

HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1196787

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-11-26

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

Contact

Address Birchcliffe Centre
Chapel Avenue
Hebden Bridge
HX7 8DG

Phone 01422844450

Email secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk

Website www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY, HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF HEBDEN BRIDGE, THE UPPER CALDER VALLEY AND SURROUNDING AREAS THROUGH, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY: 1. RUNNING AN ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF HISTORICAL TALKS AND EVENTS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS2. ACQUIRING AND PRESERVING RELEVANT LOCAL HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER MATERIAL AND MAKING THESE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC 3. SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF THE LOCAL AREA4. PUBLISHING WORKS ON THE LOCAL HISTORY OF THE AREA IN PRINT AND DIGITALLY5. PROVIDING ADVICE ON MATTERS AFFECTING LOCAL HERITAGE6. WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND OTHER LOCAL HISTORY GROUPS AND SOCIETIES, WHERE APPROPRIATE

Activities: The Society runs an annual program of 12 talks, open to members and visitors, on topics that are relevant to the history and culture of Hebden Bridge and the surrounding area. The Society maintains a catalogued archive of original documents, maps, photographs, recordings, artefacts and books at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge. It also publishes books on the history of the area.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Calderdale

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£7,281	£10,806	-	-
2024-08-31	£6,439	£5,946	-	-
2023-08-31	£7,675	£6,931	-	-
2022-08-31	£25,000	£3,420	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Mealia		2022-10-26
Barbara Ethel Margaret Attack		2022-10-26
Barbara Hall		2022-10-26
David John Cant		2022-10-26
Dr Catherine Chatham		2024-11-13
Dr Nigel John Bowker Smith		2022-10-26
Hilary Wentworth Fellows		2022-10-26
Miles Peter John Hutchinson		2025-11-12
RACHEL SMITH		2022-10-26
Sarah Keates		2022-10-26
Sheila Anne Graham		2022-10-26

Accounts

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31st August 2025

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the history, heritage and culture of Hebden Bridge, the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

The Society furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through a lecture programme, archive collections, a website, special interest groups and publications.

A series of talks on a wide range of historical topics is given by speakers with expert knowledge in the subject. These are open to members and visitors in a fully accessible town centre venue and advertised in advance. The talks are also recorded and, with the consent of the speaker, made available to members after the event. A report of each talk is published in the local paper, on a local news website, in the Society newsletter, and on the Society website.

The local history archive at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge is open to members and visitors on two afternoons each week. Archive staff are on hand to help with general research as well as family history. In addition, archive staff answer queries by email from both members and non-members.

The website provides information on all the activities undertaken by the Society as well as access to the archive catalogue, copies of newsletters, and research resources including monumental inscriptions and the work of the Charlestown History Group.

The Society has a published booklist of 20 books on a wide range of topics relevant to the history of the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas. These are available to buy in local outlets and via the Society's website and to consult in libraries in Calderdale.

In planning activities for the year, the Society kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The membership subscription was kept at £15 per year. Visitors to lectures were charged £4. Use of the archive by members is free but £3 for visitors. Queries by email cost £2 for members and £5 for non-members. The Society's website has been updated and includes a wealth of information on the Society's activities and the history of the local area. The price of books is kept as low as possible to just cover publication costs.

Volunteers

The Society is run entirely by volunteer trustees and members. The trustees were greatly helped during the year by several volunteers. Diana Monahan helped with technical set-up and used her extensive knowledge to answer queries, John Crampton, James Botten, Juliet Frobisher and Hudson Ray assisted with cataloguing in the archive, Keith Stansfield and other members of the Family History group supported enquiries and research and Michael Peel attended trustee meetings as an observer.

Achievements and Performance

Membership numbers continued to be strong at 187 members, down on last year but still well above numbers prior to Covid.

