



Essex Society for Family History

Member of the Federation of Family History Societies

Registered Charity No. 290552

www.esfh.org.uk

TRUSTEES REPORT 2022-2023

This year has been challenging in many ways. After several months of live meetings following the Covid Pandemic, that we were assured our members were very anxious to return to, it soon became apparent that this was sadly not the case. The number of attendees for at least 2 branches were attracting less than half of their former audiences. Many other Societies also reported the same issue.

In view of this and venue costs we asked branches to try to encourage extra visitor numbers and reduce their costs where possible.

To also offset some of the losses these activities were creating, the Executive Committee decided to ask members to pay £3 to attend live meetings. We were hopeful that once audiences increased over time, we would be able to reduce or remove this payment. Despite the fact that many members appeared to be happy to do this, over time, the revenue from live meetings fell, for various reasons, as the overall attendance figures were not increasing.

At a meeting of branch officers, they agreed to:

- Make more meetings accessible to more members where possible,
- And continue to, or begin to use, free venues like libraries etc. to attract more new members to support local meetings.

As a result of this the Executive Committee agreed that the £3 charge for members to attend would be dropped for 6 months from.....an email will be sent out shortly to all members to make them aware of this change. (Please spread the word to any without email!)

This situation will be reassessed at the end of the 6-month period.

Throughout the year we have held and enjoyed a vast number of talks and workshops on a large number of topics, at live meetings, online via Zoom, and via hybrid meetings, many reaching both live and online members. I would like to thank all our contributors, and facilitators that have made it possible to provide such a huge range of well received subjects, by giving up so much of their own precious time. Without you all, we would not have the fantastic society we have. Sorry I can't name you all, but you all know who you are!

I hope you will have seen in our much-loved magazine the photo of members Heather Feather, Eric Jude and Linda Metcalf officers of our South East Essex Branch which was awarded the Southend City Jubilee and Queens Memorial Award for their services to the community. It is great to see the work done by our members being recognised.

Also, via our magazine and using many other platforms we put out a plea for volunteers for the many of vacant roles in our Society, most importantly for a new Editor, as Colleen Devenish has stepped down from this role. It is sad to say that if we don't find a suitable replacement Editor soon our next edition, could be the last one. So, if anyone knows of a possible volunteer, please get them to get in touch with Colleen as soon as possible.

We again took part in RootsTech, the largest online Family History event in the world, although the lack of response to our booth was very disappointing, compared with last year, so we won't be taking part next year.

We also took part in the 'Really Useful' shows promoted by the family history Federation and these and some other local Society online events were found to be well worth supporting in the future.

Special Interest Groups were started on various aspects of DNA, and one Surname interest group was set up, and they attracted many members who joined online.

Many of our branches supported events at their local libraries and began or continued their working relationship with them, to share resources and offer help and guidance to their visitors.

Heather and I took part in a British Library project to produce a video where we discussed everything that local family history societies could offer their visitors. We also plan to further develop the activities our Society is already involved in, with more of our local libraries.

We continued to support the Essex branch of the Victoria County History Project, the Commonwealth War Memorial Trust, and we awarded Paul Topley this year's Student Award. (Paul will be asked to present a talk to us on his work will be published on our website, to add to our unique Essex archives.

We had a drop in our membership renewals in April, as did other Societies, with some of our members saying they reluctantly needed to reduce their outgoings. Member numbers were still considerably higher than our pre-Covid levels however and have continued to rise throughout the year.

Instead of holding regular meetings here at Galleywood Heritage Centre we instead held an open day, and recently a Military Day. Both events disappointingly attracted few visitors, however many of those that attended the Military event told us that they found it a very useful and fun day.

2024 sees the 50th Anniversary of our Society and the Events committee has already met to discuss the best way to celebrate this important milestone. Our Anniversary date is so please put this in your diaries, but we plan to hold events throughout the year. If anyone would like to join this group, please contact me.

