

**The Royal Ulster Constabulary  
George Cross Historical Society**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **INCORPORATION**

The charitable company, The Police Historical Society (N.I.) (Incorporating the RUC GC Historical Society) was incorporated on 11 May 2017.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

The Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Historical Society exists to advance public education and understanding of the history of policing in Ireland. It does this through its ownership and management of its historic collection of police artefacts held in the Police Museum at PSNI Headquarters.

The collection covers the history of policing in the north of Ireland from the early 1800s to the present day. The collection includes uniforms, equipment, medals, weapons, vehicles, posters and archives from the early 1800's onwards.

The museum is located at PSNI Headquarters in Belfast and is open daily to the public. It provides outside exhibitions and collaborates both with the Northern Ireland Museums Council and other local museums. The Hon. Secretary/Curator gives regular talks both to visiting individuals and groups and to interested outside bodies. An historical journal and an annual talks programme are produced for society members.

### **Significant activities**

Museum activities throughout the year recovered slowly with the easing of COVID restrictions with the museum fully open for visits in spring 2022.

Staff continued to maintain an historical and genealogical enquiry service in response to queries and carried out historical research on aspects of police history and on artefacts held in the collection. From autumn 2021 the Curator moved to work on a phased retirement basis of three days per week.

The problem with the museum's standalone email address was addressed by the PSNI ICS technical setting up a separate inbox within the common terminal for outside enquiries.

A major development was the establishment of a project group under the Deputy Chief Constable for a new police museum. An architect in PSNI Estates Services was also appointed as the project sponsor and a number of planning meetings were held with the society trustees and other stakeholders with a view to the new museum being opened in three to four years' time.

The society's monthly talks programme was able to be resumed on a face-to-face basis in the autumn and thanks must go to Dr Lavinia Boyce for putting together an interesting and varied programme.

During the year the resignation of all the trustees to the original trust deeds of 1993 and 2003 were secured and the society awaits confirmation from the Charity Commission NI that it may now transfer its assets and transition to new the charitable company.

This concludes the trustees report.

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Organisational structure**

The Society is governed by a management committee elected annually at the society AGM, comprising the following office bearers: Chair (vacant), 2 Vice Chairs, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Secretary (vacant) and in the period in question 7 trustees. The management committee meets every two months to receive reports from the society office bearers. Office bearers and trustees receive no remuneration in respect of their services to the charity.

The management committee delegates the day-to-day management of the collection and the Police Museum to the Honorary Secretary, who is also Curator of the Police Museum and as such a part-time PSNI employee. The Curator is assisted by an assistant who is also a full-time PSNI employee

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

100306

**Principal address**

PSNI Headquarters  
65 Knock Road  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT5 6LE

**Trustees**

Mr Thomas Fulton  
Mr Derek McAllister Vice Chair (resigned 9.9.21)  
Mr Ronald Meharg Membership Secretary (resigned 25.8.21)  
Mr Frederick Hall  
Mr David Orr Vice Chair  
Mr Robert James Black Hon. Assistant Secretary  
Dr Lavinia Boyce Hon. Treasurer  
Mr George Clarke Vice Chair  
Mr William Swann  
Mr Geoffrey Ward  
Mr Ronald Galwey  
Ms Frances Andrea Morrow  
Mr Gavin Boyd (appointed 26.10.21)

**Independent Examiner**

McCleary & Company Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Garvey Studios  
14 Longstone Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1TP

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Bankers**

Danske Bank  
520 Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3HD

**Solicitors**

Edwards and Company  
28 Hill Street  
Belfast  
BT1 2LA

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Clarke', written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Mr George Clarke - Trustee