

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

(Company Limited by Guarantee)



ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - for the year ended 31 MARCH 2019

The Museum, 41 Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire. SN10 1NS
Telephone: 01380 727369
www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk

Our Audiences

9. Which three words would you use to describe your experience of today's visit?

1 2 3

10. Is there anything else you would like to say about your visit? (Please describe below)

We attended the kids holiday craft workshop. These are BRILLIANT and we come every holiday. My son has Autism and can only attend holiday activities with me or my husband. This is the only facility we can enjoy as a family activity now he is 8 1/2 yrs old and we all really enjoy it.

Your visit to the area

11. Did you plan your trip to Devizes, particularly to visit Wiltshire Museum? (Tick one only)

☒ Yes ☐ No

12. Which of the following best describes you in relation to your visit to the area? (Tick one only)

☐ I am a day visitor ☐ I am staying in the area at least one night ☒ None of the above, I live in the area

Our audiences are essential and work is ongoing, with funding through the Wessex Museums Partnership, to understand our audiences and develop projects and facilities to ensure they remain at the core of our activities. Our audience includes visitors, Society members, school groups, community groups, and researchers.

Above is a testimonial given on one of the 2018/19 audience questionnaire forms.

We attended the kids holiday craft workshop. These are BRILLIANT and we come every holiday. My son has Autism and can only attend holiday activities with me or my husband. This is the only facility e can enjoy as a family activity now he is 8 yrs old and we all really enjoy it.

Below is a 'word cloud' comprising the three words used to describe the Museum on the forms.



Cover: Made by Wiltshire Young Carers these decorated the front of the Museum during the Snakes exhibition in March and April 2019.

SUMMARY and OBJECTS

The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (the Society) was founded in 1853. The Society's first permanent Museum opened in Long Street in 1874. The Society is a registered charity and governed by Articles of Association.

Objects. 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.

Mission Statement. To explore the archaeology, art, history and natural history of Wiltshire.

Aims. The Society runs the Wiltshire Museum, organises a programme including conferences, lecture and events, learning and outreach for children and schools, provides access to our collections for academic and general researchers, reviews planning consents, supports the Wiltshire Archaeology Field Group, promotes Industrial Archaeology and publishes the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* (WANHM). Further details are included in this Annual Report.

The collections. These have been acquired by the Society over the past 166 years 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 important items, its association with the World Heritage Site of Avebury and Stonehenge, and its relevance to the history of archaeology. 'Gold from the Time of Stonehenge' is on permanent display.

Researchers. Every year academic researchers carry out important research on items in the collection. There are over 500,000 items in the collections and details can be found in our online searchable database. The collections are '**Designated**' of national importance and '**Accreditation**' status was first awarded in 2005. Overseen by the Arts Council the Accreditation Scheme *sets out nationally-agreed standards, which inspire the confidence of the public and funding and governing bodies. It enables museums to assess their current performance, as well as supporting them to plan and develop their services.*

The **Library** contains a local studies collection of books, journals, newspapers and other printed items including photographs and maps concerned with Wiltshire, all available to researchers. The archaeology section 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.

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

The Society holds an Annual General Meeting each year to which all Society members are invited. At this meeting the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March are presented for approval and Trustees elected.



Dr Lorna Haycock

Lorna Haycock, our former Sandell Librarian, died on 2 April 2019.

For 23 years, until her retirement in 2010, she “served the Society faithfully, assisting innumerable family and local historians, visiting archivists, scholars and archaeologists in her calm, efficient manner¹. Even after her retirement she continued to volunteer and assist with proof reading articles for our journal - the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*.

At a memorial service, held in Devizes on 14 July 2019, our former Chairman, Mr Bill Perry “paid tribute to all that Lorna did during her time with the Society, first as Assistant Librarian and then Sandell Librarian. She worked tirelessly in this her second career, not only running the Society’s library, but researching the history of Devizes and Wiltshire. She led regular walks around the town, and was the author of many books on the local history, such as *Devizes in the Civil War*, her life of John Anstie the clothier, her history of Devizes Grammar School, *How Devizes won the war*, and a history of the local building firm Chivers as well as numerous articles and lectures.

Lorna also did much to develop the Library. Her time here coincided with the setting up of our computerised catalogue, Modes, and she spent many many hours entering documents from the Library collections on the database – a job which continues to this day. And she was a fount of knowledge on the Library collections in the days before the computerised catalogue approached anything like complete coverage of our holdings.

Although she retired in 2010 we are constantly reminded of her contribution whenever we consult the Library catalogue or read the books and articles she wrote on local history.

After her retirement from this, which was in itself a retirement job, she still contributed to local history of the area, chairing the area local history group and volunteering at Avebury Manor for the National Trust.”

Her knowledge of the town and the library collections and her “benign, courteous and effective assistance”¹, will be much missed by all her knew her .



Lorna - March 2010

¹James Thomas, WANHM 104, 2011 (pp vii-viii) - read the whole article for a fuller appreciation of Lorna’s qualities and contribution to the Society.

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Charity Number 1080096 Company Registration Number 3885649

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The Society and the Museum have had a very active year engaging with a wide range of audiences.

Our new environment gallery opened in the summer of 2018, and there have been a number of successful exhibitions, including "Telling Wiltshire's Story: 30 years of support from the Art Fund", "Wiltshire Remembers: Aftermath of the First World War", "Compassion in Crisis: 80 years of volunteering" and more recently "Snakes" which has proved highly popular with families, bringing in new visitors to the Museum - over 3,500 people visited the Museum during the two month run of the exhibition *Snakes: A Slither into a Secretive World*. Our recent Audience survey demonstrated the high quality of the experience we are delivering to diverse audiences.

There has been an active loans programme, including to a touring Exhibition on Stonehenge which has attracted visitors to the Gallo-Romeins Museum in Tongeren in Belgium and is now going on a multi-city tour of the United States. This tour will share artefacts from our collection with new audiences, raise the profile of the Museum internationally and at the same time generate some much-needed income.

We have had a large number of requests to examine and analyse our artefacts from researchers, demonstrating once again the importance of our collections, and our close links with the academic community.

We continue to be actively involved with a wide variety of community activities, including the Votes for Women – Gurkha wives, Empire Soldiers.

The Society has organised a wide range of successful events. Highlights included the Archaeology Conference 2019, the Great War in Wiltshire Conference and the Industrial Archaeology Conference. A series of social events have proved popular with members, including landscape walks, talks and a very well-attended tea party. We have conducted a survey of our Membership this year which has shown high levels of satisfaction and given us plenty of ideas for future activities and improvements.

The latest edition of WANHM, our annual Journal, commemorated the centenary of the First World War with a special section on the archaeology of the conflict in Wiltshire and has been very well received.

This year has seen the impact of the Arts Council funded Wessex Museums Partnership and the ways in which it is supporting elements of our work including exhibition development and community outreach. Working with Dorset, Poole and Salisbury Museums, we are delivering a wide-ranging programme that includes collections care, audience development and learning. As a National Portfolio Organisation, we are also challenged to work on areas such as diversity and climate change.



Left. New Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mr Martin Nye, awarded Doug Roseaman Honorary Membership of the Society on his retirement as Chair in March 2018 (he had previously been Deputy Chair and a Trustee since 1999).

Right: Mr Bill Perry was awarded Honorary Membership at the October 2018 AGM having served as Honorary Treasurer, Chairman of the Society and Trustee since 2002.

There have been some staff changes with our Publicity Officer, Jo Hutchings, leaving us in October and our Finance Officer, Malcolm Church, retiring in November. There have also been some changes in the staff that we share with other museums - Wil Partridge is the new Finds Liaison Officer, based at Salisbury, funded by British Museum, he works one day each fortnight in Devizes. The NPO has funded a new Community Curator, Sarah Gregson – who is based at Salisbury, and works two days per week in Devizes. We were saddened to learn recently of the death of Dr Lorna Haycock, our long-standing former Librarian - see page 4.

Our volunteers remain crucially important to the Society, and we are very grateful for all the support they provide.

My thanks also to the trustees and members of our various committees who are so generous with their time and experience. At the start of the financial year Doug Roseaman retired as Chair and was awarded Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his significant support for the Society over many years. This year also saw the retirement of four other much-valued trustees - Peter Saunders, John Baumber, Bill Perry and Richard Broadhead. I am pleased that they remain involved in various committees and other activities that support us. We welcomed two new trustees Gillian Kenny and Lachlan Robertson with valuable skills in marketing and property respectively. Alison Hems agreed to become Deputy Chair and her wide-ranging heritage experience is greatly valued.

The Treasurer's Report presents the financial status of the Society. We continue to operate at a material deficit, which is only sustainable if the performance of our investment portfolio remains acceptable, and if new income continues to come in from grants, donations and legacies to improve our financial position. Our grant from Wiltshire Council was reduced again in 2018/19, but thankfully has been maintained at that same level for 2019/20. We are grateful for their continued support.

Given the deficit, fundraising is an important focus for the Trustees. A wide range of activities including the Art Auction, raffle, quiz evening and coffee mornings contributed funds, as did a number of grants and donations. We were particularly fortunate to receive some significant legacies from former members this year for which we are most grateful.

A very significant milestone in November 2018 was the acquisition of the Devizes Assize Court building by the newly-formed Devizes Assize Court Trust. Funding was provided for the purchase by the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust and by a generous donation from Robert Hunt-Grubbe. DACT is a separate trust, however the Society and the Museum are working closely with DACT with the shared aim of raising the necessary funds to rescue the building which has been derelict for 30 years, to extend and convert it into the new home for the Museum and the longer-term ambition of linking the Assize Court to the wider re-development and regeneration of the Wharf. It will in time provide a great location to share our nationally important collections with the widest possible range of audiences, and enable us to be more financially sustainable.

It will inevitably take DACT some considerable time to design and get planning for the restoration and expansion of the Assize Court, and to raise the necessary funds. In the meantime it is critically important that the Museum maintains its current very positive momentum, continues to put on successful exhibitions and events and engages with as many people as possible. In support of this, we are starting on the process of refreshing our five year Strategic Plan to ensure that the Society and Museum are in the best possible health going forward.

Martin Nye

Legacies and Fundraising

Legacies are valuable in underpinning the Society's finances and we are most grateful to those members who have made bequests to the Society in their wills - even a small bequest can help us to break even in difficult years.

During 2018/19 we received monies from the estate of Dr E.A. and Mrs E. A. Shearing and some of the funds have been reserved to fund the employment of a part-time Collections Officer: Archive & Library. We also received a large legacy from the estate of Mr R A Dewhurst, some of which has been allocated to the Endowment Fund.

Our legacy leaflet is sent to all members annually and the leaflet will be updated during 2019/20.

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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 2019.

This Annual Report includes the reports and financial statements set out on pages 1 to 54. The Report of the Board of Trustees should be deemed to be the directors' report for the purposes of Company Law.

The reports on the following pages show how the Objects of the Society - see below - are achieved to further the charities purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Director is the senior member of staff responsible for the ongoing operations in consultation with the Chair and his report, and those of the staff, follow, on pages 9 to 31. The Society's committees and working groups 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 wide audience and reports are included in this report. The Society could not operate without the hundreds of volunteer hours provided and also the invaluable funding and support of our membership. .

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES 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, open throughout the year, and mounts exhibitions to stimulate and enhance appreciation of the county of Wiltshire.
- Actively collects objects and documents, through the Collections Trust, that tell the story of Wiltshire
- Organises lectures, conferences and visits to disseminate greater knowledge and appreciation of our heritage, to both the Society's members and wider audience.
- 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).
- Engages with local community groups to offer arts, culture and heritage activities for all generations.
- Provides opportunities for volunteers, without whom the Society could not offer the scale and variety of activities.
- Promotes, encourages and undertakes research and publishes newsletters, an annual magazine, reports, periodicals, books and other literature which are relevant to its activities.
- Operates an archaeological field group which encourages members to become involved actively in archaeological in the county.
- Committees and working groups are formed to follow up on specific issues.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Maintains a museum, library and art gallery, open throughout the year, and mounts exhibitions to stimulate and enhance appreciation of the county of Wiltshire. Loans objects to other organisations.

MISSION STATEMENT

Inspiring people to explore the archaeology, history and environment of Wiltshire

Welcoming Visitors

About the Museum

The Museum tells Wiltshire's story through eight subject galleries – from Prehistory to the Story of Devizes gallery that brings the story up-to-date. A new addition this year was a new Wiltshire Environment gallery that looks at the geology and natural history of the County and displays some of our important fossil collections alongside a range of hands-on activities for children, including a 3D printed plesiosaur puzzle and a bat box sound quiz. Developed by our Projects Officer, Nicola Trowell, with graphics by Karen Jones, the gallery was supported by the Ernest Cook Trust and a legacy from Mrs Sylvia Jones.

Staff are employed to manage the daily operation of the building and the nationally important collections, supported by a team of volunteers. The Museum is open throughout the year, seven days a week, apart from the Winter months of December, January and February when it is closed on Sundays and Mondays. This enables essential behind the scenes work to be undertaken. The Archive and Library is open from Tuesdays to Fridays and on the first Saturday of the month by appointment.

This year 20,344 (20,987 2017/18) visitors were welcomed to the Museum or took part in outreach activities. We have many positive comments in our visitors book and one comment sums up the experience

Brilliant museum for young and old

Mother's Day outing with 3 generations, and everyone had a great time! We were astonished by the range of artefacts and impressed by the number of activities for the 3 year old. We all enjoyed dressing up and spent a long time exploring. Highly recommended.

This year we have conducted a visitor survey with almost 300 surveys completed. This allows us to compare with a similar survey in 2017-2018 and also with our Wessex Museums partners museums. Interesting statistics include that 60% of our visitors are first-time visitors and that the proportion of visitors returning within 12 months has increased significantly as a result of the improved exhibition programme. We received very high ratings for the welcome that visitors received, the quality of the experience and value

for money. This is confirmed as we are 5th top-ranked visitor attraction in Wiltshire on TripAdvisor and received a high VAQAS rating.

We have hosted visits by a wide range of groups, including schools, youth organisations, local history groups, universities, archaeological societies, and tour operators. We have welcomed meetings by a variety of organisations including the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site Partnership Panel, Richmond Fellowship, Art Fund and the Wiltshire Victoria County History Committee. More surprising was our hosting of a Google Digital Garage social media training event, complete with Google-themed cup-cakes for delegates from across Wiltshire. We have also held sleepovers for youth organisations and for Wiltshire Young Carers.

We continue to raise the profile of the Museum through newspapers, radio, TV and social media. Our website had 25,000 users and we now have 6,400 Twitter and 2,700 Facebook followers. Our stories have had over 1.1 million views. A focus for news coverage has been our exhibition programme, developed by Heather Ault, who took up her new role of Exhibitions Officer in April. Exhibitions have included an 80th Anniversary exhibition of the Royal Voluntary Service, archaeological reconstructions by Peter Dunn, blacksmiths art by John Girvan, Wiltshire in WW1 and Snakes – a family-oriented exhibition held at the end of the year. It was fitting to hold an exhibition of items purchased for the Museum with the support of Art Fund, as a tribute to the curatorship of Paul Robinson.

A highlight during the year was taking part in the Devizes Carnival, showcasing banners made to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. Led by Rachael Holtom, we worked with an LGBT group from Devizes School, a Nepalese women's group from Tidworth and a group of women from the Home Farm Trust to create colourful banners to celebrate the #vote100 theme. These were displayed in a shop in the Little Brittox before being carried in the Carnival procession by museum staff, volunteers, local councillors and women from the Home Farm Trust.

Finds Liaison Officer/Portable Antiquities Scheme

The Wiltshire Finds Liaison Officer is employed by Salisbury Museum in partnership also with Swindon Museum, Wiltshire Council and ourselves, with support from the British Museum. Following the appointment of Richard Henry as a Curator at the National Museum of the Royal Navy, Wil Partridge was appointed as the new FLO in September. He spends one day each fortnight at the Museum recording finds brought in by members of the public, mainly detectorists. This is an important activity for archaeological research and some detectorists have loaned important finds or generously donated them to the Museum.

Fundraising

The support of our members is vital. We are particularly grateful to Amber, Gold and Jadeite members for their donations and the successful raffle run by Doug Roseaman. We are grateful for an anonymous donation of £5,000 towards lighting in the Oexmann gallery and for future displays. We have particularly benefitted during the financial year from generous legacies from Dr and Mrs Shearing and from Mr Dewhurst. The income from these legacies is having a lasting impact on our finances, alongside the Endowment Fund and income from the Sandell Trust. During the year, Mary Rennie took on the role of Legacy Champion on the Board, acting as a first point of contact.

In addition, we were fortunate to receive a number of grants supporting our work, including the Devizes Area Board and the Heritage Lottery Fund. We also ran a number of successful fundraising events including a quiz evening and an Art Auction.

A new fundraising strategy was completed at the end of the year with a focus on ensuring that we continue to develop our exhibitions and community engagement programmes. The strategy identified that we currently raise over 20% of our income from fundraising, compared with an average for museums in the South West of 5% and major museums of 14%.. However, the pressure on local authority funding and increasing costs means that we have set ourselves challenging targets for income generation.