We have exciting news regarding our website! It appears that we can give it a makeover and make it much more user friendly and more attractive to visitors of all ages, and the best news is that it will not cost a huge amount of money. Work is already underway with our Web Manager and our Web Developer, and we plan to launch our new site in the New Year!

Having been looking for a volunteer to organise and develop our Social Media profile I am delighted to tell you that we have recently met with at least 2 knowledgeable and enthusiastic volunteers, and work has started on our existing Facebook page, and on Instagram and even Tik-Tok to promote our society.

When several of us took part in the recent Suffolk FH Show, Toni Neobard chair of the new Social Media group was filming us at the event, for Instagram, between advising the many interested visitors we had.

I would like to pay tribute to 3 members who recently died:

Beryl Sidney, Shirley Harman and Christopher Scrutton

All were loyal and hardworking members of our Society and particularly well known at our office at the ERO. I'm sure they will be sadly missed by many.

Essex Society for Family History

As I said there have been many issues to deal with this year and I would particularly like to thank Tanya for working so hard for us through a very challenging year, not just with her Treasurers hat on but in so many ways other ways too- I have no idea where she finds all her energy and enthusiasm!

I would also like to thank John Young, who is stepping down as Vice Chair, who has been there or abouts, working hard, for longer than I remember!

Colleen Devenish for 8 years of Editing our great magazine.

Meryl Rawlings who has been our Hon Sec. For 6 years

Barbara Harpin, David Cooper, Mary Rix, and Trevor Rix (one of our founder members) who are all stepping down from the Executive Committee, but I know will assist us in the future if they can.

It is my pleasure to welcome Toni Neobard as Vice Chair and Jean-Marc Bazzoni for taking up the position of Secretary.

Andrea Hewitt
Chair
21/10/2023

**ESSEX SOCIETY FOR
FAMILY HISTORY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

Charity No: 290552

**P KITTLE FFA FIPA FFTA
Financial Accountant**

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**TRUSTEES**

Andrea Hewitt - Chair
 Meryl Rawlings - Secretary
 Tanya Sewell – Treasurer
 Elizabeth Cox
 Ronald Knights – Resigned 15.10.22
 Paul Stirland
 John Young
 Heather Feather
 Pauline Adlem
 Colleen Devenish
 Janice Sharpe
 Eric Jude – Resigned 15.10.22

 Helen Matten – Resigned 15.10.22
 Mary Ann Rix
 Trevor William Rix
 Barbara Harpin
 David Cooper – Appointed 15.10.22
 Toni Neobard – Appointed 15.10.22
 Denise Somers – Appointed 15.10.22
 Gillian Peregrine – Appointed 15.10.22

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

ESFH Research Centre
 C/O Essex Record Office
 Wharf Road
 Chelmsford
 CM2 6YT

CHARITY REGISTRATION

290552

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

P Kittle FFA FIPA FFTA
 Financial Accountant
 37 Fraser Close
 Chelmsford
 Essex CM2 0TD

CONTENTS

Pages	2 – 3	Trustees Report
	4	Independent Examiners Report
	5	Statement of Financial Activities
	6	Balance Sheet
	7 – 12	Notes to the accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the charity's trust deed and applicable law.

Constitution and objects

Essex Society for Family History is constituted under a trust deed dated 24th September 1994, revised in minor respects on 20/9/97, 20/2/99, 20/9/03, 27/9/08 and 27/10/20.

The charity's objects are to promote and encourage the public study of British Family History, genealogy, heraldry and local history with particular reference to Essex and to promote the preservation, security and accessibility of archival material.

Organisation

The trustees who have served during the period are set out on page 1. The trustees are elected from fully paid up members of the society. Members of the committee are subject to election or re-election at the Annual General Meeting for one year. The chairman shall be in office for not more than five consecutive years and must have a break of one year before seeking re-election.

Related Parties

The charity has a close relationship with The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). Details of the financial and other support provided by the Essex Society for Family History is detailed in note 6.

