

Ancre Somme Association

Annual Report and Receipts and Payments Account

For the period ended 30th September 2023

Northern Ireland Charities Number: 108368

Ancre Somme Association

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References and administrative details

Charity Name: Ancre Somme Association

Charity Registration Number: 108368

Contact Address: Brownlow House
Windsor Avenue
Lurgan
Craigavon
BT67 9BJ

Trustees: Mark Scott Jameson
Sharon Woods
William John Woods
Gillian Dorothy Bleakney
Grenville Ashley Forbes
Richard Stewart Jameson

Independent Examiner: WJ McClelland
WJ McClelland & Co
7A Gilford Street
Tandragee
BT62 2DA

Bankers: Ulster Bank

Trustees' Annual Report for the period ended 30th September 2023

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for Ancre Somme Association for the year ended 30th September 2023.

Objectives and Activities

Educate our communities about our Armed Forces history from WWI, WW2 and all subsequent wars and conflict's. Organise or assist in organising meetings, lectures, classes and exhibitions, and publish or assist in publishing reports, periodicals, recordings, books or other documents or information. Remember the brave men and women of our Armed Forces who have paid the ultimate sacrifice from WWI to the present day.

Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations and publish the useful results thereof.

Recruit and train volunteers with relevant skills to carry out the purposes of the Charity. Support our Armed Forces and our Armed Forces charities and leave a legacy for future generations.

Achievements & Performance

Nov 2022 we had our annual pilgrimage to Stormont as we remembered Lord and Lady Craigavon. Jan 2023 we unveiled a memorial plaque in memory of our past members.

April 2023 our charity announced Squadron Leader Graham Dodds MBE DL as our new UK Ambassador. In the same month we also agreed to help with the purchase of new trees for the repopulation of Thiepval Wood.

May 2023 we opened our Empire Poppy Store. The store is a Community Interest Company. Our Coronation brooch appeared on ITV's This Morning programme.

July 2023 we presented a portrait of Field Marshall Sir Henry Hughes Wilson, 1st Baronet, GCB, DSO to Carol Walker MBE the director of the Somme Association. The portrait now adorns the wall in Ulster Tower, France.

August 2023 we held the inaugural meeting of the Bernard McQuirt VC Mem Committee to explore the possibility of erecting a memorial in his place of birth, Donaghcloney.

Sep 2023 we launched our Purple Poppy Memorial Fund which will create the first memorial in N Ireland to animals served in WWI.

Sep 2023 we also hosted a Service of Thanksgiving, giving thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth II. This was attended by various dignitaries including Vice Lord Lieutenant of Co Armagh Mr Richard Hamilton-Stubber. Lord Mayor, MPs, Councillors and MLAS also attended.

Financial Review

The charities funds continue to grow and remain strong allowing it to carry out its activities and objectives.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed their financial position and are in a position to continue running events next year. The nature and number of events will be dependent on the what funding opportunities arise and how they fit in with the groups aims and objectives. As such the financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2023 can be signed off as a going concern.

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The charity is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Volunteers

The Trustees welcome new volunteers to help with the running of the charity, any new volunteers initially meet with the Trustees so they have a understanding of the work involved are given training and support.

Organisational Structure

The governing body of the charity is the board of trustee's who are listed on the information page. The charity is run by the trustee's who work together to make decisions regarding the running of the charity.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Report and the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Statement of Assets and Liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to Charities in Northern Ireland with income of less than £250,000 requires the Trustees to prepare a statement of Receipts and Payments and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities for each financial year.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the Assets and Liabilities of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the Assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure to our examiners

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees are satisfied that it adheres to the public benefit test set out by the Charities Commission of Northern Ireland due to the objectives it provides.

Independent Examiner

The examiner, W J McClelland & Co have indicated their willingness to continue in office.

On behalf of the Trustees

M Jameson - Trustee



G Bleakney - Trustee



I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 30th September 2023 which are set out on pages 5-6.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- 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 for Northern Ireland 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 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 for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



WJ McClelland
Certified Public Accountants
7A Gilford Street
Tandragee
County Armagh
BT67 2DA
Date: 24 July 2024

Statement of Receipts & Payments for the period ended 30th September 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income from:					
Donations		1,165	0	1,165	400
Fundraising	2	42,659	0	42,659	102,915
Grant Funding	3	8,588	0	8,588	9,777
Total income		52,412	0	52,412	113,092
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	4	25,601	0	25,601	95,958
Charitable Activities	4	20,918	0	20,918	5,128
Total expenditure		46,519	0	46,519	101,086
Net income / (expenditure) resources		5,893	0	5,893	12,006

Statement of Assets & Liabilities- Period Ended 30th September 2023

	2023	2022
Reconciliation of funds at 31st Dec 2023		
Total funds brought forward	53,271	41,265
Surplus/(deficit) this year end	5,893	12,006
Total funds carried forward	<u>59,164</u>	<u>53,271</u>
Bank & Cash Balances		
Cash at bank and in hand	59,164	53,271
	<u>59,164</u>	<u>53,271</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted funds	59,164	53,271
Restricted funds	0	0
Total Funds	<u>59,164</u>	<u>53,271</u>

Notes on pages 7 to 8 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 5 to 6 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 19 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mark Jameson - Chair Person



Gillian Bleakney - Treasurer



Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 30th September 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Group meets its financial obligations mainly from income received at events the Group run and also from making grant funding applications for specific purposes. The Group has some reserves and so if there was a fall in income then it could still continue but with reduced activity. The expenditure relating to grant income is mostly dependent on the funding being successful and as such if this income dropped then the group would also have a drop in expenditure. Therefore these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

b) Income

Income is accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected and are allocated as either restricted or unrestricted funds according to the terms of the donation.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on a cash payments basis.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows:

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Group.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

2. Fundraising

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Service Collection	841		841	0
Sale of Merchandise	31,873		31,873	102,360
Trip	100		100	
McGrath Festival	9,845		9,845	555
	<u>42,659</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42,659</u>	<u>102,915</u>

3. Grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Grants	8,588		8,588	9,777
	<u>8,588</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,588</u>	<u>9,777</u>

4. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Fundraising				
Purchases	25,601		25,601	95,958
Total	<u>25,601</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,601</u>	<u>95,958</u>
Charitable Activities				
Donations	275		275	690
Printing, Postage & Stationery	59		59	75
Trip Refund	200		200	
Rent, Heat & Light	3,504		3,504	3,335
To Empire Poppy Store	1,105		1,105	
Bank Charges	109		109	196
Grant Refund	150		150	
General Expenses	879		879	
Bench Deposit Refund	275		275	
Heny Wilson Framing	120		120	
McGrath Festival	4,561		4,561	
Empire Poppy Store	9,681		9,681	
Band/Singer			0	250
Bus Hire			0	370
Wreaths			0	212
Total	<u>20,918</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,918</u>	<u>5,128</u>

5. Taxation

Ancre Somme Association is not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

6. Analysis of trustee remuneration and expenses.

No Trustee received any payments other than for out of pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the group