David Dawson and Rachael Holtom



Top: our handling collection, available to visitors during school holidays. Middle: Soldiers from Larkhill read names of the Wiltshire fallen from World War 1 in our 'Wiltshire Remembers' exhibition on 7 November 2018, as part of a county-wide commemorative programme. Bottom: New Environment Gallery in the 'Old Entrance Hall'.

Exhibitions

The opening of the new Oexmann Gallery has enabled the Museum to expand the number, scale and scope of exhibitions. Following 11 years as Assistant Curator & Volunteer Co-ordinator, Heather Ault was appointed Exhibitions Officer in June 2018, funded by the Arts Council and Wessex Museums Project, and she has set to work on expanding the exhibitions programme.

Telling Wiltshire's Story: 30 Years of Support from Art Fund (12 May to 24 June 2018)

Showcased treasures acquired by the Museum with the support of the Art Fund. An eclectic mix of art and artefacts were displayed, such as depictions of Wiltshire landmarks and landscapes, a Roman coin hoard, a collection of medieval floor tiles and a set of 19th century Druid medals - the first time the items were shown together.

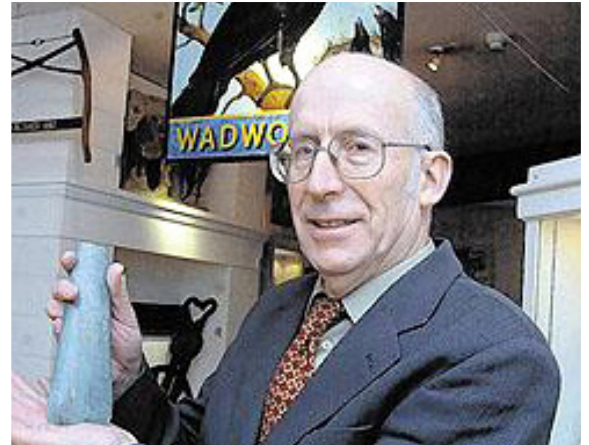
Highlights from the exhibition included lithographs from the Stonehenge Suite by Henry Moore; works by David Inshaw; a pencil drawing by Robin Tanner and a watercolour by Anthony Vandyke Copley-Fielding. There was also the opportunity to see Apollo Pythion, by Jo Tillson, who was one of the leading figures associated with the British Pop Art movement, which was gifted to the Museum by the Art Fund in 2002. The Art Fund enabled the Museum to acquire other items too, including the Stanchester Hoard of gold and silver Roman coins (*pictured right*), discovered in 2000 by a 14 year old schoolboy from Marlborough, together with the newly reconstructed pot in which the hoard was found.

The exhibition was dedicated to the memory of Dr Paul Robinson (*pictured top right*), who was Curator of the Wiltshire Museum for more than 20 years. Paul devoted much of his career to acquiring nationally important items to add to the collections, therefore raising its profile both archaeologically and artistically.

Compassion in Crisis: 80 years of Volunteering (7 May to 24 June 2018)

The unsung work of the volunteers of the Royal Voluntary Service (originally known as the Women's Voluntary Services) was showcased in an exhibition, put together by Matthew McMurray, Royal Voluntary Service Archivist.

From its founding in 1938, Stella Reading and her million 'women in green' quietly changed Britain forever. They pushed forward the cause of women, helped form the modern welfare state and were always on hand in times of crisis; from the threat of nuclear war, to caring for tens of thousands of refugees. Their simple acts of kindness are woven into the very fabric of the nation.



A poster for the Royal Voluntary Service (W.V.S.). It features a cartoon character pointing to a speech bubble that says 'People need you'. Below the character, it says 'in W.V.S.' and 'for a few hours a week or every day OR TO SERVE OVERSEAS'. To the right, the text reads: 'Compassion in Crisis', 'Free exhibition and evening lectures to mark the 80th anniversary of the Royal Voluntary Service', 'Exhibition 7 May - 24 June', 'Lectures 6 and 20 June 7pm', 'Doors open 6.30pm', 'Places limited for lectures - please book'. At the bottom, it says 'ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE' and 'Free entry to the Royal Voluntary Service exhibition (there is a charge to see the rest of the Museum)'. There is also a small text block: 'The story of service beyond self given by millions of volunteers. How did their actions change Britain? Is compassion itself now in crisis? Are we still willing to give the gift of voluntary service in the 21st century?'.



From the top: Dr Paul Robinson; the Stanchester Hoard; RVS poster; and Dame Patricia Routledge, an ambassador for the RVS officially opening the exhibition - pictured with RVS CEO Catherine Johnstone and archivist Matthew McMurray © Glenn Phillips

In July 2018 two exhibitions opened simultaneously – John's Girvan's *Blacksmith's Craft* in the Piper Art Gallery (7 July to 23 September 2018, and Peter Dunn's *Interpretation and Expression: Archaeology and Art* in the Oexmann Gallery (7 July to 12 October 2018).

John Girvan is a well known and respected local personality who has enjoyed a long association with the Museum, and so it was with great pleasure that the Museum offered visitors the opportunity to see his work as a blacksmith on display. The exhibition was well received and proved popular with visitors

Peter Dunn's exhibition showcased his skill as an archaeological illustrator and reconstruction artist and featured watercolours he produced of monuments of the Stonehenge landscape, as well as reconstructions of sites in Jamaica and elsewhere. Peter's exhibition showed his work alongside selected pieces from the Museum's art collection to compare artists' responses to archaeological and historical themes.

In October 2018 both galleries hosted *Wiltshire Remembers: Aftermath of the First World War* (22 October 2018 to 23 February 2019), which was guest curated by Richard Broadhead, and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The exhibition featured a Wall of Remembrance dedicated to the 10,000 Wiltshire fallen of the First World War, including men and women who were members of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. The exhibition told the stories of those who lived, fought, died and survived the conflict.

In March 2019 *Snakes – a slither into a Secret World* (2 March to 27 April 2019) opened to the public. This was brought to us by Blue Tokay, a company with a portfolio of high-quality, interactive touring exhibitions of natural history for museums and galleries. Using taxidermy, skeletal mounts and award winning photography, the Snakes exhibition was an immediate hit with visitors, and was made possible through grant aid from the Jack Lane Charitable Trust, the McCorquodale Trust and donations from Society members.



Top:
Wiltshire
Remembers
(Oexmann
Gallery)
Middle:
Snakes
(Oexmann
Gallery)
Bottom:
The Black-
smith's Craft
(Piper Gallery)



2019/20 exhibition programme

This will continue to be just as exciting for visitors. *Alchemy, Artefacts Reimagined* by Ann-Marie James will occupy both art galleries from May through until August 2019. The exhibition is part of an artist-in-residence programme developed across the Wessex Museums Partnership, and will travel to Salisbury, Poole and Dorchester. Ann-Marie's residency saw her produce a series of works based upon artefacts in the collections of each museum, and the series of paintings that she has made in response to Wiltshire Museum is titled 'Chieftain', based upon the Bush Barrow lozenge. In September 2019 the Museum will again welcome the Devizes Camera Club for their biennial print exhibition and this will be followed in October by the Oexmann Art Competition and Exhibition.

Ravilious: Downland Man, will be an exhibition devoted specifically to the work of Eric Ravilious and the Downs of southern England. Opening in late 2020, it will feature work from several national Museums and galleries. It will be curated by James Russell, curator of the 2015 Ravilious exhibition at Dulwich Picture Gallery and author of the forthcoming *catalogue raisonné* of Ravilious watercolours.

Smaller Displays

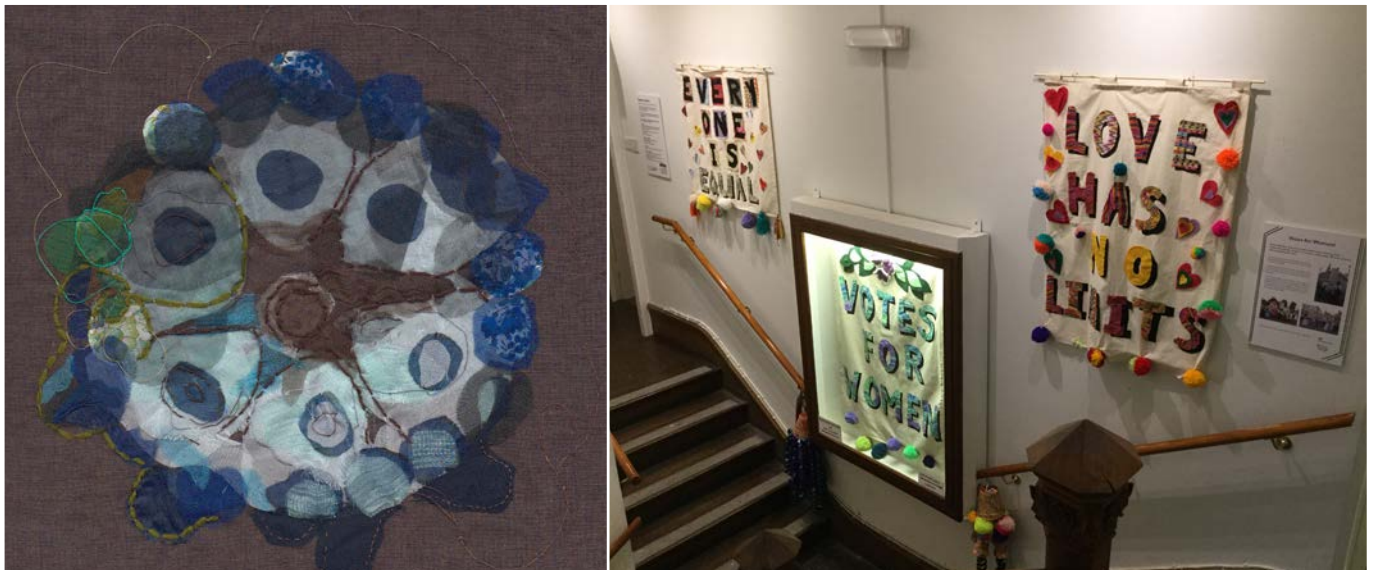
Also in 2018/9, we utilised the wall space outside the art galleries and in the lift lobby area for small displays.

During December and January visitors had the opportunity to see a selection of work by local artist Louise Rolt. Louise graduated with an MA in Constructed Textiles from the Royal College of Art in 2003 and in the same year won a scholarship to travel to Nepal to work on a project in the foothills of the Himalayas which sparked her passion for teaching and sharing her love of textiles. In her exhibition, Louise created pieces in textile based upon objects in the Museum's collections.

In February the work of various community groups and volunteers who took part in the Museum's 'Votes 100' project was celebrated. As part of this project, banners were made to celebrate 100 years of some women getting the vote, and these were then displayed at the Museum together with information telling the story of people who campaigned in Devizes for Votes for Women.

Following this the area was used to highlight the work of the Learning and Outreach Officer and her Arts Award students.

Heather Ault



Long Room

The Long Room is also used to highlight unknown items within the collections or to compliment the main temporary exhibition, including

- Throughout 2018 and up to February 2019 the bound volumes of the *Devizes and Wiltshire Advertiser* years 1918 and 1919 were displayed and each week the pages were turned showing how World War 1 affected the local population. This was to coincide with the World War 1 centenary commemorations. (Dec 2017 – Feb 2019)
- A display highlighting the results of the museums research on Suffragettes in Devizes in preparation for the Vote for Women drop-in event which took place on 10 March 2018. Items displayed included a Gillman's Devizes Directory 1912-16, copy of 1911 census return and a book containing Wiltshire Election Papers. (March – May 2018)
- Display of 19th century advertisements for Melksham Spa. (May – Oct 2018)
- Display of Cunnington Family Bible alongside flints found by Captain Edward Charles Cunnington. The family Bible records Edward's birth in 1890, and sadly his death at the front on 23 March 1918. Part of the Wiltshire Remembers: Aftermath of the First World War exhibition. (Oct – Jan 2019)
- Collection of photos and ephemera belonging to Devizes suffragette, Norah Ussher on loan from Nora Ussher's great niece. Part of Votes For Women exhibition. (Feb – April 2019)

Jane Schön

Above from the left: Brooch Square by Louise Rolt;
banner created for the Vote 100 project

Loans

Loans to and from the Museum are important in making the collections available to as many people as possible. Items from the collections are loaned for display and research, subject to security and environmental conditions being met. We are particularly pleased to lend objects for special exhibitions at other museums across Wiltshire. During the year, objects from our collection were also seen by thousands of visitors through the loan of key objects to the Stonehenge Visitor Centre.

In 2018 to 2020 they will be enjoyed further afield in Belgium and the USA, as part of a major touring exhibition about Stonehenge, in partnership with MuseumsPartner and Mike Parker Pearson of University College London.

To the Museum and Library:

Decorated later Bronze Age palstave axe mould (one half), found in the area of All Cannings, near Devizes - an extremely rare find for Wiltshire. The finder was Mr Gary Cook from Westbury. On display in the Prehistoric Wiltshire Galleries.

Early Medieval silver Saint Eadmund memorial penny, dating to c. AD 895-910 and minted in East Anglia by Ansinger. Obverse: Chevron barred A with pellet above. SC EADMVNI. Reverse: Cross pattee. ANSIER MON. Found in Alton. On loan from the landowner, New College, University of Oxford. On display in the Anglo-Saxon Gallery.

Collection of photos and ephemera belonging to Devizes suffragette, Norah Ussher were loaned to the Library by Nora Ussher's great niece. Displayed in the Long Room (February – April 2019)



Far left: Early Medieval silver Saint Eadmund memorial penny. © PAS

Left: Decorated later Bronze Age palstave axe mould. © PAS

Right: Roundway G8 group, loaned to MuseumPartners. © Ben Lawton



To other institutions or individuals:

2018 marked the 40 year anniversary of the discovery of the Cunetio hoard of 55,000 coins made at the site of the Roman town of Cunetio, near Mildenhall. To celebrate this, the pottery vessel in which the coins were found was reunited with a selection of the coins, which form part of the British Museum collections, as part of the touring exhibition, *Hoards: Hidden History of Ancient Britain*. The show opened at Salisbury Museum in October, but over the summer of 2018 the pot and 100 coins (on loan from the British Museum) were on display in Devizes, as part of the exhibition, *Interpretation and Expression: Archaeological Art* by reconstruction artist, Peter Dunn.

In June 2018 the Wiltshire Group for Open Farm Sunday, borrowed items from the Wiltshire Life Society Collection, for display at Temple Farm, Marlborough. The theme was Harvest and staff and volunteers attended the event, promoting the Museum and running craft activities for children. An annual event it is an excellent way to showcase the agricultural collection, which is currently in storage.

In July two oil paintings from our art collection - *High Street Chippenham*, unknown artist, c.1820 and *St Andrew's Church* by William Davis - went on display at Chippenham Museum, as part of their exhibition, *Little Bath-Gossip and Scandal in Georgian Chippenham*.

In October English Heritage borrowed a small polished Neolithic stone axe from the Langdale Group, found in South Marston, for an exhibition at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre - *Making Connections: Stonehenge in its Prehistoric World*. The exhibition was a collaborative project with the British Museum and showcased a selection of objects that told a story of long-distance connections and mobility in the period c. 4000-700BC.

The same month a major exhibition opened at the Gallo-Romeins Museum in Tongeren, Belgium, *Stonehenge: Spirit – Science – Place*. A partnership project with the Austrian company, Museums Partner and Mike Parker Pearson, University College London. Items on display included early Bronze Age gold and amber

from Wilsford G8; the grave group known as Amesbury G54, which includes a beautifully made flint dagger, and finds from barrow Roundway G8, the archer Beaker burial. This is a touring exhibition and from May - September 2019 will be showcased at the Union Station in Kansas City, USA. The same exhibition is then set to travel during 2019 to 2022 to St Louis, Dallas, Minnesota and Cincinnati.

In November, Diane Robinson, wife of Dr Paul Robinson, former Curator of the Museum, borrowed a small number of items from the Museums collection including a tin helmet, some trench art and a Princess Mary brass gift box, for display at a First World War memorial day event in Potterne.

On Remembrance Sunday 2018, Simon Matthews (*pictured right*) wore his grandfather's World War II medals at the Armistice Day Parade in London. Earlier that year Mr Matthews had successfully entered the public ballot for *A Nation's Thank You – the People's Procession*, which allowed 10,000 members of the public, to join a procession past the Cenotaph. The five medals were given to the Museum in 2001 by Kathleen Anstie, who lived in Derry Hill near Calne. Kathleen was the widow of Bombardier R. D. Anstie who served with the anti-aircraft crews during the Blitz, as part of the 236 Battery Royal Artillery. Known as Denis he was then posted to Burma for three years to fight the Japanese. The Museum was delighted to be able to return the medals to the Anstie family for the day, to enable Simon to wear them in honour of his grandfather Denis, in the Armistice Day Parade.



At the end of the year, the Athelstan Museum in Malmesbury borrowed a 17th century trade token of Edmund Handy, Malmesbury, for an exhibition about public houses in the town, past and present.

In 2013, we loaned objects from the collections to English Heritage for display at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre. In October the five year loan period expired and the Wilsford G8 grave group was returned. A temporary extension of a year has been agreed for the other items on loan.

