as it unfolded, has put us in touch with a wider virtual audience and encouraged descendants to contact us and share information as well as generating more enquiries for the research group.

The website has also been updated and at the end of the year had registered almost 7,000 hits.

The Trust's bank balance remains healthy, albeit small and we are confident that we have sufficient funds to cover the remaining work we plan to undertake during 2024-25.

Carol Anderson

Chair: Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust

Charity Number:1180861



ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending February 5th 2024

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

INCOME

2023-2024

Sales, Lecture Fees & Donations

Donations	21
Grants	0
Book Sales	907
Postage (for books, etc.)	7
Textile Booklet Sales	39
Leaflet & Postcard Sales	0
Badge & CD Sales	12
Commemorative Wall Hanging	0
Lecture Fees	644
Expenses (e.g. Travel)	57
Events	1318
	£3,004

Cost of Sales

Leaflet & Postcards	0
Textile Booklet	0
Badges & CDs	0
Commission/Book purchases	180
	£180

Gross Profit

£2,824

PAYMENTS

Administration Expenses

Website (yrs 2023-23)	238
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Accountancy Fees	0
Printing/Stationery	414
IT Support	0
Postage	22
Insurance (via BALJ membership)	90
Bank Fees	61
Donations	75
Sundries	0
	<hr/>
	£900

Project Expenses

Events	1402
Commemoration (Interpretative Panels)	0
Multimedia Costs	381
Performer / Speaker fees	0
Subscriptions	0
Research Group Materials	0
	<hr/>
	£1,783

Total payments

£2,683

SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD

£141

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS

2023-2024

None 0

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Balance	2040
Stock of Books (Paid for)	108
Stock of Textile Booklets	246
Stock of CDs	0
Stock of Badges	0
Stock of Postcards	0
Debtors	0

£2,395

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Stock of Books (not paid for)	0
Commemoration Plaques	0
Creditors	0
	<hr/>
	£0

NET ASSETS

£2,395

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUND

Cash funds Brought forward	<hr/> £1,899
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Add SURPLUS for the period	£141
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Cash funds this year end	<u>£2,040</u>
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Signed & dated

Trustee

Trustee

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1180861

Accounts

Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 2021-22

Contrary to expectations at the start of the financial year, 2021-22 saw COVID continuing to have a major impact on many aspects of our lives and therefore of the Trust's activities.

Some booked talks were postponed or cancelled as the group to whom they were to be given had not switched to online meetings. Four online lectures were delivered during the year, to Adderbury History Society, Charlbury Society, Fairford WI and the Hexagon Quilting Group in Berkshire.

Further lectures both online and face-to-face have been arranged for 2022-3.

Study Group

Members of the Study Group continued to work independently on various aspects of the story of the Martyrs and the wider context, with occasional meetings taking place online. One live meeting was held with a local historian, who shared the results of his research into religious non-conformity in the Wychwood villages. But with all archives closed, progress was limited to what could be achieved online.

The Trust's link with Reading University has seen a second cohort of History students undertake an independent study of aspects of the Martyrs' story and the wider context, as part of their coursework. The final report on their research has been made available to the Trust and added to our growing online resources library to support and inform future studies and publications.

The Study Group's online shared repository continues to have new material added to it both original material and secondary sources, with the aim of creating a definitive archive.

This database has now been made available to a group of local historians who are planning to publish a collection of essays to mark the 150th anniversary of the Incident. It is also being used to provide answers to questions from members of the public, who are reaching the Trust in increasing numbers through the website and Facebook page.

Martyrs' Meadow

The Trust considered its position at a meeting on 20 March 2021 and submitted a response to the planning application in respect of the Cowsheds site at the end of the High Street in Ascott-under- Wychwood. This response was that the Trust's support of the proposal to create a Martyr's Garden as part of the development, was conditional upon the proposal enjoying community support.

Subsequently a village petition suggested that there was widespread opposition to the development and therefore, by implication to the creation of the Martyrs' Garden as part of this. The planning application

was rejected and has now gone to Appeal, and the Chair has confirmed that the Trust's position remains unchanged.

Trustees

At the 2020-21 AGM Paul Jackson, founding Trustee, stood down as Chair and Trustee, and Carol Anderson was elected as Chair. Officers were confirmed as Andrew Weaver (Treasurer), Cynthia Bryant (Secretary). Paula Nielsen-Tickner and Marilyn Baker continued as Trustees. Sadly, Marilyn Baker resigned in advance of the October meeting of the Trustees. Now that COVID restrictions have been removed the Trust is actively seeking new Trustees, especially in the context of delivering a programme of activities in 2023

Forward Plan

The key focus for the Trust's activities in 2022-3 will be to continue to research and disseminate through talks and online activities, the story of the Martyrs and the social context for the events that led to their imprisonment and to prepare for a modest programme of activities to mark the 150th anniversary of the imprisonment of the Martyrs.

