



Northumberland Archives Trust

Newsletter No.1

November 2021



Woodhorn, Ashington Archives



Berwick-upon-Tweed Archives

Welcome to New Members

Welcome to the Members section of the Northumberland Archives Trust website and, above all, thank you for becoming a member of the Trust.

Members are the bedrock of any successful charity, and we greatly value the commitment you have shown in deciding to become a regular supporter of the Trust. Without your commitment our efforts to preserve, protect and promote

Northumberland's rich inheritance of records and other archival material would be that much weaker. With it, you can be assured that you are contributing not only to preserving that inheritance but to making the fascinating story of Northumberland and its proud people better known to both present and future generations.

As a member, we will aim to keep you informed of the progress of the projects you have helped us fund and of new developments affecting both the Trust and the Archives Service. And you will be invited to join from time to time in talks and other meetings arranged by the Trust, many of them in conjunction with the Service.

So thank you, and if you feel impelled at any time to send us ideas or feedback or to offer additional help to the Trust, simply email us at membership@northumberlandarchivestrust.org We shall welcome hearing from you.

Sir Philip Mawer

Chair, Northumberland Archives Charitable Trust

Our First Eighteen Months.

This is the first newsletter of the newly formed Northumberland Archives Charitable Trust (NAT), designed to welcome you, our new members, and to summarise where we have got to since the Trust was formed in 2020, to be immediately overtaken by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The newsletter's look and layout is inevitably rather basic, but we are confident it will be enhanced as we gain experience. If you know of someone suitably skilled who is willing to volunteer to take on its production, perhaps every six months, do let us know!

We must, first, offer our sincere thanks to Kreative Technology in Berwick – upon – Tweed who developed the NAT web site to our exact specification, whilst showing great patience as we tried one thing after another. In the end,

they produced an attractive and very functional site that integrates well with our payment and membership systems. We hope you find it user-friendly: again, do feel able to give us your feedback

The membership system we have decided to use, and which you will probably have come across on your enrolment, is called Membermojo. It fully automates the enrolment, payments, and renewal processes as well as allowing various categories of membership to be created. It also provides an email capability that allows the various categories to be contacted separately or together, as appropriate.

The purpose of the Trust is, of course, to raise funds in support of the Archives Service to allow projects to be undertaken for which no central funding is available. The first three projects identified for the launch of the Trust, details of which can be seen on the Projects page of the website, relate to the Photocentre collection in Berwick, Harriet Carr – 18c traveller, and Healthcare in Northumberland pre-NHS.

New projects will take the place of these once the first three are fully funded by donations from the public or other sources.

What You Can Expect From Your Membership.

Please be patient at this stage of the Trust's development until we get things in place and up and running. However, it's our intention to offer members unique opportunities to learn more about Northumberland's archives and the Archives Service in several ways.

- ✓ Receive regular updates on the work of the Archives Service and on projects funded through the Trust.
 - ❖ We work closely with the Archives Service to develop and monitor the progress of projects..
- ✓ Learn of talks and other events arranged by the Service in partnership with the Trust
 - ❖ Details of such talks will appear in the Events section of the members Login area
- ✓ Attend an exclusive Annual Lecture exploring intriguing aspects of the County's past and other topics of interest
 - ❖ Delivered by members of the Archives Service or guest speakers from academia.

- ✓ Attend an Annual Meeting at which the Trust's Board set out the Trust's plans for the future.
 - ❖ We look to share our ideas and plans and shall welcome your input.

Changes to Your Membership Details

Members have full control of their personal details held on the Membermojo system, so if you want to change any details such as address, Email etc., just go to <https://membermojo.co.uk> and click on the 'Sign In' button on the top right of the screen.

Just enter your email address, then click on 'Sign in with email'

An email will be sent with a link to take you into your personal record, which you can then edit. Do remember to click the 'Save' button after making any changes.

The membership period ends on 31st May each year but the Membership Secretary will contact you in advance to explain what you should do when the automated invitation to renew is sent out from the system.

Volunteering

Although key posts in the Trust such as those of Secretary and Treasurer have been filled, we are still looking for volunteers to help with various activities of the Trust.

These include:

- membership liaison and support
- events organisation
- fundraising
- creating content for the website
- creating content about the work of the Trust and adding it to social media platforms

Clearly, some of these activities are likely to require several volunteers, for example, event organisation.

If you would like to get more involved in any of these ways, then please contact the secretary of the Trust at the email address: secretary@northumberlandarchivetrust.org

The Archives Service Offices.

The Archives Service operates from two offices where the work and storage of archive material is carried out.

The collections are roughly geographically based and if you want to find out more about the collections and opening times, please refer to their websites, as follows:

Woodhorn (Ashington) –

<https://www.northumberlandarchives.com>

Berwick upon Tweed -

<https://www.northumberlandarchives.com/tag/berwick-upon-tweed>

The senior archivists at the two locations, Sue Wood at Woodhorn, and Linda Bankier at Berwick, attend meetings of the Board of Trustees.