

ANNUAL REPORT AND SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2024 - 2025



RHS Wentworth Woodhouse 2025

Contents

Office Bearers	Page 3
Current Honorary Life Members	Page 4
Trustee Board Members	Page 4
Chair's Report	Page 5
Financial Report	Page 13
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 14
Balance Sheet	Page 15
Summary of Branch Annual Returns	Page 16
Branch Officers	Page 18
Membership Records	Page 19

©DSWA 2025. All rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means; electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior and written permission of the Dry Stone Walling Association.

DSWA, Lane Farm, Crooklands,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7NH
www.dswa.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 289678

Office Bearers

PATRON	King Charles III 2006 - Her Grace, The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire 1990 - 2005
PRESIDENT	The Lord Cavendish of Furness DL 2008 - Bryan Hough LCG 2005 – 2008 Ken France 2002 - 2005 Bryan Hough, LCG 1999 - 2002 Terry Eggleshaw, MBE 1994 - 1999 Ramsay Rainsford Hannay 1989 - 1994 Mrs E Murray Usher of Cally, OBE 1968 - 1989 (part as convenor)
VICE PRESIDENTS	Brian Jones Bill Noble
CHAIR	Paul Clayton 2020 - Ray Stockall 2013 - 2020 Alan Devonport 2010 - 2013 Richard Love 2004 - 2010 Paul Webley 1994 - 2004 Terry Eggleshaw MBE 1983 - 1994 Eric Boyes 1982 - 1983 Peter Wilson Retired 1982
DEPUTY CHAIR CRAFT SKILLS CO-ORDINATOR	Tracey Blackwell & Lydia Noble
	Andrew Loudon
TREASURER	Linda Clarkson

Current Honorary Life Members

J R Bown, I K Dewar, W Noble,
J Riddick, Ms A Shaw, Mrs J Simpkins,
P Webley & T Wragg

DSWA Trustee Board Members (Sept 2024 - Aug 2025)

Paul Clayton (Chair)	Andrew Loudon
Tracey Blackwell (resigned March 2025)	Jack Taylor (re-appointed March 2025)
Brian Hartley	Lydia Noble
Peter Isherwood	Pamela Kirkup (re-appointed March 2025)
Steve Denham (appointed March 2025)	Martin Tyler (resigned November 2024)
Ben Martindale (resigned December 2024)	Jamie Gwilliam (resigned March 2025)
Cuthbert Noble (resigned March 2025)	

Four Trustee Board meetings are held during the period covered
by this report

Banks

HSBC Bank plc,
331 Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1NJ

Solicitors

Milne Moser, Solicitors,
Westmorland House, The Square,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7QJ

Insurers

NFU Mutual Insurance Society Limited,
Prospect House, Meadow Bank Business Park,
Shap Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 6NY

Introduction

Welcome to the latest annual report for the Dry Stone Walling Association, covering the period mentioned above.

In a year of relentless weather extremes, our Wallers carried on, restoring and raising walls that stand as guardians of our heritage and our craft. We were excited to learn that Dave Goulder, DSWA Master Craftsman, was awarded a BEM in the 2025 New Year Honours List for his services to dry stone walling and to the community of Rosehall, Sutherland. A member of the DSWA for over 40 years, Dave has made an exceptional contribution to the craft, regularly delivering training courses across the north of Scotland. He has also previously served as a DSWA Assessor, playing a significant role in sustaining and promoting dry stone walling in Sutherland, the wider northern region, and the Western Isles.

On the branch front, following on from last years news that Wales was to split back into two branches, we are pleased to report that both branches are thriving. They utilise each others skills and resources and the South Wales Branch have been busy expanding their training site, to help more people in the Wales and Southern England, gain their qualifications.

The Mid-Lancs Branch has gone from strength to strength under its new Committee, running successful beginners' courses and actively participating in local shows and competitions. The branch's renewed energy and commitment have truly brought it to life.

At the start of the year, the West Yorkshire Branch came close to disappearing. However, with some timely support and a small team of both new and experienced DSWA members, the branch has made an impressive recovery and firmly re-established itself and we look forward to seeing how they progress over the coming year.

The Derbyshire Branch held its first Summer Fair this year, showcasing demonstrations and raising local awareness, while the Scottish Branches delivered another successful members' weekend at Threave.

None of this would have been possible without the passion and dedication of our volunteer members, who generously share their time and expertise. A heartfelt thank you to everyone, no matter the size of your contribution.

Governance

The Trustee Board experienced several changes this year, with Martin Tyler, Ben Martindale, Tracey Blackwell, Jamie Gwilliam and Cuthbert Noble stepping down. We were pleased to welcome Steve Denham to the Board, along with the reappointment of Jack Taylor and Pamela Kirkup for another term.

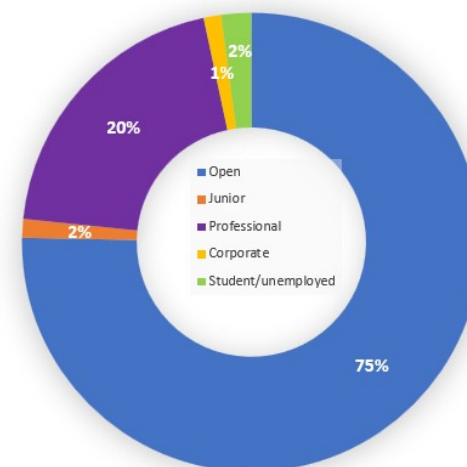
Our meetings have continued in a hybrid format, combining in-person and online attendance. This approach has proved effective, especially with our investment in improved technology and has made participation easier for members. We hope this increased accessibility encourages more members to consider becoming Trustees in the future.

The Association continues to receive and act upon regular, free advice and guidance from the Charity Commission, and we remain committed to adopting best practice wherever possible.

Membership

Membership levels in 2025 have kept in line with expectations given the economic outlook. However, whilst Open memberships have seen a modest reduction, we have experienced growth across our Professional, Corporate, Junior, and Student/Unemployed categories. The Trustee Board recognises that the composition of our membership may continue to evolve in the coming years.

