

Annual Report of Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society 2016-2017

This Annual Report covers the Society's year of 1st April 2016 until 31st March 2017

Registered Charity Number

1108962

Address

c/o The Street
12 Lower Clark Street
Scarborough
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Administration

The Society and its property are administered and managed in accordance with the Constitution adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 4 April 2005. The Society is administered by members of the Committee, constituted in clause 6.0 of the Constitution, and by the Trustees.

Trustees

Trevor Pearson (Chairman of the Trustees), Martin Bland, Christopher Hall, Keith Johnston, Vanessa Milner, Simon Temlett, Linda Kemp

During the course of the year, Farrell Burnett resigned from the Trustees and was replaced by Linda Kemp.

Committee 2016-2017

President Trevor Pearson
Vice-Presidents Christopher Hall

Executive Officers

Chairman Simon Temlett
Vice-Chairmen Vanessa Milner, Mark Vesey
Secretary Keith Johnston
Treasurer Martin Bland

Committee Gareth Davies
 Linda Kemp
 Sue Ogilvy
 Emma Temlett

Mark Franklin
Mike Widdas
Marie Woods
Stephen Gandolfi

The Committee appointed members to the following posts:

Editor of Transactions	Keith Johnston
Fieldwork	Christopher Hall
Membership	Sue Ogilvy
Minutes	Emma Temlett
Programme	Trevor Pearson
Publications	Emma Temlett
Publicity	Mark Vesey
Social Media	Gareth Davies
Web master:	Linda Kemp

The Committee met formally on five occasions during the year. Stephen Gandolfi was co-opted onto the Committee during the course of the year.

Objectives

The Society's objectives are set out in clause 3.1 of the Constitution and are:

To advance the education for the public benefit in the archaeological and local history of Scarborough and the surrounding area by the following:

- a. To increase and disseminate knowledge of and interest in the same.
- b. To undertake and support research into sites and archives of archaeological, architectural and historical interest, and the publication of the results of such researches.
- c. To encourage the identification, protection and preservation of such sites and archives.

How we carried out our objectives

a. Dissemination of knowledge

i) Lectures

During the autumn of 2016 six lectures were delivered on a variety of archaeological and historical topics and since the New Year began a further six have taken place. All the lectures were well attended.

The lectures presented were on a diverse range of topics listed in Annex 1 and on 6th February the Annual Members' Evening took place and talks were given on a variety of topics:

Mark Vesey	Maritime Heritage Museum's New Shackleton Exhibition
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Stephen Gandolfi	The Significance of Eastfield's Built Environment
Christiane Kroebel	Whitby Museum Witch Post: A Reconsideration
Keith Johnston	The Last Supper at Cusco

ii) Field excursions and other activities

On 15th April the Society sponsored Dr. Alice Roberts talk on the Celts at the Books by the Beach Festival with the intention of raising the profile of the Society. The event was a complete sell out and the Society took the opportunity to make publications available for sale after the talk.

On 16th July the Society had a stand at the Scarborough Museums Trust's first Festival of Archaeology doing both mini digs and hands activities for adults and children alike. Good weather meant the event was very well attended although the future of the event is dependent on the Museums Trust.

An Open Day at the Hanging Grimston excavation was organised and made available to members but was not well attended.

In September the Society was actively involved with Heritage Open Days, organized locally by Scarborough Museums Trust. Chris Hall and Marie Woods led guided walks in Raincliffe Woods on the archaeological discoveries and at Ayton Castle; both of which were over-subscribed and very well received.

The Society had a stall at the Dean Road Cemetery Open Day on 11th September at which members Vanessa and Geoff Milner along with Gill Hodgson attended in period costume. Other members assisted with mini digs, hands on activities and promoting the work of the Society.

The Society had a presence at the Seamer History Weekend with a display on the research being undertaken in Raincliffe Woods along with Vanessa Milner's display of Victorian clothing.

The Society worked with "The Redress of the Past" Project and Scarborough Museums Trust on an exhibition on the Scarborough Historical Pageant of 1912. The exhibition was at the Scarborough Art Gallery in September to October 2016 and then transferred to Scarborough Library. Keith Johnston gave a lecture at the Art Gallery in conjunction with the exhibition.

iii) Publications

Transactions 44 has been published and distributed to members. Articles are currently being sought by the editor for the next edition.

The Society's publications are available on Amazon and attract a useful additional small income stream from further afield whilst local shops provide a regular source of sales.

The Society's website is attracting on average 1,500 unique visitors per month and is a source of regular requests for information which are handled by the Committee. A new research page has been created giving visitors to the site advice and links to websites which should prove useful in their research.

Following the copies of reports on the Society's excavations being available through the Archaeological Data Service, the website's interactive excavations maps has been enhanced to provide links directly through to the relevant ADS report.

The Society's utilisation of social media continues using its Facebook page. The page has over 860 'likes' and promotes Society activities but also provides subscribers with links to other news stories with an archaeological or historical aspect.

The previously produced Society leaflet is used at Society events and is used to promote the Society and information on the history of Scarborough.

