Company registration number: CE024354
Charity registration number: 1192769

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

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ACCOUNTANCY

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The Heritage Group, Bellingham

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The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	S Gibbon K Anderson S Owen A G Galbraith
Charity Registration Number	1192769
Company Registration Number	CE024354
	The charity is incorporated in England & Wales.
Registered Office	Station Yard Bellingham Hexham Northumberland NE48 2DG
Independent Examiner	Christopher Gillie FCCA Lloyds Bank House Bellingham Hexham Northumberland NE48 2AZ

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Main Activities During the Year

During 2025 the Heritage Centre continued to advance its charitable purpose by preserving and interpreting the heritage of the North Tyne and Redesdale valleys, widening public access to its collections, and strengthening its educational and community engagement. The Centre remained free to enter, with voluntary donations encouraged, helping to remove financial barriers to participation.

Visitor engagement and outreach

• The Centre maintained a strong programme of talks, guided visits and group activities. Trustees and volunteers gave presentations to local history groups, Women's Institutes, community organisations and other audiences, while the Centre welcomed coach parties, walking groups, schools, Wls and other organised visitors.
• School engagement included visits focused on local history and the Border Reivers, together with end-of-year visits by local schools. The Centre also continued to explore opportunities to engage young people through photography and other heritage activities.
• The annual Vintage Vehicle Day was again successful, attracting good attendance and generating income for both the Heritage Centre and Tea on the Train.
• The Centre maintained a presence at community events, including Elsdon Fete and Bellingham Show, providing opportunities to promote its work, generate income and develop contacts for future exhibitions and educational activity.
• The Santa's Grotto was relocated to the Parcel Shed and substantially expanded. Bookings increased to approximately 60, compared with around 20 previously, providing a successful family-focused event outside the main visitor season.

Digital access and interpretation

• A substantial new presence began development for the free Bloomberg Connects arts and culture app. Working with volunteers and external editorial support, the Centre created digital tours covering its exhibitions, the Parcel Shed, Tea on the Train, the Hareshaw Linn walk, a heritage walk around Bellingham and St Cuthbert's Church. Audio interpretation in a Northumbrian voice and automated translation broaden the accessibility of this material. It is hoped to complete this work in the winter of 2026/27.
• New touchscreen presentation software was completed to support multiple digital slide shows and provide access to archived material. Digital displays were added or repurposed within the Centre, including displays relating to the gable-end artwork, historic graffiti, Horrible Histories and the Brown Rigg exhibition.
• The website underwent a technical update with an artificial-intelligence-assisted enquiry facility and this reduced the volume of routine enquiries requiring a personal response.
• The Centre began making collections information available online, an important step in reaching new audiences and improving intellectual access to the collection. This work also exposed gaps in some historic full-resolution image files. Embedded catalogue thumbnails remain available, and recent photography provides a route to recovering much of the affected material. The issue will continue to be addressed through improved digital asset management and backup arrangements.

Collections and exhibitions

• The collections team continued its audit of objects in store and on display, added new object photography, began rationalising duplicate or irrelevant material, and reviewed the reference library and collections-management procedures in preparation for Museum Accreditation renewal.
• Work continued to develop the second half of the Parcel Shed as a flexible interpretation and archive area. The space was substantially cleared, with a later phase planned to include further displays and appropriate storage for emergency equipment.
• The Centre developed proposals with Forest England for exhibitions linked to the centenary of Kielder Forest. Potential venues and activities in 2026 included Kielder Castle, County Hall, Bellingham Show and the Northumberland County Show, with an emphasis on reusing interpretive material efficiently across venues.

• Planning continued for the installation of the major gable-end artwork and associated signage. Manufacture and installation were delayed by circumstances outside the Centre's control, including a fire at the enamel manufacturer's premises in Germany.

Buildings and visitor facilities

• The Centre's gable ends were refurbished using durable, insulated cladding, greatly improving their appearance and condition while providing a cost-effective basis for the planned artwork and signage.
• A cycle hub was installed beside Station House in partnership with Northumberland National Park and Forest England, supporting the wider visitor offer and encouraging links between cycling, the village, the Heritage Centre and Tea on the Train.
• Discussions continued with the North Tyne and Redesdale Community Partnership and the Borderlands Place Programme concerning the future development of Station Yard, the proposed second railway carriage, possible archive storage and the longer-term accommodation needs of the Heritage Centre.

