

THE BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1204264

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-08-08

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

Contact

Address The Almonry
High Street
Battle
East Sussex
United Kingdom
TN33 0EA

Phone 01424 277100

Email enquiries@battlemuseum.com

Website www.battlemuseum.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS TO PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES, ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND KINDRED SUBJECTS ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO THE TOWN OF BATTLE AND ITS ENVIRONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC BY:MAINTAINING A MUSEUM, IN THE TOWN OF BATTLE, TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS;COLLATING, PUBLISHING OR OTHERWISE DISSEMINATING INFORMATION RELATING THERETO; ANDSPONSORING THE EXHIBITION OF OTHER COLLECTIONS WITH SIMILAR OBJECTS.

Activities: To promote the advancement of knowledge in the natural sciences, archaeology, historical research and kindred subjects especially in relation to the town of Battle and its environs for the benefit of the general public by:- maintaining a museum, in the town of Battle, to house collections;- collating, publishing or otherwise disseminating information relating thereto

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£20,763	£15,883	-	-
2024-03-31	£16,477	£25,689	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Charlotte Moore	Chair	2023-08-07
Dr Anne Wayne		2023-08-07
Michael Henry Cornes		2024-11-27
Paul Ronald Skilbeck		2024-11-27
Stephen Howard Gray		2023-08-07
TREVOR WAYNE		2023-08-07

THE BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1204264

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1204264

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO
Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

Trustees' Report	Page 1 - 2
Receipts and Payments account	Page 3 - 4
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Page 5
Notes to the accounts	Page 6
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 7

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO
Trustees' annual report for the year to 31 March 2025

Battle Museum of Local History (BMOLHT)
Registered charity no. 1204264
The Almonry High Street, Battle East Sussex TN33 OEA

1 Annual General Meeting 27 November 2024

- 1.1 In accordance with paragraph 13.1 of the charity's constitution, the seven founding trustees, Margaret Emeleus, Stephen Gray, Sonia Kendall, George Kiloh, Charlotte Moore, Trevor Wayne and Anne Wayne (alphabetic order), retired at the meeting.
- 1.2 The meeting nominated Michael Cornes, Stephen Gray, Charlotte Moore, Paul Skilbeck, Trevor Wayne and Anne Wayne (alphabetic order) as Trustees. There being less than eight nominations there was no need for an election to be held and the nominated people were confirmed to act as Trustees.
- 1.3 A report for the preceding calendar year was presented by the Honorary Secretary, Stephen Gray. Much of that reported is reiterated in this report.

2 Calendar year 2024

- 2.1 During the year the necessary actions and procedures initiated in 2023, for the Trust to succeed Battle & District Historical Society Museum Trust were completed and the Charities Commission removed B&DHSMT from the Charities Register.
- 2.2 In accordance with paragraph 18.1 of the charity's constitution, the Trustees delegated their responsibility for day-to-day administrative roles to an Executive Committee composed of both some Trustees and some volunteers.

3 The Museum Open Season 2024

- 3.1 The Open Season ran from 1 April to 2 November and was the first since the onset of the Covid pandemic in 2020, that Museum could revert to operating morning and afternoon shifts six days a week.
- 3.2 The Museum also opened on the Sunday morning of Battle of Hastings Re-enactment weekend, 13 October, and opened for Battle's late night shopping evenings on the 5 and 6 December.
- 3.3 During the season the Museum welcomed 10,244 visitors: 9,066 adults, 1,050 children and two out of hours group visits. This represents an increase of about 13.5 % over the previous season.
- 3.4 Income from Bank Card Donations was just over £4,300 and Cash Donations some £2,900. Additionally, £1,900 Gift Aid was claimed on those donations. Overall these sources of income were 32% up on the previous season
- 3.5 Total sales in the Museum shop were just short of £7,000, producing a net profit of just over £3,000. This represents an increase of about 40 % over the previous season.
- 3.6 Out of 133 reviews on Trip advisor for the year, the Museum was rated Excellent by 90 visitors, Very Good by 35 and Terrible by just 1.

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

Trustees' annual report for the year to 31 March 2025 (continued)

4 The collection and temporary exhibition

- 4.1 The temporary exhibition for the year focussed on Battle High Street. The exhibition was linked to other objects in the permanent display and was of interest to local people as well as to visitors from out of town. It was held over for the 2025 season.
- 4.2 Two finds by local metal detectorists were acquired via the Portable Antiquities Scheme and added to the medieval display.
- 4.3 Other items donated to the museum during the year are being assessed and prepared for possible future exhibition

5 Volunteers

- 5.1 During the open season the Museum fielded 26 volunteer gallery stewards, with behind-the-scenes functions being undertaken by 7 more volunteers.

