

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1038801

Details

Other names	VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX APPEAL FUND, VCH ESSEX APPEAL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1994-06-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	25 Sussex Road Colchester CO3 3QH
Phone	07880721846
Email	sarah.manning-press@virginmedia.com
Website	https://vchessexhistory.org/

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN HISTORY IN GENERAL AND IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX ESPECIALLY 1.TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF HISTORY IN ESSEX AND IN PARTICULAR OF THE EXISTENCE AND ACTIVITIES OF THE VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX ("V.C.H. ESSEX") 2.TO PROMOTE STUDY AND RESEARCH IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX PROVIDED THAT THE RESULTS OF SUCH RESEARCH SHALL BE PUBLISHED 3.TO PROMOTE OR DEVELOP FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC HISTORY AND HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE 4.TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN HISTORY 5.TO PLAN AND OVERSEE ANY ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THE PRECEDING OBJECTS AND DO ALL SUCH OTHER LAWFUL THINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE SAID OBJECTS.

Activities: To increase public awareness of history in Essex and in particular of the existence and activities of the Victoria County History of Essex; and to raise funds to support the research and writing of the VCH Essex.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE COUNTY OF ESSEX
- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£28,725	£39,359	-	-
2023-12-31	£30,410	£36,788	-	-
2022-12-31	£36,095	£30,399	-	-
2021-12-31	£26,097	£29,521	-	-
2020-12-31	£19,059	£18,116	-	-

Trustees

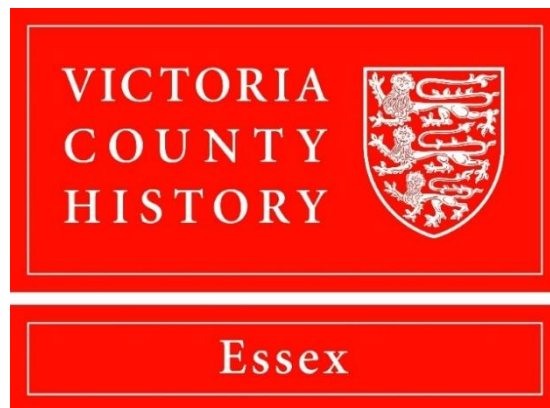
Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Ken Crowe	Chair	2015-04-18
Darren McLoughlin		2024-06-15
Dr Amanda Jane Flather		2020-07-25
Dr Benjamin Josef Cowell		2024-06-15
Dr Johanna Mary Olivia Dale MA PhD		2020-02-18
JOHN GILBERT JOWERS		2023-06-24
Louisa Clare Tippett		2018-04-28
SARAH MANNING-PRESS BA		
Sir Graham Allan Hart KCB		2020-07-25
THE LORD PETRE, KCVO, JP		

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1038801

Accounts

Victoria County History of Essex Trust



Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

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Trustees and Advisers

Trustees	Kenneth L Crowe, BEd, MA, AMA, <i>Chairman</i> Rt Hon Lord Petre, KCVO, JP, MA, <i>Vice Chairman</i> Louisa Tippett, BSc, ACA, <i>Treasurer</i> Sarah E L Manning-Press, BA, <i>Secretary</i> Benjamin J Cowell, OBE, BA, PhD (<i>appointed 15 June 2024</i>) Johanna Dale, MA, PhD, FRHistS Amanda Flather, PhD Sir Graham Hart, KCB, PhD John Jowers Darren McLoughlin (<i>appointed 15 June 2024</i>) Professor Anthony Tuck, PhD (<i>retired 15 June 2024</i>)
Principal address	25 Sussex Road Colchester Essex CO3 3QH
Registered charity number	1038801
Editor	Herbert Eiden, BA, PhD
Independent Examiner	Samantha Martin, FCCA 119 Colchester Road West Bergholt Colchester Essex CO6 3JX
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 99 High Street Chelmsford Essex CM1 1EQ

Trustees' Report

We are delighted to welcome two new Trustees this year: Dr Ben Cowell and Darren McLoughlin. Ben is Director General of Historic Houses and was previously the regional director for the National Trust in the East of England. Darren is a senior building surveyor who has worked in Southend (notably on the Prittlewell Priory restoration project), in the south-west of England and for the National Trust, based in Kent. He is now back in south-east Essex.

Herbert Eiden and Andrew Senter, along with your Chairman, attended the VCH Day in May at Senate House. Dr Ruth Slatter presented a paper on the programme of digitising the Red Books, while the principal talk was by Dr Catherine Clarke, the Director, on the future of VCH Shorts. University of London Press will no longer be involved in the publishing of the shorts series and in the future individual Trusts will be responsible for publishing, although VCH Central will still have oversight to ensure academic standards are met and also facilitate the process. This will inevitably put an extra burden on our editorial team.

