

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers Limited
Trustees Annual Report

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company No. NI665432

Charity No. NI107879

Principal Office

32 Main Street
Ballykelly
County Londonderry
BT49 9HS

Registered Office

32 Main Street
Ballykelly
County Londonderry
BT49 9HS

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law.

The following Directors and Trustees served during the year:

Andrew Guy (Resigned 24 October 2023)
Elizabeth Ferguson
Mary McMahon
Matthew Ferguson

Accountants

Vale Accountants
11 Thorndale Terrace
BALLYMONEY
County Antrim
BT53 7AZ

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purpose of Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers Ltd is to foster a sense of community legacy within the Roe Valley area by supporting interest groups, individuals and volunteers to participate in discovering and preserving knowledge of local genealogy, social history, ancient woodlands and built heritage; encouraging and celebrating a sense of place, civic pride, ownership and an appreciation of all aspects of local heritage.

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers continue to increase public understanding of local heritage and raise awareness of the life and legacy within the area known as the Roe Valley by education, creating and developing heritage knowledge, skills, training, taking in places of interest associated with the Roe Valley and environs. The Charity is still successful in fostering a sense of community, where all forms of media are used to provide information to interested organisations, groups, communities, businesses and individuals. Participation in the discovery and preservation of local knowledge of all aspects of local heritage supports strong inter-community relationships, fostering social and economic regeneration in this area. The Charity provides a network of mutual support and encouragement amongst the charity members, beneficiaries and volunteers which include network opportunities for volunteering, employment and life skills. These benefits have been demonstrated by having access to the many signposting networks which the charity subscribes to and through feedback from beneficiaries and the wider community of the World where connections have been made and fostered in Australia, USA, Canada, New Zealand and the entire UK and Ireland. Much of this interaction comes from meeting with international visitors to the Green Lane Museum just outside Limavady, a beautiful part of the Roe Valley Country Park.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

RVAR Trustees continually promote the completion of continuous professional development in safeguarding, Museum Studies, and Genealogy, now incorporating Well Being as a major factor, using woodland areas for research, walking and meditation. Lifelong Learning, as always, has a strong ethos in the Charity and two Trustees remain members of a cross-border Education Forum with AONTAS & FALNI in raising the voice of students of all ages involved in informal learning throughout the whole island of Ireland. Heritage mentoring within communities is important and RVAR members provide free mentoring to any community wishing to set up a history group or a library area in their community area. RVAR has also been accepted by the Borough Council Museum Services as the key holders for a 2nd year summer season 2024-25 at the Green Lane Museum in Limavady Country Park. A major piece of work on researching the location of drowned sailors during WW1 & WW2 around the Causeway Coast area was completed and printed as a book printed, and launched by the Lord Lieutenant of Co Londonderry. It is available as a searchable database on the Charity's website at www.roevalleyresearch.com.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The trustees consider the financial performance by the charity during the year to have been satisfactory. The trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risk to the organisation. The working capital and future funding are dependent on establishing further reserves going forward.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers Ltd is a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered with both HMRC and the Northern Ireland Charity Commission. Presently it has 3 Volunteer Trustees (2 female, 1 male) and a Committee membership of 4 senior volunteers.

The charity invests heavily in establishing reliable and trustworthy long-term team volunteers now numbering 28 with the Safeguarding Director registering these with Causeway Coast & Glens Volunteer Centre.

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The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Signed on behalf of the board

Elizabeth Ferguson

Trustee

31 March 2024

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth Ferguson MBE in black ink.