THE ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

England & Wales · Charity number 213218

Details

Other names	ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, ESAH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1962-11-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Castle Museum - Hollytrees Castle Park Colchester CO1 1TJ
Phone	01206282920
Email	howard000brooks@gmail.com
Website	https://www.esah1852.org.uk

Activities

Objects: (A) TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX. (B) TO COLLECT AND PUBLISH THE RESULTS OF SUCH STUDIES IN ANNUAL ISSUES OF "TRANSACTIONS" AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS. (C) TO ORGANISE CONFERENCES, LECTURES AND VISITS; TO EDUCATE THE WIDER COMMUNITY IN THE HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF ESSEX. (D) TO PROVIDE LIBRARY FACILITIES FOR MEMBERS AND APPROVED STUDENTS

Activities: i) to promote study of archaeology & history in historic county of Essexii) to publish such studies in Society journal and other mediaiii) to organise lectures visits etc for members & public, & to educate wider community in matters of common concerniv) to provide library facilities for members & public

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** COUNTY OF ESSEX
- Barking And Dagenham
- Essex
- Havering
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Waltham Forest

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£33,989	£38,982	-	-
2023-12-31	£25,761	£24,638	-	-
2022-12-31	£29,665	£40,293	-	-
2021-12-31	£43,968	£30,692	-	-
2020-12-31	£17,357	£18,666	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY BARRY CROSBY		2014-06-18
Adam Nicholas Wightman BSc MA		2024-06-22
Dr Mark Edward Curteis		2021-06-26
HOWARD BROOKS BA FSA		2017-06-17
Laura Elizabeth April Pooley BA, MA		2023-06-17
MR MARTIN STUCHFIELD		
Neil Robert Wiffen BA MA		2024-06-22
Philip John Wise MA FSA AMA		2024-06-22
Samara King BA		2024-06-28
Teresa O'Connor MSc, MCIfA		2022-06-25
William Abbott		2018-06-09

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THE ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

England & Wales - Charity number 213218

Accounts

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

FORMERLY THE ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1852

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

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Trustees and Corporate Information

Patron:	Lord Petre, K.C.V.O., J.P., M.A.
Vice-Presidents:	W.M. Abbott, M.A., F.I.A. D.G. Buckley, B.Sc., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. Dr. P.M. Leach, B.A., M.B.B.S. A.B. Phillips, B.E.M., B.A. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. Dr. C.C. Thornton, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.
Trustees:	P.J. Wise, M.A.(Cantab.), Cert.Mus.Stud., A.M.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A.* H. Brooks, B.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. *Secretary* W.M. Abbott, M.A., F.I.A. *Treasurer* M. Atkinson, B.A., M.C.If.A. A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. A. Crosby, B.A., M.Soc.Sc., F.S.A. *Chairman E.I.A.G.* Dr. M.E. Curteis, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., A.M.A., F.R.N.S. T. O'Connor, B.Sc., M.Sc. L.E.A. Pooley, M.A., M.C.If.A. P. Sainsbury, S.E.N. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.† N.P. Wickenden, M.A., A.M.A., F.S.A. N.R. Wiffen, M.A. A.N. Wightman, B.Sc., M.A., M.C.If.A.
Curator:	P.J. Wise, M.A.(Cantab.), Cert.Mus.Stud., A.M.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A.
Independent Examiner:	P. Evans, F.M.A.A.T.
Registered Charity No.:	213218
Registered Office:	Hollytrees Museum, High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1UG
Bankers:	Barclays Bank PLC, Brentwood
Blog:	www.esah160.blogspot.co.uk
X (formerly Twitter):	https//x.com/ESAH160
Website:	www.esah1852.org.uk

*President
†Membership Secretary

Trustees' Report

Structure Governance and management
The organisation is an unincorporated association, originally founded as the Essex Archaeological Society in 1852, changing its name to the Essex Society for Archaeology and History in 1985. It is governed by a constitution as revised and adopted at the 2015 A.G.M. It registered as a charity in 1962. Its objects as stated in the constitution are:

1. to promote and encourage the study of archaeology and history in the historic county of Essex;

2. in furtherance of the above, to publish the results of such studies in the Society's journal, and to disseminate information on Essex archaeology and history through the appropriate media;

3. to organise conferences, lectures and visits for the benefit of members and interested members of the public, and to educate the wider community and other bodies on matters of common interest and concern; and

4. to provide library facilities for Society members and other members of the public.

The management of the Society is vested in a Council of Management who are the trustees of the Society. There are six trustees who are directly elected at the A.G.M., as are the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who are ex-officio members of Council. There are a number of members who serve the Society in various capacities and, as proposed by Council, further ex-officio members are elected onto Council at the A.G.M. The list of trustees is set out on page 1.

Council is aided in undertaking its responsibilities by various committees which report directly to Council, namely Publications and Research Committee, Library and Archives Committee and the Programme Committee. In addition it has special interest sections, named the Essex Industrial Archaeology Group and the Essex Place Names Project, both of which are financially supported. The society is continuing the activities previously associated with the Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress. In 2021 it has taken on the assets and liabilities of the *Essex Journal*. The trustees retain the direct responsibility for, and active supervision of, expenditure.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Council meets four times a year, with meetings being hybrid, in person and with Zoom. Similarly, the work of the Committees was carried out via email and by zoom meetings. As ever Council is extremely grateful to all those who have given their time and energy to serve on these committees, as well as to those who have represented the Society on other bodies.

Trustees' Report

President's review

This is the first annual report that I have the pleasure of presenting to the Society's membership. I must begin by thanking my predecessor Nick Wickenden for his contribution over the last three years. Nick became President during the Covid pandemic when the Society, as in other areas of life, had to operate in a very restricted manner with its activities all being online. He proved to be very capable in the role and successfully led the transition back to in-person meetings. The Society has greatly benefited from his enthusiasm, commitment and pleasant manner.

