

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

(Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - for the year ended 31 MARCH 2016

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# WILTSHIRE Archaeological and Natural History Society

(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1080096 Company Registration Number 3885649

The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (the Society, aka WANHS – pronounced 'wans') was founded in 1853. The Society's first permanent Museum opened in Long Street in 1874.

The collections have been acquired over the past century and a half and their strength lies in the prehistoric material. The Early Bronze Age collection is of exceptional importance because of its size and range, the uniqueness of many of the objects, the fact that it includes many prestige items, its association with the World Heritage Site of Avebury and Stonehenge, and its relevance to the history of archaeology. It has now been redisplayed enabling the 'Gold from the Time of Stonehenge' to be put on permanent display.

Each year academic researchers carry out important research on items in the collection. The collections were 'Designated' of national importance in 1999 and the Museum was awarded 'Accreditation' status in 2005.

The Library is open for research and contains a local studies collection of books, journals, newspapers and other printed items including photographs and maps concerned with Wiltshire. It has a separate archaeology section which includes a general collection of archaeology books, the principal archaeology journals, the papers of Wiltshire antiquaries and the written records of more recent excavations in the county. The Natural History section similarly includes general natural history books, specialist journals and the papers of early natural historians.

The Society and Museum are funded by its members, past and present; admission charges, Wiltshire, Devizes Town and Parish Councils; grants from charitable trusts and fundraising activities.

The Society is governed by Articles of Association (available on request). The objects for which the Society is registered are listed in the box to the right.

The Society holds an Annual General Meeting in October each year to which all Society members are invited. At this meeting the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March are presented for approval and Trustees elected. Past copies are available from our website.

## OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

The objects for which the Society is registered are to educate the public by promoting, fostering interest in, exploration, research and publication on the archaeology, art, history and natural history of Wiltshire for the public benefit.

To achieve this the Society:

- Maintains a museum, library and art gallery and mounts exhibitions to stimulate and enhance appreciation of the county of Wiltshire.
- Promotes, encourages and undertakes research and publishes newsletters, an annual magazine, reports, periodicals, books and other literature which are relevant to its activities.
- Provides lectures and visits on topics and places of interest, both inside and outside the county, to disseminate greater knowledge and appreciation of our heritage.
- Operates an archaeological field group which encourages members to become involved actively in the current archaeological scene in the county.
- Provides activities for young people to enable them to appreciate and develop their understanding of the local environment and its history (including school visits to the Museum and workshops at schools).

*Image on front cover: Gold 'shilling' found in East Grafton, near Great Bedwyn, (2015.30). Now on display in the Saxon Gallery, which opened last year. Image (c) Portable Antiquities Scheme*

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES: at 1 January 2016

Member	- £40.50
Joint/Family	- £53.00
Student	- £22.50
Member Organisation	- £47.50
Gold Donor and Amber Membership	- £65 and £125
Corporate membership	- £100 and £450
Life (over 50)	- £750
Life (under 50)	- £1,000

Subscriptions run for 12 months from the first day of the month in which you joined. Student membership is open to individuals enrolled on a full-time accredited course of study, or on a part-time course of higher education leading to a recognised qualification in the areas of the Society's interests.

# **WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

*(A company limited by guarantee)*

Charity Number 1080096 Company Registration Number 3885649

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

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### **CONTENTS**

Objects of the Society and current membership subscription rates	1
Legal Information, Board of Trustees, Administrative Information (Staff, Formal and Honorary Appointments, Patrons)	3
Chairman's letter	4
Board of Trustees' Report	4
Year End Review	5
Collection Acquisitions - highlights	10
Loans	12
Researchers	13
Society Committees	14
Volunteers	15
New Members	16
Activities, events, lectures and outings 2015/16	17
Trustees' Financial Report	18
Report of the Auditors	20
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Balance Sheet	22
Notes to the financial statements	23
Collections Trust – Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet	28
Collections Trust – Notes to the financial activities	28
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 October 2015	29

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## LEGAL INFORMATION, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SOCIETY STAFFING AND FORMAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### LEGAL INFORMATION

#### Constitution

Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (the Society) is a company limited by guarantee, registration number 3885649, governed by its Articles of Association and a charity, registration number 1080096. New Articles of Association were agreed by the members at the October 2015 Annual General Meeting. The Objects of the Society are detailed on the inner cover. The members of the Society are subscribing members; in the event of the Society being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member.

#### Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the Society) are its Trustees for the purpose of charitable law and throughout the report are referred to collectively as "the Trustees". As set out in the Articles of Association twelve Trustees are elected by the membership, seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting after three years and standing down after six. In addition up to four Trustees may be nominated, two by Wiltshire Council, and one each by Devizes Town Council, and the Salisbury Museum. The Trustees have the power to co-opt additional Trustees who serve until the end of the next Annual General Meeting at which they may be nominated and elected. The maximum number of Trustees at any time is twenty.

An induction session and other training are provided for all Trustees to familiarise them with the organisation of the Society, its Articles of Association, their legal obligations under company and charitable law, the current forward plan and the financial position and budget. Board meetings are held regularly and additional meetings are held during the year to discuss matters of importance to the Society and to brief Trustees on current strategy.

#### PATRONS

J B Bush, OBE, JP  
P Harding, DUniv, FSA, MIFA  
D Inshaw  
Mrs S R Troughton

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

##### Chairman:

D L Roseaman, BSc (Eng), CEng, MIMechE

##### Deputy Chairman:

P R Saunders, BA (Hons), FSA, FMA, FRSA

##### Hon. Treasurer:

A Aldridge, BA (Hons), ACMA (to 27.11.15)  
J R V Brandon, LLB, ACA (co-opted 27.11.15)

##### Elected Trustees:

A Aldridge, BA (Hons), ACMA (to 24.03.16)  
C J Bamber, CEng, FIMechE, BSc, CDipAF  
R Broadhead  
C Callow, BSc, ARCS, MBCS (from 25.10.14)  
D J Field, PhD, FSA, FSA Scot  
Ms E U Gaunt  
Ms A M Hemmins, BEd, ACE, Cert.Ed.

WA Perry, MSc

Ms L Pictor, BA (Hons), FRSA. (to 13.8.15)

M G Pope

Mrs J M Rennie, BA (Hons) (from 17.10.15)

#### Nominated Trustees:

P Evans, Member, Wiltshire Council

A X T Green, BA, MA, AMA, Director, Salisbury Museum

J Ody, Member, Devizes Town Council

C Williams, Member, Wiltshire Council

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

#### STAFF AS AT 31.3.2016

**Director:** David Dawson, BA, FSA, AMA

#### Museum:

\*Curator: Lisa Brown, BA, MA

\*Assistant Curator & Volunteer Co-ordinator:  
Heather Ault, BA

\*Learning & Outreach Officer: Ali Rushent, BA, MA

\*Outreach Officer: Mark Routledge, Dip. Couns.

\*Development Officer: Gillian Kenny, PhD, MA, BA

\*Project Officer: Amanda Loaring, BA, PgDip

\*Project Officer: Carina Taylor, BEd, MA

#### Administration:

Marketing & Administration Manager: Karen Jones, BA

\*Finance Officer: Malcolm Church

\*Museum Assistant: Jackie Davies

\*Publicity Officer: Jo Hutchings, BA

\*Membership Services & Retail Officer: Katrin Bailey

\*Visitor Services Officer: Kathryn Cox

[\*part-time]

### FORMAL APPOINTMENTS

#### Auditors:

David Owen & Co., 17 The Market Place, Devizes,  
SN10 1BA

#### Bankers:

Lloyds TSB plc, 38 Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1JD

#### Company Secretary:

Mrs K P Jones, BA

#### Solicitors:

Wansbroughs, Northgate House, Devizes, SN10 1JX

#### Editor - Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine:

Stuart Brookes, BA (Hons), MA, PhD, PGCTiLL

### REGISTERED OFFICE

41 Long Street  
Devizes  
Wiltshire.  
SN10 1NS

### COLLECTIONS TRUST

The Society is the Corporate Trustee of the Collections Trust in which ownership of the Museum and Library collections is vested.

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

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Progress continued to be made in developing and updating the Museum. This year it was the turn of the Library, Archive and Art collections to receive attention. Storage areas were improved and new racking installed. Conservation work on the collections was undertaken at the same time. Whilst this is all very much 'behind the scenes' the collections are now stored in much better conditions and access will be easier in future. Additional security has been added to the Art and Recent History Galleries which brings them up to Government Indemnity Standard – allowing us to borrow items from National Collections. The first of these was the Lacock Cup in the Spring.

The Director, staff and volunteers are to be congratulated for obtaining the money for these projects and then executing them.

The Society offers considerable public benefit through its Museum, Library and Archive, its Education Service, publications, exhibitions and its series of lectures, classes, conferences and visits. Further details will be found in the reports that follow. The Archaeology Conference, now in its third year, has become a much respected event in the archaeology calendar with all 150 places sold out. This together with our flagship publication *WANHM* and our other conferences and events has firmly placed the Society as the leading archaeological society in the county. Provision of free entry to the Museum for children and concessionary rates together with the subsidised education service offered to schools within the county and beyond cost the Society about £24,000.

At the beginning of the year the Board set a budget which would see £43,304 drawn from reserves to meet our charitable objectives. After adjusting for the £21,000 charge to the pension deficit which has now been taken to reserves the budgeted contribution from reserves would have been £22,304. The contribution required as a result of charitable activities has been £18,759, an improvement of £3,545. However, there was a fall in the value of the investments of £38,868 which took the overall contribution to £57,627.

A great deal of fundraising took place in the year and a new event was an Art Auction which raised £7,000 – an excellent result. We are very grateful to the members who organised the auction and to Wansbrough's Solicitors for sponsoring the evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

We continue to receive much support from the local community and this is best exemplified by T H White's maintenance of our alarm system free of charge – saving the Society £1,000 pa. We are very grateful to them.

Tony Aldridge, our Treasurer for the last two years, retired from business during the year and decided to spend his retirement travelling. During his time as Treasurer he greatly simplified the accounts and provided us with much improved management accounts with which we can run the Society and its Museum. Before leaving he found a replacement in James Brandon, a chartered accountant, and a smooth transition took place. We are very grateful to Tony for his work. Welcome to James.

During the year I asked the Treasurer and Finance Committee to review our reserves policy. Coincidentally the Charity Commission issued further advice on the subject and our new reserves policy takes all of this into account. This review clearly shows our liabilities as well as our assets and indicates that our reserves are only just adequate.

The proposed new Articles of the Society were fully approved at the 2015 AGM. The changes made brought the Articles into line with current law and will improve the operation of the Society. I continue to look at the governance of the Society to find ways of improving it. The Board reviewed the recruitment process for trustees and Board meetings continue to include training sessions for trustees with every other meeting devoted to a particular subject. Thus towards the end of the year we spent two thirds of one Board meeting looking at ways in which the trustees could raise additional funds for the Society.

*Doug Roseaman*

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report, together with the financial statements of the charity, for the year ended 31 March 2016.

This Annual Report includes the summary and objects of the Society on page 1, the legal and administrative information on page 3, the year end review on page 5, highlights of acquisitions by the Collections Trust on page 9, loans to and from the Museum on page 12, information on Researchers on page 13, reports from committees of the Society on page 14, names of volunteers on page 15, names of new members and the benefits of membership on page 16, activities, events, lectures and outings during 2015/16 on page 17 and the Trustees Financial Report on page 18. The financial statements on pages 21 to 28 include those of the Collections Trust.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The Director is the senior member of staff responsible for the ongoing operations in consultation with the Chairman.

The Society committees, all run by volunteers, provide a number of services to members and the wider public. They cover a wide range of activities from Fundraising, Industrial Archaeology through to expert advice on planning matters. Their work helps promote the Society and its Museum and Archive and Library to a much wider audience than would otherwise be possible. Reports from committees and staff are included in this report.

## YEAR END REVIEW

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The highlight of the year was the purchase of a gold Saxon 'shilling' found at East Grafton (*shown on front cover*). After spotting it in an auction we were able to raise funding for its purchase from the Art Fund and the Arts Council/V&A Purchase Grant Fund as well as almost 50 members and supporters. The coin is very important to Wiltshire as it is one of the earliest coins minted in Saxon England and probably represents a Royal gift. In March we were able to place the coin on display in our new Saxon Gallery, during an evening where we were able to thank those who have supported us throughout the year.

