



The Brontë Society



Annual Review 2025-2026



Foreword from the Chair of the Brontë Society Board of Trustees

Despite the challenges posed by the current economic climate, the Brontë Society has cause to be optimistic. Our work in the past year has been bold and far-reaching, and with close monitoring of operational costs, as well as strategic planning, we remain a resilient organisation able to look constructively towards the future.

We are grateful for the continued support of Arts Council England as a National Portfolio Organisation, and work across all areas of the organisation to embed the values of inclusivity, ambition, and environmental responsibility to ensure we remain relevant to our audience. Our strategic aims enable us to deliver a high-quality programme that serves local, national and digital interests, and nurtures talent and ambition in our creative partners. The extension of the current NPO cycle to 2028 is welcome and will allow us to plan and manage our budgets effectively amidst the global climate of economic uncertainty.

Bradford UK City of Culture 2025 marked a major celebration of the local district and established the Brontë Parsonage

Museum as a jewel in Yorkshire's heritage crown. We are proud to have been a cultural partner and strengthened our connections with other cultural and heritage organisations across the district and beyond. With a busy programme of events to support activity, a highlight was the *Wandering Imaginations* project, which brought together two writers from Bradford, and two from Ghana, in a cultural exchange that produced writing inspired by the Brontës' fantasy worlds as children. Of importance in the year ahead will be ensuring the furtherance of these key cultural and community links.

Our exhibition, *From Haworth to Eternity*, celebrated the enduring legacy of the Brontës in film and TV, and emphasised the important role literary tourism has played in bringing visitors to Haworth from the earliest days of the Brontës' fame to now. In keeping with this, our overall programme continues to reach a multi-generational, wide-ranging audience, and while regular activity such as our Brontë Babies sessions and Brontë Stitching Group engage with local communities, the Women's Writing Festival in September

2025 attracted many from afar. Headlined by film director Emerald Fennell, and featuring bestselling authors such as Tracy Chevalier and Holly Ringland, as well as local creatives, our ability to attract a high calibre of talent is a testament to the quality of our offering.

The bequest of £325,000 received in March 2024 has enabled us to invest in vital infrastructure projects across the organisation. Following the launch of our new website in late 2024, alongside an integrated CRM and ticketing system (Spektrix) and e-commerce stock and inventory system (Shopify), in 2025 we reviewed our IT support provision, moving to a new supplier and migrating to Microsoft 365 and cloud-based storage. As well as enabling staff to work more efficiently, this has removed our reliance on a physical server and has upgraded our IT security, addressing long-standing risks on our Risk Register. Most significantly, the bequest allowed us to acquire a cluster of historic buildings situated at West Lane, Haworth, just a stone's throw from the



Lucy Powrie

Brontë Parsonage Museum, in August 2025. As we look to the future, this space will allow us to meet the challenges of a growing collection, safeguarding it for the future and increasing access to it.

Our collection, Designated as Outstanding by Arts Council England, continues to be a major draw. While we acquired new items for the collection, such as a scrapbook of ephemera belonging to an early member of the Brontë Society, Thomas Parkin, and a collection of letters and photographs relating to the Heger family, we were loaned Branwell Brontë's portrait of Emily Brontë from the National Portrait Gallery, London, for display. Furthermore, a novel opportunity to showcase the collection arose when actress Margot Robbie wore a replica of a mourning bracelet belonging to Charlotte Brontë at the London film premiere of Emerald Fennell's *"Wuthering Heights"* (2026). Coverage in major fashion outlets, such as *Vogue* and *Harper's BAZAAR*, and across other worldwide print and media outlets, has enabled us to demonstrate the importance of our collection to new audiences.

While the economic climate remains challenging, we are proactive in capitalising on interest in the Brontës as it arises. In particular, the release of Emerald Fennell's *"Wuthering Heights"* in February 2026 has already boosted admissions figures and retail sales, and we anticipate this will continue into the next financial year. Our major priority in the year ahead is to pursue funding opportunities to support the first phase of our major capital development plans, while continuing to deliver a high standard of provision for our visitors and stakeholders.

