

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1181794**

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Governing Document

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a constitution dated 17 January 2019.

Trustees

Trustees during the year were as follows:

N. W. Kingsley	Chairman
Miss S.E. Brown	Treasurer
D. H. Aldred	
Dr. J.R. Broadway	
Miss H.M. Forbes	
Sir Nicholas Mander	
Ms S. Parsons	
Mrs S.P. Self	
Dr. R. Wallis	

Structure, Governance and Management

Trustees are appointed for a term of three years. Trustees are eligible for reappointment for two further terms of three years after which they must stand down for one year. They are then eligible for reelection again.

Objectives of the CIO

- a. to advance the education of the public in the history of the historic county of Gloucestershire (including South Gloucestershire) and of the city of Bristol, and to foster public knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the history of Gloucestershire and Bristol
- b. to advance research and other work in connection with the preparation of the Victoria County History of England relating to the historic county of Gloucestershire and the city of Bristol
- c. to encourage, promote and support local history research and writing in or about the historic county of Gloucestershire and the city of Bristol, drawing especially on the use of historical resources and furthering the active participation of the public through education and learning and providing the means of communication between those involved with local history.

The Trustees met on a quarterly basis and remained in regular contact between meetings.

Principal Address

The Charity's principal address is c/o Gloucestershire Heritage Hub, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester GL1 3DW.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (*cont.*)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

Activities and achievements

Since its establishment in January 2019, the Charity has carried forward the programme of work begun under its Unincorporated Association predecessor (Regd No 1138520). Application to dissolve the UA was made in November 2021 but at the year's end it remained on the Charity Commission register, essentially inactive, pending the implementation of section 33 of the Charities Act 2022. The section was implemented on 7 March 2024 and therefore the Unincorporated Association will be merged with the CIO during 2024. No trustees were appointed or resigned in the course of the year, so the Trust continues to have one vacancy, and discussions were held with a potential new trustee about filling this position in 2024.

The CIO remained focused on its stated aims of educating the public in the history of the historic county of Gloucestershire, and advancing research and other work in preparation for further instalments of the Victoria County History of Gloucestershire. The new public educational initiative begun in 2022 - a series of workshops for the general public, run in conjunction with Gloucestershire Archives and the University of the West of England, to provide training in historical research methods – was concluded in the spring of 2023, and was so popular and successful that it was agreed to repeat it in 2023-24. This led to a number of new volunteers coming forward to assist the Trust in its research activities. The model developed by the trust for the training was praised by the Institute of Historical Research and it is intended that it will be adapted for use in Wiltshire in 2024-25 although this Trust will not be directly involved in that initiative. The trustees are particularly grateful to Dr John Chandler for developing and co-ordinating the delivery of the workshops.

During the year the Charity had five contributing editors (historical researchers) under contract, supported by the work of a pool of volunteers whose activities range from cataloguing, indexing and calendaring records relevant to current research projects, to the analysis of records and drafting of text. Steady progress was achieved with the research on the three current projects, which will lead to hardback volumes in the Victoria County History of Gloucestershire Series, covering the Yate and Chipping Sodbury area of South Gloucestershire (Vol XIV); the Cheltenham district (Vol XV); and the Cirencester district (Vol XVI). Work continued on all three volumes during the year, and was completed on the history of Preston and aspects of the topography of Cirencester (for vol. XVI). Work is in progress on Coates and the architectural history of the Cirencester area (for volume XVI), on Leckhampton and Swindon (for volume XV) and on Dyrham (for volume XIV). Once again, trustees were indebted to the staff of the Gloucestershire Heritage Hub for their support of our researchers and volunteers.

The Trust's continuing task is to raise the funds to keep the research going. The funds are now in hand to complete volume XVI (Cirencester and district) and volume XV (Cheltenham and district), and it is anticipated that volume XVI will go to press in 2024. More work remains to be done to complete volume XIV, and during the year planning took place for a fundraising event to raise the funds required to complete this volume (estimated at £60,000). A venue was identified for the event at Little Sodbury Manor and our patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester, agreed to attend. It was hoped to hold this event in the autumn of 2023 but it proved impossible to find a date convenient for all parties and it will now be held in the spring of 2024. During the year the trust was made aware that it was a beneficiary under the will of a Gloucestershire local historian, but no funds had been received by the end of the year.