During the year we added a number of significant objects to our displays. These included the early Bronze Age sun-disk from Monkton Farleigh, given in memory of Dr Frank Whitehead and a Mesolithic flint axe found by John Tucker. We also have been able to feature two generous loans, a Neolithic jadeitite axe found at Atworth loaned by Paul Sims (*see page 12*) and a middle Bronze Age torc from Warminster, on loan from Gary Clifford (*see page 12*).

We were also fortunate to find out more about the WWII Prisoner of War Diary from Devizes. We were contacted by Frank Safran, the grandson of the artist who illustrated the diary. He was able to tell us that the diary was illustrated by Hermann Gensler and the rhyming couplets were written by his life-long friend, Hermann Hildestein, and to give us more information about the artist and his family.

We have also seen a major change in our Archive and Library with the improvement of the archive and art stores. With funding from the Arts Council Designation Development Fund we were able to remove the asbestos and install modern steel racking to bring collections storage up to modern standards, helping to keep our collections safe. The project was managed by Amanda Loaring and implemented by Carina Taylor, together with Heather Ault and a team of volunteers who completed a wide range of tasks. The Library also saw two important conservation projects completed. Bill Perry was successful in obtaining a grant and support from members to enable the

conservation of the music book of John Smith and Sandy Haynes co-ordinated work on the antiquarian papers of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, which have been conserved and re-packed with the support of a grant from the National Manuscripts Commission and are now ready for researchers. The contribution of the Library and Archive volunteer team was recognised when they were awarded the South West England British Museum/Marsh Award (*pictured page 6*) for Volunteering, presented at a ceremony held at the British Museum in September.

We have also been working in partnership with other museums in our region. In May Baroness Scott of Bybrook (Jane Scott), Leader of Wiltshire Council, launched the *Wiltshire's Story in 100 Objects* exhibition at County Hall in Trowbridge. This exhibition, developed and curated by Amanda Loaring, celebrates the 40 museums across Wiltshire and features objects from their collections that tell the county's unique story. The exhibition was funded by the Arts Council as part of the Wessex Museums Partnership project and the exhibition has been toured to Chippenham, Malmesbury and Trowbridge, before coming to Devizes, Swindon and Salisbury during 2016.

The year saw a significant move forward in our fund-raising efforts with a very successful Art Auction held in April. This was organised by Alan Cowley, who worked with a number of significant local artists who contributed work, including David Inshaw, Ann Swann, Oliver Freeman and Michael Angove. The event was supported by Wansbroughs Solicitors and over 50 people attended the event. A number of people helped behind the scenes including Martin Nye, and on the night we raised over £7,000 for the Society and Museum. In the Summer, we worked in partnership with *Omnes ad Unum* on a Pimm's Party and Silent Auction. Funds raised by the *Omnes ad Unum* group are split between St John's Church and other local causes. This was a fun afternoon in the sun and raised over £2,000. This was especially welcome as the sum helped to trigger a grant of £27,000 from Viridor Waste Management in respect of Landfill Tax Credits towards the cost of

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*From left: The Archive and Library store before, during and after the refurbishment..*

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upgrading some of our electrical work and also a programme of repairs and repainting to help keep our buildings in good condition. The work was begun in March 2016 as the weather began to improve.

Fund-raising is being supported by our Arts Council Wessex Museums Partnership project, led by Poole Museum and including Salisbury Museum, Dorset County Museum and the Russell-Cotes Gallery in Bournemouth. This is providing funding for our Development Officer, Gillian Kenny, as well as other work at the Museum.

We continue to raise the profile of the Museum and the Society. We can sometimes make a bigger impact and regularly appear in the local paper and on local radio. This year our geology collections were highlighted in *Canals: The Making of a Nation* in an interview with presenter Liz McIvor. Rather further afield we have loaned some items from our collections to an exhibition at the MAMUZ Museum in Mistelbach, Austria. This exhibition has been curated by Julian Richards and presents the results of the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project, led by Wolfgang Neibauer of the Boltzmann Institute in Vienna, working in partnership with the University of Birmingham.

We have also hosted visits to the Museum by a range of groups including the Association of Heritage Interpretation and a delegation from the Zhengjiang Province in China as well as a significant number of university groups.

The year has seen a downturn in the number of visitors to the Museum. This is despite our efforts in marketing the Museum and the continuing excellent feedback, whether through comments to our front of house volunteers, in our comments book or through their 5-star ratings on Tripadvisor. We have worked with other organisations in the town to boost tourism in Devizes and Tony Aldridge (our Treasurer until November 2015), was presented with a Civic Award for his efforts in promoting Devizes, which included the town being shortlisted for both the 2015 and 2016 National Coach Awards. We are working on a range of projects with VisitWiltshire,

English Heritage and our Wessex Museum partners to build our visitor numbers.

### Archive and Library

The Archive and Library were closed for the last three months of the year for the refit of the archive and art stores. Asbestos sheeting was removed along with the old wooden shelving, and the archive store re-plastered and rewired. New metal shelving to the British Standard for archival storage has been installed which, together with a large purchase of new acid-free boxes, will aid the long term preservation of the collections. We are most grateful to the Designation Development Fund for a grant covering the cost of refitting the two stores.

The Library also benefited from a legacy of £10,000 from late member Miss Eunice Banks, which will be applied to redecoration of the Long Room, new computers and conservation of some of our historic books and papers.

The Library continues to be run by a team of approximately 20 volunteers who attend to visitors, and undertake cataloguing and care of the collections. We are most grateful for all they do; it is a fitting tribute to their commitment and professionalism that we were the South-West Regional Winners of the 2015 Marsh Trust Awards to Museum Volunteers. Five members of the team attended the awards ceremony at the British Museum (*pictured below right*). A priority task of the team continues to be the addition of records to the computerised catalogue database (which now contains over 24,000 records of our collection of books, tracts, documents, maps, postcards, photographs and sales catalogues, all of which can be searched via the on-line catalogue on the Museum website). We hope the continuing expansion of the database will make it easier for people to ascertain what we have in the collection and so lead to an increase in visitors to the Library (who, together with enquiries by email or telephone, presently average around 70 per month).

A list of new acquisitions during the previous calendar year is now included in each issue of the Society journal *WANHM*.

*Bill Perry*

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*Left: At the 2015 National Coach Tourism Awards; pictured from left - Tony Aldridge, Zita de Lancey, James and Carol Brandon, Margaret l'Anson (of Chandlers Coaches) and David Dawson. Right: Celebrating the Marsh Award for the South West Region; pictured from left: David Dawson, Sarah Lewis, Stuart Raymond, Bill Perry and Sue Roderick.*

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## Exhibitions

*Traces: a personal exploration of English prehistory as it is seen in today's landscape*, by Steve Speller and Alison Milner (June – August 2015). The exhibition combined the panoramic views captured by photographer Steve Speller with beaker ceramics and prints made by his wife Alison Milner.

*Between Avebury and Stonehenge: Marden and the Vale of Pewsey Project* (June – August 2015). During the summer of 2015 Reading University Archaeology Field School and Historic England excavated in the Vale of Pewsey. Fieldwork focused on previously identified prehistoric and Roman monuments, as well as the continued excavation of Marden Henge, building on the work carried out there in 2010 by Dr Jim Leary and his team.

This is collaborative project with Wiltshire Museum and is funded by an Arts & Humanities Research Council grant. Three years of fieldwork have been scheduled, with a published monograph planned for 2019. To support the fieldwork the Museum put on an exhibition displaying some of the finds from the 1969 excavation of Marden by Geoffrey Wainwright. Also on display were the finds from other excavations undertaken in the Vale of Pewsey over the last 100 years, including the early Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Knap Hill excavated by Maud Cunnington in 1908-9 and Graham Connah in 1961 and the Iron Age village at All Canning Cross, excavated by Maud Cunnington with her husband Benjamin in 1911-22. Along with some individual Bronze Age and Roman finds, some fossils and examples of animals found on the Downland.

Reading University organised two open days at Marden in July, which the Museum attended.

*Marlborough Open Studios* (July 2015). Assistant Curator, Heather Ault, worked with Kate Freeman to hang a selection of artwork from our collections in store, during the Marlborough Open Studios weekend on 11th July. The exhibition was well-received by visitors and significantly raised awareness of our art collection amongst local artists.

*Devizes Camera Club Biennial Print Exhibition* (September 2015). Opened by the Mayor of Devizes, Councillor Roger Giraud-Saunders, on Sunday 13th, the exhibition featured photographs by members of the Devizes Camera Club as well as photographic equipment from years gone by.

*Wessex Places: drawings and prints featuring the captivating landscape of Wessex*, by David Inshaw, Dave Gunning, Rob Pountney and Ray Ward (October – December 2015) (pictured below). David Inshaw lent the Museum four etchings for display, two of which were first stage proofs of paintings already in the Museum's collections, *Canal*, *Honeystreet* and *Silbury Sunrise*. The Museum purchased two of Ray Ward's pictures, *Silbury Hill 009* and *Marlborough Mound and the Grotto*, for the collection.

*The Great War* (October – December 2015). An exhibition of First World War artefacts, photographs and documents from the Museum collections, as well as items on loan from the general public.

*Fibs and Fibulae: a touring exhibition from Leasingstede Museum* (January – April 2016). Ever heard of a Leaf Rustler, a Hen Chafer or a Mould Foxer? These were among the strange and surprising artefacts from an imaginary folk museum, on display at the Museum at the beginning of the year. The objects were highlights from an ongoing artwork, Leasingstede Museum, created by artist Jane Williams. Jane experiments to see what happens when something of no value is treated as priceless. The objects on display, which have often been made from scavenged bits and pieces, were given the respect afforded to 'real' museum exhibits, which at first glance are what they look like. Among the exhibits were prehistoric, Roman and Saxon finds, obscure rural tools, a coin hoard and a musical instrument, and several items were linked to Wiltshire. During the course of the exhibition the artist put in several appearances in the guise of a disaffected Leasingstede employee, known as the Other Curator.

*Wiltshire's Story in 100 Objects: a touring exhibition*. On display at Wiltshire Museum in May 2016. The Exhibition opened at County Hall in May 2015.

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*From left: The Wessex Places artists (clockwise from top left): David Inshaw, Ray Ward, Dave Gunning and Rob Pountney; a Mould Foxer (Leasingstede Museum); Devil's Den by Steve Speller (Trace's exhibition).*

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## Lectures and Events

**Fundraising Lecture:** *The Other Side of the Roadshow* with Andy McConnell, glass specialist on the Antiques Roadshow (*pictured below with Lisa Brown, Curator*). In his talk Andy looked back over his career spanning his days as a 1970s Hollywood-based rock journalist to his current role as the glass specialist on BBC TV's Antiques Roadshow. The evening was a great success, raising more than £600 for the Museum

Whilst the Museum continues to attract visitors to see our unique collections and learn more about the history of Wiltshire we also run a varied programme of events and exhibitions. There were over 80 workshops, visits, walks and lectures during the year for all ages. In addition over 130 schools, colleges, universities and groups visited the Museum or took advantage of our outreach service. We are grateful to all our speakers and guides for their support in helping deliver such a popular and wide-ranging programme (see page 17 for details). Our Lecture Hall has also been booked by the WEA (Workers Education Association) for a series of lectures on Ancient Egypt.

### Publicity and Social Media

We publicise our events using a wide range of methods: traditional and modern. *BBC Wiltshire* and the *Gazette & Herald* are very responsive and often include 'side bar' or pin board items featuring snippets of news: such as changes in opening times, lectures and exhibitions.

Our use of social media has expanded to include the photograph based Instagram account. We now have over 200 followers who share news and comment regularly using this platform.

Traditional forms of advertising are also used: posters appear on all the Devizes Town Council notice boards and at Devizes Library. Events and news are added to the Wiltshire Council Community Matters websites; which in turn appear on eNewsletters sent out each week by the Community Engagement Managers for each Area Board. Museum news also features in the Trust for Devizes newsletter, and appears on their website

Each month an eNewsletter is sent to subscribers which serves as a useful reminder to book tickets for lectures and outings. This newsletter can also be used for updates on ongoing projects or news.

This year has seen a steady increase in our followers on both Facebook and Twitter and our news items can be seen by over 10m users.

Our Publicity Officer, Jo Hutchings, endeavours to engage visitors in conversation (especially those holding cameras) to suggest that they mention the museum if they Tweet or Instagram. Several visitors have either indicated that they would like to return for children's activities, or to undertake research in the Archive and Library once the renovations are complete. One visitor was so interested that they took out their mobile and found/liked us on Facebook there and then so that they would be up to date on the latest news.

