

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 269109

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
The Ropner Centenary Trust**

The Ropner Centenary Trust

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The Ropner Centenary Trust
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity are the relief of those persons considered to be in a condition of poverty or distress or in need of education.

Public benefit

The charity's aims and achievements are set out within this report. The activities set out in this report have been undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees have complied with the duty under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission and the Trustees have paid due regard to this guidance in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

During the year the charity paid out 14 grants to individuals (2023: 15) and made a donation of £2,000 to the Middlesbrough Sea Cadets.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy and objectives

The investment strategy is set by the Trustees and takes account of recent demand for funds. The Trustees consider the income requirements, the risk profile and the market prospects in the medium term. The funds may be invested in any type of investment. Our strategy is reviewed annually.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which allows maximum flexibility in determining investment policy. The current level of free reserves provides sufficient funds to cover governance and support costs and to respond to emergency applications for grants which may arise from time to time.

The charity has no restricted funds and there are no restrictions on the charity's power to invest.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Ropner Centenary Trust is constituted under a trust deed dated 2 January 1975 and deed of variation dated 10 March 1983. It is a registered charity number 269109.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees. New Trustees are given appropriate induction to allow them to perform their duties effectively.

Organisation

The Trustees meet annually to assess grant applications and to consider the investment performance of the assets available to the organisation.

Risk

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that the systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced, so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

269109

Principal address

15 The Green
High Coniscliffe
DARLINGTON
Co Durham
DL2 2LJ

Trustees

A P Theakston
R J B Ropner
Sir Henry John William Ropner

Independent Examiner

A W Lockett FCA DChA BFP
Clive Owen LLP
Chartered Accountants
140 Coniscliffe Road
DARLINGTON
Co Durham
DL3 7RT

Solicitors

Tilly Bailey & Irvine LLP
York Chambers
York Road
Hartlepool
TS26 9DP

Bankers

NatWest Bank Plc
25 High Row
Darlington
Co Durham
DL3 7QP

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 2 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



A P Theakston - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Ropner Centenary Trust**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Ropner Centenary Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Ropner Centenary Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.

A W Luckett

A W Luckett FCA DChA BFP

Clive Owen LLP
Chartered Accountants
140 Coniscliffe Road
DARLINGTON
Co Durham
DL3 7RT

2 October 2024

The Ropner Centenary Trust
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

		2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Investment income	2	<u>48,466</u>	<u>43,660</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	3		
Donations		2,000	-
Grants payable		<u>25,390</u>	<u>26,887</u>
Total		<u>27,390</u>	<u>26,887</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>12,768</u>	<u>(59,963)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		33,844	(43,190)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,236,375</u>	<u>1,279,565</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>1,270,219</u></u>	<u><u>1,236,375</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	8	1,202,690	1,173,352
CURRENT ASSETS			
Prepayments and accrued income		5,784	5,534
Cash at bank		<u>63,807</u>	<u>60,368</u>
		69,591	65,902
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,062)	(2,879)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>67,529</u>	<u>63,023</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,270,219</u>	<u>1,236,375</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,270,219</u>	<u>1,236,375</u>
FUNDS	10		
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,270,219</u>	<u>1,236,375</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,270,219</u>	<u>1,236,375</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 2 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



A P Theakston - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Ropner Centenary Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn. The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Incoming resources

Incoming resources that may be applied for the charity's general purposes are treated as 'unrestricted' incoming resources and are credited to 'Unrestricted Funds'. Where income is required to be used for a specific purpose, the amount is treated as 'restricted' incoming resources and is credited to the appropriate 'restricted fund'.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis considered appropriate by the Trustees.

Support costs have been allocated against the costs of the charitable activities of the Trust.

