



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			Period end date		
	1st	April	2023	31st	March	2024

## 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		
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 residentials in June 2023
- Other groups including the Royal School, three groups of Sanctuary Seekers , Wolverhampton Vocational Training Centre, all from Wolverhampton and South Cheshire Climbing Club stayed at Gelliwig.in the year. Community groups such as Paul Tucker’s Swimming for Charity agreed and interpreted by the Trustees stayed at Gelliwig.
- 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 no 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)**

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

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

The Trustees, all volunteers not only attended for 10 formal 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.

In addition seven Trustees accompanied groups to Gelliwig for residential.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

- Lettings at Gelliwig. Increased usage by the prime beneficiary Colton Hills School
- Involvement of more volunteers on working parties
- Preparation for the provision of synthetic turf at the rear of Gelliwig
- Generous donations from individuals and Charities , essential support of Colton Hills School and Right Track.

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

Work done at Gelliwig was increasingly managed by Andrew Morris who liaised with our Warden Joe Gaffey on many occasions. He negotiated work on the roofing including the provision of a seagull deterrent.

Ground maintenance was done with working parties from Right Track and Trustees.

A brand new fire escape was agreed to be constructed by Oakworth under the guidance of former student Mark Twynam, MD of Benchmark Design. This was paid for in the current financial year to be installed at a later date. Andrew Morris and his team laid the foundation concrete pad to exact specifications provided.

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

The 43<sup>rd</sup> event for the Charity with Todd Miller and the Joe Loss Orchestra took place, managed by Colton Hills and a 44<sup>th</sup> event in November 2024 was agreed.

A post Jools Holland and his Orchestra concert collection at the Grand Theatre initiated by Patron and former student Dave Swift took place in July. Dave has been the bassist to the Orchestra for over three decades and is one of the UK's highest profile bass Players.

The web-site was greatly improved by the efforts of Tammy Foo and Trustees Hannah, Lucy, Gerald and Jeet throughout the year.

Planning for a "Steps up Snowdon" event to motivate Trustees to get fit and raise funds for the Charity were explored with a view to take place in the future.

## 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 has .

### 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	£32,800
Rental	£9752
Interest free loans	£11,000

The Donations include significant amounts from Tettenhall Rotary Club, Mr J and Dr M Samra, our local Councillor Sally Green,

A Special mention goes to Colton Hills Teacher Amardeep Malhi who raised over £1,000 by completing the Everest Base Camp Trek.

The Interest free loans enabled the Charity to proceed with Landscaping work agreed by the Trustees in consultation with Mark Twynam. Steve Barclay, Trustee Andy Morris and David McDougal of McCardle Sport Tec.

Once again the Charity is greatly indebted to our Treasurer Paula Davies for her meticulous attention to detail of all the activities of the Charity in addition to her consistent book-keeping.

The contributions from Karen Fletcher and Michael Denley in the production and examination of the of the Annual Accounts was again a most valuable effort for the Charity.

## Section F Other optional information

During the Year Peter Thacker and Rakesh Kapoor had given voluntary help to the Charity on Working Party or Fund-raising and were to be asked to serve as Trustees in the future.

## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	Keith Berry	
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Keith Berry	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	

<b>Date</b>	29 January 2025
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# BIRCH THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

<b>2023</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2024</b>
7016	Rental income from property	9752
31	Fundraising	1356
590	Covenant deeds	750
26	Bank interest received	136
23799	Donations	32800
<b>31462</b>		<b>44794</b>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
198	Property Maintenance/repairs	82
3115	Property services	5149
401	Telephone	448
3055	Insurance	3631
2130	Caretaking costs	2700
1237	Equipment/furnishings	0
28872	Refurbishment costs	9940
0	Professional fees	675
3220	Hire of equipment	0
90	Sundries	52
<b>42318</b>		<b>22677</b>
<b>-10856</b>	<b>SURPLUS (2023:DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>22117</b>

**BIRCH THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**31ST MARCH 2024**

31/03/2023		31/03/2024
	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	
300000	Freehold land and buildings	300000
<u>133841</u>	Additions - Gelliwig Development Project	<u>149710</u>
<b>433841</b>		<b>449710</b>
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
0	VAT reclaim	234
<u>789</u>	Other debtors	<u>903</u>
<b>789</b>		<b>1137</b>
5000	Cash at Bank	5000
0	Current Account	0
<u>10900</u>	Lloyds Bond	0
	30 day Business Account	<u>3296</u>
<b>15900</b>		<b>8296</b>
	<b>LESS : CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
12260	Deferred income	2708
452	VAT liability	0
<u>14500</u>	Interest Free Loans	<u>11000</u>
<b>27212</b>		<b>13708</b>
<b><u>423318</u></b>	<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>445435</u></b>
	<b>Represented by:</b>	
237674	<b>SURPLUS - brought forward</b>	226818
196500	<b>Revaluation reserve</b>	196500
-10856	<b>Surplus (2023;deficit) for the year</b>	22117
<b><u>423318</u></b>	<b>NET WORTH - carried forward</b>	<b><u>445435</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*  
K Berry MBE, JP Chair

*29 January 2025*

# 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 2024.

### 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

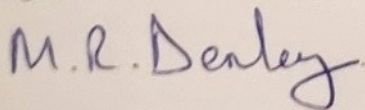
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any items or disclosures 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

29th JANUARY 2025

Date