



**Charity Registration Number: 204957**

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

# **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

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# Northamptonshire Record Society

## One hundred and third Annual Report for the Year ended 31 December 2025

*President:* Lord Boswell of Aynho DL MA FSA (*obit. 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025*)

*Vice-Presidents:* The Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire  
Martin Gaskell DL MA PhD FRHistS  
The Chair of West Northamptonshire Council  
The Chair of North Northamptonshire Council  
The Mayor of Northampton  
The Marquess of Northampton, DL  
The Bishop of Peterborough  
Earl Spencer DL MA  
The Dean of Peterborough Cathedral  
Lady Victoria Leatham

*Trustees:* Deborah Hayter MA (Chair)  
Stuart Bell CBE MA  
Lord Boswell of Aynho DL MA FSA (*obit. 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025*)  
Mrs Jenny Burt MA  
Mrs J.P.T. Eady (*resigned December 2025*)  
William Franklin  
Margaret Hawkins BLib MA MSc  
Francis Howcutt MA  
Nicholas Karn MA DPhil FSA  
Professor Edmund King PhD FSA  
Keith Brooker PhD (*resigned December 2025*)  
Professor Matthew McCormack PhD (*resigned April 2025*)  
Crispin Powell BA Dip AA (*resigned December 2025*)  
Wendy Raybould PhD  
Terry Waterfield PhD

*Hon. General Editor:* William Franklin

*Hon. Editor (of Northamptonshire Past and Present):* Wendy Raybould PhD

*Hon. Librarian:* Margaret Hawkins BLib MA MSc

*Hon. Digital Editor:* Francis Howcutt MA

*Hon. Treasurer:* Stuart Bell CBE MA

*General Secretary:* Graham Lampard PhD (*resigned September 2025*)

*Acting General Secretary:* Shirley Wong (*from October 2025*)

*Finance Officer:* Shirley Wong

**Bank:** Nat West Bank, The Drapery, Northampton  
**Independent Examiner:** Brenda Peers-Ross, 29 Drift Road, Selsey, West Sussex, PO20 0PW  
**Office:** Wootton Hall Park, Mereway, Northampton NN4 8BQ  
**Email:** [secretary@northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk)  
**Telephone:** +44 (0)1604 762297

Registered Charity No 204957

## **THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY**

### **OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY**

The name of the Society shall be "The Northamptonshire Record Society".

### **OBJECTIVES**

The objects of the Society shall be:

- a) The editing and publication of original documents and other material relating to the history of the ancient County of Northampton.
- b) The stimulation of interest in the history of the ancient County of Northampton by the arranging from time to time lectures at various places within the County and by other means.
- c) The maintenance of a library and its furnishings for the benefit of Members of the Society.
- d) The care of manuscripts, books, paintings, artefacts and other objects which may be given or lent to the Society from time to time.

### **GOVERNANCE**

#### **Appointment of Trustees**

The Charity Commission considers those involved with the management of the Trust (i.e. the Council) to be trustees. Under the Rules of the Society, Council members are elected each year. The Trustee body aims to achieve an appropriate mix of academic, financial and administrative expertise in its membership.

#### **Governing instruments**

The original Trust Deed of the Society <sup>involved</sup> setting out the objectives of the Society and appointing the original Custodian Trustees is dated 10 December 1920. The proceedings of the Society are governed by a set of Rules drawn up under this Trust Deed. These Rules have been amended from time to time, most recently on 8th June 2024.

### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The trustees are cognisant of their obligation to provide public benefit. In 2025 the Society maintained its longstanding record of bringing new editions of original historic documents and material to a wider audience with the publication of new volumes. The year also marked the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of Northampton and in addition to a special edition of *Northamptonshire Past and Present* devoted to the subject the Society also contributed funds towards a special exhibition at the County Archives which marked the occasion, and the Society participated in a symposium held on 4th July at the University of Northampton.