Social media is always helpful when sharing events to support our museum partners. The Finds Liaison Officer, based at Salisbury Museum, has developed a hashtag (#) for both Salisbury and ourselves to use when sharing photographs on Instagram. This will become a regular Friday feature.

We are also followers of the local group Instagrammers Wiltshire, and Jo has attended Instameets in a variety of locations (including a glorious autumn sunrise at Stonehenge in co-operation with English Heritage and Visit Wiltshire). It is hoped that an Instameet will take place based at the Museum later in 2016. Participating in this sort of event ensures that the Museum's photographs, and messages, are potentially seen and shared by over 4,000 Instagram users.

### Education

The Learning and Outreach Service continues to move forward with a combination of indoor and outdoor activities enjoyed by Young WANHS during the last year. Outings included a windswept ramble along the Wansdyke and later in the Spring a trek through West Woods in search of Sarsen stones and more elusive wildlife. There were also trips to get 'hands on' with the excavations at Marden Henge and

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*From left: Lisa Brown, Curator and Andy McConnell; the opening of the Stonehenge: Hidden Landscapes exhibition at the Mamuz Museum in Mistelbach, Austria; David Dawson and Michael Buerk*

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Mother Anthony's Well. The rainy days were spent in the lecture hall with craft sessions ranging from Heraldry to Angels, and more seasonal activities around Yule and Halloween. We have picked up a few extra members along the way and attendance remains good.

Holiday activities are always a favourite with workshops full to capacity and often overbooked. Seasonal favourites such as Spring and Halloween, along with more historically based themes for the Summer holidays seem to draw in the young people as well as those just visiting the Museum. This has resulted in some very positive feedback on Trip Advisor.

Nights at the Museum have proved popular and we have seen groups including local Rainbows spend a few hours in the company of the evening inhabitants of the Museum and cellars and learning why the museum is always shut on Christmas day.....

It remains to mention the schools and outreach service. Prehistory and Romans are always popular with visiting groups using gallery exploration alongside handling sessions to support their history curriculum. Outreach has seen interest in schools from Bath and Bristol, engaging us to provide all day workshops on Prehistory and Anglo Saxons. Villages on the outskirts of Swindon have used us for Prehistory, Roman and Anglo Saxon workshops and we continue to encourage more to do the same.

Links have been made with other local organisations with a visit to Athelstan Museum to support a school visit and reminiscence sessions at a local care home and Alzheimer's support drop in centre.

### **Volunteers**

Our volunteers provide invaluable support and encouragement in the day to day running of the Museum, and are a vital part of everything that we do here.

We have some 150 volunteers who deserve an enormous thank you for all the time and experience they give to helping the Museum in their various roles. The work they

undertake ensures that the Museum can open its doors seven days a week to visitors, and provide valuable services to both visitors and researchers.

Our wonderful team of volunteers help with everything from front of house cover, to representing the Museum at events, from gardening, to pouring teas, in collections and archive work, to delivering our many mailings for the membership. And that's just a small sample of the volunteering that takes place everyday - there are many more volunteer roles that could be mentioned. Everything that our volunteers do, no matter what their role, is crucial and we are very grateful and thankful for their help and support.

### **Oral History Project**

The Museum is putting together an oral history archive, to record the personal stories and accounts of people involved in the excavations of prehistoric sites in the county over the years, as well as past memories of working at the Museum. Those interviewed so far are former Curators Nicholas Thomas and Dr Paul Robinson; Librarian Dr Lorna Haycock and Administration Officer, Margaret Clarke. Archaeologists include Dr Jim Leary, David Field and Prof. Peter Fowler. Also local historian John Girvan and David Collison, Producer of the BBC's *Chronicle* series, who filmed the excavations at Silbury Hill by Professor Atkinson 1968-70 on live television, with Magnus Magnusson.

Thank you to volunteers Cecilia Webb and Rachel Stammers for producing the written transcriptions.

Thank you also to David Buxton for donating his oral history archive, *Devizes Voices (1995-6)*.

### **CONSERVATION**

In June we received confirmation from Wiltshire Council Museums Service that an hourly rate would be imposed for all future conservation work undertaken on the collections.

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*From left: costumes made by NADFAS volunteers; youngsters enjoy Halloween activities and West Woods.*

## **ACQUISITIONS HIGHLIGHTS**

There were many additions made to the collections during the year. A detailed list can be found in the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* (volume 109, 2016). Below are some of the highlights.

### **ARCHAEOLOGY**

#### **Acquisitions of the Year:**

A very rare gold 'shilling' found in East Grafton, near Great Bedwyn (*pictured front cover*). One of the earliest English gold coins, it is a shilling worth twenty Anglo-Saxon pennies. Probably struck at a Royal mint in Kent in about AD 675, the portrait on the coin is based on the Roman Emperor, Carausius. In front of him is a cross, showing that the King is a Christian. It was at this time that the first monastery in Wiltshire was founded at Malmesbury by St Aldhelm, a nephew of Ine, King of Wessex. The other side shows two clasped hands, perhaps representing a marriage or alliance, along with the letters 'ADIN'. The coin was found close to the Manor of Bedwyn, which belonged to the King of Wessex. Bedwyn became important enough to have a Minster church and its own Royal mint. It was only later that the focus moved to the Royal castle at nearby Marlborough. Purchased with support from the V&A Purchase Grant Fund, Art Fund, WANHS members and a county-wide fundraising appeal launched by the Museum (2015.30).

#### **AND...**

**Viking gold finger-ring** found in the Stockley area, three miles south of Calne (*pictured above right*). Dating to the 10-11<sup>th</sup> century, this man's ring is made from six strands of gold plaited together to make a band. It may have been dropped during a skirmish, or taken from a defeated warrior after a lost battle. Purchased with support from the V&A Purchase Grant Fund, Headley Trust, Mike McQueen and other WANHS members. (2015.14).

Both of these objects are now on display in the Saxon Gallery, which opened in 2015.

**Neolithic polished flint axehead fragment**, dating to c. 3500 - 2200 BC, only the butt-end remains (*pictured below*). Found in Luckington. Donated by Mr C H Fry, Chippenham (2015.10).

**Roman bronze figurine or steelyard weight** depicting the head and neck of a male bust, possibly Apollo, god of the sun (*pictured below*). Found at Etchilhampton. Donated by Mr D Hillier, Winterbourne Stoke. On display in the Roman Gallery (2015.11).

**Rare bronze Roman openwork belt mount** with trumpet motif, dating to c. 150 - 300 AD (*pictured below*). Found in Winterbourne Bassett.

*Pictured above - Viking gold finger-ring (2015.14)*

Donated by Mr G Cook, Westbury (2015.12).

**Roman green gem-set gold finger-ring**, dating to the 3rd century AD (*pictured below*). Found in Clyffe Pypard. Portable Antiquities Scheme Treasure find, purchased by the Museum. The landowner kindly waived his half of the reward (2015.16).

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*Pictured from left - Neolithic polished flint axehead fragment (2015.10); Roman Bronze figurine or steelyard weight (2015.11); Bronze Roman openwork belt mount (2015.12); Roman green gem-set gold finger-ring (2015.16)*

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## ART

Pencil sketch of the Red Lion at Avebury, dated 10.9.49. Unsigned and artist unknown. 227 mm (h) x 292 mm (w). Donation. (2015.1001)

Copper engraving illustration of Stonehenge by Willem and Joan Blaeu, printed in Amsterdam c. 1662. 200mm (h) x 250 mm (w). Purchase. (2015.1002)

Pen and ink sketch of the Lion Monument commemorating James Long of Urchfont who in 1768 promoted a new road from Nursteed, Devizes to Lydeway, Urchfont (*pictured below*). Artist Paul Sharp, c. 1963. 173 mm (h) x 100 mm (w). Donation. (2015.1003)

19<sup>th</sup> Century oil on canvas of Stonehenge with shepherds in foreground (*pictured below*). Artist unknown. 295 mm (h) x 445 mm (w). Purchase. (2015.1004)

Lino print entitled 'Little Thatch' by Martin Covington (*pictured below*). 150 mm (h) x 175 mm (w). Oexmann Purchase Prize 2015. (2015.1005)

Lino print entitled 'On Salisbury Plain' by Martin Covington. 200 mm (h) x 300 mm (w). Oexmann Purchase Prize 2015. (2015.1006)

Unframed black and white image of a dolmen (unknown location) by Paul Mackeson. Executed using air brush pigment sprayed through layers of lace and mesh on card. Undated. 318 mm (h) x 252 mm (w). Bequeathed by the Artist. (2015.1007)

Framed black and white image of stone circle and trees by Paul Mackeson. Executed using air brush pigment sprayed through layers of lace and mesh on card. 317 mm (h) x 445 mm (w). Bequeathed by the Artist. (2015.1008)

Framed oil on board of Imber village by T Simminson, dated 1926. 225 mm (h) x 300 mm (w). Donation. (2015.1009)

Unframed digital print of Marlborough Mound and Shell Grotto by Ray Ward, 2015. Print 2/5. 330 mm (h) x 592 mm (w). Purchase. (2016.1001)

Unframed digital print of Silbury Hill on archival paper by Ray Ward. Dated 2015. Print 4/13. 350 mm (h) x 442 mm (w). Purchase. (2016.1002)

## NUMISMATICS

Hoard of English and French jettons found at Little Cheverell, near Devizes, in 2005. The hoard consists of seven English and twenty-four French / Tournai copper alloy jettons, two billon coins, one of Spain the other of Brittany, and three blank discs. This group of thirty-six pieces dates from the second half of the 14th century. The presence of three blank discs suggests that this group may well be part or whole of a working set of counters. The jettons are of great interest to researchers in illustrating a method of calculation used long before the era of the pocket calculator. Purchased by the Museum, from Mr S. Bailey of Westbury, the finder. *Three of the jettons are shown on page 32 (2016.4).*

Small number of 17<sup>th</sup> century trade tokens and other coins from the collection of Christopher Blunt of Ramsbury, donated by his son Simon Blunt, who also lived in Ramsbury. *Photograph on page 32 shows a trade token, issued by JOHN FREY, grocer DEVIZES, 1649-72 (2015.17).*

## RECENT HISTORY

**Heart-shaped 'sweetheart pillow' or pin cushion**, decorated with an embroidered poem, THINK OF ME. Sequins, beads and the badge of THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT are also sewn onto on it (*pictured rear cover*). The pillow belonged to Hilda Beer of Rowde and was sent home by her fiancé during the First World War. He returned from the Western Front, but they never married. Donated by Mrs R. Walker, Bristol (2015.9).

**Late Victorian silver table candelabra** made by Mappin & Webb, Sheffield c.1900 and **gilt tooled green leather presentation album** containing forty-eight Art Nouveau style watercolours, most signed by members of the Devizes community. The title page of the album makes reference to the gift of the candelabra. Inscribed on the front cover, *Presented to Mr. Frank Reynolds by the Inhabitants of Devizes and Neighbourhood. March 1902.* Mr Reynolds was landlord of the Bear Hotel in the Market Place, Devizes, 1891. Purchased by the Museum. *Pictured page 32 (2015.32.1-2).*

Go to [www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk/collections/](http://www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk/collections/) for more information about items in the collection.

From left: 'the Lion Monument' (2015.1003); Stonehenge (2015.1004); 'Little Thatch' (2015.1005)

## LOANS

### **To the Museum:**

- **Middle Bronze Age copper alloy spiral-twisted neck torc**, dating to 1400 - 1250 BC, found in Warminster in 2012. 211mm wide; 15mm thick and weighing 537grams. The Museum does not have a neck torc in its collections and so this is an important new display item for the Prehistoric Wiltshire Galleries. On loan from Gary Clifford, Chairman of the Wyvern Historical and Detecting Society. The loan is currently for three years. Mr Clifford kindly paid for the torc to be conserved prior to display. (2015.26).
- **Neolithic polished jadeitite axe**, dating to 4,500 - 2,500 BC. Found during a house renovation in Atworth in 2003-4, provenance unknown. The jadeitite used to make this axe probably comes from Mont Viso in the North Italian Alps. Another important display item for the Prehistoric Wiltshire Galleries. On loan from Paul Sims, Trowbridge. The loan is currently for five years (2015.29).