Talks

Despite problems with building work and heating at the venue there were eleven talks this year. Subjects ranged from the growth, development and decline in football in the Calder Valley to the experience of civil conflict in Sowerby, 1638-1660 and the opening of the Hebden Bridge Trades Club and the first Labour government. Seven of the talks were given by members of the Society which is testament to the breadth of knowledge amongst the membership. The talks were well attended with an average of 39 members and visitors on the night and 27 members who watched the recordings.

Archive

The archive received a number of donations of items during the year including:

- The archives of Out in the Valley, an LGBTQ+ social group.
- The archives of Calder Valley Organic Gardeners.
- Scrap books kept by the Cragg Vale branch of the Yorkshire Country Women's Association.
- Deeds relating to several local buildings.
- Documents and artefacts relating to past local industries and chapels.

Preservation and cataloguing of these and other donations continued with help from volunteers. Archive staff answered 10 queries by email and 411 documents were consulted in person by a total of 26 individuals over 41 visits. Through links with Pennine Heritage, Huddersfield University staff and students also made significant use of the archive.

National Lottery Heritage Fund grant

The Society worked with Pennine Heritage to implement a grant received by them from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to protect and develop the South Pennine Archives. This is a partnership between the digital images archive owned by Pennine Heritage and the document archive owned by the Society. The project runs until June 2026 and will deliver:

- The digitisation of a selection of documents from the Society's archive focusing initially on the 7,000 natural history records collected in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the Stonesheygate collection, about 3,000 pages of material covering the late 18th and 19th centuries providing details on farming, cloth making and estate management.
- A new website for the Pennine Horizons digital archive and the digitised documents.
- Refurbishment of the foyer and reception areas of the Birchcliffe Centre to house permanent exhibitions on the history of Hebden Bridge and the Birchcliffe Chapel.

Exhibitions

The Society facilitated two exhibitions on historical subjects at the Town Hall in Hebden Bridge. The first in November 2024 - Alice Longstaff, the End of the Role for Pennine Heritage and the second in March 2025 - From Townships to Town.

Publications

281 books have been sold this year - 145 through retail outlets, 107 through the website and 29 directly to members and visitors and at events.

The Society is celebrating the culmination of their most ambitious project yet: the publication of the *Heptonstall Court Records 1570 - 1626*. The volume will be of immense interest to family and local historians, as well as those interested in the ways society was organized at a local level. The project began with a group of members of the Society working to increase their knowledge of both Latin and palaeography by translating local historical documents. The tutor was Neville Ingrey, previously a Latin master at Hipperholme Grammar School. When the Covid pandemic put a stop to meetings, the group decided to use email contact to undertake the translation of the Latin entries in the Heptonstall manor court records. The manorial court was an early system of regulating the community, and these entries record the proceedings of the baron court, which dealt with transfers of property, upholding the rights of the lord of the manor, and ensuring that offences against the community were punished.

Financial Review

The Society's aim is to fund the talks, administration of the society and the running of the archive from income other than that received from book sales. This allows the proceeds of current book sales to be used to fund the publication of future titles. This arrangement allows the Society to remain viable if there are no new books published.

At the end of the financial year the Society had £23,303 in unrestricted funds. The main financial risks are the loss of premises to house the archive, damage to archive items and storage space, a reduction in membership numbers, loss of premises to hold the talks and an inability to recruit sufficient trustees and other volunteers. The Society aims to keep £10,000 in reserves to cover the risks.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is administered by a management committee of trustees, which can have up to 12 members. The committee meets every 2 months. In accordance with the constitution one third of trustees retire each year at the annual general meeting but they are eligible for re-election. New trustees can be elected at the AGM to fill vacancies or can be appointed by the trustees during the year. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefit.

Following the resignation of the Chair two years ago none of the existing trustees felt able to take on the role. It was therefore agreed to rotate the position of Chair at meetings and to redistribute the other responsibilities amongst the other trustees. This arrangement has continued to work well this year.

The Society has continued to develop policies to guide its activities. This year a policy on serious incident reporting has been approved by the trustees.

The Society works in partnership with Pennine Heritage Ltd (registered charity no: 509974) as South Pennine Archives. The Society follows relevant policies of Pennine Heritage and Hebden Bridge Methodist Church for its activities at the archives and lecture hall respectively.