Lisa Brown

Wessex Spotlight Loans

During the year an item from each of the four Wessex Museums (Dorset County Museum, Poole Museum, The Salisbury Museum, Wiltshire Museum), on a specific theme, is chosen to be displayed in rotation at each of the partner museums. A special case in the Long Room is used to display the object. From December 2017 to November 2018 the theme was 'making' and the following items were displayed at the Museum during the year: cottage ware from Poole Pottery (Poole Museum); The Dorset Ooser, a pottery representation of these semi-human faces and bulls' horns (Dorset County Museum); a stone carving from Old Sarum cathedral (Salisbury Museum) and the Moonraker Plate from Wiltshire Museum.

The theme for 2018/19 is 'Wicked Wessex', telling stores of the region's 'wicked' past from grim and gruesome to strange and shocking. The first object displayed was a Bellarmine Jar from our own collection succeeded

A promotional poster for the 'Spotlight Loans: Made in Wessex' exhibition. It features four images of loaned objects: a horned mask, a pottery jar, a stone carving, and a circular plate. Below the images is the title 'Spotlight Loans: Made in Wessex' in large bold letters, followed by the dates '11th December 2017 - 25th November 2018'. At the bottom are the logos for the four museums: Wessex Museums, Dorset County Museum, Poole Museum, The Salisbury Museum, and Wiltshire Museum.

by a Scold's (or Witch's) Bridle from Salisbury Museum. A cat-o'-nine-tails from Poole Museum will be followed by a Maquette from Dorset County Museum. This is a miniature version of the martyrs' memorial which stands on the site of the Dorchester gallows.

Collections

We continue to actively collect objects that tell the story of Wiltshire, to both enhance our displays and strengthen our research collections.

There were many interesting additions made to the collections during the year. A detailed list can be found in the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* (volume 112, 2019), below are some of the highlights. The collections are available to search online www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk/collections, making them accessible in the widest possible terms. To date there are 117,000 records of catalogued items to search on the database across all collections, along with 13,000 digital images.

Acquisitions of the Year



A replica of the Lacock Cup made by Michael Neilson, the British Museum's replication specialist, in the Department of Conservation and Scientific Research. The replica (2019.5) was commissioned and purchased by the Museum with funding from John and Jane Baumber. It will be displayed in the Middle Ages Gallery.

Dating from the 15th century, the Lacock Cup is a silver-gilt drinking cup, previously owned by the Church of St. Cyriac in Lacock, and thought to have been used by its congregation for over 400 years. It had been on loan to the British Museum from 1963 and until the 1980s continued to return to the church to be used as a chalice in religious festivals. In 2013 the Church offered the Lacock Cup for sale to the British Museum and a fundraising appeal enabled the joint acquisition with Wiltshire Museum to take place.

The Cup is a stunning piece of craftsmanship with a unique history. In the medieval period it was used for feasting and dining. It is elegantly decorated, formed of hammered sheet silver, edged with gilded Gothic motifs and twisted rope work. The sweeping lid and trumpet shaped foot would have drawn the attention of the viewer across the Lord's hall. Post-Reformation the Cup became a sacred vessel: a chalice for communion wine in a Protestant church.

Regimental badge of the Devizes Loyal Volunteers, dated AD 1798 – 1808. The front face is decorated with the Devizes coat of arms depicting a castle with a crown above flanked by G R.

In 1798, an Act of Parliament was passed to secure the defence of the country against a possible French invasion. One of the first 'home guards' in the country was formed in Devizes, 'the Military Association of Householders', consisting of about 400 men in two companies, under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel James Sutton of New Park. Musters and manoeuvres took place in the summer at 6pm on Monday's and members paid a weekly subscription. In 1799, the name was changed to The Devizes Loyal Volunteers. A pair of colours, provided by Henry Addington, the town's M.P., was presented at a special ceremony on Roundway Down. The troop exhibited their skills at manoeuvring and marching and then proceeded to the Town Hall to deposit their colours, which were later moved to St. John's church. An oil painting of this event is held in the Museums art collection. On two occasions the regiment marched to defend seaports in the west of England against French reconnaissance parties.

The DLV badge was donated to the Museum by Mark Flitton, Rodbourne, Swindon, and is on display in the *Story of Devizes* Gallery (2018.13)



Top Right: Lacock Cup (2019.5) © British Museum
Bottom Right: Regimental badge 2018.13 © PAS

Hoard of Roman pewter vessels found on farmland at Hilmarton. A rare and exciting find for Wiltshire, two similar hoards have been found in Manton, near Marlborough and in Lyneham. The vessels are an important addition to the research collection and have been conserved by Wessex Archaeology. Donated to the Museum by the landowner, James Stainer. The finder was metal detectorist, Owen Elms (2019.8)

Unframed print by Jeremy Deller (limited edition 13/100, signed and dated by the artist). Deller has taken a 100-year-old photograph of Stonehenge and touched it up with psychedelic pinks, yellows, greens and blues. The artwork was commissioned to celebrate a 100 years of care and conservation at Stonehenge. Stonehenge was gifted to the nation by Cecil Chubb on 26th October 2018. Purchased by the Museum (2018.1049)

Victorian lace and silk waistcoat pieces, once belonging to Martha Ann Reed (1856 - 1938), widow of Ernest Reed, former owner of Devizes Castle. One piece of the waistcoat has the label of, JOHN NICHOLAS, HIGH STREET, DEVIZES, LADIES TAILORS & COSTUMIERS. Donated to the Museum by Martha Ann Reed's granddaughter, Bridgett Pettet, East Sussex (2018.22)

Wooden toy made by a German prisoner of war, c.1945. The POW worked on a farm in West Ashton just before the war ended. The donor, then aged 3 years, was given the toy by his father, who purchased it from the POW. It is a mobile with pecking birds. Painted in standard issue green War Department paint. Donated to the Museum by Colin Slade, Devizes (2019.7)

Archaeology

Roman headstud brooch found at Truckle Hill, North Wraxall, in the late 1970s or early 1980s. Donated to the Museum by Charles Fry, Chippenham (2018.10)

Archaeological archive from Roundhouse Farm, Marston Meysey. A multi-period site, later Neolithic to mid-Roman and medieval to present day. The archaeological record for the site intensifies with the onset of the Iron Age, with a substantial settlement site and landscape organisation. Excavated by Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Finds include pottery, animal bone, human bone, clay, glass, flint, slag, charcoal, stone and ceramic building material (2018.17).



Art

Stonehenge Stage 1. 3000 – 2920 BC, by Peter Dunn. Framed gouache picture, signed by the artist and dated 2011. Purchased by the Museum (2018.1047).

Durrington East Entrance, Avenue and Houses 2500BC, by Peter Dunn. Framed gouache picture, signed by the artist and dated 2011. Donated to the Museum by Peter Dunn (2018.1048)

Charles Smith, MP for Westbury (1802 - 06). Framed oil painting on canvas by portrait artist John Opie, RA. Donated to the Museum by WANHS Members, Mr and Mrs W Stancomb, Market Lavington (2018.1050).

Coursing at Stonehenge. Three images (i) *The Slipper* (ii) *The Judge Following the Course* and (iii) *The Meet Around the Old Druid Temple*. Framed print by William Small. Donated to the Museum by WANHS Member, Brian Edwards, Wedhampton (2018.1052).

(i) *Stonehenge Free Festival, 1984* (ii) *Stonehenge, 1984*, (iii) *Rod's Bus at Thruxton* (iv) *Stonehenge, 1983* (v) *Stonehenge Festival Campsite*. Unframed prints by David Stooke, which appeared in the book, *Travelling Daze*, by Alan Dearling, published in 2005. Donated to the Museum by WANHS Trustee Tim Daw, All Cannings (2018.1053).

(i) *London Road Bridge* (ii) *Cemetery Bridge* (iii) *Quaker's Walk Bridge* (iv) *Northgate Street Bridge* (v) *Prison Bridge*. Set of five pen drawings of Devizes bridges, made by Denis Grant-King, all dated 27th August 1971 and initialled DGK. Detailed written notes about the bridges accompany each drawing. Donated to the Museum by Michael Brain, Devizes (2019.1001)

Wiltshire Before Christ: A303 Built by Immigrants, signed copy by Aries, Jeremy Deller & David Sims. Text by Julian Richards and illustrations by Adriana Bareikyte. This book accompanied the exhibition at The Store X, The Strand, London. Donated to the Museum by Julian Richards and Jeremy Deller (2019.1002)

From the left: Victorian lace (2018.22); Roman headstud brooch (2018.10); Stonehenge Stage 1 (2018.1047) © Peter Dunn



Library and Archive

The Library and Archive collection continues to grow and during the last year 122 books were purchased and 115 were donated contributing to the 286 new acquisitions to the library. Most of the books purchased were published during 2018 thus keeping the library collection up to date. There were 76 new additions to the Archive collection including 33 donations and 63 new acquisitions to the photographic collection including 45 donations 13 of which were postcards. Some of the highlights are:

BOOKS

Gift of eight coin reference books from Daphne Lumley via Diane Robinson. They once belonged to Daphne's brother and she passed them to Dr Paul Robinson following her brother's death. Donated to the museum by Daphne Lumley, friend of Dr Paul Robinson (*Book. 17787; Book. 17789-17793*).

Gift of 54 books, some of which are signed by the author and 32 Wiltshire Folk Life journals from Richard Goddard. 21 books were accessioned into the library and the duplicates will be sold to raise library funds. Donated by Richard Goddard (*Book. 17758-17778*).

Cunnington Family History by Elisabeth Cunnington (1978) updated and amended by John Cunnington (2018). This gift has led to an ongoing conversation regarding the Cunnington family and potentially further gifts will arise. The loose family trees have also been updated and amended. Donated by the author John Cunnington (*Book. 17912*).

The Gouernment of Cattel by Leonard Mascall, published in London, 1st edition dated 1587. Leonard Mascall was the Chief farrier to King James. Inside there are many pages annotated with notes, comments, poems, signatures and dates possibly working out how old the book is. Donated by Tim Daw (*Book. 17923*).

DOCUMENTS

Letter from Mrs Cunnington to Mr Horton Bolitho, dated Sept 9th 1942, who was an assistant to Sir Norman Lockyer. The letter was tucked inside the back cover of *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Wiltshire* by M. E. Cunnington, 1934 (*Book. 17669*). Mr Horton Bolitho was an assistant to Sir Norman Lockyer who wrote *Stonehenge and Other British Stone Monuments* 1906 (*Book. 17670*). This copy is signed by Mr H Bolitho and would appear to be his personal copy presumably given to him by Sir Norman on completion of his book (*MSS.4366*).

A series of letters and Cunard travel information including menus, have been discovered relating to a visit to USA and Canada made by Dr Edwin Shearing in 1948. Donated by Dr E. and Mrs A. Shearing (*MSS.4364*).

Family tree/pedigree of the Hungerford family in UK, Ireland, Australia and USA from 12th to 20th century AD, with illustrations of Hungerford and related family heraldic shields, researched and drawn by Robin Hungerford, 2018. Donated by Robin Hungerford (*MSS.4389*).

PHOTOGRAPHS AND POSTCARDS

42 colour photographs of the creation and construction of the long barrow at Cannings Cross Farm, in 2014, for the deposit of cremated remains (*2018.7006.1-.42*).

Natural History

Mounted red kite, *Milvus milvus*, taxidermy specimen. Displayed inside a wooden box with glass front. Originally from the collection of Rev. A C Smith, the specimen is recorded in *Birds of Wiltshire* by A C Smith, published in 1887. The bird was shot in Switzerland in 1839 and subsequently purchased by A C Smith for his collection. For display in the 'Shrine to the Society Gallery' (Story of Devizes Gallery). Rev'd A C Smith was one of the founding fathers of WANHS. Donated to the Museum by Peter Andrews, Portishead (*2019.3*).

Numismatics

17th century trade token issued by John Hammond, Devizes, Wiltshire, 1649-1672. Donated to the Museum by Keith Palmer, Devizes (*2018.12*).

From the left: Brass Button (*2018.11*); Red Kite (*2019.3*); Scales (*2019.2*); Stoneware bottle (*2019.6*)



Recent History

Two brass buttons of the Devizes Loyal Volunteers. Found near Devizes in 2018. Donated to the Museum by Keith Palmer, Devizes (2018.11)

Silver dress pin of bodkin type, dating to the 17th century. Found in Etchilhampton in 2017. Donated to Museum by Simon Guerrero, Devizes (2018.14)

Wooden trammel used to build the modern long barrow at Cannings Cross Farm in 2014. Donated to Museum by its creator and WANHS Trustee, Tim Daw, All Cannings (2018.16)

Cannon ball found in Alton Barnes, July 2017. Donated to Museum by Jessica Branton, Malmesbury (2018.19)

Water container used by Mr Denis Grant-King whilst living in a caravan in Avebury during the 1930s. Grant-King was working as a young archaeologist with Alexander Keiller, drawing the finds from Keiller's excavations. Donated to Museum by Judith Caldwell, West Lavington (2018.21)

Set of weighing scales and weights from Burt's Stores, general furnishing and agricultural ironmongers. This store was located in the Market Place, Devizes - where Superdrug is today. Burt's Stores was set up by Henry Potter Burt in 1810. Donated to the Museum by Jenny Phillips, Seend (2019.2)

Devizes Savings Bank metal money box, with key and cardboard presentation box. DEVIZES SAVINGS BANK. LENT BY THE JOINT ACTUARIES. MADE IN USA. MFD. BY. C.O. BURNS CO.NY.189. Donated to Museum by Mrs Wilson, Devizes (2019.4)

Small stoneware bottle. THIS BOTTLE IS THE PROPERTY OF EDWARD GIDDINGS. WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT. DEVIZES. Donated to the Museum by Clive Green, Devizes (2019.6)



Conservation

Our collections require constant monitoring to ensure that they are preserved for future generations. Curatorial staff undertake routine preventative conservation to ensure that objects and archives are displayed and stored in the best conditions that we can achieve and we have been able to improve the storage of a number of collections over the last few years.

All remedial conservation has to be contracted in from qualified conservators from the Conservation Register. This year the following individual items underwent specialist treatment.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Incomplete panel from a decorated Roman lead tank or font, with a phallic motif, dating to the 4th century AD (*pictured bottom left* © PAS). The panel was discovered rolled and there is evidence that the lead work has been deliberately mutilated, stabbed through both sides with a dagger or spearhead perhaps. Found in Preshute in 2013. For display in the Roman Gallery. Work undertaken by Wessex Archaeology.

ART

Work undertaken by Caroline Harrison Conservation Ltd:

- Framed watercolour of the abbey at Amesbury. View of the house and the church from Queensberry Bridge, looking North, dated c.1815. By Phillip Crocker. Stabilisation and cleaning.
- Framed watercolour of Donnington Castle, dated c.1815. By Phillip Crocker. Stabilisation and cleaning.
- Unframed watercolour entitled, 'Cover Me Up Again'. A Beaker burial. Artist unknown. Stabilisation, cleaning and repair.

ARCHIVE & LIBRARY

- *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* - Volumes 109, 110 and 111 were bound. Work undertaken by Atkinsons bookbinders, Salisbury.
- A number of items have also been repaired internally by Archive & Library volunteers Sandy Haynes and Sue Roderick including Wiltshire Tracts volume WT.101.
- An inventory of all the books requiring repair / conservation has been undertaken by an Archive & Library volunteer.

For more information about the collections go to www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk/collections.

Lisa Brown, Jane Schön and David Dawson

ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, CONFERENCES, LECTURES AND OUTINGS

There were a total of 340 events or activities during the year (299 in 2017/18) and with our lecture hall also used for school groups and meetings by external organisations, that is over six uses of museum services or premises per week during 2018/19 (five in 2017/18). This included:

- 12 Society lectures, 3 Conferences, 1 evening class, 1 art class and 12 walks, visits and outings (14, 2, 0, 0, 13 in 2017/18)
- 32 special events (23 in 2017/18)
- 49 outside talks and visits (39 in 2017/18)

Thank you to our speakers and walk leaders for their contributions to the Society as most do not charge a fee or claim expenses. We would also like to thank everyone who helps with organising and running our events and activities. Some of our special events are highlighted below.

#Vote100 - 2018 Votes for Women Centenary - this project included the making of textile banners by young people from Devizes School, ladies from Home Farm Trust in Rowde and ladies from the Gurkha community in Tidworth. Strewn with crochet and pompoms they were carried in the Town Carnival of 2018. In early 2019 an exhibition in the Museum included new information about some of the local women who took part in the Suffrage movement, featured a group photograph from the 1911 Coronation March and information about the night in 1911 when they evaded the census. There was also a wonderful collection of photos and ephemera belonging to Devizes suffragette, Norah Ussher.

'Empire Soldiers' at Wiltshire Museum - an exciting one-day workshop fusing history, street-dance and 360 degree virtual reality took place in October, thanks to Devizes Area Board funding. Young people from Devizes School worked with dance professionals from MBD Ltd to create choreography filmed by a camera right at the centre of the action. The following day there was an opportunity to experience the Empire Soldiers VR installation (funded by the Arts Council), which told the compelling stories of the forgotten Caribbean soldiers of World War 1, which prompted much discussion about racism in the past and now and how historic events are interpreted. The events were part of the Devizes WW1 Centenary Commemoration weekend.