Volunteers, governance and sector engagement

• The Centre continued to be sustained by the commitment of its volunteers. Recruitment and rota capacity remained challenging, particularly for front-of-house and guiding roles, and the Trustees continued to monitor the risk of placing excessive demands on a relatively small number of people.
• A successful start-of-season volunteer event was held before the Centre reopened on 28 March. Responsibilities were reviewed during the year to improve delegation, resilience and succession planning, and a new committee member was welcomed.
• Substantial work was undertaken to review policies, the risk register and other documentation required for Museum Accreditation. The Chair also provided feedback to the Arts Council England Accreditation scheme prior to its revamp in 2026/27.
• Trustees and volunteers continued to benefit from Museum Development North meetings, conferences, workshops and specialist training, including emergency salvage and the use of archives to increase public impact. The Chair continued to contribute to regional museum networks and was invited to advise on the development of digital and artificial-intelligence support for museums.

Friends and communications

• The Friends membership records were reviewed and updated, with improved collection of email contact details. The newsletter moved primarily to electronic publication, reducing printing and postage costs and potentially enabling more frequent communication.
• Research began into a customer relationship management system and membership software, including the future introduction of Direct Debits, to simplify renewals, donations and communications and reduce the administrative burden on volunteers.

Main Achievements During the Year

Public benefit and audience growth

The policy of free admission with voluntary donations continued to promote inclusion and public access. By 31 October 2025, museum visits were broadly level with the previous year while total visitors to the site had risen by approximately 11.5%. Over the longer term, measured museum visits had increased from 2,103 to 9,792 over nine years, demonstrating the progress made in removing barriers to entry and widening engagement.

Digital transformation
The development of the Bloomberg Connects content was one of the year's principal achievements. It created a free, multilingual digital interpretation platform encompassing the Centre and the wider Bellingham visitor offer. Alongside new digital displays, online collections access, website improvements and electronic newsletter distribution, this will substantially increas the Centre's capacity to reach audiences on site and remotely and we hope to finish this work in 2026/27.

Education and community engagement
The programme of talks and organised visits continued to generate public benefit, new contacts, donations and secondary spending. The Centre's work with schools, community groups and regional partners strengthened its role as a local educational resource. The expanded Santa's Grotto and continued family activities also broadened engagement beyond the main museum season.

Collections care and Accreditation
The collections audit, object photography, catalogue work and policy review all progressed during the year. Although online publication identified a legacy issue affecting some full-resolution collection images, the surviving catalogue thumbnails and extensive programme of new photography mean that recovery is practicable. The discovery has also informed future improvements to digital preservation and backup arrangements. Significant progress was made with the wider documentation required for the next Museum Accreditation return.

Partnerships and future development
The Centre maintained strong relationships with Museum Development North, Forest England, Northumberland National Park, local schools and community organisations. Work on the Borderlands and Station Yard proposals was slower than anticipated, but the Trustees continued to represent the Centre's needs and explore opportunities for a second carriage, improved storage, expanded displays and collaborative exhibitions in 2026.

Fundraising and grants
The Centre secured a three-year core-funding award from the Knott Trust of £3,000 per year, together with £3,154 from the Ray Wind Farm towards the gable-end artwork. Other grant income and Gift Aid also contributed to the Centre's activities and financial resilience. The Trustees are grateful to all funders, donors, Friends and visitors whose support enabled the charity to continue its work.

Financial review
Total income for 2025 was £73,980 (2024: £75,138), comprising unrestricted income of £65,326 and restricted income of £8,654. Total expenditure was £68,447 (2024: £65,131), producing net income of £5,533. Funds carried forward at 31 December 2025 were £97,553, of which £88,416 were unrestricted and £9,137 were restricted.
Income from other trading activities increased to £42,823 from £38,847 in 2024, reflecting continued growth in shop sales, admissions-related donations and subscriptions. Donations and legacies totalled £31,525, compared with £35,096 in 2024. The Trustees continued to exercise close control over expenditure and cash flow in a difficult economic environment while meeting necessary maintenance, development and collections-care costs.

Relationship with Tea on the Train and Assessment of Recoverability

Tea on the Train ("TotT") operates as a separate legal entity from the Heritage Centre ("HC"), although the two organisations work closely together in pursuit of complementary objectives. TotT was established to provide a visitor attraction and catering facility that enhances the overall visitor experience and contributes to increased footfall at the Heritage Centre. Any surplus generated by TotT may be donated to the Heritage Centre in support of its charitable activities.

