

MUSSELBURGH MUSEUM AND HERITAGE GROUP

Scottish Registered Charity SC003967

OSCR ANNUAL RETURN



REPORT and ACCOUNTS INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

**for the year
1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026**

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2025	To	31	3	2026

Office of the Scottish **Charity Regulator****Reference and administration details**

Charity name
Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number

Charity's principal address

Musselburgh Museum & Heritage Group

SC003967

65 High Street

MUSSELBURGH

East Lothian.

Postcode EH21 7BZ

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr. Alister Hadden	Chairman		
2	Vacant	Vice-Chairman		
3	Mrs. Shirley Iveson	Secretary		
4	Mr. Simon Fairnie	Treasurer		
5	Dr. Andrew Coulson			
6	Mr. George Cunningham			
7	Mr. Roger Knox			
8	Mrs Johanne Law			
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Group continues to operate under its revised Constitution

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Effort to increase and maintain numbers of Volunteers continues with recent success.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

The Group's charitable objects are for the benefit of the public in Scotland and elsewhere - to advance education, arts, heritage and science through the collection of items; by the recording and preservation of the history of the town of Musselburgh; and to create an environment and provide activities that enable individuals and groups to learn about the cultural and historical heritage of Musselburgh and the surrounding area.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Group:

- ✓ Provides exhibitions and displays
- ✓ Manages the Musselburgh Museum
- ✓ Provides talks and presentations to community groups
- ✓ Collects and accessions artefacts and records
- ✓ Responds to individual enquiries
- ✓ Involves and supports school activities

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Musselburgh Museum: The Group maintains its involvement with Musselburgh Museum, which it took responsibility for the management of, strategic planning for, and the day-to-day operation of in March 2011. The Group maintains its involvement with Musselburgh Museum, which it took responsibility for the management of, strategic planning for, and the day-to-day operation of in March 2011.

The Museum continues to attract visitors and the Group via its previous success with four exhibitions mounted in 2025. **Jim Munro - Music and Metal; The Gretna Rail Disaster; Musselburgh Twinning Association; and Musselburgh Amateur Musical Association 75th Anniversary.**

All four exhibitions attracted a high number of visitors. The exhibitions planned for the 2026 season are:

The Royal Company of Archers (The King's Bodyguard of Scotland) Echoes of Musselburgh - 1950 to 2000

Musselburgh Grammar School 400th Anniversary.

Artefacts and Records: The Trustees and volunteers continue to collect and accession artefacts, update records and respond to enquiries through the web site and in person.

Thanks and appreciation must be given to our Collections Officer (Mrs. Cleeton) who has done sterling, accurate and precise work to catalogue the collection such that it is more accessible and manageable. Without her personal and professional input this work could not have been done.

Museums Gallery Scotland. As a museum member, we are updated by MGS, which provides invaluable support and to whom we are appreciative of a recent grant for the replacement of computers.

Community Activities: The Community continues their interest in the Museum by donations of documents and artefacts.

Special arrangements via our Outreach Programme are made for schools and other organisations to visit the Museum.

The Group co-operates with Local and Regional Heritage Groups.

Volunteers: The Group strives, with some recent success, to increase its volunteer base. All new volunteers undergo induction and ongoing training.

Old Town Hall Project: The Group, more so now that it has been closed and mothballed continues to maintain an interest in the preservation and conservation of the Old Town Hall (OTH) an iconic building with a history dating back to the 14th Century.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group treats its Exhibition Account as restricted reserve funds.

Details of any deficit

The Group generates no income other than from donations and museum sales. Whilst funds are stable and the museum is self supporting the Trustees continue to review this situation.

Donated facilities and services (if any)

The Museum is staffed entirely by volunteers who freely give of their time to be responsible for its operation on behalf of East Lothian Council (ELC) who provide and are responsible for the maintenance of the premises as part of its property folio.

Utilities and stationery for its operation are also provided as part of the agreement with ELC.

Other optional information

EAST LOTHIAN MUSEUMS SERVICE

The Group continues to receive support and advice from Kate Maynard, Team Manager (Libraries and Museums) and her staff. Their contribution to the work of the Group is welcomed and appreciated. The Team Manager routinely attends the Group and Museum Management Committee meetings *ex officio*.

The Assistant Museums Officer and Collections Officer provide their professional input on the mounting of exhibitions and the best practice in accessioning and storage of items.

Additionally, Francis Woodrow, Archivist & Information Officer, East Lothian Archive Service and Wendy Neil, Manager of East Lothian Printing Service provide useful and invaluable guidance and support.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the core of the museum's work. Without the input of our past and present volunteers the Museum would not have achieved the success it has and continues to attain. Their contributions are noted and appreciated.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full name

Shirley Iveson

Position

Secretary

Date

28th May 2026