The Flickering Light – An Evening of Archive Film featuring Wiltshire, WW1 and the decades after the Armistice - Windrose Rural Media Trust brought its collection of archive films to Devizes Corn Exchange with a unique show reflecting local life in Wiltshire and surrounding counties before and during WW1, as well as on into the decades following the Armistice in 1918. These fascinating and rarely seen archive films were accompanied by West Country musicians Amanda Boyd and Nick Cocking, performing a selection of traditional folk tunes and song.

Drawing on the Ancient Past - this eight week course with artist Helen Garrett ran from January 2019 (and was repeated in April 2019). During the course participants *Drew on the Ancient Past* for inspiration; from rocks and fossils in the earth to Anglo Saxon treasure. They worked on developing foundational drawing skills, experimenting with materials such as graphite, grinding raw earth pigments and painting in gold. With access to some of the artefacts in the Wiltshire Museum collection, this was a unique opportunity to connect with history in an imaginative way.

Conferences - there were three very different conferences this year - four if you count the 2018 Archaeology Conference which was moved from March to May due to snow!

27 October 2018 - Industrial Archaeology Conference: Buildings

1 December 2018 - Great War in Wiltshire: showing recent research to mark the centenary of the First World War

23 March 2019 - Archaeology in Wiltshire Conference

Evening Class - Britain's Cold War 'The Dangerous Decades' by Bob Clarke.



From the top:
Vote 100 at the Devizes
Carnival; the Empire Soldiers
workshop; artwork created
Drawing on the Ancient Past

Members are very important to the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society and in addition to free entry to our award-winning Museum and special exhibitions, they receive other benefits:

- ◇ Free welcome tour of museum and library
- ◇ Discounted lectures, conferences, courses and outings
- ◇ 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 (*pictured page 24*)
- ◇ 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
- ◇ Helping to support our vital educational work and the long-term care of our nationally important collections.

There are a variety of subscription and payment options available, including monthly payments.

There were 70 new (or re-joining) memberships in the year (87 members); 79 (101) in 2017/2018.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

at 1 January 2019

Bronze:

Individual - £44.00

Joint/Family - £56.50

Student - £20.00

Member Organisation - £51.00

Amber Donor - £69.00

Gold Donor - £129.00

Corporate membership - £100 and £450

Jadeite - £250

Life (over 50) - £750

Life (under 50) - £1,000

Subscriptions run for 12 months from the first day of the month of joining.

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.

NEW MEMBERS 2018/19

Mr A & Mrs S Agnew, Chippenham
Ms C Aldous-Hughes, Trowbridge
Miss A S J Allen, Bath
Mr P & Mrs J Alleyne, Devizes
Mrs D Armstrong, Devizes
Ms M Bar-Tor, Uxbridge
Mrs C J Beard, Trowbridge
Mr M Boden, Devizes
Mr F R & Mrs L D Budge, Devizes
Mrs J M Caldwell, Devizes
Mr R J Cawley, Devizes
Mr G Clarke, Melksham
Mr T Collins, Marlborough
Miss L Copley, Pewsey
Mr I & Mrs W Crammond, Marlborough
Mr P & Mrs J Crofts, Devizes
Mr E Dempster, Thames Ditton
Ms K Digman, Marlborough
Ms L Donkin & Mr M Burkinshaw, Devizes
Mrs E Duru, Bath
Mr J & Mrs E Dymond, Marlborough
Ms J Ferneley, Devizes
Mr D Finney, Swindon
Mrs L Freke, Trowbridge
Mr D & Mrs A Gell, Calne
Mr W Grainger, Devizes
Miss J Hanbidge, Salisbury

Mrs B Harpham, Calne
Ms A Harrington, Trowbridge
Mr A Heasman, Marlborough
Ms S Hicks, Frome
Mrs S Histed, Trowbridge
Mrs H Johnson, Marlborough
Mr N Jones, Westbury
Mr C A Joseph, Marlborough
Mrs C Y Krebs, Calne
Ms B Lalor, Basingstoke
Ms C Lane, Trowbridge
Mr A B & Mrs K E Leach, Swindon
Mr J A MacAuslan, London
Ms J McCarthy, Pewsey
Mrs J McMurray, Devizes
Mrs S M Mockler, Malmesbury
Mr T O'Donoghue, Marlborough
Ms S Parker, Beaminster
Ms J Peck, Southampton
Mr J Prael, Warminster
Mr M D Prewett, Salisbury
Ms C Radnedge, Corsham
Mr C T Reid, Devizes
Ms S Richards, Birmingham
Ms H Richards, Salisbury
Ms J Roberts & Mr P Beck, Devizes
Mr S Rouse, Salisbury
Mr L Sams, Swindon
Mrs K Saunders, Devizes
Mr L & Mrs S Sharpe, Corsham
Ms L Sheppard, Devizes

Ms G Smith, Devizes
Mrs K J & Mr N Spencer, Newbury
Mr D Spreckley, Portsmouth
Mr P Stacey, Bath
Dr R J Stewart, Glastonbury
Mr M & Mrs L Surowiec, Devizes
Ms E Sykes & Mr E Smith, Devizes
Mr C Taylor, Warminster
Mr S F & Mrs S M Thomas & Misses O & C Thomas, Devizes
Mr M D Truckle, Salisbury
Mrs A E Walker, Bath
Mr R Wilde, Salisbury

Research: Archaeology Collections

Another very busy year for researchers visiting the Museum to study the collections. 32 researchers visited over the twelve-month period (34 in 2017/18), to examine and analyse the archaeology collection, as part of their post-graduate studies. This represents 50 days of curatorial time, providing access to our internationally important Designated collections. We communicate the outputs of research through a programme of conferences and lectures, through publications such as our annual Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine, and by updating gallery displays.

- Dr Sophia Adams, Research Associate, Glasgow University. Radiocarbon dated animal bone from the Iron Age settlement Battlesbury Bowl in Warminster, as part of the project, 'Setting Artefacts Free' A chronology of Iron Age brooches.
- Michael Bacon. Historian researching an 18th century garden near the Harnham Gate, Salisbury Close. Looked at some of the Buckler watercolours in the art collection.
- Sarah Botfield, PhD candidate, Manchester University. Researching the decoration of Late Neolithic grooved ware pottery in Britain and Ireland.
- Keith Bradbury, PhD candidate, Buckingham University. Researching the distribution of Mesolithic tranche axes in the Wessex region. Examined ten axes found in Wiltshire.
- Adelle Bricking, PhD candidate, Cardiff University. Analysed human remains from the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age midden site at Potterne and the Iron Age settlement at Battlesbury Bowl, Warminster, as part of a project is to investigate mortuary treatment in the Iron Age by comparing the character of bacterial attack in human bone. This research investigates diagenesis of Iron Age human remains from Wiltshire, Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and south Wales.
- Marian Campbell Ramsay. Historian carrying out a research survey on the survival of medieval enamels made in Limoges, but found in England. Examined two buckle plates on display in the Middle Ages Gallery.
- John Clarke, Curator Emeritus of Medieval collections, Museum of London. Researching the development of medieval horse equipment. Examined a medieval curb bit found at Ludgershall Castle. It is the finest and most complete example of its type found in Britain. The artefact is to feature in the forthcoming publication, *Harnessing horsepower: curb bits in medieval England – and elsewhere* in Anastasiya Ropa & Timothy Wilson (eds) *The Medieval Horse: Its Maintenance, Management and Representation*.
- Dr Chantal Conneller (*pictured above*), Senior Lecturer in Early Prehistory, Newcastle University, examined the Mesolithic lithic material and associated archive from Evans and Smith's excavations at Oliver's Hill Field, Cherhill. She is writing an undergraduate text book on Mesolithic Britain.
- Alex Cotter, MSc Palaeopathology student, Durham University. Examined two of the Battlesbury Camp hillfort skeletons for a dissertation on health and care in the Iron Age.
- Christopher Daniell. Historian researching the interior of St Thomas Church in Salisbury and the parish of Erlestoke. Viewed various items in the art collection, including some of the Bucker watercolours.
- Eddie Daughton, potter and reconstruction specialist. Researching how Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery is made and decorated. Examined pottery sherds from the barrow cemetery at Snail Down and Marden Henge.
- John and Elizabeth Dymond, Aldbourne Community Heritage Group. Researching the village of Aldbourne for a group visit to the Museum that took place in October.
- Katie Faillace, PhD candidate, Cardiff University. Surveyed the Anglo-Saxon human remains from the cemetery at Collingbourne Ducis.
- James Figgitt, PhD candidate, Cardiff University. Analysed stable isotope ratios of carbon and nitrogen in the bone and dentine from the midden sites at All Cannings Cross and Stanton St Bernard, to establish a method for investigating diet and animal management in the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age.



- Paul Flintoft, PhD candidate, Reading University. *Archaeological Palaeoenvironmental Archives: Challenges and Potential*. A collaborative doctoral partnership with Historic England. Examined material from several excavations across Wiltshire and interviewed the Curator about how palaeoenvironmental archives are documented and stored at the Museum.
- Dr Alice Forward, Research Associate, Cardiff University. Working on the Leverhulme Trust funded project, *Living Standards and Material Culture in English Rural Households, 1300-1600*. Examined medieval metal small finds from a number of excavations in Wiltshire.
- Mr Akis Goumas and Dr Kostas Paschalidis, Curator at the National Archaeological Museum, Athens, and Dr Ken Wardle and Mrs Diana Wardle, Birmingham University. Examined the goldwork on the Wilsford G5 (Bush Barrow) dagger handle, for comparison with contemporary material from Greece, as part of a programme of research into the dissemination of similar technology across Europe in the mid-2nd Millennium.
- Dr Suzanna Harris, Archaeology Lecturer, Glasgow University. Examined Bronze Age textiles in the collections, including the clay cloth impressions from the Manton Barrow at Preshute.
- Michael Heaton. Archaeologist and Heritage Consultant. Researching Bradenstoke Priory. Photographed items in the art collection.
- Dr Raphael Hermann, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Göttingen University, Germany. Member of the ERC-funded Weight and Value Project, researching the origins of balance weights and value systems in Bronze Age Europe. Examined the incredibly rare balance beam recovered from Potterne, and other finds from the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age midden site.
- William Hoade. Art historian. Researching the life and work of artist George Shepherd. Examined the John Britton folios and other artworks. George Shepherd worked with John Britton on several projects.
- Joanna Hutchings. Researching the Anglo-Saxon finds excavated at Foxhill, Wanborough in 1941, for an online article she is writing.
- Dr Sara Machin, Post-Doctoral Research Assistant on the Silchester Project, Reading University. Analysed Roman ceramic building materials from the tile and factory complex at Park Farm, Oaksey. Writing up the excavation of Little London in Hampshire, which supplied brick and tile to the Roman town at Silchester. There are a number of similarities between this site and Oaksey Park, indicating that these two sites were contemporary and potentially working together to supply large scale building projects.
- Jane Mann. Archaeologist putting together the Budbury archaeological report for WANHM 2019. Examined the medieval ridge tiles from Naish Hill.
- Andrea Mobbs, PhD candidate, Reading University. Researching early Anglo-Saxon osteology. Examined human remains from the cemetery discovered at Collingbourne Ducis in 1974.
- Dr David Roberts and Nicola Hembrey, Historic England. Assessment of the archaeological archive from the Roman settlement of Verlucio, as part of the *Verlucio and Environs Project*.
- Andrew Simms, MSc student in Archaeological Science, Cardiff University. Researching carcass processing and butchery to try and better understand the relationship between humans and animals with regards to feasting in the later Bronze Age and early Iron Age. Analysed animal remains from All Cannings Cross and Stanton St Bernard.
- Dr Christopher Standish, Research Fellow, Southampton University. Researching trade and exchange in early prehistory and the role of gold in early metal-working societies. Specifically, investigating the source of Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age gold in Britain, using isotopic analysis - ablation and solution techniques. Analysis of the gold studs from the Wilsford G5 (Bush Barrow) dagger handle.
- Rachael Watson-Smyth, WANHS Member. Researching the Roman Kiln site in the Savernake Forest, excavated by the Rev. E.H. Steele in 1961, for local exhibition and publication.
- Rex Williams, Curator of the James and Bettison Treasures, National Library of Australia. Researching the archaeologist and collector, Sir Rex Nan Kivell. Nan Kivell excavated a number of Roman sites in Wiltshire and presented the objects he found to WANHS in the 1930s.
- Isabel Wiltshire, PhD Candidate, Bristol University and Alistair Barclay, Principal Post Excavation Manager, Cotswold Archaeology. Radiocarbon dating absorbed fatty acids recovered from early Neolithic pottery, to map the origins and spread of early pottery across Britain. The study includes the early Neolithic pottery assemblage excavated at Roughridge Hill, Bishops Cannings G61, 62 and 62a.
- Jamie Wright, WANHS member. Researching the Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Crofton. Consulted the paper archive..

Lisa Brown

Research: Archive & Library

It has been another busy year in the library with researchers visiting the library to research a variety of topics including Devizes Castle, Richard Colt Hoare papers, the Wilton born poet Edward Slow, Knights Templar at Rockley, Wiltshire Churches and many Wiltshire villages.

There were 606 (662, 2017/18) enquiries during the year: 292 (227) visiting researchers and 314 (435) email enquiries and telephone enquiries. Of the 292 visiting researchers, 126 were members, 128 were non members and 20 came from overseas. The majority were undertaking local history research (53%), mainly in and around Devizes and the surrounding villages. Just under half of the 17% researching their family history came from overseas (Australia, Cambodia, Canada, New Zealand and the USA) and 16% carried out archaeological research.

Researchers topics included:

- Bronze Age pottery, in particular the beaker burials excavated by Richard Colt Hoare and William Cunnington.
- Maiden Bradley House.
- The village of Wilcot for a Heritage Lottery funded community project.
- A writer for Wiltshire Creative Project researching Imber.
- Richard Colt Hoare contacts
- The Wilton born poet Edward Slow.

Jane Schön



Cover of WANHM 2011 (111) - First World War graffiti in the belfry of St Michael and All Angels, Figheldean, by Brett Killington.

Publications and Social Media

Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine (WANHM)

Our annual magazine continues to be the journal for reports on archaeological discoveries in Wiltshire. It is sent to members every year and is available to non-members for a modest charge.

The 2018 volume (no. 111) included a special section 'Wiltshire's response to the First World War'. Reports included Ghosts on the Plain (Richard Osgood), the archaeology of Great War training at Larkhill (Martin Brown and Steve Thompson), Wiltshire's World War 1 Airfield Landscape (Bob Clarke), the First World War Pow camp at Yatesbury (Dan Miles), military practice trenches and a dump of United States Army sunburn cream tins on the Salisbury Plain Defence Training Estate (Stephen Beach) and the study of First World War graffiti in Figheldean (Dan Miles and Tony Hack).

The natural history, archaeology and local history sections included articles on polished stone axe fragments from the Stonehenge landscape; prehistoric deposition, burial and settlement on Salisbury Plain (investigations along new military tracks 2009-2012); later prehistoric settlement above the River Avon at Kingston Farm, Bradford on Avon; Romano-British activity north of Bath road, Melksham; a case study using the environment record as a tool for research; a documentary history of Easton Priory and Hospital; the life of William Sharington; poaching, riot and assault in 18th century Savernake Forest and threshing in Wiltshire in earlier times.

The volume also contains reviews and notes of excavations and fieldwork. The volume was edited by Dr Stuart Brookes and indexed by Sarah Harrison. The publication was coordinated for the Society by Peter Saunders. Thanks are due to all of those involved in producing such a well-respected journal and especially to the many authors for their contributions.

Trilithon

This newsletter is produced regularly throughout the year and is distributed to all Society members and via the Museum shop. The publication is a mixture of articles, items of interest and news about current and forthcoming activities and events.

Engaging audiences online

In addition to our printed publications, we use our monthly e-newsletter and social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) to engage and develop with our audience. Social media is a great way to publicise upcoming events and news at the Museum and is an opportunity to reach new audiences and share more details about our collections in a more timely and immediate way. It also means we can engage with an audience that is unable to physically access the Museum or collections.

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).

LEARNING AND OUTREACH

This year has been a very busy year for both formal and informal learning at the Museum, with a large range of engaging activities delivered to 2,135 (2017/18 - 2,519) children and young people.

1,692 (2,072, 2017/18) school children have benefited from our service, through museum visits and the outreach programme that we offer. The majority of schools come to the Museum for our Stone Age days. Our interactive, child friendly galleries and extensive prehistory handling collections are a really valuable resource for schools. Teachers who bring groups often hear of our offer through word of mouth from other schools who have visited, and we receive a lot of repeat visits not only from Devizes based schools but from all over Wiltshire. Our fossils, toys, and Saxon sessions are also currently popular.

As well as schools, the service has also worked with a number of other organised groups this year. These have included home education networks, Brownie and Scout groups. We have had stands at a number of events including Salisbury Archaeology Festival, Open Farm Sunday and have run activities as part of Tidworth Area Family Festival.

Our family activities at the Museum have been very well attended this year with places filling quickly and very positive feedback. A large number of families regularly attend our activities and we have also noticed there have been a good number of new users to our service this year. Families particularly appreciate activities that they are able to bring younger and older children to together, as well as the variety of ideas and resources used in our sessions. The family friendly Snakes exhibition which ran during March and April 2019 has proven very popular, particularly with families with young children, many of whom had not visited the Museum before. It shows the interest there is in natural

history and the demand there is for exhibitions like these in this area. We had a snake themed Young WANHS session and other activities linked to this exhibition ran over the April 2019 Easter Holidays.