During 2024 the Society has maintained a full range of activities including a programme of members' visits, publications and the annual symposium as well as making grants and responding to requests for assistance from individuals concerned about the county's heritage. As will be seen elsewhere in this Annual Report and Accounts, the Society has a healthy membership (although more, especially younger, members are always welcome) a Council of Management at full strength and sound finances.

The Society commenced its programme of members' visits on 11th May with a walking tour of Harwich, which took in the house belonging to the master of the Mayflower Christopher Jones, the Guildhall, the Electric Palace cinema of 1911 (one of the oldest purpose-built cinemas to survive) and the seventeenth-century Treadwheel Crane. The annual celebration of the great Essex historian Rev. Philip Morant was held on 10th July with a visit to Aldham to view the present parish church with its relocated memorial to Morant and the site of the former church where Morant is still buried. Members then retired to Church House Farm for afternoon tea followed by an enthralling and faultlessly presented lecture on Morant given by Dr. Christopher Thompson. We are very grateful to Adam Scott for his hospitality. In a complete change members visited the Bata Heritage Centre in East Tilbury on 19th August for a guided tour of the Bata factory in East Tilbury, the home of the British Bata Shoe Co. Ltd for nearly seventy years. On 18th September the venue for the visit was Greensted Church, which is claimed to be the oldest wooden church in the world and is a building of which Essex should be justly proud. The last visit of the year was another guided walk, this time around the industrial heritage of Halstead led by Malcolm Root. I am very grateful to the Hon. Programme Secretary (Jane Pearson) and the Hon. Excursions Secretary (Howard Brooks) for arranging these visits.

The annual E.S.A.H. Symposium was held at Roman Circus House in Colchester and this year had an industrial theme. The four contributors were Peter Jones who spoke about the history and engineering of the watermills of Colchester, Tim Murphy and Mark Baister on the remarkable story of Beaumont Quay, Andrew Phillips, who presented a distillation of his truly remarkable study of the internationally renowned engineering firm Paxman's, and Paul Wenden, a former Woods apprentice and company director, with an unrivalled knowledge of this Colchester fan manufacturer.

The venue for the Society's A.G.M. was West Hanningfield Church where we heard from David Gibson about the project to restore the tower and its unique ring of four bells by the notable Essex bell founder Miles Graye III (1628-86). In 2022 the Society made a grant to enable the production of a professional video about the project.

Trustees' Report

President's review continued
The Society has made several grants during the year. In January we were able to contribute almost £1,000 towards the acquisition by the Essex Record Office of a 'Survey of the lands of Robert Rich, 3rd Baron Rich' (1559-1619). This remarkable document was formerly in the library of W.A. Foyle of Beeleigh Abbey and provides invaluable information about the greatest Essex landowning family of the later sixteenth century. We also made a further grant to David Grocott towards the costs of his Ph.D. research at the University of Essex into the historical legacy of John Ball of Peasants' Revolt fame. Lastly, the Society made a substantial contribution of £2,500 to enable Colchester Museums to acquire the Mistley Torc. This exceptionally rare find dates to the Middle Bronze Age (c.1300-1100 B.C.) and is approximately half of a gold neck ornament which must have once belonged to a high status individual.

In 2024 the Society published volume 13 (4th Series) of its *Transactions*, two issues of the *Essex Journa*l (vol.59 nos.1 and 2) and its electronic newsletter. I would like to place on record my thanks to the respective editors: Paul Gilman (assisted by Chris Thornton), Steve Pollington and Victoria Rathmill.

During the year the Society wrote in support of the efforts to preserve an early-eighteenth-century vernacular building, Wallwood Farmhouse, in Leytonstone from the threat of demolition. This type of building is a rare survival in East London and its fate remains uncertain at the present time. The Society has asked to be kept informed of any developments. We were also contacted by Boreham Parochial Church Council regarding their project to repair the north aisle roof of St. Andrew's Church, and, in particular, a proposed application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. St. Andrew's is a very historic church with important local connections, for example with the former Beaulieu Palace. The Society confirmed our support for this project, 'Saving a Church for all Seasons' and stated that we would be willing to provide specialist historical advice and expertise and, if necessary, would consider an application for financial support from the Boreham P.C.C.

The Council has met regularly during 2024 and, although it is invidious to identify individuals in this context, I feel that it is appropriate to recognise here the significant contribution to the Society made over the last year by the Hon. Secretary (Howard Brooks), the Hon. Membership Secretary (Martin Stuchfield) and the Hon. Treasurer (Bill Abbott).

Lastly, as the year drew to the close the Government's intentions in relation to devolution and local government reorganisation in England became clear. It now seems certain that Essex County Council will shortly cease to exist and as a result there will be a diminution in the recognition of Essex as a geographical entity. The Society will be monitoring the situation closely and will ensure that as local government reorganisation progresses the important of the heritage of Essex as a whole is not overlooked.

Trustees' Report

Membership
Membership of the Society continues to be excellent value for money and your Council is still holding its subscription rates unchanged. Not only does it give one the programme of events and visits, but of course the annual *Transactions*, the *Essex Journal*, and Newsletter. In addition, every now and then, members receive free of charge a publication in our Occasional Papers series.

At the end of 2024 the Society had 321 (2023: 324) fully paid individual members, of whom 64 (2023: 63) are family members and 27 (2023: 28) are associates. It also has 67 (2023: 67) paying institutional members. In addition to these 388 (2023: 391) paying members we reciprocate publications with 24 (2023: 27) other institutions and distribute our publications to 11 (2023: 11) other institutions.

The Society's extensive Library continues to be held in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, to which we extend our gratitude. I would remind members that there is no longer a need to show a membership card, which has been discontinued, but an advance phone call is always a good idea.