6 Members

- 6.1 During the year the Museum had 40 Members, including 10 Life Members.

7 Outreach, accreditation and external relations

- 7.1 The Museum is preparing to renew its accreditation with Arts Council England
- 7.2 The Museum cooperated with a number of other bodies in the heritage sector:
 - Rother District Council Museum Service, who make us an annual grant of £600.00
 - Battell Bonfire Boyes, who pay an annual 'rent' for housing the effigy of Guy Fawkes.
 - 1066 Country Marketing
 - English Heritage at Battle Abbey
 - The National Trust at Bodiam Castle
- 7.3 The Museum continued its annual outreach with the children of Battle and Langton School and welcomed a student of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in.
- 7.4 Museum representatives attended meetings of a local reminiscence group of senior citizens who meet in the local library and have hosted visits by the group to the museum.
- 7.5 The Museum continued to work closely with Battle Town Council and welcomed Cllr. Marie-Louise Neil as its representative at Executive Committee meetings.

.....
Stephen Gray Hon Secretary, for the Trustees

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

**Receipts and Payment Account
for the year ended 31st March 2025**

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Receipts				
Visitor receipts - boxes	4,382.72	-	4,382.72	4,010.50
Donations - terminal	2,940.00	-	2,940.00	1,607.00
Donations	330.00	-	330.00	110.00
Gift aid	1,908.25	-	1,908.25	1,436.88
School parties	-	-	-	-
Members (Friends)	130.00	-	130.00	277.82
Grants	-	-	-	-
Rother District Council	600.00	-	600.00	600.00
Interest received - COIF account	3,478.70	-	3,478.70	3,675.68
Other	-	-	-	50.00
Total Income	13,769.67	-	13,769.67	11,767.88
Payments				
Electricity	4,689.75	-	4,689.75	5,946.30
Water	264.48	-	264.48	154.87
Security and Fire	1,172.80	-	1,172.80	472.80
Insurance	1,468.76	-	1,468.76	1,440.60
Rent & Rates	5.00	-	5.00	-
Repairs and Renewals	889.99	-	889.99	332.49
Telephone	1,597.18	-	1,597.18	651.56
Postage	22.10	-	22.10	7.75
Stationery & Inks	126.91	-	126.91	128.77
Collection Management	303.14	-	303.14	679.01
Computer & IT	411.92	-	411.92	423.85
Card Machine Charges	287.28	-	287.28	410.16
Legal fees re: lease	-	-	-	7,178.59
Charities Trust Charges	143.68	-	143.68	-
Publicity & Marketing	146.60	-	146.60	1,131.65
Miscellaneous	288.33	-	288.33	680.35
Events & Donations	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	106.00	-	106.00	102.00
Travel Expenses	45.50	-	45.50	89.15
New alarm systems	-	-	-	2,966.97
	11,969.42	-	11,969.42	22,796.87
Surplus/(Deficit) in the year	1,800.25	-	1,800.25	(11,028.99)

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

**Shop Trading Account
for the year ended 31st March 2025**

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Receipts				
Sales	6,993.33	-	6,993.33	4,709.68
Cost of Sales				
Opening stock	3,359.77	-	3,359.77	3,092.90
Purchases	4,488.02	-	4,488.02	2,778.47
Closing stock	(3,934.02)	-	(3,934.02)	(3,359.77)
	3,913.77	-	3,913.77	2,511.60
Direct selling costs				
Card Machine Charges	-	-	-	267.68
Shop maintenance	77.07	-	77.07	113.79
	77.07	-	77.07	381.47
Surplus/(Deficit) in the year	3,002.49	-	3,002.49	1,816.61

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Current Assets		
Bank Balances		
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	74,618.89	71,140.19
Barclays Current Account	-	1,114.55
Co-op Current Account	4,235.46	2,371.12
	4,235.46	3,485.67
Reconciled Bank Balances at 31st March 2025	78,854.35	74,625.86
Shop Stock (at cost) in hand at 31st March 2025	3,934.02	3,359.77
Total Assets as at 31st March 2025	82,788.37	77,985.63
Current Liabilities	-	-
	82,788.37	77,985.63
Financed by :		
Accumulated Fund as at 1st April 2024		
Museum Operating Fund Balance	39,391.63	48,604.01
Wilton Bequest Balance	38,594.00	38,594.00
	77,985.63	87,198.01
Add Surplus on Shop Trading 2024/25	3,002.49	1,816.61
Surplus on Museum Operating Account	1,800.25	(11,028.99)
	4,802.74	(9,212.38)
Accumulated Fund	82,788.37	77,985.63

Accounts approved by:

Stephen Gray
(Secretary)

Date of Approval November 2025
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The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The income and expenditure shown therefore reflect the cash/bank receipts and payments during this period.