DSWA Membership at 31 August 2025



The Dry Stone Walling Association is registered with the HMRC Gift Aid Scheme, enabling it to claim an extra 25p for every £1 of membership fees and donations when members opt in. This provides a valuable source of additional income at no extra cost to members. For the tax year ending 5 April 2024, the Association received approximately £9,725 through Gift Aid, generated from the subscriptions of over 600 participating members. Eligible members are encouraged to enrol and support the Association in this way.

Quarterly online meetings between branches continue to offer an important platform for networking, exchanging ideas, and sharing best practice, helping to drive continuous improvement across the Association. Branches submit discussion topics in advance, and each meeting is hosted by a Trustee, with ideas and suggestions reviewed and acted upon as appropriate.

The DSWA website remains a key resource for members and anyone seeking guidance on all aspects of dry stone walling. It provides extensive educational material, along with an online shop offering books, tools, and merchandise. The Association also maintains active Facebook, X, and Instagram accounts, helping to raise awareness of our work and supporting our charitable purpose: *“to advance education in the craft and heritage of dry stone walling for the public benefit.”*

Training & Education

Over the past year, our organisation has continued to strengthen its international presence and deepen its commitment to developing excellence within the craft of dry-stone walling. One of our most significant achievements has been the successful



recognition of new Master Craftsmen in both Australia and Bulgaria. Their accomplishments highlight the expanding global reach of our standards and the universal respect for high-level craftsmanship within the industry.



Our international connections have grown in other meaningful ways as well.

This year, we welcomed Japanese groups who travelled to train with us not once, but twice. Their dedication was evident in the exceptional performance they demonstrated during assessments, with all participants successfully passing their tests. Their enthusiasm and discipline not only showcase the worldwide passion for dry stone walling but also reinforce the value of shared learning across cultures.



Celebrating the craft remains central to our mission, and we are proud of the vibrant community that continues to evolve around dry stone walling. Whether it is through training, assessments, or collaborative events, we champion both the heritage and the future of this traditional skill.

Our test days have been another cornerstone of our activity. We have delivered well-attended and well-received four-day courses in Crooklands, Northumbria, Dorset, and South Wales. Each location has brought together candidates of varied experience levels, all working toward official recognition of their abilities and thanks to our incredible master craftsmen instructors and assessors it's been possible. The consistency and quality of these events reflect our commitment to providing accessible, professionally run opportunities for progression.

Training remains an area of extremely high demand. We continue to run both beginner courses and more intensive four-day courses, each designed to guide participants from foundational skills through to confident, practical craftsmanship. These courses regularly fill to capacity, demonstrating the growing public interest in learning and preserving traditional techniques.

A major milestone this year has been the continued development and refinement of our Craft Certification Scheme. This structured pathway offers candidates a clear, supportive, and comprehensive route through which to develop their skills. From early learning to advanced techniques, the scheme provides a strong foundation that encourages steady improvement and elevates the overall standard of the craft.

Together, these achievements underscore our ongoing commitment to promoting excellence, expanding international connections, and ensuring the future of dry-stone walling for generations to come.

Publicity

As well as running beginners' courses and members walling days, the branches continue to take part in shows and events across the country, engaging with the wider public and raising awareness of the craft. A few highlights from the year are outlined below.

Building on its successful partnership with the National Trust at the impressive Lyme Park estate in Disley, the **Cheshire Branch** has continued to deliver a series of popular 'Walling Walks'. Open to all, the walks give participants an inside look at the craft of dry stone walling, exploring a stretch of the estate's 18 miles of walls.

They have also continued to support local events, including the Arley Garden Festival, the Poynton Show, the Romiley Show, and the Werneth Low Heritage Festival. In addition, the Branch took part in walling days near Beddgelert, with **Wales Branch** and the National Trust.



It has been a great year for the **Cotswold Branch**, the highlight of which was featuring on *Susan Calman's Grand Day Out* (Season 9, Episode 3), where two members introduced Susan to the dry stone walls of the Cotswolds. It's well worth a watch if you haven't seen it yet.

The **Cumbria Branch** have been in the Swindale Valley, repairing walls in an area where the RSPB is leading a long-term initiative to enhance habitats and wildlife.

Members have also expanded their knowledge of Bee Boles during visits to Grizebeck, home to a notable cluster of these historic features. In addition, the Branch has provided much-needed support to St Thomas's Community Hub in completing their boundary wall, as well as working on an orchard wall in Cartmel.

The **Derbyshire Branch** hosted a successful Summer Fete - a weekend of walling demonstrations and workshops, complemented by a range of other traditional crafts, great food, and entertainment.

They too have been at shows across their region such as the Cromford Steam Show, Ashbourne Show and Chatsworth Country Fair, building features into walls to take advantage of the natural landscape around them.

Ellwood Branch members have organised the popular DSWA Grand Prix, which featured six well-attended competitions this year, including the Ellwood Classic in Aberdeenshire. These events offer Wallers of all ages and abilities a great opportunity to meet up and showcase their skills as they compete for the title of British Champion.

Mid-Lancs Branch have been busy at shows such as the Chipping Steam Fair and Trawden Show, demonstrating their skills and leaving behind legacies such as public water tap surround.



Dorset Branch have been working with landscape and design companies, providing training to their younger employees as well as with the Dorset Wildlife Trust to strengthen their teams skills. They have also supported a young person with special educational needs, who attends a North Dorset farm offering therapeutic and learning opportunities, to learn the craft.

A new bench was completed for the Blanchland Show, featuring a DSWA **Northumbria Branch** plaque on the front of the seat. At the Wolsingham Showground, one side of the new field entry wall was finished, with the opposite side scheduled for next year. The Weardale Walling Competition welcomed eight competitors and celebrated the show's first-ever female winner.