The Southend short will be the final one published by ULP and it is pleasing to report that the final proofs for this volume were received towards the end of the year.

VCH Central Office invited all VCH Trusts to complete a "Knowledge Exchange Survey" the purpose of which was to discover how Trusts engage with the public and communities, contribute to local growth and regeneration, together with sections on research partnerships and publications. We are grateful to Chris Thornton and Herbert Eiden for completing this form for the Essex VCH Trust.

The work on Volume XIII (Harwich and Dovercourt) has progressed steadily, with final drafts of the completed chapters having been uploaded onto the VCH website. These include Medieval Landownership together with the sections on Religious History, Government and Politics and Social and Economic History for the 19th century. Work is progressing on the interwar period and on the 'long' 17th century.

We must extend our thanks to Essex Heritage Trust for their continued support, and also to our marvellous supporters and regular donors, although the financial situation remains challenging.

The Clacton Group had a very successful launch of their latest publication, *The Holland Brook Story and the Tendring Hundred*, in Tendring Village Hall on 20 April. Talks were given by Chris Thornton, Herbert Eiden and Ken Crowe to the Clacton Group during the year.

Trustees' Report

VCH Essex held their second annual conference at the Galleywood Heritage Centre in October, on the theme of *Religion, Reformation and Society*. This was a very successful event, with many very favourable comments afterwards, and helped to raise awareness of the VCH Essex Trust and the work we do. Thanks to our speakers, three of whom were Trustees! Ticket sales, raffle and sales from our second-hand bookstall raised about £1,000, a valuable contribution to our funds.

Finally, I must thank our external examiner, Samantha Martin, and my fellow Trustees for their support throughout the year and, in particular, our Secretary, Sarah Manning-Press and Treasurer, Louisa Tippett; and our splendid editorial team, Herbert Eiden and Andrew Senter and, of course, Chris Thornton, who continues to contribute so much.

Ken Crowe
Chairman

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the Charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing those statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Receipts				
Designated funds and donations		5,000		5,000
Unrestricted donations				
Donations from individuals <i>(see note 3)</i>	13,666		8,820	
Gift Aid (including interest) reclaimed	1,527		5,031	
Donations from Councils and Societies	1,188		4,300	
Donations from Trusts	4,250		4,250	
Legacy			500	
		20,631		22,901
Investment income - interest	1,513		1,354	
		1,513		1,354
Other income <i>(see note 4)</i>	1,581		1,155	
		1,581		1,155
Total receipts		28,725		30,410
Payments				
Direct charitable payments				
Payments in respect of Volume XII, Volume XIII, Harwich and Southend				
Editors	17,765		14,125	
Assistant Editor	19,200		20,000	
		36,965		34,125
Grants - Clacton Group	500			
		500		
Other expenditure <i>(see note 6)</i>	1,894		2,663	
		1,894		2,663
Total payments		39,359		36,788
(Deficit)/surplus of receipts over payments		(10,634)		(6,378)
Funds balances brought forward		88,369		94,747
Funds balances		77,735		88,369
Designated funds included in funds <i>(see note 2)</i>		120		120

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Monetary assets		
HSBC current account	2,941	2,340
HSBC deposit account	74,750	85,985
Cash	44	44
	<hr/> 77,735	<hr/> 88,369

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 4 March 2025
and signed on their behalf by

Ken Crowe
Trustee and Chairman of the meeting

Louisa Tippett
Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared on a cash basis whereby income and expenditure is only recognised as it is received or paid.

2. Designated funds and donations

In 2022 donations were received to assist with postage and publishing costs for members preferring to receive AGM papers rather than digital delivery and costs have reduced this designated reserve.

In 2024 we received the final annual payment of £5,000 of a total grant of £15,000 from the Essex Heritage Trust which has been used to partly fund the work of Dr A Senter for his continued work on Harwich for inclusion in Volume XIII.

3. Donations from individuals

Donations from individuals in 2024 amounted to £13,666 and £8,820 in 2023. Where available the claim for Gift Aid of £1,527 was received with interest for 2023. A claim of £3,359 has been made for 2024.

4. Other income	2024	2023
	£	£
Raffles - AGM and 120 th Celebration event	247	232
Lectures	130	60
120 th Celebration event	1,035	628
Book sale	95	91
Sales of Newport 'Short'	64	48
Sales of Harwich 'Short'	10	96
	1,581	1,155

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2024

5. VCH 'Shorts'

Newport - The Trustees funded production costs of £1,748 in 2015. During 2021 a further print of 50 books was funded at £328. Total sales up to 31 December 2024 amounted to £2,760 (2023: £2,696).