Carol Anderson
Chair Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust
20 February 2022



ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending February 5th 2023

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

INCOME

2022-2023

Sales, Lecture Fees & Donations

Donations	0
Grants	0
Book Sales	251
Textile Booklet Sales	0
Leaflet & Postcard Sales	0
Badge & CD Sales	0
Commemorative Wall Hanging	0
Lecture Fees	483
Events	0
	<u>£734</u>

Cost of Sales

Leaflet & Postcards	0
Textile Booklet	0
Badges & CDs	0
Commission/Book purchases	0
	<u>£0</u>

Gross Profit

£734

PAYMENTS

Administration Expenses

Website (yrs 2022-23)	0
Accountancy Fees	0
Printing/Stationery	0
IT Support	0
Insurance	150
Bank Fees	62
Sundries	0
	<u>£212</u>

Project Expenses

Venue Hire	0
Events	0
Commemoration (Interpretative Panels)	0
Video production Fees	0
Performer / Speaker fees	0
Subscriptions	0
Research Group Materials	0
	<u>£0</u>

Total payments

£212

SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD

£522

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS

2022-2023

None 0

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Balance 1899
Stock of Books (Paid for) 666
Stock of Textile Booklets 306
Stock of CDs 149
Stock of Badges 175
Stock of Postcards 1
Debtors 0

£3,196

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Stock of Books (not paid for) 0
Commemoration Plaques 0
Creditors 0

£0

NET ASSETS

£3,196

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUND


Cash funds Brought forward £1,378

Add SURPLUS for the period £522


Cash funds this year end £1,899

Signed & dated

Trustee

 18/02/2023

Trustee

 10/2/2023

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1180861

Accounts

Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust

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Carol Anderson
Chair Ascott Martyrs Educational Trust
20 February 2022



ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending February 5th 2022

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

INCOME		<u>2021-2022</u>
Sales, Lecture Fees & Donations		
Donations		0
Grants		0
Book Sales		186
Textile Booklet Sales		0
Leaflet & Postcard Sales		0
Badge & CD Sales		0
Commemorative Wall Hanging		0
Lecture Fees		210
Events		0
		<u>£396</u>
 Cost of Sales		
Leaflet & Postcards		0
Textile Booklet		0
Badges & CDs		0
Commission/Book purchases		0
		<u>£0</u>
 Gross Profit		<u>£396</u>
 PAYMENTS		
Administration Expenses		
Website (yrs 2021-22)		206
Accountancy Fees		0
Printing/Stationery		0
IT Support		0
Insurance		0
Bank Fees		77
Sundries		0
		<u>£282</u>
 Project Expenses		
Venue Hire		0
Events		0
Commemoration (Interpretative Panels)		727
Video production Fees		0
Performer / Speaker fees		0
Subscriptions		0
Research Group Materials		0
		<u>£727</u>
 Total payments		<u>£1,009</u>
 SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD		<u>-£613</u>

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS

2021-2022

None 0

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Balance 1378
Stock of Books (Paid for) 837
Stock of Textile Booklets 306
Stock of CDs 149
Stock of Badges 175
Stock of Postcards 1
Debtors 0

£2,846

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Stock of Books (not paid for) 0
Commemoration Plaques 0
Creditors 0

£0

NET ASSETS

£2,846

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUND

Cash funds Brought forward **£1,991**

Add SURPLUS for the period -£613

Cash funds this year end **£1,378**

Signed & dated

Trustee

Trustee

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1180861

Accounts



AGM 20th March 2021 10am

Zoom Meeting of Trustees

Link circulated by Andrew Weaver via email

Minutes of Meeting

Attended by: Carol Anderson CA (Chair)
Andrew Weaver AW
Paula Nielson-Tickner PN-T
Paul Jackson PJ
Cynthia Briant CB
Marilyn Baker MB (By phone link)

1. Apologies for absence- None
2. 2020 AGM missed due to Covid pandemic – This AGM covers the 2020 and 2021 AGM
3. Approval of Annual Report and Accounts for year ending 5 Feb 2021
AW to add one line to accounts 'Grants previously received from Co op and WODC covered the balance of costs)

Proposed: PN-T Sec: PJ Approved
CB to keep signed copies

4. Confirmation of Trustees and office holders
Chair: Carol Anderson
Vice Chair: Paul Jackson
Hon. Treasurer: Andrew Weaver
Hon. Secretary: Cynthia Briant
Trustees: Paula Nielsen-Tickner; Marilyn Baker
Action: CB to update Charity Commission

All willing to continue.

Proposed: MB Sec: P N-T Approved

Need to check the governing document on how long trustees remain as trustees. Action: PJ, PN-T, CB

5. AOB – Doodle Poll to set date of next years AGM

Action: CB



ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending February 5th 2021

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

INCOME		<u>2020-2021</u>
Sales, Lecture Fees & Donations		
	Donations	21
	Grants	323
	Book Sales	24
	Textile Booklet Sales	0
	Leaflet & Postcard Sales	0
	Badge & CD Sales	0
	Commemorative Wall Hanging	0
	Lecture Fees	60
	Events	0
		<u>£428</u>
Cost of Sales		
	Leaflet & Postcards	0
	Textile Booklet	0
	Badges & CDs	0
	Commission/Book purchases	0
		<u>£0</u>
Gross Profit		<u>£428</u>
PAYMENTS		
Administration Expenses		
	Website	0
	Accountancy Fees	0
	Printing/Stationery	0
	IT Support	0
	Insurance	0
	Bank Fees	80
	Sundries	0
		<u>£80</u>
Project Expenses		
	Venue Hire	0
	Events	0
	Commemoration Wall Hanging (lighting)	443
	Video production Fees	0
	Performer / Speaker fees	0
	Subscriptions	0
	Research Group Materials	0
		<u>£443</u>
Total payments		<u>£523</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD		<u><u>-£96</u></u>

ASCOTT MARTYRS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS

2020-2021

None 0

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Balance 1991
Stock of Books (Paid for) 81
Stock of Textile Booklets 290
Stock of CDs 151
Stock of Badges 175
Stock of Postcards 1
Stock of Leaflets 19
Debtors 0

£2,707

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Stock of Books (not paid for) 600
Commemoration Plaques 727
Creditors 0

£1,327

NET ASSETS

£1,380

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUND

Cash funds Brought forward **£2,087**

Add SURPLUS for the period -£96

Cash funds this year end **£1,991**

Signed & dated

Trustee

Trustee