

Ulster New Zealand Trust

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Ulster New Zealand Trust

Charity registration number 100338

Company registration number NI024513

Principal office and registered office
The Ballance House
118a Lisburn Road
Glenavy
Co. Antrim
BT29 4NY
Northern Ireland

The trustees

Mr A Eves
Mr F Hall
Prof S Stockman (Resigned 3 February 2023)
Mrs H Baird
Mr B Bloomfield (Appointed 10 July 2023)
Mr D Twigg
Mr T Hendry - Honorary Treasurer
Mr P Hewitt - Chairperson
Mrs M Madden

Independent examiner John Magee FCA
631 Lisburn Road
Belfast
BT9 7GT

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is not for profit and limited by guarantee, the liability of the members being limited to £Nil.

The organisation is governed by its Board of Directors who are also Trustees and who meet on a regular basis.

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Objectives and activities

The preservation of The Ballance House and the furtherance of public education.

The charity's objectives and activities are to advance public education by the restoration and use of the building known as Ballance House, birth place of John Ballance, political reformer and Prime Minister of New Zealand 1891-93, and to increase history of the part played by Ulster men and women in the political, social and economic development of New Zealand during this time.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of the Charities Act to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Strategic report

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

Achievements and performance

In 2023 a full programme of events, Spring Fair, Strawberry Fayre, Autumn Fair and Christmas event was held. These were well attended and successful occasions - we are grateful to our Volunteers whose work ensured that this was the case. Special Events: Waitangi Day Lunch, ANZAC Day service of commemoration and a Coronation Celebration event (funded by a Grant from the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council), during which a commemorative bench was unveiled, were also held.

Organised Group bookings continued as did Sunday afternoon and Public Holiday openings (April to September). In the 2022 Report the Directors expressed concern about the post covid fall in the number of Sunday afternoon visitors that had been experienced. This concern remains. Nevertheless, the Directors are pleased to confirm that the Trust continues to enjoy sound financial health.

Work continues to develop the exhibition areas and to maintain the premises. In 2023 the quinquennial inspection of the Ballance House fixed wiring installations was conducted and the minor issues raised in the report were addressed. In addition, the Tea Barn was redecorated and received new vinyl flooring. The Cottage Room was also redecorated and work on a revised display of photographs commenced.

The Directors are pleased to report that the Trust continues to enjoy strong financial health.

Financial review

The company had net outgoing resources of £8,152 (2022: income £645) leaving unrestricted funds of £59,668 (2022: £63,765) and restricted funds of £5,669 (2022: £10,427). Where resources permit, the directors seek to carry forward sufficient income to meet anticipated future expenditure.

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Year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 4 July 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr F Hall
Trustee



Mr D Twigg
Trustee