### **Loans to other institutions**

- The MAMUZ Museum Mistelbach in Austria has borrowed a selection of Bronze Age artefacts for the exhibition, *Stonehenge: Hidden landscape*, guest curated by Julian Richards. These include the objects found in the Roundway Archer G8 burial. The dagger from this grave group is made from almost pure copper, which probably came from the Austrian Alps. Roundway G8 is on loan until the end of 2016, when it will be exchanged for Mere G6a, a Beaker burial with gold sun disc.
- Ten of the minute gold studs (2-3mm long) that once decorated the wooden handle of the large Bush Barrow dagger were borrowed for the exhibition, *Hide and Seek: Looking for Children in the Past*, which explores the archaeology of children and childhood. Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (MAA), University of Cambridge.
- Milston dagger with hilt riveted handle and bone pommel and the blade fragment and rivet set from Bush Barrow (Wilsford G5), loaned for analysis of the metal components using surface X-ray fluorescence, to enable

more accurate dating. *Dr Stuart Needham, Independent Researcher & Honorary Research Fellow Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales. Analysis carried out by the Institute of Archaeology, London.*

- Radiocarbon dating the cremated human remains from the log coffin burial found at Milton Lilbourne G4. *Dr Richard Brunning and Dr Andrew Jones, Southampton University. Analysis carried out by Jacqueline McKinley, Wessex Archaeology.*
- Two chert axeheads from the Palaeolithic site at Knowle Farm in Little Bedwyn, for non-destructive analysis at Exeter University, to confirm the origin of the stone. *Implement Petrology Group Committee.*
- Wilsford G7 Bronze Age grave group was exchanged for Wilsford G8, for display at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre in January 2016, as outlined in the loan agreement signed by the Museum and English Heritage in 2012.
- Aldbourne carnival queen crown, for display in the village. *Aldbourn Historical Society.*

*Contributions from David Dawson, Heather Ault, Lisa Brown, Jo Hutchings, Karen Jones and Mark Routledge.*

*Above right: Middle Bronze Age copper alloy spiral twisted neck torc (2015.26)  
Below from left: Photographing items for the MAMUZ loan; gold studs from the Bush Barrow dagger loaned to MAMUZ  
Museum and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge;  
Neolithic polished jadeitite Axe - on the right (2015.2) (photograph by Jo Hutchings).*

## RESEARCHERS

- Dr David Alexander, researching Thomas Trotter watercolours for an article for Historic England.
- Emily Banfield, Leicester University, conducted radiocarbon dating and isotope analysis on the animal bone from various Neolithic long barrows. This study forms part of an AHRC/Midlands3Cities funded PhD study into the meaning of animal remains from Wiltshire long barrows.
- Mr Bryan Berrett, researching Steeple Ashton font drawing by Pridham (DZSWS:1982.2956).
- Celia Blay, local historian researching the Maiden Bradley Priory seal impressions.
- Dr Linda Boutoille, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University, Belfast, examining lithic tool-sets used by Atlantic Bronze Age metalworkers, to compile a corpus of lithic metalworking tools used in the British Isles.
- Keith Bradbury, Buckingham University, researching Mesolithic tranchet axes.
- Dr Joanna Bruck, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Bristol University, researching the shale and amber objects from the Late Bronze Age midden at Potterne.
- Peer Carstens, researching and reconstructing the Anglo-Saxon buckle found in Grave 22, Blacknall Field cemetery, Pewsey
- Dr Michael Costen, Honorary Research Fellow, Bristol University, researching Anglo-Saxon beads.
- Sarah Cuthbert, Exeter University, researching human remains excavated from Neolithic tombs in the south of Britain, specifically the presence of pathological conditions, including any presence of the deficiency diseases and its association with the introduction of agriculture.
- Professor Stephen Daniels FBA, University of Nottingham, researching the John Britton watercolours and manuscripts.
- Ella Egberts, Bournemouth University, studying early hominin presence in the Avon Valley, Hampshire, examined Palaeolithic stone tools from Milford Hill and Bemerton.
- George Foord, researching the prisoner of war camp in Devizes.
- Phil Harding, archaeologist at Wessex Archaeology, researching the Stonehenge flint dagger (Amesbury G54).
- Dr Robert Hosfield, Senior Lecturer in Palaeolithic Archaeology, Reading University, examined the artefacts from the Knowle Farm in Little Bedwyn, to interpret the intriguing polish or gloss on a number of the lithics.
- Mr Stephen Hurd, researching the Mildenhall collection of watercolours and drawings.
- Bill Jones, novelist, researching the prisoner of war camp in Devizes, for a book he is writing.
- Nigel Larkin, Cambridge University, researching ichthyosaur specimens.
- Dr Peter Leeming, Exeter University, researching fossil material from Bronze Age excavations.
- Dr Richard Madgwick, British Academy Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Cardiff University, conducted destructive analysis using Transmission Electron Microscopy on a small amount of animal bone, to identify prehistoric cooking practices at the feasting centres of Potterne and East Chisenbury.
- Melissa Metzger, Bradford University, researching Neolithic polished flint discoidal knives.
- Victoria Mullin, Trinity College, Dublin, working on the ancient DNA ERC project CodeX, conducted destructive analysis on animal bone from the prehistoric settlement at Blackberry Field, Potterne. The project is researching the genetic consequences of the domestication of cattle, sheep and goat of Europe, sequencing samples of varying ages from the Near East across to Britain, with a particular focus on the British Isles with a time span from the Neolithic to the Early Medieval period.
- Dr Ruth Pelling, Historic England researching Darby & Joan seed picture.
- Hetti Price, musician, studying the history of the cello in England.
- Hannah Raines, Bristol University, researching prehistoric musical instruments.
- Dr Ruth Shaffrey, Project Officer at Oxford Archaeology, researching prehistoric stone artefacts (Bronze Age and Iron Age loomweights), for publication.
- Dr Abbie N. Sprague, U.S.A., researching Stonehenge artwork.
- James Stokes, Magdalen College Oxford, researching British Bronze Age daggers and patterns of use wear, to discover a difference in use between rich and poor graves.
- Megan Thompson, family historian, researching a farthing token issued by Edmund Handy, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, 1649-1672
- Dr Leo Webley, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Bristol University, researching non-ferrous metalworking in later prehistory.
- Dr Helen Wickstead, Senior Lecturer at the School of Art and Design History, Kingston University, researching British prehistoric phalluses.
- Julieann Worrall Hood, Bath Spa University researching the Henry Moore Stonehenge suite.
- Muhammad Yasir Nawaz, Faculty of History at Oxford University, researching 17<sup>th</sup> century trade tokens in Wiltshire and Somerset.

*A jetton from the hoard of English and French jettons found at Little Cheverell, near Devizes, in 2005 (2016.4)..*

## SOCIETY COMMITTEES

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### **Buildings and Monuments**

The revised Committee and approach has now operated in its current form for more than a year reviewing both Swindon and Wiltshire Council's Listed Building Consent (LBC) applications and now includes scheduled monuments.

The Committee reviewed 251 LBCs (last year 106) making responses on 22 (last year 22) and one scheduled monument related permission was supported. These responses are made as the statutory consultee for the CBA and WANHS to Swindon and Wiltshire Councils. The submissions influenced the final approvals or rejections with few exceptions.

This Committee has been invited to assist *Historic England* in the review and updating of original 'English Heritage' listed building archive records across the Swindon/Wiltshire area which will be undertaken in 2016 – 2017. This request is an indication of the respect and influence this active committee has within National organisations.

*John Baumber, Chairman*

### **Fundraising, Marketing and Membership**

Sadly this year, Philip Taverner, one of our long standing members has passed away and two others, Penny Spink MBE and Rick Rowland, have been seriously ill. All have been members for well over ten years. Annetta Hemmins has joined us and we are looking for new members.

Despite this the committee and helpers attended the five main events in and around Devizes with a stall and tombola. When we started attending these events most members of the public had not visited the Museum, or if they had it was in childhood. The picture is very different now with most being visitors and a significant number being regulars – particularly those with children.

The Committee is also responsible each year for checking subscription rates and making recommendations for any changes to the Board. For the fourth year in a row the Committee concluded that the rates should not be changed.

*Doug Roseaman, Chairman*

### **Industrial Archaeology**

The main focus of our work this year has been the staging of the Industrial Archaeology Symposium. The subjects covered a wide field – from Farm wagons to the silk industry to Yate Colliery. All talks were very well researched and attendees expressed their satisfaction with the programme. Planning on a 'Road' themed conference for 2016 is well underway.

During the year Pam Slocombe, a long standing member and former chairman of the committee, retired and we were joined by Alan Wadsworth.

The committee continues to work with many other organisations and private individuals throughout the county and beyond who have an interest in Wiltshire's Industrial Archaeology.

*Doug Roseaman, Committee Secretary*

### **Wiltshire Archaeology Field Group (WAFG)**

The Archaeology Field Group ran a wide variety of projects during the year. The largest project was the third season of excavations at a site near Bromham which identified a Roman trackway and two corn-driers. Two oval enclosures were also investigated which proved to be prehistoric and further excavation will be carried out next year.

Other projects included an excavation of a Roman farmstead just across the Gloucestershire border at Worms Farm and working with Richard Henry, the Finds Liaison Officer and David Roberts from Historic England to investigate the context of the discovery of a hoard of Roman bronze vessels near Pewsey.

The Wiltshire Medieval Graffiti Survey has been continuing, and has recorded graffiti in a number of churches across the County and included working in partnership with the Churches Conservation Trust to record Imber Church. Not all the graffiti is medieval in date, and WW1 graffiti at Figheldean has included following the stories of the soldiers who wrote their names in pencil in the church.

*David Dawson*

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*Below from left: WAFG excavation at Siddington; an example from the Wiltshire Medieval Graffiti Survey (more details for both projects can be found in Trilithon, no. 79, April 2016); scaffolding around the Museum in March 2016.*

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## VOLUNTEERS

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Mrs Joann Atkins	Mr John Howard	Mrs Dorothy Robertson
Miss Heather Bechler	Mr Frank Howells	Dr Paul & Mrs Diane Robinson
Dr J D & Mrs J Belt	Mr David Hughes	Mrs Doris Roddham
Ms Sharon Benfield	Mr M Huntley	Mrs Sue Roderick
Mrs Astrid Bleich	Mr Jonathan & Mrs Shelagh Hurwitt	Mrs Judith Roseaman
Mrs P Brazier	Mr Tony & Mrs Carole Jones	Mr Rick & Mrs Marion Rowland
Mr R Brindle	Mrs Marilyn Jude	Mr Jonathan Sanigar
Miss Angi Britten	Mrs Mary Kane	Ms Sandie Scott
Mr D A Brown	Dr James Kay	Mrs Brenda Short
Ms Jan Bryant	Mr Dallas Kendall	Mr I & Mrs Pamela Slocombe
Mr Roy Canham	Mr Brian & Mrs Ann King	Mr Mike & Mrs Anne Smith
Lt Col Colvin Chamberlain	Mrs Val Knowles	Mr Peter Smith
Dr John Chandler	Mr J W Lambert	Mr P G & Mrs R A Smith
Mrs Janice Chapman	Mr Arthur & Mrs Wendy Lansdown	Mrs Wendy Smith
Mr Robert Clarke	Mr Graham Lever	Mrs Penny Spink, MBE
Mrs Margaret R Clarke	Mrs Marlene Lewis	Miss Rachel Stammers
Mrs Nicky Clarke	Mrs Angela Lockley-Lambson	Mr Mike Stone
Mrs A Cleland	Mr Mike McQueen	Mrs Gill Swanton
Mrs Jenny Collis	Ms Stella Maddock	Mrs Alison Taylor
Ms Clare Conybeare	Mrs Adrienne Massey	Mr Michael & Mrs Sue Teale
Mr Michael Cornwell	Prof & Mrs S McGrail	Mr Colin Thomas
Mrs Jean Covington	Mr & Mrs McGrath	Mr Peter Tolhurst
Mr N J Cowen	Mrs Joyce McMurray	Mrs Judith Triggs
Mr Alan & Mrs Sarah Cowley	Mrs Margaret Melsom	Mr Alan Wadsworth
Mr Brian K Davison	Mr Peter Melsom	Mrs Marianne Walker
Mrs Catherine Dawson	Mr Dan Miles	Mr John Watts
Mr R A Dewhurst	Mr Tim & Mrs Ruth Miles	Mrs Maggie Watts
Miss J A Drew	Mr Peter Mitchell	Miss Cecilia Webb
Mrs Susan Eborn	Mr R Mitchell & Mrs C Purchase	Mrs Barbara Welfare
Miss Emma Elton	Ms Philippa Morgan	Mrs Wendy Weller
Ms Lynne Farrow	Mr Tony Morton	Mr D West
Mrs Pauline Ferguson	Mrs Christine Mudge	Mrs S Wheeler
Mr Michael Fletcher	Mr Philip Nokes	Mr M R Williams
Miss Jennifer Galloway	Mr Martin Nye	Mrs Edwina Woodcroft
Mrs Wendy Gallop	Mrs M Oram	Mrs Liz Woollan
Mrs Isobel Geddes	Miss E A Paddon	
Mr John Girvan	Mrs Jane Parker	
Mr Peter Goodhugh	Mr R W Parrack	
Mr C Green	Mrs Lesley Payea	
Mr John Greenwood	Mrs Dilys Peacock	
Mr Jim Gunter	Mr David Pollard	
Mr A Hack	Mr Dennis Powney	
Mrs Sarah Harris	Mrs Angela Prophet	
Mrs Sandy Haynes	Mr M Ramsay	
Mr Alfred Hawkins	Mr Stuart Raymond	
Mr C & Mrs D Henderson	Miss Katherine Reed	
Mr William Henderson	Mr Slater Reynolds	
Mrs Sonja Heywood		

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*From left: Volunteers helping with one of our membership mailings: Jonathan Hurwitt, Shelagh Hurwitt, Margaret Clarke, Dorothy Robertson, Katrin Bailey (Membership Secretary), Doris Roddham, Elizabeth Paddon, Carole Jones, Tony Jones; NADFAS volunteers with some of the costumes made for the Museum © Diane Vose.*

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## NEW MEMBERS 2015/16

Sir Roy Anderson, Alton Barnes  
 Mr P Andrews, Salisbury  
 Mrs K Aston, Devizes  
 Mr B Badley & Partner, Bradford On Avon  
 Mrs S Benfield Devizes  
 Mr J & Mrs C Black, Devizes  
 Mr G & Mrs S Blundell, Salisbury  
 Mr J & Mrs C Brandon, Devizes  
 Ms C Brennan, Cornish, USA  
 Mr J C G Brown, Pewsey  
 Mrs E Buckley, Chirton  
 Mr P Burley, Superior, USA  
 Mr P J Cairns & Dr C M Bartlett, Marlborough  
 Mr N Clifford, Stoke Sub Hamdon  
 Mr R Comotto, Winchester  
 Mrs J Cooke, Devizes  
 Mr M Cox, Devizes  
 Mr D A Crawshaw, Salisbury  
 Miss D Croker, Melksham  
 Mr A R & Mrs L Dedden, Verwood  
 Mr D W Devlin, Devizes  
 Mr S Dewey, Marlborough  
 Mrs D Dudman, Salisbury  
 Miss T Duthie, Farnham  
 Mr M Efstathiou, Broxbourne  
 Mr M Gill, Salisbury  
 Mrs C Goodey, Salisbury  
 Mr S B Gray, Newcastle Upon Tyne  
 Mr S Hardy, Southampton  
 Mrs C Harris, Etchilhampton  
 Mr R J Higham, Cambridge  
 Mr P Hobbs, Andover  
 Mr J & Ms H Holman, Bath  
 Mr L & Mrs J House, Devizes  
 Dr R A Ixer, Walmley  
 Miss B L Jackson, Slough  
 Mrs J Jonik, Erlestoke  
 Mrs E Kane, Bratton  
 Dr J Kay, Pewsey  
 Mr P J Knight, Devizes  
 Mr A Knill, Swindon  
 Mr R & Mrs R Lewis, Devizes  
 Miss J M Lingley, Norwich  
 Mrs S W Lloyd, London  
 Dr M J Lomas, Marlborough  
 Ms S Marshall, Devizes  
 Mrs S Martin, Salisbury  
 Mr H & Mrs F Middleton, Pewsey  
 Mr D Morrell, Winsley  
 Mr R Neale, Wallingford  
 Mrs N Parry, Devizes  
 Ms E Perkins, Westbury  
 Ms R Pittfield, Chippenham  
 Mrs E Read, Great Cheverall  
 Ms K Reed, Marlborough  
 Mr D & Mrs J Rees, Melksham  
 Miss A Reid, Fordingbridge  
 Mr G Salkeld, Chirton  
 Mr R Scotcher, Devizes  
 Mr D Scott, Devizes  
 Mrs D Scott, Chippenham  
 Ms V Sheriff, Marlborough  
 Mr T Simpkins, Luckington  
 Mr P M Sims, Trowbridge  
 Mr C & Mrs D Slater, Devizes  
 Mr D Smith, Marlborough  
 Mrs C M Smith, Devizes  
 Mr A L Soldat, Trowbridge  
 Mrs A Tanner, Salisbury  
 Mr S W Taylor-Beasley, Corsham  
 Ms B Tinson, Newbury  
 Lady Dawn & Mr P Tocher, Amesbury  
 Mr K H & Mrs A M Trigg, Swindon  
 Mr C Tweedie, Melksham  
 Mr D Tyers, Swindon  
 Mr D Way, Devizes  
 Ms C Webb, Devizes  
 Mr D Weston & Mrs S Knight, Wells  
 Ms P Wheatley, Westbury  
 Mr P & Mrs G Williams, Devizes  
 Mr P A & Mrs R E Wilson, Devizes  
 Mr C & Mrs A Young, Pewsey

## BENEFITS

- ◇ Free entry to our award-winning Museum and special exhibitions
- ◇ Free welcome tour of museum and library
- ◇ Discounted lectures, conferences, courses and visits to museums, monuments and historic houses
- ◇ Regular newsletter with the latest news and forthcoming events
- ◇ Opportunities to find out more about Wiltshire's story as you get to know fellow members and meet subject experts
- ◇ Opportunities to make new friends by getting involved in the museum and society as a volunteer
- ◇ Opportunities to get involved in archaeological fieldwork and excavation with our Wiltshire Archaeology Field Group
- ◇ Opportunities to read the latest archaeological and historical research in your free copy of our annual journal (*2015 edition pictured below*).
- ◇ Opportunities to find out about where you live with free research access to the 50,000 books, documents, maps and images in our library and archive.
- ◇ Free entry to Salisbury Museum and the Dorset County Museum as part of the Wessex Museums Partnership
- ◇ Knowing that you are helping to support our vital educational work and the long-term care of our nationally important collections.

*See inside front cover for current membership subscription rates.*

## ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, LECTURES AND OUTINGS 2015-16

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### April 2015

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: Easter Art and Craft and Robots Workshop  
LECTURE: *Suffused with a Golden Glow: casting light on the Early Bronze Age gold of Wessex and Britain*, by Stuart Needham  
YOUNG WANHS: Dinosaurs and Fossils  
Archaeology in Wiltshire Conference 2015  
ARCHAEOLOGY WALK: Snail Down Barrow Group, led by Roy Canham

### May 2015

LECTURE SERIES: A Beginner's Guide to the Middle Ages, with Gillian Kenny  
YOUNG WANHS: Guided Walk in West Woods  
WORKSHOP: Neolithic Flint Axes, with flintknapper James Dille  
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Bugs and Bluebells  
OUTING: Turner's Wessex, a guided tour of Turner's viewpoints in Salisbury Cathedral and Close. Private view of the Turner exhibition at Salisbury Museum.

### June 2015

YOUNG WANHS: Mysteries of Ancient Egypt  
OUTING: Fonthill Bishop, led by Isobel Geddes.  
FILM SHOW: Tyburnia with the Dead Rat Orchestra  
COACH OUTING: Dulwich Picture Gallery and guided tour of the Ravilious exhibition.

### July 2015

YOUNG WANHS: Field trip to Marden Henge  
CIVIL WAR WALK: led by Robin Hodges  
OUTING: Frome Town Walk  
SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Fossils & Dinosaurs; Stone Age & Bronze Age  
WALK: Lockeridge and Fyfield, led by Isobel Geddes

### August 2015

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Celts and Romans; Saxons & Vikings; Knights & Dragons;

### October 2015

OUTING: Walking the Dead: Exploring the Stonehenge Ceremonial Landscape  
YOUNG WANHS: Saxons and Vikings  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by  
LECTURE: *The Afterlife of Richard III* by Mike Pitts

FUNDRAISING LECTURE: The Other Side of the Roadshow, by Andy McConnell glass specialist on BBC TV's Antiques Roadshow.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Halloween

MEMBERS EVENT: Night at the Museum

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM 2015

### November 2015

LECTURE: *The Wiltshire Regiment Through the Ages*, by Michael Cornwell.

YOUNG WANHS: Heraldry and Medieval

LECTURE: *Old Stones, New ideas: Sourcing the Stonehenge Bluestones*, by Richard Bevins.

### December 2015

LECTURE: *Wiltshire From Above*, by Katy Whitaker

LECTURE: *Into the Spotlight: Confessions of a Flint Knapper*, by Phil Harding

YOUNG WANHS: A Victorian Christmas

### January 2016

YOUNG WANHS: Angels in art, history and legend!

### February 2016

YOUNG WANHS: Romans and Rabbits

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Signs of Spring

FAMILY EVENT: Night at the Museum

LECTURE: *Later Prehistoric Feasting in Wiltshire and Beyond*, by Richard Madgwick

### March 2016

LECTURE: *Guardians of the Past or Looters? Connoisseurship, Collecting and the Trade in Antiquities*, by James Ede

TOUR: New members tour

YOUNG WANHS: What's in my Museum?

LECTURE: *Landscapes of Governance: Moots and Meeting Places in Anglo-Saxon England*, by Stuart Brookes

OUTING: Dent's Glove Factory

OUTING: Normanton Down RSPB Reserve Walk, with archaeologist Dr David Field and Patrick Cashman from the RSPB.

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Spring Animals: masks, spoon puppets and woolly sheep.

See page 7 for details of exhibitions held at the Museum during the year.

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*A sample of our publicity posters*

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### TRUSTEES' FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that Law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- \* Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- \* Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- \* Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and of the Collections Trust, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects are costed initially and monitored on a regular basis. The Board employ Rathbones to manage both the investment portfolio and the endowment fund portfolio with the primary investment objective to achieve a balanced return from income and capital with a medium level of risk.

The Society does not hold any indemnity insurance against any liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by a Trustee.

The Board employed Rathbones during the year to manage the investments. For most of the previous year they were managed by Investec.

### RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk assessments for all galleries are reviewed regularly and a risk assessment is made of all activities undertaken. On the financial side a budget is prepared each year assessing the likely income receivable and costs of activities, which is monitored carefully and reported to the Trustees at each Board meeting.

### RESERVES AND FUNDRAISING

The Trustees consider, in line with the Charity Commission advice, that the Society should have unrestricted reserves equivalent to at least one year's core costs, that is some £300,000, to provide a measure of security; however, as the Society is dependent on its investments to provide ongoing income for its operations the reserves have to be substantially greater.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

The net movement from the unrestricted reserves was £50,525. This included losses of £24,327 in the market value of the main investments. The loss of £18,759 attributable to charitable activities was better than budgeted by £3,545 (taking into account the removal of the charge for the pension deficit).

We received support from Wiltshire Council who continued their grant of £35,500. Unfortunately, this has been reduced by 20% for 2016/17. We also received £3,000 from Devizes Town Council. These grants are very valuable as they are available for core expenses.

Specific project grants enable the Society to extend its work in ways it would be unable to undertake without such support and we are extremely grateful for all the grants we receive.

Our unrestricted reserves are now £521,044 and as stated the Trustees consider that these should not fall below £300,000. It is difficult to forecast a specific time when our reserves might fall below the above level as the value of our investments will be a key factor. The requirement to provide in full for the pension liability of £21,000 per year until December 2031, as described in Note 1 to the accounts, has reduced our surplus.

Our staff are fully aware of the situation and working as a team continue to maintain our normal high standards. Expenditure is closely monitored and monthly accounts are produced to ensure we are operating within budget.

Investment income from the Society's portfolio and from the Sandell Trust was £63,819, a decrease of £2,540 on the previous year. Net amounts of £24,000 were transferred out of the Society's main investment portfolio to meet expenditure requirements for projects. After taking into account realised and unrealised losses on investments of £24,327 the decrease in the unrestricted reserves was £50,525. The overall return on investments, including the Endowment Funds and including income and capital losses, was a negative return of 0.81%. The overall income return before investment management expenses was 2.9%.

### **ENDOWMENT FUND**

The Fund is managed at the low end of a medium risk mandate. The loss on investments has decreased the value of the Endowment Fund in the year by £14,541, taking back the gains of £14,000 in the previous year.