Harwich - The costs of production were agreed at £1,220 in 2020. During 2024 a further print of 50 books was funded at £156. Total sales up to 31 December 2024 amounted to £2,160 (2023: £2,150).

6. Other expenditure	2024	2023
	£	£
Editors' other services	825	1,750
Insurance	90	90
Subscriptions and books	24	6
Newport 'Short'	156	-
Stationery, printing and postage	-	420
Room rental	301	318
Bank charges	201	79
Publicity material	297	-
	<hr/> 1,894 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,663 <hr/>

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Victoria County History of Essex Trust

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of the Report

As the Trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Samantha Martin FCCA
Independent Examiner

119 Colchester Road
West Bergholt
Colchester
Essex CO6 3JX

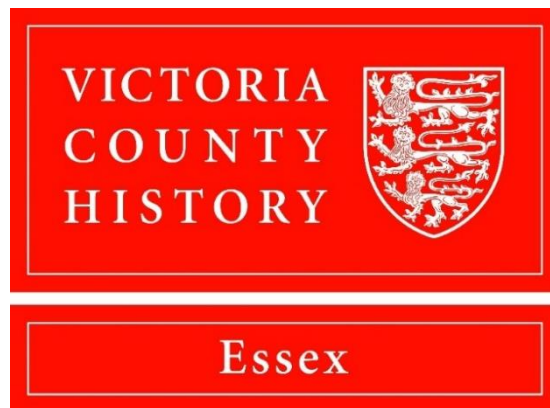
31 May 2025

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1038801

Accounts

Victoria County History of Essex Trust



Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

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Trustees and Advisers

Trustees	Kenneth L Crowe, BEd, MA, AMA, <i>Chairman</i> Rt Hon Lord Petre, KCVO, JP, MA, <i>Vice Chairman</i> Louisa Tippett, BSc, ACA, <i>Treasurer</i> Sarah E L Manning-Press, BA, <i>Secretary</i> Geoffrey Hare, OBE (<i>retired 5 December 2023</i>) Patricia Herrmann, OBE (<i>retired 24 June 2023</i>) Johanna Dale, MA, PhD, FRHistS Amanda Flather, PhD Paul J Gilman, BA, FSA (<i>retired 24 June 2023</i>) Sir Graham Hart, KCB, PhD Professor Anthony Tuck, PhD John Jowers (<i>appointed 24 June 2023</i>)
Principal address	25 Sussex Road Colchester Essex CO3 3QH
Registered charity number	1038801
Editors	Christopher C Thornton, BA, PhD, FSA, FRHistS (<i>to 6 April 2023</i>) Herbert Eiden, BA, PhD (<i>from 6 April 2023</i>)
Independent Examiner	Samantha Martin, FCCA 119 Colchester Road West Bergholt Colchester Essex CO6 3JX
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 99 High Street Chelmsford Essex CM1 1EQ

Trustees' Report

This year has been another eventful one for VCH Essex, with plenty happening behind the scenes and in public. As far as the Trustees are concerned, we were very sorry to lose Geoffrey Hare, who relocated to Nottingham in October. Geoffrey joined the VCH Essex Trust in 1999 and was Chairman from 2005 to 2013 and again from 2018 to 2021. We have also had to say a very sad farewell to West Bowers Hall as our regular meeting place for many years. Patricia Herrmann (Secretary of the Trust from 1996 to 2021) had very reluctantly stepped down as Trustee at the last AGM and now needs to devote much time to family matters.

In May your Chairman and the Editorial team attended the VCH day at Senate House, a good opportunity for networking, hearing the latest news and ideas from the VCH community and meeting the VCH staff.

It is sad to have to report the death in May of Canon Henry Marsh who had been our Independent Examiner since 2014. He shall be much missed. On a happier note, the finances of the Trust are on an even keel, thanks to our regular supporters and donors, although we need to make every effort to ensure that we maximise the opportunities to increase our funds to ensure the continuing success of our programme of research and publication into the future.

This year's AGM was held in June at Tendring Village Hall, hosted by the Clacton VCH group. Owing to serious problems on the A12 the audience was largely restricted to members and supporters from the northeast of the county. We are very pleased to confirm that John Jowers was elected as a new Trustee. Following refreshments there was a fascinating talk by Chris Thornton on the fort at East Mersea from Henry VIII to the Napoleonic Wars.

On 19th July the Victorian Society visited Harwich, an event hosted by Harwich Museum in collaboration with VCH Essex and which Chris Thornton helped to organize. Herbert Eiden and our Assistant Editor, Andrew Senter also attended the event, at which Andrew gave a talk on John Bagshaw and the development of Dovercourt.