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

During its first three years of operation, TotT incurred trading losses as the business established itself. As a consequence, a balance has accumulated between the organisations through the operation of a shared banking arrangement and ongoing support provided by the Heritage Centre. The Trustees continue to monitor this position and review the financial performance and future prospects of TotT.

The Heritage Centre has historically invested significant resources in the Tea on the Train project, including the acquisition of railway carriages, refurbishment works, and associated infrastructure at a cost exceeding £50,000. A modest rental charge is levied by the Heritage Centre in recognition of TotT's occupation and use of these assets.

The Trustees consider that TotT provides substantial indirect benefit to the Heritage Centre through increased visitor numbers, enhanced visitor engagement, longer dwell times on site, and the strengthening of the Heritage Centre's overall visitor offer. The relationship is therefore regarded as symbiotic, with each organisation contributing to the success and sustainability of the other.

At the date of approval of these accounts, TotT is showing improved trading performance and is expected to achieve a break-even position or a modest surplus in the current financial year. However, the Trustees recognise that the accumulated balance arose during the establishment phase of the business and that full repayment of all amounts advanced or otherwise attributable to TotT may not be achievable within a foreseeable timescale.

The Trustees have therefore reviewed the recoverability of the balance in accordance with applicable accounting standards and have recognised an impairment provision where considered appropriate. This accounting treatment reflects a prudent assessment of recoverability and the requirement to present a true and fair view of the charity's financial position.

In making this assessment, the Trustees have considered not only the direct financial position of TotT but also the wider benefits arising from the project, including increased visitor numbers, enhanced public engagement, improved visitor facilities, and the contribution made by TotT to the overall sustainability and attractiveness of the Heritage Centre.

The impairment provision should not be interpreted as a change in the Trustees' support for the Tea on the Train operation, nor as a conclusion that the original investment has failed to achieve its objectives. Rather, it reflects the uncertainty surrounding recovery of the balance while recognising that the investment and ongoing support have furthered the charitable purposes of the Heritage Centre and delivered significant public benefit.

The Trustees will continue to review the financial relationship between the organisations and will consider any future arrangements regarding outstanding balances in accordance with the governing documents of the respective organisations, applicable accounting standards, and charity law requirements. The Trustees remain satisfied that continued support of the Tea on the Train operation is consistent with the charitable objectives of the Heritage Centre and the delivery of public benefit.

SIGNED SECURELY
21/09/2026
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY
Steve Gibbon
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

.....
S Gibbon
Trustee

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The object of the CIO is to advance education of the public in the history, archaeology, geography, the environment and related aspects of the North Tyne and Redesdale valleys by in particular but not exclusively:
A. The management of a heritage centre in Bellingham
B. The provision for education, study and other suitable facilities
C. Supporting and co-ordinating reseach and displays

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	S Gibbon
	K Anderson
	S Owen
	A G Galbraith

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.
Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.
The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.
The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.
The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.
Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Heritage Group, Bellingham for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

SIGNED SECURELY
21/09/2026
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY
Steve Gibbon
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

.....
S Gibbon
Trustee

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Heritage Group, Bellingham ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of The Heritage Group, Bellingham are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Heritage Group, Bellingham as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

Chris Gillie

Christopher Gillie FCCA

Lloyds Bank House
Bellingham
Hexham
Northumberland
NE48 2AZ

Date: 23/09/2026

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	22,871	8,654	31,525
Other trading activities	4	42,823	-	42,823
Investment income	5	(368)	-	(368)
Total income		65,326	8,654	73,980
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		(60,197)	(8,250)	(68,447)
Total expenditure		(60,197)	(8,250)	(68,447)
Net income		5,129	404	5,533
Net movement in funds		5,129	404	5,533
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		83,287	8,733	92,020
Total funds carried forward		88,416	9,137	97,553

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	20,096	15,000	35,096
Other trading activities	4	38,847	-	38,847
Investment income	5	1,195	-	1,195
Total income		60,138	15,000	75,138
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		(51,964)	(13,167)	(65,131)
Total expenditure		(51,964)	(13,167)	(65,131)
Net income		8,174	1,833	10,007
Net movement in funds		8,174	1,833	10,007
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		75,113	6,900	82,013
Total funds carried forward		83,287	8,733	92,020

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

(Registration number: CE024354)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	16,490	17,280
Current assets			
Stocks	9	3,500	3,000
Debtors	10	67,601	57,069
Cash at bank and in hand	11	10,994	16,336
		82,095	76,405
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,032)	(1,665)
Net current assets		81,063	74,740
Net assets		97,553	92,020
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		9,137	8,733
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		88,416	83,287
Total funds		97,553	92,020

For the financial year ending 31 December 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to dormant companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 9 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 21/09/2026..... and signed on their behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

SIGNED SECURELY
Steve Gibbon
21/09/2026 at 8:20:03 AM UTC

.....