Reserves Policy

The charity's policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover its operational costs for at least the following 3 months. At the year end, the charity had sufficient reserves to comply with this policy. The level of reserves is kept under close scrutiny by the trustees.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major operational, strategic and business risks which the charity faces and confirm that appropriate systems are in place to mitigate the effects of these risks.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission. They have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities as demonstrated above.

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustee's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any 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 accounting records which 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. They 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.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of trustees
Essex Society for Family History

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO
THE TRUSTEES OF ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

This report on the accounts of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 12, is in respect of an examination carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act.
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)9(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether in particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements;
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



P Kittle FFA FIPA FFTA
 Financial Accountant
 37 Fraser Close
 Chelmsford
 Essex CM2 0TD

Date: 1 November 2023

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Incoming resources			
Subscriptions		21,980	24,088
Sales	1	197	556
Services supplied	2	146	173
Donations		1,905	773
Meetings in Essex	3	61	4
Interest received	4	946	9
Investment income		1,400	1,834
Find my past		2,403	2,987
Miscellaneous		3	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>29,041</u>	<u>30,424</u>
Resources expended			
Merchandising	5	5	164
Society payments	6	1,026	1,341
Search and certificates service		33	22
Depreciation	7	631	698
Meetings in Essex	8	1,352	1,641
Hire of accommodation		3,116	532
The Essex Family Historian	9	7,631	7,822
Postage, telephone, printing & stationery		2,847	1,103
Donations (Victoria CH – Essex)		900	1,150
ESFH Award		1,000	1,000
Projects		-	193
Credit card charge (PayPal)		428	407
Internet/computer maintenance		393	165
Bank charges		125	96
Research room expenses		-	17
Miscellaneous expenses		193	58
Website development		2,624	3,082
Travel		344	236
Zoom		768	768
		<u>23,416</u>	<u>20,495</u>
Examiners fees		906	906
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		<u>24,322</u>	<u>21,401</u>
Net income/(expenditure before gains & losses on investments)		<u>4,719</u>	<u>9,023</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investment		(2,425)	5,326
NET SURPLUS FOR YEAR CARRIED TO GENERAL FUND		<u>2,294</u>	<u>14,349</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**BALANCE SHEET – 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS	11	1,385	1,589
CURRENT ASSETS			
STOCK			
Library	10	2,995	3,414
Books/CDs	5	390	395
		<u>3,385</u>	<u>3,809</u>
Investments	14	64,342	66,767
Bank balances and cash in hand	12	61,305	53,350
		<u>129,032</u>	<u>123,926</u>
CREDITORS and ACCRUALS			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals	13	(14,077)	11,469
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		114,955	112,457
NET ASSETS		<u>116,340</u>	<u>114,046</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
GENERAL FUND - UNRESTRICTED			
Balance at 1 April 2022		114,046	99,697
Net Surplus for the year	15	2,294	14,349
Balance at 31 March 2023		<u>116,340</u>	<u>114,046</u>

Approved by the Committee of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Chair

Date of approval:


21/10/2023

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023

1 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000). In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

The charity's unrestricted funds consist of reserves which the charity may use for its purpose at its own discretion.

Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources are recognised at their full amount in the period in which they are receivable. Gifts-in-kind are included at a reasonable estimate of market value. When donors specify that grants and gifts be for particular purposes, the amount is included in the appropriate fund (see Fund Accounting above).

Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ('SOFA') on an accruals basis, inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the categories of the SOFA.

Management and administration costs are those costs incurred in running the charity as an organisation.

Tangible Fixed Assets

All assets or groups of similar assets costing £100 or more are capitalised at cost. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

The useful economic life of each class of assets is as follows:

Equipment 20% of cost.

Deferred Incoming Resources

Incoming resources received or receivable in the current accounting period but relating to the following one are recorded as "deferred income" and shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

Taxation

The Trust has charitable status and is afforded the tax exemptions set out in the Income Taxes Act 1988.