Reference and Administrative Details

Hebden Bridge Local History Society (HBLHS), charity No. 1196787, is registered at The Birchcliffe Centre, Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8DG.

Trustees

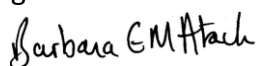
All trustees served for the full year.

Barbara Hall – Secretary
Rachel Smith – Treasurer
Nigel Smith – Archivist
Barbara Attack
David Cant
Catherine Chatham
Hilary Fellows
Sheila Graham
Sarah Keates
Anne Mealia

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature:



Full name: Barbara Ethel Margaret Attack

Position: Trustee

Signature:



Full name: Nigel John Bowker Smith

Position: Archivist

Date: 28/10/2025

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

1196787

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

**For the period
from**

01/09/2024

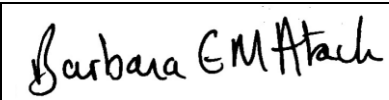
To

31/08/2025

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					
Membership subscriptions	2,440	-	-	2,440	2,524
Visitors to lectures	400	-	-	400	244
Donations	1,434	-	-	1,434	57
Sale of Publications	2,592	-	-	2,592	3,112
Queries	92	-	-	92	131
Bank interest	323	-	-	323	371
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	7,281	-	-	7,281	6,439
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,281	-	-	7,281	6,439
A3 Payments					
Cost of lectures	1,304	-	-	1,304	1,058
Administration	863	-	-	863	1,839
Archive costs	1,144	-	-	1,144	1,402
Exhibitions	570	-	-	570	-
Newsletters	110	-	-	110	49
Cost of publications	6,815	-	-	6,815	1,598
Sub total	10,806	-	-	10,806	5,946
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	10,806	-	-	10,806	5,946
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,525	-	-	- 3,525	493
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	23,303	-	-	23,303	22,810
Cash funds this year end	19,778	-	-	19,778	23,303

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	Current account	608	-	-
	Savings account	8,329	-	-
	32 day account	10,435	-	-
	PayPal account	356	-	-
	Cash account	50	-	-
	Total cash funds	19,778	-	-
	(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		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Barbara Ethel Margaret Attack	28/10/2025	



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Hebden Bridge Local History Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st August 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1196787

Set out on pages

1&2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

26.10.25

Name:

DAVID BRYAN

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

FLCA

Address:

9-10 BLACK HILL, PECKERT WELL, HX7 8QS

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

--

Accounts

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31st August 2024

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the history, heritage and culture of Hebden Bridge, the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

The Society furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through a lecture programme, archive collections, a website, special interest groups and publications.

A series of talks on a wide range of historical topics is given by speakers with expert knowledge in the subject. These are open to members and visitors in a fully accessible town centre venue and advertised in advance. The talks are also recorded and made available to members after the event. A report of each talk is published in the local paper, on a local news website, in the Society newsletter, and on the Society website.

The local history archive at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge is open to members and visitors on two afternoons each week. Archive staff are on hand to help with general research as well as family history. In addition, archive staff answer queries by email from both members and non-members.

The website provides information on all the activities undertaken by the Society as well as access to the archive catalogue, copies of newsletters, and research resources including monumental inscriptions and the work of the Charlestown History Group.

The Society has a published booklist of 18 books on a wide range of topics relevant to the history of the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas. These are available to buy in local outlets and via the Society's website and to consult in libraries in Calderdale.

In planning activities for the year, the Society kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The membership subscription was kept at £15 per year. Visitors to lectures were charged £4. Use of the archive by members is free but £3 for visitors. Queries by email cost £2 for members and £5 for non-members. The Society's website has been updated and includes a wealth of information on the Society's activities and the history of the local area. The price of books is kept as low as possible to just cover publication costs.