Finance
The principal financing activity of the Society relates to the cost of producing and distributing the *Transactions* and its Index as well as Occasional Papers, the biannual *Essex Journal* and newsletters. We try wherever possible to get sponsorship grants for individual articles and in the main these are for archaeological papers. Grants for volume 13 of the *Transactions* amounted to £6,970 (volume 12: £4,315) with a net cost, including distribution, of £2,858 (Volume 12: £5,542). The *Medieval Merchant* occasional paper had received a grant of £1,000 recorded in a previous period, so that the net cost to the Society was £5,753 Unusually a second occasional paper, *Dovehouse Field*, was issued in the year, but with grant income fully covering the cost of printing, the Society was left with bearing the distribution costs of £1,866.

In 2024 the Society's Funds decreased, excluding any change in investment values, by £4,993. 2023 had a small surplus of £1,123. Unrealised capital appreciation amounted to £3,378 (2023: £3,083).

The Society has investible funds, some of which are earmarked as endowment funds where we can only utilise the income on such funds and some are restricted to cover future publications etc. The Society has taken the view that a significant percentage of these funds can be invested in equities (using unit trust funds specifically confined to charities) as it can absorb the volatility in such a strategy. The notes to the accounts provide significant detail.

The Society greatly benefits from the input of many volunteers and the unrestricted general reserves of the Society are being maintained at a level which would ensure the capability of producing and distributing volumes of the *Transactions*, Occasional Papers and the *Essex Journal* for at least the next five years.

Philip Wise, President
12th April 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources		
Members subscriptions (note 2)	**13,766**	13,149
Publications: grants and sales (note 3)	**12,722**	4,909
Other income (note 4)	**638**	1,934
Income from investments	**6,863**	5,769
Total incoming resources	**33,989**	25,761
Resources used		
Production costs: *Transactions* (note 3)	**24,199**	9,857
Production costs: Newsletters	**7,757**	4,730
Administration costs (note 5)	**2,652**	5,457
Other expenditure (note 6)	**4,374**	4,594
Total resources used	**38,982**	24,638
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	**(4,993)**	1,123
Gains on unrealised investments	**3,378**	3,083
(Decrease)/increase in funds	**(1,615)**	4,206

Balance Sheet

as at 31st December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Library books	**100,000**	100,000
Investments (note 7)	**134,648**	131,270
Fixed assets	**234,648**	231,270
Deposit and current accounts (note 8)	**39,339**	40,681
Other (note 9)	**49**	4,425
Current assets	**39,388**	45,106
Current liabilities (advance subscriptions)	**(725)**	(1,450)
Total assets	**273,311**	274,926
Unrestricted funds – general	**108,668**	109,636
Restricted funds (note 10)	**64,643**	65,290
Historic book collection	**100,000**	100,000
Fixed assets	**273,311**	274,926

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

1 General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Restricted funds reflect constraints imposed by the donors of the funds. The historic book collection is classified as designated. The collection is maintained in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, it is not available for sale and the value shown is a conservative estimate of its market value if it were to be available for sale.

Computers and new books purchased are written off on purchase.

2 Members subscriptions

	2024 £	2023 £
E.S.A.H.	10,874	10,099
Essex Journal	1,397	1,615
Gift Aid	1,495	1,435
	13,766	13,149

3 Publications: grants and sales

2024 Analysis	Trans Vol. 13 £	Dovehouse Field £	Medieval Merchant £	Total £
Income				
Grant income	6,790	5,932	—	12,722
Publications: grants and sales	—	—	—	—
	6,790	5,932	—	12,722
Expenditure				
Printing	6,351	5,932	4,481	16,764
Other, including distribution	3,297	1,866	2,272	7,435
	9,648	7,798	6,753	24,199
Net (expenditure)	(2,858)	(1,866)	(6,753)	(11,477)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

3 Publications: grants and sales (continued)

2023 Analysis

	Trans Vol. 12 £	Mills Booklet £	Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester £	Total £
Income				
Grant income	4,315	—	—	4,315
Publications: grants and sales	—	183	411	594
	4,315	183	411	4,909
Expenditure				
Printing	7,619	—	—	7,619
Other, including distribution	2,238	—	—	2,238
	9,857	—	—	9,857
Net income/(expenditure)	(5,542)	183	411	(4,948)

4 Other income

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash Flow from visits and other events	**205**	121
Donations	**132**	1,500
Licensing fees and royalties	**72**	77
Sale of library stock (including Trail)	**280**	236
Sundries	**(51)**	—
	638	1,934

Licensing royalties and proceeds from the sale of library stock have been attributed to the P.R.F.

5 Administration costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Dispatching mailings	**210**	1,527
Editors' honoraria	**1,350**	1,550
Insurance	**75**	75
Printing flyers, etc.	**193**	942
Room hire (including Zoom)	**390**	741
Website	**434**	484
Other	**—**	138
	2,652	5,457

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

6 Other expenditure

	2024 £	2023 £
Donations (note 6a)	**3,734**	3,150
E.I.A.G.	**284**	1,114
Purchase of books	**112**	82
Subscriptions paid	**221**	248
Sundries	**23**	—
	4,374	4,594

6a Donations

	2024 £	2023 £
Braintree Hoard Coins	—	2,000
Dendrochronology Report – St. Mary's, Broomfield	—	100
Medieval Deeds for E.R.O.	**984**	—
Mistley Torc purchase	**2,500**	—
Paxman Archive Trust	—	800
Support for David Grocott's Ph.D. thesis	**250**	250
	3,734	3,150

7 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
COIF Charities Fixed Income Fund (income units)	**19,875**	19,285
COIF Charities Investment Fund (income units)	**38,491**	37,641
M&G Charifund	**76,282**	74,344
	134,648	131,270

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

8 Deposit and current accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
Barclay Bank balances – current	**10,217**	10,760
Barclay Bank balances – savings	**24,180**	26,717
COIF deposits	**4,942**	3,204
	39,339	40,681

9 Other current assets

	2024 £	2023 £
Advance payments	**49**	770
Grants due for *Transactions*	**—**	2,895
PayPal	**—**	160
Refund due for *Essex Journal* printing	**—**	600
	49	4,425

10 Restricted funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Essex Mills Fund	**2,592**	2,181
Essex Journal index	**2,556**	2,556
Medieval Merchant	**—**	1,000
Pleshey project	**39**	39
Publications and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")	**59,456**	59,514
	64,643	65,290

Essex Mills Fund
Seeded by the residual amount from the monies received on taking over the Essex Mills Trust enhanced by sales of related publications and available for mills related projects.