Stock

Stock has been valued by the Trustees and it has not been subject to external examination.

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023****1 SALES**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Bookstall – books / cards	9	12
Postal – CDs	188	544
	<u>197</u>	<u>556</u>

2 SERVICES SUPPLIED

Magazine advertising	108	108
ESFH courier & search service	38	65
	<u>146</u>	<u>173</u>

3 MEETINGS IN ESSEX

Refreshments	61	4
	<u>61</u>	<u>4</u>

4 INTEREST RECEIVED

Charity Aid Foundation	4	4
COIF Deposit	942	5
	<u>946</u>	<u>9</u>

5 MERCHANDISING

Opening stock	395	558
Purchases	-	-
Closing stock at valuation	(390)	(395)
	<u>5</u>	<u>164</u>

6 SOCIETY PAYMENTS

Subscriptions payable - FFHS	847	790
Conference and fairs	179	551
	<u>1,026</u>	<u>1,341</u>

7 DEPRECIATION

Depreciation - equipment	204	271
Library	427	427
	<u>631</u>	<u>698</u>

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>£</u>
8 MEETINGS IN ESSEX		
Teas at meetings	130	11
Speakers at meetings	1,223	1,630
	<u>1,352</u>	<u>1,641</u>
	—	—
9 THE ESSEX FAMILY HISTORIAN		
Printing	4,367	5,479
Postage	3,264	2,343
	<u>7,631</u>	<u>7,822</u>
	—	—
10 LIBRARY		
Opening stock	3,414	3,841
Purchases	8	-
Depreciation of library stock	(427)	(427)
	<u>2,995</u>	<u>3,414</u>
	—	—
11 FIXED ASSETS		
	Equipment	
	<u>£</u>	
COST/VALUATION		
At 1 April 2022	13,349	
Additions	-	
	<u>13,349</u>	
At 31 March 2023	—	
	—	
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 April 2022	11,760	
Charge for the year	204	
	<u>11,964</u>	
At 31 March 2023	—	
	—	
WRITTEN DOWN VALUE		
At 31 March 2023	1,385	
	<u>1,589</u>	
At 31 March 2022	—	

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023****12 BANK BALANCES****CASH IN HAND**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Branches: Bank and Building		
Society accounts	1,040	614
Floats	-	-
Cash in hand	66	7
CAF – Current Account	5,554	6,021
CAF - Savings	38,799	30,028
COIF fund deposit Account	11,477	11,276
Co-Operative Bank	3,154	4,060
Paypal	1,215	1,345
	<u>61,305</u>	<u>53,351</u>

13 SUNDRY CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS

Accruals	5,127	906
Subscriptions paid in advance	8,950	10,564
	<u>14,077</u>	<u>11,469</u>

14 INVESTMENT

CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund*		
(3036.06 Income Units @ 1944.25 per unit)**	56,885	59,029
(397.99 Income Units @ 1944.25 per unit)**	7,457	7,738
	<u>64,342</u>	<u>66,767</u>

*Purchased on 21/11/2013 under account no. 101410001T 3036.06 units in the COIF Charities Investment Fund Income Units at a total cost of £35,000.00.

Purchased 02/07/2015 under account no. 101410001T – 397.99 units in the COIF Charities Investment Fund Income Units at a total cost of £5,000.00.

** Selling price valuation at 31/03/2022

15 NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR

Headquarters		1,808	15,548
S.E. Branch	17	349	(463)
W. Branch	18	83	(190)
N.E. Branch	19	54	(517)
N.W. Branch	20	-	(29)
		<u>2,294</u>	<u>14,349</u>