Volunteers

The Society is run entirely by volunteer trustees and members. The trustees were greatly helped during the year by several volunteers. Diana Monahan helped with technical set-up and used her extensive knowledge to answer queries, John Crampton and James Botten assisted with cataloguing in the archive, Keith Stansfield and other members of the Family History group supported enquiries and research, John Billingsley kept the Folklore Group alive, and David Shepherd advised members on pre-history matters.

Achievements and Performance

Membership numbers continued to be strong at 193 members, down on last year but still well above numbers prior to Covid.

Talks

Despite problems with building work and heating at the venue there were eleven talks this year. Subjects ranged from a history of town twinning in Hebden Royd to tents in the landscape and Hebden Hey in Cragg, a local farm that moved. Eight of the talks were given by members of the Society which is testament to the breadth of knowledge amongst the membership. The talks were well attended with an average of 45 members and visitors on the night and 35 members who watched the recordings.

Archive

The archive received a number of donations of items during the year including:

- Fabric sample books for 1903 and 1905. Donated by Rebekah Fozard on behalf of Hebden Bridge Arts Festival.
- Research into the history of the Mytholm area. Donated by James Botten
- Hebden Bridge Arts Festival programmes and photographs. Donated by Graham Packham.
- Boxes of artwork, calendars, portraits of the Farrers and miscellaneous items. Donated by Pam Jordan.
- Video cassettes, slides and paper on the history of Todmorden hospitals. Donated by Gerard Wainwright

Preservation and cataloguing of these and other donations continued with help from volunteers. Archive staff answered 10 queries by email and 427 documents were consulted in person by a total of 29 members and visitors. Through links with Pennine Heritage, Huddersfield University staff and students also made significant use of the archive.

Website

A major addition to the research resources on the website this year was the settlement section. This has information on the history of named settlements, fields in the township of Stansfield in 1805 and buildings and streets in Hebden Bridge and is the result of extensive research undertaken by members of the Society.

Exhibitions

The Society facilitated two exhibitions on historical subjects at the Town Hall in Hebden Bridge.

Publications

439 books were sold during the year - 268 through retail outlets, 88 through the website and 83 directly to members and visitors and at events.

The Society was delighted to publish a revised edition of *The Little Hill Farm* by W.B. Crump, first published in 1951. The book was greatly enhanced by the new illustrations drawn by Peter Brears. The review in the Yorkshire Archaeological Journal said it all: "Hebden Bridge Local History Society has produced another excellent publication, a collaborative and imaginative tribute to the efforts of an important regional historian. Crump rescued much for posterity; the Hebden Bridge group has returned the compliment."

Hebden Bridge and the Railway by David Taylor was reprinted.

Financial Review

The Society's aim is to fund the talks, administration of the society and the running of the archive from income other than that received from book sales. This allows the proceeds of current book sales to be used to fund the publication of future titles. This arrangement allows the Society to remain viable if there are no new books published.

At the end of the financial year the Society had £23,303 in unrestricted funds. The main financial risks are the loss of premises to house the archive, damage to archive items and storage space, a reduction in membership numbers, loss of premises to hold the talks and an inability to recruit sufficient trustees and other volunteers. The Society aims to keep £10,000 in reserves to cover the risks.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is administered by a management committee of trustees, which can have up to 12 members. The committee meets every 2 months. In accordance with the constitution one third of trustees retire each year at the annual general meeting but they are eligible for re-election. New trustees can be elected at the AGM to fill vacancies or can be appointed by the trustees during the year. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefit.

Following the resignation of the Chair at the last AGM none of the existing trustees felt able to take on the role. It was therefore agreed to rotate the position of Chair at meetings and to redistribute the other responsibilities amongst the other trustees. This arrangement has worked well this year.

The Society has continued to develop policies to guide its activities. This year a policy on serious incident reporting has been approved by the trustees.

The Society works in partnership with Pennine Heritage Ltd (registered charity no: 509974) as South Pennine Archives. The Society follows relevant policies of Pennine Heritage and Hebden Bridge Methodist Church for its activities at the archives and lecture hall respectively.

Reference and Administrative Details

Hebden Bridge Local History Society (HBLHS), charity No. 1196787, is registered at The Birchcliffe Centre, Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8DG.