As the current volumes move towards completion, the trustees made decisions in July 2023 about which areas of the county should be the subject of future research work. It was agreed that two new areas should be tackled: the market town of Winchcombe and its hinterland (volume XVII) and Marshfield and the Boyd Valley (volume XVIII). In the second half of 2023 a scoping document for the Winchcombe volume was drawn up and approved, and we worked with local organisations in the Winchcombe area to identify and brief volunteers to assist in preparatory work for that volume.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1181794

TRUSTEES' REPORT (*cont.*)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reserves Policy

Beyond meeting agreed contractual commitments, the Trustees' aim is to maintain a sufficient reserve to be able to respond to unexpected opportunities. At the year end net reserves after all commitments were £102,736 of which £63,921 were Restricted and £38,815 Unrestricted Funds.

Review of Major Risks

During the year under review, the Trustees reviewed and either rewrote or updated the policy documents that provide a framework for their work; reviewed the Trust's risk register, and took appropriate action..

Accounts

The attached accounts show the current state of the finances, which the Trustees consider to be sound.

N. W. Kingsley, Chairman
Date: 10 April 2024

On behalf of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Gloucestershire County History Trust CIO ("the charity") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 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.

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.

W.J. Abbott FCA
Randall & Payne LLP
Chargrove House
Shurdington
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 4GA

Date: 8 October 2024

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1181794

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds Volume XV Chelt (Note 5)	Volume XVI Ciren (Note 6)	Total	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations from individuals	11,223	-	-	11,223	64,059
Donations from groups	132	-	-	132	40
Donations from charities	-	-	-	-	-
Donation from trusts	-	-	-	-	500
Donations from companies	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	2,657	12,725	-	15,382	3,740
Workshops	2,000	-	-	2,000	2,000
Book sales	20	-	-	20	39
Bank interest	973	1,331	366	2,670	505
Total Receipts	17,005	14,056	366	31,427	70,883
Payments					
Editorial costs	11,971	229	28,100	40,300	32,750
Travel	-	68	66	134	562
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	-
Workshops	1,938	-	-	1,938	539
Website	105	-	-	105	164
Insurance and subscriptions	30	-	-	30	100
Bank charges	60	-	-	60	81
Total Payments	14,104	297	28,166	42,567	34,196
Net Receipts/Payments for the period	2,901	13,759	(27,800)	(11,140)	36,687
Cash funds as at 31 December 2022	47,202	50,162	38,074	135,438	98,751
Cash funds as at 31 December 2023	50,103	63,921	10,274	124,298	135,438

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1181794

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Cash funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Volume XV Chelt	XVI Ciren	Total 31 Dec 23	Total 31 Dec 22
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	50,103	63,921	10,274	124,298	135,438
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Other monetary assets

Gift Aid	2,488	-	-	2,488	15,382
Insurance paid in advance	-	-	-	-	75
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	2,488	-	-	2,488	15,457
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GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY TRUST CIO
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The Receipts and Payments Account has been prepared on a cash basis. Assets and Liabilities at the year end are noted on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

2. COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 2023, commitments on contracts with the editors totalled £24,050 as follows:

	£
Volume XIV	0
Volume XV	11,500
Volume XVI	10,550
Unallocated	2,000

3. USE OF HERITAGE HUB

The CIO has free use of the Dunrossil Suite for meetings of the Trustees and of the Elrington room for use by the editors.

4. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No remuneration or benefits were paid to trustees during the year.

5. RESTRICTED FUND FOR VOLUME XV CHELTENHAM

	General	Charlton Kings (a) £	Total £
Balance 1 January 2023	-	50,162	50,162
Income			
Gift Aid	225	12,500	12,725
Interest	4	1,327	1,331
	229	13,827	14,056
Expenditure			
Editorial costs	229	-	229
Travel	-	68	68
	229	68	297
Balance 31 December 2023	-	63,921	63,921

(a) With the agreement of the donor, the trustees have designated the donation of £50,000 initially to fund work relating to Charlton Kings in volume XV with any balance being used for other aspects of the same volume.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont.)

6. RESTRICTED FUND FOR VOLUME XVI CIRENCESTER

	Coates Preston and general editorial £	Editorial Town and adjoining parishes £	Total £
Balance 1 January 2023	20,267	17,807	38,074
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Income			
Interest	159	207	366
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	159	207	366
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure			
Editorial costs	17,800	10,300	28,100
Travel	66	-	66
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,866	10,300	28,166
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Balance 31 December 2023	2,560	7,714	10,274
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