Governance costs are included within support costs, they are the costs of providing the governance infrastructure to the charity.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Returned grants are set against grants payable in the year the grant is returned.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

There are no restricted funds.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

The Ropner Centenary Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Investments

Investments are stated at their mid-market value at the balance sheet date. Any realised or unrealised gains or losses are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of certain assets and liabilities. The estimated and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost with changes recognised in expenditure.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Dividends receivable	40,958	38,143
Interest receivable	<u>7,508</u>	<u>5,517</u>
	<u>48,466</u>	<u>43,660</u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (see note 4)	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Donations	2,000	-	2,000
Grants payable	<u>23,100</u>	<u>2,290</u>	<u>25,390</u>
	<u>25,100</u>	<u>2,290</u>	<u>27,390</u>

4. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	2,000	-
Grants payable	<u>23,100</u>	<u>24,900</u>
	<u>25,100</u>	<u>24,900</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Middlesbrough Sea Cadets	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Total number of grants paid to individuals	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
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The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance	Totals
	£	costs £	£
Grants payable	<u>550</u>	<u>1,740</u>	<u>2,290</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2024	2023
	£	£
Administration of the charity	<u>550</u>	<u>550</u>

Governance costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Professional fees	117	78
Independent examiner fee	<u>1,623</u>	<u>1,359</u>
	<u>1,740</u>	<u>1,437</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

Expenses of £100 (2023: £100) have been reimbursed to Mr A P Theakston, a Trustee. During the year a payment of £450 (2023: £450) was made to Mr A P Theakston, a Trustee, for the administration of the charity.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Investment income	<u>43,660</u>
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities	
Grants payable	<u>26,887</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(59,963)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(43,190)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	1,279,565

The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

Unrestricted
fund
£

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

1,236,375

8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Listed
investments
£

MARKET VALUE

At 1 April 2023

1,173,352

Additions

16,570

Revaluations

12,768

At 31 March 2024

1,202,690

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2024

1,202,690

At 31 March 2023

1,173,352

The investments comprise £1,007,760 (2023: £979,193) invested in UK investment funds, and £194,930 (2023: £194,159) invested in a corporate bond. The historic cost of the investments is £867,867 (2023: £851,297). All investments are held primarily for an investment return.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2024 is represented by:

Listed
investments
£

Valuation in 2024

1,202,690

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

2024

2023

£

£

Accruals and deferred income

2,062

2,879

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,236,375	33,844	1,270,219
	<u>1,236,375</u>	<u>33,844</u>	<u>1,270,219</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			
	<u>1,236,375</u>	<u>33,844</u>	<u>1,270,219</u>

The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	48,466	(27,390)	12,768	33,844
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>48,466</u>	<u>(27,390)</u>	<u>12,768</u>	<u>33,844</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,279,565	(43,190)	1,236,375
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,279,565</u>	<u>(43,190)</u>	<u>1,236,375</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	43,660	(26,887)	(59,963)	(43,190)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>43,660</u>	<u>(26,887)</u>	<u>(59,963)</u>	<u>(43,190)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,279,565	(9,346)	1,270,219
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,279,565</u>	<u>(9,346)</u>	<u>1,270,219</u>

The Ropner Centenary Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	92,126	(54,277)	(47,195)	(9,346)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>92,126</u>	<u>(54,277)</u>	<u>(47,195)</u>	<u>(9,346)</u>

General Fund - This fund represents unrestricted resources available for the general work of the charity.

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Ropner Centenary Trust
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Investment income		
Dividends receivable	40,958	38,143
Interest receivable	<u>7,508</u>	<u>5,517</u>
	<u>48,466</u>	<u>43,660</u>
Total incoming resources	48,466	43,660
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Grants payable to institutions	2,000	-
Grants to individuals	<u>23,100</u>	<u>24,900</u>
	25,100	24,900
Support costs		
Management		
Administration of the charity	550	550
Governance costs		
Professional fees	117	78
Independent examiner fee	<u>1,623</u>	<u>1,359</u>
	<u>1,740</u>	<u>1,437</u>
Total resources expended	<u>27,390</u>	<u>26,887</u>
Net income before gains and losses	21,076	16,773
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>12,768</u>	<u>(59,963)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>33,844</u></u>	<u><u>(43,190)</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements