



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			Period end date		
	1st	April	2022	31st	March	2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** BIRCH THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND

**Other names charity is known by**

**Registered charity number (if any)** 512044

**Charity's principal address** 80 York Avenue  
Wolverhampton  
Postcode WV3 9BU

### 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	Keith Berry	Chair		BTMF Trustees
2	Jeetendra Kumar	Secretary		BTMF Trustees
3	Paula Davies	Treasurer		BTMF Trustees
4	Jane Stringer			BTMF Trustees
5	Dilys Williams			BTMF Trustees
6	Duke Jackson			BTMF Trustees
7	Duane Williams			BTMF Trustees
8	Gerald O'Hara			BTMF Trustees
9	Andrew Morris			BTMF Trustees
10	Lucy Heeley		1 November 2022	BTMF Trustees
11	Tamika Grundy		1 November 2022	BTMF Trustees
12	Hannah Willetts		1 November 2022	BTMF Trustees
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Official Custodian for Charities on behalf of the Birch Thompson Memorial Fund	

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountancy	Mark Fletcher	
Management	Rob Morrison	
Management	Richard Skirrow	
Design and Build	Mark Twynam	

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

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed sealed on 1 <sup>st</sup> October 1981, Scheme Sealed on 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2002 RefN72(S)/ 02 Case No: 202156
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by continuing Trustees

### 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 Charity operates under a Declaration of Trust dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 1981 and a scheme to provide a power of amendment which was sealed by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2002. The scheme included the regulations for appointment of trustees. Clause 9(b) of the Constitution was amended to read "There shall be a quorum when five of the Trustees are present at any meeting."

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when interpreting the original Trust Deed and its continuing objectives.

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

- The provision of educational trips and holidays designed to supplement and advance the education of pupils attending Colton Hills School.
- To acquire and convert property to provide hostel accommodation.
- To equip, maintain, repair, insure, reconstruct and generally to keep up to the required standard Gelliwig, the premises acquired by the Charity in 1985.
- To make grants to pupils

- To do all such other things as the Trustees in their absolute discretion think fit with three provisions cited in the original deed.
- To obtain, collect and receive money or funds by way of contributions, donations, legacies, grants and any lawful method.

- Year 7 from Colton Hills School students were taken on 4 residential in June 2022
- Other groups including Green Park Special School, four groups of Sanctuary Seekers and a Karate Club all from Wolverhampton stayed at Gelliwig since June 2022 were Community groups as agreed and interpreted by the Trustees
- Volunteer Working Parties , together with professional tradespeople did work to prepare for the resumption of residential trips..
- Several private groups used Gelliwig which was a source of income for the Charity and in keeping with the wider community vision of the parent school. This practice was endorsed by correspondence with the Charity Commission in May 1999 and the key sentence was "There is no problem in allowing other pupils to use the facilities at the current rate providing the beneficiaries do not lose out as a result".

**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)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

The Trustees, all volunteers not only attended for 14 meetings during the year but went on working weekends but five of them also led groups to stay at Gelliwig..

The Charity is utterly dependent on volunteer group leaders who go beyond their normal job schedules to take 24/7 responsibility for the whole group and manage our self- catering Centre.

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

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

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

- Resumption of Lettings at Gelliwig
- Involvement of new Trustees
- Levelling of land at rear of Gelliwig
- Generous donations from individuals and Charitieessential support of Colton Hills School and Right Track

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Undoubtedly the main achievement of the past year was to complete the huge refurbishment work done at Gelliwig . This had started with the removal of a large century old chimney and the metre wide wall on two floors below it. This created two larger first floor bedrooms and a far more functional lounge/dining area on the ground floor .

Two new boilers, replacement plumbing , new more efficient radiators produced a heating system that is controlled remotely.

New showers and toilets, including a Closomat Palma Vita wash and dry facility for wheelchair users, were installed. New internal walls were created and almost all flooring completely new...

Gelliwig was redecorated both internally and externally before opening up again for groups to stay there in June 2022..

The contributions of Mark Twynam co-ordinating local tradesmen on our behalf and Andy Morris guiding the Rightrack Team and liaising with Gerlad O Hara about furniture and fittings produced a vastly improved facility for user groups, resulting in increased bookings..

The Wernick building, donated by Wernick events through the initiative of Jonathan Wernick the CEO of Wernick Group Ltd was delivered in May 2022 . It now houses two washing machines, two tumble dryers, Ironing equipment, toiletries, cleaning products, Duvets , pillows and is a valuable asset.

The Container that stored items during Covid has also been sited alongside the Centre and it stores canoes, land yachts, buckets and spades and other available items.

Todd Miller celebrated 50 years with the Joe Loss Orchestra and Colton Hills managed this for the 42<sup>nd</sup> event for the Charity. Todd has been the leader for all but two or three of these since he took over the mantle from the founder Joe Loss OBE.

The link with the Wolverhampton Society of Friends(Quakers) and the Wolverhampton City of Sanctuary (Charity Number 1176101) was renewed post COVID resulted in three group holidays in August for Sanctuary Seekers in the Wolverhampton Area with volunteer leaders/Minibus Drivers from all three Charities.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity has increased its policy of retaining £5,000 in reserves to £10,000.  
This will be reviewed again in the next financial year.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

At the year end the Charity secured interest free loans to the value of £11,000 to enable it to carry out landscaping work deemed essential by them to create an improved area surrounding the building. Land at the rear of the property will come into use once funding has been acquired.

### 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.

The three main sources of funding during the year were as follows

Donations	£23,799
Rental	£7016
Interest free loans	£14,500

The Donations include significant amounts from the Baron Davenport Trust, the Geeta and Sodhi Memorial, Kids Adventurous Activities, Mr J and Dr M Samra, Councillors Paul Birch and Jasbir Dehar, W. Gough Ltd. and Wolves Former Players Association.

The Rental figure included a £12000 advanced payment including VAT by the Wolves Foundation for future trips.

The Interest free loans enabled the Charity to proceed with Landscaping work agreed by the Trustees in consultation with Mark Twynam .  
The deficit at the Year End was a result of the decision by the Trustees to fit a brand new fire escape staircase.

## Section F

## Other optional information

Christine Allcock who was appointed as a Trustee in October 2002 resigned in May. Christine gave outstanding service by her care for students when she initiated the annual trip for those with physical disabilities including wheelchair users with life-limiting conditions. Her commitment and dedication saw her driving minibuses with groups other than those from Colton Hills in a voluntary capacity. She was an ever present on voluntary working weekends cleaning and tidying at Gelliwig and was chosen to receive the Queens Award for Voluntary Service on behalf of the Charity.  
We wish her well and are grateful beyond words can express.

During the year the Trustees appointed Lucy Heeley, Hannah Willetts and Tamika Grundy all of whom have led groups to Gelliwig and made their contribution to our fund-raising ventures.

## Section G

## Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)		
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)		

Date

**BIRCH THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND****BALANCE SHEET****31ST MARCH 2023**

31/03/2022		31/03/2023
	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	
300000	Freehold land and buildings	300000
<u>119238</u>	Additions - Gelliwig Development Project	<u>133841</u>
<b>419238</b>		<b>433841</b>
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
2474	VAT reclaim	0
<u>199</u>	Other debtors	<u>789</u>
<b>2673</b>		<b>789</b>
160	Cash at Bank	5000
0	Current Account	0
<u>12103</u>	Lloyds Bond	0
	30 day Business Account	<u>10900</u>
<b>12263</b>		<b>15900</b>
	<b>LESS : CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
0	Deferred income	12260
0	VAT liability	452
<u>0</u>	Interest Free Loans	<u>14500</u>
<b>0</b>		<b>27212</b>
<b><u>434174</u></b>	<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>423318</u></b>
	<b>Represented by:</b>	
230595	<b>SURPLUS - brought forward</b>	237674
196500	<b>Revaluation reserve</b>	196500
7079	<b>Deficit (2022;surplus) for the year</b>	-10856
<b><u>434174</u></b>	<b>NET WORTH - carried forward</b>	<b><u>423318</u></b>

The freehold Land & Buildings were revalued on 14th February 2008 by Tom Parry & Co. Ltd.,  
Surveyors and Estate Agents, based in Porthmadog, Gwynedd.

**Signed**

K Berry MBE, JP Chair

# Birch Thompson Memorial Fund

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BIRCH THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2023.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43(3) (a) of the 1993 Act):
  - to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners  
(under section 43(7) (b) of the 1993 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

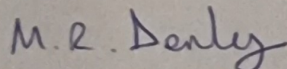
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any items or disclosures in the accounts and the seeking of explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention;

- a) which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act: and - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts, to be reached

Signed



Michael R Denley FCCA

Date 30 January 2024