Under the terms of the Endowment Trust the capital is not available for distribution but must be invested to provide income for the Society at some future date to be decided by the Trustees.

The Trustees have reserved the right to transfer income received by the Fund to unrestricted reserves from the year ended 31 March 2010 and income net of investment expenses of £6,369 was transferred to the unrestricted reserves during the year ended 31 March 2016.

### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

Incoming resources are allocated on the basis of the purposes for which they are raised, the income for designated and restricted funds being credited to the unrestricted fund and restricted funds respectively. The accounts include £77,863 for restricted funds and £231,856 for the Endowment Fund. These funds are not available to the Society for general use and must therefore be disregarded when assessing the Society's financial position. During the year £10,000 was received due to a generous legacy from Miss E J Banks, a member and supporter, and this was allocated to restricted reserves for the purposes of the Library, in accordance with her wishes.

### **FORWARD PLAN**

Each year the Board approves a Forward Plan that contains objectives and targets for the year. The Forward Plan concentrated on achieving Accreditation, Saxon Gallery and the Wessex Museums Partnership project. Most targets were achieved while a few ran late or were held over into 2015-16 for technical reasons.

**RELATED PARTIES** For many years the Society has enjoyed a close relationship with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum as demonstrated by the reciprocal arrangement for free entry to the museums for members of each organisation and co-operation on exhibitions, their Director, Adrian Green, is a nominee on our Board and our Director is a nominee on their Board. We built on the relationship by developing the Wessex Museums Partnership with the support of the Arts Council.

The support of Wiltshire Council and Devizes Town Council in providing funding to the Museum is gratefully acknowledged together with the contributions to the Board of their nominated Trustees. The Wiltshire Council conservation staff continued to give great support and help to the Society, although this will not now continue on the same basis. We are pleased to continue working in partnership with English Heritage and Salisbury Museum through the Stonehenge Museums Partnership. We are also to begin working with the wider Wessex Museums Partnership, supported by Arts Council England. Led by Poole Museum Service, this also includes Salisbury Museum, Dorset County Museum and the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum. The Board is aware that progress through partnership is the most effective pathway to success and will be pursuing every available opportunity to build strong partnerships.

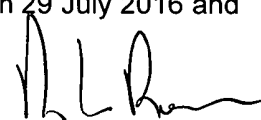
### **AUDITORS**

David Owen & Co. were re-appointed as auditors of the Company at the Annual General Meeting and have expressed their willingness to continue to act.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective January 2015) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

The Trustees have taken all steps which they ought to have taken to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Society's auditors are aware of that information. So far as the Trustees are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the Society's auditors are unaware.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 July 2016 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr D L Roseaman  
29 July 2016

Chairman, on behalf of the Board of Trustees

# **REPORT OF THE AUDITORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

Independent Auditors' Report  
to the Members of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society

We have audited the financial statements of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society for the year ended 31 March 2016 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and Auditors**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement (set out on page 17) the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Year End Review to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially

incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

## **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 MARCH 2016 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## **Emphasis of matter**

We draw attention to the financial review section of the Trustees' Financial Report and in particular reference to the viability of the Society.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by Exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.



Mr Michael Buckland (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of David Owen & Co,  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
17 The Market Place, Devizes, Wiltshire

Date: 29 July 2016

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	91,435	15,622		107,057	212,043
Charitable activities	3	202,948			202,948	175,527
Other trading activities	5	50,446			50,446	50,301
Investments	7	22,362		8,057	30,419	37,774
<b>Total</b>		<u>367,191</u>	<u>15,622</u>	<u>8,057</u>	<u>390,870</u>	<u>475,645</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	8	42,676		1,688	44,364	40,431
Charitable activities	9	357,082	8,183		365,265	337,988
<b>Total</b>		<u>399,758</u>	<u>8,183</u>	<u>1,688</u>	<u>409,629</u>	<u>378,419</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		(32,567)	7,439	6,369	(18,759)	97,226
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		6,369	(231)	(6,138)	0	0
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	13	(24,327)		(14,541)	(38,868)	69,475
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(50,525)</u>	<u>7,208</u>	<u>(14,310)</u>	<u>(57,627)</u>	<u>166,701</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Provision for pension deficit	19				0	(270,595)
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>571,569</u>	<u>70,655</u>	<u>246,166</u>	<u>888,390</u>	<u>992,284</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>521,044</u>	<u>77,863</u>	<u>231,856</u>	<u>830,763</u>	<u>888,390</u>

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

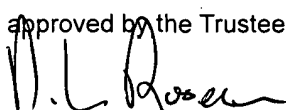
## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	2016 £	£	2015 £	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Fixed Assets	14		93,470		94,880
Managed Investments					
Securities	15	774,576		826,681	
Cash		578		1,581	
			775,154		828,262
<b>Restricted Fund Assets</b>					
Managed Endowment Investments					
Securities	15	224,908		245,743	
Cash		5,637		423	
			230,545		246,166
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Stock		11,530		13,215	
Debtors	16	46,654		89,196	
Cash at Bank		30,885		29,138	
		89,069		131,549	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	149,322		183,872	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			(60,253)		(52,323)
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			1,038,916		1,116,985
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	18		208,153		228,595
			830,763		888,390
<b>The funds of the Society</b>					
Endowment Funds	20		231,856		246,166
Restricted income funds	21		77,863		70,655
Unrestricted funds (including Designated funds)	22		521,044		571,569
			830,763		888,390

The notes on pages 23 To 28 of these financial statements form part of these accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 29 July 2016, and signed on their behalf:

D L Roseaman, Chairman



J R V Brandon, Honorary Treasurer



# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

### 1. Statement of Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for the discounting of the liability for the pension deficit. They have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (the FRSSE) (effective 1 January 2015) and with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. Where necessary the headings laid down in the Act have been adapted to meet the special activities of the Company. The Company qualifies as a small company under the Act and the Trustees have elected to take advantage of the exemption under the FRSSE not to prepare a cash flow statement.

#### Company Status

The Company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are subscribing members. In the event of the Company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 a member.

#### Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £4,000 are capitalised and included at cost. Grant funded purchases are written off in the year of acquisition. Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over the expected useful economic life as follows:

Freehold Land	Nil.
Freehold Buildings	over 50 years.
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	over 5 years.

#### Investments

Realised gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and unrealised gains and losses are shown separately in that statement. Investment income has been taken into account on the basis of the due date of payment.

#### Stock

Stock consists of purchased goods for resale and unsold publications. Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stock.

#### Incoming Resources

Legacies are normally taken into account when received and if not given for specific purposes are utilised either for general expenditure or for the specific purposes which the Trustees believe the Testator would have approved.

Donations of items for resale are included in receipts when received.

Subscriptions are spread over the year in which they are received. No life membership subscriptions were received in the year.

All receipts and expenditure are shown in full in the accounts.

Grants - where a grant is, wholly or partly, in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the following financial year the appropriate sum is deducted from income and included in liabilities as grants received in advance. Conversely in the following year this procedure is reversed with grants being withdrawn from grants received in advance and treated as income of the current year.

#### Allocation of Expenditure

Throughout the financial statements, where it is necessary to allocate staff or other costs over objective heads (i.e. museum services, educational work and Library services etc.), this has been done on the assessment of the Director and the Treasurer.

#### Pensions

During the year to 31 March 2016 pension provision was made for five employees by membership of a Pensions Trust Scheme which is principally a defined contribution pension

scheme. For any of these employees who were transferred to the scheme initially the Scheme has a limited guarantee on losses under the scheme. This has led to small additional amounts in respect of a deficit being recovered from the company. All other employees have been offered membership of this scheme but did not wish to join or were past the age for admittance. Employer's contributions of £5,960 (2015 - £5,313) have been charged to staff costs as incurred.

The Society ceased to be a scheme employer in the Wiltshire Pension Fund and, as stated in the 2012 Report, entered into an agreement with Wiltshire Council to reimburse the deficit by payment of £21,000 for each year up to and including December 2031. Following the requirements of the new Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) full provision of the liability was made in the accounts to 31 March 2016 for the amounts payable to December 2031, discounted at 5% per annum over the payment period. In addition, the comparatives for year to 31 March 2015 have been amended to show full provision at that date. The payments of £21,000 which were made in the year to 31 March 2016 and in the previous year have been deducted from the reserves for the Unrestricted Funds. Details of the provisions are included in note 19.

#### Reserves

Following the requirements of the new Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the reserves at 31 March 2016 and 31 March 2015 have been re-allocated to Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds and the Endowment Funds. The amounts previously in the Capital Reserve, General Revenue Fund and Designated Revenue Fund are now included in the Unrestricted Funds. Unrestricted Funds now include Designated Funds.

#### Going Concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider the use of the going concern basis of accounting appropriate as there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the company to continue as a going concern.

#### The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund is a charity established to raise and hold capital, the income from which will be used to support the activities of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. The Company is the corporate trustee of the Fund which shares the Company's charity registration number. Under the terms of the Charity Registration the accounts of the Fund are included in the Company's accounts but as a separate charity these funds do not form part of the Company's assets. The investment income from the Endowment Fund is credited to the Unrestricted Funds.

#### The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Collections Trust

The Company is the Corporate Trustee of the Collections Trust which owns the Collections. On 3 March 2004, the Charity Commission issued a Uniting Direction under Section 96 (5) of the Charities Act 1993 stating that the Collections Trust shall be treated as forming part of the Company for the purposes of registration and accounting. The Direction points out that the Company will be the reporting charity and the Collections Trust will be the linked charity. However "the Company does not hold the endowment of the Collections Trust as corporate property. The Company is the Trustee of the endowment and holds the property in trust. At no time can the endowment of the Collections Trust be considered an asset of the Company." Accounts for the Collections Trust have been set up within the Company's books and separate bank accounts have been established. Acquisitions for the collections are made by the Collections Trust. The Collection Trust Accounts are included as a separate schedule with these accounts.



# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2016 £	Carried Forward £	Total 2015 £
<b>2 Donations and Legacies</b>							
Membership Subscriptions		31,024			31,024		32,788
Donations and Tax Refunds		27,011	189		27,200		134,978
Legacies			15,433		15,433		15,692
Income transferred by Old Society Sandell Trust		33,400			33,400		28,585
		<u>91,435</u>	<u>15,622</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>107,057</u>		<u>212,043</u>

Income from Donations and Legacies for Unrestricted Funds includes £2,258 (2015 £3,900) for Designated Funds.

<b>3 Income from Charitable Activities</b>							
Grants and Contributions	4	176,971			176,971		137,557
Admissions		21,977			21,977		28,340
Education Receipts		4,000			4,000		6,328
Programme Committee					0		3,302
		<u>202,948</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>202,948</u>		<u>175,527</u>

Income from Charitable Activities for Unrestricted Funds includes £754 (2015 £3,302) for Designated Funds.