The Society has continued its popular programme of workshops designed to introduce participants to original historic documents, and to explain the context in which they were produced and what they can tell us. These take place in the Society's Library and are organised in conjunction with the County Archives. In order to secure access to the Archives for the number of participants involved it has proved necessary to introduce a modest charge from mid 2025 to cover the costs charged to the Society. We are delighted that the workshop programme won 'Best Project' in the 2025 Northamptonshire Heritage Forum awards.

A considerable amount of material from the Society's past publications and other sources of relevance to the history of the County has been made freely available on the website which has continued to grow in popularity since its relaunch. The usual programme of lectures has also been successful and in 2025 the Society started to hold them in a range of locations to improve access to those living across the County. By these means the reach of the Society's activities has increased substantially in recent years.

The Society has maintained contact with West Northamptonshire Council concerning their future plans for the Judge's Lodgings and the Sessions House where many of the Society's historic portraits are hung.

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

### **Trustees**

During 2025 the trustees were Deborah Hayter (Chair), Stuart Bell, Lord Boswell of Aynho (*obit. 30th August 2025*), Dr Keith Brooker (*resigned December 2025*), Mrs Jenny Burt, Mrs J.P.T. Eady (*resigned December 2025*), William Franklin, Margaret Hawkins, Francis Howcutt, Dr Nicholas Karn, Professor Edmund King, Professor Matthew McCormack (*resigned May 2025*), Crispin Powell (*resigned December 2025*), Dr Wendy Raybould, and Dr Terry Waterfield. The Council expresses its sincere thanks to those trustees who have resigned, and to Rosemary Eady in particular, a stalwart on the Council from 1972 who made a significant contribution to the work of the Society in countless ways.

The Trustees were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Richard Pestell, past Chairman (2015-22) and of Lord Boswell of Aynho, our President since 2015, during the course of the year. Tributes will appear in the 2026 edition of *Northamptonshire Past and Present*.

### **Membership of Committees**

The Council agreed to absorb the work of the Library Committee into the Finance and General Purposes Committee in 2025. The membership of the committees was as follows (the Chair is ex-officio a member of each committee):

Finance & General Purposes Committee: Deborah Hayter (Chair), Lord Boswell of Aynho, Stuart Bell, Jenny Burt, William Franklin, Margaret Hawkins, Francis Howcutt, Dr Wendy Raybould.

Publications Committee: Bruce Bailey (*resigned during 2025*), Stuart Bell, William Franklin, Margaret Hawkins, Deborah Hayter (Chair), Francis Howcutt, Dr Wendy Raybould. The Council expresses its gratitude to Bruce for his significant contribution and wise counsel over many years.

### **Governance**

The Council met twice during the course of 2025, and its committees were able to meet in person or by zoom. Deborah Hayter remained Chair of the Council. There were no new elections onto the Council during the course of the year, although Professor Matthew McCormack, Dr Keith Brooker, Mrs J.P.T. Eady and Crispin Powell resigned.

Though not a Trustee, Ms Phoebe Frost has participated in committee meetings, bringing a welcome perspective on behalf of younger members. The Council has actively sought new members to refresh its range of skills and looks forward to welcoming them from the 2026 AGM. Arrangements are also being made for the recruitment of a new President following the death of Lord Boswell.

During 2025 the Council agreed new policies on Reserves, Safeguarding, Complaints Handling, Social Media, Grant Making, Lone Staff and Volunteers and Privacy.

### **Changes in the Office**

Graham Lampard resigned as General Secretary in September 2025, and the Council thanks him for his service to the Society. Mrs Shirley Wong was appointed as Finance Officer on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025, replacing Kate Millin. Following the departure of Dr. Lampard Mrs Wong also acted as General Secretary until the end of 2025. The Council undertook a review of the Job Descriptions and established a new role combining the duties of General Secretary and Finance Officer and Mrs Wong was appointed to that position from the beginning of 2026.

## **Finance report**

The Finance & General Purposes Committee was established in October 2019, replacing the Finance & Investments Committee. This Committee incorporates the Terms of Reference of the Finance & Investments Committee and is also authorised to exercise any function of the Council not falling within the remit of any other committee; and any function of the Society that requires a decision before the next normal meeting of the Council. This now includes the remit of the former Library Committee. All such decisions must be reported to the next scheduled meeting of the Council. The Council is currently reviewing all of its governance structures with a view to simplification and reducing duplication.