Lucy Powrie, Chair of the Brontë Society Board of Trustees

Welcome from the Director

The last twelve months have been a whirlwind of excitement and opportunity. We played our role as a key cultural partner of Bradford 2025 City of Culture with a mixture of passion and pride, establishing stronger relationships with our local communities, artists, creatives, funders, VIPs and the media. We experienced a significant uplift in admissions numbers, and successfully tempted many of them to buy a souvenir of their visit from our ever-expanding retail range.

In last year's annual review, I wrote that a focus of 2025-26 would be scoping the plans to help us realise our future ambitions: growing our visitor offer, finding new ways to display and share our growing collections, future-proofing our collection storage and ensuring our office accommodation was adequate, accessible and comfortable. In July 2025, we identified a cluster of historic, but neglected, properties for sale in

Haworth, and within four weeks we had secured their purchase. Fundraising for feasibility studies to underpin their refurbishment is already underway and I am looking forward to working on this exciting project which will strengthen the organisation's relevance and resilience.

Just when you thought there was no need for me to ever mention 'toilets' again, I would like to use this space to report that in October, the Loo of the Year Awards judges graded our visitor facilities as 'Diamond' standard – the highest grade available – and in January 2026, we were delighted to be awarded the trophy for the Best Changing Places Facility in the UK.

And it would not be possible to write a review of the year without mentioning Emerald Fennell's new adaptation of Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. While I recognise that the film was not everyone's cup of Bron-tea, I am proud of how we harnessed the opportunities offered by



Rebecca with Zoe Hirst, Housekeeper, at the Loo of the Year Awards in Birmingham.



The newly-acquired historic buildings on West Lane in Haworth.

the film's release to attract new visitors to the Museum and engage a wider range of people with the Brontë story. It was a privilege to represent the Brontë Society at the UK premiere in London and unforgettable to hear Margot Robbie talk about Charlotte's garnet bracelet to the world's media. In addition to an increase in visitors, media coverage and online engagement prompted by the film, we experienced an increase in secondary spend in our shop too. In 2024-25 we sold 2,650 copies of *Wuthering Heights*; can you guess how many we sold in 2025-26? Please turn to page 18 to find out!

Finally, I continue to feel immensely proud – and privileged – to be the Director of the Brontë Parsonage Museum. Working alongside a talented and diligent team of staff and volunteers is a daily source

of joy and I would like to thank all of them for their work conserving, protecting, interpreting, sharing and celebrating the Brontës and their legacy while providing welcoming and unforgettable experiences. I would also like to acknowledge the energy, commitment and integrity of the Brontë Society Board of Trustees and my fellow members of the Senior Leadership Team. Together we will ensure that our values of excellence, inspiration, creativity and respect continue to inform and support all that we do, creating a work environment that is both challenging and rewarding, and physical and online spaces where everyone – whether staff, member or visitor – feels welcomed, included and inspired.

Thank you, as ever, for your support.

Rebecca Yorke, Director

GOVERNANCE

Founded in 1893, the Brontë Society has a thriving worldwide membership. It was set up to organise a permanent home for items belonging to the Brontë family and the first museum opened in 1895 above the Yorkshire Penny Bank on Haworth Main Street. Haworth Parsonage was gifted to the Society by Sir James Roberts and opened to the public as the Brontë Parsonage Museum on 4 August 1928. The Brontë Society continues to be responsible for the Museum and its world-class collections and is committed to promoting the Brontë family legacy in contemporary society.



The Yorkshire Penny Bank building on Haworth Main Street.