Trustees

All trustees served for the full year.

Barbara Hall – Secretary
Rachel Smith – Treasurer
Nigel Smith – Archivist
Barbara Attack
David Cant
Hilary Fellows
Sheila Graham
Sarah Keates
Anne Mealia

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature: 

Full name: BARBARA HALL,

Position: Secretary

Signature: 

Full name: RACHEL SMITH

Position: Treasurer

Date: 23.10.24

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

1196787

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/09/2023

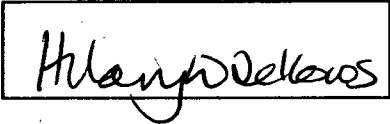
To

31/08/2024

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					
Membership subscriptions	2,524	-	-	2,524	3,071
Visitors to lectures	244			244	340
Donations	57	-	-	57	296
Sale of Publications	3,112	-	-	3,112	3,828
Queries	131	-	-	131	70
Bank interest	371			371	70
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,439	-	-	6,439	7,675
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,439	-	-	6,439	7,675
A3 Payments					
Cost of lectures	1,058	-	-	1,058	1,440
Administration	1,839	-	-	1,839	710
Archive costs	1,402	-	-	1,402	2,083
Newsletters	49	-	-	49	180
Cost of publications	1,598	-	-	1,598	2,518
Sub total	5,946	-	-	5,946	6,931
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,946	-	-	5,946	6,931
Net of receipts/(payments)	493	-	-	493	744
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,810	-	-	22,810	22,066
Cash funds this year end	23,303	-	-	23,303	22,810

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	Current account	2,119	-	-
	Savings account	10,238		
	32 day account	10,203		
	PayPal account	693	-	-
	Cash account	50	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	23,303	-	-
		OK Unrestricted funds to nearest £	OK Restricted funds to nearest £	OK 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
			HILARY W. FELLOWS	23/10/24



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Hebden Bridge Local History Society

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1196787

Set out on pages

1&2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2024.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

19.10.24

Name:

DAVID BRYAN

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

ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

Address:

1 EDWARD STREET, HEBDEN BRIDGE, HX7 8DF

Accounts

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31st August 2023

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the history, heritage and culture of Hebden Bridge, the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

The Society held a series of twelve talks on a wide range of historical topics given by speakers with expert knowledge in the subject. Talks were open to members and visitors in a fully accessible town centre venue and advertised in advance. The talks were also recorded and made available to members after the event. A report of each talk was published in the local paper, in the Society newsletter and on the website.

The Society maintains a local history archive at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge. This has been open to members and visitors on two afternoons each week. Archive staff were on hand to help with general research as well as family history. In addition, archive staff answered queries by email from both members and non-members. The archive is now on the national register of archives. This will allow the Society to make sections of the catalogue available on Archives Hub and the National Archives Discovery Catalogue thereby widening access to the content. Through links with Pennine Heritage, Huddersfield University staff and students also made significant use of the archive.

The Society has a published booklist of 17 books on a wide range of topics relevant to the history of the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas. These are available in local outlets and via the Society's website. A new title, *Traditional Food in the South Pennines*, was published this year and work continued in preparing *Little Hill Farm* and the *Heptonstall Court Rolls* for publication in the future. The Society joined with the Halifax Probate Group at Halifax Minster in October to celebrate the completion of the transcription of wills and inventories for all the townships in the Parish of Halifax from 1688 to 1700.

In planning activities for the year, the Society kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The membership subscription was kept at £15 per year. Visitors to lectures were charged £4. Use of the archive by members is free but £3 for visitors. Queries by email cost £2 for members and £5 for non-members. The Society's website has been updated and includes a wealth of information on the Society's activities and the history of the local area. The price of books is kept as low as possible to just cover publication costs.

Volunteers

The Society is run entirely by volunteer trustees and members. The trustees were greatly helped during the year by several volunteers. Diana Monahan helped with technical set-up and used her extensive knowledge to answer queries, John Crampton and James Botten assisted with cataloguing in the archive, members of the Family History group supported enquiries and research, John Billingsley kept the Folklore Group alive, and David Shepherd advised members on pre-history matters.