Essex Journal index
Pre-funding for an Index for the *Essex Journal* acquired on assumption of the responsibility for that publication.

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2024

10 Restricted funds (continued)

Pleshey Project

The Society is in receipt of grants to fund writing up Bassett's excavation work at Pleshey in the 1970s. Eventually this work will be published as an Occasional Paper.

Publication and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")

The P.R.F. exists to support the publications and research of the Society. Specific subscriptions to this fund have been received on the basis that they would form an endowment fund generating income which would support the purpose of the fund This inalienable element of the fund amounts to £32,465. Subsequent attributions to the fund have not been so constrained.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing these statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of the Independent Examiner

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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:

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention which

a) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or

b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Evans (Fellow Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians)
5th April 2025

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the church dedicated to SS. Mary and Edward, Church Road, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8XD on Saturday, 22nd June 2024 at 10.30a.m.

In the Chair:	Nick Wickenden (President)
Trustees:	Bill Abbott (Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer), Howard Brooks (Hon. Secretary) and Adrian Corder-Birch (Vice-President)
Associate members of Council:	Jane Pearson (Librarian and Programme Secretary), Philip Wise (Curator) and Lucy Jack (Minutes Secretary) also Neil Wiffen and nine other members of the Society

1. **Opening remarks**
The President welcomed members and thanked the representatives of West Hanningfield church for hosting and providing refreshments.

2. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from David Andrews, George Courtauld, Tony Crosby (Trustee), Ken Crowe (Trustee), Mark Curteis (Trustee), Karen Dennis, Stephen Dennis, Herbert Eiden, Paul Gilman, Jenifer Jones, Peter Jones, Michael Leach (Vice-President), Thomas Newens, Teresa O'Connor (Trustee), Andrew Phillips (Vice-President), Steve Pollington, Victoria Rathmill, Ginny Sainsbury, Paul Sainsbury (Trustee), Peter Sharp, Martin Stuchfield (Vice-President and Trustee), Chris Thornton (Vice-President), Louisa Tippett, Charles Trollope, Elphin Watkin and Geraldine Willden.

3. **To approve the minutes of the A.G.M. held on 17th June 2023**
The minutes of the 2023 A.G.M., as published in the Annual Report and Accounts, were approved as a correct record.

4. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.

5. **President's Report for 2023**
A detailed report published in the *Annual Report and Accounts* had previously been circulated to all members. The President noted the formal launch of the Chelmer Valley Landscape Group in October and a successful annual Symposium in November with more than 60 people hearing talks on local archaeology and history. The membership remained at 324, small for the size of the population, but it was hoped that the renewed use of social media, which was one of the aims of the ten-year strategy, would start to attract younger members. Other issues being addressed were recruitment of a new treasurer

5. **President's Report for 2023** continued
and access to digital publications at the Society's library in the University. The visits programme planned by Jane Pearson continued to recover numbers post Covid and E.I.A.G. events also strengthened. Notably, E.I.A.G. had hosted the East of England Region Industrial Archaeology Conference at Chelmsford Museum with guided walks of some important industrial sites. E.S.A.H. had also supported a well-attended conference on castles at the Essex Record Office. Several grants had been awarded to support a variety of heritage projects. The publication programme remained strong with annual *Transactions*, the bi-annual *Essex Journal*, digital newsletters as well as the occasional additional paper included in the unchanged subscription fee. The President reported that his three-year period of office was ended and thanked the three editors as well as the Society's other officers, trustees and all volunteers involved in the work of E.S.A.H.

6. **To approve the 2023 Annual Report and Accounts**
The Annual Report and Accounts for 2023 had been previously circulated to all members and upon the proposal of Neil Wiffen, seconded by Philip Wise, were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer reported that, following the search for an understudy minuted at the last A.G.M., Louisa Tippett (current treasurer of the Essex Victoria County History Trust) had agreed to assist and attend Council meetings.

7. **Election of Independent Examiner**
Peter Evans had indicated that he was willing to continue and was re-elected unanimously.

8. **Election of President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2024-2025**
Nick Wickenden, having completed his three-year term as President, stepped down, but remains on Council as Immediate Past President. Philip Wise, Howard Brooks and Bill Abbott had indicated that they were willing to stand for the positions of President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively were unanimously re-elected. They would be ex-officio members of Council.

The medal of office was exchanged, and portrait of Philip Morant presented to the new President. Philip Wise thanked Nick Wickenden for his work for the Society. He had taken over at a difficult time during the pandemic but had advanced the Society's objectives and developed new activity. This he had done with enthusiasm and amiability so that the Society was now thriving. Philip Wise proposed a vote of thanks that was seconded by Neil Wiffen, unanimously supported, and Nick Wickenden was applauded. Following this point in the minutes, the term "President" refers to Philip Wise.

9. **Election of Vice-Presidents for 2024-2025**
The current Vice-Presidents, Bill Abbott, Dave Buckley, Adrian Corder-Birch, Michael Leach, Andrew Phillips, Martin Stuchfield and Chris Thornton had all indicated that they were willing to continue. Their re-election was proposed by the President and carried unanimously.