President: Dame Judi Dench CH, DBE, FRSA

Vice Presidents: Mrs Audrey Hall; Dr Patsy Stoneman

Chair of Board of Trustees: Lucy Powrie

Vice Chair of Board of Trustees: Helen Meller

Chair of Finance, Risk and Audit Committee: Andrew Midgley

Board Members during 2025-26

Shahidha Bari (resigned October 2025)

Laura Beare

Ciara Gallagher

Thomas Hendry

Penelope Jenkins

Ellie Keel

Helen Meller

Andrew Midgley

Lucy Powrie

Julian Sladdin (resigned September 2025)

Lauren Watson

Senior Leadership Team

Rebecca Yorke, Director

Ann Dinsdale, Principal Curator

Gail Price, Head of HR & Operations

Mhairi Tomlinson, Head of Finance

The Brontë Society

Brontë Parsonage Museum

Church Street

Haworth

BD22 8DR

Registered charity: 529952

Registered company: 73855

Accredited museum: 1232

OUR VISION AND VALUES

The Brontë Society's vision is:

'To bring the Brontës to the world and the world to Yorkshire.'

We do this, not only by being an internationally-renowned visitor attraction, but through our creative programmes, expanding digital offer and working in partnership with other museums and literary houses.

Our mission statement is:

To celebrate the lives and works of the Brontës, widening access to their legacy and sharing their contemporary significance with a global audience. We conserve, interpret, display and build creative engagement through our world-class collection and the landscape that inspired the Brontës. We champion new writing today, particularly by women,

and promote better understanding of the Brontës' lives and works.

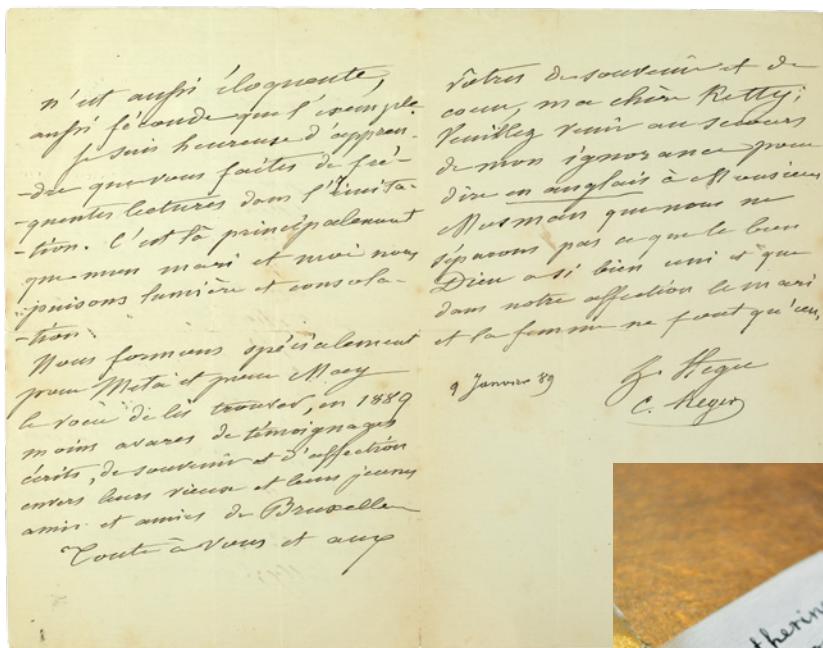
The Brontë Society has a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and to promoting a positive culture which celebrates difference, ensures fairness and challenges prejudice. The Brontë Parsonage Museum is a safe space, where everyone is welcome, valued and respected.

In accordance with this commitment, the Brontë Society will foster a positive working environment and wider membership community where trustees, staff, volunteers and members treat each other with dignity and respect at all times, and where bullying, harassment and discrimination are known to be unacceptable.

THE BRONTË SOCIETY

The Brontë Society is a membership organisation. All members have AGM voting rights and enjoy free entry to the Museum and a free online subscription to the Society's academic journal, *Brontë Studies*. Members also receive the Brontë Society's magazine, *Gazette*, three times a year.

Digital membership packages are now our most popular membership categories, with more than 50% of members (who are not Life Members) opting for this type of membership. This has led to a reduction in costs associated with printing and postage, meaning that more of the membership subscription can be used to care for the Museum and its important collection. It also contributes to a reduction in our carbon footprint. The Young Brontë Friend (16-25) category continues to prove popular with 275 members in this category at 31 March 2026.



Above: A letter from M. Heger acquired for the Museum collection.

Right: A Book of Friendship, a prop from Emerald Fennell's "Wuthering Heights" on display at the Parsonage.



Our collection

The Brontë Parsonage Museum houses the world's largest collection of Brontë material which is shared with our visitors, live and online audiences, and researchers. Arts Council England have awarded 'Designated as Outstanding' status to the Brontë Parsonage Museum collection. The Designation Scheme identifies and celebrates outstanding collections, which 'deepen our understanding of the world and what it means to be human'.

Every year the collection grows through purchases and donations. The following items were added to the Museum collection between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026:

- A collection of Heger related letters and photographs, purchased following the Forum Auctions sale held on 27 March 2025.



M. Heger in later life.



Rebecca Yorke and Ann Dinsdale beside Emily Brontë's portrait, on loan from the National Portrait Gallery, London.

- A letter from Charlotte Brontë to John White, dated 18 September 1851 and purchased from Bonhams.
- A scrapbook of Brontë-related ephemera compiled by an early member of the Brontë Society, Thomas Parkin, also purchased from Bonhams.
- *A Book of Friendship*, a prop from Emerald Fennell's "Wuthering Heights" (2026), was donated to the Museum and placed on display.

Loans

In July 2025 we were loaned Branwell Brontë's portrait of Emily Brontë from the National Portrait Gallery, London. It was on display in the Exhibition Room until the end of October.



Conservator David Everingham inspecting Branwell's portrait of Emily.

Our programme



Writer and Director Emerald Fennell at the Brontë Women's Writing Festival 2025.

The Museum's displays are refreshed each year and presented alongside a special exhibition. *From Haworth to Eternity* opened on 1 February and ran until 1 January 2026. It highlighted the role screen adaptations have played in the appeal of both Haworth and the Brontës and was seen by almost 75,000 visitors to the Museum.

Collection highlights on display included the screenplay of the first adaptation of *Wuthering Heights*, annotated by director A V Bramble and Robert Southey's letter to Charlotte advising her that 'literature cannot be the business of a woman's life'.

The Brontë Women's Writing Festival 2025 saw over 250 audience members attend the weekend of events which featured authors Tracy Chevalier, Holly Ringland, Penny Batchelor, Sairish Hussain, Rozie Kelly, Rachel Bower, S J Bradley, Jennie Godfrey, Amanda Smyth and Colette Snowden, as well as headline guest Emerald Fennell.



Wandering Imaginations writers and team visit the Museum.

Life-long learning is a popular programme strand and our online course, *Afterlives*, sold out quickly, and was attended by participants from Brazil, Switzerland, Canada and the USA as well as the UK.

A highlight of the year was our Bradford 2025 commission, *Wandering Imaginations*, delivered in partnership with the Writers Project of Ghana and supported by the

British Council. Claire Govender and Kristina Diprose from Bradford and Akorfa Dawson and Peggy Kere Osman from Ghana all performed their new, Brontë-inspired work at the Brontë Women's Writing Festival and the Pa Gyal Festival in Accra. The new work was also displayed digitally in the Museum, with specially commissioned animation and illustration.