Achievements and Performance

Membership numbers continued to be strong at 223 members.

Talks

A full series of 12 talks took place in the Methodist Church from September to March. With consent from the speakers the talks were recorded, and the recordings were made available to members to view at home. This enabled members who don't live locally or can't attend on a Wednesday evening to watch the talks. An average of 86 people accessed each talk in person or online and a total of 85 visitors attended in person. The response to the talks was very positive –

"I was unable to come along last night but have just watched the video. What an excellent presentation!" (17th century Yeoman Farmhouses)

"Exceptionally interesting historical account of the development of the tea trade. Well presented." (Tea in 18th century Britain)

"Please pass on my congratulations to the speakers for their diligent research and excellent presentation. I watched that one twice as it had so many different aspects and have now been today to the Bankfield Museum to see the pictures on exhibition." (Landscape paintings of John Holland)

Archive

The Society received a number of donations of items for the archive during the year including:

- the papers of Malcolm and Freda Heywood, who were involved in the publication of *Pennine Valley* in 1992 and the *History of Todmorden* in 1996,
- Andrew Bibby's extensive research notes for his book *All Our Own Work* on the co-operative Nutclough Mill,
- The papers of Mary Attack, a nurse, donated by her relative, Barbara Attack,
- Papers from the Hebden Bridge Piano Festival, the Town Twinning Society, Mayroyd Action Group and the early papers of Todmorden Cricket Club.

Preservation and cataloguing of these and other donations continued with help from volunteers. Archive staff answered 14 queries by email and 264 documents were consulted in person by members and visitors.

Exhibitions

Material from the archive was used in the creation of an exhibition at the Town Hall in Hebden Bridge by the Natural History Society.

Publications

The Society published *Traditional Food in the South Pennines* by Peter Brears, with beautiful hand drawn illustrations by the author. *The Medieval Park of Erringden* and *City in the Hills* were both reprinted, the latter for the third time.

Financial Review

The Society's aim is to fund the talks, administration of the society and the running of the archive from income other than that received from book sales. This allows the proceeds of current book sales to be used to fund the publication of future titles. This arrangement allows the Society to remain viable if there are no new books published. Major expenditure on work like the redesign of the website and the purchase of new shelving for the archive has been funded from legacy income that the Society had built up prior to becoming a charity.

The Society had £22,800 in unrestricted funds at the end of the financial year. The main financial risks to the Society are loss of premises to house the archive, damage to archive items and storage space, reduction in membership numbers, loss of premises to hold the talks and an inability to recruit sufficient trustees and other volunteers. The Society aims to keep £10,000 in reserves to cover the risks.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is administered by a management committee of trustees, which can have up to 12 members. The committee meets every 2 months. In accordance with the constitution one third of trustees retire each year at the annual general meeting but they are eligible for re-election. New trustees can be elected at the AGM to fill vacancies or can be appointed by the trustees during the year. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefit.

As a new charity the Society is in the process of developing policies to guide its activities. This year policies on financial controls, trustee conflicts of interests and trustee expenses have been approved by the trustees. Work is ongoing on a risk register which should identify any other policies that are required.

The Society works in partnership with Pennine Heritage Ltd (registered charity no: 509974) as South Pennine Archives. The Society follows relevant policies of Pennine Heritage and Hebden Bridge Methodist Church for its activities at the archives and lecture hall respectively.

Reference and Administrative Details

Hebden Bridge Local History Society (HBLHS), charity No. 1196787, is registered at The Birchcliffe Centre, Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8DG.