S Gibbon
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by share capital, incorporated in England & Wales.

The address of its registered office is:
Station Yard
Bellingham
Hexham
Northumberland
NE48 2DG

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates
The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation
The Heritage Group, Bellingham meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments
All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £100.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land and buildings	5% Straight line basis
Office Equipment	25% Straight line basis

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings
Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	2,604	-	2,604
Gift aid reclaimed	2,267	-	2,267
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	18,000	8,654	26,654
Total for 2025	22,871	8,654	31,525
Total for 2024	20,096	15,000	35,096

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Shop Sales / Admissions	41,974	41,974
Subscriptions	849	849
Total for 2025	42,823	42,823
Total for 2024	38,847	38,847

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Other investment income	(368)	(368)
Total for 2025	(368)	(368)
Total for 2024	1,195	1,195

6 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Trustees	4	4
Employees	1	1
	5	5

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2025	19,200	-	19,200
Additions	-	227	227
At 31 December 2025	19,200	227	19,427
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2025	1,920	-	1,920
Charge for the year	960	57	1,017
At 31 December 2025	2,880	57	2,937
Net book value			
At 31 December 2025	16,320	170	16,490
At 31 December 2024	17,280	-	17,280

9 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	3,500	3,000

10 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	67,601	57,069

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash on hand	128	120
Cash at bank	10,866	16,216
	10,994	16,336

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	126	48
Accruals	906	1,617
	1,032	1,665

13 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £376 (2024 - £91).

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Unrestricted Funds

	Total Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Total Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	22,871	20,096
Other trading activities	42,823	38,847
Investment income	(368)	1,195
Total income	65,326	60,138
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	(60,197)	(51,964)
Total expenditure	(60,197)	(51,964)
Net income	5,129	8,174
Net movement in funds	5,129	8,174
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	83,287	75,113
Total funds carried forward	88,416	83,287

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Restricted Funds

	Total Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Restricted Funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	8,654	15,000
Total income	8,654	15,000
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	(8,250)	(13,167)
Total expenditure	(8,250)	(13,167)
Net income	404	1,833
Net movement in funds	404	1,833
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	8,733	6,900
Total funds carried forward	9,137	8,733

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies		
Appeals and donations	2,604	13,700
Gift Aid tax reclaimed	2,267	6,396
Grants - other agencies	8,654	15,000
Grants - other agencies	18,000	-
	31,525	35,096
Other trading activities		
Shop Sales / Admissions	41,974	38,179
Subscriptions	849	668
	42,823	38,847
Investment income		
Income from other investments	(368)	1,195
	(368)	1,195
Raising funds		
Opening stock	(3,000)	(2,500)
Purchases	(17,712)	(12,714)
Closing stock	3,500	3,000
Wages and salaries	(14,415)	(14,282)
Staff pensions (Defined contribution) - pension scheme 1	(376)	(91)
Staff training	(270)	(696)
Volunteer expenses	(117)	(267)
Rent and rates	(9,728)	(9,431)
Light, heat and power	(3,141)	(3,055)
Insurance	(1,762)	(1,703)
Repairs and maintenance	(8,250)	(13,167)
Repairs and maintenance	(7,786)	(1,764)
Telephone and fax	(772)	(891)
Computer software and maintenance costs	(857)	(610)
Printing, postage and stationery	(422)	(984)
Trade subscriptions	(265)	(153)
Sundry expenses	(152)	(167)
Advertising	(357)	(842)
Accountancy fees	(978)	(1,308)
Legal and professional fees	(570)	(2,542)
Other interest payable	-	(4)
Depreciation of freehold property	(960)	(960)
Depreciation of office equipment	(57)	-

The Heritage Group, Bellingham

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	(68,447)	(65,131)