A very successful event was held at Galleywood Heritage Centre in September to mark the 120th anniversary of the publication of VCH Essex Vol 1, which included a major essay on Essex Domesday by J. Horace Round and a complete translation of the Domesday entries for Essex. About 70 people attended the event which was organized by Chris Thornton, to hear Philip Morgan (translator and editor, Phillimore Domesday), Neil Wiffen (ERO) and Philip Wise (Colchester & Ipswich Museums), together with a talk by Chris Thornton on Harwich's overseas trade in the reign of Elizabeth I. The day was also successful financially and was followed shortly afterwards by an anonymous donation. This event also raised awareness of the VCH project to a wider audience.

Trustees' Report

Chris Thornton, our VCH Essex editor since 2003 retired as County Editor in April this year, handing over the reins to Herbert Eiden (previously our Assistant Editor). Chris continued as Consulting Editor for six months while Herbert completed his contracted work for the *People of 1381* project, taking over as County Editor on 1 October. Meanwhile, Andrew Senter continues in his role as Assistant Editor, funded in part by a generous grant from Essex Heritage Trust. Chris, meanwhile, continues to undertake research for VCH Essex Trust to help with the work on Volume XIII.

Research on Harwich and Dovercourt has progressed very well during this year, highlights including the establishment of the naval dockyard during the Commonwealth period followed by the outbreak of the Dutch Wars after the Restoration; and the medieval trade of Harwich, revealing fascinating details about merchants, ships and their cargoes. Andrew Senter has completed his section on Harwich and Dovercourt in the Georgian period and the 19th century, which were placed on the IHR's VCH Essex website. He is continuing to research the First World War and interwar periods.

The format of the Southend short was agreed by VCH Central Office, and the requested revisions have been completed. There is some cartographic work to be finalised before the files can be sent to Central Office. Having assisted with work on the Harwich port books, the Clacton group moved on to a new project – the landscape history of Tendring and the Holland River – which is progressing well. Andrew Senter's *Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston in the 19th Century* sold out completely towards the end of the year and the Trust agreed to a reprint of 50 copies.

Finally, the Trust must offer our sincere gratitude to all those organisations and individuals – especially our dedicated supporters – upon whom we rely. We must especially thank our retired County Editor, Chris Thornton, for his unrivalled knowledge of the County and most generous support given, not only to the Trust but also to his colleagues on the Editorial team, Herbert Eiden and Andrew Senter.

Ken Crowe
Chairman

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the Charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing those statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Designated funds and donations		5,000		5,540
Unrestricted donations				
Donations from individuals (<i>see note 3</i>)	8,820		19,945	
Gift Aid (including interest) reclaimed	5,031		4,524	
Donations from Councils and Societies	4,300		800	
Donations from Trusts	4,250		4,464	
Legacy	500		-	
		<u>22,901</u>		<u>29,733</u>
Investment income - interest	<u>1,354</u>		<u>179</u>	
		1,354		179
Other income (<i>see note 4</i>)	<u>1,155</u>		<u>643</u>	
		1,155		643
Total receipts		<u><u>30,410</u></u>		<u><u>36,095</u></u>
Payments				
Direct charitable payments				
Payments in respect of Volume XII, Volume XIII, Harwich and Southend				
Editors	14,125		12,350	
Assistance Editor	20,000		15,425	
Printing	-		-	
		<u>34,125</u>		<u>27,775</u>
Other expenditure (<i>see note 6</i>)	<u>2,663</u>		<u>2,624</u>	
		2,663		2,624
Total payments		<u><u>36,788</u></u>		<u><u>30,399</u></u>
(Deficit)/surplus of receipts over payments		(6,378)		5,696
Funds balances brought forward		94,747		89,051
Funds balances		<u><u>88,369</u></u>		<u><u>94,747</u></u>
Designated funds included in funds (<i>see note 2</i>)		<u><u>120</u></u>		<u><u>540</u></u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Monetary assets		
HSBC current account	2,340	5,713
HSBC deposit account	85,985	89,004
Cash	44	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	88,369	94,747

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 March 2024
and signed on their behalf by



Ken Crowe
Trustee and Chairman of the meeting



Louisa Tippett
Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared on a cash basis whereby income and expenditure is only recognised as it is received or paid.

2. Designated funds and donations

In 2022 and 2023 the Essex Heritage Trust grants of £5,000 have been used to partly fund the work of Dr A Senter for his work on Georgian Harwich for inclusion in Volume XIII. In 2022 donations were received to assist with postage and publishing costs for members preferring to receive AGM papers rather than digital delivery. The printing of 200 newsletters and postage for the AGM has reduced this designated reserve.

