

FRIENDS OF THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE (FWCRO)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) - Registered No: 1209391

Address- Warwickshire County Record Office, Priory Park, Cape Road, Warwick CV34 4JS

Charity Commission Report for 2025

The object of the CIO is the supporting of the education of the public by promotion, support, assistance and improvement of the Warwickshire County Record Office through the activity of the Friends of the Warwickshire County Record Office.

The trustees of FWCRO are:

- Christine Cluley (retired March 2026)
- Simon Coleman, Secretary (retired October 2025)
- Peter Coulls (retired in March 2026)
- Michael Dane (Treasurer)
- Jane Dennick
- Sue Rigby
- Anne Langley (co-opted November 2025, elected March 2026)
- Rob Eyre (co-opted January 2026, elected 2026)

New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and serve for 3 years after which they may put themselves forward for re-appointment. There must be at least three charity trustees and the maximum number of charity trustees is 12.

This is the first year that the FWCRO has functioned as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed 29th March 2025.

As a result of the change the Trustees have produced several written policies covering Finance, Financial Reserves, Donations, Hospitality, Use of Information Technology and Grant Applications.

FWCRO continue to produce a regular newsletter three times a year primarily for the membership. Our volunteer editor works with other members and Record Office staff to produce this. There have been three talks this year, free to members. Following the AGM in March 2025 the first was a fascinating talk from Heidi Meyer, the Master of Lord Leycester Hospital that covered its history and continued with mention of the fund raising and ongoing restoration work. The May meeting described some of the Decorative Headers to the receipts discovered during cataloguing Household Voucher boxes from the Warwick Castle Collection. Sue Rigby and Sue Lock, volunteers at WCRO working with this material, gave this interesting insight into Warwick businesses trading with the Castle. Aaron Manning presented the November talk on Henry VIII's previously unrecognized progress to Warwick, again an entertaining speaker on a local theme.

Our primary objective this year was to formalise how we plan to use Stephen Wallsgrove's legacy. Simon Coleman worked with Rob Eyre and his team at WCRO to finalise how interested parties could approach us for funding. In addition, we now have in place a robust grant application document and IT policy. FWCRO have supported the on-going digitisation by WCRO of the Stephen Wallsgrove card index plus his reconstructed tithe maps index. We

also supported the 'Warwick Castle Uncovered' Project run by Heritage and Culture Warwickshire. In addition, a bursary for a Leamington College student to design a new marketing leaflet for WCRO has been offered, which we hope will lead to further links to local colleges. We covered a shortfall in funding to enable completion of the cataloguing of the Coleshill Civic Society's Collection (now deposited at the CRO) and have agreed to the purchase of a WCRO branded gazebo for use in outreach work.

Funds from FWCRO have also purchased:

- A rough Minute book of the Rugby Gas and Coke Company, 1875-1880
- A Diary of General Francis Seymour for 1861
- A scrapbook containing armorial book plates and other details of well-known local families 1734-1909
- A local banknote, 'Warwick Old Bank' 1828
- The Valuation of tithes belonging to Sheldon rectory 1802
- Two volumes of Warwickshire memorabilia collected by Joseph Gibbs in the 19th century
- The Warwick Castle Visitor Book 1913-25
- A Heraldic scroll with details concerning the Medley family, 18th century

We have also replaced 2 Air-Pot hot water jugs and a PA system, purchased for use during meetings. We are arranging a card payment reader for payments from non-members.

The trustees operate 2 sets of bank and savings accounts, one for unrestricted funds and the other for restricted funds. The restricted funds are the results of a legacy and can only be used for the benefit of the Warwickshire County Record Office by acquiring written records for the County, publicising them, making them available to general public and promoting the Record Office.

The unrestricted funds were £18,584, we spend about £2,000 each year and intend to retain a capital reserve of £6,000. Investments are in instant access bank accounts at about 1% interest.

The restricted funds were £282,288, we aim to spend at least £10,000 each year and retain a capital reserve of £100,000 for any possible projects. Investments are in a mix of fixed term bank accounts of between 4 and 4.5% interest and instant access bank accounts at about 1% interest. The interest earned was £11,242.