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
16 SOUTH EAST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Donations	745	-
Excess of income over expenditure	(349)	463
	<u>396</u>	<u>463</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings in Essex	27	-
Speakers	-	33
Postage & Stationery	1	-
Hire of accommodation	30	430
Miscellaneous	95	-
Payments to Head Office	243	-
	<u>396</u>	<u>463</u>
	—	—
17 WEST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Miscellaneous Income	15	-
Meetings in Essex	3	-
Donations	131	-
Excess of income over expenditure	(83)	190
	<u>66</u>	<u>190</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Speakers	63	190
Postage, stationery etc	3	-
	<u>66</u>	<u>190</u>
	—	—
18 NORTH EAST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Donations	17	-
Meetings in Essex	46	3
Excess of income over expenditure	(54)	514
	<u>9</u>	<u>517</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings in Essex	9	11
Speakers	-	260
Postage and stationery	-	1
Hire of accommodation	-	245
	<u>9</u>	<u>517</u>
	—	—

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023****19 NORTH WEST ESSEX BRANCH**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
INCOME		
Excess of expenditure over income		29
	—	<u>29</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Hire of accommodation		29
	—	<u>29</u>
	—	—

**ESSEX SOCIETY FOR
FAMILY HISTORY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

Charity No: 290552

**P KITTLE FFA FIPA FFTA
Financial Accountant**

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**TRUSTEES**

Andrea Hewitt - Chair
 Meryl Rawlings - Secretary
 Tanya Sewell – Treasurer
 Elizabeth Cox
 Ronald Knights – Resigned 15.10.22
 Paul Stirland
 John Young
 Heather Feather
 Pauline Adlem
 Colleen Devenish
 Janice Sharpe
 Eric Jude – Resigned 15.10.22

 Helen Matten – Resigned 15.10.22
 Mary Ann Rix
 Trevor William Rix
 Barbara Harpin
 David Cooper – Appointed 15.10.22
 Toni Neobard – Appointed 15.10.22
 Denise Somers – Appointed 15.10.22
 Gillian Peregrine – Appointed 15.10.22

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

ESFH Research Centre
 C/O Essex Record Office
 Wharf Road
 Chelmsford
 CM2 6YT

CHARITY REGISTRATION

290552

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

P Kittle FFA FIPA FFTA
 Financial Accountant
 37 Fraser Close
 Chelmsford
 Essex CM2 0TD

CONTENTS

Pages	2 – 3	Trustees Report
	4	Independent Examiners Report
	5	Statement of Financial Activities
	6	Balance Sheet
	7 – 12	Notes to the accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the charity's trust deed and applicable law.

Constitution and objects

Essex Society for Family History is constituted under a trust deed dated 24th September 1994, revised in minor respects on 20/9/97, 20/2/99, 20/9/03, 27/9/08 and 27/10/20.

The charity's objects are to promote and encourage the public study of British Family History, genealogy, heraldry and local history with particular reference to Essex and to promote the preservation, security and accessibility of archival material.

Organisation

The trustees who have served during the period are set out on page 1. The trustees are elected from fully paid up members of the society. Members of the committee are subject to election or re-election at the Annual General Meeting for one year. The chairman shall be in office for not more than five consecutive years and must have a break of one year before seeking re-election.

Related Parties

The charity has a close relationship with The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). Details of the financial and other support provided by the Essex Society for Family History is detailed in note 6.

Reserves Policy

The charity's policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover its operational costs for at least the following 3 months. At the year end, the charity had sufficient reserves to comply with this policy. The level of reserves is kept under close scrutiny by the trustees.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major operational, strategic and business risks which the charity faces and confirm that appropriate systems are in place to mitigate the effects of these risks.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission. They have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities as demonstrated above.

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustee's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any 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 accounting records which 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. They 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.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of trustees
Essex Society for Family History

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO
THE TRUSTEES OF ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

This report on the accounts of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 12, is in respect of an examination carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act.
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)9(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether in particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements;
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



P Kittle FFA FIPA FFTA
 Financial Accountant
 37 Fraser Close
 Chelmsford
 Essex CM2 0TD

