



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 01/01/2025**

**To 31/12/25**

**Charity name: East Dorset Antiquarian Society**

**Charity registration number: 1171828**

## **Objectives and Activities**

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	<b>To advance education in the archaeological heritage and local history of Dorset and the surrounding areas through the exploration, excavation, recording and conservation of archaeological monuments, the conservation of antiquities and organising and delivering public events such as talks, visits, training and open days.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	<b>A key focus remains field archaeological work, when possible, to advance knowledge of our heritage, and members have been involved in three archaeological interventions. The joint purchase of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) equipment has, even from a few initial surveys, expanded our archaeological knowledge and extended our reach into the wider community. A large part of any project is the work towards publication, where five projects at different stages have been worked upon and two published. Monthly lectures provide archaeological and historical information to our members, and are open to all without charge. Monthly newsletters and frequent emails to members provide information on our own activities, other events and activities likely to be of interest, and archaeological and historical articles. Our website provides access to archaeological reports, links for research and frequent updates on relevant events and activities.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	<b>In planning our activities at trustee meetings, and in carrying them out, we have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.</b>

### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policy on grant making	<b>N/A</b>
Policy on social investment	<b>N/A</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	<b>EDAS has no employees or paid staff; all trustees and those involved in our activities give their time voluntarily without remuneration (significant personal expenses may be recompensed on a basis agreed in advance).</b>
Other	

## Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>It proved possible to undertake only one small excavation of our own, though we were able to involve many members in archaeological interventions and training on three sites directed by others.</p> <p>The new jointly-owned GPR equipment, which we direct, undertook four surveys as its capabilities were explored and extended. These provided community outreach, obtaining results for other bodies which may lead to further archaeological interventions.</p> <p>Labelling and packaging the extensive finds from the Druce Farm Roman Villa Project for deposition was almost completed, and completed for the Druce Farm Bath House Project. Post-excavation work for the Druce Farm Neolithic Project continues.</p> <p>Reports were published in the county archaeological journal on two excavations, with progress toward publication of an earlier excavation delayed by illness, and considerable work towards publication of two excavations directed by others but with mostly EDAS excavators.</p> <p>EDAS won the prestigious Britannia Award of the Roman Society for the excavation and publication of Druce Farm Roman villa by volunteers.</p> <p>We provided a full programme of monthly lectures (except in summer), often attended by visitors, and newsletters, both covering a wide range of subjects.</p> <p>Eight guided archaeological walks and visits for members were run during the year.</p>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	N/A
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	N/A

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	<p>Regular income of £3,207 and expenditure of £1,903 gave a surplus of £1,304. A legacy was received early in the year which, with interest, totalled £26,714 of which £6,000 was spent on the GPR equipment. Total funds at end year were £32,779, of which £2,585 is set aside for known projects, with expectations of more projects resulting from GPR surveys.</p> <p><b>FULL DETAILS BELOW</b></p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	The minimum balance of funds to be held is reviewed regularly, after deducting funds set aside for known archaeological projects, and for other known and anticipated expenditure and their levels of certainty.
Amount of reserves held	Standard minimum £1,000 plus funds set aside.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	N/A
Funds materially in deficit	None
Uncertainty about continuing	N/A

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	<b>The main sources of general purpose income are membership subscriptions and associated Gift Aid, usually more than sufficient to cover the normal costs of operating, as above, leaving funds for archaeological interventions. The large legacy has provided the ability to extend activities, initially with the GPR purchase.</b>
Investment policy and objectives	<b>We aim to earn interest on as much of the funds as possible without undermining our ability to meet known and anticipated expenditure in a timely fashion.</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	<b>None known</b>

**Structure, Governance and Management**

Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted?	<b>Unincorporated association</b>
Trustee selection methods	<b>Elected from the membership in a General Meeting</b>

**Additional information (optional)**

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	<b>Eligibility checked and Charity Commission information on trustees provided. Attend committee meetings and 'learn on the job' with guidance and support.</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works Relationship with any related parties	<b>The charity operates through quarterly committee meetings and communications between meetings. EDAS is a member of, or strongly linked with, several heritage organisations including Bournemouth University, Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society (DNHAS), CBA Wessex, Dorset Archaeology Committee and the Museum of East Dorset, though without other legal or formal links.</b>

**Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name	<b>East Dorset Antiquarian Society</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>EDAS</b>
Registered charity number	<b>1171828</b>
Charity's principal address	<b>224 Leigh Road Wimborne Dorset BH21 2BZ</b>

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	<b>Philip John D'Eath</b>	<b>Chair</b>		
2	<b>Peter David Walker</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>		
3	<b>Geoffrey Taylor</b>	<b>Secretary</b>		
4	<b>Alan Robert Dedden</b>			
5	<b>Ian Drummond</b>		<b>01/01/25 – 12/03/25</b>	
6	<b>Robert David Heaton</b>			
7	<b>Vanessa Anne Joseph</b>			
8	<b>Winston Krone</b>			
9	<b>Karen Mann</b>			
10	<b>Andrew John Morgan</b>			
11	<b>Steve Smith</b>		<b>01/01/25 – 12/03/25</b>	
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors**

<b>N/A</b>		
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**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>N/A</b>		
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**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of assets held	<b>None</b>
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**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

<b>N/A</b>
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***Detailed accounts and examiner's report***

Report to the trustees/members of East Dorset Antiquarian Society

On accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report:

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect, accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed: *David J Long*

Date: 23 January 2026

Relevant professional qualifications or body (if any):

Address: 13 Oakley Road, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1QJ

Brief details of any items the examiner wishes to disclose: None to report

Receipts and payment accounts (all to nearest £)

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Last year</b>
Membership fees	2,144	1,961
Donations	60	83
Gift Aid receipts	424	417
Legacy	25826	0
Interest on legacy	888	0
Other interest	159	208
Receipts for future event	420	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29,921</b>	<b>2,669</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Room/hall hire	537	497
Speaker costs	300	155
Insurance	462	282
Affiliation fees	104	108
Other administration costs	150	589
Project expenditure	110	1,840
Payment for future event	240	0
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>3,471</b>
<b>Asset &amp; investment purchases</b>		
GPR equipment (50% share)	6,000	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7,903</b>	<b>3,471</b>
<b>Net receipts less payments</b>	<b>22,018</b>	<b>(802)</b>

Asset and liabilities

**Cash at banks** £32,779 of which £790 relates to a restricted fund

**Physical assets** (*note that showing cost and value are optional, so I won't*)

Ground Penetrating Radar equipment (50%)

Lecture equipment (laptop, projector, PA)

Excavation equipment and consumables

## Declarations

<b>Signature</b>	<i>P J D'Eath</i>	<i>Geoff Taylor</i>
<b>Full name</b>	Philip John D'Eath	Geoffrey Taylor

<b>Position</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>9 May 2026</b>	<b>9 May 226</b>