10. Election of an additional Trustees for 2024-2027

The Constitution requires six members to be elected to the Executive Council. Neil Wiffen and Adam Wightman had agreed to be nominated for a three-year term, in accordance with clause D2 of the Constitution. Their election was proposed by Neil Short, seconded by Brenda Watkin and they were duly elected. It was noted that Mark Curteis would need to be re-elected for a further three-year term. His re-election was proposed by the President and carried unanimously.

11. Any other business.

It was confirmed that the Library Committee should ascertain the price of all books for which they commission reviews, and the relevant price should be published in the book review.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 11.45a.m.

The formal business was followed by refreshments and a group photograph outside the church.

David Gibson, Chair of the Restoration Committee, presented the video of the West Hanningfield Church Restoration Project to which E.S.A.H. had donated £1,000. The 8-year project to restore the bells, the bell frame and the tower had cost £121,900 overall, 25% of funds raised by the village Friends of SS. Mary and Edward. Historian Martin Bridge had dated the bell tower to 1383-99. The four 1676 bells had been restored, returned in November 2021 and rung full circle for the first time in over 130 years. The only ringable set of Miles Graye III of Colchester bells. It was hoped that structural instability in the west wall of the church, which meant the frequency of bell ringing had to be reduced, would be resolved in the next year or so. There was interest from bell ringers nationwide.

The 12-minute video is available to view on YouTube – "*West Hanningfield Church Restoration Project*".

THE ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

England & Wales - Charity number 213218

Accounts

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

FORMERLY THE ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1852

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

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Trustees and Corporate Information

Patron:	Lord Petre, K.C.V.O., J.P., M.A.
Vice-Presidents:	W.M. Abbott, M.A., F.I.A. D.G. Buckley, B.Sc., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. Dr. P.M. Leach, B.A., M.B.B.S. A.B. Phillips, B.E.M., B.A. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. Dr. C.C. Thornton, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.
Trustees:	N.P. Wickenden, M.A., A.M.A., F.S.A. *President* H. Brooks, B.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. *Secretary* W.M. Abbott, M.A., F.I.A. *Treasurer* M. Atkinson, B.A., M.C.If.A. A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. A. Crosby, B.A., M.Soc.Sc., F.S.A. *Chairman E.I.A.G.* K.L. Crowe, B.Ed., M.A., A.M.A. Dr. M.E. Curteis, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., A.M.A., F.R.N.S. T. O'Connor, B.Sc., M.Sc. L.E.A. Pooley, M.A. P. Sainsbury, S.E.N. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.*
Curator:	P.J. Wise, M.A.(Cantab.), Cert.Mus.Stud., A.M.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A.
Independent Examiner:	P. Evans, F.M.A.A.T.
Registered Charity No.:	213218
Registered Office:	13 Greeenacres, Mile End, Colchester, Essex CO4 5DX
Bankers:	Barclays Bank PLC, Brentwood
Blog:	www.esah160.blogspot.co.uk
Twitter:	https//twitter.com/ESAH160
Website:	www.esah1852.org.uk

**Membership Secretary*

Trustees' Report

Structure Governance and management
The organisation is an unincorporated association, originally founded as the Essex Archaeological Society in 1852, changing its name to the Essex Society for Archaeology and History in 1985. It is governed by a constitution as revised and adopted at the 2015 A.G.M. It registered as a charity in 1962. Its objects as stated in the constitution are:

1. to promote and encourage the study of archaeology and history in the historic county of Essex;

2. in furtherance of the above, to publish the results of such studies in the Society's journal, and to disseminate information on Essex archaeology and history through the appropriate media;

3. to organise conferences, lectures and visits for the benefit of members and interested members of the public, and to educate the wider community and other bodies on matters of common interest and concern; and

4. to provide library facilities for Society members and other members of the public.

The management of the Society is vested in a Council of Management who are the trustees of the Society. There are six trustees who are directly elected at the A.G.M., as are the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who are ex-officio members of Council. There are a number of members who serve the Society in various capacities and, as proposed by Council, further ex-officio members are elected onto Council at the A.G.M. The list of trustees is set out on page 1.

Council is aided in undertaking its responsibilities by various committees which report directly to Council, namely Publications and Research Committee, Library and Archives Committee and the Programme Committee. In addition it has special interest sections, named the Essex Industrial Archaeology Group and the Essex Place Names Project, both of which are financially supported. The society is continuing the activities previously associated with the Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress. In 2021 it has taken on the assets and liabilities of the *Essex Journal*. The trustees retain the direct responsibility for, and active supervision of, expenditure.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Inevitably the pandemic disrupted the normal work of the Society, however although physical meetings were not possible the Council continued to meet via Zoom. Similarly, the work of the Committees was carried out via email and zoom meetings. As ever Council is extremely grateful to all those who have given their time and energy to serve on these committees, as well as to those who have represented the Society on other bodies, particularly this year with all its disruptions.

Trustees' Report

Review

I would perhaps describe 2023 as a stand still year for the Society, albeit now recovered from the COVID years. There have been a number of successes, notably the formal launch of the Chelmer Valley Landscape Group in October, followed by an excellent Symposium day in Chelmsford, when participants were able to view an actual Roman dodecahedron from Harlow, as made famous by another one appearing with Alice Roberts on *Digging for Britain*. Our publication record continues apace, with the publication of volume 12 of the *Transactions*, and (albeit just into 2024) the long awaited Occasional Paper, *Medieval Merchant*, by Chris Starr.

Our membership stands as 324 individual and family members. Surely the population of a large county like Essex, with a fabulous archaeological and historical tradition, not to mention all the Essex-born people who have moved away, can muster more members of our Society? I would dread to think what the average age of our membership is. We are not alone, of course – every society is facing the same issues of a dwindling and ageing membership, with many officer positions vacant. We have tried, without success, for over two years to recruit a new Treasurer to work alongside, and take over from, Bill Abbott, who has done, and continues to do, sterling work for the Society for over 20 years.