South West England Branch have been on Steep Holm Island in the Bristol Channel, restoring significant sections of dry stone walls, on behalf of the Kenneth Allsop Memorial Trust which preserves the island.

The **South East Scotland Branch** has been working with a local community group in Cramond, building a seat and have also restored walls at Wooplay, a community woodland between Lauder and Stow. The Pentland Ranger Service have also had assistance repairing walls around the local reservoirs.



The **Otley & Yorkshire Dales Branch** has been busy at the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's Grasswood site, repairing gaps in boundary walls, alongside another project with the National Trust in Upper Wharfedale, where traditional meadows are being restored. They have also worked hard to engage young people at events such as those held at the Great Yorkshire Showground, using their wooden walling walls, models, and hands-on challenges and where they build this beautiful wall to commemorate their 25th anniversary.



South West Scotland Branch members have undertaken the rebuilding of a damaged dyke at the National Trust for Scotland's Culzean Castle.

Several **West Yorkshire Branch** members worked to build a curved wall for a garden at the RHS Flower Show at Wentworth Woodhouse. The wall created the backdrop for a garden designed to illustrate the different habitats in gardens and how best to utilise them. The walling was admired by the huge crowds in attendance over the five-day show.

The **Scottish Branches** held another successful Members' Weekend at the National Trust Scotland's Threave Nature Reserve, building on previous work. The event, supported by National Trust Scotland staff and volunteers, was enjoyed by all, and plans are underway for similar future projects.

All in all, a broad range of publicity over the year; there are no doubt opportunities that have not been reported on or that the Association is not aware of. We do rely on members sending in details of activities or events so as to try and gain as wide a perspective on the craft as possible.

Finance

The Dry Stone Walling Association provides training and education in the craft of dry stone walling through a comprehensive programme of courses and nationally recognised Lantra-accredited qualifications.

This year, a full schedule of training was delivered at both National and Branch levels. Participation in four-day training courses remained consistent

with the previous year at the National Training Site in Crooklands. The Craft Certification Scheme continues to be highly regarded across the world with test days being held in the UK, USA, Canada, and Australia, reflecting the scheme's expanding international reach.

DSWA continues to work with external organisations to deliver projects which align with the Charity's objectives.

Grant funding from The Ernest Cook Trust, has been used specifically for the recruitment and delivery of traineeships for young persons who have been mentored by Master Craftsman with a view to achieving Craftsman Certification qualifications at Levels 1 and 2. The first trainee achieved level 2 and went on to achieve his Advanced qualification. He is now working towards his Master Craftsman Award. The more recent two trainees are nearing the end of their training, having both achieved their Level 2 qualification.

The Gwrhyd Mountain Stone Festival project run by the DSWA Wales Branch successfully applied for grant funding from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to deliver a project to include a Festival of Stone, incorporating dry stone walling training and competition together with future opportunities for dry stone walling qualifications. This project was successfully completed in Autumn 2024. South Wales Branch have now secured further grant funding to complete a new project to install a Heritage Training Site with facilities for advanced features.

Thanks to a grant from the National Grid, South West England Branch have assisted a number of members to gain qualifications.

Residual funds from previous projects have been transferred to the Training Account to assist young people who would struggle to finance their own training and qualifications.

The Durham Legacy was received from a lady who migrated to Australia in the late 1950's, having been brought up in the Durham area. The Association was made aware of a need to restore a local churchyard's boundary walls in the Durham area. Legacy funds have been utilised to restore this walling in compliance with the wishes of the legacy and the project is now complete.

A grant from the Adrian Swire Trust has been secured and will be used to further the objectives of the Association.

Risk Management

The Trustees agree that through reviewing major risks, regular reviews of key financial controls, along with a modest reserve increase, will provide sufficient resources in adverse conditions. They have also examined other operational risks and continue to implement systems to mitigate significant threats.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Trustee Board I would like to that all members for their continued support for our craft and I hope to meet some of you during the year.

Paul Clayton - DSWA Chair

Financial Report for Year Ended 31 August 2025

The charity's income increased from £320,994 in 2024 to £372,695 in 2025. Expenditure increased from £301,964 in 2024 to £386,103 in 2025. Most of the increases in income and expenditure related to restricted funds which were grants received and expended during the year. Overall charity funds decreased by £13,408 in the year, due to restricted funds expenditure (i.e. legacy project). Total unrestricted, restricted and branch funds held at the year end are £566,833.

Reserves Policy

Under the requirements of charity law, the Trustees are obliged to define the charity's policy for holding reserves. The intention in establishing this Reserves Policy is to ensure the continuation of the charity's activities. The policy will enable the charity to meet its legal objectives, provide confidence to donors seeking to give financial support to a prudently controlled charity and to ensure that the reserves are at a level sufficient to discharge all the charity's obligations in the event that it should cease its operations.

This is not considered to be likely in the foreseeable future, and therefore the reserves which the charity is required to maintain are those needed to fund ongoing monthly costs and future development. To this end, the Trustees have decided that the charity should seek to have reserves which are not invested in fixed assets of a sum equal to no more than 12 months general running costs and £100,000 has been designated for this purpose. A large proportion of the charity's reserves are held as bank accounts.

The financial statements detail the movement in reserves during the year.