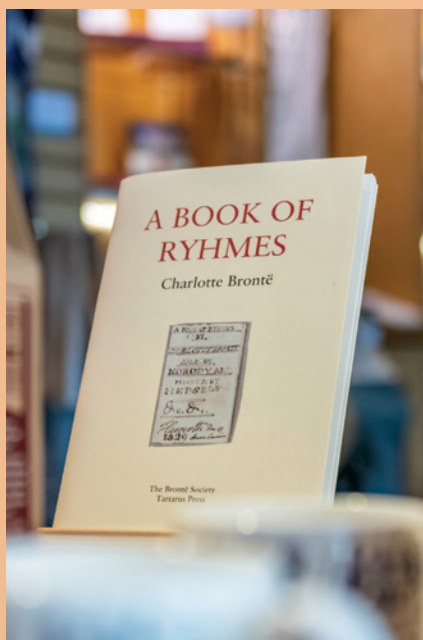
OUR PUBLICATIONS

In April 2025, the Brontë Society published Charlotte Brontë's *A Book of Rhymes* in partnership with Tartarus Press. The original manuscript is a miniature book of poems, written by Charlotte Brontë when she was only thirteen, and which had never been published before. The introduction to the new publication was written by singer, songwriter, author and artist Patti Smith.

The Brontë Society's journal, *Brontë Studies*, edited by Dr Claire O'Callaghan, was published by Taylor & Francis three times during the year. In November, a special issue was published, containing transcriptions of the Charlotte Brontë 'little book' which was purchased at auction in 2019. Again, this marked the first time this manuscript had been transcribed for the public.

During 2025-26, *Brontë Studies* was downloaded approximately 70,000 times. It has a global reach, with the UK, North America and China seeing the highest number of full text downloads.

Gazette, the 'must-read' magazine of the Brontë Society edited by Sharon Wright, was produced three times between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.





Lifelong learning and our work with young people

Young people and children are a key focus of our Museum offer. The Parsonage was

a family home and the Brontës wrote from a young age. Our formal learning programme is praised by teachers and we experienced a high demand for school visits across the year. While many of our school workshops are curriculum-linked, creativity is embedded throughout. We offer free workshops for local schools, forging stronger links and a sense of ownership of the Museum.





Members of the Brontë Stitching Group with the *Threaded Journeys* display at the Museum.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPING NEW AUDIENCES

During 2025–26, we collaborated with other cultural organisations – including the National Media Museum, the National Portrait Gallery and the Hay Festival – via a range of events, marketing campaigns and social media content.

Bradford’s role as UK City of Culture 2025 helped us to build new relationships – and strengthen existing ones – with arts and heritage organisations across the district.

The Director of the Museum is a member of the West Yorkshire Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) Board, which is chaired by West Yorkshire Mayor Tracy Brabin, and we were proud to host a visit by Lady Victoria Borwick, Chair of the Visit England Advisory Board, during English Tourism Week in March 2026.

Our outreach programme enables us to connect with people and communities who are not familiar with the Museum. During the year, we welcomed groups

from across the Bradford area and continued to work with Holycroft Primary School in Keighley, facilitating visits for families who would not ordinarily visit us. This initiative, supported by funding from Bradford Council, continues to be incredibly successful: between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, we welcomed forty-eight Holycroft families to the Parsonage, offering an introductory talk and walk as part of their free visit, as well as an exploration of *Wild Uplands*, the Bradford 2025 sculpture installation on nearby Penistone Hill.

The Brontë Stitching Group, established in 2024, met regularly with artist Claire Wellesley-Smith to create a collective textile piece to celebrate Bradford 2025 City of Culture. *Threaded Journeys* was displayed in the Museum during the summer, marking the first exhibition created by a community group to be displayed in the Museum.



Museum staff and volunteers with the “Wuthering Heights” movie sign.

OUR MUSEUM TEAM

The organisation fosters a learning culture, embedding evaluation and review at the heart of its activities. All staff are encouraged to seek out, and take advantage of, opportunities for Continued Professional Development, including free membership of the Museums Association.

We are proud to be a Real Living Wage Employer and the Brontë Society is also a registered Mindful Employer. Ideas from all parts of the organisation are shared via our regular staff forum, and employees and volunteers are kept up to date with news and developments via daily briefings, notice boards and a fortnightly e-bulletin. The mental health of our workforce is considered as important as its physical health and all staff are entitled to a monthly ‘Wellbeing Hour’ to pursue leisure or wellbeing activities.