The Society has improved its mailing list database with the intention of improving and providing more communications to members.

b. Research

During the Summer, members of the Society again worked with the High Wolds Heritage Group to conduct a second season of excavations at the scheduled site of Hanging Grimston. Twenty-two members of the Society participated in the excavation providing a wealth of experience and expertise. Supervision of the excavation trenches; supervision of finds processing; guidance and education of novice diggers and some aspects of the organisation were carried out by six members of the SAHS team under the overall direction of Historic England's Marcus Jecock. Plans are already in place for a third season of excavation in Summer 2017. A brief report on the work carried out in 2016 is posted on the Society's web site.

Extensive research and survey work has and continues to be conducted by members of the Society in Raincliffe Woods. This has been aided by the acquisition of the Society's own Global Positioning System equipment. A brief report on this work will be posted on the Society's website.

In April 2016 a small team from the Society undertook an earthwork survey of the supposed remains of Brompton Castle with a view to undertaking more detailed research later on this year.

2017 saw the start of a major research project conducted by the Society, led by Keith Johnston, into the relationship of Scarborough's visitors to the sea. Following a lecture by Keith at the start of the year, regular meetings are taking place with many interesting lines of research being undertaken.

c. Sites and archives

The Society has continued to work closely with the Scarborough Library Archives Group, continuing to catalogue its collection of local history resources. There has also been some exploration of the newspaper collection of the Scarborough Museums Trust.

Partnership working

Working in partnership with other organisations and community groups is important in the delivery of the Society's Objectives. During the year the Society worked in partnership with:
High Wolds Heritage Group – excavation and finds processing

Raincliffe Woods Community Enterprise – ongoing project work

Friends of Ayton Castle – represented on the Committee, Heritage Open Days

Friends of Dean Road and Manor Road Cemetery – World War I, Heritage Open Days

Friends of Seamer Village – Seamer History Weekend

North Yorkshire County Library and the Friends of Scarborough Library – Archives Group

Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre – The Centre’s application for Heritage Lottery Funding, for which the Society submitted a letter of support was successful, and the newly opened Centre provides a valuable and regular stream of income through its sales of Society publications.

Scarborough Museums Trust – excavation archive, ‘pop up’ museum, Heritage Open Days, Festival of Archaeology and the exhibition of the Scarborough Pageant.

“The Redress of the Past” Project – the exhibition on the Scarborough Pageant of 1912

The Society is represented on the local Heritage Forum (Chris Hall, Keith Johnston and Marie Woods); on CBA Yorkshire (Trevor Pearson); on the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society (Dr Pete Wilson) and the North Yorkshire Moors Archaeology Group (Chris Hall).

Trustees Fund

An application was received from Dean Road Chapel Ltd for £500 for sponsorship of one the categories of research on the restoration project of the Dean Road Chapel. The project is seeking to secure match funding of £50,000 alongside Heritage Lottery Funding and ultimately the project will provide a community café, history and art workshops for both children and community groups. Each research category would comprise leaflets, display boards, digital media and education materials. The project would additionally provide an opportunity for members to be involved and contribute to the research undertaken. The Trustees sought assurances that the Society’s name would be visible on the display materials sponsored and when these were provided the Trustees voted to approve the application.

Membership

Life membership was awarded to Farrell Burnett at the last AGM and during the year, the Society’s members approved the granting of Life Membership to Chris and Joan Evans.

The Society has 120 paid up members at present. There are 10 life members and 3 institutional members. 114 paid in 2015, 122 paid in 2014, 129 paid in 2013, 137 in 2012 and 151 in 2011 & 2010. This encouragingly shows a small increase on last year, arresting the decline of previous years. 153 visitors paid to attend lectures to date.

Signed.....

Trevor Pearson

President of the Society

Chairman of the Trustees

Simon Temlett

Chairman of the Committee

Annex 1 – Lectures

- 18th April 2016 **Hanging Grimston**, Marcus Jecock
- 3rd October 2016 **The History and Heritage of our Local Forests**, Brian Walker
- 17th October 2016 **History of the Sea Cut**, Michael Hurley
- 31st October 2016 **The Intertidal and Coast Archaeology of the Yorkshire Coast: The CITIZAN Project**, Megan Clement
- 14th November 2016 **Writing on the Roof: Graffiti at St Oswald’s, Filey**, John Buglass
- 28th November 2016 **Collect Prehistoric Yorkshire: The Lamplough-Lidster Collection**, David Lamplough
- 12th December 2016 **“He will do for you that which no other King had done”**: Richard III’s ambitions for York, Scarborough and the North, John Oxley
- 9th January 2017 **By, in and on the sea – the activities of Scarborough’s visitors**, Keith Johnston
- 23rd January 2017 **The Victorian Rag Trade**, Vanessa Milner
- 6th February 2017 **Members’ Evening**
- 20th February 2017 **Scarborough and Whitby Railway – Ravenscar to Whitby**, Robin Lidster
- 6th March 2017 **Star Carr – Early Mesolithic Life Revealed**, Jennifer Dunne
- 20th March 2017 **The Story of Scarborough and its Books**, Trevor Pearson