

Declaration for new charity trustees

Name of organisation: The METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Name of charity trustee: FERGUS O' FERRALL of Ireland.

Charity trustee eligibility and responsibility

By signing this form, you declare that you:

- Are willing to act as a charity trustee
- Understand your organisation's purposes (objects) and rules set out in its governing document
- Are not prevented from acting as a charity trustee because you:
 - Have an unspent conviction for an offence involving dishonesty or deception
 - Are currently declared bankrupt (or subject to bankruptcy restrictions or an interim order)
 - Have an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA) to pay off debts with creditors
 - Have made a composition or arrangement with, or granted a trust deed for, creditors and this has not been discharged
 - Are subject to a moratorium period under a debt relief order or a debt relief restrictions order
 - Are disqualified from being a company director
 - Have previously been removed as a trustee by the Commission or the High Court due to misconduct or mismanagement, or removed as a charity trustee by any other charity regulator or Court in the UK
 - Are disqualified or barred from acting as a trustee of this charity under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 (as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012).

You also declare that:

- The information you provide is true, complete and correct
- You will comply with your responsibilities as a trustee set out in the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance.

Charity trustee declaration

Name (Print)	Signature	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
FERGUS O' FERRALL	<i>Fergus O'Ferrall</i>	27/09/2023

THE METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Trustees' Annual Report for Financial Year ended 31 December 2022

Charity Name: The Methodist Historical Society of Ireland (MHSI)

Charity Number: 103661

Address: Edgehill House, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY

Names of Trustees: Rev. Ian D. Henderson; Rev. Dr Edmund T.I. Mawhinney; Mr Derek J. Reid; Miss Trudy R. Reid; Rev. Robin P. Roddie, Mrs Jennifer P. Stutt; Dr Brian S. Turner.

Governance of MHSI: The Methodist Historical Society of Ireland is governed by its Constitution formally adopted on 15 October 2010.

Principal purposes:

The Society's purposes are:

1. To promote the advancement of the education of the public in connection with the history of Methodism.
2. To acquire and preserve books, manuscripts, documents in any medium, and artefacts, and to provide facilities for study and display of same.
3. To promote conferences, public lectures and pilgrimages and an Annual Lecture given by an acknowledged authority on some aspect of Methodism.
4. To publish a Bulletin of the Society once a year or at other such intervals as determined by the Executive Committee.
5. To raise, invite and receive contributions from any body, person, or persons by way of subscription, donation, grant or otherwise.
6. To maintain a website to promote the interests, activities, and publications of the Society.

All of the Society's purposes are for public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS – achievements are listed below for each of the Society's six purposes.

1. Advancement of Education

The Archives continue to welcome academic researchers and those interested in researching their family history. Queries also come in online and are answered by the Archivist and Associate Archivist. The website continued to be active during this year and continues to provide some income through sales and charges for scanned copies of requested material. Indexing the Dublin-based monthly the *Irish Methodist Church Record* (1893-1929) is well underway. In addition the transcribing of a three-volume index to early Irish Methodist baptisms from 1815-1858, compiled in 1865, is approaching completion. Indexing of articles which appeared in the *Irish Christian Advocate* on Methodist Circuits has been uploaded to the in-house data base.

The Centenary Project which involved the digitisation of Methodist periodicals from 1859-2015 is now complete and all periodicals are now available online. Feedback has shown that this important project is of great interest to scholars, researchers and those interested in Irish Methodist History across the world.

2. Acquisition and Preservation of Books, Manuscripts, Documents and Artifacts

Material continues to come in from around the Methodist Church in Ireland and it is estimated that more than eighty per cent of the Church's records are deposited in the archives. Personal papers belonging to prominent Methodists have also been deposited.

3. Conferences, Public Lectures and Pilgrimages.

Following the AGM in June 2022, Dr Brian Callan gave a lecture entitled, *All My World a Parish, Methodism on Stamps*. This was in person and online. Dr Nicola Morris gave the Annual Lecture in October on *Methodist Press in the Twentieth Century: Looking beyond the Circuit*. This was also in person and online.

The twice postponed Pilgrimage to the historic churches on the Castlederg Circuit took place in May 2022.

4. Publication of the Bulletin

The 2022 issue of the *Bulletin* was published in November and included the transcript of Peter Forsaith's lecture on Adam Clarke, the transcript of Brian Callan's lecture on Methodism and Stamps and an important article on the Methodist New Connexion in Ireland by Robin Roddie.

Raising Financial Contributions.

Income for the Society is largely generated from membership subscriptions, donations from churches and circuits and from fees for family history research. In 2022 the Society's membership stood at 394 including institutional members.

5. Maintaining the Website.

The Society's website continues to be well used with queries regarding research topics and family histories coming from around the world. Society events are also publicised on the website.

PUBLIC BENEFIT:

Beneficiaries of the Society's work include anyone with an interest in Irish Methodist History – members of the public researching family history, scholars, researchers, genealogists, and members of MHSI, both locally and overseas. Those contacting the Society benefit from the expertise of the Archivist and volunteer staff and, under normal circumstances, have access to the huge range of resources managed by the Society. The publication of the *Bulletin* and its placement in the libraries of every university of Ireland, in academic libraries in the US and Australia and in legal deposit libraries in both UK and Ireland has ensured a wide-reaching readership. The increasing number of visitors to the website have access to a wealth of information which facilitates research both of an academic nature and of local and family history. The digitization of the Methodist periodicals, now accessible online generates considerable interest worldwide. The programme of lectures and the annual Pilgrimage foster and develop interest in people and places with significant relevance to Methodism. The continuing acquisition of new materials of special Methodist interest and the careful preservation of the collection held in the archives, ensures the long-term survival of this unique material for use of present and future generations. All of the above help to further understanding, appreciation and knowledge of all aspects of Irish Methodist history and are for public benefit.

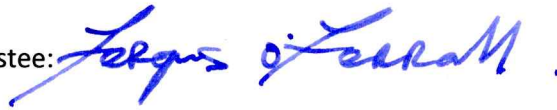
FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Funding for MHSI comes mainly from annual membership subscriptions and donations from Circuits. In addition, there is a small income derived from sales of books, from charges for searches and resultant scanning of materials and from donations from individuals. The main items of expenditure include rent, costs associated with the running of the archives, insurance, printing and stationery and website hosting. At the end of the financial year, income covered expenditure and there was a small reserve. There were no funds which were in deficit.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE:

The Trustees of the Methodist Historical Society, during the year, complied with their duty to have regards to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

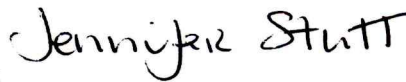
Signature of Trustee:



Position: Trustee and President

Date: 27 Sept 2023

Signature of Trustee:



Position: Trustee and Secretary

Date: 27 Sept 2023