<b>4 Grants and Contributions</b>							
ACE Designation Grant		51,235			51,235	2,218	31,544
Bronze Age galleries contributions							1,500
Devizes Area Board						5,295	1,121
Devizes Area Tourism		2,436			2,436	(14)	4,529
Devizes Town Council		3,000			3,000		3,000
Exhibitions Gallery		2,520			2,520	519	3,039
HLF Catalyst Grant		6,187			6,187	2,338	9,800
HLF-BA Galleries							86
Lacock Cup - Grant		597			597	9,402	
Mamuz Museum - Grant		3,703			3,703	3,300	
Marlborough White Horse Grant		2,432			2,432	316	
Mercers Trust							57
Nat. Manuscript Cons. Trust						5,750	1,700
PWG-HLF							(176)
Roundway Parish Council							500
Stonehenge Bus							5,295
Vale of Pewsey		937			937	(937)	
Walking White Horses							3,891
Wessex 5-ACE		13,667			13,667	(2,340)	
Wessex Archaeology							64
Wessex Museum Partnership		54,757			54,757	14,974	30,375
William Doc Couch Trust							1,870
Wiltshire Council		35,500			35,500		35,500
Wiltshire Council Apprentice							3,862
		<u>176,971</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>176,971</u>	<u>40,821</u>	<u>137,557</u>

<b>5 Other Trading Activities</b>							
Shop Sales	6	21,393			21,393		26,787
Other Sales		771			771		278
Museum Income		21,838			21,838		16,646
Fund-raising Events		6,444			6,444		6,590
		<u>50,446</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,446</u>		<u>50,301</u>

<b>6 Shop Sales</b>							
Shop sales		21,393			21,393		26,787
Less Purchase cost		12,174			12,174		16,936
Gross Profit		<u>9,219</u>			<u>9,219</u>		<u>9,851</u>
Gross Profit % on sales		<u>43.09%</u>			<u>43.09%</u>		<u>36.78%</u>

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
<b>7 Investment Income</b>					
Income from Investments	22,352	8,057	30,409		37,705
Bank Interest	10		10		69
	<u>22,362</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,419</u>		<u>37,774</u>
<b>8 Expenditure on Raising Funds</b>					
Cost of Sales :					
Shop	12,174			12,174	17,132
Salaries	8,368			8,368	8,113
Members' services	5,368			5,368	3,925
Marketing	956			956	435
Fundraising costs	7,456			7,456	3,299
Investment management costs	5,893		1,688	7,581	4,873
Support costs	2,461			2,461	2,654
	<u>42,676</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,688</u>	<u>44,364</u>	<u>40,431</u>
<b>9 Expenditure on Charitable Activities :</b>					
Museum Services	248,003	8,183		256,186	226,231
Library Services	26,636			26,636	25,706
Educational work	20,168			20,168	23,146
WANHM	13,279			13,279	10,705
Support and governance costs	48,996			48,996	52,200
	<u>357,082</u>	<u>8,183</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>365,265</u>	<u>337,988</u>
Expenditure on Charitable Activities for Unrestricted Funds includes £12,439 (2015 £9,343) for Designated Funds.					
Support and governance costs include audit fees of £5,450 (2015 £4,800) and volunteers' travel expenses of £1,648 (2015 £1,940).					
<b>10 Staff costs</b>					
Wages and Salaries				151,914	159,458
Social Security costs				7,879	8,381
Pension costs				6,073	5,422
				<u>165,866</u>	<u>173,261</u>
<b>Staff costs attributable to activities :</b>					
Cost of raising funds				8,368	8,113
Charitable activities:					
Museum				86,694	92,089
Library				15,064	14,570
Education				15,394	18,041
Governance				40,346	40,448
				<u>165,866</u>	<u>173,261</u>
Staff costs of £22,383 (2015: £29,534) were funded from grants for museum projects.					
Pension costs include £113 ( 2015: £110) repayment of a deficit in previous years.					
During the year £21,000 ( 2015: £21,000) was paid towards the liability for the Wiltshire Council pension deficit (see notes 1 and 19).					
No employee received emoluments for the period exceeding £60,000. The average number of employees in 2016 was 2 full time and 10 part time (2015: 2 full time and 9 part time).					
<b>11 Trustees' Expenses</b>					
No trustee either received or waived any emoluments for acting as Trustee during the year.					
<b>12 Operating Leases</b>					
New operating leases for a telephone system and for a photocopier were entered into. Payments for these amounted to £383 during the year. Minimum lease payments are payable as follows:					
Not later than one year				2,927	
Later than one year and not later than five years				10,204	
Later than five years				904	
				<u>14,035</u>	<u>0</u>

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Main Portfolio £	Endowment Portfolio £	Total £	2016 £	Total 2015 £
<b>13 Gains/(losses) on investment assets</b>					
Realised gains/(Losses)	(3,200)	(2,951)	(6,151)		2,647
Unrealised gains/(Losses)	(21,127)	(11,590)	(32,717)		66,828
	(24,327)	(14,541)	(38,868)		69,475

### 14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Land £	Freehold Buildings £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total £	2016 £	Total 2015 £
Cost at 1 <sup>st</sup> April, 2015	72,750	72,750	7,345	152,845		152,845
Accumulated Depreciation at 1 <sup>st</sup> April, 2015		50,720	7,245	57,965		56,465
Charge in year		1,410		1,410		1,500
Accumulated Depreciation at 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2016		52,130	7,245	59,375		57,965
Net Book Value at 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2016	72,750	20,620	100	93,470		94,880

To give a consistent view the assets transferred from the original Society have been included at the values in its books. The property was valued professionally in 1987 at £145,500; now divided between land and buildings. The Trustees are of the opinion that the costs of revaluation would not provide sufficient benefits to justify the expenditure involved.

	Main Portfolio 2016	Endowment Portfolio 2016	Main Portfolio 2015	Endowment Portfolio 2015
<b>15 Quoted Fixed Asset Investments</b>				
Market Value at 1 <sup>st</sup> April, 2015	826,681	245,743	712,057	131,732
Purchases	425,386	130,257	81,887	136,371
	1,252,067	376,000	793,944	268,103
Sales	453,164	136,551	22,682	36,416
	798,903	239,449	771,262	231,687
Net profits/(losses) :				
Realised	(3,200)	(2,951)	116	2,531
Unrealised	(21,127)	(11,590)	55,303	11,525
Market value at 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2016	774,576	224,908	826,681	245,743

	Total 2016	Total 2015
<b>16 Debtors</b>		
Grants and Donations receivable	17,345	48,690
Trade Debtors	7,909	6,376
Debtors and Prepayments	10,041	19,768
Gift Aid refund receivable	6,500	6,030
VAT recoverable	4,859	8,332
	46,654	89,196

<b>17 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Grants received in advance	49,711	45,620
Trade Creditors	38,726	74,045
Accruals	9,650	6,792
Pension Contributions	1,030	1,042
Pension deficit (see note 19)	20,442	21,000
Taxes including NIC	2,378	3,411
Prepaid membership subscriptions	19,835	19,509
Other Income in Advance	7,550	12,453
	149,322	183,872

<b>18 Creditors : Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>		
Pension deficit (see note 19)	208,153	228,595
	208,153	228,595

# WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

### 19 Pension Deficit

The Society has an agreement with Wiltshire Council to reimburse a deficit with the Wiltshire Pension Fund in relation to two former employees by payment of £21,000 for each year up to and including December 2031. This year full provision subject to discounting over time at 5% from 31 March 2016 has been made in creditors with prior year adjustments. In the comparatives for the prior year the unrestricted reserves at 1 April 2014 have been reduced by £270,595 on account of the pension deficit. As £21,000 was also deducted from expenditure in the prior year the net effect on unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2015 was a reduction of £249,195.

### 20 Endowment Funds

	Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015 £	Income, Donations & Legacies £	Loss on investments £	Inter-Fund Transfers £	Expenditure £	Balance 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016 £
Endowment Trust Fund	246,166	8,057	(14,541)	(6,138)	(1,688)	231,856

The Endowment Trust Fund is a separate charity, of which the Company is the corporate trustee. It is established to raise capital, the interest from which will be paid to the Company for its general use. The funds are invested separately and do not form part of the Company's fixed assets.

### 21 Restricted Funds

	Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015 £	Income, Donations & Legacies £	Inter-Fund Transfers £	Expenditure £	Balance 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016 £
English Heritage Fund	4,332	189			4,521
Oexmann Fund	17,060			(60)	17,000
Legacies carried forward	49,263	15,433	(231)	(8,123)	56,342
	70,655	15,622	(231)	(8,183)	77,863

The restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes:

English Heritage Fund	To finance specific publications and projects.
Oexmann Fund	To finance a biennial art exhibition.
Legacies carried forward	Includes legacies received from several past members, for use in future Projects

These fund balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 are held as part of the Company's overall assets and cash at bank.

### 22 Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015 £	Donations & Legacies £	Other Income £	Loss on investments £	Inter-Fund Transfers £	Expenditure £	Balance 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016 £
Designated funds:							
Archaeology Field Group	2,989					(1,000)	1,989
Improvement Fund	11,112						11,112
Library Fund	5,966	2,044	754			(2,273)	6,491
Programme Committee	13,841						13,841
Publications Fund	18,586	214				(1,304)	17,496
Wiltshire Life	225,533					(7,862)	217,671
	278,027	2,258	754	0	0	(12,439)	268,600
Other unrestricted funds	293,542	89,177	275,002	(24,327)	6,369	(387,319)	252,444
	571,569	91,435	275,756	(24,327)	6,369	(399,758)	521,044

The purpose of the designated funds (which may be changed by the Company's Board of Trustees and which remain part of the unrestricted funds) is currently:

Archaeology Field Group	To finance archaeological activity.
Improvement Fund	Established by the original Society to finance improvements to the Galleries.
Library Fund	To finance items of library conservation and management.
Programme Committee	To finance members' events and generate funds for the Society.
Publications Fund	To finance publications.
Wiltshire Life	To finance the care and development of the Wiltshire Life Society Collections. The expenditure consists of direct costs and ignores curatorial charges as the trustees consider that these are offset by investment income.

Allocation of expenditure from Designated Funds is reviewed regularly. The timing of expenditure is over a period which matches the requirements of each purpose, potentially over a number of years.

**WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
COLLECTIONS TRUST - Linked Charity Number 1080096**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	7,509		7,509	3,933
Charitable activities:				
Grants	24,174		24,174	0
Sale	26		26	0
	<u>31,709</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>31,709</u>	<u>3,933</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>				
Acquisitions costing less than £1,000				
Museum	1,400		1,400	940
Library	651		651	785
	<u>2,051</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,051</u>	<u>1,725</u>
Costs				
Sundry	339		339	171
	<u>2,390</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,390</u>	<u>1,896</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>29,319</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29,319</b>	<b>2,037</b>
Inter Fund Transfers	4,798	(4,798)		0
Balance at 1 April 2015 brought forward	14,706	9,050	23,756	21,719
<b>Balance at 31 March 2016 carried forward</b>	<b>48,823</b>	<b>4,252</b>	<b>53,075</b>	<b>23,756</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2016**

<b>Heritage Assets</b>		
Balance at 1 April 2015	11,134	11,134
Acquisitions over £1,000	27,312	
Balance at 31 March 2016	<u>38,446</u>	<u>11,134</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash in Bank	14,629	12,622
	<u>53,075</u>	<u>23,756</u>

**The Funds of the Trust**

	Balance at 1 April 2015 £	Income, Grants & Donations £	Inter Fund Transfers £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2016 £
Unrestricted Funds - Museum and Art	14,706	31,709	4,798	2,390	48,823
Restricted Funds	9,050		(4,798)		4,252
	<u>23,756</u>	<u>31,709</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,390</u>	<u>53,075</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Museum and Art Collections: The collections fall within the definition of heritage assets for the purposes of the SORP.

**Accounting Policies:**

1. No value has been placed on the collections held prior to 1 April 2005. To establish a value would involve significant costs, onerous compared to the additional benefit derived by the users of the financial statements.
  2. The Trustees have adopted a policy whereby acquisitions costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised but are written off in the year of purchase.
  3. Acquisitions costing in excess of £1,000 are capitalised and stated at cost as heritage assets.
  4. No depreciation is provided on heritage assets as all are deemed to have indefinite lives.
- Policies for acquisition, disposal and conservation meet Accreditation Standard, which has been awarded by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, and have been approved by the Board of Trustees.

**Summary of Transactions:**

	31.03.2016 £	31.03.2015 £	Year to: 31.03.2014 £	31.03.2013 £	31.03.2012 £
Cost of acquisitions of heritage assets	27,312				6,144
Value of assets acquired by donation and not reported in the Balance Sheet					
Carrying amount of heritage assets disposed of and proceeds received					
Cost of assets written off in year of purchase as per accounting policy	2,051	1,725	5,423	1,164	9,035

## WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Charity No: 1080096

Company No. 3885649

### MINUTES OF THE 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY

held in the Town Hall, Devizes on Saturday 17 October 2015, commencing at 2.30 pm

#### 01/15 Present

Mr D L Roseaman (Chairman) and members of the Board of Trustees: Mr A Aldridge (Hon Treasurer), Mr R Broadhead, Mr C T Callow, Ms A Hemmins, Mr W A Perry, Mr P R Saunders (Deputy Chairman), and 56 members of the Society.

#### In Attendance

Mr D Dawson (Director), Mrs K P Jones (Minute Taker and Company Secretary), Mrs J M Rennie (Trustee elect), Mrs L Brown (Curator), Ms K Bailey (Membership Services & Retail Officer), Ms C Homer (Visitor Services Officer)

#### 02/15 Apologies for Absence

Were received from: Mrs M Annable, Mr C J Baumber (WANHS Trustee), Mr J B Bush, Mrs N S Cawthorne, Ms C M Conybeare, Cllr P Evans (Wiltshire Councillor and WANHS Trustee), Mrs E Gaunt (WANHS Trustee), Lady Belinda Johnston, Mr J Ody (Devizes Town Council WANHS Nominee), Mrs C M Staff, Mr W Stancomb,

#### 03/15 Chairman's Opening Address

The Chairman welcomed members to the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (Company Limited by Guarantee).