The Young WANHS Club is doing well with a good number of regular, committed attendees. A natural history themed session was run by the Great Bustard Group and we have also had geology and archaeology discovery sessions, geophysical surveying and an archaeological excavation tour led by the AFG.

Some of our Young WANHS members are undertaking their Arts Award with us. We became an Arts Award Centre this year and as an Arts Award advisor I have embarked upon running workshops for the 'Discover' and 'Explore' levels. Arts Award aims to encourage young people to become involved in the arts through offering them art opportunities to enable them to do this. The Museum ran an Arts Award 'Discover' day during the summer holidays, to introduce our young members to the award and is now offering the follow on the 'Explore' level.

The Museum's education service is currently undergoing a review along with the other NPO partner museums. This has looked at education at the Museum and in particular how our offer and efficiency can be improved. One of the ways we hope to do this is through recruiting and training more volunteers to help deliver our offer to schools and families. We are looking forward to another busy year with a number of exciting events and activities already planned, linking these where possible to our exhibition programme to make our Museum collections as accessible as possible to our younger audiences.

Ali Rushent

From left: giant snakes made by Wiltshire Young Carers - later put up on the front of the Museum, a participant in an Arts Award activity, a youngster enjoying an activity in the Iron Age Gallery.



Celebrating Age

The Museum is currently a partner in Celebrating Age Wiltshire, a 2017-2020 Arts Council funded project offering arts, culture and heritage activity for older people in their own community settings. We have been working with different community groups across Wiltshire as part of the programme, delivering outreach sessions involving our collections, storytelling and object handling.

The project has given us the Museum an opportunity to combine our established outreach formula with different art forms and to work with a range of different creative facilitators and artists. We will continue our projects with elderly groups this year and we are working with our partners to develop funding bids to extend the programme beyond 2020.

Sessions we have run include: using our World War Two handling collection as inspiration for poetry at Trowbridge Library; remembering Wiltshire in the 1940s and 50s with Purton Silver Threads Friendship Group; and a 6-week project with Wootton Bassett Library Memory Group, developing creative writing pieces based around the Museum's exhibition 'Wiltshire Remembers: Aftermath of the First World War'.

Nicola Trowell



Wiltshire Young Carers and the Snakes exhibition

In February 20 Young Carers from Wiltshire, led by Wiltshire Scrapstore, made snakes from recycled bubblewrap and vinyl wrapping (*pictured right*), to be displayed in the Museum during the *Snakes - a slither into a Secret World* exhibition (see page 12). They returned for a sleepover in the Museum in April - . Sssssuper fun!



Above: Nicola with members of the Purton Silver Threads Friendship Group © Alexa Davies;

Below Left: Objects from the Museum's World War 1 handling collection on display in Trowbridge Library;

Below: Poem written by a participant in the Trowbridge Library Memory Group, working with poet Jon Seagrave to develop poems based on our World War Two handling collection.

Gas Masks

*Looking like a Box Brownie camera
like a cheese grater with a sleeve
like a diver going down.*

*Looking like a dog muzzle;
like the snout of a pig*

*I remember they smelled nasty,
all stuffy and rubbery*

*Carried in a duffle bag,
A teddy bear case with paws and ears.*

*We had to carry them around;
Had to wear them
as we scurried across the playground
when the siren sounded;
when the boss at the factory told us
to put them on.*

*The last thing we were asked
as we left each morning:
Have you got your gas mask case?*

*They were just a fact of life.
I kept mine in a bag with my lippy;
my hanky and comb-*

*A girl's got to look good
when she's being bombed.*



Votes 100 - Speak Out Women of Devizes

Fabric banners with a “wow factor” were created by three community groups as part of our “Speak Out, Women of Devizes” project which celebrated the centenary of women being granted the vote.

Women with learning difficulties from HFT in Rowde, wives of Gurkha Soldiers from Tidworth and teenagers from Devizes School found out about the history of the campaign for female suffrage in Devizes; discussed modern day issues like the tampon tax and the gender pay gap and designed slogans for their banners.

Pom-poms, tassels and multi-coloured lettering bejewel the banners which were carried in the Devizes Town Carnival on 1 September 2018. Some of the banners were over 8 feet high! They were later displayed around Devizes in the autumn and in the Museum in the new year.

The project was funded by the government's Equalities Department.

Rachael Holtom



Wives of Gurkha Soldiers making pom-poms for banners

WW1 Armistice Centenary

We worked in partnership with Devizes Outdoor Celebratory Arts, Devizes Town Council and the British Legion to deliver a programme of activities to commemorate the end of WW1. The Museum obtained funding to support a number of events in the town, including projecting ‘In Flanders Field’ by John MacCrae onto the Bear Hotel, where he stood for a photograph in 1917 before leaving for active service.

Volunteers and the local community also got involved with our World War One ‘Letters Home’ project. Fictional letters were written (example pictured right), based on brief descriptions in *The Great War: Devizes District Soldiers*, by Richard Broadhead, which recorded all known soldiers from Devizes who died during the Great War. They were displayed around Devizes as part of the World War I Centenary Commemoration weekend in 2018.



David Dawson and
Rachael Holtom



Private Nelson Maslen

He served on HMS Bulwark, Royal Marine Light Infantry. His parents were John and Priscilla Maslen who lived at Tylees Court. He died when his ship accidentally blew up in Sheerness Harbour on 26 November 1914 aged 19.

Dear Ma and Pa,

It was great to have news from home, I'm always thinking of you all.

Our Albert's chum Bill from Rowde and the Town F.C. is here on board ship. He's let on that my N is not for Norman so I'm getting a lot of ribbing from the sailors. They're great lads on the mess deck and we are holding onto our top rating with our gun practise in number 3 turret. The band plays for our parade every morning and we try to be as well turned out as possible, all spit and polish and keeping clear of trouble from the sergeant.

Ma I've seen the sba about my toothache, it's a lot better with the oil of cloves he's given me and there's lots of grub. Meat is either white or pink but I couldn't tell you what it is. I do miss your rabbit stew. You and Pa might have been to the Palace, we have heard here about the film of the American race car driver Barney Oldfield and the Keystone Cops.

Please pass on my love and best wishes when you can to Lizzie, Tom and Albert. God Bless You.

Your loving son,

Nelson

Written by Jane Brunning

Learning Strategy and Community Curator's Action Plan

During early 2019 work commenced on a learning strategy and an action plan for the new community curator.

With funding via the NPO the four Wessex partner museums are working together to review their education offer, identify areas of excellence or that need improvement and to develop plans to enhance the education service over the next few years. Some of the work proposed overlapped with that of the Community Curator and Projects Officer, both of whom would be involved with the strategy. The Museum was already an Arts Award Centre and a broader, creative programme, to bring in more art and natural history would be developed. There would be more evaluation to ensure the sessions provided what was required, consultation to attract under-represented groups and visits to other venues to compare offers. It was expected that Young WANHS and other young people would be involved to ensure they had a voice, to promote their work through digital media and share what they do and what they have learnt.

The Wiltshire Community Curator (employed February 2019 - a post funded by the Wessex Museums Partnership and working with Wiltshire Museum and The Salisbury Museum), was working on an Action Plan, to attract local groups who do not currently engage with the museums.

Provides opportunities for volunteers, without whom the Society could not offer the scale and variety of activities.

Volunteers

This year has seen a number of changes to the Museum volunteer programme. In June 2018, the post of Assistant Curator and Volunteer Coordinator was made redundant. Heather Ault, who held the position, became the Museum's Exhibition Officer and the role of Volunteer Coordinator was subsequently absorbed into the Projects Officer's post.

We have additionally restructured and introduced new roles. The Museum has been trialling a visitor engagement post, which has involved volunteers leading well-received drop-in object handling sessions. We have also been developing an offer for younger people looking for voluntary work and have enjoyed welcoming a larger number of summer placements and Duke of Edinburgh students. This growing programme has seen young people writing articles for the Museum website, developing and helping with our holiday activities, and running object-handling sessions.

Our variety of volunteer roles are integral in the day-to-day running of the Museum. Volunteers welcome visitors and engage with them around the building, look after researchers in our Library and Archive, assist with school groups and family activity days, help with maintenance and decorating, gardening, mailings and events. Trustees of WANHS (listed on page 38) are also volunteers and we are very grateful for the time and expertise they dedicate to the Museum.

Many of our voluntary teams have grown in size this year and have been increasingly involved in the Museum. Volunteers have contributed over 7,500 hours of time, equating to a financial value of more than £100,000 – this is up by £40,000 in comparison to last year. Due to redundancies and alterations to our mailing system, our art collection and courier roles are no longer active. With these changes, the Museum has a total of 118 active volunteers (170 in 17/18).

Next year the programme will focus on developing our Education volunteer role, which will see more volunteers assisting our Learning Officer with school groups and family days. We will also consolidate our work experience focused offer for young people.

Our volunteers support the Museum in all aspects and we are hugely thankful for the time and support. Our successes would not be possible without their hard work and commitment. In return, we hope the Museum provides a sense of fulfilment and of community and friendship, a chance to pursue an interest, and valuable work experience. Our thanks go to all of those who have supported us in a voluntary capacity this year. It is a pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated team.

Nicola Trowell

A team of 22 Library volunteers have continued the ongoing cataloguing of the Archive and Library collections, adding these to the online catalogue and scanning the photograph collection including a large collection of glass plate negatives. Many undertake their own research or do additional research in their own time to answer an enquiry. This has certainly been the case for researching the Suffragist movement in Devizes where one volunteer in particular has undertaken a vast amount of research in her own time. Her efforts have been rewarded as there is now a small archive about a handful of women from Devizes who took a stand and campaigned for the right to vote during 1911-1918. The volunteer team also answer any enquiries that come in and assist with visiting researchers and their request. We could not provide the service we deliver without our excellent team of volunteers.

Jane Schön



Mr Wesley Attwood
Mrs Karen Bate
Mr Frank Bazeley
Mr John Baumber
Ms Sharon Benfield
Mrs Wendy Bishop
Mrs Astrid Bleich
Mr Mike Borro
Mrs Catherine Brown
Mrs Jane Brunning
Ms Jan Bryant
Mrs Judith Caldwell
Mrs Doreen Came
Mr Cameron Chamberlain
Lt Col Colvin Chamberlain
Mrs Janice Chapman
Dr Walter Chisolm-Batten
Mr Robert Clarke
Mrs Margaret R Clarke
Mrs Nicky Clarke
Mrs Liz Clifton-Page
Mrs Jenny Collis
Ms Clare Conybeare
Mr Michael Cornwell
Mrs Jean Covington
Mr Alan Cowley
Mrs Sarah Cowley
Mr John Cullimore
Mrs Jan Dando
Mrs Catherine Dawson
Mr Paul Draper
Mr Alistair Eddy
Mr Philip Edwards
Ms Lynne Farrow
Ms Pauline Ferguson
Mr Michael Fletcher
Dr James Flood

Mrs Sue Flood
Ms Heather Flower
Mrs Isobel Geddes
Mr John Girvan
Mr Jeff Goatman
Mrs Jill Goatman
Mr Clive Green
Miss Beth Green
Mr A Hack
Mrs Sandy Haynes
Ms Netta Hemmins
Miss Georgina Henwood
Mr Tony Hinchliffe
Mr Steve Hobbs
Mr Malcolm Holland
Mr David Hughes
Mr Jonathon Hurwitt
Mrs Shelagh Hurwitt
Mrs Carole Jones
Mr Tony Jones
Mrs Mary Kane
Dr James Kay
Mr Dallas Kendall
Mrs Ann King
Mrs Val Knowles
Mrs Wendy Lansdown
Mr Graham Lever
Mrs Marlene Lewis
Ms Stella Maddock
Mrs Adrienne Massey
Mrs Joyce McMurray
Mr Mike McQueen
Mr Peter Melsom
Miss Sasha Minnis
Ms Philippa Morgan
Mrs Sara Morgan
Mr Tony Morton

Mr Philip Nokes
Miss E A Paddon
Mrs Dilys Peacock
Mr Bill Perry
Mrs Sally Price
Mrs Penny Price Jones
Mrs Angela Prophet
Mr Stuart Raymond
Mr Slater Reynolds
Mrs Dorothy Robertson
Mrs Diane Robinson
Mrs Doris Roddham
Mrs Sue Roderick
Mr David Rolls
Mrs Pamela Rolls
Mr Doug Roseman
Mrs Judith Roseaman
Mrs Marion Rowland
Mr Rick Rowland
Mr Jonathan Sanigar
Mr Peter Saunders
Mrs Anne Smith
Mr Mike Smith
Mr Peter Smith
Mr Mike Stone
Mr Michael Teale
Mrs Sue Teale
Mr Colin Thomas
Ms Judith Thomson
Mr Peter Tolhurst
Mrs Judith Triggs
Mrs Dawn Vernon
Mrs Marianne Walker
Mr John Watts
Mrs Maggie Watts
Mrs Wendy Weller
Mr David Weston

Volunteers are invaluable in helping to run the Archive & Library, greet visitors and deal with shop sales, and maintaining our garden



Operates an archaeological field group which encourages members to become involved actively in the current archaeological scene in the county.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD GROUP

The Wiltshire Archaeology Field Group (WAFG) is a community archaeology group, working to professional standards. It carries out excavations and fieldwork in Wiltshire including geophysical survey, ground survey and field-walking. Anyone can get involved in research projects, ranging from prehistoric sites to 20th century archaeology. Members have organised practical training sessions on topics including basic excavation and identifying pottery. There have been a number of social events, which include talks on a variety of recent discoveries and new finds. There has also been the opportunity to excavate at Marden by taking part in the University of Reading summer school.

Membership is open to members of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Regular reports appear in our Trilithon newsletter, and on the WAFG Facebook page.

Bromham/Rowdefield Project

With some sadness, in September of 2018 the AFG completed the final season of their Bromham/Rowdefield project, and bid a fond farewell to Mother Anthony's Well. Between 2014-17 excavations had taken place to the immediate SW of the spring, but earlier non-invasive fieldwork had also revealed a late prehistoric enclosure (MAW I) to the SE, this thought to date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transition (800 - 600BC). So 2018 saw the team moving fields to find out if this was indeed the case.

Thanks to Clive Green and Jayne O'Connell, a training weekend was held to enable new members to experience their first taste of excavation. The project has grown in popularity over the years with over 60 different volunteers taking part, and places were in such demand that on some days nearly 30 people were squeezed in. A record!

Unlike previous years where the archaeology was more complex because of the multi-period nature of the area under excavation, 2018 was far more straightforward. Indeed there were few surprises as much of what was discovered had already been anticipated from the very clear geophysical survey results produced by Dave Sabin and Kerry Donaldson of Archaeological Surveys Ltd.

Thus MAW I was indeed an enclosure dating to the earliest phase of the Iron Age, which in turn respected two earlier Bronze Age Barrows.

As is often the case with archaeology one of the most interesting discoveries was made on the last day when the hearth and drip gully of a standard sized Iron Age roundhouse was found within a small sub enclosure inside MAW I. Interestingly, this was aligned with the entrance which may suggest a higher status building.

The final stage of finds processing is now taking place with a full report of our findings anticipated in a forthcoming edition of *WANHM*. Not only has it been a very successful and enjoyable AFG project, but the results overall are of regional significance. In addition to the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Romano-British discoveries, the pair of Early Iron Age enclosures are of great interest in terms of the contemporary and nationally important midden sites at Potterne and East Chisenbury.

Once again a huge 'thank you' to all the team for their hard work, loyalty, enthusiasm and humour over the life of the project.

Phil Andrews and Jan Dando

Left: Trainee volunteers; Right: Excavating the hearth of a roundhouse



We are always looking for more people to be involved in our work, a great way to meet people and to develop skills and experience.

A303 Working Group

The Working Group continues to meet when required to review proposals to improve the A303 past Stonehenge. We have participated in the Development Consent Order process, making comments in line with the Society's agreed response to the proposals.

Archive and Library

The Committee continues to meet to discuss Library matters.

Buildings and Monuments

The committee continues to review Wiltshire & Swindon Listed Building Consent and related applications making appropriate response on behalf of the Society and as agent for the Council for British Archaeology. This includes reviewing planning applications for Salisbury Plain and the WHS of Avebury and Stonehenge (also supporting the WANHS A303 Response Group) ensuring developments protect and do not adversely affect the setting of the monuments and archaeological landscape.

The Committee reviewed 360 applications LBC's (last year 221) making responses on 37 (last year 36). These responses are made as the statutory consultee for the CBA and WANHS to Swindon and Wiltshire Councils. The submissions continue to guide the Councils' decisions in protecting the heritage of the county encouraging the continued use of scheduled structures. This year an application by a company to create a temporary farmstead film set was responded to requesting that a full archaeological evaluation of the site must be made before granting access to the Salisbury Plain zone that included a Scheduled Monument. This was heeded and resulted in identifying Iron Age ditches and the presence of unexploded munitions. An example where the archaeology was protected and the application was consequently allowed with conditions.