REACHING THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE

Online

Our social media platforms continued to grow, and engagement with our online community flourished throughout the period, with our reach on Facebook and Instagram increasing significantly on 2025 numbers.

During the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026, www.bronte.org.uk received over 640,000 webpage views by more than 126,000 new users. Our social media communities continue to grow and now stand at over 40,300 on Instagram, 26,000 on Facebook and 3,500 on TikTok

Our online programme of talks and Brontë Lounge events continued to attract audiences from all over the world and receive positive feedback. Notable successes include our International Women's Day online event in collaboration



Hay Festival Book Club filming in the Dining Room.



Digital Engagement Officer Mia interviewing Emerald Fennell and Margot Robbie.

with Chawton House, Jane Austen's House and Elizabeth Gaskell's House, which sold over 250 tickets.

Our podcast *Behind the Glass* returned for a third series of episodes which were collectively downloaded 11,521 times. The podcast has had over 29,000 downloads since its launch in 2024.

We continue to create content for the Brontë Parsonage Museum guide on the Bloomberg Connects app, which enhances the physical visitor experience and enables us to share the collection and the stories it holds with audiences unable to visit Haworth in person. During the year, almost 6,000 people viewed our guide on the app, and QR codes offering additional information about particular objects in the museum have been scanned over 10,000 times.

In the media

The Brontë Society and Brontë Parsonage Museum attracted high-profile media coverage throughout the year, especially in relation to Bradford UK City of Culture 2025 and Emerald Fennell's *"Wuthering Heights"*.

A key marketing campaign was the promotion of the Brontë Parsonage Museum to a local audience, fostering a sense of ownership and pride within our nearby communities. Bradford 2025 was a powerful backdrop for this message and we saw an increase of almost 30% in visitors from this group.

A collaboration with Warner Bros linked to the release of *"Wuthering Heights"* was another key strategy, leading to high social media engagement, an increase in visitor numbers, and an increase in retail sales.

During the year, we hosted production crews who covered highlights of our programme including the loan of the Emily Brontë portrait from the National Portrait Gallery and our Bradford 2025 activity.



Director Rebecca Yorke being interviewed for ITV

In addition, members of the Museum team featured on BBC's *Countryfile* and *The One Show*. The week of the *"Wuthering Heights"* film release saw us welcome national broadcasters including BBC *Breakfast* and *Good Morning Britain* as well as regional news outlets.



Sam, Stuart and Mia filming for BBC's *Countryfile*.

AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION

The landscape and natural world are fundamental to the Brontës' work and an important part of what visitors to the Brontë Parsonage Museum, situated on the edge of Yorkshire moorland, experience. The Brontë Society strongly believes in the importance of environmental responsibility, and this continued to be a consideration in every aspect of our work during the year. The organisation has also been active in the campaign objecting to Calderdale Energy Park, which we believe will be detrimental to the moorland ecology as well as have a significant and negative impact on the intangible cultural heritage of the landscape surrounding the Museum.

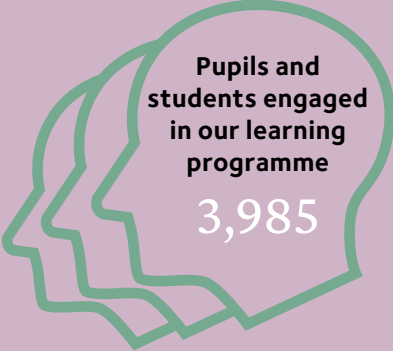


The year in numbers



Visitors to the Brontë
Parsonage Museum

74,870



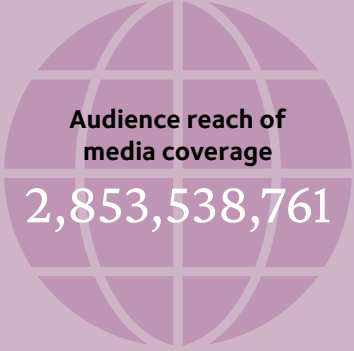
Pupils and
students engaged
in our learning
programme