One answer, of course, is to recruit younger members, by using social media, and we shall start to do this in a more earnest way, with the help of some of the staff from Colchester Archaeological Trust. After all, people can only find out about us, and our activities, if we can tell them about us in the first place. But just think if every member was able to recruit one other …

One issue we will increasingly face is that of the use of digital publishing, whether that is our own publications in the future, or how our members can access digitally published literature in the Albert Sloman Library at the University.

The rate of development in the county shows little sign of slowing, though solar fields are rapidly replacing building construction as a new occupier of land. The Society faces a number of problems in having the expertise and independence to write submissions on planning applications. However, one to keep an eye on will be the proposed Norwich to Tilbury inland National Grid line of electricity pylons. Just to pick on one known site, the line appears to go straight through a known Roman building, possibly a temple, in the field called Dragonsfoot, not far from Broomfield church. It may, of course, be the catalyst to get that strange site finally properly excavated!

But now to be more positive! The Society has had another busy year, with a programme of visits masterminded once again and run by Jane Pearson.

The Society visited St. Osyth in March, Harlow Museum bicycle collection in July, and Beeleigh Mill in August. Two visits, to Southend Museum and historic Harwich, were postponed due to low numbers, but will hopefully be run again this year.

Trustees' Report

Jane reports "the visit to Harlow Museum was one of the highlights for me. The bicycle collection is very carefully chosen and volunteers dressed appropriately were brilliant at opening our eyes to how the bicycle evolved. I have always wondered why anyone would have bothered to master the penny farthing as a good way of getting from A to B and was told the reason was because they went thrillingly fast! Beeleigh Mill was also a memorable visit, again because the volunteers brought it alive for us."

The E.I.A.G. hosted the East of England Region Industrial Archaeology Conference. Tony Crosby, the Chairman, writes: "on 10th June we hosted this year's E.E.R.I.A.C. at Chelmsford Museum, which proved to be a very successful event. Attendance was 28, the highest since pre-COVID times, with delegates coming from the Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridge I.A. Societies as well as E.I.A.G. members. Feedback at and after the event was very positive and complimentary. In the morning Alan Pamphilon gave a very concise history of Chelmsford's extensive industrial past, then followed by Brian Izzard who shared his personal reflections of working for Marconi's. After the lunch break delegates had an opportunity to view the displays in the museum particularly those relating to Chelmsford industries and take part in one of three guided walks around the Moulsham area to view some of the important industrial sites such as Clarkson's National Steam Car Company, Crompton's Arc Works and John Hall's silk mill which became Marconi's wireless factory."

The E.I.A.G., spearheaded by Tony Crosby, has managed to continue to meet on Zoom throughout the year. Reports and newsletters are available on our website.

Our last event of 2023 was the Symposium, held in November at Christchurch in Chelmsford. I am pleased to say this event has had a resurgence since COVID. The £10 ticket also included a sandwich lunch and refreshments, and so represents excellent value and a great way to keep in touch with archaeological and historical research in the county. This year, we heard from James Alexander, about a Roman Villa at Newhall, Harlow (complete with the dodecahedron), Adam Wightman about the Essex County Hospital Site in Colchester, Paul Drury about medieval floor tiles in Essex and East Anglia, David Grocott about Essex medievalism and John Ball, and myself about the history of Wilkin & Sons jam making in Tiptree. I stood in for Christopher Thompson who was due to speak about the crisis of the late 1620s. Christopher was sadly not well enough to speak, but he has been invited back.

The Society also supported a day's conference in September 2023 at the Essex Record Office, entitled "Above and below: the archaeology and history of Essex castles". Attendees heard current research about the county's castles at Clavering, Colchester, Hedingham and Pleshey, with a masterly overview at the end by Prof. Robert Liddiard from U.E.A.

One of the highlights of the formal launch of the Chelmer Valley Landscape Group in October was the celebration of J.A. Baker, the celebrated Chelmsford resident and author of *The Peregrine*. I am pleased to say that Chelmsford Museum, in conjunction with the University Library at Wivenhoe Park, is holding a temporary exhibition about his life and work this year, including some of his original notebooks and manuscripts.

Trustees' Report

The Society awarded grants to Andrew Phillips for his book on Paxmans (see below), to David Grocott, for his continuing Ph.D. studies, and to Colchester & Ipswich Museums for the purchase of a selection of medieval silver pennies from the Braintree Hoard.

News now of some of our Worthies, to use an expression coined by Charles E. Benham. Andrew Phillips published his second great work on Paxmans of Colchester, this time covering the period from 1918 until final closure in 2022. As I write this, the future of what is left of the Paxman archive and machinery in storage is very much in the balance. I am pleased that the Society was able to help with publication costs of this important not-for-profit book with a grant of £800. Paul Drury spoke to the Symposium in November about the history of decorated medieval floor tiles in the county and East Anglia, and we look forward to the publication soon of his corpus of the industries. Philip Crummy retired towards the end of 2023 as the Director of Colchester Archaeological Trust, having been in post for some 52 years! He must be the longest serving unit director in British history! His discovery of Britain's only Roman chariot racing circus celebrates its twentieth anniversary in 2024. Finally during the financial year we are reporting on, we lost great friends and past Presidents in Mark Davies and Jenny Ward.

I might take the opportunity for a plug. Eagle-eyed members may have spotted on B.B.C. news in January 2024 an article about the centenary of the Dolls House made for Queen Mary, by the architect Edwin Lutyens, in 1924. Holders of the Royal Warrants were invited to make perfect miniatures of their products at a scale of 1:12 – and who could turn down the request! Accordingly, Wilkin & Sons made twelve miniature jam jars of their Tiptree products, each filled with the actual jam on the label, and these can still be seen in the Dolls House at Windsor Castle. One of the miniatures, 12mm high, can also be seen in the jam factory museum at Tiptree (admission free)!