Linda Clarkson - DSWA Treasurer

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain **Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 August 2025**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	77,567	73,788	8,894	160,249	117,634
Charitable activities	76,161	-	115,852	192,013	190,492
Other trading activities	11,652	-	4,626	16,278	10,407
Investment income	1,381	-	540	1,921	800
Other income	-	-	2,234	2,234	1,661
Total Income	166,761	73,788	132,146	372,695	320,994
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	(168,457)	(116,339)	(100,307)	(386,103)	(301,964)
Total Expenditure	(168,457)	(116,339)	(100,307)	(386,103)	(301,964)
Net income/(expenditure)	(2,696)	(42,551)	31,839	(13,408)	19,030
Gross transfer between funds	24,429	-	(24,429)	-	-
Net movement in funds	21,733	(42,551)	7,410	(13,408)	19,030
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	344,634	73,167	162,440	580,241	561,211
Total funds carried forward	366,367	30,616	169,850	56,833	580,241

All of the Charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts. Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	9,904	10,703
Current assets		
Stocks	9,636	12,166
Debtors	13,178	9,579
Branch bank accounts **	169,850	162,096
Cash at bank and in hand	379,957	396,418
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	572,621	580,259
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(15,692)	(10,721)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets	556,929	569,538
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets	566,833	580,241
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds of the charity:		
Branch funds	169,850	162,440
Restricted funds	30,616	73,167
Unrestricted funds	366,367	344,634
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds	566,833	580,241

** Money held in branch bank accounts is held independently by the branches and cannot be readily accessed by Head Office.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts. Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Summary of Branch Annual Returns to DSWA For Year 2024-2025

The information provided below is intended as a brief synopsis of the returns made by branches to DSWA and using the DSWA National database. The financial figures have been extracted from the branch accounts, which are submitted separately.

BRANCH	M/ship 01/01/24	M/ship 31/12/24	New Recruits	Opening bank bal £ 01/09/24	Closing bank bal £ 31/08/25
Central Scotland	59	53	9	10,227	9,410
Cheshire	52	56	4	10,086	12,277
Cotswold	49	64	16	5,758	10,588
Cumbria	110	112	14	9,762	9,403
Derbyshire	161	179	26	19,648	18,781
Dorset	48	55	7	14,895	18,285
Ellwood	24	36	7	3,600	3,623
Lancashire	70	76	11	7,249	8,653
Mid-Lancs	14	16	3	8,312	6,683
Northumbria	52	61	10	8,392	6,832
North Wales	*	*	*	3,623*	5,637
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	130	143	21	22,905	19,416
Pennine	12	20	7	2,222	2,599
South East Scotland	28	34	5	4,166	4,827
South West England	91	113	25	10,202	11,239
South West Scotland	24	32	5	6,887	7,757
South Yorkshire	20	38	16	3,990	3,669
South Wales	94*	99*	26*	3,462*	2,432
West Yorkshire	36	48	13	6,403	6,139

* North Wales Branch restarted for the 2025 season so no comparable membership data available. Bank balance separated out from the South Wales Branch.

NB Events, etc shown below cover the period January to December 2024

BRANCH	No of events held	No of Courses held	No of Course Particip'ts	No of Branch Competition Particip'ts	No of Demos held
Central Scotland	16	4	31	1	2
Cheshire	45	3	21	0	4
Cotswold	9	5	37	0	1
Cumbria	17	4	48	18	3
Derbyshire	49	9	140	0	6
Dorset	74	3	60	0	5
Ellwood	6	3	33	15	1
Lancashire	20	5	44	0	1
Mid-Lancs	12	3	9	0	2
Northumbria	48	12	74	7	6
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	166	6	112	0	6
Pennine	22	0	0	0	0
South East Scotland	21	3	17	0	3
South West England	28	8	88	0	3
South West Scotland	10	2	16	0	0
South Yorkshire	20	4	40	0	1
Wales (North & South)	54	112	111	11	0
West Yorkshire					

DSWA Branch Honorary Officers 2024—2025

Branch	Chair	Hon Secretary	Hon Treasurer
Central Scotland	Patricia Waite	Bill Thomson	Sandie Murphy
Cheshire	John McClean	Jack Taylor	Jack Taylor
Cotswold	Chris Ingles	Nigel Chivers	Charles Stirling
Cumbria	Stewart Marshall	Patrick Lacey	Joe Bowman
Derbyshire	Carl Hardman	Jon Earnshaw	Alan Malia
Dorset	Peter Curtis	Carole Reeves	Peter Curtis
Ellwood	Lydia Noble	Luke Powell	Bobby Gard-Storry
Lancashire	Kathy England	Paul Clayton	Beverley Watson
Mid-Lancs	Philip Whittaker	Mike Tighe	Brenda Hayman
Northumbria	Paul Foster	Pam Kirkup	Paul Foster
North Wales	Jonathan Moore	Barney Murray	Colin Brown
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	Peter Bull	Colin Alexander	Rona Dailey
Pennine	John Harper	Peter Walker	Pamela Smithies
South East Scotland	John Doohan	Donald McInnes	Rosie Eatwell
South West England	Barry Angell	Christopher Waite	James Orme
South West Scotland	Nic Coombey	Linda Wilson	Jak Kane
South Yorkshire	David Jenkins	Robert Johnson	Mick Booth
South Wales	David Cope	David Cope	Jamie Gwilliam
West Yorkshire	Graham Ellis	Graham Ellis	Rob Kelly

DSWA Membership Records - Overall View

<i>Calendar Year</i>	Total All Members	<i>New Members included in totals</i>	<i>Total Open</i>	<i>Total Prof</i>	Total Junior/ student	Total Corporate	Other
1968	55						
2002	1233	331	945	248	12	20	8
2003	1317	335	1004	267	7	25	14
2004	1468	422	1151	267	11	23	16
2005	1470	407	1177	234	22	24	13
2006	1484	408	1179	248	17	28	12
2007	1456	426	1156	256	12	25	7
2008	1416	387	1117	263	12	24	7
2009	1301	309	1000	256	18	21	6
2010	1204	215	909	242	12	20	6
2011	1194	163	894	261	10	23	6
2012	1209	147	903	269	12	25	6
2013	1100	164	780	282	8	24	6
2014	1054	141	774	249	7	18	6
2015	1084	185	808	240	12	18	6
2016	1040	151	780	230	7	17	6
2017	1042	178	787	228	6	15	6
2018	1045	171	785	220	20	14	6
2019	1154	194	869	239	28	13	5
2020	1047	88	774	233	22	14	4
2021	1128	139	853	232	22	17	4
2022	1172	217	895	237	23	13	4
2023	1138	216	865	226	29	14	4
2024	1163	154	911	223	9	19	1
2025*	1139	158	857	228	39	14	1

