

Annual Report of Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society 2015-2016

This Annual Report covers the Society's year of 1st April 2015 until 31st March 2016

Registered Charity Number

1108962

Address

c/o The Street
12 Lower Clark Street
Scarborough
YO12 7PW

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, Farrell Burnett, Christopher Hall, Keith Johnston, Vanessa Milner, Simon Temlett

Committee 2015-2016

President	Trevor Pearson
Vice-Presidents	Farrell Burnett, 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

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 four occasions during 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 2015 six lectures were delivered on a variety of archaeological and historical topics and since the new year began a further five have taken place. All the lectures were well attended.

The lectures presented were on a diverse range of topics and

During February the Annual Members' Evening took place and talks were given on a variety of topics:

Vanessa Milner Alderman John Jackson

Chris Evans Three Cayley Servants

Mark Vesey Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre Update

John Found The Early History of Scarborough Cricket Club

ii) Field excursions and other activities

In September the Society was actively involved with Heritage Open Days, organized locally by Scarborough Museums Trust. Members of the society participated in the Seamer Open Days organised by the Friends of Seamer Village, provided guided tours the Rotunda Museum, old Borough Gaol and WWI bombardment sites.

iii) Publications

The latest volume of *Transactions* at present with the printers and imminently will be distributed to members.

The Society's publications are now available for sale through Amazon although priced in such a way as to be not detrimental to local book sellers.

The new version of the Society's website has been launched and is regularly exceeding 1,000 unique visitors per month. The Society is developing ideas for new projects which seek contributions from the public via the website.

The Society has continued to utilise social media to promote events and items of interest. The Society's Facebook page has over 700 'likes' and is frequently updated with content.

The Society has produced a leaflet that promotes the Society's website and publications but provides information on two short walks that allows people, locals and visitors alike, with information on the history of Scarborough.

Copies of most of the reports on the Society's archaeological excavations and research since 1987 are now available online through the Archaeological Data Service which means that they are more widely available.

b. Research

During the Summer, members of the Society used their expertise to assist and participate in a joint project with the High Wolds Heritage Group to conduct excavations and training at the scheduled site of Hanging Grimston under the directorship of Historic England's Marcus Jecock. This was an extremely rewarding and well received activity and plans are in place to return in the Summer of 2016.

Work has continued with the Scarborough Museums Trust on the processing and indexing of finds from the Balmoral Hotel excavation carried out by Peter Farmer in 1972/73 which was mentioned in the previous Annual Report.

Finds processing and analysis has also been undertaken with the High Wolds Heritage Group following the excavations at Hanging Grimston and the vast majority of finds have now washed, cleaned, categorized and marked.

Following a meeting with a local farmer at the Seamer History Fair, the Society investigated a number of archaeological features on his land. This has now broadened in scope and the Society is working in conjunction with the Raincliffe Wood Community Enterprise to develop a project to investigate the landscape, history and archaeology of Raincliffe Woods and Forge Valley. Members of the Society have conducted initial surveys using Global Positioning Systems and are formulating a project plan and it is anticipated that this will be a very significant project with the opportunity for wide community involvement.

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 our Objectives. During the year we 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, archaeological advice on the installation of interpretation panel

Friends of Dean Road and Manor Road Cemetery – World War I

Friends of Seamer Village – Seamer History Weekend

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

Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre – submitted letter in support of the Centre’s application for Heritage Lottery Funding. The Centre is a very popular outlet for the Society’s publications and has sold nearly 100 copies of the Guide to Historic Scarborough in the last year. This represents an income of £30 - £40 per month to the Society.

Scarborough Museums Trust – excavation archive, ‘pop up’ museum and Heritage Open Days

The Society is represented on the local Heritage Forum (Chris Hall, Keith Johnston); on CBA Yorkshire (Trevor Pearson) and Yorkshire Archaeological & Historical society (Dr Pete Wilson).

Trustees Fund

The Society received one application for financial assistance for sponsorship of a speaker the forthcoming Books by the Beach literature festival. The application was approved on the condition that the speaker should have some archaeological and /or historical relevance. The festival subsequently secured the services of Professor Alice Roberts who will be speaking on the subject of the Celts. The Society obtained consent for the sale of its own publications at this event.

Membership

The Society has 114 paid up members at present. There are 7 life members and 3 institutional members. 122 paid in 2014, 129 paid in 2013, 137 in 2012 and 151 in 2011 & 2010, so there has been a gradual decline. 148 visitors paid to attend lectures to date.

Signed.....

Trevor Pearson

President of the Society

Simon Temlett

Chairman of the Committee

Chairman of the Trustees

Annex 1 – Lectures

- 13th April 2015 **Historical Pageants in 20th Century Britain**, Dr Mark Freeman & Dr Charlotte Tupman
- 5th October 2015 **The North Yorkshire Moors Railway, 1836 – 2015**, Mark Sissons
- 19th October 2015 **Where there's much, there's brass: the remarkable coinage of Northumbria, c.640-867**, Tony Abramson
- 2nd November 2015 **The Scarborough-Whitby Railway Line: 50 years since closure**, Robin Lidster
- 16th November 2015 **Ancient Egypt: New Stories**, Joann Fletcher
- 30th November 2015 **"A striking picture of ancient times": analysing the Stonehenge World Heritage Site**, Mark Bowden
- 14th December 2015 **Battlefield tourism: visiting the Western Front in the years after the First World War**, Keith Johnston
- 4th January 2016 **Restoring heritage assets – The Old Parcels Station and Dean Road Chapel**, Chris Hall
- 18th January 2016 **Whitby during Queen Anne's war, 1702-1713, and the case of Linskill v Yeoman**, Christiane Kroebe
- 1st February 2016 **Discoveries along the A1**, Steve Sherlock
- 15th February 2016 **Members' Evening**
- 29th February 2016 **The World of Albert Strange**, Richard Wynne
- 14th March 2016 **This Exploited Land – the trailblazing story of ironstone and railways in the North York Moors**, Mark Sissons