

Northwest Archaeological & Historical Society
Registered Charity No. NIC 102353
Trustees Annual Report 2024

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 2024 the Society, now in its 49th year has continued its role in a very limited manner due to the ongoing effect that the Covid 19 pandemic had on our ability to restore membership.

The trustee 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

We 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.

Finance.

As can be seen from our Receipts and Payments statement the Society has ended the 2024 financial year with a total balance in our accounts of £900.69. As no full meetings were held during 2024, we did not charge membership fees.

Our meeting place is 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 makes a contribution to cover the cost of light and heating expenses. We have been allocated secure space within the building to store our records and equipment and we have purchased storage boxes and other equipment to ensure that our records are safely stored.

Public Benefit.

As well as the public benefits indicated above, the trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland guidance on Public Benefit. We 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.

We believe that society in general benefits from our various activities as we continue to make people aware of local history, of our shared heritage and culture and also to make history interesting and enjoyable. The trustee believes that no harm flows from its activities and members do not obtain any private benefit.

D I Bartlett
Trustee

2nd October 2025