

Hatters Heritage (Charity No. 1183061)

50 Half Moon Lane, Dunstable, Beds LU5 4AB

Trustees Report as at January 2024

Trustees

Roger Wash - Chairman

David Cockfield

Philippe Hucklesby - Secretary

Andy King

John Kingham - Treasurer

Michael McMahon

Brian Webb

David Cain up to 2nd February 2023 (*term of office expired, and David did not seek re-election*)

Background and History

Hatters Heritage arose as a result of the life-long passion, inspiration and endeavour of the founder and chairman of this Charity – Roger Wash, who over more than fifty years accumulated a vast array of memorabilia, data and stories appertaining to Luton Town FC and covering the whole period since the Club's inception in 1885.

The inaugural annual general meeting of Hatters Heritage as an Unincorporated Association was held on 18th April 2018.

On 23rd April 2019 registration as a CIO Foundation Charity was approved by the Charity Commission and on 10th October 2019 Hatters Heritage adopted that status.

Membership is open to anyone interested in the preservation and appreciation of the heritage and history of Luton Town Football Club. The trustees oversee the day to day running of the Charity and are recruited from the ranks of participating members of the Charity. The trustees seek the views of members, in deciding the activities to be run.

Progress to date

With the help of funding from NHLF, we developed and launched in November 2020 what will become the most detailed and comprehensive football related heritage website in the UK.

Progress towards the achievement of this goal, carried out by a trained team of twenty volunteers is already impressive: Only six 'seasons' of match programmes

(home and away); game action photographs, and newspaper reports now need to be uploaded from a total of 137. We have also added photos and profiles of every player since 1885 plus many videos of match action and items of memorabilia together with numerous features.

The website is now achieving over 40000 'hits' each month.

In June 2022 a small band of volunteers set about sorting through the 1.5 million glass plates and negatives donated by 'Luton News' to the Wardown Museum in Luton. We have now completed this task and have identified and digitised over 72000 photographs relating to Luton Town FC.

In order to keep the team together we have now embarked on a project to photograph match reports and photos from the various bound volumes of local newspapers housed in three locations around Luton. This particular project is now far advanced.

The overall project has also been successful in reaching out to different audiences, enabling hundreds of people to engage with the heritage of Luton Town Football Club during the time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Membership of Hatters' Heritage is rising, 10,000 people follow the charity on social media and altogether forty volunteers are active in various roles on its behalf. The 'Family Roadshows' and the online 'Hatters' Tales' project, have demonstrated a commitment to develop participatory activity for the club's supporters in general and the society's members in particular. The trustees are fully committed to engaging with its supporters and audiences into the future when it will be possible to make greater use of the dozen touring exhibition panels, designed as part of the project.

Communication with audiences, volunteers and other stakeholders has been maintained and established through newsletters, e-mail distribution and the local press and media. An excellent working relationship has been established with a number of partners, most notably Luton Town FC. The club has been willing to promote the work of Hatters' Heritage throughout, issuing marketing materials via an e-mail distribution list to almost 90,000 supporters worldwide.

To enable the project to digitise the complete collection, the working practices of the board of trustees and the management of volunteers will be crucial. To this end, during the project, individual board members have taken on discrete roles, sub-committees have been formed and the Chairman has taken on an executive role, the better to oversee and manage the multiplicity of tasks now associated with the future wellbeing of the project. Trustee roles now include – web oversight, social media, safeguarding, financial development, marketing and volunteer support.

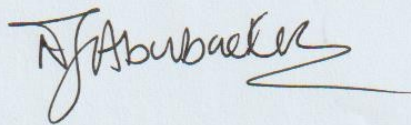
RW/JK January 2024

Hatters Heritage - Charity (CIO Foundation) No. 1183061
Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31.3.2023

	£	£	<u>Year ended 31.3.22</u>	
			£	£
<u>Bank Balances 1st April 2022</u>				
Current a/c	3,555.26		4,565.18	
Deposit a/c	14.93		14.93	
Paypal a/c	<u>511.15</u>	4,081.34	<u>0.00</u>	4,580.11
<u>Receipts</u>				
<u>Donations</u>				
Subscriptions Received	771.00		1,087.00	
Patrons Donations	6182.99		8,335.45	
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	2008.31		0.00	
Luton Supporters Trust	0.00		250.00	
Loyal Luton Club	0.00		200.00	
Ground Tour Fees	1075.00		1,025.00	
Interest on Bank Deposit Account	<u>0.10</u>		<u>0.00</u>	
		<u>10,037.40</u>		<u>10,897.45</u>
		14,118.74		15,477.56
<u>Payments</u>				
Website Hosting Fee	5,700.00		2,850.00	
Memorabilia Purchased	1,234.00		6,728.40	
Insurance	925.10		818.89	
Licences	1,318.54		712.06	
Sundry Expenses	673.53		176.87	
Bank charges	<u>120.00</u>		<u>110.00</u>	
		<u>9,971.17</u>		<u>11,396.22</u>
<u>Bank Account Balances 31st March 2023</u>		4,147.57		4,081.34
Current a/c	1,904.10		3,555.26	
Deposit a/c	2015.03		14.93	
Paypal a/c	<u>228.44</u>	4,147.57	<u>511.15</u>	4,081.34

Independent Examiner's Certificate

I have examined the above Receipts and Payments Account and
it is agreement with the underlying Accounting Records



Nicola Abubacker BA(Hons), ACA
12 Ringwood Road
Luton LU2 7BG

November 21 2023