** Current year figures are to end of August only.

Charity registration number: 289678

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Contents (continued)

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 5
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8 to 9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 28

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	J Broadhead
	P Clayton, Chair
	M Cullen
	S A Denham
	B Hartley
	P Isherwood
	P Jolley
	P Kirkup
	L Noble
	T Povall
	J Taylor
Charity Registration Number	289678
Principal Office	Lane Farm
	Crooklands
	Milnthorpe
	Cumbria
	LA7 7NH
Independent Examiner	Stables Thompson & Briscoe
	Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
	34 Lowther Street
	Kendal
	LA9 4DX
Bankers	HSBC
	331 Lord Street
	Southport
	PR8 1NJ

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the charity are to advance education in the craft and heritage of dry stone walling for the public benefit.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Dry Stone Walling Association delivers training and education in the craft of dry stone walling by the provision of training courses and nationally recognised Lantra accredited qualifications.

This year has seen a full programme of training courses delivered both at National and Branch level. Four-day training courses remained at a constant level from the previous year seeing a similar number of participants attending the National Training Site at Crooklands. The Craft Certification Scheme continued to be popular with candidates achieving their chosen Level, with test days continuing to take place in the UK, USA, Canada and Australia. The National Training Site again welcomed several international candidates from Japan and Australia. There is continued success with people achieving Master Craftsman status, with three candidates gaining this by the end of the year.

DSWA continues to work with external organisations to deliver projects that reflect the Associations ethos. The third tranche of a grant from The Ernest Cook Trust, has enabled DSWA to offer two further apprenticeships for young persons to be mentored by Master Craftsman. Both have achieved level 2 Craftsman Certification qualification.

The Wales Branch successfully applied for their second grant funding. This was put out to contract to increase the number of advanced and master craftsman features at the site in South Wales.

There has been a good demand for beginner training courses delivered by the DSWA Branches throughout the country. The local Branches are run by volunteers who work tirelessly to promote the craft of dry stone walling. Branch funds remain strong, and a number of branches have continued to transfer residual funds to central finances. These funds have been allocated as per branch requests, with general transfers assisting the continued delivery of training.

The Trustee Board holds quarterly meetings throughout the year. Trustees strive to minimise expenditure by embracing technology and reducing travel costs wherever possible.

Membership has increased with revenue from subscriptions generating a good return in the amount claimed through Gift Aid. Merchandise sales have decreased slightly from the previous the year.

The Association receives numerous requests for advice and guidance on all aspects of the craft of dry stone walling and will strive to maintain the quality of information available on this traditional craft.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial review

The charity's income increased from £320,994 in 2024 to £372,695 in 2025. Expenditure increased from £301,964 in 2024 to £386,103 in 2025. Most of the increases in income and expenditure related to restricted funds which were grants received and expended during the year. Overall charity funds decreased by £13,408 in the year, due to restricted funds expenditure (i.e. legacy project). Total unrestricted, restricted and branch funds held at the year end are £566,833.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Trustees' Report (continued)

Policy on reserves

Under the requirements of charity law, the Trustees are obliged to define the charity's policy for holding reserves. The intention in establishing this Reserves Policy is to ensure the continuation of the charity's activities. The policy will enable the charity to meet its legal objectives, provide confidence to donors seeking to give financial support to a prudently controlled charity and to ensure that the reserves are at a level sufficient to discharge all the charity's obligations in the event that it should cease its operations.

This is not considered to be likely in the foreseeable future, and therefore the reserves which the charity is required to maintain are those needed to fund ongoing monthly costs and future development. To this end, the Trustees have decided that the charity should seek to have reserves which are not invested in fixed assets of a sum equal to no more than 12 months general running costs and £100,000 has been designated for this purpose.

A large proportion of the charity's reserves are held as bank accounts.

The financial statements detail the movement in reserves during the year.

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	T Blackwell (resigned 13 March 2025)
	J Broadhead (appointed 13 September 2025)
	P Clayton, Chair
	S A Denham (appointed 15 March 2025)
	J Gwilliam (resigned 12 March 2025)
	B Hartley
	P Isherwood
	P Jolley (appointed 13 September 2025)
	P Kirkup
	A Loudon (resigned 14 September 2025)
	B Martindale (resigned 9 December 2024)
	C Noble (resigned 24 March 2025)
	L Noble
	T Povall (appointed 13 September 2025)
	J Taylor
	M Tyler (resigned 22 October 2024)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The unincorporated charity is constituted under a trust deed dated 1968 with subsequent revisions, the most recent being dated 4 June 2016 and ratified at the Annual General Meeting on 4 March 2017. The registered charity number is 289678.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Trustees' Report (continued)

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The Association has a Board of Trustees, consisting of up to 12 elected members, who hold office for a period of three years. Retiring Trustees are eligible for re-election for further terms of office. The Chair is elected by the Trustees following the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for the election of Trustees are invited annually from the membership.

Induction and training of Trustees

The Trustees provide written confirmation that they understand the duties and responsibilities of their trusteeship. They concern themselves with every aspect of the management of the charity and are fully aware of their onerous responsibilities.

The Trustees receive and act upon regular free advice issued by the Charity Commission.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Key management comprises a full time Training & Education Coordinator and an Office Administrator. The Trustees set remuneration for all staff at the September Trustee Board meeting each year, to take effect from the October of that year.

Relationships with related parties

Branch associations

The Dry Stone Walling Association currently has eighteen branches in England, Scotland and Wales.

Major risks and management of those risks

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining reserves at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and continue to establish systems to mitigate any significant risk.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The Charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments.

Credit risk

The Charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and on occasion short term investments. The Charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.


Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the Charity maintains a reasonable level of funds in instant access bank accounts. Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Trustees' Report (continued)

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on 13 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


P Clayton
Trustee

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

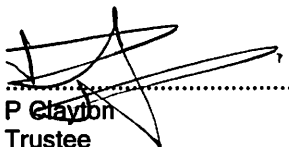
The law applicable to charities requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 13 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



P Clayton
Trustee

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain 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 Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain'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

Since Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain 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 accounting 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.


