

Northwest Archaeological & Historical Society
Registered Charity No. NIC 102353
Trustees Annual Report 2023

The objectives of the Society are to further the education of the public in the archaeology, history, folklore and the antiquities of North-West Ulster and to undertake or assist in the undertaking of research into such subjects and the publication of useful results of such research. In 2023 the Society, now in its 48th year has continued its role in a very limited manner due to the continuing effects of the Covid 19 pandemic has had on our activities.

The trustees and several members of the Society have continued to co-operate and assist with several other organisations and groups to promote local history and increase understanding of our shared local heritage. We still continue to be involved in a major project in conjunction with the University of the Third Age, Causeway Coast branch. The project called "The Hervey Trail" has been examining the life and times of Frederick Hervey, Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry.

We continue to co-operate with the History & Religious Studies department of Lumen Christi College in Derry in their research into a structure in the college grounds which existed at the time of the Siege of Derry in 1688. Further research on this project is still delayed due to backlog of work in the archaeological department at The Queen's University of Belfast.

We have been unable to resume our monthly programme of lectures due to the reluctance of our membership (mainly elderly) to attend and also because of the serious illness of our president and life member, Mr Roy Hamilton who was the principal lead in organising the lectures.

At the time of writing in August 2024 the membership continues to decline and with the death of Mr Hamilton in November 2023 it seems most likely that the Society will permanently cease to operate.

The trustees believe that no harm flows from its activities and members do not obtain any private benefit.

Pending the decision on the future of the Society the remaining trustee shall continue to co-operate with NI libraries, the Federation for Ulster Local Studies the Public Record Office for Northern Ireland and local community groups when conditions allow.

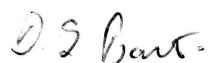
We believe that society in general has benefited from our various activities.

Finance As can be seen from our Receipts and Payments statement the Society has ended the 2023 financial year with a total balance in our accounts of £948. As no meetings were held during 2023, we did not charge membership fees.

Our meeting place is still No. 1 St. Columb's Court off Bishop Street in the centre of the Walled City, where the Dean of Derry has permitted us to meet free of charge, but the Society, when meeting, makes a contribution to cover the cost of light and heating expenses..

Public Benefit.

As well as the public benefits indicated above, the trustee confirms that I have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland guidance on Public Benefit. I have given careful consideration to the guidance to ensure that our activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to our beneficiaries.



D I Bartlett
Trustee.

9th August 2024.