3. Donations from individuals

Donations from individuals in 2023 amounted to £8,820 and £19,945 in 2022. Where available the related claims for Gift Aid of £2,210 for 2021 and of £2,296 for 2020 were made early in 2022, with extra interest received from HM Revenue & Customs. A claim for £4,958 was received with interest for 2022 and a claim of £ 1,510 has been made for 2023.

4. Other income	2023	2022
	£	£
Raffles - AGM and 120th	232	355
Lectures	60	-
120th Celebration	628	-
Book sale	91	-
Sales of Newport 'Short'	48	120
Sales of Harwich 'Short'	96	168
	1,155	643
	1,155	643

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

5. VCH 'Shorts'

Newport - The Trustees funded production costs of £1,748 in 2015. During 2021 a further print of 50 books was funded at £328. Total sales up to 31 December 2023 amounted to £2,696 (2022: £2,648).

Harwich - The costs of production were agreed at £1,220 in 2020. Total sales up to 31 December 2023 amounted to £2,150 (2022: £2,054).

6. Other expenditure	2023	2022
	£	£
Editors' services	1,750	600
Insurance	90	75
Subscriptions and books	6	77
Newport 'Short'	-	328
Stationery, printing and postage	420	1,081
Room rental	318	174
Bank charges	79	89
Publicity material	-	200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,663	2,624
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Victoria County History of Essex Trust

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of the Report

As the Trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Samantha Martin FCCA
Independent Examiner



119 Colchester Road
West Bergholt
Colchester
Essex CO6 3JX

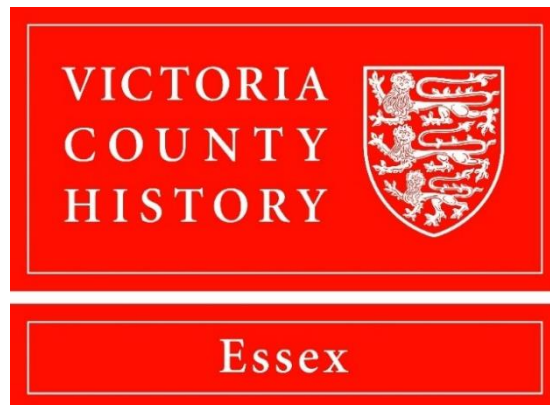
28 May 2024

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1038801

Accounts

Victoria County History of Essex Trust



Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2022

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Trustees and Advisers

Trustees	Kenneth L Crowe, BEd, MA, AMA, <i>Chairman</i> Rt Hon Lord Petre, KCVO, JP, MA, <i>Vice Chairman</i> Louisa Tippet, BSc, ACA, <i>Treasurer</i> Sarah E L Manning-Press, BA <i>Secretary</i> Geoffrey Hare, OBE, Patricia Herrmann, OBE, Johanna Dale, MA, PhD, FRHistS Amanda Flather, PhD Paul J Gilman, BA, FSA Sir Graham Hart, KCB, PhD J Nicolas Rowlands, BA, DipEd (<i>until his death on 21 July 2022</i>) Professor Anthony Tuck, PhD
Principal address	West Bowers Hall Woodham Walter Maldon Essex CM9 6RZ
Registered charity number	1038801
Editor	Christopher C Thornton, BA, PhD, FSA, FRHistS, <i>Editor</i>
Independent Examiner	Paul Whittle BSc, FCA, TEP Bounds Farm Hungerdown Lane Ardleigh Essex CO7 7LZ
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 99 High Street Chelmsford Essex CM1 1EQ

Trustees' Report

Having emerged from the restrictions imposed by Covid, 2022 has been a year of some considerable achievements and refreshing 'live' meetings. The Short, *History of Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston in the 19th century* published in the Autumn of 2019 had almost sold out by the end of 2022. The Newport short has also sold steadily and was reprinted at the end of the year. The VCH volunteer groups- Clacton and Southend - have been very active this year. The Clacton group celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2020, while the Southend group has continued with its short, *Southend: Victorian town and Resort*, the first full draft of which was submitted to Central Office in November.

Two major events were held this year. The first was a celebration of our VCH volunteers, held at Ingatestone Hall in April, attended by members of the Clacton, Newport and Southend VCH groups, together with Trust members, Editorial team and other contributors to the Red Book series.

The second was the launch of VCH Essex Vol. XII (part 2) - *The Soken: Kirby-le-Soken, Thorpe-le-Soken and Walton-le-Soken*. About 60 people attended this very successful event on 15 October, during which the publishers, Boydell and Brewer, sold virtually all of the stock of Vol. XII (parts 1 and 2) that were brought to the launch.