.....
Helen Holmes
ICAEW

Stables Thompson & Briscoe
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

Date: 12 January 2026

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	77,567	73,788	8,894	160,249
Charitable activities	3	76,161	-	115,852	192,013
Other trading activities	4	11,652	-	4,626	16,278
Investment income	5	1,381	-	540	1,921
Other income	6	-	-	2,234	2,234
Total Income		166,761	73,788	132,146	372,695
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		(169,457)	(116,339)	(100,307)	(386,103)
Total Expenditure		(169,457)	(116,339)	(100,307)	(386,103)
Net (expenditure)/income		(2,696)	(42,551)	31,839	(13,408)
Gross transfers between funds	18	24,429	-	(24,429)	-
Net movement in funds		21,733	(42,551)	7,410	(13,408)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		344,634	73,167	162,440	580,241
Total funds carried forward	18	366,367	30,616	169,850	566,833

Branch funds are separated in the accounts as they are not readily accessible by the central office, being under the control of the relevant branch committee.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Comparatives	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		76,171	32,550	8,913	117,634
Charitable activities		101,131	-	89,361	190,492
Other trading activities		7,673	-	2,734	10,407
Investment income	5	-	-	800	800
Other income		-	-	1,661	1,661
Total Income		184,975	32,550	103,469	320,994
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	(184,995)	(24,217)	(92,752)	(301,964)
Total Expenditure		(184,995)	(24,217)	(92,752)	(301,964)
Net (expenditure)/income		(20)	8,333	10,717	19,030
Gross transfers between funds		28,089	-	(28,089)	-
Net movement in funds		28,069	8,333	(17,372)	19,030
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		316,565	64,834	179,812	561,211
Total funds carried forward	18	344,634	73,167	162,440	580,241

The funds breakdown for the current year and 2024 is shown in note 18.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

(Registration number: 289678)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	9,904	10,703
Current assets			
Stocks	14	9,636	12,166
Debtors	15	13,178	9,579
Branch bank accounts	16	169,850	162,096
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>379,957</u>	<u>396,418</u>
		572,621	580,259
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(15,692)</u>	<u>(10,721)</u>
Net current assets		<u>556,929</u>	<u>569,538</u>
Net assets	19	<u>566,833</u>	<u>580,241</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Branch funds		169,850	162,440
Restricted		30,616	73,167
Unrestricted		<u>366,367</u>	<u>344,634</u>
Total funds	18	<u>566,833</u>	<u>580,241</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 28 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 13 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


 P Clayton
 Trustee

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is given on the charity information page of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are to advance education in the craft and heritage of dry stone walling.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The accounts are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated services and facilities

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and Trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	15% reducing balance

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

Trade debtors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Branch funds are separated in the accounts as they are not readily accessible by the central office and are controlled by the branch committees.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations	1,928	-	7,552	9,480
Gift aid reclaimed	9,725	-	-	9,725
Grants, including capital grants;				
Government grants	-	48,788	-	48,788
Grants from other charities	-	25,000	-	25,000
Grants received by branches	-	-	1,182	1,182
Branch Subscriptions	-	-	160	160
Subscriptions	65,914	-	-	65,914
	<u>77,567</u>	<u>73,788</u>	<u>8,894</u>	<u>160,249</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations	3,998	-	8,513	12,511
Gift aid reclaimed	8,802	-	-	8,802
Grants, including capital grants;				
Government grants	-	17,550	-	17,550
Grants from other charities	-	15,000	-	15,000
Grants received by branches	-	-	400	400
Subscriptions	63,371	-	-	63,371
	<u>76,171</u>	<u>32,550</u>	<u>8,913</u>	<u>117,634</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Certification fees	35,588	-	35,588
Training	40,573	94,855	135,428
Demonstrations	-	450	450
Branch projects and events	-	20,547	20,547
	<u>76,161</u>	<u>115,852</u>	<u>192,013</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Certification fees	54,265	-	54,265
Training	46,866	78,865	125,731
Demonstrations	-	1,045	1,045
Branch projects and events	-	9,451	9,451
	<u>101,131</u>	<u>89,361</u>	<u>190,492</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Trading income;			
Sales of goods and other services	10,952	2,616	13,568
Local fundraising and street collection income	-	10	10
Sponsorship income	-	2,000	2,000
Lotteries and competitions income	700	-	700
	<u>11,652</u>	<u>4,626</u>	<u>16,278</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Trading income;			
Sales of goods and other services	6,980	2,634	9,614
Sponsorship income	-	100	100
Lotteries and competitions income	693	-	693
	<u>7,673</u>	<u>2,734</u>	<u>10,407</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,381	540	1,921
	<u>1,381</u>	<u>540</u>	<u>1,921</u>
		Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits		800	800
		<u>800</u>	<u>800</u>

6 Other income

	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Other branch income	<u>2,234</u>	<u>2,234</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Branch funds	Total 2024
	£	£
Other branch income	<u>1,661</u>	<u>1,661</u>

