THAMES & DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP CIO

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

FROM 1st JANUARY 2025 T0 31st DECEMBER 2025

DETAILS OF CHARITY

Name of Charity: Thames & Docklands History Group, amended from the 'Docklands History Group', at an EGM of the Docklands History Group held on 6th November 2024, and subsequently approved by the Charity Commission.

Charity Registration Number: 1184430 (unchanged from Docklands History Group)

Charity's Address: 36 Manorgate Road, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 7AL

Summary of Purposes of the Charity, as set out in the Docklands History Group 2019 Governing Document; amended at an EGM held on 6th November 2024, and then amended by the Charity Commission in 2025:

> '*To promote for the public benefit the study of the history of the Tidal River Thames, the Port of London and Docklands, including their maritime, industrial, and social history - past, present and future - by such means as the trustees see fit and to publish papers and other material relevant to the subject*.'

CHARITY STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Thames & Docklands History Group has the same charity structure, governance and management as its predecessor body, the Docklands History Group. This was incorporated as a CIO on the 16th July 2019. Its governing document follows the Charity Commission's Association Model for Charitable Incorporated Organisations.

The CIO is managed by a group of Trustees, some of whom also have specific areas of responsibility for the operations of the Group. At the 1st January 2025, the Trustees were as follows:

Trustees 1st January 2025:

Chris Ellmers	Chairman
Malcolm Tucker	Treasurer
Sally Mashiter	Programme Secretary
Chris Everett	Conference Co-ordinator
Peter Stone	Social Media Co-ordinator
Graham Hall	Financial Control Scrutineer
Tim Peake	
Lorraine Ellmers	Minutes Secretary

These eight Trustees remained in place across 2025. There was one addition to their number during the reporting period. Thus, at the end of the reporting period, the nine Trustees were as follows:

Trustees 31st December 2025:

Chris Ellmers	Chairman
Malcolm Tucker	Treasurer
Sally Mashiter	Programme Secretary
Chris Everett	Conference Co-ordinator
Peter Stone	Social Media Co-ordinator
Graham Hall	Financial Control Scrutineer
Tim Peake	
Lorraine Ellmers	Minutes Secretary
Niki Gorick	

The Governing Document specifies that decisions of the members of the CIO may be taken by means of resolution at a general meeting but there is no provision for postal or electronic voting.

THAMES & DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP'S ACTIVITIES IN THE 2025 PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT

Trustees met on eight occasions in 2025. Trustee meetings took place in accordance with previously circulated agendas, and all were minuted. The Treasurer provided regular financial reports across the year. Trustees remained in regular contact with each other, between meetings, by email. All decisions made by email were carefully recorded and these were also noted in the Minutes of Trustee Meetings.

Eight well-attended monthly Group meetings and talks took place in 2025, at the Museum of London Docklands. These attracted audiences of 30-40 attendees. A Group visit to the London Museum Docklands Port & River Archive took place in July, which was much enjoyed by all.

The Group held its Annual General Meeting – at the Museum of London Docklands – on 4th June 2025. This approved the previously circulated Trustees Docklands History Group Annual Report for 2024. The approved and signed 2024 Annual Report was subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission.

Following a deficit incurred on the May 2023 Annual Conference, Trustees held a shorter trial Saturday Conference – on *London's Port and Docklands Since 1945* – on 4th October 2025. This comprised six presentations and was very well received by those present.

The year saw the very successful implementation of policy decisions made in accordance with the earlier Trustee Strategic Review. These have included: the change of the name of the Group; the change to the Group's charitable purposes or object; a new logo; a new website; an improved system for membership subscriptions; and the introduction of *Quarterly Members' Newsletters* and regular *General Newsletters.* The latter are sent to around 350 people and include TDHG Members and followers and supporters. At the end of December 2025, the Group's Facebook Group had around 1,000 followers. At the beginning of November 2025 the Group had 91 members.

There were no Corporate Trustees and none of the Trustees held title to any property belonging to the Charity. There were no Custodian Trustees, and no funds were held on behalf of others.

The Group had no paid employees in 2025. None of the Trustees received any payment from the Charity apart from the reimbursement of legitimate operational expenses incurred on its behalf.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND FINANCIAL POSITION AT THE END OF THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT

The Group's main sources of income for 2025 were the subscriptions and donations of the members. Membership subscriptions remained at £20.00 for individuals and £30.00 joint, for two persons living at the same address. A significant secondary income came from ticket sales for our trial Saturday Conference.