Excellent progress has been made on our current Red Book - Vol. XIII on Harwich. Research during the year on medieval court rolls has illuminated much fascinating detail on trends in baking and brewing over the decades together with the impact of plague. And research on Harwich's maritime history in the Tudor period has been assisted by the Clacton group's work on the Harwich Port books. A generous grant from Essex Heritage Trust for three years has enabled us to put in place a forward plan for Andrew Senter's work on the Georgian and Victorian periods, the latter now extended to 1914. Completed sections of Vol. XIII have been uploaded onto the VCH website as online drafts.

Trustees' Report

The financial situation of the Trust is one that can be described as stable, thanks in large part to the generosity of our loyal supporters and organisations. However, in order to progress with our current research programme and to enable us to plan future projects, we have identified the need to considerably enhance our funds, hence the announcement in October that we were launching a new fundraising drive, which will begin in earnest in 2023. Together with fundraising, and going hand-in-hand with it, is the constant need to raise awareness of the VCH. This is a multi-pronged approach, one of which is through talks given by our Editor (and others) to local groups, and another through the dissemination of leaflets. A third approach is through the national VCH website. It was agreed this year that the Essex Trust should have its own dedicated website, which will enable us to advertise our activities and talks, upload newsletters and generally assist in our fundraising campaigns. This is now under development.

It is with great sadness that we had to announce the death of one of our Trustees, Nick Rowlands during the summer; we shall all miss his good humour and common-sense approach to all of our meetings. The task in the short term is to bring our numbers once again up to strength with some new Trustees, which we are planning for the coming year.

Finally, we must, as usual, offer our gratitude to all those organisations and individuals upon whose support we depend. In particular to Chris Thornton, our splendid editor for the past 20 years, whose erudition, unrivalled knowledge of Essex history and dedication never fails to impress. And to our special thanks go to our Independent Examiner, Canon Henry Marsh.

Ken Crowe
Chairman

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the Charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing those statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Designated funds and donations		5,540		5,000
Unrestricted donations				
Donations from individuals (<i>see note 3</i>)	19,945		9,143	
Gift Aid (including interest) reclaimed	4,524		-	
Donations from Councils and Societies	800		1,850	
Donations from Trusts	4,464		4,905	
Legacy	-		5,000	
		29,733		20,898
Investment income - interest	179		9	
		179		9
Other income (<i>see note 4</i>)	643		190	
		643		190
Total receipts		<u>36,095</u>		<u>26,097</u>
Payments				
Direct charitable payments				
Payments in respect of Volume XII, Volume XIII, Harwich and Southend				
Editors	12,350		16,800	
Contributors	15,425		12,600	
Images	-		-	
Printing	-		-	
		27,775		29,400
Other expenditure (<i>see note 6</i>)	2,624		121	
		2,624		121
Total payments		<u>30,399</u>		<u>29,521</u>
Surplus/(deficit) of receipts over payments		5,696		(3,424)
Funds balances brought forward		89,051		92,475
Funds balances		<u>94,747</u>		<u>89,051</u>
Designated funds included in funds (<i>see note 2</i>)		<u>540</u>		<u>-</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Monetary assets		
HSBC current account	5,713	3,894
HSBC deposit account	89,004	85,157
Cash	30	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	94,747	89,051

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 June 2023

and signed on their behalf by

Ken Crowe
Trustee and Chairman of the meeting

Louisa Tippett BSc, ACA
Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies

General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared on a cash basis whereby income and expenditure is only recognised as it is received or paid.

2. Designated funds and donations

In 2021 and 2022 the Essex Heritage Trust grants of £5,000 have been used to partly fund the work of Dr A Senter for his work on Georgian Harwich for inclusion in Volume XIII. In 2022 donations were received to assist with postage and publishing costs for members preferring to receive AGM papers rather than digital delivery.

3. Donations from individuals

Donations from individuals in 2022 amounted to £19,945 and £9,143 in 2021. Where available the related claims for Gift Aid of £2,210 for 2021 and of £2,296 for 2020 were made early in 2022, with extra interest received from HM Revenue & Customs. A claim for £4,958 has been made for 2022.

4. Other income	2022	2021
	£	£
Raffles - AGM and book launch	335	-
Sales of Newport VCH 'Short'	120	74
Sales of Harwich VCH 'Short'	168	116
	-----	-----
	643	190
	-----	-----

5. VCH 'shorts'

Newport - The Trustees funded production costs of £1,748 in 2015. During 2021 a further print of 50 books was funded at £328. Total sales up to 31 December 2022 amounted to £2,648 (2021: £2,528).
Harwich - The costs of production were agreed at £1,220 in 2020. Total sales up to 31 December 2022 amounted to £2,054 (2021: £1,886).

