

Ottery St Mary Heritage Society (CIO: 1179598)

Annual Trustees' Report – August 2022

This will be our twenty-third Annual Report as a Society, the fourth as a CIO; a report still influenced to some extent by the stubborn recurrence of the Covid-19 virus and its emerging variants in our community.

Annual General Meeting 2022

This year Trustees have again agreed to hold the AGM at our traditional venue, the Institute. However, still mindful of members' concerns over rising infection rates and the need for social distancing, we have agreed to retain the Postal Vote Facility as an alternative to attending the meeting. Last year this proposal proved highly popular with a total participation of **over 50%** of the membership.

Members' Monthly Meetings

From January to July 2021, due to Covid restrictions, members were only able to join our regular monthly meetings by Zoom conference call. But from October last year we decided to re-commence our meetings at the Institute, our traditional venue; a move which has received enthusiastic support from our members. A full calendar of monthly guest speakers is now published in the new Membership Card issued in September 2022.

Heritage Museum Open

After many months of closure, due to Covid restrictions coupled with an ambitious programme of redevelopment incorporating state-of-the-art displays, audio-visual and IT facilities, we are delighted to report that our brand new and modern Heritage Museum is now open.

Museum Curator Nigel Sadler, together with Chairman Peter Shrubbsall and his team of enthusiastic trustees are to be congratulated for their dedication and hard work to get the job done.

The success of this venture going forward will depend on the continued support of volunteer stewards from the membership and beyond.

Thank you all for your support.

Lease of the Old Town Hall

Negotiations are still under way to finalise arrangements with our landlords, the Ottery St Mary Town Council, for a 25 year lease of the Old Town Hall – structural repairs and upgrading of electrical installations coupled with revised fire regulations have

all played their part in delaying the necessary documentation. We are happy to report that these arrangements are now nearing completion.

Public Funding

We are most grateful for two District Council grants totalling £18,000 plus another grant of £2,667, all of which have assisted with the refurbishment and re-opening of the Museum.

Coleridge Anniversary Lunch 2021

Our traditional Coleridge Anniversary Lunch was scheduled for October 2021, but with Covid virus concerns still prevalent and the future uncertain, trustees took the decision to cancel the 2021 event.

A Joyous day of Celebration

Friday October 21st 2022 marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Ottery's famous son, poet and philosopher Samuel Taylor Coleridge. It is the day we will witness the official unveiling of the Coleridge Statue at the Parish Church, the church bells will ring out across the Otter valley with many townsfolk and visitors in attendance.

To round off the day's proceedings there will be a Coleridge Anniversary Dinner on the Friday evening, held at the Tumbling Weir Hotel, 6.00pm for 6.30pm. Invitations are enclosed with the autumn issue of the Heritage Journal. Numbers to this event are limited and tickets are available by application.

Trustees

Our Society continues to be managed by a dedicated committee of Trustees, led by our enthusiastic chairman Peter Shrubbsall.

Two trustees are up for re-election this year, together with additional co-opted trustees to be voted in, so members are asked to complete the voting form included in this autumn issue of the Heritage Journal.

Thank You

Our sincere appreciation to you all for the support and enthusiasm you have shown in the past year and for your untiring efforts in the furtherance of the Society's aims. Thank you all.

'Floreot Ottregia'

THE TRUSTEES

Ottery St Mary Heritage Society

OTTERY ST MARY HERITAGE SOCIETY CIO

Registered CIO Charity No 1179598

ACCOUNTS for the year ending 30th April 2022**1. General Purposes Fund (Barclays Account)**

INCOME RECEIPTS (£)	2022	2021
Subscriptions	1,870.00	1,635.00
Stock Sales	00.00	452.66
Meetings Receipts	46.97	000.00
Events. Coleridge Anniversary Lunch (Cancelled due to Covid)	000.00	000.00
Cash	126.97	175.00
Inland Revenue Charities	230.00	000.00
Flagstone Investments interest (See item 3.)	0000.00	2,000.00
Business Loyalty Receipt	9.83	10.03
Miscellaneous	342.48	125.00
Cambridge & Counties Account – closed 08/02/21	0000.00	39,821.87
Closure of Nat West account – closed 21/01/21	0000.00	2,610.52
Donation & Grants	2677.00	10,015.00
Total Income	5,303.25	56,845.08
DIRECT EXPENDITURE (£)	2022	2021
Sales Stock Purchases & Adverts	171.00	00.00
Meetings Hall Hire	176.00	
Cost of Speakers	320.00	496.00
Zoom Costs- now Museum A/c	000.00	71.95
Storeroom rental (Old toilets)	00.00	52.00
Journal Printing costs	246.00	238.00
Admin Expenses (£38.27 paid by cash)	602.49	554.24
Printing New Publications	000.00	000.00
Capital Purchases	60.00	000.00
Insurance – Invoice received after April 2022	000.00	250.43
Blue Plaque Scheme	000.00	204.00
Web Site Costs (paid by cash)	43.06	71.84
Equipment maintenance	70.00	62.99
Coleridge Memorial Statue Donation	000.00	5,000.00
Rent of storerooms from Town Council	000.00	104.00
Miscellaneous & Other	242.00	433.56
Transfers Petty Cash to bank	00.00	125.00
Transfers to Museum Account	10,667.00	49,211.02
Bank Charges	173.10	
Total Expenditure	12,770.65	56,624.03