

Ulster Local History Trust
Trustees' Report
Year ended 31 March 2024

Patron: Lord O'Neill

**Trustees: Dr Seán Beattie, Dr Liam Campbell, Evelyn Cardwell (Chair), John Cunningham, John Dooher, Roddy Hegarty,
Jack Johnston, Dr Linde Lunney, Graham Mawhinney, Dr Kay Muhr.**

Charity No: NIC 101555

**Ulster Local History Trust
Trustees' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees present their Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Dr Seán Beattie	Ms Evelyn Cardwell
Mr John Cunningham	Mr John Doohar
Mr Roddy Hegarty	Mr Jack Johnston
Mr Graham Mawhinney	Dr Kay Muhr
Dr Liam Campbell (Chair)	Dr Linde Lunney

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**Independent
Examiner** Samuel Atcheson LM LCGI DPA(CIPFA) FCMi Fiol GCGI
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Bankers

Ulster Bank
11-16 Donegall Square East
Belfast BT1 5UB

Allied Irish Bank
The Diamond
Monaghan
Ireland

**Charity
Registration
Number** 101555

Ulster Local History Trust

Trustees Report 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Meetings

Four Trust meetings were held during the year in addition to the Annual General Meeting, with two meetings held in person and two meetings held virtually via Zoom technology.

Average attendance for the year was 67.5% with between six and eight trustees present at each meeting as detailed in the table below:

Trustee	May-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
Meeting	Virtual	Virtual	Investec	Mellon Centre
LC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SB	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ap
EC	Yes	Yes	Ap	Yes
JBC				Ap
JD	Yes	Yes	Ap	Yes
RH	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
JJ	Ap	Yes	Yes	Yes
LL	Yes	Ap	Yes	Ap
GM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
KM	Yes	Yes	Ap	Ap

Financial statement April 2023-March 2024 (see financial report for full details)¹

There was no actual income this year as such, our investment gains are not regarded as income until they are crystallised and transferred out to our bank account. Total expenditure was **£3,705** (£3,189) which included grant pay outs of **£2,000** (£1,000).

At the end of the financial year the Ulster Bank account stood at **£12,354** (£16,003) and the AIB account at **1,220** (1,410) Euro. Our investment account with Investec Wealth and Management continued to perform satisfactorily given the prevailing circumstances and now has a book price of **£142,007** (£140,149)

Overall the value of the Trust's capital assets stands at **£154,361** (£156,016). Our membership of the Federation of Ulster Local Studies has also been renewed and Trust has continued to avail of the Federation's insurance scheme.

Charity Commission NI

Final Accounts, Independent Examiner's Report and Trustees' Report for the year ended 31st March 202 were uploaded to the Charity Commission in January 2023. No queries were raised by the

¹ Figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for the previous year

Commission. The Trust expressed its sincere thanks to our accountant, Roisin Shanks for acting as independent examiner in accordance with CCNI's requirements.

Grant Applications

The Trust was again able to offer grants to encourage and assist with the production of good quality work in the field of local history. Seven (Six) grant applications were received this year, of which six were successful, one was insufficiently developed to qualify. Grants will be paid out in due course when the projects are satisfactorily completed.

The seven applications for grant support approved during the year were:

- The Torrent – A publication celebrating 40 years of Donaghmore Historical Society
- Rosemary Doherty – The Autobiography of Fr Daniel Cummings Part Two
- Gerard Healy – Coolfore, West Farney and the National School System 1826-1968
- Jim McGeery – Production of illustrated maps of the Garron Plateau, Co Antrim for a publication about bogs
- Seamus Mac Anniadh – Publication of the 2024 edition of the Fermanagh Miscellany
- Support towards the publication of Spark Magazine
- Donal McAnnallan – Faction, Famine & Flight: The Powerscourt Estate, Benburb, 1835-50

Three grant payments were made this year to support the publications: The Torrent – A publication celebrating 40 years of Donaghmore Historical Society; Fermanagh Miscellany and Coolfore, West Farney and the National School System 1826-1968 all of which have now been published:

Publicity

It is encouraging to note that the number of grant applications has increased once again this year, which may perhaps indicate that the increased focus on publicity is paying off. However, the Trust is concerned that it is still receiving a number of applications which are in effect premature and lack the essential supporting documents in order to be considered. In such cases applicants were encouraged to re-submit when the project was closer to completion, and given advice where it was considered necessary.

The Trust also maintained its public profile through its website and Facebook pages.

Seminar - Digitisation

Discussions regarding a seminar/workshop on Digitisation commenced during the previous year are ongoing and it is hoped that an event on the topic will be held in the not to distant future.

Website

The website continues to get good usage highlighting the dependence by local historians on digital materials. Over 100 weblinks are provided to the most commonly used resources for local history in Ulster. Also the grants section highlights our funding regime and provides an online application process together with a listing of other grant aiding bodies.

Queries

The Trust responded to a number of queries this year as in previous years , some related to requests for local history publications, a few from film/media companies and students seeking assistance and advice and others were research queries

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