6. Other expenditure	2022	2021
	£	£
Insurance	75	75
Subscriptions and books	77	6
Newport 'shorts'	328	-
Stationery and postage	1,081	40
AGM rent	174	-
Bank charges	89	-
Editor's administration	600	-
Publicity material	200	-
	-----	-----
	2,624	121
	-----	-----

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Victoria County History of Essex Trust

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of the Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Bounds Farm
Hungerdown Lane
Ardleigh
Essex CO7 7LZ

Paul Whittle BSc, FCA, TEP
Independent Examiner

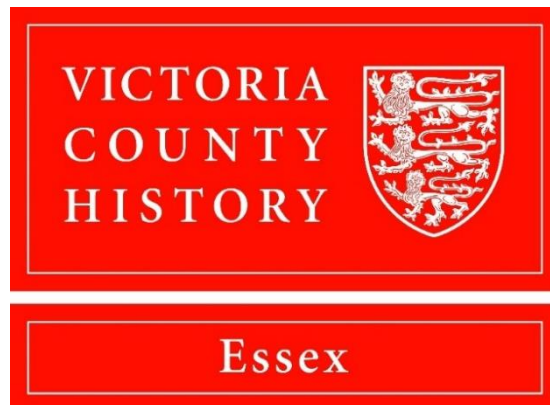
12 June 2023

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF ESSEX TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1038801

Accounts

Victoria County History of Essex Trust



Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2021

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Trustees and Advisers

Trustees	Geoffrey Hare, OBE, <i>Chairman to 18 September 2021</i> Kenneth L Crowe, BEd, MA, AMA, <i>Chairman from 18 September 2021</i> Rt Hon Lord Petre, KCVO, JP, MA, <i>Vice Chairman</i> Louisa Tippett, BSc, ACA, <i>Treasurer</i> Patricia Herrmann, OBE, <i>Secretary to 18 September 2021</i> Sarah E L Manning-Press, BA <i>Secretary from 18 September 2021</i> Johanna Dale, MA, PhD, FRHistS Amanda Flather, PhD Paul J Gilman, BA, FSA Sir Graham Hart, KCB, PhD Christopher Manning-Press, DL (<i>until his death on 13 September 2021</i>) Arthur Stanley Newens, BA (<i>until his death on 2 March 2021</i>) J Nicolas Rowlands, BA, DipEd Professor Anthony Tuck, PhD
Principal address	West Bowers Hall Woodham Walter Maldon Essex CM9 6RZ
Registered charity number	1038801
Editor	Christopher C Thornton, BA, PhD, FSA, FRHistS, <i>Editor</i>
Independent Examiner	Canon Henry Marsh 5 Vicarage Lane Great Baddow Chelmsford Essex CM2 8HY
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 99 High Street Chelmsford Essex CM1 1EQ

Trustees' Report

With the relaxation of full Covid restrictions, work on all fronts of VCH Essex projects has gathered pace. Our Editor, Dr Chris Thornton, has continued to make excellent progress on the two current Red Books - Vol. XII (part 2) and Vol. XIII. These are described more fully below.

Andrew Senter's History of *Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston in the 19th Century* has become something of a best-seller, with very few copies in stock, and there are also very few copies now of the Newport 'short'. The final text and images for Vol. XII (part 2) were submitted to VCH Central in December 2021. This volume covers the Sokens - Kirby-le-Soken, Thorpe-le-Soken and Walton-le-Soken (modern day Walton-on-the-Naze) - from their medieval origins as areas with special legal, social and administrative organisation, through later ownership to the modern day.

Work on Vol. XIII (Harwich) is also progressing very well. The medieval period is almost complete, and research on the Tudor period, for which sources are particularly rich, is well underway. Special thanks are due to the Harwich Group and Harwich town council for their help in making sources available and to members of the Essex Historic Buildings Group for their help with building surveys. Generous grants from Essex Heritage Trust (EHT) have enabled us to continue to employ Andrew Senter to work on the chapter on Georgian Harwich and he is also adapting his Harwich 'short' for the chapter on the 19th century, again with grant funding from EHT.

The activities of the Clacton volunteer group were impacted by Covid, but they are now developing into a new project on the early history of Tendring Hundred, supported by a small grant from this Trust. Regarding the Southend VCH group, following lengthy discussions (involving the group, the Trustees and VCH Central), it was agreed to revise the scope and word length of the proposed Southend 'Short.' The first batch of draft chapters for *Southend: Victorian Town and Resort*, were submitted to our Editor, and the final batch of chapters, together with feature pages, will be submitted early in 2022. It is therefore hoped to have both another Red Book (XII (2)) and a 'short' published in the coming year.