At the 2025 AGM the Society appointed Brenda Peers-Ross, formally of CVS which had previously provided the Society with that service, as the Independent Examiner. Christine Andrews, also formerly of CVS, has provided payroll services.

At the end of 2025 the Society remains in a secure financial position overall which leaves it well placed to deal with any changes in circumstances which might arise in the short to medium term. In common with 2024 the year has seen some important investments in digitisation of material for the new website and improvements to the Society's offices which support their more intensive use for workshops. These have enabled a significant increase in our activities and opportunities for engagement available for members, detailed elsewhere in this report.

For the first time in several years the Society has also employed two paid staff members (albeit both part time), though following the departure of Dr Graham Lampard that has now been reduced to one. Nevertheless the day to day operating costs of the Society, for IT support, staffing and postage particularly, have increased, and currently exceed our regular income. The Council has identified areas where costs will be examined to identify potential savings, including reviewing IT expenditure and making more material available to members digitally (with their agreement) in order to reduce postage costs.

Membership subscriptions were not increased in 2025, but the changes to subscriptions agreed to keep pace with inflation at the 2024 AGM came into effect over the course of the year. The Society continues to encourage members to subscribe by Direct Debit using 'Go Cardless' which considerably reduces administrative costs.

The Society agreed a Reserves Policy in 2025 which aims to fund its programme of publications and day to day running costs from the income from its investments and from subscriptions. It will maintain sufficient flexibility in reserves which are accessible in the short term to fund day to day running costs for 12 to 24 months, including staff salaries where appropriate, in order to allow sufficient time for alternative arrangements to be made for the long term care and preservation of the contents of the library, and of the documents, paintings and artefacts etc., for which the Society is responsible. The Society will maintain sufficient reserves which may in the meanwhile be invested to fund the anticipated costs of the future programme of publications which shall be agreed by the Publications Committee from time to time, in order to ensure that editorial work which has been agreed and is in preparation to fulfil the Society's purposes will eventually be published.

The Society's investment portfolio has grown: as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, investments totalled £358,347 (£344,896), up £13,451 on the previous year. There was £45,319 (£42,251) cash at bank. Income from subscriptions increased to reflect the new rates agreed at the 2024 AGM. Lower than usual expenditure on publications reflects the timing of the Society's volumes being completed for printing. The Council has agreed that funding should be flexibly applied to support the pipeline of publications as they are completed, and the Honorary General Editor has provided a forward programme to inform financial planning.

## Membership

During the course of 2025 the Society's membership decreased, from 417 in December 2024 to 400 in December 2025. These were broken down as follows:

- 305 Individual UK members
- 43 Family UK members
- 5 Foreign-based Individual members
- 28 UK Institutions
- 19 Foreign Institutions

There were 4 Honorary members. Over the course of the year 7 new members joined and 24 members either cancelled their membership or sadly died. A new promotional leaflet has been widely distributed, and at the end of 2025 a total of 96 members paid their annual subscriptions by Direct Debit (that figure has now increased to 118).

## Publications report

### ***Northamptonshire Past and Present* - Honorary Editor's Report: Wendy Raybould**

2025 saw the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of Northampton and a special issue of *Northamptonshire Past and Present* marked the occasion with a collection of papers on that topic. Nine authors contributed a wide range of fascinating perspectives on the event and a number of these also spoke at the Great Fire Symposium, jointly organised by the Society and the University of Northampton which was held at the University in July.

This was the final issue of the journal edited by Dr Wendy Raybould who has now retired from that position. Neil Lyon has picked up the baton in an acting capacity for 2026. The Council is most grateful to Dr Raybould for all her efforts over the years.

### **Honorary General Editor's Report: William Franklin**

In 2025, we published *The Enclosure of Northamptonshire 1485-1901*, which was intended to be David Hall's last volume. Unfortunately, David, who had been the Society's General Editor for many years, died before it was completed, and I was privileged to be able to complete the work, which we believe is the most detailed work on enclosure produced by any Record Society in England.

