

# The Hermitage Trust

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106130

## Details

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**Status** Received

**Registered** 2018-01-09

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 3 Altona Manor  
Holywood  
BT18 9bx  
BT18 9BX

**Phone** 028 9042 7201

**Email** [w gw70@yahoo.com](mailto:wgw70@yahoo.com)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** To pay, apply or appropriate the whole of the said monies to charitable purposes without geographical restrictions, so that the time manner and head or heads under which the payment, application or appropriation of the said monies shall be made and the particulars of such payment, application or appropriation shall be as may be notified by the donor or donors to the Trustees in writing, or failing any such notification for all or portion of monies received from a donor or donors, in such manner as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion determine.

**What the charity does:** The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of religion, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

**How the charity works:** General charitable purposes, Grant making, Overseas aid/famine relief, Relief of poverty, Religious activities

**Who the charity helps:** General public, Overseas/developing countries, Specific areas of deprivation, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£0	£6,842	£0	0

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Gareth David Wright		
Mr William Gordon Wright		
Mrs Agnes Daphne Wright		

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**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Accounts

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**THE HERMITAGE TRUST  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
06/04/2024 TO 05/04/2025**

	Income			Expenditure	
<b>Opening Bank Balance at 6th April 2024</b>		<b>£19,469.35</b>			
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	£		<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	£	
HMRC Gift Aid	0.00		Charitable Donations	6290.00	
			Administration Costs	500.00	
		<u>0.00</u>	Fundraising Expenses	<u>52.00</u>	6842.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>6,842.00</b>
			<b>Closing Bank Balance at 5th April 2025</b>		<b>£12,627.35</b>

Prepared by North Down Community Network from the information supplied by THE HERMITAGE TRUST  
We have found that this statement is an accurate reflection of the financial position of the Association @ 05/04/2025. An Audit has not been carried out.

Signed *Maeve Killingbeck*  
Maeve Killingbeck, Independent Examiner  
Organised by North Down Community Network

Signed: *MRS A Daphne Wright (Trustee)*  
The Hermitage Trust

Dated: 2nd December 2025

Dated: *2nd December 2025*

**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Accounts

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**THE HERMITAGE TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**06/04/2023 TO 05/04/2024**

	Income		Expenditure	
Opening Bank Balance at 6th April 2023	£57,631.38			
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b>£</b>		<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>£</b>
Refund from Mrs C Watton	4,587.47		<b><u>Charitable Donations</u></b>	
HMRC Gift Aid	-	4,587.47	Diocese of Down & Dromore	30000.00
			Sundry Charities	6717.50
			Sundry Churches	5490.00
				<u>42207.50</u>
			<b><u>Administration</u></b>	
			Solomon Ac Filing Exps	250.00
			MTS Chartered Accountants	240.00
			NDCN Accounts Examination Chg	27.00
			NDCN Membership Fee	25.00
				<u>542.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,587.47</b>		<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>42,749.50</b>
			<b>Closing Bank Balance at 5th April 2024</b>	<b>£19,469.35</b>

Prepared by North Down Community Network from the information supplied by  
**THE HERMITAGE TRUST**  
 We have found that this statement is an accurate reflection of the financial position  
 of the Association @ 05/04/2024. An Audit has not been carried out.

Signed: Navee Killigbock  
 Independent Examiner For and on behalf of  
 North Down Community Network

Dated: 9th December 2024

Signed: Mrs AD Wright (Trustee)  
 The Hermitage Trust

Dated: 15 January 2025

**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Annual report

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# The Hermitage Trust

**Charity Registration Number NIC 106130**

## Trustees Annual Report

**Year Ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Governing Document:** The Hermitage Trust is a charitable organisation which was set up with HMRC Tax Exemption on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1987, under a Declaration of Trust as its governing document. Full U K charitable status was granted on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015 by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, ref NIC 106130.

**Public Benefit:** In the year under report the principal activities of the public benefit objectives continued as previously, and were (1) relief of distress and poverty leading to, in a number of instances, improved living conditions with additional education, promotion of health initiatives & employment opportunities and (2) the advancement of the Christian faith, through which many poor people and others are freed from bad habits such as drug taking, alcohol misuse and immoral & criminal lives.

**Objectives and Activities:** Objectives were achieved by awarding small grants/donations/loans, channeled mainly through G B and N I registered charities. During the year some £42,207 in donations and grants were distributed to 16 organisations in pursuit of the above Activities.

**Achievements and Performance:** The trustees are satisfied that such awards during this financial period were in accordance with the principal objectives of the Trust. Those who benefited have, in consequence, been able to demonstrate positive outcomes emanating from tangible helpfulness.