3,985



Copies of
Wuthering
Heights
sold

4,886



Audience reach of
media coverage

2,853,538,761



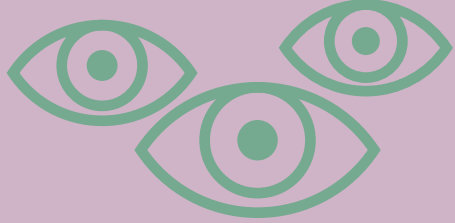
Visit England
Quality
Assessment
score

91/100



Number
of social
media
followers

67,449



Highest number of views of
a single social media post

924,000

2026 summary financial information

The purpose of this information is to provide the reader with the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and the Consolidated Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2026. This information is an extract from the full consolidated financial statements audited by Clive Owen LLP and approved by the trustees on 16 July 2026. A breakdown of these financial statements into the component income and expenditure categories within unrestricted and restricted funds is also provided to aid understanding of the financial performance of the Society. The full Trustees' Report and Financial Statements, which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and will be submitted to the Charity Commission in due course, can be obtained from the Society's website at www.bronte.org.uk or by applying in writing to: The Brontë Society, Church Street, Haworth, Keighley BD22 8DR.

**Andrew Midgley on behalf of
The Trustees of the Brontë Society**

The Consolidated Financial Statements of the Brontë Society incorporate the results of the Society's trading company, The Brontë Genius Company Ltd, which is 100% owned by the Society and operates under licence the retail premises within the Brontë Parsonage Museum and the online shop.

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £1,686,789 compared to £1,773,122 for the 12 months to 31 March 2025. Income from museum admissions for the year to 31 March 2026 totalled £817,691 compared to £608,204 for the year to 31 March 2025. Retail sales in the museum shop for the year ended 31 March 2026 totalled £412,830 compared with £296,212 for the year to 31 March 2025. The increases in both admissions and retail income can be ascribed to the increase in footfall generated by Bradford UK City of Culture 2025 and the interest generated from the new *"Wuthering Heights"* film in the final quarter of the financial year.

Income in both years includes the National Portfolio Organisation grant from Arts Council England and a grant

of £10,000 from Bradford Council. In the year to 31 March 2025 there were additional grants and donations for the construction of the visitor facilities of £445,701, hence the larger income overall in that year.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026 was £1,618,193 compared with £1,355,324 for the year ended 31 March 2025. Increases in expenditure largely relate to increased staff costs due to pay rises; additional staff and additional opening hours; an increase in the cost of goods sold in line with the increase in shop sales; and continuing investment in IT systems.

Overall, the net movement in funds for the year was a surplus of £88,796 compared with £414,867 for the year to 31 March 2025. The larger surplus in the prior year is entirely explained by the grants and donations received for the visitor facilities in that year.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies, which are included in the full consolidated financial statements.

Review of Reserves

At 31 March 2026 the group held unrestricted reserves of £8,202,824, of which £6,981,421 were Heritage Assets, £598,210 were other tangible assets, £31,515 were intangible assets, and £176,633 were investments. Restricted reserves at the year-end amounted to £185,575. The trustees have agreed, in line with many other National Portfolio Organisations, that the organisation should aim to hold three months' worth of operating costs in reserve. Three months' worth of operating costs, being total unrestricted expenditure less depreciation and irrecoverable VAT, at the year-end amounted to £385,511. After allowing for this, at 31 March 2026, total readily available unrestricted reserves amounted to £417,045. These are funds in cash that the Board of Trustees is able to designate for specific purposes.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds year ended 31 March 2026 £	Restricted Funds year ended 31 March 2026 £	Fixed Assets Funds year ended 31 March 2026 £	Total Funds year ended 31 March 2026 £	Total Funds year ended 31 March 2025 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	33,388	8,063	3,300	44,751	60,134
Charitable activities	1,197,743	-	-	1,197,743	1,377,464
Other trading activities	434,684	-	-	434,684	316,889
Investment income	9,611	-	-	9,611	18,635
TOTAL INCOME	1,675,426	8,063	3,300	1,686,789	1,773,122
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	339,903	-	-	339,903	249,928
Charitable activities	1,266,756	11,534	-	1,278,290	1,105,396
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,606,659	11,534	-	1,618,193	1,355,324
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	20,200	-	-	20,200	(2,931)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	88,967	(3,471)	3,300	88,796	414,867
Transfers between funds	(27,539)	-	27,539	-	-
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS	61,428	(3,471)	30,839	88,796	414,867
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward	1,161,975	189,046	6,950,582	8,301,603	7,886,736
Net movement in funds	61,428	(3,471)	30,839	88,796	414,867
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	1,223,403	185,575	6,981,421	8,390,399	8,301,603