2025-26 saw the publication of two volumes, *The Rockingham Account Roll* (ed. Sandra Raban), which will probably be the penultimate volume in the Mellows Series, and *Democratic Radicals* (ed. Tim Hughes), in the Victor Hatley Series.

Volumes currently in active progress

1. *Northamptonshire in the early Nineteenth Century: The Drawings of George Clarke of Scaldwell*. This was being edited by Bruce Bailey and Rosemary Eady, and will now be completed by Neil Lyon and the General Editor. We would like to thank Rosemary and Bruce for their work in making this volume possible.
2. Mellows Trust Volume. *The Peterborough Chronicles Vol 1*. (ed. Edmund King) This is likely to be the last of the Mellows volumes to be printed. We currently anticipate this will be the Society's 2027 volume.
3. *Memories of Northamptonshire 1868-1958* (ed. Neil Lyon). In September 1957 the Local History Committee of the Northamptonshire Rural Community Council launched a competition across the County called 'Memories of a Villager'. 109 submissions were received, covering 88 of the County's villages. Joan Wake, the main judge for the competition, noted, 'the essays give a most remarkable



picture of the changes in village life in the last 60-70 years all over the County'. This will be published in 2028, the platinum anniversary of the collection.

#### Other volumes

The Society currently has a proposed list of publications by year through to 2032, including:

*'Golden in Wisdom and Silver in Eloquence'* (ed. David Lepine): William Sponne was a Fifteenth-Century Archdeacon and Rector of Towcester. He founded a charity in Towcester. This work will look at William Sponne and his charity, drawing on archives from various repositories.

*'Northampton before the Fire'* (ed. Steve Holder). The final title for this volume is yet to be agreed. The work will include much original data on the town, including that of the Courts of Common Pleas, the King's Bench and Exchequer Pleas and Chantry/Fraternity Certificates.

*'Criminals and the Law in Northamptonshire, 1399-1422'* (ed. Ted Powell).

*'The Northamptonshire Eyre Roll for 1268-69'* (ed. Clive Knowles / Adrian Jobson).

#### **Library report - Margaret Hawkins, Honorary Librarian**

I am pleased to report that borrowing from the collection has increased in recent months, probably prompted by the workshop series which has brought the Library to members' attention. The Library's modest book fund has been used to purchase volumes on various aspects of Northamptonshire's history as well as a number of useful background works intended principally to be of help to those undertaking research. Re-classification from Browne to Dewey is almost complete. All books on the County generally have been re-classified and work on specific localities has reached 'W'. The next project will be to edit our large number of background works to ensure that these are relevant to our members. This may result in further volumes being offered for sale to our members or being sent to auction, thus producing a modest, but welcome, income.

In relation to a specific question the Committee agreed that in the event that the five General Pitt-Rivers excavation monologue books which had been donated to the Archaeological Resources Centre, Chester House, should be sold by them then the proceeds from any sale should be divided 50:50 with the NRS.

#### **Digital Publications Report - Francis Howcutt**

Major improvements continued in the layout and content of the Society's website. Measures of success since its relaunch in August 2024 up to the end of 2025 include:

- 26,750 hits to the Home page.
- 14 other pages each attracted more than 3,000 hits.
- A combined total of 257,143 hits to all 240 pages on the site.
- Clicks to the site from Google increased during the year from 900 to 1,600 per month.

The number of links offered by the Signposts directory to free online resources relevant to the history of Northamptonshire rose during the year from 200 to more than 2,300. This collection is arranged in over 40 categories and continues to grow, so do visit and revisit it at: <https://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/signposts>

Thank you to James Slattery-Kavanagh who provides reliable and proactive web design, hosting and management services.

During the year, the Society funded the digital publication of 13 works that were not previously available online. By the end of 2025, the pages on our site that feature them have attracted a total of 17,914 hits. During the year, the 32 publications in the Record Society's collection at Internet Archive attracted a further 2,248 hits.