**Delivery:** In relation to the main purposes of The Hermitage Trust, viz the relief of distress and poverty generally, coupled with helping to raise awareness and an understanding of the Christian faith, some vital grant assistance has been delivered. In line with objectives donations were made to charitable, relief & caring organisations which already were predominantly established UK and NI registered charities and Churches that are involved in active Christian aid / relief ministries. All of these operations are proactively engaging with the general public and leading, in many instances, to good outcomes through programmes that really have made a difference, such as having a positive impact on the lives of young people, regardless of ethnic, social or religious background. As Trustees, we personally have experienced continued awareness first hand regarding a number of these young people whose lives have, as a result, literally been turned around.

**Funding/ Income:** Very sadly, our normal income ceased during the year as a consequence of the misfortune of The Hermitage Trust banking account having been unilaterally closed down, thus leaving the work of the Trust most uncertain. The only revenue received during the year represented the repayment of a Loan granted during the previous financial year to assist a new poverty related charity that failed to materialise. Nevertheless, there are still fairly good cash reserves available, albeit dwindling faster than previously envisaged.

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**Financial Responsibilities:** The Trustees are accountable for keeping proper financial records and are dependable for the continued safeguarding of the assets through the prevention of fraud or in the unlikely event of any other such irregularity. However, our Banker's unilateral policy decision to withdraw banking facilities without explanation, in this case a banking relationship of impeccable loyalty that had extended as far back as almost four decades, is undoubtedly having far reaching consequences for our concerned Trustees. Very sadly, un-necessary financial and administrative hardship has been inflicted upon our aged and weary voluntary charity officials who are on the verge of just giving up.

In this regard we were very supportive of your CCNI well-timed and succinct joint appeal dated 15th November 2023 to all U K Bank Chief Executives in regard to Charity Banking Access and Customer Service. Not being aware of any effective follow-up we would be interested to know what has been the outcome, if any? Whilst we appreciate the effort and intent in your letter to the CEO's of U K Banks, it is felt that we continue to be left in a state of limbo and we are very concerned that many effective and professionally run small and local Charities are still struggling to exist with predominantly zero support from most banks.

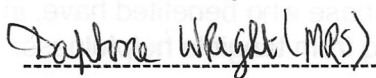
Consequently, we would like to see the Charity Commission and others doing more to highlight and help relieve this unwanted anomaly and are rather discouraged that, apparently, there has not been any real outcome to date !

**Financial Review:** During the year no Trustee claimed any personal expenses or any financial benefits or remunerations of any kind, whether direct or indirect.

**Risk Management:** The Trustees continue to examine future strategy including any operational risks that the charity might face.

**Statements of Compliance:** There is not any harm flowing from the purposes of the Trust and, in order to ensure that activities are helping to achieve objectives and provide assistance to beneficiaries, the Trustees continue to give regard to the CCNI Guidance on Public Benefit.

Signed



Daphne Wright (Mrs) - Trustee  
15th January 2025

**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Annual return

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## NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

North Down Community Network Resource Centre, 5 Castle Park Road, Bangor BT20 4TF  
Tel: 028 9146 1386 Email: admin@ndcn.co.uk Web: www.ndcn.co.uk

Charity Number: 102333

Charity Registration: XR37170

Company Number: NI050662

### Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of The Hermitage Trust.

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 as attached.

### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (NI) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 62 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission NI under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

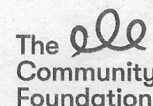
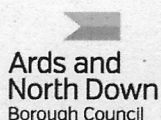
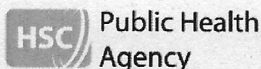
### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination of the accounts of **The Hermitage Trust** and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission NI, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

*Maeve Killingbeck*

**Maeve Killingbeck – Independent Examiner**  
**For and on behalf of North Down Community Network**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Supported by:



**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Accounts

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**THE HERMITAGE TRUST  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
06/04/2022 TO 05/04/2023**

	Income		Expenditure
Opening Bank Balance at 6th April 2022	£24,241.74		
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	£	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	£
Donations Received	34,333.38	Charitable Donations	4750.00
HMRC Gift Aid Refund	4,135.34		
		<u>Administration</u>	
		Exceptional Expenses Re Ulster Bank	250.00
		Sundry Exps Re Ulster Bank Acc Closure	27.08
		NDCN Accounts Examination Chg	27.00
		NDCN Membership Fee	25.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>38,468.72</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>5,079.08</b>
		<b>Closing Bank Balance at 5th April 2023</b>	<b>£57,631.38</b>

Prepared by North Down Community Network from the information supplied by THE HERMITAGE TRUST  
We have found that this statement is an accurate reflection of the financial position of the Association @ 05/04/2023. An Audit has not been carried out.

Signed: Maeve Killigbeck  
Independent Examiner For and on behalf of  
North Down Community Network

Dated: 13th October 2023

Signed: Daphne Wright (Mrs)  
The Hermitage Trust

Dated: 24th Dec 2023

**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Annual report

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# The Hermitage Trust

**Charity Registration Number NIC 106130**

## **Trustees Annual Report**

**Year Ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**Governing Document:** The Hermitage Trust is a charitable organisation which was set up with HMRC Tax Exemption on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1987, under a Declaration of Trust as its governing document. Full U K charitable status was granted on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015 by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, ref NIC 106130.

**Public Benefit:** The principal activities of the public benefit objectives continued during the year and were (1) relief of distress and poverty leading, in many instances, to improved living conditions with additional education, promotion of health initiatives & employment opportunities and (2) the advancement of the Christian faith, through which many beneficiaries are freed from bad habits such as drug taking, alcoholism and immoral & criminal lives.

**Objectives and Activities:** Objectives were achieved mainly by awarding small grants/donations, channeled through G B and N Ireland registered charities.

**Achievements:** The trustees are satisfied that the awarding of grants during this financial period, albeit drastically reduced in number by 50%, was in accordance with the principal objectives of the Trust. Those who have benefited have, in fact, in consequence been able to demonstrate positive outcomes and tangible helpfulness.

In relation to the main purposes of The Hermitage Trust, viz the relief of distress and poverty generally, coupled with helping to raise awareness and an understanding of the Christian faith, vital grant assistance has been delivered in line with objectives by donating to various UK charitable relief & caring organisations as well as to UK and NI registered charities and Churches that are involved in active Christian aid and ministry within their communities.

All of these operations are proactively engaging with the general public and many include programmes that really have made a difference, such as having a positive impact on the lives of young people, regardless of ethnic, social or religious background. As Trustees, we personally have continued awareness first hand regarding a number of these young people whose lives have, as a result, literally been turned around.

**Funding/ Income:** The main income source during the year resulted from assisting a related Charity in the winding up of its affairs (for disbursement of funding) upon retirement of its senior trustees. There was not any gift aid able income to record on this occasion, other than HMRC refund relating specifically to previous year's income. Nevertheless, there are presently good cash reserves directly as a result of the aforementioned disbursement donation but, sadly, the ongoing impasse with our local Banks towards small charities is likely to affect future income even further.

**Risk Management:** The Trustees examine future strategy including any operational risks that the charity might face.

**Financial Responsibilities:** The Trustees are accountable for keeping proper financial records and are responsible for the continued safeguarding of the assets through the prevention of fraud or in the unlikely event of any other such irregularity. However, the Ulster Bank's unilateral policy decision, to withdraw banking facilities from this Trust without explanation, in our case a banking service that had extended as far back as almost four decades of impeccable loyalty, will undoubtedly have far reaching consequences for our concerned and benevolent Trustees. Very sadly, un-necessary financial and administration hardship have been inflicted upon our aged and weary voluntary charity officials, much of which we have felt obliged to assiduously document and record, as our elderly trustees were needlessly put to the trouble of having to source alternative banking facilities and, at the same time, having to significantly reduce our normal goodwill funding activities. Penalised, for what? we respectfully continue to ask.

**Financial Review:** During the year, other than a very nominal figure as an 'exceptional' expense, no Trustee claimed any personal expenses or any financial benefits or remunerations of any kind, whether direct or indirect. The rather small 'exceptional' administration cost charged does not give any indication whatsoever of the true cost of all the rather pointless and hurtful dealings that our trustees have encountered both financially and physically in relation to the outcome of our recent banking relationship. In this regard we commend your very timely joint appeal last month to all U K Bank CEO's in regard to Charity Banking Access and Customer Service.

**Statements of Compliance:** In order to ensure that activities are helping to achieve objectives and provide benefit to beneficiaries the Trustees continue to give regard to the CCNI Guidance on Public Benefit. There is not any harm flowing from the purposes of the Foundation.

Signed

*Daphne Wright (Mrs)*

Daphne Wright (Mrs) - Trustee  
24th December 2023

**The Hermitage Trust**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106130

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# Annual return

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**Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of The Hermitage Trust.**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023, as attached.

**Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (NI) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 62 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission NI under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

I have completed my examination of the accounts of **The Hermitage Trust** and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission NI, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

*Maeve Killingbeck*

**Maeve Killingbeck – Independent Examiner**  
**For and on behalf of North Down Community Network**  
**13<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

Supported by:

