



Annual Report by David Roberts, Chairman

For year ending 31 December 2024

Presented at the AGM on April 26, 2025

Report

The Friends of Roman Aldborough offered members a programme of talks and visits.

Talks

Our programme of talks continued to be well received by members. Talks were mainly face to face with two being held via Zoom. With permissions in place, these were all recorded and posted on YouTube for a limited time for access by members only. The most popular talks received around 50 views on YouTube.

Our talks included:

Eastfield Roman Villa - Paula Ware

North Yorkshire and the Grand Tour - Gail Falkingham

The Knaresborough 1864 Hoard of Roman vessels: new discoveries and interpretations
- Dr James Gerrard

Civitas Towns of Roman Britain - Prof Richard Hingley

'He who is waiting' : Roman slavery in Aldborough and Beyond - Dr Eva Mol

The Richness of Roman Britain - Dr Richard Hobbs (held at Dunesforde Vineyard)

The Excavations at Magna Roman Fort - Dr Andrew Birley

Digging Deeper at Isurium Brigantum - Prof Martin Millett

The Musical Romans - Music made and inspired by the Romans - Andrew Lawson-Tancred

Recent finds from excavations at Roman Aldborough - Dr Stephen Greep, Roman Finds Group and Vida Rajkovaka, University of Cambridge.

Visits

Once again we enjoyed special tours led by leading archaeologists and museum curators. This year we made another visit to London where we were given a guided tour



of The Society of Antiquaries by Martin Millett as President of the Society This was followed by a visit to the British Museum to see the 'Legion : Life in the Roman Army' exhibition.

Shirley Everett, local geologist and mine historian gave a guided tour of Coldstones Cut and Greenhow lead mines, highlighting links with lead processing at Aldborough.

Following his work on the 'York Beneath the Streets' project Martin Millett led a guided walk around Roman York. There was also an opportunity to visit Rose Ferraby's latest Soundmarks exhibition based on the project.

A visit to The Great North Museum in Newcastle was made where Andrew Parkin, Keeper of Archaeology gave a tour of the Roman section.

Education Group

Five schools' visits were made to the site.

They were:

Meadowside Academy, Knaresborough

Boroughbridge Primary (also visited the dig and the mural at Dunesforde Vineyard)

All Saints, Bradford (3 visits)

The school staff were ably supported by a team of FORA Education Volunteers

The current economic situation and rise in transport costs means that schools continue to find visits difficult. A bid to the Mukherjee Fund was successful. This will cover the cost of transport to the museum and the dig for both a local school and one from an urban setting each year for the next 5 years. A donation from Dunesforde Vineyard helped to support school visits.

Roman Garden Project

The Garden Group continues to be very active. Once again, beds have been planted with the herbs and vegetables that Romans would have used. Visitors to the site have been interested in learning about their uses in cooking and medicine. The garden now has a shed for storage and running water. A bench and noticeboard have been kindly donated by FORA members.



Cambridge University Roman Town Project

The team from the University of Cambridge, led by Dr Rose Ferraby and Professor Martin Millett conducted a smaller scale dig in the annex to the north of the town. The dig took place between August 24 and September 14, 2024. Together with an enthusiastic team of volunteers, students from local schools and Cambridge University were able to participate in the dig. An Open Day was held and was well attended.

Outreach talks

Outreach talks were given to four local groups and organisations.

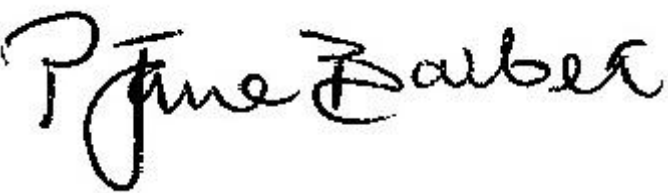
Guided tours of the English Heritage site

These were organised by EH using their guides. Many of the guides are FORA members. The visitor feedback from the site is very positive and visitor numbers continue to grow.

FORA/ EH meetings

FORA and EH met for one update meeting.

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees:

Signature	Name	Date of Approval
	Patricia Jane Barber	April 26, 2025
Secretary		

Sent from my iPhone



FRIENDS OF
ROMAN
ALDBOROUGH

FORA 2024 Financial Summary

Opening Bank	£15,691.83	£10,283.33	£10,269.48	£10,155.18	£9,705.25	£9,798.25	£10,508.31	£10,501.36	£10,541.36	£10,109.35	£10,406.08	£10,935.80
Closing Bank	£10,263.33	£10,269.48	£10,155.18	£9,705.25	£9,798.25	£10,508.31	£10,501.36	£10,541.36	£10,109.35	£10,406.08	£10,935.80	£11,410.20
Nett Loss	£5,408.50	£13.85	£114.30	£449.93	£93.00	£710.06	£6.95	£40.00	£432.01	£296.73	£529.72	£474.40

INCOME

Description	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
New Members	£20.00	£15.00			£40.00	£30.00	£15.00	£75.00		£70.00	£40.00		£330.00
Renewals	£680.00	£840.00	£70.00	£130.00		£30.00	£45.00	£80.00			£105.00		£2,860.00
Visitors				£45.00		£45.00	£15.00			£97.50	£15.00	£860.00	£2,175.00
Visits	£60.00	£22.50			£112.50				£114.00	£114.00			£423.00
Outreach Talks	£40.00								£60.00				£350.00
Raffle		£63.00		£76.00		£149.00	£171.00			£104.00	£90.00	£40.00	£673.00
Teas		£35.70		£48.35		£63.31	£90.80						£298.16
Silent Auction		£10.00	£455.00								£24.22		£489.22
Guide Book Sales				£14.50		£4.50							£19.00
Plant Sales					£30.00					£4.50		£27.00	£61.50
Donation										£2.50			£2.50
Donation Ed													£0.00
Donation Garden					£100.00	£50.00		£355.00					£975.00
Education Income													£0.00
Miscellaneous											£50.00		£50.00
TOTAL	£899.00	£1,000.20	£525.00	£213.85	£262.50	£278.31	£278.80	£510.00	£174.00	£282.50	£234.22	£927.00	£5,618.88

EXPENDITURE

Phone	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£54.00
Hall Hire				£25.00	£25.00	£31.25							£81.25
Printing		£126.08								£66.76			£192.84
Visit Costs			£135.00				£84.50						£219.50
Transport - Schools		£102.69	£440.00										£542.69
Transport - FORA Visits												£200.60	£200.60
Computer								£108.00					£108.00
Printer Cartridges									£187.73				£187.73
Office Supplies									£13.78				£13.78
Asset Purchase - Microphone										£25.49			£25.49
Speaker Fees				£50.00			£99.99						£149.99
Speaker Expenses						£131.00							£131.00

Web Costs			£39.80										£39.80
Domain Registrations				£28.75									£28.75
Artwork				£192.50								£157.50	£250.00
Zoom Licence		£155.88											£155.88
Silent Auction			£20.00	£145.00									£165.00
Memberships				£268.00									£268.00
Insurance				£35.00									£35.00
Trustee Expenses								£22.50					£22.50
Plinth EH		£630.00											£630.00
Cambridge Artefact Processing	£6,204.00								£400.00				£6,604.00
Dig Expenses													£0.00
Education Payments					£160.00		£94.70	£335.00					£549.70
Garden work				£15.00									£15.00
Bounced Cheque													£0.00
TOTAL	£6,204.00	£1,595.00	£525.00	£213.85	£262.50	£278.31	£278.80	£510.00	£174.00	£282.50	£234.22	£927.00	£10,500.81

Net profit/Loss -£5,408.50 -£13.85 -£114.30 -£449.93 £93.00 £710.06 -£6.95 £40.00 -£432.01 £296.73 £529.72 £474.40 -£4,281.63

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Contingency	B/F	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Education		£7,628.06	£2,575.37	£2,085.37	£2,085.37	£2,085.37	£2,085.37	£2,085.37	£2,085.37	£2,145.37	£2,355.37	£2,274.01
Garden		£946.10	£946.10	£946.10	£886.10	£1,406.10	£1,313.34	£1,333.34	£1,333.34	£1,333.34	£1,333.34	£1,333.34
Garden Cash										£108.30	£126.90	£144.00
Unpaid												£12.70 Garden
		£8,576.16	£8,473.47	£8,033.47	£7,973.47	£8,493.47	£8,398.71	£8,416.71	£8,416.71	£8,587.01	£8,815.61	£8,738.65

I confirm that this receipts and payments statement (FORA 2024 Financial Summary) is a true and fair account of the cash transactions of FORA for the year to 31/12/24.

Nicholas Holmes
12/1/25