John Baumber, Chairman

Finance Committee

This committee ensures that the assets of the Society are managed in compliance with the various rules and guidelines pertinent to the WANHS status as a registered charity and limited liability company, and promulgates appropriate policies and procedures.

The routine and day-to-day monitoring and management of approved budgets is delegated to the Management Committee.

The Finance Committee held two formal meetings in the year, additional meetings are called when events demand it. One of the meetings focused on the investment portfolios of the Society and reviewed Rathbone Investment Management, who manage the two investment funds, against the Board approved objectives and portfolio risk levels.

The Committee continues to review and guide, where appropriate, the compilation of the annual operational budget, major project funding activities and the annual auditors report and actions.

John Baumber, Secretary

Fundraising, Marketing and Membership

FMM with the fundraising and marketing aspects of its work being largely undertaken by staff the committee has concentrated on keeping in touch with those of our older members who are no longer able to visit the Museum. The group meeting informally as necessary. We continue to provide assistance at Museum stalls at events in Devizes.

Doug Roseaman, Chairman

Fundraising

The Working Group meets when required liaising, with the Development Officer.

Mrs Mary Rennie took over the role of 'legacy champion' from Mr D L Roseaman. She will continue to advocate the importance of gifts in wills to Trustees to ensure they are confident in promoting legacies and bequests to supporters.

Industrial Archaeology

The Committee organised its, now annual, conference last October. The subject was 'buildings' and the five speakers were very well received. Attendees came from all over the South West and £1,000 was raised for Society funds. The conference also gives an opportunity for other Societies in the region to promote their work and sell their publications.

The Committee continues as Wiltshire representative for the Milestone Society and there were several successes in reinstating milestones in the County. Not least that on the A303 which required three night time road closures to achieve safely.

Support is also being given to another specialist Industrial Archaeology charity in the County following the death of its founder and chairman.

Doug Roseaman, Committee Secretary

DEVELOPMENT

WORKING WITH PARTNERS (organisations)

Wessex Museums Partnership

The Wessex Museums Partnership brings together Dorset County Museum, Poole Museum, Salisbury Museum and the Wiltshire Museum. The beginning of the year saw the launch of the Wessex Museums Partnership as an Arts Council supported National Portfolio Organisation (NPO). We have together been awarded £1.4m by Arts Council England to deliver a 4 year programme of activity including improving collections care, enhancing our exhibitions programme and working with new audiences. During the year Sarah Gregson was appointed to the post of Community Curator for Wiltshire, a shared post with Salisbury Museum. Sarah is developing links with a new range of community groups across the County, including military families and hard-to-reach groups.

The Partnership is supported by the Wessex Museums Trust, a newly established charity that aims to support museums in Wiltshire and Dorset. The new Trust will fundraise to enable the delivery of projects that the individual museums are not undertake on their own and may take a more active role in the management of the NPO. The Society is represented on the Board of the Trust by the Director.

Stonehenge Museums Partnership

Wiltshire Museum, Salisbury Museum and English Heritage signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a partnership to support the development of the museums and the Stonehenge Visitor Centre. This has included the loan of objects from the collections for display at the Visitor Centre and marketing support from English Heritage. During the year, the five year loan period for loans to the Visitor Centre expired. The Wilsford G8 grave group was returned. A temporary extension of a year has been agreed for the other items on loan to allow time for a new strategic approach to marketing to be developed and implemented and for a new Memorandum of Understanding to be agreed.

David Dawson

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Strategic Plan

In the light of the purchase of the Assize Court, the development of a new Strategic Plan has been delayed until 2019. The Plan will run from 2020-2025 and will focus on ensuring that the Society and Museum continue to thrive while the Assize Court project proceeds. It is anticipated that the new Plan will be presented to the AGM in October 2019.

Wessex Museums Partnership

The Wessex Museums Partnership has developed a Business Plan for the 4 years of funding that meets Arts Council requirements. The Business Plan has been agreed by the WANHS Board and the Board receives minutes of all relevant meetings and is asked to agree an annual progress report and update to the Business Plan.

2018/2019 Forward Plan

The main actions during the year were to implement the Wessex Museums NPO Project and to develop our special exhibitions programming. It was anticipated that we would be asked to submit an application to renew our Accreditation under the Arts Council scheme. We have been informed that we will be invited to submit our renewal in 2020.

2019/2020 Forward Plan

A priority during the year is to locate a new archaeology store, enabling us to take archaeological archives from developer-funded excavations. We will also be continuing to enhance our exhibitions programme, build on the success of our community engagement programmes and develop our education programmes. We will also be implementing our fundraising strategy, building a wider funding base. During the year we also anticipate developing ideas and concepts for the Assize Court, working with the Devizes Assize Court Trust.

David Dawson

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Devizes Assize Court

In November, it was announced that the newly established Devizes Assize Court Trust had purchased the Assize Court building (*top right*) with the support of the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust and Mr John Bush, a private donor. The aim of the Trust is to restore the building as the new home for the Wiltshire Museum. The decision by the Society to proceed with the project followed an extensive review, which included the development of a business plan and an outline fundraising strategy.

A condition survey has established the state of the building and a full report has identified the urgent work required to prevent further deterioration and the cost of repairs. Work has proceeded on developing a brief to enable the appointment of a Design Team to enable the building to be converted for use by the museum. This will be an estimated 10 year, £10m project that will require a major fundraising campaign.

Two views of the inside of the Assize Court, July 2018



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society is committed to promoting the values of a just, inclusive and cohesive society and we take seriously our responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010. In all we do, we will seek to remove barriers to participation, create opportunities for engagement and meet the needs of all people. Dr Gillian Kenny was appointed Diversity Champion by the Board of Trustees during the year.

Equality and diversity is being woven throughout our strategic aims. Our objectives for equality and diversity support our strategic aims and specifically focus on three key areas (governance, workforce and audiences), which will be implemented through our equality and diversity action plan.

A Policy is being developed, working with the Wessex Museums Partnership, to work towards embedding and integrating equality and diversity at every level of the organisation, through specific and regular equality and diversity policy review and strategic planning. We aim to raise awareness and actively promote the values of equality and diversity through the appointment of a board level Diversity Champion and by providing training opportunities for trustees. We are working towards ensuring that all levels of staff and volunteers are included in strategic and action planning and to develop a better and more detailed understanding of our audiences and our local demographics, in order to identify our under-represented audience groups. The Society will also ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion are at the heart of development planning in regards to the relocation of the Museum to the Assize Court.

**TRUSTEES' FINANCIAL REVIEW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

**TRUSTEES' FINANCIAL
RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees (who are directors of the company for the purpose 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 the Law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK 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
- 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 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 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 employed Rathbone Investment management during the year and continue to employ them to manage both the investment portfolio and the endowment fund with the primary objective to achieve a balanced return from income and capital at the low end of 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.

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 on a quarterly basis.

PRINCIPAL RISKS

The principal risks facing the Society include falls in the Stock Market which affect the investment portfolios, long-term staff or Trustee absence, inadequate staffing with dependence of a small team of full-time employees, physical risks to the collections or buildings from fire, theft or floods and reductions in grants from local authorities. The Trustees manage these risks by having an investment policy at the low end of medium risk with regular reviews from the investment managers, by having processes for trustee succession, by conducting reviews of staff availability and development and by regular reviews of security.

The Trustees consider, in line with the Charity Commission advice, that the Society should have unrestricted funds (i.e. designated funds plus 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 has become heavily dependent on its investments to provide ongoing but uncertain income for its operations, unrestricted funds have to be substantially greater than £300,000 to provide a measure of security since unrestricted funds are used to support the charitable activities of the Society where there is a deficiency of net income on core activities or to take account of new opportunities.

The Unrestricted Funds balance at 31 March 2019 was £859,803 (£686,309 at 31 March 2018).

The balance of Designated Funds (which are part of total unrestricted funds) was £410,949 at 31 March 2019 (£390,074 at 31 March 2018). The purpose of Designated Funds can be changed by the Board of Trustees. However, it must be borne in mind that the Designated Funds are and have been used to meet expenditure not charged to core activities such as the running costs of the Hopton Store, the Librarian's salary and the depreciation charge on the Art Gallery and high security cases. Therefore, Designated Funds can only be utilised for other purposes if the expenditure they defray either ceases to exist or is charged to core activities.

Restricted Funds of £103,850 (£108,112 at 31 March 2018) must be used for a specific purpose. The capital of £388,704 (£284,063 at 31 March 2018) in the Endowment Fund is not distributable.

The Society owns the land and buildings of the Museum and these are carried in the accounts at net book value of £116,617 (£118,694 at 31 March 2018). The net book value of the property is substantially smaller than the actual market value. There is provision in the Charity Accounting rules for tangible assets like the Museum land and buildings to be shown at market value in the accounts. However, the Trustees have decided that, for the moment, the property should be shown at net book value. This property is now used for the purposes of charitable activities but, if the Museum were to move, it may be available to generate funds to support the new opportunities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Unrestricted reserves (i.e. Unrestricted Funds less Designated Funds) increased in the year by a net £152,619. This was due to legacies of £234,230 and gains on investments of £19,841, offset by an operating loss of £82,456, a write off of losses on completed projects of £4,289, a write off of deficits on restricted and designated funds of £4,919 and a net allocation of investment income and expenses to other funds of £9,788.

The operating deficit was £16,820 higher than the adjusted budget mainly due to £9,514 saving on staff and volunteers as a result of a staff reorganisation and unfilled vacancies, savings on collection management of £5,778, additional income of £3,686 from events and lectures, additional Arts Council grant of £4,217 for the exhibitions officer, additional gift aid tax refund of £4,057 and a reduction in fees and bank charges of £1,703. This was offset by a fall of £10,135 in income from donations and the arts auction and an increase in premises costs of £1,703.

Designated Funds increased in year by £20,875 mainly because of investment gains and income offset by investment expenses.

We continued to receive support from Wiltshire Council with a grant of £12,780 although reduced by 50% from the previous year. This grant will be maintained at this level in 2019/20 but its continuation at this level or at all is not certain for future years. We also received £4,000 from Devizes Town Council. These grants are very valuable as they support 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.

Restricted Funds decreased by a net £4,262 to £103,850 during the year because of net expenditure, mainly on the Snakes Exhibition and Restricted Legacies, offset by donations of £7,000, investment income of £3,346 and investment gains of £4,977 offset by losses of £1,228.

Investment income from the Society's main portfolio and from the Sandell Trust was £61,799, a decrease of £1,217 from the previous year. A total of £30,000 was transferred out of the Society's main investment portfolio to meet expenditure requirements, mainly for projects. A total of £185,000 from new legacies received in the year was invested in the main portfolio. The overall return on investments on the combined main and endowment portfolios and including income and capital losses was 7.08% compared with a return of 2.27% the previous year. The overall income return before investment management expenses was 3.28% compared with 3.44% the previous year.

The Society does not have a specific policy on social, environmental or ethical considerations. However, its investment managers have a corporate strategy that means that these are taken into account in all aspects of their business activities.

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Fund's portfolio is managed at the low end of a medium risk mandate. The Endowment Fund balance has increased during the year by £104,641 because of a legacy of £100,000 received during the year and by net investment gains.

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. Net investment income of £9,397 after investment expenses of £2,907 was transferred to the unrestricted reserves during the year ended 31 March 2019.

COLLECTIONS TRUST

There are over 500,000 items in the Collections Trust of which 2,500 are displayed in the Museum. There are also some 30,000 items in the Archive and Library collections. Most of these items are assets which were acquired before 1 April 2005 and have no value placed on them in the accounts. These continue to be catalogued and conserved with some items on loan elsewhere as described on page 14. More recent items costing over £1,000 each and totalling £46,270 are included in the balance sheet at cost. During the year £565 was received in donations and legacies and £48 from sale proceeds. These were used with existing cash balances to make acquisitions of £2,324 of items costing more than £1,000. These acquisitions are described on page 18 for items in the Archive and Library and page 16. for items in the main collections.

INCOMING RESOURCES AND LEGACIES RECEIVED

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 £10,850 for restricted funds and £388,704 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 £213,740 was received from a legacy by Mr Dewhurst of which £100,000 was allocated to the Endowment Fund and the balance to Unrestricted Reserves for general purposes. Also, during the year, the final balance of the legacy from Dr E.A. and Mrs A. E. Shearing was received. This totalled £120,490 which was allocated to Unrestricted Reserves for general purposes.

FORWARD PLAN

Each year the Board approves a Forward Plan that contains objectives and targets for the year. The 2018/19 Forward Plan contained targets within the following categories: Society and Administration; exhibitions; collections; displays; publications and promotion; fundraising and events; development; and board development. Most targets were achieved while a few ran late or were held over into 2018/19 - see page 32

PARTNERSHIPS

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. By mutual consent, the Directors ceased to be nominees on the other's Board during the year, but communication is maintained through the Wessex Museums Partnership. Supported by Arts Council England and led by Poole Museum Service, the partnership also includes Salisbury Museum and Dorset County Museum.

The support of Wiltshire Council and Devizes Town Council in providing revenue grants to the Museum is gratefully acknowledged together with the contributions to the Board of their nominated Trustees. We are pleased to continue working in partnership with English Heritage and Salisbury Museum through the Stonehenge Museums Partnership.

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 in October 2018 and have expressed their willingness to continue to act.

This report has been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) 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 25 July 2019,
and signed on their behalf by:

M J Nye, 25 July 2019
Chair, on behalf of the Board of Trustees

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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. The latest 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.

The Society is the corporate trustee of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Collections Trust, a linked charity, registration number 1080096. The Collections Trust holds all the heritage assets in its collections. The Society does not hold the endowment of the Collections Trust as corporate property.

The Society is also the corporate trustee of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Endowment Fund, a linked charity, registration number 1080096. Under the terms of the Charity Registration the accounts of the Fund are included in the Society's accounts but as a separate charity its funds do not form part of the Society's assets.

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".

The Society can have a maximum of 20 trustees. The Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer (the Officers) and nine Trustees are elected by the membership, with re-election after three years. Trustees, excluding the Officers, can serve a maximum of six years. Officers are elected annually from amongst the Trustees but can serve for no more than six years in any one role. As nominating bodies, Devizes Town Council and Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum Trust, can each appoint one Trustee, and Wiltshire Council can appoint two Trustees. The Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum Trust no longer appoint a Trustee to the WANHS Board. 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 Society is governed by the Board of Trustees which meets regularly throughout the year. It determines the general policy direction of the Society and discusses matters of importance to the Society. It approves and monitors budgets, Forward and Strategic Plans, all developments, the prioritisation and allocation of resources and approves trustee appointments. Trustees

bring outside experience and knowledge which supports that of our small staff.

There is a Review and Development Committee which meets regularly to review the management and financial affairs of the Museum delegated to the Director and his staff. There are a number of standing committees and working groups are formed as needed to deal with specific issues.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed including those related to the operations and finances of the Society and Museum, Archive & Library, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to major risks. The Risk Register is regularly reviewed and updated as necessary.

Investment Powers

The Trustees have the power to invest in such stocks, shares, investments and property as they see fit. The Trustees have engaged Rathbone Investment Management as investment managers and a Finance Committee reviews the portfolio and investment strategy.

Trustee appointment, induction and training

The skills and experience of existing Trustees is reviewed annually and, together with future needs, taken into account when seeking new trustees. The Board has a succession plan and has drawn up a trustee role description. Vacancies are advertised to members and through archaeological and voluntary media. Prospective Trustees are invited to visit the Museum to discuss the role prior to a formal interview. A panel, including the Chair and Director, reviews applications and interviews candidates. References are obtained and checks on eligibility to be a trustee and company director made. Those who are considered suitable are recommended to the Board to go forward to the Society's AGM for election by members.

There is an induction process to help Trustees understand their new role. An induction pack includes information on governance, accounts for recent years, forward plans, minutes of recent Board meetings, policies and other relevant information. New Trustees also receive copies of Charity Commission advice (e.g. *The Essential Trustee*) and are recommended to sign up for their e-mail updates. They also receive a personal tour of the Museum, Archive & Library buildings. From time to time Trustees are offered training courses.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

LEGAL INFORMATION

Names and registration numbers

Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (the Society) is a company limited by guarantee, registration number 3885649 and a charity, registration number 1080096.

The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Collections Trust is an unincorporated, linked charity, registration number 1080096.

The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Endowment Fund is an unincorporated, linked charity, registration number 1080096.

