

TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

The New Forest History and Archaeology Group had an active year in 2023/4 with a range of fieldwork activities, good attendances at our monthly meetings and interesting speakers and topics. We would like to thank all members for continuing to support the Group. Our membership numbers have increased from 2022/3, with a current total of 105 sole members and 14 joint members. As you are aware, the cost of membership has remained unaltered since the Group started, i.e. single £10, joint or family £15 and students £7. We said last year that this remains exceptional value and members can take advantage not only of the monthly meetings but the Annual Report, bi-monthly newsletters as well as the annual excavation and summer activities. The Annual Report is sent to each member as part of the subscription. It is very costly to produce and in 2023 formed a large part of our annual expenditure. We will be looking at ways to reduce the cost. The country is currently in difficult times financially, with reduced services, rising prices, etc., and we must review the cost of membership to ensure that our finances remain robust.

The Trustees feel that we continue to meet our aims as set down in our Constitution ie. protect the archaeology and history of the Forest in these changeable times and research, record and produce reports via our Fieldwork Team. The pressures on the archaeology in the Forest through forestry and environmental work, tourism and even climate change are immense, and it is imperative that we continue to monitor and report on these changes especially if detrimental. We are also seeking members to take part in our weekly Autumn/Winter fieldwork activities in the Forest.

Another important part of our activities is the ongoing excavation at New Copse near Brockenhurst and our thanks go to Professor Tony King for directing the dig each year. It is anticipated that the excavation will go ahead again this year at this site. Members will be circulated later in the year to see if they wish to be involved.

Jeff Tucker is again working on the programme of talks which will commence from September 2024 onwards. If any member has a particular speaker or topic they would like then please let Jeff know. With regards summer activities, take up in previous years has not been good resulting in the cancellation of several visits. However, we will try again this summer to produce something of interest to members.

There will be a change in the NFHAG committee this year as Tony King is looking to step down as Chairman due to his workload outside of the Group and we will hold an election at the AGM to appoint a new Chairman to succeed him. Under the Constitution we will also need to re-elect the other officials and Committee members and seek new Committee members. If any member is interested in helping in the running of the Group by becoming a Committee member please email Jeff Tucker before the AGM on 11th April 2024 as we are always looking for those who will get actively involved.

The Trustees

17th March 2024

Tony King, *Chairman*, Jeff Tucker, *Hon. Secretary*, Stuart Bloom, *Hon. Treasurer*

NEW FOREST HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP
Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023
Registered Charity No: 1160219

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
RECEIPTS		
Membership fees	1,244.00	1,142.00
Meeting Receipts	424.00	141.00
Publication Sales	204.85	740.03
Bank Interest	-	-
Other - need to specify	718.80	95.00
Donation - Designated	-	150.00
	<u>2,591.65</u>	<u>2,268.03</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Meeting and speaker expenses	1,205.84	505.50
Zoom meeting expenses	170.29	172.68
Annual Report	863.00	426.00
Bishops Dyke Publication	-	969.00
Membership Forms	-	102.00
Ordinance Survey Licence Fee	65.70	65.70
Secretarial and administration	260.18	193.02
Fieldwork expenses	-	237.58
Equipment	1,210.80	-
Insurance	382.23	579.81
Subscription CBA	40.00	-
	4,198.04	3,251.29
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>-1,606.39</u>	<u>-983.26</u>
Surplus reserves brought forward	9,019.68	10,002.94
Surplus reserves carried forward	<u>7,413.29</u>	<u>9,019.68</u>
Bank balance at 31st December 2023	<u>7,413.29</u>	<u>9,019.68</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

I have examined the Statement of Accounts for The New Forest History And Archaeology Group for the year ended 31st December 2023 and confirm that they are in accordance with the books and records made available to me.
Anthony Taylor FCA..... (Honorary Examiner)
Dated