

# **384<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group Museum**

**Charity Number 1202861**

**Trustees Annual Report**

**01/03/2024 to 28/02/2025**

## **Objectives and Activities**

The objective of the Museum is to advance the education of the public by means of creating and maintaining a Museum & Visitor Centre to exhibit artefacts and provide information relating to 384th Bombardment Group based at Grafton Underwood during World War 2. This will encompass the role of the USAAF (United States Army Air Force) and the varied influences it had on the area of Kettering / East Northamptonshire both directly and indirectly, through the utilisation of existing historical buildings on the original site of the airfield.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Purchase of Assets**

The Museum has already purchased two buildings – the Operations Block and Norden Bomb Sight Store - that originally facilitated the planning of the flight sorties that would have taken place during World War Two. These will be instrumental in the education of what happened on this site, and form the centrepieces of the Museum.

### **Clearance, Groundworks and Utilities**

The land on which both buildings are located has been sympathetically cleared of trees and shrubs that had overgrown the area since the buildings were last in operation (circa 1945), with further work continuing to bring other areas under control. The utilities & drainage available 80 years ago are now all decommissioned. Currently work is ongoing to get these to site. Research is currently underway to identify

what cost effective utility solutions can be installed on site to provide running mains water supply, electricity and toilet facilities.

### **Building Works**

Intensive restoration work has taken place on both buildings and are now watertight by means of new roofs. The main focus of the past months has been the investment and creation of a Visitor Centre on the original site of the Group Headquarters. The New Nissen hut is now underway using new materials, with construction being done within the volunteer group This will be used in the short term as a point of interest whilst the restoration work is ongoing in the original buildings. Once open this will enable the Museum to start to function as a visitor attraction, this is hoped to be within the next financial year (2025-26).

### **Volunteers**

The Museum has maintained a good number of volunteers and is attracting new ones as the project progresses. The volunteers assist in the restoration work, tours of the buildings and the airfield side as well as supporting visits by veterans of the US Army Air Force that fought in World War Two. We have a diverse range of volunteers, many with specific professional skills that are utilised by the Museum.

### **Custodians of 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Memorial**

During the course of 2024-25 the Museum has also been made custodians of the existing Memorial to the 384th Bombardment Group, situated on the Geddington Road, Grafton Underwood.

### **Governance**

Regular meetings have been held to conduct the Charity's normal business to aid in decision making on the running of the Museum Project. Currently there are three Trustees that manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity.

### **Revenue**

80% of revenue has come via donations, with the balance from sales of the Museum's merchandise range. 60% of donations are via the Museum's Paypal GoFundMe account, which appears to be a popular way of collecting donations in the UK and abroad (predominantly the

USA). Paypal manage GiftAid collections through this portal on our behalf.

### **Social Media & Website**

The Museum continues with its own Facebook page, and is also supported by the 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Heritage Association in America who promote the Museum through their own Facebook group, and website.

To increase our online presence, the Museum has created our own website which provides updates and information on the Museum project, an area dedicated to research, the ability to view future events and also a webshop which we hope will drive an increase in merchandise sales. At the end of FY 2024-25 the website was a work in progress, with a launch scheduled for early summer 2025.

### **Financial Review**

The Museum has increased its expenditure during the year predominantly due to the investment into the building of the Visitor Centre, and an investment into marketing to help improve our visibility with public face-to-face events.

The Museum operates within the framework of the Constitution document. There are no bad debts, and all creditors are paid in a timely manner.

The Museum will continue to research available funding and grants to help fund capital heavy expenditure, such as the supply of water and power to site. We will continue to use the GoFundMe platform for donations, and anticipate the Webshop will help to increase merchandise sales once the webshop becomes operable.

The Museum holds no financial reserves, this will be continuously reviewed in the future. The Trustees state that the Charity is a going concern with sufficient reserves to complete the Visitor Centre Project, enabling us to open during the summer of 2026.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Date of the Constitution was 11th February 2023.

The Charity has a Constitution Document that it works to.

At the end of February 2025, all Trustees had been appointed at the date of constitution. All were already volunteers of the project. They were appointed on the basis of understanding of the history and a knowledge of the project, an interest in the subject matter and relevant professional skills. Trustees were Neill Howarth (Chairman), Matt Smith (Secretary), Keith Andrews (Treasurer).

Please note - Secretary Matt Smith resigned from the role as Secretary and Trustee on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025, and has been replaced in both the role of Secretary and third Trustee by Helen Childs.

## Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name - 384th Bombardment Group Museum

Registered Charity Number – 1202861

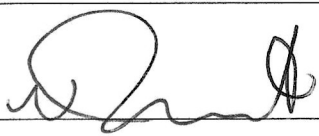

Charity's Principal Address - 12 Bowland Drive, Barton Seagrave, Northants NN 15 6TX

## Trustees

Chairman	Neill Howarth
Secretary	Matt Smith (Resigned 12/10/25)
Treasurer	Keith Andrews



## Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report above.		
Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees		
Chairman	Name	Neill Howarth
	Signature	
	Date	01 November 2025
Secretary	Name	Matt Smith (Resigned 12/10/25)
	Signature	N/A
	Date	N/A
Treasurer	Name	Keith Andrews
	Signature	
	Date	01.11.2025



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

384th Bombardment Group Museum

Charity No  
(if any)

1202861

**Annual accounts for the period**

Period start date

01/03/2024

To

Period end  
date

28/02/2025

**Section A**

**Statement of financial activities**

**Recommended categories by  
activity**

**Incoming resources (Note 3)**

**Income and endowments from:**

Donations and legacies

Charitable activities

Other trading activities

Investments

Separate material item of income

Other

**Total**

**Resources expended (Note 6)**

**Expenditure on:**

Raising funds

Charitable activities

Separate material item of expense

Other

**Total**

**Net income/(expenditure) before investment  
gains/(losses)**

Net gains/(losses) on investments

**Net income/(expenditure)**

**Extraordinary items**

**Transfers between funds**

**Other recognised gains/(losses):**

Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use

Other gains/(losses)

**Net movement in funds**

**Reconciliation of funds:**

Total funds brought forward

**Total funds carried forward**

Guidance Notes

	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
S01	31,279	-	-	31,279	39,601
S02	7,745	-	-	7,745	5,758
S03	-	-	-	-	-
S04	222	-	-	222	24
S05	-	-	-	-	-
S06	-	-	-	-	-
S07	39,246	-	-	39,246	45,383
S08	1,108	-	-	1,108	5,237
S09	5,373	-	-	5,373	4,291
S10	15,020	-	-	15,020	-
S11	-	-	-	-	1,125
S12	21,501	-	-	21,501	10,653
S13	17,745	-	-	17,745	34,730
S14	-	-	-	-	-
S15	17,745	-	-	17,745	34,730
S16	-	-	-	-	-
S17	-	-	-	-	-
S18	-	-	-	-	-
S19	-	-	-	-	-
S20	17,745	-	-	17,745	34,730
S21	13,639	-	-	13,639	13,639
S22	31,384	-	-	31,384	-

Charity Name: 384th Bombardment Group Museum		Charity No	1202861
		Company No	
Annual accounts for the period	Period start date: 01/03/2024	To period end date: 28/02/2025	
<b>Section B Balance sheet</b>			

	Guidance note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Intangible assets (Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets (Note 14)	B02	7,421	-	-	7,421	3,225
Heritage assets (Note 16)	B03	28,000	-	-	28,000	29,500
Investments (Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	B05	35,421	-	-	35,421	32,725
<b>Current assets</b>						
Stocks (Note 18)	B06	1,640	-	-	1,640	1,415
Debtors (Note 19)	B07	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	B09	31,384	-	-	31,384	13,639
<b>Total current assets</b>	B10	33,024	-	-	33,024	15,054
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> (Note 20)	B11	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	B12	33,024	-	-	33,024	15,054
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	B13	68,445	-	-	68,445	47,779
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b> (Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	B15	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	B16	68,445	-	-	68,445	47,779
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>						
Endowment funds (Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	B18	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	B19	68,445	-	-	68,445	47,779
Revaluation reserve	B20	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value reserve	B21	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	B22	68,445	-	-	68,445	47,779

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

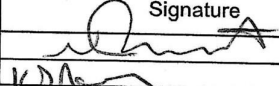

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Signed by one or two trustees/directors on behalf of all the trustees/directors

Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
NEILL HOWARTH	01.11.2025
KEM ANDREWS	01.11.2025

Signature of director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies House

Signature	Date dd/mm/yyyy
	01.11.2025
	01.11.2025

KDAUDREWS 01.11.2025



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  
384<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group Museum

On accounts for the year  
ended

28 February 2024

Charity no 1202861

Set out on pages

1 to 4 (including these 2 pages)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 28/02/2025.

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 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.

Signed: D Warren

Date: 28/10/2025

Name: Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners

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

F M A A T

Address: 61a High Street South

Rushden, Northants

NN10 0RA

**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.**