CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1152078

NEWARK HERITAGE BARGE

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2026

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2026

The Trustees present their Report and the Independently Examined Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2026.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name: Newark Heritage Barge Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Charity registration number: 1152078

Principal office: 24 The Weavers, Newark, NG24 4RY

TRUSTEES

James Wilkinson (Chairman)

Paul Ainsworth

Dorothy Britton

Margaret Catley

Leslie Reid (Project Leader)

Honorary Treasurer: George Robinson

Membership Secretary: Mike Reid

Independent Examiner: Andrew Brett

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trust Deed and Objectives

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation was registered on 17 May 2013 as a successor to the 'Friends of the Newark Heritage Barge' and is Registered Charity No.1152078. The principal objectives of the Charity are:

• For the public benefit, the restoration, maintenance, and preservation of the last remaining dumb barge of the Trent (known as the LEICESTER TRADER) for benefit of the present and future generations

• To advance the education of the public in the historical heritage of the River Trent, in particular (but not exclusively) by the provision of a heritage centre aboard the LEICESTER TRADER and the collection and display of historic artefacts and archives.

Governance

The Charity is administered by a Board of Trustees, supported by volunteers. There are no employees.

Trustees Recruitment and Training

New Trustees are recruited as needs arise and to ensure that an appropriate range of skills and experience is brought to the management of the Trust. Appointments are made by existing Trustees and training is given by them.

Public Benefit

The main beneficiaries are the public who visit the preserved barge LEICESTER TRADER and learn about the heritage of commercial traffic on the River Trent and the vessels and people who supported it, also the volunteers who support the operation.

Chairman's Report

2025 was another good year of promoting the town and the river with Leicester Trader.

Sadly in January 2025 'Sonning' the trip boat operating from Cuckstool Wharf alongside the Castle was sold and was sailed away to Hull on its long term journey to the river Thames. This is a great loss to the town as there are no longer any public paying trip boats in our area. 'Sonning' had been operating for well over 30 years and was a valuable attraction to the town and river.

The exercise to utilise the old emergency dry dock for a winter berth was a great success, easing the burden on Les having to tend lines during the recent regular floods we have endured.

Louise Dixon joined us as our Secretary, and I would like to thank her for the great work she is doing for us.

A big thankyou to Les and all the members and Open Day helpers who do such a great job, giving so much of their time.

Finally thanks to George and Andrew for keeping us in order financially.

James Wilkinson

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on 22nd September, 2026

and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:

(signed)

James Wilkinson, Chairman

Financial Review

Income comprised of Membership Subscriptions £125, Public Donations on Open Days £939, General Donations £1,235, Gift Aid raised on above donations totalled £547, and fund-raising £100.

Total income £2,946

Expenditure included £1,190 for insurance of the barge, £471 for items for the barge, and £232 on administrative items.

Total expenditure £1,893

This provided a cash surplus of £1,053

Continuing depreciation of the on-board generator at £1,087 leaves a small overall deficit of £34.

The Balance Sheet includes £17,000 for the Leicester Trader, a remaining £9,789 for the Generator. There is £8,358 in the bank account and petty cash, so total assets amount to £35,147.

The liquid assets are sufficient to cover all foreseeable expenses in the following year.

Although income is well below the statutory requirement for Independent Examination, Trustees have elected to arrange such, in order that Members may be confident in the Accounts.

(signed)

George Robinson, Treasurer

Project Leader's Report

We had a good start to the year, having successfully tried out mooring in the old emergency dock ready for the next winter, then we started open days at Easter.

In June I was temporarily grounded as my long awaited heart procedure was carried out at Leicester Glenfield hospital.

At the end of June we collected for display, the toolbox of a late friend Ray Brown who was an apprentice carpenter and worked at the dockyard in the 50's and 60's.

In July I went over to Hull to meet Rich and Lou Loudhailer to make another YouTube recording with the son and daughter of my old mentor, boatman Alec Carrigan. I also started recording my memories with the Collingham local history group. All good while I still have my memory.

We had visits from several retired boatmen, but the most significant was the family of the late Percy Walker who lost his life on board. They came to scatter the ashes of one of Percy's sons just where their dad was knocked overboard. Also in September we had six days for Heritage Open Days and a very busy day for the charity Dragon boat races.

In October myself and Bruce Kirkland manned a stall of ropes, knots and hitches in our local library as part of Newark's festival of creativity week. Our final open day was on the 12th of October making 24 for the season. The week following on the 17th we moved Leicester Trader into the emergency dock for the winter.

It was an ongoing problem of missed donations with people not carrying cash these days. We had looked at several methods of accepting on-line funding but they all took a percentage or needed the purchase of a card reader or an annual fee. Emma Clarkson who works at a friend's company, International Freight Logistics found a very simple QR code method where no charge was made to small charities. This has proved to work quite well this season.