Date: 1 November 2023

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Incoming resources			
Subscriptions		21,980	24,088
Sales	1	197	556
Services supplied	2	146	173
Donations		1,905	773
Meetings in Essex	3	61	4
Interest received	4	946	9
Investment income		1,400	1,834
Find my past		2,403	2,987
Miscellaneous		3	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>29,041</u>	<u>30,424</u>
Resources expended			
Merchandising	5	5	164
Society payments	6	1,026	1,341
Search and certificates service		33	22
Depreciation	7	631	698
Meetings in Essex	8	1,352	1,641
Hire of accommodation		3,116	532
The Essex Family Historian	9	7,631	7,822
Postage, telephone, printing & stationery		2,847	1,103
Donations (Victoria CH – Essex)		900	1,150
ESFH Award		1,000	1,000
Projects		-	193
Credit card charge (PayPal)		428	407
Internet/computer maintenance		393	165
Bank charges		125	96
Research room expenses		-	17
Miscellaneous expenses		193	58
Website development		2,624	3,082
Travel		344	236
Zoom		768	768
		<u>23,416</u>	<u>20,495</u>
Examiners fees		906	906
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		<u>24,322</u>	<u>21,401</u>
Net income/(expenditure before gains & losses on investments)		<u>4,719</u>	<u>9,023</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investment		(2,425)	5,326
NET SURPLUS FOR YEAR CARRIED TO GENERAL FUND		<u>2,294</u>	<u>14,349</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**BALANCE SHEET – 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS	11	1,385	1,589
CURRENT ASSETS			
STOCK			
Library	10	2,995	3,414
Books/CDs	5	390	395
		<u>3,385</u>	<u>3,809</u>
Investments	14	64,342	66,767
Bank balances and cash in hand	12	61,305	53,350
		<u>129,032</u>	<u>123,926</u>
CREDITORS and ACCRUALS			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals	13	(14,077)	11,469
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		114,955	112,457
NET ASSETS		<u>116,340</u>	<u>114,046</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
GENERAL FUND - UNRESTRICTED			
Balance at 1 April 2022		114,046	99,697
Net Surplus for the year	15	2,294	14,349
Balance at 31 March 2023		<u>116,340</u>	<u>114,046</u>

Approved by the Committee of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Chair

Date of approval:


21/10/2023

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023

1 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000). In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

The charity's unrestricted funds consist of reserves which the charity may use for its purpose at its own discretion.

Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources are recognised at their full amount in the period in which they are receivable. Gifts-in-kind are included at a reasonable estimate of market value. When donors specify that grants and gifts be for particular purposes, the amount is included in the appropriate fund (see Fund Accounting above).

Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ('SOFA') on an accruals basis, inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the categories of the SOFA.

Management and administration costs are those costs incurred in running the charity as an organisation.

Tangible Fixed Assets

All assets or groups of similar assets costing £100 or more are capitalised at cost. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

The useful economic life of each class of assets is as follows:

Equipment 20% of cost.

Deferred Incoming Resources

Incoming resources received or receivable in the current accounting period but relating to the following one are recorded as "deferred income" and shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

Taxation

The Trust has charitable status and is afforded the tax exemptions set out in the Income Taxes Act 1988.

Stock

Stock has been valued by the Trustees and it has not been subject to external examination.

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023****1 SALES**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Bookstall – books / cards	9	12
Postal – CDs	188	544
	<u>197</u>	<u>556</u>

2 SERVICES SUPPLIED

Magazine advertising	108	108
ESFH courier & search service	38	65
	<u>146</u>	<u>173</u>

3 MEETINGS IN ESSEX

Refreshments	61	4
	<u>61</u>	<u>4</u>

4 INTEREST RECEIVED

Charity Aid Foundation	4	4
COIF Deposit	942	5
	<u>946</u>	<u>9</u>

5 MERCHANDISING

Opening stock	395	558
Purchases	-	-
Closing stock at valuation	(390)	(395)
	<u>5</u>	<u>164</u>

6 SOCIETY PAYMENTS

Subscriptions payable - FFHS	847	790
Conference and fairs	179	551
	<u>1,026</u>	<u>1,341</u>