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2025 £
Awards and demonstrations	146	-	19,073	19,219
Certification scheme	28,611	-	-	28,611
Training	17,353	-	48,848	66,201
Leaflets, journals and advertising	9,765	-	-	9,765
Purchases of goods for resale (adj for stock)	11,857	-	2,704	14,561
Restricted projects (see funds note)	-	116,339	-	116,339
Branch equipment, advertising and events	-	-	19,022	19,022
Branch donations	-	-	2,538	2,538
Other branch costs	-	-	6,777	6,777
Governance costs	9,163	-	2,835	11,998
Wages and salaries	62,199	-	-	62,199
Rent and rates	8,992	-	-	8,992
Office maintenance and contracts	5,098	-	-	5,098
Insurance	2,729	-	-	2,729
Stationery, telephone and postage	7,436	-	-	7,436
Bank charges	3,566	-	355	3,921
General travel expenses	402	-	-	402
Depreciation	<u>1,604</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,604</u>
	<u>168,921</u>	<u>116,339</u>	<u>102,152</u>	<u>387,412</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2024 £
Awards and demonstrations	-	-	17,707	17,707
Certification scheme	49,748	-	-	49,748
Training	22,171	-	41,377	63,548
Leaflets, journals and advertising	4,898	-	-	4,898
Purchases of goods for resale (adj for stock)	7,192	-	929	8,121
Restricted projects (see funds note)	-	24,217	-	24,217
Branch equipment, advertising and events	-	-	19,811	19,811
Branch donations	-	-	3,379	3,379
Other branch costs	-	-	5,318	5,318
Governance costs	8,660	-	4,025	12,685
Wages and salaries	62,775	-	-	62,775
Rent and rates	9,602	-	-	9,602
Office maintenance and contracts	5,891	-	-	5,891
Insurance	2,683	-	-	2,683
Stationery, telephone and postage	5,561	-	-	5,561
Bank charges	3,720	-	206	3,926
General travel expenses	207	-	-	207
Depreciation	1,887	-	-	1,887
	<u>184,995</u>	<u>24,217</u>	<u>92,752</u>	<u>301,964</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £
Awards, events and demonstrations	19,219	-	19,219
Certification scheme	28,611	-	28,611
Training	66,201	-	66,201
Leaflets, journals and advertising	9,765	-	9,765
Purchases of goods for resale	14,561	-	14,561
Restricted projects (see funds note)	116,339	-	116,339
Branch equipment, advertising and events	19,022	-	19,022
Branch donations	2,538	-	2,538
Other branch costs	6,777	-	6,777
Governance costs	-	11,998	11,998
Wages and salaries	-	62,199	62,199
Rent and rates	-	8,992	8,992
Office maintenance and contracts	-	5,098	5,098
Insurance	-	2,729	2,729
Stationery, telephone and postage	-	7,436	7,436
Bank charges	-	3,921	3,921
General travel expenses	-	402	402
Depreciation	-	1,604	1,604
	<u>283,033</u>	<u>104,379</u>	<u>387,412</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2024 £
Awards, events and demonstrations	17,707	-	17,707
Certification scheme	49,748	-	49,748
Training	63,548	-	63,548
Leaflets, journals and advertising	4,898	-	4,898
Purchases of goods for resale	8,121	-	8,121
Restricted projects (see funds note)	24,217	-	24,217
Branch equipment, advertising and events	19,811	-	19,811
Branch donations	3,379	-	3,379
Other branch costs	5,318	-	5,318
Governance costs	-	12,685	12,685
Wages and salaries	-	62,775	62,775
Rent and rates	-	9,602	9,602
Office maintenance and contracts	-	5,891	5,891
Insurance	-	2,683	2,683
Stationery, telephone and postage	-	5,561	5,561
Bank charges	-	3,926	3,926
General travel expenses	-	207	207
Depreciation	-	1,887	1,887
	<u>196,747</u>	<u>105,217</u>	<u>301,964</u>

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	3,222	-	3,222
Other fees paid to examiners	738	-	738
Trustees remuneration and expenses	1,336	-	1,336
Legal and professional fees	978	-	978
Treasurer's fees	3,231	-	3,231
Cost of trustees' meetings and AGM	258	-	258
	<u>9,763</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,763</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	3,205	3,205
Other fees paid to examiners	703	703
Trustees remuneration and expenses	1,565	1,565
Legal and professional fees	692	692
Treasurer's fees	2,180	2,180
Cost of trustees' meetings and AGM	315	315
	<u>8,660</u>	<u>8,660</u>

9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Loss on disposal of fixed assets held for the charity's own use	(853)	-
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>1,652</u>	<u>1,887</u>

10 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with Trustees:

T Blackwell

T Blackwell received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £1,643 (2024: £1,711) and £32 (2024: £48) of expenses were reimbursed to T Blackwell during the year.

B Hartley

£307 (2024: £196) of expenses were reimbursed to B Hartley during the year.

P Isherwood

P Isherwood received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £3,585 (2024: £6,133) during the year.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to P Isherwood was £1,430 (2024: £Nil).

A Loudon

A Loudon received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £4,969 (2024: £12,310) and £664 (2024: £457) of expenses were reimbursed to A Loudon during the year.

J Gwilliam

J Gwilliam received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £500 (2024: £Nil) and £247 (2024: £459) of expenses were reimbursed to J Gwilliam during the year.

B Martindale

£Nil (2024: £82) of expenses were reimbursed to B Martindale during the year.

J Taylor

£95 (2024: £149) of expenses were reimbursed to J Taylor during the year.

L Noble

L Noble received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £1,272 (2024: £2,610) and £100 (2024: £228) of expenses were reimbursed to L Noble during the year.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

C Noble

C Noble received Examiner fees/Instructor Training Tutor costs of £Nil (2024: £2,184) during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

The treasurer, who is not formally a trustee, is a freelance consultant and received £2,180 (2023 - £3,461) for acting as treasurer and £1,036 (2023 - £3,518) for the role of freelance Training & Education Coordinator and assistance on restricted projects.

11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	61,006	61,777
Pension costs	<u>1,193</u>	<u>998</u>
	<u>62,199</u>	<u>62,775</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Administration	2	2
Project costs	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

2 (2024 - 2) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £1,193 (2024 - £998).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £53,456 (2024 - £53,998).