During December, January and February the river was regularly in flood but Leicester Trader was in a safe place and no need for me to worry about ropes.

On the 10th of March, the river settled and we came back to the Weavers mooring, pressure washed the winters grime off the decks but then the weather turned again so they never got painted.

On the 22nd of March our surveyor Ian Lumley carried out our four-yearly Boat safety examination with no problems found.

On the 2nd of April we moved back to the Riverside and the local paper , the Newark Advertiser covered the move with a good article but sadly despite our request for new helpers none were forthcoming. We started open days the following Easter Sunday and Monday.

So here we are eighteen years since myself and Rodney Clapson came up with a crazy idea to save 'Leicester Trader'. We were helped to set up a Friends group, then became a charity, eventually got funds for the charity to buy the barge, which was still actually owned by me. Our problem now is keeping going with dwindling members and volunteers as we are all getting older or passing. I am now 80.

I will keep it going as long as I can , we are an accepted part of our town and river's history and in effect a free tourist attraction for the town. It will be interesting to see how next year works out.

Les Reid, Project Manager

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

THE NEWARK HERITAGE BARGE CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2026

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Newark Heritage Barge C.I.O. ('the charity') for the year ended 31 May 2026.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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.

Date 9th September 2026

(signed)

ANDREW C. BRETT FCA

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ending 31st May 2026

	2026			2025
	£	£	£	£
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Income				
Subscriptions		£ 125.00	£ 125.00	£ 135.00
Donations – public open days		£ 939.29	£ 939.29	£ 999.62
Donations – general		£ 1,235.00	£ 1,235.00	£ 1,318.15
Gift Aid		£ 547.08	£ 547.08	£ -
Fundraising		£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 255.00
Total income	£ -	£ 2,946.37	£ 2,946.37	£ 2,707.77
Expenses				
Vessel & equipment costs	£	£ 470.76	£ 470.76	£ 3,153.65
Insurance		£ 1,190.00	£ 1,190.00	£ 696.37
Administration		£ 197.86	£ 197.86	£ 117.23
Fundraising		£ 34.20	£ 34.20	£ 11.00
Bank charges				32.07
Depreciation	£ 709.13	£ 378.49	£ 1,087.62	£ 1,087.62
Total Expenses	£ 709.13	£ 2,271.31	£ 2,980.44	£ 5,097.94
Surplus (Deficit) for year	£ (709.13)	£ 675.06	£ (34.07)	£ (2,390.17)

Newark Heritage Barge CIO
Balance Sheet on 31st May 2026

			2026	2025
	£	£	£	£
Heritage Asset				
Vessel 'Leicester Trader'		£ 17,000.00	£ 17,000.00	£ 17,000.00
Fixed Assets				
Equipment (at cost)		£ 16,314.30		£ 16,314.30
less Depreciation		-£ 6,525.72		-£ 5,438.10
			£ 9,788.58	£ 10,876.20
Current Assets				
Cash at bank			£ 8,250.97	£ 7,199.60
Cash in hand			£ 107.48	£ 105.30
				£ 7,304.90
Current Liabilities				
Creditors		£ -		£ -
			£ -	£
Net Current Assets			£ 8,358.45	£ 7,304.90
Net Assets			£ 35,147.03	£ 35,181.10

Represented By

	Restricted Funds	General Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Retained Surplus at 1st June	£ 24,091.35	£ 11,089.75	£ 35,181.10	£ 38,484.84
Surplus (Deficit) for year	£ (709.13)	£ 675.06	£ (34.07)	£ (3,303.74)
Retained Surplus at 31st May	£ 23,382.22	£ 11,764.81	£ 35,147.03	£ 35,181.10

(signed)

George Robinson
Treasurer

(signed)

James Wilkinson
Chairman

Notes to the Accounts

1. These financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities (SORP) and the Charities Act 2011

2. No member, close relative of a member of the Newark Heritage Barge C.I.O. has received or is due to receive any payment out of funds other than out-of-pocket expenses. No payments have been made to volunteers.

3. Plant and equipment costing £500 or more is depreciated over a four-year period by the straight-line method. An exception is made for the Generator installed in 2019/2020 which is to be depreciated over a 15-year life, commencing in the year 2020/2021. The vessel 'Leicester Trader' is held as a Heritage Asset at purchase cost in accordance with SORP (FRS.102) sec.18, being an asset with historical and technological qualities held and maintained for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

   Asset register at 31/05/2026

Item	Year Purchased	Purchase Cost	Cumulative Depreciation	Book Value at 31 May 2026
'Leicester Trader'	2018/2019	£17,000.00	-	£17,000.00
Generator	2019/2020	£16,314.30	£6,525.72	£9,788.58

4. Restricted funds are funds designated for the purchase and equipping of the vessel 'Leicester Trader' and for the Generator purchased in 2019.