Our Facebook page continues to draw readers to the Society's website. We posted a total of 96 new items at Facebook during 2025, many of which were then shared in a host of other places online. By the end of 2025, the number of 'followers' asking to receive updates from our Facebook page in their own newsfeeds rose to 863.

## Meetings

There were two lectures held in 2025. The first, which took place at Delapre Abbey on 10th May was a lecture by Dr Paul Stamper, *'Writing the History of Northamptonshire: Antiquaries, Archaeologists and Historians'*. This was followed by the AGM. The Autumn lecture, on 11th October of 2025 was held at Sulgrave Manor. This was given by Eleanor Townsend of Wadham College Oxford on *'Parish Church Patrons: supporting your church and saving your soul in Medieval Northamptonshire'*.

With the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Fire of Northampton, we were pleased to be involved with the commemoration of that significant event in the town's history over the course of 2025. The Society contributed £450 towards the mounting of a special exhibition at the County Archives of a range material from the period illustrating Northampton before and after the fire. Deborah Hayter and William Franklin were speakers at the Great Fire Symposium given at Northampton University on 4th July, and *Northamptonshire Past & Present* devoted a whole issue to the subject.

The Council, through our librarian and secretary, continues to maintain the library and its furnishings for the benefit of Members of the Society. In 2025 the Library was the venue for a series of workshops given by members of the Society, looking in detail at different types of historical documents. The programme has included:

- The Medieval Landscape of Open Fields
- People and Places: Unlocking the secrets of the census
- Enclosure records
- An introductory workshop for beginners
- Northamptonshire Parks and Gardens
- Maps in the Archives

We are adding to, as well as removing books and artefacts to enhance the collection. This ensure we meet the final objective of caring for manuscripts, books, paintings, artefacts and other objects, which may be given or lent to the Society from time to time.



Deborah Hayter  
On behalf of the Council  
9<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of:  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY  
Registered Charity No: 204957**

**Page 9**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 which are set out on pages 10 to 15 of the financial report.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with Section 43(3) of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Trustees those matters which I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To fullest extent permitted by law; I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of Section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 156 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts, presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures of the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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.

**Independent Examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting records of the Act have not been met.
2. or in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Brenda Peers-Ross*

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT, ACIE  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income From:</b>							
Donations and Legacies		292	-	292	394	-	394
Charitable Activities	1	16,384	-	16,384	9,575	-	9,575
Investment Income - interest, dividends		13,339	2,339	15,678	11,622	2,359	13,981
		<u>30,015</u>	<u>2,339</u>	<u>32,354</u>	<u>21,591</u>	<u>2,359</u>	<u>23,950</u>
<b>Expenses on:</b>							
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	2	24,850	-	24,850	33,843	-	33,843
Governance	4	2,815	-	2,815	2,640	-	2,640
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u>27,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,665</u>	<u>36,483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,483</u>
<b>Net movement of funds</b>		2,350	2,339	4,689	(14,892)	2,359	(12,533)
Transfer between funds		1,803	(1,803)	-	1,818	(1,818)	-
<b>Unrealised gain/(loss)</b>		16,138	(2,687)	13,451	6,828	1,240	8,068
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>							
Total funds brought forward 1st January 2024		325,954	58,912	384,866	332,200	57,131	389,331
<b>Balance at 31 December 2025</b>		<u>346,245</u>	<u>56,761</u>	<u>403,006</u>	<u>325,954</u>	<u>58,912</u>	<u>384,866</u>

All of the activities of the Society are classed as continuing.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities shown above.

# NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY

(Registered Charity Number: 204957)

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>5</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Investments</b>	<b>6</b>	304,887	53,460	358,347	344,896
		304,887	53,460	358,347	344,896
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	7	643	-	643	216
Cash at bank		42,018	3,301	45,319	42,251
		42,661	3,301	45,962	42,467
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,303)	-	(1,303)	(2,497)
		(1,303)	-	(1,303)	(2,497)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		41,358	3,301	44,659	39,970
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>346,245</b>	<b>56,761</b>	<b>403,006</b>	<b>384,866</b>

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	9	346,245	-	346,245	325,954
Restricted	10	-	56,761	56,761	58,912
		<b>346,245</b>	<b>56,761</b>	<b>403,006</b>	<b>384,866</b>

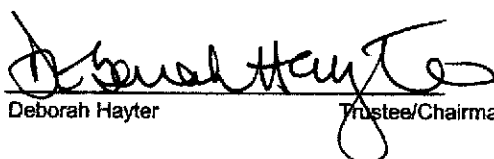
For the year ending 31st December 2025, of the Northamptonshire Records Society.

Trustees are required to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of its financial activities for the period. In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate.
- keep proper accounting records
- responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust.

The trustees are required to act within the general framework of trust law and specifically in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed Trust Deed and Rules of the Society.

Approved by the trustees at a committee meeting held on 9th April 2026  
and signed on their behalf by:

  
Deborah Hayter Trustee/Chairman

The notes on pages 13 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

**PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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**Accounting Policies**

The financial statements of the Society, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (FRS102) issued on 1st October 2019, and applicable UK Accounting Standards.

No value has been placed in the Balance Sheet on the pictures, furniture and books which have been donated to the Society over a number of years. These are regarded as heritage assets and, in the opinion of the Trustees, the cost of a professional valuation of such would not be justified. Accordingly no value has been included in the Balance Sheet in respect of these assets. The current insured of such assets is approximately £200,000. Books brought for the Society's library are expensed in the year.

Stocks - no value is placed on stocks of books and other material purchased by the Society.

**Format**

The Society presents income and expenditure account in the form of Statement of Financial Activities.

**Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Society which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each fund is set out in the notes to the financial statement.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the Society for a particular purpose.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the society is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Grants are brought into account on a receivable basis.

**Resources expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is stated inclusive of value added tax.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets by instalments over their expected useful life less any residual value on disposal.

Computer equipment	20% straight line method
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line method

The materiality level for capitalisation is set at £1k per asset.

**Endowment Fund**

The Endowment Fund was established by the 1933 Trust Deed for the maintenance of the Records Room and Library of the Society. The income arising from this fund is to be applied towards these purposes in perpetuity.

**Risk**

The trustees do not believe the organisation is subject to any substantial risk beyond those disclosed in the Annual Report and Accounts. The society has public liability insurance to protect it in the case of a claim.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
Charitable Activities	£	£	£			£
1 Subscriptions	10,053	-	10,053	8,481	-	8,481
Tax reclaimable	3,168	-	3,168	-	-	-
Sales of publications	1,005	-	1,005	-	-	-
Sales of library books	40	-	40	461	-	461
Other income	2,118	-	2,118	633	-	633
	<b>16,384</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,384</b>	<b>9,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,575</b>

2 Charitable Activities Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries	9,057	-	9,057	5,791	-	5,791
Publications and distribution of books etc.	3,077	-	3,077	12,561	-	12,561
Events and Lectures	1,687	-	1,687	786	-	786
Library Books	492	-	492	461	-	461
<b>Operating costs</b>						
Publicity, marketing	375	-	375	1,336	-	1,336
Accommodation	2,249	-	2,249	2,434	-	2,434
Stationery, books postage and telephones	1,011	-	1,011	461	-	461
Email ,computer, website	5,618	-	5,618	8,742	-	8,742
Subscription, membership	130	-	130	69	-	69
Other expenses	954	-	954	1,202	-	1,202
IT, equipment	200	-	200	-	-	-
	<b>24,850</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,850</b>	<b>33,843</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,843</b>

3 Staffing and trustees expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and NI	9,057	-	9,057	5,791	-	5,791
	<b>9,057</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,057</b>	<b>5,791</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,791</b>

There are no employees being paid in excess of £60,000 per annum.