12 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2024	31,703	31,703
Disposals	<u>(6,348)</u>	<u>(6,348)</u>
At 31 August 2025	<u>25,355</u>	<u>25,355</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 September 2024	20,999	20,999
Charge for the year	1,652	1,652
Eliminated on disposals	<u>(7,200)</u>	<u>(7,200)</u>
At 31 August 2025	<u>15,451</u>	<u>15,451</u>
Net book value		
At 31 August 2025	<u>9,904</u>	<u>9,904</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>10,704</u>	<u>10,704</u>

14 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Finished goods	<u>9,636</u>	<u>12,166</u>

15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	7,373	777
Accrued income	4,000	8,802
Other debtors	<u>1,805</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>13,178</u>	<u>9,579</u>

16 Branch bank accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Balances held by branches that are not readily available to the parent charity	<u>169,850</u>	<u>162,096</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	11,030	5,077
Other taxation and social security	-	2,222
Accruals	<u>4,662</u>	<u>3,422</u>
	<u>15,692</u>	<u>10,721</u>

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General unrestricted funds	239,634	166,761	(169,457)	24,429	261,367
<i>Designated</i>					
Awards fund	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Operating reserve	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>
	<u>105,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,000</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>344,634</u>	<u>166,761</u>	<u>(169,457)</u>	<u>24,429</u>	<u>366,367</u>
Restricted funds					
Adrian Swire	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Legacy for dry stone walling in the Durham area	39,702	-	(39,258)	-	444
National Grid	5,858	-	(2,458)	-	3,400
Westmorland & Furness Training field	-	26,880	(26,887)	7	-
Training aid	12,782	-	-	(7)	12,775
Gwrhyd Heritage Training Site	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Ernest Cook Trust	17,406	15,000	(29,429)	-	2,977
MDSW Grant	<u>(2,581)</u>	<u>17,908</u>	<u>(14,307)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,020</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>73,167</u>	<u>73,788</u>	<u>(116,339)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,616</u>
Branch funds					
Branch funds	<u>162,440</u>	<u>132,146</u>	<u>(100,307)</u>	<u>(24,429)</u>	<u>169,850</u>
Total funds	<u>580,241</u>	<u>372,695</u>	<u>(386,103)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>566,833</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General unrestricted funds	231,565	184,975	(184,995)	8,089	239,634
<i>Designated</i>					
Awards fund	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Operating reserve	80,000	-	-	20,000	100,000
	<u>85,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>105,000</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>316,565</u>	<u>184,975</u>	<u>(184,995)</u>	<u>28,089</u>	<u>344,634</u>
Restricted					
Legacy for dry stone walling in the Durham area	40,088	-	(386)	-	39,702
National Grid	8,324	-	(2,466)	-	5,858
Training aid	12,782	-	-	-	12,782
Ernest Cook Trust	3,640	15,000	(1,234)	-	17,406
MDSW Grant	-	17,550	(20,131)	-	(2,581)
	<u>64,834</u>	<u>32,550</u>	<u>(24,217)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,167</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>64,834</u>	<u>32,550</u>	<u>(24,217)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,167</u>
Branch funds					
Branch funds	179,812	103,469	(92,752)	(28,089)	162,440
	<u>179,812</u>	<u>103,469</u>	<u>(92,752)</u>	<u>(28,089)</u>	<u>162,440</u>
Total funds	<u>561,211</u>	<u>320,994</u>	<u>(301,964)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>580,241</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

DSWA continues to work with external organisations to deliver projects which align with the Charity's objectives.

Grant funding from The Ernest Cook Trust has been used specifically for the recruitment and delivery of traineeships for young persons who have been mentored by Master Craftsman with a view to achieving Craftsman Certification qualifications at Levels 1 and 2 . The first trainee achieved level 2 and went on to achieve his Advanced qualification. He is now working towards his Master Craftsman Award. The more recent two trainees are nearing the end of their training, having both achieved their Level 2 qualification.

The Gwrhyd Mountain Stone Festival project run by the DSWA Wales Branch successfully applied for grant funding from Neath Port Talbot Council to deliver a project to include a Festival of Stone, incorporating dry stone walling training and competition together with future opportunities for dry stone walling qualifications. This project was successfully completed in Autumn 2024. South Wales Branch have now secured further grant funding to complete a new project to install a Heritage Training Site with facilities for advanced features.

Thanks to a grant from the National Grid, South West England Branch have assisted a number of members to gain qualifications.

Residual funds from previous projects have been transferred to the Training Account to assist young people who would struggle to finance their own training and qualifications.

The Durham legacy was received from a lady who migrated to Australia in the late 1950s, having been brought up in Durham. It was requested that the funds be used for dry stone walling in the Durham area. The Association was made aware of a need to restore a length of dry stone wall surrounding church premises in the Durham area. Legacy funds have been utilised to restore this walling in compliance with the wishes in the legacy. This project is now complete.

A grant from The Adrian Swire Charitable Trust has been secured and will be used to further the objectives of the Association.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted				Total funds at 31 August 2025 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	Branch funds £	
Tangible fixed assets	9,904	-	-	-	9,904
Current assets	267,155	105,000	30,616	169,850	572,621
Current liabilities	(15,692)	-	-	-	(15,692)
Total net assets	<u>261,367</u>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>30,616</u>	<u>169,850</u>	<u>566,833</u>

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

	Unrestricted				Total funds at 31 August 2024 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	Branch funds £	
Tangible fixed assets	10,703	-	-	-	10,703
Current assets	239,652	105,000	73,167	162,440	580,259
Current liabilities	<u>(10,721)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,721)</u>
Total net assets	<u>239,634</u>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>73,167</u>	<u>162,440</u>	<u>580,241</u>

20 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

L Noble

(L Noble is a partner in Noble Stonework)

The charity paid £4,000 to Noble Stonework in the year for project work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to L Noble was £4,000 (2024 - £Nil).

P Isherwood

(P Isherwood is also self employed)

P Isherwood, along with a range of other employers, took on an apprentice under The Ernest Cook Trust funding and mentored the trainee in accordance with the scheme. The amount of money transferred to be paid to the apprentice in the year was £7,534. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from P Isherwood was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees of Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain 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 Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain'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

Since Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain 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 accounting 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.


.....
Helen Holmes
ICAEW

Stables Thompson & Briscoe
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
34 Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

Date: 12 January 2026