Membership of the Society continues to be excellent value for money and your Council is still holding its subscription rates unchanged. Not only does it give one the programme of events and visits, but of course the annual *Transactions*, and more recently the *Essex Journal*, and Newsletter. In addition, every now and then, members receive free of charge a publication in our Occasional Papers series. I would like to thank our editors, Paul Gilman (*Transactions*), Steve Pollington (*Essex Journal*) and Victoria Rathmill (Newsletter) for their hard work in producing these throughout the year.

At the end of 2023 the Society had 324 (2022: 337) fully paid individual members, of whom 63 (2022: 67) are family members and 28 (2022: 32) are associates. It also has 67 (2022: 73) paying institutional members. In addition to these 391 (2022: 410) paying members we reciprocate publications with 27 (2022: 30) other institutions and distribute our publications to 11 (2022: 11) other institutions.

The Society's extensive Library continues to be held in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, to which we extend our gratitude. I would remind members that there is no longer a need to show a membership card, which we are discontinuing, but an advance phone call is always a good idea.

Trustees' Report

Other regular reports to Council include the Victoria County History, C.B.A. London and C.B.A. East, the Friends of Historic Essex, the Essex Record Office, and the Chelmer Valley Landscape Group.

On behalf of all members, I would like to thank the Society's Officers, Trustees, Council, Committees and Representatives on other bodies for all their hard work and support during the year. The Society could not operate without people who are willingly prepared to give their time for free, in so many different ways. Only some of the people have been acknowledged personally in my report, but I am grateful for everyone who has contributed. My three year period as President comes to an end with this A.G.M. It has been all too brief, but a real eye opener about the breadth of our archaeological and historical research underway in the county, and the hard work put in by your Council. I have been honoured to play a small part.

Nick Wickenden, President
27th April 2024

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing these statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of the Independent Examiner

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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:

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention which

a) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or

b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Evans (Fellow Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians)
12th April 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Incoming resources		
Members subscriptions (note 2)	**13,149**	13,817
Publications: grants and sales (note 3)	**4,909**	9,011
Other income (note 4)	**1,934**	313
Income from investments	**5,769**	4,629
Total incoming resources	**25,761**	27,770
Resources used		
Production costs: *Transactions* (note 3)	**9,857**	22,721
Production costs: Newsletters	**4,730**	7,568
Administration costs (note 5)	**5,457**	5,791
Other expenditure (note 6)	**4,594**	4,213
Total resources used	**24,638**	40,293
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	**1,123**	(12,523)
Gains/(losses) on unrealised investments	**3,083**	(10,887)
Increase/(decrease) in funds	**4,206**	(23,410)

Balance Sheet

as at 31st December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Library books	**100,000**	100,000
Investments (note 7)	**131,270**	98,187
Fixed assets	**231,270**	198,187
Deposit and current accounts (note 8)	**40,681**	71,860
Other (note 9)	**4,425**	798
Current assets	**45,106**	72,658
Current liabilities (advance subscriptions)	**(1,450)**	(125)
Total assets	**274,926**	270,720
Unrestricted funds – general	**109,636**	106,336
Restricted funds (note 10)	**65,290**	64,384
Historic book collection	**100,000**	100,000
Fixed assets	**274,926**	270,720

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

1 General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Designated funds form part of the general funds but relate to funds which Council have designated as being for a specific purpose. The restricted funds reflect constraints imposed by the donors of the funds. The historic book collection is classified as designated. The collection is maintained in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, it is not available for sale and the value shown is a conservative estimate of its market value if it were to be available for sale.

Computers and new books purchased are written off on purchase.

2 Members subscriptions

	2023 £	2022 £
E.S.A.H.	10,099	10,557
Essex Journal	1,615	1,766
Gift Aid	1,435	1,494
	13,149	13,817

3 Publications: grants and sales

2023 Analysis

	Trans Vol. 12 £	Mills Booklet £	Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester £	Total £
Income				
Grant income	4,315	—	—	4,315
Publications: grants and sales	—	183	411	594
	4,315	183	411	4,909
Expenditure				
Printing	7,619	—	—	7,619
Other, including distribution	2,238	—	—	2,238
	9,857	—	—	9,857
Net income/(expenditure)	(5,542)	183	411	(4,948)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

3 Publications: grants and sales (continued)

2022 Analysis

	Trans Vol. 11 £	Mills Booklet £	Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester £	Total £
Income				
Grant income	4,930	600	3,150	8,680
Publications: grants and sales	—	331	—	331
	4,930	931	3,150	9,011
Expenditure				
Printing	5,322	1,398	13,732	20,452
Other including distribution	2,122	—	147	2,269
	7,444	1,398	13,879	22,721
Net (expenditure)	(2,514)	(467)	(10,729)	(13,710)

4 Other income

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash Flow from visits and other events	**121**	(235)
Donations	**1,500**	44
Licensing fees and royalties	**77**	168
Sale of library stock (including Trail)	**236**	336
	1,934	313

Licensing royalties and proceeds from the sale of library stock have been attributed to the P.R.F.