The number of employees during the year by head count was: 2. (2024: 2)

During the year the trustees received £nil in remuneration. (2024: £nil)

The total expenditure reimbursed to trustees amounted to £nil. (2024: £nil)

4 Governance	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Independent examination	535	-	535	550	-	550
Insurance	2,089	-	2,089	2,001	-	2,001
Payroll charges	191	-	191	89	-	89
	<b>2,815</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,640</b>

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

5 Fixed Assets	Computer Equipment			Computer Equipment		
	Equipment	Equipment	2025	Equipment	Equipment	2024
<b>Cost</b>	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1st January 2025	3,716	3,106	6,822	3,716	3,106	6,822
Addition during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2025	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>6,822</u>	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>6,822</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1st January 2025	3,716	3,106	6,822	3,513	3,106	6,619
Charge in year	-	-	-	203	-	203
At 31 December 2025	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>6,822</u>	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>6,822</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
At 31 December 2025			<u>-</u>			
At 31 December 2024						<u>-</u>
<b>6 Investments</b>	Unrestricted Restricted			Unrestricted Restricted		
	Total			Total		
	£	£	2025	£	£	2024
Balance 1st January 2025	288,749	56,147	344,896	281,921	54,906	336,827
Unrealised gain/(loss)	16,138	(2,687)	13,451	6,828	1,241	8,069
Balance 31st December 2025	<u>304,887</u>	<u>53,460</u>	<u>358,347</u>	<u>288,749</u>	<u>56,147</u>	<u>344,896</u>
<b>7 Debtors</b>	Unrestricted Restricted			Unrestricted Restricted		
	Total			Total		
	£	£	2025	£	£	2024
Pre-Paid	598	-	598	216	-	216
Other	45	-	45	-	-	-
	<u>643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>643</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216</u>
<b>8 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year</b>						
Accruals	(542)	-	(542)	(1,681)	-	(1,681)
Other	(761)	-	(761)	(745)	-	(745)
HMRC	-	-	-	(71)	-	(71)
	<u>(1,303)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,303)</u>	<u>(2,497)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,497)</u>
<b>9 Unrestricted Reserves</b>	2025					
	Opening Balance	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance	
	£	£	£	£	£	
General Fund	301,454	46,153	(27,665)	1,803	321,745	
Designated - future publications	17,000	-	-	-	17,000	
Designated - repairs and maintenance	7,500	-	-	-	7,500	
	<u>325,954</u>	<u>46,153</u>	<u>(27,665)</u>	<u>1,803</u>	<u>346,245</u>	



## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2024				
	Opening Balance	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	307,700	28,419	(36,483)	1,818	301,454
Designated - future publications	17,000	-	-	-	17,000
Designated - repairs and maintenance	7,500	-	-	-	7,500
	<b>332,200</b>	<b>28,419</b>	<b>(36,483)</b>	<b>1,818</b>	<b>325,954</b>

## 10 Restricted Funds

	2025				
	Opening Balance	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment Fund	38,966	1,592	(1,828)	(1,592)	37,138
SHL Washington Fund	5,068	211	(243)	(211)	4,825
Victor Hatley Memorial Fund	14,878	536	(616)	-	14,798
	<b>58,912</b>	<b>2,339</b>	<b>(2,687)</b>	<b>(1,803)</b>	<b>56,761</b>

	2024				
Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment Fund	38,122	2,449	-	(1,605)	38,966
SHL Washington Fund	4,956	325	-	(213)	5,068
Victor Hatley Memorial Fund	14,053	825	-	-	14,878
	<b>57,131</b>	<b>3,599</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,818)</b>	<b>58,912</b>

Endowment Fund - established 1933, by Trust Deed for the maintenance of the Records Room and Library of the Society.

Income arising from this fund is to be applied towards these purposes in perpetuity.

S H L Washington Fund - this fund was established under the terms of the late Horace Washington to provide income towards the care and maintenance of the Washington Collection.

Victor Hatley Memorial Fund - the capital of this fund was subscribed by members to commemorate the life and works of the late Victor Hatley. The income arising is used for special purposes determined by the trustees.

## Ultimate Controlling Party

9 The Society is under the ultimate control of its trustees.