Trustees' Report

Thanks to the generosity of our regular supporters (including some major regular donations), and grants from EHT, the Trust's finances are on a fairly even keel, but not such as to give any cause for complacency. There is constant need for fund-raising just to keep our heads above water. Future financial targets will have to take into account the increasing costs of printing and postage to supporters who are unable to receive correspondence by e-mail.

It is very sad to have to report the loss of two of our longest-serving and dedicated Trustees over the past year: Stan Newens (trustee from 2001; see obituary in *Essex Past* No. 25) and Chris Manning-Press (trustee from 1995; see obituary in *Essex Past* 26). Also in this past year, two of our longest-serving officers have stepped down from their posts, although both, I am very pleased to report, are continuing as Trustees. Patricia Herrmann became a Trustee in 1996, serving as Secretary from that date until 2021, and also as Treasurer from 2000 to 2008. Geoffrey Hare joined the committee in 1999, serving as vice-Chairman from 2004-5 and as Chairman 2005-13 and again 2018-21. Both were recognised for their outstanding contribution to the Essex VCH Trust and more generally for their support of the Victoria County History project, by being the first recipients of VCH Outstanding Contribution awards.

Southend was one of the four towns included in a research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, 'Towns and the Cultural Economies of Recovery', which looks at the culture and heritage plans for those towns. The VCH Essex Trust was delighted to lend its (non-financial) support to this major project, led by researchers from Southampton University and London University's Institute of Historical Research (VCH's parent body).

In conclusion, especial thanks are due to our Editor, Chris Thornton and to Herbert Eiden (former Assistant Editor) and Andrew Senter and to all the other contributors to Vols. XII and XIII. We are also grateful to the VCH volunteer groups, and to the many other groups, organisations and individuals who support VCH Essex in so many ways. Particular thanks go to our Independent External Examiner, Canon Henry Marsh.

Ken Crowe

Chairman

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the Charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing those statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Designated funds and donations		5,000		1,000
Unrestricted donations				
Donations from individuals (<i>see note 3</i>)	9,143		9,495	
Gift Aid received in year	-		2,444	
Donations from Councils and Societies	1,850		900	
Donations from Trusts	4,905		4,750	
Legacy	5,000		-	
		20,898		17,589
Investment income - interest	9		59	
		9		59
Other income (<i>see note 4</i>)	190		411	
		190		411
Total receipts		<u>26,097</u>		<u>19,059</u>
Payments				
Direct charitable payments				
Payments in respect of Volume XII, Volume XIII, Harwich and Southend				
Editors	16,800		13,048	
Contributors	12,600		99	
Images	-		344	
Printing	-		4,176	
		29,400		17,667
Other expenditure (<i>see note 6</i>)	121		449	
		121		449
Total payments		<u>29,521</u>		<u>18,116</u>
Surplus/(deficit) of receipts over payments		(3,424)		943
Funds balances brought forward		92,475		91,532
Funds balances		<u>89,051</u>		<u>92,475</u>
Designated funds included in funds (<i>see note 2</i>)		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Monetary assets		
HSBC current account	3,894	3,227
HSBC deposit account	85,157	89,248
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	89,051	92,475

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 March 2022
and signed on their behalf by

Ken Crowe
Trustee and Chairman of the meeting

Louisa Tippett BSc, ACA
Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies

General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared on a cash basis whereby income and expenditure is only recognised as it is received or paid.

2. Designated funds and donations

The Essex Heritage Trust grant of £5,000 has been used to partly fund the work of Dr A Senter for his work on Georgian Harwich for inclusion in Volume XIII.

3. Donations from individuals

Donations from individuals in 2020 amounted to £9,495 and £9,143 in 2021. Where available the related claims for Gift Aid of £2,296 and of £2,210 have been made shortly after the year end.

4. Other income	2021 £	2020 £
AGM raffle	-	-
Sales of Newport VCH 'Short'	74	74
Editors talks	-	60
Sales of Harwich VCH 'Short'	116	277
	-----	-----
	190	411
	-----	-----

5. VCH 'shorts'

Newport - The Trustees funded production costs of £1,748 in 2015. Total sales up to 31 December 2021 amounted to £2,528 (2020: £2,454).

Harwich - The costs of production were agreed at £1,220 in 2020. Total sales up to 31 December 2021 amounted to £1,886 (2020: £1,770).

6. Other expenditure	2021 £	2020 £
Insurance (prepaid in 2020)	75	150
Subscriptions and books	6	6
Stationery and postage	40	205
Publicity material	-	88
	-----	-----
	121	449
	-----	-----

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Victoria County History of Essex Trust

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of the Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

5 Vicarage Lane
Great Baddow
Chelmsford
Essex CM2 8HY

Canon Henry Marsh
Independent Examiner

29 April 2022