The meeting stood for a few minutes to remember those members of the Society who had died since the last AGM, many of whom had been known to the chairman and members of the Society: Mrs S Ainslie, Miss E J Banks, Mr A J Billingham, Mr J A De Normann, Mr J Marshall, Ms R McVitie, Mr J D Pullen, Maj Gen G M Swindells, Mr R S Walker

*Note: these names are those notified to the Membership Secretary; the Society apologises for any omissions.*

#### 04/15 Minutes of meeting held 25 October 2014

Proposed by Mr C Callow and seconded by Mr R Broadhead, the minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 2015 were adopted as a true record of the meeting. The resolution was passed nem con.

#### 05/15 Board of Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015

##### a) Report by the Chairman

The year had started on a high with the visit by The Princess Royal – a visit which she appeared to thoroughly enjoy. The Museum had continued with its programme of improvements with the opening of the Devizes Galleries and the Saxon Gallery. Partnerships with other organisations continued to grow and bear fruit and as will be seen from the Director's Report there are more plans for the future.

Behind the scenes the quality of curation and management of the collections was rewarded with the renewal of our Accreditation status. The

application for this took up a huge amount of staff time – but the coveted accredited status does give us access to funding streams not available to others. The Library and Archive continued what almost seems to be the never ending task of cataloguing and conserving. It is quite rewarding when this work throws up items which perhaps we knew we had but hadn't realised the importance of.

The meeting was reminded that the Society's objects were to *educate the public by promoting fostering interest in, exploration, research and publication on the archaeology, art, history and natural history of Wiltshire for the public benefit*. As a charity we are expected to deliver these and the trustees are keen that we fulfil this requirement. The Museum and the Library are the very public faces of the Society, but there is much done behind the scenes to make people more aware of the archaeology and history of the county. This ranges from the free service we provide to researchers – who then increase our knowledge of items in the collection and have material to publish, through lectures, conferences and our education service, to our own flagship magazine *WANHM*. I hope you like the changes our new editor has introduced which, whilst ensuring the high standard of archaeology reporting are maintained are aimed at making the journal more readable and to broaden the readership.

During the year much was done internally to improve the governance of the Society and reduce administration which should show its benefits in years to come. As a Society we continue to provide a range of benefits to members through the publications *Trilithon* and *WANHM*, the lectures, courses, conferences and visits that we arrange – in fact on average there is something going on every working day!

Through much hard work and fundraising finances are much healthier than in previous years and not just because the stock market was at a high at the year end, but due to control of expenditure.

I would like to thank members for their continued support over the year – either by being members, through helping, through giving – either in kind or cash and also our staff and volunteers without whom all of this could not continue.

##### b) Report by the Treasurer

Mr A Aldridge presented the Treasurer's report for the year under review and was pleased to report that although the ongoing activity of the Society required £27,600 support from reserves, as a result of gain in investment value there was an increase in reserves of £27,800. After very kind bequests, the reserves were now a net £145,700 healthier. In the previous year the net gain was £500. Legacies are an important part and enable investment income, or matching to funding opportunities for major projects. It was good to see the reversal of the prior year trend, from deficits, or excess of expenditure over income, to a gain.

However, we must not be complacent, and must continue the hard efforts to encourage more visitors and to invest in improvements in the experience. The 2015/16 Budget was to invest a further £50,800 from reserves in the year to March 2016. We continued to pay Wiltshire Council £21,000 pa as our contribution to the under-funding of the defined benefit pension scheme and this annual payment would continue to be paid until 2031. We remained reliant on continued grant funding which just about offset this payment and the rates.

In the six months since the year end expenditure, even with a saving of £7,400 against budget, exceeded income by £20,200. The launch of the new gallery last year saw a peak in visitor numbers, but members were reminded to bring family and friends, to share the great experience of our collections, which we are used to, but visitors are amazed at.

Investments go down as well as up, and with international effects eg China, values have gone down. The management of our investments was changed in March 2015 and income has increased since they reorganised the portfolio. In fact it has not gone down as much as the FTSE.

Whilst you see that our overall reserves are at £1,138,000, they have been built over decades and it is important that we remain focussed on adding to that each year by increasing the publicity and therefore attendance and membership of the Society. A large proportion of this is reserved, e.g. Endowment Fund, and not for general use.

The Treasurer complemented Mr Malcolm Church, the very part time member of staff who not only looked after the day to day finances, but provided very timely monthly figures and another clean audit this year. Auditors are very pleased.

The Chairman thanked Mr Aldridge for the presentation and for his work on updating the management and appearance of the accounts. The meeting was advised that Mr Aldridge would be retiring as Hon Treasurer once a replacement had been found.

*The financial report and accounts were available from the website or on request from the Museum Office.*

### **c) Report by the Director**

The Director highlighted items from the 2014/15 financial year, details of more recent activities and those to come. As already mentioned Mrs Lisa Brown and Mrs Karen Jones with the assistance of colleagues had worked on the Accreditation renewal, which was essential for funding sources. The renewal had been awarded with particular praise for collections management – Lisa finding in less than 1½ hours what other organisations took a week to do! The areas noted for improvement were signposting/visibility of the Museum and the financial position.

The Wessex5 Project had provided money for a fund-raiser and Sarah Firm had been appointed as Development Officer to progress this and other activities.

Collections research kept the Curator and Assistant Curator (Heather Ault) very busy. Earlier in the year there had been a queue of 12. As such requests

required some 2 to 3 days of staff time they were very time consuming. However they did have rewards. Andy McConnell, a glass expert on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow* came in to photograph a glass-maker's token from Calne and then offered to give a fundraising lecture. The Leverhulme Trust had now printed their report *Ritual in Early Bronze Age Grave Goods*, which featured our collection – in fact some 60% of the book is about our objects. It provided amazing insights into the artefacts and was a snip at £80 (a copy was in the Library).

A gold sun disc from Monkton Farleigh had recently been donated to the Museum. It was one of just half-dozen in the country – and we now had two.

Many varied activities had been held at the Museum during the year, including Marlborough Open Studios who had used the Museum as a venue to highlight their work – alongside items from our Art Collection not normally on display. An Art Auction had been held in June and the proceeds had been split 50/50 with the artists who had contributed work. This had resulted in some £7,500 being raised as the costs had been met by sponsorship from Devizes based solicitors Wansbroughs. It was hoped to hold a similar event in 2016. A local organisation, *Omnes Ad Unum Devizes*, had held a silent auction in August with the proceeds being split between St John's Church and ourselves – both in Long Street. This raised some £2,500 and Mr Michael Sanders and his team were thanked for their assistance.

The Wiltshire Archaeology Field Group continued to be busy and the 2015 Archaeology Conference had been well attended. The 2016 Conference would be held on 16 April 2016, as close to World Heritage Day (18 April) as possible. The Archive & Library volunteers had recently been awarded the 2015 Regional Award for the South West of England, from the British Museum Marsh Award for Museum Learning and some had attended the presentation at the British Museum. The Director thanked all the volunteers, including the team of 'stuffers' who helped regularly with the mailings to members. A number of NADFAS volunteers had been busy making Tudor costumes to be available for children in the galleries and also for school groups – a couple had been brought to the AGM for display.

The Director advised the meeting that a recent planning application to Wiltshire Council to fix banners to the Museum buildings had been refused. There had been lots of positive comments of support but the refusal was disappointing, particularly when the brown tourist sign policy could not be changed and visitors were directed to the Wharf car park and had difficulty finding the Museum from there. There were a couple of options, including AA signs for special exhibitions (although these cost £800 each time) and one 'house' flag (which we already had), plus a county flag.

There were a number of activities coming up including the refurbishment of the Archive and Art Store, for which funding had been received from the Designation Development Fund. The project would be beneficial in the long term (e.g. removal of asbestos) but the Library would be closed to researchers from mid-November 2015 until at least Easter 2016. This would enable shelving to be replaced and the collections re-organised.

Current exhibitions included a new World War One exhibition, with the inclusion of a 'sweetheart pillow' a particular highlight. In 2016 some items from the collection, mainly from the reserve collection, would be included in an exhibition at the Mamuz Museumcentrum, 30 miles from Vienna. Featuring the results of the hidden landscapes project around Stonehenge and Durrington Walls, the exhibition would include our Roundway burial – the copper from which the dagger is made having come from the eastern Alps in Austria. The Director was talking to other large museums about the possibility of featuring our own collections – all of which helps to put our Museum 'on the map'. VisitWiltshire had access to a £5m fund to promote tourism and the Director was working with them to encourage visitors to Wiltshire and the Museum. The *Wiltshire in 100 Objects* exhibition would be coming to the Museum in April 2016 and would include for the first time the Lacock Cup, which had been on a nationwide tour since being acquired jointly by the British Museum and WANHS.

We are working with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust on a new Environment Gallery, featuring our natural history collection, and would be located in the area currently occupied by the Roman Gallery (as detailed in the 2009-14 Strategic Plan). The total cost is expected to be approximately £150,000, including an education programme. Funds raised to date included a legacy from Mrs Sylvia Jones and grants from the Ernest Cook Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund, but more was needed to allow the project to start. Further funding was being sought and sponsorship opportunities were being developed, e.g. adopt an animal, pay for a panel or even an entire showcase.

Proposed by Mr P Taverner and seconded by Mrs D Roddham the Trustees Report and Annual Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, together with the Auditors Report were received. The resolution was passed *nem. con.*

#### **08/15 Election of Trustees**

Under the Society's constitution one-third of elected Trustees, excluding Officers, had to retire by rotation each year. As Ms Laura Pictor had resigned during the year there were four nominations this year – Mr Richard Broadhead, Mr William Perry and Mr Michael Pope were all seeking re-election and Mrs Mary Rennie was a new nominee. All four had been proposed and seconded prior to the meeting.

As no objection was raised to electing all four in one resolution the meeting duly elected Mr R Broadhead, Mr W Perry, Mr M Pope and Mrs M Rennie to the Board of Trustees. *Nem con.*

#### **09/15 Appointment of Auditors**

Proposed by Mr A Aldridge and seconded by Mr C Callow, the meeting unanimously re-elected Messrs David Owen & Co as Auditors, and authorised the Trustees to determine their remuneration.

#### **10/15 Special Business: Changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association**

The Chairman reminded the meeting that at the 2014 Annual General Meeting new Articles of Association had been agreed, subject to the approval of the Charity Commission. Subsequent to the AGM the Charity Commission had asked for a small amendment to be made, which meant we were required to seek approval from WANHS members again. The Articles of Association, together with notes of changes and updates, had been circulated to all members with the 2015 AGM Agenda.

No questions or comments were made and Proposed by Mr P Saunders and seconded by Mr A Rowlands, the meeting AGREED (*nem. con.*) the Special Resolution:

*That the Articles of Association attached to this Agenda be approved and adopted as the new Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the entire exclusion of the existing Articles of Association (including those provisions which are treated as part of those existing articles by virtue of section 28 of the Companies Act 2006). Such Articles of Association to be effective from the end of this Annual General Meeting.*

#### **11/15 Any Other Business**

The meeting was opened to members but there were no questions.

The Chairman appealed for members to provide short articles for *Trilithon* (300 words plus pictures), particularly useful for items that were not suitable for *WANHM*.

Mr W Perry thanked the members for the donations which had enabled the Music Book written in 1748 by John Smith of Market Lavington to be conserved. However the £4,500 grant received from the Manuscripts Trust would not meet the full cost of conservation and further donations would be much appreciated.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 3.20pm.

The meeting was followed *The Afterlife of Richard III*, a lecture by Mike Pitts.

#### **Date of next Meeting:**

**Saturday 15 October 2016**

To be held at the Town Hall, Devizes, Wiltshire



*Trade token issued by John Frey,  
a grocer in Devizes, 1649-72.*

*Trade token issued by John Ston, a  
candle maker from Ramsbury, dated 1653.*

*Trade token issued by I Baster, of the  
White Heart (sic) Devizes, dated 1796.*

*Above: Early Bronze Age gold sun disc - see page 5 and  
2015 Annual Report for details. (2015.6)*

*Above: 17th Century Trade Tokens - see  
page 11 for details. (2015.17)*

*Above: Jettons. Photograph by Richard Henry,  
Wiltshire FLO. See page 11 for details (2016.4).*

*Above: Candelabra. Photograph by Jo Hutchings,  
Wiltshire Museum. See page 11 for details  
(2015.32.1-2).*

*Heart-shaped 'sweetheart pillow' or pin cushion (see page 11) (2015.9)*