Trustees

All trustees were appointed at the AGM of 26th October 2022

Murray Seccombe – Chair
Barbara Hall – Secretary
Rachel Smith – Treasurer
Nigel Smith – Archivist
Barbara Attack

David Cant
Hilary Fellows
Sheila Graham
Sarah Keates
Anne Mealia

Hebden Bridge Local History Society 1196787

Receipts and payments accounts

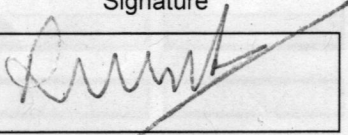
CC16a

For the period from	01/09/2022	To	31/08/2023
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
Transfer from unincorporated association - Hebden Bridge Local History Society					21,914
Membership subscriptions	3,071	-	-	3,071	600
Visitors to lectures	340			340	
Donations	296	-	-	296	2,500
Sale of Publications	3,828	-	-	3,828	424
Queries	70	-	-	70	47
Bank interest	70			70	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	7,675	-	-	7,675	25,485
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,675	-	-	7,675	25,485
A3 Payments					
Cost of lectures	1,440	-	-	1,440	386
Administration	710	-	-	710	603
Archive costs	2,083	-	-	2,083	886
Newsletters	180	-	-	180	223
Cost of publications	2,518	-	-	2,518	1,322
Sub total	6,931	-	-	6,931	3,420
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,931	-	-	6,931	3,420
Net of receipts/(payments)	744	-	-	744	22,065
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,066	-	-	22,066	-
Cash funds this year end	22,810	-	-	22,810	22,065

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	Current account	7,594	-	-
	Savings account	15,069		
	PayPal account	97	-	-
	Cash account	50	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,810	-	-
	(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	-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details		-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			R M SECCOMBE	25/10/23



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

HERBEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On accounts for the year
ended

31/08/2023

Charity no
(if any)

1196787

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 08 2023

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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

David Bryan

Date:

14.10.23

Name:

DAVID BRYAN

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

ACCA

Address:

1 EDWARD STREET

HERBEN BRIDGE

HX7 8DF

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	26	11	2021		31	08	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Hebden Bridge Local History Society

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1196787

Charity's principal address Birchcliffe Centre

Birchcliffe Road

Hebden Bridge

Postcode

HX7 8DG

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	Barbara Attack	Chair	26/11/2021 – 31/08/2022	
2	Murray Seccombe	Secretary	26/11/2021 – 31/08/2022	
3	Rachel Smith	Treasurer	26/11/2021 – 31/08/2022	
4	Nigel Smith		26/11/2021 – 31/08/2022	
5	Hilary Fellows		27/4/2022 – 31/08/2022	
6	Sheila Graham		27/4/2022 – 31/08/2022	
7	Barbara Hall		27/4/2022 – 31/08/2022	
8	Sarah Keates		27/4/2022 – 31/08/2022	
9	Anne Mealia		27/4/2022 – 31/08/2022	
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)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Hebden Bridge Local History Society (HBLHS) is governed by a constitution based on the Charity Commission's association model
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	HBLHS is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are elected by the members of the CIO. One third retire by rotation each year. They may seek re-election.

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.	The charity works closely with Pennine Heritage Ltd (reg. charity, 509974), as part of the South Pennine Archives. The charity follows relevant policies of Pennine Heritage and Hebden Bridge Methodist Church for its activities at the archives and lecture hall respectively. As a new charity, we are reviewing existing policies and procedures to ensure compliance with charity law and best practice. The following policies will be developed as a priority: Risk management Financial controls and reserves Trustee expenses and conflicts of interest The charity will use the risk management register to identify the need for further policies, as necessary.
---	--

Section C Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the CIO are to advance the education of the public in the history, heritage and culture of Hebden Bridge, the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

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)

In planning activities for the year, the Society kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The membership fee was £15 per year.

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit were:

- A series of talks on a wide range of historical topics given by speakers with expert knowledge in the subject. Talks were open to members and non-members in a fully accessible town centre venue and advertised in advance. The talks were also recorded and made available to members after the event. A report of each talk was published in the local paper, in the Society newsletter and on our website.
- The maintenance of the local history archive. This was open to members and visitors on 2 afternoons each week. Assistance with family history research was also offered each week.
- Publications produced by the Society on topics relevant to the history of the local area were available in local outlets and via the Society's website. Work continued on new titles.
- An exhibition titled "Who Built Hebden Bridge" at the Town Hall in Hebden Bridge in March. This free exhibition was in the entrance hall and passed by everyone entering the Town Hall.