PATRONS

J B Bush, CVO, OBE, CSt.J, JP

P Harding, DUniv, FSA, MIFA

D Inshaw

Mrs S R Troughton, CSt.J, HM Lord - Lieutenant for Wiltshire

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair:

M J Nye, MA (Cantab)

Deputy Chair:

A Hems, BA, PhD, AMA, FRSA (from 26.10.18)

P R Saunders, BA (Hons), FSA, FMA, FRSA (to 20.10.18)

Hon. Treasurer:

A La Vardera, FCPFA, MSc

Elected Trustees:

C J Bamber, CEng, FIMechE, BSc, CDipAF (to 20.10.18)

R Broadhead (to 20.10.18)

C Callow, BSc, ARCS, MBCS

T Daw, MA (Oxon)

G Kenny, MA, PhD (from 20.10.18)

D S Miles, BA, MA, MIFA

W A Perry, MSc (to 20.10.18)

Mrs J M Rennie, BA (Hons)

L Robertson, MA, BSc (from 20.10.18)

Nominated Trustees:

P Evans, Member, Wiltshire Council

Cllr. R. E. Gamble, BA (Hons), MIEA, Member, Wiltshire Council

Cllr. A. I. Johnson, Member, Devizes Town Council

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

STAFF AS AT 31.3.2019

Director: David Dawson, BA, FSA, AMA

Curator*: Lisa Brown, BA, MA

Marketing & Administration Manager:

Karen Jones, BA (Hons)

Collections Officer: Archive & Library*:

Jane Schön, BA (Hons), MA

Development Officer*: Rachael Holtom, BA (Hons),

P.G. Dip, AMA

Exhibitions Officer*: Heather Ault, BA

Finance Officer*: Mandy Dixon

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

Museum Assistant*: Jackie Davies

Projects Officer: Nicola Trowell, BA (Hons)

Visitor Engagement Officer*: Caroline Utley,

BA (Hons), CertTESOL

Community Curator*: Sarah Gregson (employed by The Salisbury Museum, funded through the Wessex Museums Partnership)

Finds Liaison Officer: Wil Partridge (employed by The Salisbury Museum, funded through the British Museum and other partners)

*[*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

Investment Managers:

Rathbone Investment Management, 8 Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 7AZ

Company Secretary:

Mrs K P Jones, BA (Hons)

Hon. 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

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

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

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 2019 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 requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standards, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concerns

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The trustees' have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to

continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other Information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report included within the Trustee's Report.

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

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement (set out on page 34), the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company or 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, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees' are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustee's either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our Report

The 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.

.....
Mr Michael Buckland (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For an on behalf of David Owen & Co, Chartered
Accountants and Statutory Auditors

17 The Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1BA

25 July 2019

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2019	Total Funds 2018
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	1a	324,530	7,000	100,000	431,530	312,318
Charitable activities	2	85,725	0	0	85,725	117,365
Other trading activities	5	72,187	10,991	0	83,178	54,708
Investments	7	25,453	3,346	12,304	41,103	36,799
Total		507,895	21,337	112,304	641,536	521,190
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	8	50,083	1,228	2,907	54,218	53,026
Charitable activities	9	344,828	16,093	0	360,921	317,342
Total		394,911	17,321	2,907	415,139	370,368
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	37,858	4,977	4,641	47,476	(12,520)
Net income/(expenditure)		150,842	8,993	114,038	273,873	138,302
Transfers between funds		22,652	(13,255)	(9,397)	0	0
Net movement in funds		173,494	(4,262)	104,641	273,873	138,302
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		686,309	108,112	284,063	1,078,484	940,182
Total funds carried forward		859,803	103,850	388,704	1,352,357	1,078,484

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	15		130,811		118,694
Managed Investments					
Securities	16	1,005,352		822,264	
Cash		1,430		1,538	
			1,006,782		823,802
Managed Endowment Investments					
Securities	16	384,047		273,960	
Cash		4,656		10,101	
			388,703		284,061
Total Fixed Assets			1,526,296		1,226,557
Current Assets					
Stock		13,738		15,905	
Debtors	17	38,776		65,949	
Cash at Bank		56,433		75,504	
Total current Assets		108,947		157,358	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	105,639		117,364	
Net Current Liabilities			3,308		39,994
Total assets less current liabilities			1,529,604		1,266,551
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than 1 year	19		177,247		188,067
			<u>1,352,357</u>		<u>1,078,484</u>
The funds of the Society					
Endowment Funds	22		388,704		284,063
Restricted income funds	23		103,850		108,112
Unrestricted funds (including	24		859,803		686,309
Designated funds)			<u>1,352,357</u>		<u>1,078,484</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the Small Companies Regime and FRS 102 Section 1A. The notes on pages 44 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 25 July 2019, and signed on their behalf:

M J Nye, Chair

A La Vardera, Honorary Treasurer

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

		Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(a)	197,714	105,479
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		41,103	36,799
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(17,743)	(28,856)
Proceeds from sale of investments		106,079	102,113
Purchase of investments		(351,778)	(189,260)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(222,339)	(79,204)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(24,625)	26,275
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	(b)	87,143	60,868
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	(b)	62,518	87,143

(a) Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2019 £	2018 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year as per the Statement of Activities	273,873	138,302
<u>Adjustments for:</u>		
Depreciation charges	5,626	2,177
(Gains)/losses on investments	(47,476)	12,520
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(41,103)	(36,799)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	2,166	(4,209)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	27,173	(16,448)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(22,545)	9,936
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	197,714	105,479

(b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2019 £	2018 £
Cash at bank and in hand (incl. investment cash)	62,518	87,143
	62,518	87,143

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- (a) Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2005), and
- (b) the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Company qualifies as a small company under the Companies Act 2006 but, for 2018/19 is classified as a large charity under the SORP and, accordingly, it must produce a cash flow statement for that accounting period and comparative figures for the previous accounting period.

The Company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value except for the discounting of the liability for the pension deficit or unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

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 per 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 unless capitalisation is required as a condition of the grant. 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

Net gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed between realised gains and losses and unrealised gains and losses in note 14 to the financial statements. Investment income has been accounted for on the basis of the due date of payment. Investment income and gains and losses in the Main Fund are allocated between Unrestricted Funds (including Designated Funds) and Restricted Funds on the basis of the average net assets of those funds.

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 accounted for when received and, if not given for specific purposes as a condition of the will, are utilised either for general expenditure or for the purposes which the Trustees believe the Testator would have approved. (b)
- Donations of items for resale are included in receipts when received. (c)
- Subscriptions are spread over the year in which they are received.
- 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. 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, Library Services, Educational Services, etc.) this has been done on the assessment of the Director.

Pensions

During the year to 31 March 2019 pension provision was made for 9 employees by membership of a Pension Trust Scheme which is principally a defined contribution pension scheme. All employees who are not in the scheme are offered pension auto-enrolment into the scheme where applicable. Employer's contributions of £8,497 have been charged to staff costs as incurred. The Scheme has a limited guarantee on losses under the scheme for those members of staff who transferred to it. This has led to small additional amounts in respect of a deficit being recovered from the Society.

Some years prior to the year ended on 31 March 2017 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. Full provision of the liability was originally made in the accounts to 31 March 2016 for the amounts payable to December 2031, discounted at 5% per annum over the payment period. An amount of £10,180 was charged in the accounts to 31 March 2019 for the adjustment to the provision for the amounts payable, discounted at 5% per annum over the payment period.

Reserves

The reserves at 31 March 2019 are located to Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds and Endowment Funds. Unrestricted Funds include Designated Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

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 own 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 hold 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 Collections Trust Accounts are included as a separate schedule with these financial statements.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
1a Income from Donations and Legacies						
Membership Subscriptions		36,536	0	0	36,536	36,914
Donations and Tax Refunds		20,764	7,000	0	27,764	24,154
Legacies		234,230	0	100,000	334,230	215,000
<i>Income transferred by Old Society</i>						
Sandell Trust		33,000	0	0	33,000	36,250
		324,530	7,000	100,000	431,530	312,318

Income from Donations and Legacies for Unrestricted Funds includes £33 (2018 £110,147) for Designated Funds.

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Grants and Contributions	3	52,442	0	0	52,442	89,707
Admissions		22,887	0	0	22,887	21,364
Exhibitions Commissions		5,473	0	0	5,473	0
Education Receipts		4,923	0	0	4,923	6,294
		85,725	0	0	85,725	117,365

3 Income from Grants and Contributions

Arts Council - Exhibitions Officer		15,994	0	0	15,994	0
Cauldrons - Bromsgrove		0	0	0	0	387
Devizes Area Tourism		443	0	0	443	0
Devizes Town Council		4,000	0	0	4,000	3,000
Exhibitions Gallery		2,080	0	0	2,080	519
HLF Catalyst Grant		1,340	0	0	1,340	0
Lacock Cup - Grant		0	0	0	0	768
Mamuz Museum - Grant		0	0	0	0	123
Marlborough White Horse Grant		0	0	0	0	0
Ready to Borrow Capital Grant		4,415	0	0	4,415	33,000
Seeing the Light of Day		0	0	0	0	25,561
Vale of Pewsey		0	0	0	0	789
Vote 100		1,990	0	0	1,990	0
Wiltshire Council		12,780	0	0	12,780	25,560
WW1 Armistice Exhibition		9,400	0	0	9,400	0
		52,442	0	0	52,442	89,707

4 Grants carried forward	2019
	£
Cauldrons - Bromsgrove	556
Devizes Area Tourism	1,257
Ernest Cook Trust	4,388
Seeing the Light of Day	9,038
Stonehenge - Avebury Bus	5,295
Vale of Pewsey	10,174
	30,708

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
		£	£	£	£	£
5 Income from Other Trading Activities						
Shop Sales	6	23,001	0	0	23,001	23,632
Other Sales		453	0	0	453	113
Museum Income		32,666	10,991	0	43,657	24,911
Fund-raising Events		16,067	0	0	16,067	6,052
		72,187	10,991	0	83,178	54,708
6 Shop Sales						
Shop sales		23,001	0	0	23,001	23,632
Less Purchase cost		14,315	0	0	14,315	13,546
Gross Profit		8,686	0	0	8,686	10,086
Gross Profit % on sales					37.76%	42.68%
7 Investment Income						
Income from Investments		25,453	3,346	12,304	41,103	36,799
		25,453	3,346	12,304	41,103	36,799
8 Expenditure on Raising Funds						
<i>Cost of Sales</i>						
Shop		14,315	0	0	14,315	13,546
Salaries		8,969	0	0	8,969	8,692
Members' services		4,929	0	0	4,929	6,613
Marketing		2,875	0	0	2,875	2,285
Fundraising costs		9,267	0	0	9,267	6,070
Investment management costs		6,431	1,228	2,907	10,566	11,951
Support costs		3,297	0	0	3,297	3,869
		50,083	1,228	2,907	54,218	53,026
9 Expenditure on Charitable Activities						
Museum Services		216,434	15,898	0	232,332	190,557
Library Services		37,253	0	0	37,253	35,458
Educational work		27,209	195	0	27,404	28,140
WANHM		13,218	0	0	13,218	9,962
Support and governance costs		50,714	0	0	50,714	53,225
		344,828	16,093	0	360,921	317,342

Expenditure on Charitable Activities for Unrestricted Funds includes £8,193 (2018 £20,724) for Designated Funds.

Support and governance costs include audit fees of £5,650 (2018 - £5,400)

	Total 2019	Total 2018
	£	£
10 Staff costs		
Wages and Salaries	189,080	168,394
Social Security costs	9,901	8,363
Pension costs	18,805	17,630
	217,786	194,387

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Staff costs attributable to activities :	2019 £	2018 £
Cost of raising funds	8,969	8,692
<u>Charitable activities:</u>		
Museum	122,158	105,345
Library	24,965	18,841
Education	21,658	20,160
Governance	40,036	41,349
	217,786	194,387

In 2018/19 £1,470 of staff costs were funded from grants for projects. In 2017/18 no staff costs were funded from grants for projects.

Pension costs include £10,308 (2018: £10,831) relating to charges for deficits in previous years.

During the year £21,000 (2018: £21,000) was paid towards the liability for the Wiltshire Council Pension deficit (see note 20).

No employee received emoluments for the period exceeding £60,000.

Key management personnel which consist of the Trustees and the Director were paid a total of £51,726 (2018 £50,221).

This amount is gross of employer's contributions towards pension and National Insurance.

The average number of employees in 2019 was 4 full time and 10 part time (2018: 3 full time and 8 part time).

11 Trustees' Expenses

No trustee either received or waived any emoluments for acting as Trustee during the year.

Trustees' expenses totalling £75 (2018 £25) were paid during the year

12 Transactions with Related Parties

In 2018/19 £5,325 was paid to Orange and Blue Services Ltd, a company controlled by a Trustee. The payment was made for installation and design of the WW1 Armistice Exhibition and handling of the Great War Box. There were no transactions with related parties in 2017/18.

13 Operating Leases

Payments for operating leases for a telephone system and for a photocopier amounted to £2,842 (2018 £2,842) during the year. Minimum lease payments are to be made as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Not later than one year	2,842	2,842
Later than one year and not later than five years	2,130	4,972
	4,972	7,814

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Main Portfolio £	Endowment Portfolio £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
14 Gains/(losses) on investment assets						
Realised gains/(Losses)	3,182	418	3,600	2,043	5,643	6,714
Unrealised gains/(Losses)	34,676	4,559	39,235	2,598	41,833	(19,234)
	37,858	4,977	42,835	4,641	47,476	(12,520)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

15 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Land £	Freehold Buildings £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Opening Cost at 1 st April	72,750	101,606	7,345	181,701	152,845
Addition - Art Gallery refurbishments	0	0	0	0	28,856
Addition - High security display cases	0	0	17,743	17,743	0
Closing Cost at 31st March	72,750	101,606	25,088	199,444	181,701
Accumulated Depreciation at 1 st April	0	55,662	7,345	63,007	60,830
Charge in year	0	2,077	3,549	5,626	2,177
Acc. Deprec. at 31st March	0	57,739	10,894	68,633	63,007
Closing Net Book Value at 31st March	72,750	43,867	14,194	130,811	118,694

The freehold land and buildings transferred from the original unincorporated Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (Charity no. 309534) in November 2003 were included in the balance sheet at book values. Other tangible fixed assets acquired or created since have been included at cost. The Trustees have decided not to apply a valuation to the property.

	Main Portfolio 2019 £	Endowment Portfolio 2019 £	Main Portfolio 2018 £	Endowment Portfolio 2018 £
16 Quoted Fixed Asset Investments				
Opening Market Value at 1 st April	822,264	273,960	760,075	261,522
Purchases	217,187	134,591	146,645	42,615
	1,039,451	408,551	906,720	304,137
Sales	76,934	29,145	82,001	20,112
	962,517	379,406	824,719	284,025
Net profits/(losses) :				
Realised	3,600	2,043	5,563	1,151
Unrealised	39,235	2,598	(8,018)	(11,216)
Closing Market value at 31st March	1,005,352	384,047	822,264	273,960

	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
17 Debtors		
Grants and Donations receivable	0	11,900
Trade Debtors	13,118	7,290
Prepayments	18,497	20,309
Gift Aid refund receivable	4,200	13,000
VAT recoverable	211	0
Monies owed by the Old Society	2,750	13,450
	38,776	65,949

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
18 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
Grants received in advance (note 4)	30,708	32,781
Trade Creditors	16,397	22,340
Accruals	11,261	9,474
Taxes including NIC	2,931	2,877
Pension deficit (see note 20)	20,442	20,442
VAT liability	0	458
Prepaid membership subscriptions	22,312	21,852
Other income in advance	1,588	7,140
	105,639	117,364

19 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	177,247	188,067
Pension deficit (see note 20)	177,247	188,067

20 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 and including December 2031. Full provision, subject to discounting at 5% over time from 31 March 2018 has been made in creditors. The charge for the year to 31 March 2019 for the discounted part of the provision was £10,180 (2018 £10,706).

21 Analysis of net assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
<i>Fund values at 31 March are represented by:</i>					
Tangible Fixed Assets	130,811	0	0	130,811	118,694
Managed Investments	914,672	92,109	388,704	1,395,485	1,107,863
Current Assets	97,206	11,741	0	108,947	157,358
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(105,639)	0	0	(96,571)	(117,364)
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(177,247)	0	0	(186,315)	(188,067)
	859,803	103,850	388,704	1,352,357	1,078,484

22 Endowment Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Investment expenses £	Gain on investments £	Inter-Fund Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Endowment Trust Fund	284,063	112,304	(2,907)	4,641	(9,397)	388,704

Income in the Endowment Trust Fund includes:

	£
Legacies	100,000
Investment Income	12,304
	112,304

The Endowment Trust Fund is a separate charity, of which the Company is the corporate trustee. It is established to raise capital, the income 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.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

23 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Investment income £	Expenses (incl. investment expenses) £	Gain on investments £	Inter- Fund Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
English Heritage Fund	5,939	49	207	(75)	309	0	6,429
Legacies and Donations	61,356	6,000	2,195	(7,843)	3,265	3,379	68,352
Oexmann Fund	16,635	0	580	(213)	862	0	17,864
Ready to Borrow Unapplied	13,223	7,899	0	0	0	(21,122)	0
Snakes Exhibition	526	4,043	0	(9,057)	0	4,488	0
Wiltshire Environment Gallery	10,433	0	364	(133)	541	0	11,205
	108,112	17,991	3,346	(17,321)	4,977	(13,255)	103,850

Income in restricted funds includes:

	£
Donations and Tax Refunds	7,000
Other trading Activities	10,991
	17,991

The restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes :

English Heritage Fund	To finance specific publications and projects.
Legacies and Donations	Legacies and donations received for use in future projects
Oexmann Fund	To finance a biennial art exhibition.
Ready to Borrow Unapplied	Used to finance the capital works on refurbishment of the Art Gallery and the purchase of high security glass display cases.
Snakes Exhibition	To contribute to the cost of the Snakes Exhibition which took place in 2018/19.
Wiltshire Environment Gallery	This fund was originally set up to cover the cost of Museum refurbishments to create a new Environmental Gallery. Discussions are proceeding to enable the Society to use some or all this money for the refurbishment of the office suite and the purchase of essential equipment.