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	31 March 2026 £	31 March 2025 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Intangible assets	31,515	39,387
Tangible assets	688,210	511,629
Heritage assets	6,981,421	6,950,582
Investments	176,633	160,829
	7,877,779	7,662,427
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	57,082	44,666
Debtors	84,880	244,557
Cash at bank and in hand	517,852	502,212
	659,814	791,435
CREDITORS:		
Amounts falling due within one year	(147,194)	(152,259)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	512,620	639,176
NET ASSETS	8,390,399	8,301,603
FUNDS		
Heritage fixed assets funds	6,981,421	6,950,582
Restricted funds	185,575	189,046
Unrestricted funds	1,223,403	1,161,975
TOTAL FUNDS	8,390,399	8,301,603

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Income and expenditure

	Year ended 31 March 2026 £	Year ended 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds – general operations		
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies	33,388	41,270
Individual museum admissions	817,691	608,204
Grants receivable	250,590	561,778
Education group admissions	44,144	48,676
Membership subscriptions	34,476	31,459
Fundraising and events	43,814	19,333
Retail sales	412,830	296,212
Royalties and licensing	21,854	20,677
Investment income	9,611	18,635
Other income	7,028	8,014
Total unrestricted income	1,675,426	1,654,258
Expenditure		
Employment costs	916,843	805,715
Cost of goods sold	229,806	150,490
Direct charitable activities	141,786	127,505
Support costs	255,384	208,485
Governance	39,976	50,781
Fixed assets depreciation	22,864	5,219
Total unrestricted expenditure	1,606,659	1,348,195
NET SURPLUS FROM OPERATIONS	68,767	306,063
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	20,200	(2,931)
Transfers to restricted funds	(27,539)	(79,660)
MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	61,428	223,472
Restricted funds income		
Donations and legacies	8,063	5,714
Grants receivable	-	100,000
Total restricted income	8,063	105,714
Restricted funds expenditure		
Other grants expenditure	11,534	7,129
Total restricted expenditure	11,534	7,129
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) ON RESTRICTED FUNDS	(3,471)	98,585
Transfers from unrestricted funds	-	-
MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS	(3,471)	98,585
Heritage fixed assets funds income		
Heritage assets donations	3,300	13,150
Transfers from unrestricted funds	27,539	79,660
MOVEMENT ON HERITAGE FIXED ASSETS FUNDS	30,839	92,810
TOTAL MOVEMENT ON RESERVES IN YEAR	88,796	414,867



'I am delighted that the Brontë Society has had another successful year and continues to go from strength to strength. It was wonderful to have Branwell's portrait of Emily Brontë on loan from the National Portrait Gallery during Bradford's year as UK City of Culture and I am pleased that through its diverse and exciting programme of events, exhibitions and digital experiences, including collaborations with the 2026 "*Wuthering Heights*" film, the Museum is engaging people of all ages across the globe with the fantastic Brontë legacy.'

Dame Judi Dench, Brontë Society President



The Brontë Society



Brontë Parsonage
MUSEUM



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Photography by Bevan Cockerill and Brontë Parsonage Museum staff