The Battle Museum of Local History Trust CIO

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the The Battle Museum of Local History for the year ended 31st March 2025.

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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

R Walsh FCCA
Manningtons, Chartered Accountants
39 High Street
Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE

Date:

THE BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1204264

Accounts

BATTLE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY

Battle Museum of Local History Trust

Registered Charity No. 1204264

The Almonry High Street Battle East Sussex TN33 0EA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY2023/24

- 1 This is the first Annual Report for the Battle Museum of Local History Trust. It covers the period 8 August 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- 1.1 The Battle Museum of Local History Trust (BMOLHT), was registered by the Charities Commission on 8 August 2023, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
- 1.2 The CIO had been initiated to supersede the activities of the Battle and District Historical Society Museum Trust (B&DHSMT), an unincorporated charity that had been registered in 1967, and to take over care and use of its assets.
- 1.4 The two Trusts operated in parallel from 23 August 2023, whilst registrations and financial accounts were transferred from one organisation to the other. Each Trust had a separate bank account, B&DHSMT with Barclays Bank plc., and BMOLHT with The Co-operative Bank plc.
- 1.5 B&DHSMT's building lease was assigned to BMOLHT on 21 December 2023.
- 1.5 Ownership of the Museum's collection and sundry property was received from B&DHSMT by a Deed of Gift dated 28 December 2023.
- 1.7 Transfer of the Museum's activities from B&DHSMT to BMOLHT was completed by 31 March 2024, B&DHSMT's residual funds being passed to BMOLHT.

2 Financial Report

- 2.1 Whilst the two Trusts operated in parallel from August 2023, B&DHSMT's accounts for the period of this report were as income to and expenditure from the Co-operative Bank account.
- 1.7 When transfer of the Museum's activities from B&DHSMT to BMOLHT was completed, B&DHSMT's residual funds including the Reserve Charities Deposit Fund Account, were passed to BMOLHT.
- 2.5 The Trustees are grateful to Roy Holland of Holland Harper, for auditing the accounts at no cost to the Museum.

3 The Museum Open Season 2023

- 3.1 BMOLHT's open season ran from 23 August to 27 October, in parallel with B&DHSMT.

3.2 The Museum opened five days a week, Monday to Friday, until the end of October, income from shop sales and donations being credited to BMOLHT's bank account for that period.

3.3 At the season's end there was a pool of twenty eight gallery stewards and a further seven volunteers giving other support services.

3.4 The Trustees record their appreciation and thanks to the volunteers.

4 Accreditation by the Arts Council for England AN 1054

4.1 The Arts Council for England has a backlog in its accreditation process for Museums. When that backlog is cleared, it is proposed to seek the Museum's ACE re-accreditation.

5 1066 Country Marketing

5.1 B&DHSMT's membership of 1066 Country Marketing for inclusion of the Museum in pamphleting and on-line publicity has been transferred to BMOLHT.

Stephen Gray Hon Secretary, for the Trustees

Battle Museum of Local History

Accounts for the year ended

31st March 2024

**Battle Museum of Local History
Index**

**Accounts for the
Year to 31st March 2024**

Page 1	Receipts and Payments Account
Page 2	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Page 3	Notes to the accounts
Page 4	Independent Examiner's Report