7 DEPRECIATION

Depreciation - equipment	204	271
Library	427	427
	<u>631</u>	<u>698</u>

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>£</u>
8 MEETINGS IN ESSEX		
Teas at meetings	130	11
Speakers at meetings	1,223	1,630
	<u>1,352</u>	<u>1,641</u>
	—	—
9 THE ESSEX FAMILY HISTORIAN		
Printing	4,367	5,479
Postage	3,264	2,343
	<u>7,631</u>	<u>7,822</u>
	—	—
10 LIBRARY		
Opening stock	3,414	3,841
Purchases	8	-
Depreciation of library stock	(427)	(427)
	<u>2,995</u>	<u>3,414</u>
	—	—
11 FIXED ASSETS		
	Equipment	
	<u>£</u>	
COST/VALUATION		
At 1 April 2022	13,349	
Additions	-	
	<u>13,349</u>	
At 31 March 2023	13,349	
	—	
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 April 2022	11,760	
Charge for the year	204	
	<u>11,964</u>	
At 31 March 2023	11,964	
	—	
WRITTEN DOWN VALUE		
At 31 March 2023	1,385	
	<u>1,589</u>	
At 31 March 2022	1,589	
	—	

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023****12 BANK BALANCES****CASH IN HAND**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Branches: Bank and Building		
Society accounts	1,040	614
Floats	-	-
Cash in hand	66	7
CAF – Current Account	5,554	6,021
CAF - Savings	38,799	30,028
COIF fund deposit Account	11,477	11,276
Co-Operative Bank	3,154	4,060
Paypal	1,215	1,345
	<u>61,305</u>	<u>53,351</u>

13 SUNDRY CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS

Accruals	5,127	906
Subscriptions paid in advance	8,950	10,564
	<u>14,077</u>	<u>11,469</u>

14 INVESTMENT

CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund*		
(3036.06 Income Units @ 1944.25 per unit)**	56,885	59,029
(397.99 Income Units @ 1944.25 per unit)**	7,457	7,738
	<u>64,342</u>	<u>66,767</u>

*Purchased on 21/11/2013 under account no. 101410001T 3036.06 units in the COIF Charities Investment Fund Income Units at a total cost of £35,000.00.

Purchased 02/07/2015 under account no. 101410001T – 397.99 units in the COIF Charities Investment Fund Income Units at a total cost of £5,000.00.

** Selling price valuation at 31/03/2022

15 NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR

Headquarters		1,808	15,548
S.E. Branch	17	349	(463)
W. Branch	18	83	(190)
N.E. Branch	19	54	(517)
N.W. Branch	20	-	(29)
		<u>2,294</u>	<u>14,349</u>

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
16 SOUTH EAST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Donations	745	-
Excess of income over expenditure	(349)	463
	<u>396</u>	<u>463</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings in Essex	27	-
Speakers	-	33
Postage & Stationery	1	-
Hire of accommodation	30	430
Miscellaneous	95	-
Payments to Head Office	243	-
	<u>396</u>	<u>463</u>
	—	—
17 WEST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Miscellaneous Income	15	-
Meetings in Essex	3	-
Donations	131	-
Excess of income over expenditure	(83)	190
	<u>66</u>	<u>190</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Speakers	63	190
Postage, stationery etc	3	-
	<u>66</u>	<u>190</u>
	—	—
18 NORTH EAST ESSEX BRANCH		
INCOME		
Donations	17	-
Meetings in Essex	46	3
Excess of income over expenditure	(54)	514
	<u>9</u>	<u>517</u>
	—	—
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings in Essex	9	11
Speakers	-	260
Postage and stationery	-	1
Hire of accommodation	-	245
	<u>9</u>	<u>517</u>
	—	—

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR FAMILY HISTORY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023****19 NORTH WEST ESSEX BRANCH**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
INCOME		
Excess of expenditure over income		29
	—	<u>29</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Hire of accommodation		29
	—	<u>29</u>
	—	—