The Group's main expenditure related to meeting room use at the Museum of London Docklands, followed by expenditure on the trial Saturday Conference.

The Group also continued to incur necessary expenditure on insurance, the website and communications.

At the end of 2025 the finances of the Group remained on a secure footing and sufficient to fund its future activities.

None of the Group's funding was restricted to specific purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of the Thames & Docklands History Group did not consider it necessary to have a reserves policy. This was because the Group continued to have a low turnover and financial transactions that are simple and, above all, relatively predictable. The Trustees took care to ensure that no financial commitments were made unless there was sufficient funding to cover these.

THAMES & DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP (CIO)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2025 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Section A, Receipts and Payments					
	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total funds**	**Last year (2024)**	**Notes**
A1 Receipts					Notes 1, 2, 3
Donations	80		80	133	
From Visitors at meetings	67		67	51	
Subscriptions for current year	1179		1179	801	
Subs. received in advance for next year	820		820	329	Note 4
Refreshments Sales	87		87	86	
Publications sales via bank and direct	71		71	0	
Publications sales via PayPal	43		43	24	
Conference tickets	1246		1246	0	
Interest on deposit	300		300	0	Note 6
Total receipts	**3893**		**3893**	**1424**	
A3 Payments					Notes 1, 3
Room-hire for meetings	2345		2345	1412	
Speakers' fees and expenses	0		0	120	Note 8
Insurance	178		178	178	
Website	700		700	463	Note 5
Printing and mailing	10		10	44	
Conference expenditure	1727		1727	0	
Miscellaneous expenditure	202		202	0	Note 7
Total payments	**5162**		**5162**	**2217**	
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	(1269)		(1269)	(793)	
A6 Cash funds last year end, brought forward	10745		10745	11538	
Cash funds this year end	9476		9476	10745	
Difference	(1269)		(1269)	(793)	

Section B, Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period					
Categories	Details	**Unrestricted funds**	**Restricted funds**	**Endowment funds**	**Notes**
B1 Cash funds	Lloyds Bank	2372			
	PayPal account	104			
	Shawbrook Bank	7000			
	Total cash funds	**9476**			
B2 Other Monetary assets	0	0	0	0	
B5 Liabilities	Details	**Fund to which liability relates**	**Amount Due (optional)**	When due (Optional)	
	Creditors payable within one year	Unrestricted	85		

Notes to the Accounts

1) Receipts and Payments Accounts
The charity has a gross income below £25,000 per year. These accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Charities Commission Guidance CC15d and modelled on the Charities Accounts Template CC16a.

2) Receipts net of fees
In cases where PayPal, Eventbrite or SumUp have been used to handle receipts, the receipt figures are net of the fees deducted, except that in 2025 receipts via SumUp (mostly subscriptions) have been shown gross.

3) Restricted Funds
The charity has no restricted funds.

4) Subscriptions Received in advance for next year
From January 2025, members' subscriptions have no longer been tied to the financial year, but become due for renewal on the anniversaries of existing subscriptions. Many renewals continue to be made in the weeks preceding the year's end, and these are presented separately here.

5) Website expenses
This figure is mostly for the costs incurred during 2025 in developing the new website.

6) Interest was earned on a CAF 12 Month Fixed Rate Saver account, deposited with Shawbrook Bank @ 4.3% and renewed during the year.

7) Miscellaneous Expenditure:
SumUp fees (payments handling system) : £37
Gratuity to retiring membership secretary: £102
Funeral flowers for historian Derek Morris: £63 (Chairman C Ellmers reimbursed for a 2024 disbursement)
Total £202

8) Speakers' fees
None of our evening speakers asked for fees or expenses in 2025.

DECLARATION:

The Trustees of the Thames & Docklands History Group CIO declare that the above report was approved at the Thames & Docklands History Group 2025 AGM held on 2nd September 2026.

Signed by the following Trustees of the Thames & Docklands History Group CIO:

Date: 2nd September 2026

Chris Ellmers, Chairman:



Malcolm T Tucker, Treasurer:



The Thames & Docklands History Group incorporates the earlier Docklands History Group, and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with Charity Number 1184430