

## Chairmans Report for 2026

### Thanks to

our members, committee, the Volunteers and Adopt a Plot people for their continued support in maintaining Jesmond Dene. And thanks to Mark Risi who has continued to provide a meeting room for us.

### Items

Membership is approximately 125 (going by email addresses). Also covers families so actual people will be higher) and numbers remain about the same - (new members join to replace the attrition rate) .

The ownership and management of the Parks have returned from Urban Green to Newcastle City Council, and we thank NCC for supporting the FOJD.

The Facebook group now has 11,737 members. Many beautiful photos are posted regularly.

The FOJD received a substantive legacy from Mrs. Myra Harper. We are working with NCC to discuss schemes we may wish to fund. Especially Pets Corner. **Yvonne to talk later.**

We continue to foster relationships and work with other groups, for example :

NCC staff, Newcastle Parks Forum, The Armstrong Project (Banqueting Hall), Jesmond Community Festival, Jesmond Residents Association, took part for the first time in Jesmond Walking Advent Calendar last year. Heaton history Group. Wildlife Trust, The Reece Foundation.

Basil Dean has been appointed as Programme Development Manager for the Ouse burn Way, and we have met him to discuss where we can help.

We are joining the Wildlife Trust Event on 4<sup>th</sup> July to sell plants etc. and raise the profile of the FOJD.

## **Events 2026**

Dawn Chorus Nature Walk,

Heritage Tour and talk about Busy Cottage Iron Foundry and Millfield House,

Heritage Walk in Jesmond Vale.

For the last several years arranged a heritage walk for Heaton history group - last year in August in Jesmond Vale.

We continue to provide a Website, Newsletter (twice yearly for members) Noticeboard, and Facebook page as a communication means with our members and the public.

- Deal with general enquiries about Jesmond Dene
- Help with student projects.

## **Going forward.**

- We have a healthy Committee.
- An improved working relationship with NCC staff.
- Continue to work with and influence groups and individuals in the surrounding community.
- Be involved with initiatives where appropriate and according to our constitution.
- Be proactive when necessary and in keeping with William Armstrongs Legacy.

Clive Gerrard, Chairman

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026



# Independent Examiners Report

to the trustees & members of

The Friends of Jesmond Dene

(Charity Number 702260)

on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

31.12.2024	Income	31.12.2025
£874.00	Subscriptions	£829.00
£443.00	Donations	£28,326.75
£0.00	Sales	£70.00
£0.00	Affiliate income	£49.52
£361.97	Interest	£325.04
£120.69	Sundry other income	£0.00
£1,799.66	Operating Income	£29,600.31
	Expenditure	
£0.00	Postage	£0.00
£208.25	Tools & Equipment	£138.37
£0.00	Nature Supplies	£0.00
£0.00	Plants and physical enhancements	£0.00
£128.53	Insurance	£166.95
£592.82	Publicity & Website	£154.30
£0.00	Meeting/Event Expenses	£0.00
£0.00	Sundries	£0.00
£0.00	Bank charges	£29.75
£0.00	Maintenance of previous projects	£0.00
£929.60	Operating expenditure	£489.37
£870.06	Operating profit/(loss)	£29,110.94
£36,601.26	Opening Bank Account balance for year	£37,471.32
£37,471.32	Closing Bank Balance for the year	£66,582.26
	Represented by	
£10,000.00	Investment Account	£10,325.04
£16,810.27	Bank Account	£45,764.29
£10,661.05	Project Bank Account	£10,492.93
£37,471.32	Total Bank Balances	£66,582.26

Signed ..... *J Holmes* ..... Date 28 January 2026  
 Jacki Holmes, Treasurer



I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Friends of Jesmond Dene for the year ended 31 December 202 which is set out on page one.

*Responsibilities and basis of report*

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011('the Act'). You consider that the audit requirements of section 144 of the 2011 Act do not apply and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited, I report in respect of my examination of the financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

*Independent examiner's statement*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed..........Date <sup>14</sup>28 January 2026

Geoffrey Carter, Auditor



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