

Friends of Corinium Museum
Charity No. 1118026

Trustees' Report for Year ending 31st October 2023

“The Friends support the work and objectives of the Museum by helping with fund-raising for special events, the acquisition of artefacts, raising public awareness and participating in the work of the Museum.”

1. Membership

Numbers have remained fairly static with the number of new Members balancing losses which primarily result from the high age profile of membership. Focus continues on the need to attract younger members of the community.

2. Committee

We were joined by a new member, Colin Cheek, whose IT skills are being applied in the design of a new website. An appeal was made for a new secretary to join the Committee.

3. Museum operation and staffing

Museum staff under the leadership of Emma Stewart (Museum Director) have had to adapt to a change in the Museum operating company, following the termination of the SLM ten years contract and the District Council's award of a new contract to Freedom Leisure.

The commitment and creativity of the Museum team provides an excellent backing for the Friends' Committee's activities, enabling us to work together to support public events and workshops and generally to identify opportunities which can help to enhance public profile.

4. Events in 2023

Friends enjoyed a visit to the Roman baths in Bath and had a private talk from Amanda Hart who had left her post as Director of the Corinium Museum in 2022 to take up the role of Roman Baths Director.

We were able to assess progress since last year's summer dig at the Seven Sisters tumulus with another well-attended visit.

The Committee manned a stand at the annual Winstone Trust lecture in the Parish Church which is always well attended and provides a good opportunity to raise profile and try to attract recruits from a wide group.

The various social events are seen as a good recruitment opportunity and Members are encouraged to introduce their friends and acquaintances, bearing in mind the importance of attracting younger members of the community.

5. Acquisitions

A post-Medieval silver seal from the locality was acquired through the British Museum for £450. As identified in Section 7, we are focussing on some important future projects.

6. Finances

The Treasurer's Report at the AGM confirmed that the Friends had made a small surplus from the Gladiators Exhibition, shown in a consolidation of income and expenditure from three financial years.

The level of retained funds has been improving with a view to providing for known projects (see below).

7. 2024

The Friends have committed to the funding of the conservation costs (some £6,000) of two Roman cavalry swords which have been gifted to the Museum and we will also assist in further fundraising for some £20,000 for their display.

There is a community initiative to obtain on loan from the British Museum and to display in the Museum, a well-known local Roman mosaic which was removed from the town some two hundred years ago. Its return to the town will be a high profile event giving scope for wider public activities.

Archaeological excavations upon the line of the Roman Ermin Way (A417 highway improvements) are under way, finds from this falling into the category of Known Unknowns.

8. Public Profile and Fundraising

Work is in progress to create a more comprehensive website which makes it easy for members of the public to join the Friends and pay online, for Members to book and pay for events and for people to make donations for our identified projects. A card reader has also been acquired, enabling electronic donations to be made.

9. Summary

The Committee recognises that the key to a successful voluntary organisation is for the Committee and Members to enjoy their roles, the activities and the social interaction and to feel that progress in fulfilling the charity objectives is being made. We appreciate having a membership which is active and engages well in enjoying the Museum and helping to enhance its profile.

Edward Allsop
Trustee and Hon. Treasurer
August 2024

Friends of Corinium Museum
Registered Charity No. 1118026

Accounts for year ending 31st October 2023
for Charity Commission

INCOME

Subscriptions	4,233.50
Donations	7,734.73
Gift Aid	1,088.68
Bank Interest	467.74
Gladiator Exhibition	13,783.50
Easy Fundraising/Just Giving	49.75
Friends visit to Bath	985.00
Fundraising	600.00
	<hr/>
	28,942.90

EXPENDITURE

Receptions/Recruitment	852.22
Administration	82.39
Purchase of Artefacts	450.00
Membership of BAFM and insurance	400.00
Project Payments	9,984.00
Visit to Bath	953.00
Subscriptions	216.00
Miscellaneous	1,250.00
Website	520.00
Bank charges	98.06
	<hr/>
	14,805.67

Net Balance for year 14,137.23

Balances brought forward 31,557.29

Account balance at year end 45,694.52



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Friends of Corinium Museum

On accounts for the year
ended

31st October 2023

Charity no
(if any) 1118026

Set out on pages

1 and 2 attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

My examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. I also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

"I have completed my examination and I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect;

- a) accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- b) the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Signed:

M L Wilton

Date:

15th August 2024

Name:

Mark Wilton

Relevant professional

Chartered Accountant

**qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

40 West Hay Grove, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire
GL7 6BE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern
(see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and
guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.**



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Friends of Corinium Museum

On accounts for the year
ended

31st October 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1118026

Set out on pages

1 and 2 attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/10/2023

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

My examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. I also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

"I have completed my examination and I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect;

- a) accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- b) the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Signed:

M L Wilton

Date:

15th August 2024

Name:

Mark Wilton

Relevant professional

Chartered Accountant