These fund balances at 31 March 2019 are held as part of the Company's overall assets and cash at bank. Investment returns have been allocated pro-rata to the average balance of individual funds in the year to 31 March 2019.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

24 Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Donations and Legacies £	Other Income (incl. investment income) £	Expenses (incl. investment expenses) £	Gain on investments £	Inter- Fund Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
<u>Designated funds:</u>							
Archaeology Field Group	353	0	200	(984)	0	431	0
Improvement Fund	11,311	0	394	(145)	586	0	12,146
Library Fund	1,935	33	117	(298)	95	0	1,882
Programme Committee	14,089	0	491	(180)	730	0	15,130
Publications Fund	18,416	0	1,831	(1,016)	749	0	19,980
Ready to Borrow Applied	28,856	0	0	(4,126)	0	17,743	42,473
Shearing Library Fund	108,510	0	3,640	(9,451)	5,414	0	108,113
Wiltshire Life	206,604	0	7,021	(12,843)	10,443	0	211,225
	390,074	33	13,694	(29,043)	18,017	18,174	410,949
Other unrestricted funds	296,235	241,404	252,765	(365,869)	19,841	4,478	448,854
	686,309	241,437	266,459	(394,912)	37,858	22,652	859,803

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 Museum.
Library Fund	To finance items of library conservation and management.
Programme Committee	To finance members' events.
Publications Fund	To finance publications. (The expenditure is the cost of a write down in the value of stocks)
Ready to Borrow Applied	The balance represents capital expenditure funded by Ready to Borrow Grant and contributions used to defray the depreciation costs of new tangible fixed assets over their useful life.
Shearing Library Fund	To finance the cost of employing a part-time Librarian and small library equipment purchases.
Wiltshire Life	To finance the care and development of the Wiltshire Life Society Collections. The expenditure consists of direct costs and does not include curatorial charges.

Allocation of expenditure from Designated Funds is reviewed regularly. The timing of expenditure is over a period which matches requirements of each purpose, potentially over a number of years. These fund balances at 31 March 2019 are held as part of the Company's overall assets and cash at bank. Investment returns have been allocated pro-rata to the average balance of individual funds in the year to 31 March 2019.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
COLLECTIONS TRUST - Linked Charity Number 1080096
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	565	0	565	532
Charitable activities:				
Grants	0	0	0	0
Sale	48	0	48	3,125
	613	0	613	3,657
Expenditure on charitable activities:				
Acquisitions costing less than £1,000				
Museum	1,012	0	1,012	2,273
Library	1,042	0	1,042	1,562
	2,054	0	2,054	3,835
Costs				
Sundry	0	0	0	0
	2,054	0	2,054	3,835
Net income/(expenditure)	(1,441)	0	(1,441)	(178)
Balance at 1 April 2018 brought forward	53,413	0	53,413	53,591
Balance at 31 March 2019 carried forward	51,972	0	51,972	53,413

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Heritage Assets		
Opening Balance at 1 April 2018	43,946	41,746
Acquisitions over £1,000	2,324	2,200
Closing Balance at 31 March 2019	46,270	43,946
Current Assets		
Cash in Bank	8,432	9,467
	8,432	9,467
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2,730	0
Net current assets	5,702	9,467
Total assets less current liabilities	51,972	53,413

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
COLLECTIONS TRUST - Linked Charity Number 1080096
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

The Funds of the Trust	Balance at 1 April 2018	Income, Grants & Donations	Inter Fund Transfers	Expenditure	Balance at 31 March 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds - Museum and Art	49,161	613	0	(2,054)	47,720
Restricted Funds	4,252	0	0	0	4,252
	53,413	613	0	(2,054)	51,972

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Museum and Art Collections: The collections fall within the definition of heritage assets for the purposes of the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

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 of heritage assets meet Accreditation Standard, which has been awarded by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA), and have been approved by the Board of Trustees.

Summary of Transactions:

	31.03.2019	31.03.2018	Year to: 31.03.2017	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of acquisitions of heritage assets	2,324	2,200	3,300	27,312	0
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	2,054	3,835	2,295	2,051	1,725

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Charity No: 1080096 Company No. 3885649
MINUTES OF THE 19th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY
held at Wiltshire Museum, Devizes on Saturday 20 October 2018, commencing at 2.30 pm

01/18 Present

Mr M J Nye (Chair) and members of the Board of Trustees: Mr C J Baumber, Mr R Broadhead, Mr C T Callow, Dr A Hems, Mr A La Vardera (Hon Treasurer), Mr W A Perry, Mrs J M Rennie, Mr P R Saunders (Deputy Chair); Trustees Elect Dr G Kenny and 25 members of the Society.

In Attendance

Mr D Dawson (Director), Mrs K P Jones (Minute Taker and Company Secretary).

02/18 Apologies for Absence

Were received from: Mrs W Bishop, Mr W Chisholm Batten, Mrs M R Clarke, Mr T Daw (WANHS Trustee), Ms D Dolan, Mr P Evans (WANHS Trustee), Miss E Forbes, Miss K Forbes, Mrs A Harrington, Mrs A Perry, Mr L Robertson (WANHS Trustee elect), Mrs D Roddham, Mr D & Mrs J Roseaman, Mrs C Staff, Mrs H Stanford, Mr M & Mrs S Teale.

03/18 Chair's Opening Address

The Chair, Martin Nye, welcomed members to the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (Company limited by Guarantee). Martin introduced himself as the new Chair of Trustees, having been elected to that position in March 2018. He placed on record his thanks to his predecessor, Mr Doug Roseaman, for helping Martin take over the role, as well as for his very significant contribution to the Society over more than 20 years. He, and Judith, his wife, had met thousands of people and promoted the Society tirelessly. In gratitude for all his hard work for the Society the Board of Trustees had awarded him Honorary Life Membership at their March meeting.

The meeting acknowledged those members of the Society who had died since the last AGM, many of whom had been known to members of the Society. Mrs M Annable, Mr D H Bartlett, Mr D J Buckeridge, Mr D H Calam, Miss M I Cooper, Mr A J Duck, Mr J Howard, Mr R Knowles, Mrs M Moore, Mrs A Northmore-Ball, Mrs M A Pearce, Mr D J Pollard, Mr V A Rowlands, Mrs P Spink MBE, Mr J S S Steward, Mr P F Wyles.

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

04/18 Minutes of meeting held 18 October 2017

Proposed by Mr C T Callow and seconded by Mr P R Saunders, the minutes of the AGM held on 18 October 2017 were adopted as a true record of the meeting. The resolution was passed nem con.

05/18 Board of Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018

a) Report by the Chair

The Chair reported that it had been a busy and productive year for the Society and Museum, with more detail on the finances and operations of the Society to follow from the Hon Treasurer and Director. He did however make a few observations about the present and the future. He started by describing a scene he witnessed at the Museum just the day before the AGM, which summed up for him why so many people – members, volunteers, staff and other supporters – felt so passionately about what we do. We were invaded by 90 primary school children from Wells who were currently studying the Stone Age. They were enthusiastically making their own Bush Barrow lozenges and jewellery, dressing up, being buried, and looking at and discussing the objects on display. Their excitement was tangible and very infectious – and only slightly chaotic! At the same time, he spoke to a middle-aged academic couple from Oxford who had just completed their visit. They were smiling almost as broadly as the children, and said how much they had enjoyed the visit to our collections, how warm the welcome was and how delighted they were to see the museum being used in this way by children. To be able to keep such different audiences happy and engaged at the same time is no mean feat – and a testament to the skills and enthusiasm of David and the staff and volunteers.

We all knew that running such programmes cost money, and it is the nature of our times that costs inexorably increase as public funding decreases. Thankfully we are in a relatively strong position - as the Hon Treasurer will describe - with asserts increasing despite the operating deficit. In some years this is offset by the returns on our investments, but this year it was some very generous legacies from members which have put us in a stronger position.

The Chair advised that he had hoped to be in a position to update members on plans for the Assize Court. However, these things could take an inordinately long time and members would be updated as soon as an announcement could be made. He reported that the Assize Court project would be a huge project, but one that the Society would not tackle on its own. We were working closely with the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust and other entities – including Wiltshire Council – committed to saving this important building and creating a new home for the Museum. The Society's Board would continue to work prudently to ensure that the long-term interests of the Society were protected and risks taken on minimised. It would be a long term project, given the time required for fundraising, an architectural competition, planning and construction, so it was 'business as usual' at the Museum – continuing to work hard to widen audiences and strengthen the Society's financial situation.

b) Report by the Treasurer

Alfred La Vardera presented his first report as Honorary Treasurer, following on from his predecessor Mr James Brandon. He reported that being Treasurer of such a complex organisation as the Society is not an easy task and he was grateful to James for his endless patience and extensive notes and working papers and to the Society's auditors for their prompt technical advice and explanation of the Charity Commission accounting requirements. He also thanked the Society's members of staff and volunteers who worked hard behind the scenes to make all that we take for granted happen. In particular, he thanked Malcolm Church, our finance officer, who wrote up the underlying accounting records and Karen Jones for providing him with all sorts of information whenever he asked, completed the government returns and formatted and put together the Annual Report. He also thanked Doug Roseaman, Bill Perry and John Baumber who all supported him during his first year with their advice and, sometimes, constructive criticism. He also thanked the Director, David Dawson, for his uncanny ability to find grants and lucrative business opportunities that other may have missed and the Chair, Martin Nye, who guides us with calm and reassuring professionalism.

The Treasurer advised the meeting that In the financial year to 31 March 2018 the overall net assets (total reserves) of the Society had gone up by £138,000. The Endowment Funds went up by £15,000, Restricted Income Funds went up by £4,000 and Unrestricted Funds increased by £119,000. The main reason for the increases is the very generous legacy left to the Society by Dr E A and Mrs A E Shearing, the first tranche of which was received in the 2017/18 financial year. This meant that there was a reasonable cushion in the unrestricted reserves to cover at least a year's core costs.

The overall net revenue position in 2017/18 was a surplus of £138,000 compared with a surplus of £100,000 the previous year. Core income increased marginally from the previous financial year and core expenditure decreased marginally, producing a core deficiency of £125,000: £14,000 less than the previous year. This deficiency had to be covered by investment income and gains and by donations and legacies. The Society was reliant upon grants from Local Authorities to support the working of the Museum, but Wiltshire Council – because of rising costs and reduction in central government support - was unable to continue with their grant at the previous level. They had reduced their grant by 50% in the current financial year, would reduce it by 50% in the following year and it would disappear altogether in 2020/21. This made it even more important to continue to attract legacies and donations from those who wished to support the Society.

He reported that investment returns fell by £145,000 in 2017/18, compared to the previous year. The reduction was in the value of investments while net investment income (dividends and interest net of fees) remained constant at just over 3% p.a. Many factors affected the Stock Market in 2017/18 and continue to affect it now; mainly the fear of inflation

and higher interest rates and the uncertainty around the introduction of tariffs by the US administration. Non-investment income was £137,000 higher in 2017/18 than in the previous year, almost entirely due to legacies, while donations and gift aid tax refunds were less than the previous year. Grants for special projects were also less than the previous financial year. Expenditure in 2017/18 shows a net reduction of £46,000 overall and this is mainly due to a reduction in project expenditure in 2017/18 compared to the previous year.

The current year's position at 30 September 2018 shows an operating deficiency of £38,000 on income and expenditure, which is £11,000 less than the budgeted deficiency. This is virtually all due to reductions in expenditure. However, since some of the reductions in expenditure are due to timing, the situation could change later in the year.

In this financial year, the Society received the rest of the Shearing Legacy and another large legacy from Mr R A Dewhurst. Most of these funds had been invested and this is reflected in the increase in the value of investments between 1 April and 5 October 2018.

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 are available from the website or on request from the Museum Office.

c) Report by the Director

The Director highlighted a number of items from last year, current activities and plans for the future.

Two new exhibition galleries opened in the year, the Oexmann Gallery - which was laying the foundation for the future development of special exhibitions and to encourage visitors to make repeat visits – and the Natural Environment Gallery. This was put together by Nicola Trowell and was funded through a grant from the Ernest Cook Trust and a legacy from Mrs Sylvia Jones. The Director reported that the Wessex Museums Partnership (Dorset County Museum, Poole Museum, Salisbury Museum and Wiltshire Museum) had received £1.827m from the Arts Council over four years. The Society would benefit from the funds in a number of ways including funding for an Exhibitions Officer to develop the exhibitions programme, including exhibition across all four venues about Thomas Hardy, and a Community Curator (who would be based at Salisbury Museum) would be working with military communities. The Wessex Museums Trust had been formed to look for projects and funding, which the individual organisations could not access individually. Statistical information about our audiences has to be collected and provided to the Arts Council over the funding period. The Museum was number 6 on the TripAdvisor list of Wiltshire attractions – Salisbury Cathedral was number five.

Background work continues and it was reported that there was still no archaeological store for the county, but work, funded by the Arts Council's 'Seeing the Light of Day' projects had worked to ensure that funds were made available from developers to fund storage and provide income in the future for running costs. The Director confirmed, on a question from the audience, that funding would accompany the finds

from Marden Henge when they were deposited with the Museum, once publication had taken place.

Our new website, funded by a legacy from Philip Taverner, was now up and running and the Museum was active on Social Media. The Learning Officer, Ali Rushent, was now an Arts Award assessor and had run a successful Arts Award in a day session. The next exhibition in the Oexmann Gallery would be on 'Snakes', which was targeted at families and events for all the family were being planned.

The Development Officer, Rachael Holtom, had received funding from the Government Equalities Office for a project celebrating 100 years of Women's Suffrage. Working with groups from Devizes School, the Home Farm Trust and military families in Tidworth, banners were created and then paraded in the 2018 Devizes Carnival. An Art Auction in September had raised over £9,000 for the Society.

Items from the collection remained in demand from other organisations – a new exhibition – *Stonehenge: Beyond the Mystery* - at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre featured items from the Society's collection, alongside items from the British Museum and Salisbury Museum. The Cunetio pot in our collection had been reunited with the coin hoard (held by the British Museum) in the Oexmann Gallery for a few weeks, before forming part of Salisbury Museum's exhibition on hoards. Items from Wilsford G8 had been loaned to the Gallo-Romeins Museum in Belgium for an exhibition and it was likely that the exhibition would go on a US tour.

Forthcoming events included an conference about World War 1, which would be held at Tidworth. Other commemorative events included 'Empire Soldiers' a virtual reality workshop and, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and DOCA, letters home from soldiers who had died in the conflict would be posted on lampposts near their homes.

With the aid of sponsorship the Society had been able to purchase another picture by local artist Peter Dunn, a companion piece to one already in the collection. Peter Dunn had also kindly allowed us to use one of these paintings for a Christmas card. English Heritage had agreed that the publications *Blacknall Field* and *Snail Down* could be reduced to £7.

The Society had already agreed a response to the proposals for the changes to the A303 around Stonehenge and would review and respond to the Highways England application for a Development Consent Order to build a 1.9-mile (3km) road tunnel past the monument.

Staff were thanked for all their support and Jane Schön was welcomed as the new Collections Officer: Library and Archive and Caroline Utley was welcomed back as Retail Officer. Katrin Shepherd had left earlier in the year, Jo Hutchings would be leaving at the end of October and Malcolm Church, Finance Officer, was retiring at the end of November. The Director also thanked Trustees and volunteers for all their support and hard work.

Proposed by Mr C J Baumber and seconded by Mr W A Perry, the Trustees Report and Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018, together with the Auditors Report were received.

06/18 Election of Trustees

There were four nominations this year. Mrs Mary Rennie was standing for re-election, Mr Martin Nye was standing for election for the first time, having been co-opted in November 2017 and there were two new candidates. Dr Gillian Kenny, a medieval historian and previously curator of a small museum. She was a former Development Officer for the Museum and was currently PR Manager of Animal Friends Insurance. Mr Lachlan Robertson was a town planner, had worked for Wiltshire Council as Head of Policy and now worked for Carter Jonas, based in Bath. All four had been proposed and seconded prior to the meeting.

No objection was raised to electing all four in one resolution and the meeting duly elected Dr G Kenny, Mr M Nye, Mrs M Rennie and Mr L Robertson to the Board of Trustees. *Nem con.*

The retiring trustees – Mr John Baumber, Mr Richard Broadhead, Mr William Perry and Mr Peter Saunders, together with Mr Doug Roseaman who resigned in March 2018 - were thanked by the Chair and members for their invaluable contribution over the years. In recognition of his many years to service on the Board of Trustees and to the Society Mr Perry was awarded Honorary Life Membership and presented with a certificate by the Chair.

07/18 Appointment of Auditors

Proposed by Mr R Broadhead and seconded by Mr R C Chamberlain, the meeting re-elected Messrs David Owen & Co as Auditors, and authorised the Trustees to determine their remuneration.

08/18 Any Other Business

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

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 3.10pm.

The meeting was followed by the opening of *Wiltshire Remembers: Aftermath of the First World War*, curated by Richard Broadhead.

Date of next Meeting:

Saturday 19 October 2019

To be held at Wiltshire Museum, Devizes, Wiltshire

