



Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
		Period start date			Period end date	
From	1	April	2022	To	31	March 2023



Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	The North of Ireland Family History Society
Other names charity is known by	NIFHS
Registered charity number (if any)	NIC106071
Charity's principal address	Unit C4, Valley Business Centre
	67 Church Road
	Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland
	Postcode BT36 7LS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Brian O'Hara	Ballymena Chair		
2	Patricia Cummings	Ballymena Secretary		
3	Alan Rosborough	Ballymena Treasurer		
4	Arthur Macartney	Belfast Chairperson		
5				
6	Margaret Armstrong	Belfast Treasurer		
7	Elwyn Soutter	Causeway Coast Glens Chairperson		
8	Andrew Kane	Causeway Coast & Glens Treasurer		
9	Gerard Harvey	Foyle Chairperson		
10	Nuala McGee	Foyle Secretary		
11	Gerard Harvey	Foyle Chairperson		
12	Nuala McGee	Foyle Secretary		
13	Elaine Doherty	Foyle Treasurer		
14				
15	Ken Tait	Killyleagh Secretary		
16	Glenyss Glass	Larne Secretary		
17	David Simms	Larne Treasurer		
18				
19				
20	Elizabeth Scott	Society General Secretary	1 Apr 22 - 31 Dec 22	
21	Vivien Holding	Society General Secretary	1 Jan 23 – 31 Marr 23	

Section A Reference and administration details (continued)

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
22	Vacant	Newtownabbey Chairperson		
23	Imelda McVeigh	Newtownabbey Secretary		
24	Etta Mann	Newtownabbey Treasurer		
25	Angela O'Connor	South Tyrone Chairperson		
26	Sarah Robinson	South Tyrone Secretary		
27	Leslie Kelly	South Tyrone Treasurer		
28	Vincent Brogan	Tyrone Chairperson		
29	Sheena McClure	Tyrone Secretary		
30	Ann Robinson	Society President		
31	Alison Tait	Society Chairperson	1 Apr 22 – 28 Feb 23	
32	Michael Parkinson	Society Vice Chair Society Chairperson	1 Apr 22- 28 Feb 23 28 Feb 23 – 31 Mar 23	
33	Michael McKeag	Society Treasurer		
34	Martin McDowell	Society Education & Development Officer		
35	Maeve Rogan	Society Publicity Officer		
36				
37	Alexandra Barr	Society Membership Secretary		

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
None		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

None

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Annual Election by Members

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Society is governed by the Council consisting of all the Trustees. It includes the Society Officers and, for each Branch, the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Society is a member of the following organisations:

- [FHF] The Family History Federation, the new operating name of the Federation of Family History Societies, Registered Charity Number 1038721.
- [FULS] The Federation for Ulster Local Studies, Registered Charity Number NIC100526.
- [CIGO] The Council for Irish Genealogical Organisations

The Society has the following insurance cover:

- Asset Insurance
- Public Liability Insurance
- Charity Trustee Indemnity Insurance

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote and encourage the public and personal study of worldwide family history, genealogy, heraldry and local history with particular reference to the North of Ireland.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have continued to use guidance throughout the year to keep all safe. We have continued to have virtual meetings and held courses using Zoom technology hopefully this will change in the coming year.

Branch's have continued organising meetings via Zoom these have been mostly online but some face to face.

The Society has held 3 Course programmes which amounted to 27 sessions using Zoom Technology these were open to members and the public.

This year again the Society participated with the Family History Federation/s Family History Show manning a virtual booth interacting with potential members.

The Society North of Ireland DNA project has continued and has increased by 1,161 from 8,138 it is now one of the largest geographical projects available worldwide.

The Research Centre re-opened we have continued with lookups and enquiries from members throughout the year.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The Society is run entirely by volunteers.

The contribution made by volunteers at Branch and Society levels is substantial.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Events: Branch's all had dates for Super Saturday's at Research Centre which was attended by members and potential members. Along with the Society North of Ireland DNA project which continues branch's have been asked to consider doing DNA projects in their area this has been taken up by some branches

Courses: In total the Society has arranged 3 course programmes which contained 27 sessions for members and the public.

Publications Twice each year the Society publishes a journal North Irish Roots for its members along with other publications these are on sale to the public.

10 issues of a monthly e-newsletter is sent out to members worldwide.

Projects: The programme of transcribing and indexing records continues.

The North of Ireland DNA project continues to grow it was 8,138 an increase of 1,161 on last year.

The Society continued to provide paid genealogy courses for groups such as The Men's Shed.

The Society took part in a Wiki Tree Challenge in which the Society picked 7 prominent people and building trees and making connections.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society earmarks funds to cover anticipated future expenditure and possible contingencies and it maintains adequate reserves to underwrite projects that might arise during the coming year.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Receipts:

Subscriptions, donations
 Publications
 Events
 Gift Aid
 Courses
 Other

Payments:

Premises
 Journal, publications
 Office expenses
 Insurance, fees
 IT expenses
 DNA project
 Other

The rented premises house the Research Centre and Library for use by members and the public.


Reserves are held in bank accounts, not in investments.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Vivien Holding	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
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Date	2 Nov 2023
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