Friends of the Warwickshire County Record Office Charity 1209391

Accounts 2025

2024	Income	2025	2024	Expenditure	2025
Current accounts Barclays & Lloyds					
£476.29	Opening Balance	£408.08 1			
£1,309.00	Subscriptions	£1,465.00 2	£542.88	Printing & Postage	£460.78 3
304	Donations	£3,165.50	£383.95	Record Office	£7,196.25
£302.91	Gift Aid	£255.57	£298.00	BALH Memb/insurance	£298.00
£0.00	Visits	£0.00	£0.00	Website Domain	£28.78
£18.00	Visitors		£1,361.75	Autumn Lunch	£0.00
£592.91	Autumn Lunch	£0.00	£8.45	Catering	£101.82
£0.00	Lloyds from Barclays	£45,805.98		Speakers	£275.00
	From Lloyds Savings	£7,196.25		To Barclays savings	£4,500.00
				to Lloyds savings	£43,000.00
				PA System	£260.09
£2,526.82	Total receipts	£57,888.30	£2,595.03	Total expenditure	£56,120.72
			£408.08	Closing balance	£2,175.66
Barclays Savings Account					
£0.00	Opening balance	£15,893.03 1			
£0.00	Interest	£155.38		To Lloyds	£7,000.00
	From General Fund	£4,500.00			
£0.00	Total receipts	£4,655.38	£0.00	Total expenditure	£7,000.00
				Closing balance	£13,548.41
Barclays Stephen Wallsgrove Legacy					
£484.41	Opening balance	£45,336.59 1			
£96,787.46	Legacy		£42,000.00	to Redwood Bank	
£303.93	Interest	£120.17	£42,000.00	to Charity Bank	
£3,178.77	Int from Camb& Count			To Lloyds	£38,805.98
£3,582.02	Int from United Trust			To WCRO	£6,650.78
£25,000.00	Trans from United Trust				
£128,852.18	Total receipts	£120.17	£84,000.00	Total expenditure	£45,456.76
			£45,336.59	Closing balance	£0.00
Lloyds Savings Account Instant Access					
	Opening balance	£0.00 1			
	From Barclays Savings	£5,000.00			
	Interest	£35.90			
£0.00	Total receipts	£5,035.90	£0.00	Total expenditure	£0.00
				Closing balance	£5,035.90
Lloyds Stephen Wallsgrove Legacy Instant Access					
£0.00	Opening balance	£0.00 1			
	From Barclays Legacy	£8,000.00		To lloyds for Record Office	£7,196.25
	Interest	£23.98			
£0.00	Total receipts	£8,023.98		Total expenditure	£7,196.25
				Closing balance	£827.73
Lloyds Stephen Wallsgrove Legacy 32 day					
£0.00	Opening balance	£0.00 1			
	From Barclays Legacy	£30,000.00			
	Interest	£616.86			
£0.00	Total receipts	£30,616.86		Total expenditure	£0.00
				Closing balance	£30,616.86
Cambridge & Counties Bank					
£75,000.00	Opening balance	£75,000.00 1		1 year bond to 24/06/25	5.10%

Interest	£3,825.00	1 year bond to 24/06/26	4.4%
Total receipts	£3,825.00	Total expenditure	£0.00
		Closing balance	£78,825.00
United Trust Bank			
£75,000.00 Opening balance	£50,000.00 1	Transferred to Barclays	£0.00
Interest	£2,480.00	1 year to 22 July 2025	4.96%
Transferred to new bond		2 year to 22 July 2027	4.21%
£0.00 Total receipts	£2,480.00	Total expenditure	£0.00
		Closing balance	£52,480.00
Redwood Bank			
Opening balance	£42,000.00 1	2 year to 24 Jan 2026	4.85%
Interest	£2,042.58		
Total receipts	£2,042.58	Total expenditure	£0.00
		Closing balance	£44,042.58
£12,000.00 Opening balance	£12,633.46 1	95 days	3.18
£175.58 Interest	£437.27		
Total receipts	£437.27	Total expenditure	£0.00
		Closing balance	£13,070.73
Charity Bank			
Opening balance	£42,000.00	3 year	4.35%
Interest	£1,841.23		
Total receipts	£1,841.23	Total expenditure	£0.00
		Closing balance	£43,841.23
Total Savings		Unrestricted	£18,584.31
		Restricted	£263,704.13
		Total	£282,288.44
Creditors at year end		Debtors at year end	
None		None	
Notes			
1 Opening balances		2 Subscriptions	
The Friends operate 2 current bank accounts,		The total membership for 2025 was 115 (including	
and a number of Savings accounts to hold the		19 societies).	
unrestricted funds and others to hold the		3 Printing	
restricted funds (money from the Stephen		This covers the cost of all the printing of	
Wallsgrave Legacy).		newsletters, AGM notices etc. Also included is	
		postage and stationery.	

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:

- 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.

Stewart J. Heritage

26th February 2026

STEWART J. HERITASE

F.C.M.A C.S.M.A