**Battle Museum of Local History
Receipts and Payments Account
Year to 31st March 2024**

	2023/24			2022/23		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Operating Account						
Receipts						
Visitor Receipts - Boxes	4,010.50		4,010.50	1,307.85		1,307.85
Donations - Terminal	1,607.00		1,607.00	506.00		506.00
Donations	110.00		110.00	150.00		150.00
Gift Aid	1,436.88		1,436.88	519.21		519.21
School Parties	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Members (Friends)	277.82		277.82	307.00		307.00
Grants : Rother Annual	600.00		600.00	600.00		600.00
Covid support	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Royal Pavilion	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Interest - COIF Deposit Account	3,675.68		3,675.68	1,539.55		1,539.55
Bequests	0.00		0.00	12,449.95		12,449.95
Walk	0.00		0.00	50.00		50.00
Other	50.00		50.00	0.00		0.00
	11,767.88	0.00	11,767.88	17,429.56	0.00	17,429.56
Payments						
Electricity	5,946.30		5,946.30	3,854.77		3,854.77
Water	154.87		154.87	52.85		52.85
Security and Fire	472.80		472.80	1,017.60		1,017.60
Insurance	1,440.60		1,440.60	1,345.02		1,345.02
Rent & Rates	0.00		0.00	5.00		5.00
Repairs and Renewals	332.49		332.49	693.09		693.09
Telephone	651.56		651.56	415.74		415.74
Postage	7.75		7.75	0.00		0.00
Stationery & Inks	128.77		128.77	105.00		105.00
Collection Management	679.01		679.01	358.00		358.00
Computer & IT	423.85		423.85	1,333.30		1,333.30
Card Machine Charges	410.16		410.16	299.13		299.13
Legal fees re Lease	7,178.59		7,178.59	1,740.00		1,740.00
Publicity & Marketing	1,131.65		1,131.65	791.50		791.50
Miscellaneous	680.35		680.35	726.56		726.56
Events & Donations	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Subscriptions	102.00		102.00	212.90		212.90
Travel Expenses	89.15		89.15	0.00		0.00
New alarm system	2,966.97		2,966.97	0.00		0.00
Costs re New Ventilation System	0.00		0.00	2,997.40	1,400.00	4,397.40
	22,796.87	0.00	22,796.87	15,947.86	1,400.00	17,347.86
Surplus/-deficit	-11,028.99	0.00	-11,028.99	1,481.70	-1,400.00	81.70
Shop Trading Account						
Receipts						
Sales	4,709.68	0.00	4,709.68	2,350.60	0.00	2,350.60
Cost of sales						
Opening stock	3,092.90		3,092.90	3,737.08	0.00	3,737.08
Purchases	2,778.47		2,778.47	801.24	0.00	801.24
Closing stock	-3,359.77		-3,359.77	-3,092.90	0.00	-3,092.90
	2,511.60	0.00	2,511.60	1,445.42	0.00	1,445.42
Direct selling costs						
Card machine	267.68		267.68	290.31	0.00	290.31
Shop maintenance	113.79		113.79	97.30	0.00	97.30
	381.47	0.00	381.47	387.61	0.00	387.61
Net surplus	1,816.61	0.00	1,816.61	517.57	0.00	517.57
	38.57%		38.57%	22.02%		22.02%

**Battle Museum of Local History
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
At 31st March 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Bank balances				
COIF Charities Deposit Fund		71,140.19		77,464.51
Barclays Current Account	1,114.55		6,640.60	
Co-op Current Account	2,371.12	3,485.67	0.00	6,640.60
		<u>74,625.86</u>		<u>84,105.11</u>
Shop stock at cost		3,359.77		3,092.90
		<u>77,985.63</u>		<u>87,198.01</u>
Financed by:				
Accumulated Fund at 1st April 2023				
Museum Operating Fund Balance	48,604.01		48,004.74	
Wilton Bequest Balance	38,594.00	87,198.01	38,594.00	86,598.74
Add surpluses for 2023/2024:				
Shop Trading	1,816.61		517.57	
Museum Operating Account	-11,028.99	-9,212.38	81.70	599.27
		<u>77,985.63</u>		<u>87,198.01</u>
Restricted Funds				
Balance at 1st April 2023	0.00		1,400.00	
Royal Pavilion grant re ventilation system improvements	0.00		0.00	
Expenditure re ventilation system improvements	0.00		-1,400.00	
Balance at 31st March 2024		0.00		0.00
Unrestricted Funds		77,985.63		87,198.01
Total Funds		<u>77,985.63</u>		<u>87,198.01</u>

Accounts approved I

Stephen Gray

Stephen Gray
(Secretary)

Date of approval 30 October 2024
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Battle Museum of Local History
Notes to the accounts
For the year to 31st March 2024

1 Accounting policies

These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments (rather than accruals) basis.

The income and expenditure shown therefore reflects the cash/bank receipts and payments during the period.

Battle Museum of Local History
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Battle Musuem of Local History
For the year to 31st March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

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 report

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.

R M Holland FCA BSc (Econ)

Holland Harper LLP
Chartered Accountants
26 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EA