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.

HBLHS is run entirely by volunteer trustees and members. The trustees were greatly helped during the year by:

- Diana Monahan who has a wealth of knowledge on all matters relating to the history of the area and willingly shared it to answer queries from members and others from across the world.
- David Cant who edited the newsletters and provided proof reading assistance for publications.
- The Family History group for supporting enquiries and research.
- Stella Richardson and Mike Crawford for editing the final volume of the probate transcription series.
- The Folklore group (especially John Billingsley) for this aspect of the area's cultural heritage
- The Pre-history Group (especially David Shepherd) for advising members of new finds and events.
- Locally based speakers who declined to accept expenses.
- John Crampton for cataloguing assistance in the archive.
- Mike Crawford and Diana Monahan for creating the "Who Built Hebden Bridge Exhibition".

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Membership numbers continued to be strong at 222 members.
- Talks resumed in the Methodist Church. With support from the Society, the Church installed a new audio recording system which enabled the Society to record the talks. With consent from the speakers the recordings were made available to members to view at home. This meant that members who don't live locally or can't get out on a Wednesday evening were able to access the talks. An average of 90 people accessed talks in person or online. The response from members was very positive –
“Excellent talk. Very informative and very clearly presented.”
“Another fascinating talk. Thanks so much for putting these online!”
- The Society received a number of donations of items for the Archive during the year including Wild Rose Arts documentary archive, Hebden Bridge Literary & Scientific Society collections, a collection of almanacs and books including two weaving books from the 1830s, Todmorden & Hebden Bridge Master Printers Association minute book 1919-1942 and documents relating to John Bentley & Sons printers, Todmorden. Preservation and cataloguing of these and other donations continued with help from volunteers.
- The Society published Midgley and Warley Probate Records 1688-1700 completing the series of probate volumes for this period for the Upper Calder Valley. Enclosing the Moors by Sheila Graham, first published in 2014, was reprinted.
- The exhibition “Who Built Hebden Bridge” was very well attended with positive feedback.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society has sufficient reserves to cover its current commitments and is in the process of developing formal Reserves and Risk Management policies.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

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.

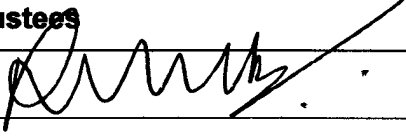
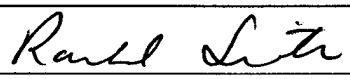
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Date

	
Murray Seccombe	Rachel Smith
Chair	Treasurer

19/6/2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Hebden Bridge Local History Society

1196787

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

26/11/2021

To

31/08/2022

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					
Transfer from unincorporated association - Hebden Bridge Local History Society	21,914	-	-	21,914	-
Membership subscriptions	600	-	-	600	-
Donations	2,500	-	-	2,500	-
Sale of Publications	424	-	-	424	-
Queries	47	-	-	47	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	25,486	-	-	25,486	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,486	-	-	25,486	-
A3 Payments					
Cost of lectures	386	-	-	386	-
Administration	603	-	-	603	-
Archive costs	886	-	-	886	-
Newsletters	223	-	-	223	-
Cost of publications	1,322	-	-	1,322	-
Sub total	3,420	-	-	3,420	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,420	-	-	3,420	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	22,066	-	-	22,066	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	22,066	-	-	22,066	-

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 account	21,570	-	-
	PayPal account	485	-	-
	Cash account	11	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,066	-	-
	(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	-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details	-	-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		RACHEL SMITH	19/6/23	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Hebden Bridge Local History Society

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1196787

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2022.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

21.10.22

Name:

DAVID BRYAN

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

(if any):

Address:

1 EDWARD STREET, HERDEN BRIDGE,
WAKEFIELD YORKSHIRE, HX7 8DF

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.