5 Administration costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Dispatching mailings	**1,527**	277
Editors' honoraria	**1,550**	1,400
Insurance	**75**	75
Printing flyers, etc.	**942**	2,312
Room hire (including Zoom)	**741**	403
Website	**484**	1,324
Other	**138**	—
	5,457	5,791

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

6 Other expenditure

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations (note 6a)	**3,150**	3,406
Purchase of books	**82**	527
Reprint of Chelmsford Industrial Trail	**1,114**	—
Sundries – *Essex Journal* index launch	—	120
Subscriptions paid	**248**	160
	4,594	4,213

6a Donations

	2023 £	2022 £
Braintree Hoard Coins	**2,000**	—
Dendrochronology Report – St. Mary's, Broomfield	**100**	750
Dick Nunny Smith Preservation Trust	—	50
Funding research on Epping Forest habitation	—	717
Illustrations for Rochford paper	—	639
Media work on West Hanningfield church belfry	—	1,000
Paxman Archive Trust	**800**	—
Support for David Grocott's Ph.D. thesis	**250**	250
	3,150	3,406

7 Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
COIF Charities Short Duration Bond Fund (income units)	**19,285**	18,319
COIF Charities Investment Fund (income units)	**37,641**	34,473
M&G Charifund	**74,344**	45,395
	131,270	98,187

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

8 Deposit and current accounts

	2023 £	2022 £
Barclay Bank balances – current	**10,760**	69,804
Barclay Bank balances – savings	**26,717**	426
COIF deposits	**3,204**	1,630
	40,681	71,860

9 Other current assets

	2023 £	2022 £
Advance payments	**770**	638
Grants due for *Transactions*	**2,895**	—
PayPal	**160**	160
Refund due for *Essex Journal* printing	**600**	—
	4,425	798

10 Restricted funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Essex Mills Fund	**2,181**	1,998
Essex Journal index	**2,556**	2,556
Medieval Merchant	**1,000**	1,000
Pleshey project	**39**	39
Publications and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")	**59,514**	58,791
	65,290	64,384

Essex Mills Fund
Seeded by the residual amount from the monies received on taking over the Essex Mills Trust enhanced by sales of related publications and available for mills related projects.

Essex Journal index
Pre-funding for an Index for the *Essex Journal* acquired on assumption of the responsibility for that publication.

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

10 Restricted funds (continued)

Medieval Merchant

Pre-funding for an Occasional Paper (published in 2024).

Pleshey Project

The Society is in receipt of grants to fund writing up Bassett's excavation work at Pleshey in the 1970s. Eventually this work will be published as an Occasional Paper.

Publication and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")

The P.R.F. exists to support the publications and research of the Society. Specific subscriptions to this fund have been received on the basis that they would form an endowment fund generating income which would support the purpose of the fund This inalienable element of the fund amounts to £32,465. Subsequent attributions to the fund have not been so constrained.

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the church dedicated to St. Mary and St. Leonard, Church Green, Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 7BE on Saturday, 17th June 2023 at 10.30a.m.

In the Chair:	Nick Wickenden (President)
Trustees:	Adrian Corder-Birch (Vice-President) and Paul Sainsbury
Associate members of Council:	Lucy Jack (Minutes Secretary) and Philip Wise (Curator)
	also Ros Mercer and Neil Wiffen (speakers) and thirteen other members of the Society

1. **Opening remarks**
The President welcomed members and thanked the parochial church council of Broomfield church for hosting. He noted the death and had attended the funeral of Mark Davies, Vice-President and Past President, who had been influential in the fields of archaeology and heritage, especially in Colchester.

2. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Bill Abbott, David Andrews, Howard Brooks, Tony Crosby, Ken Crowe, Mark Curteis, Paul Gilman, Michael Leach, Jane Pearson, Andrew Phillips, Steve Pollington, Victoria Rathmill, Martin Stuchfield and Chris Thornton.

3. **To approve the minutes of the A.G.M. held on 25th June 2022**
The minutes of the 2022 A.G.M., as published in the Annual Report and Accounts, were approved as a correct record.

4. **Matters arising**
Minute 11: Ten Year Strategy
The President noted that the Council and Library, Programme and Publications and Research Committees were addressing issues and looking at which actions to prioritise in the next few years.

5. **President's Report for 2022**
A detailed report published in the Annual Report and Accounts had previously been circulated to all members. The President noted that 2022 had seen a return of pre-pandemic activities, including the visits programme, a highlight of which had been the tour of Colchester Castle Museum with Paul Sealey. The first Symposium since the pandemic had been held in November with an encouraging attendance level and interesting talks on local archaeology and history. The Industrial Heritage Fair held in October had had lower numbers of visitors but the participation of local societies and enjoyable exploration of Silver End.

The Society's healthy financial situation continued to allow several grants, including to Broomfield church for a dendrochronology survey of the spire. Neil Wiffen would be presenting a talk on this after the meeting and a report would be published in *Transactions*. E.S.A.H. also contributed to restoring and interpreting the rare medieval bells and belfry at West Hanningfield church. On the President's invitation, Philip Wise reported that he was grateful for the Society's support to acquire rare, Colchester mint, late Saxon coins from the Braintree Hoard for Colchester Museums.

The President reported that the latest issue of *Transactions* would soon be circulated to members. As well as *Transactions*, the biannual *Essex Journal* and the newsletter, the Society had published *Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester,* as an Occasional Publication, and a booklet *Discovering Essex Wind and Water Mills* produced by E.I.A.G. He thanked the Society's editors: Paul Gilman (*Transactions*), Steve Pollington (*Essex Journal*) and Victoria Rathmill (Newsletter) for their work and all those who contribute to the running of E.S.A.H. including the sub committees and representatives on other organisations.

6. To approve the 2022 Annual Report and Accounts

The Annual Report and Accounts for 2022 had been previously circulated to all members and upon the proposal of Paul Sainsbury, seconded by Adrian Corder-Birch, were unanimously approved.

The President noted that the Society was keen to find an understudy for the Hon. Treasurer, Bill Abbott, who had been in post since 2003.

7. Election of Independent Examiner

Peter Evans had indicated that he was willing to continue and was re-elected unanimously.

8. Election of President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2023-2024

Nick Wickenden, Howard Brooks and Bill Abbott had indicated that they were willing to stand for the positions of President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively were unanimously re-elected. They would be ex-officio members of Council.

9. Election of Vice-Presidents for 2023-2024

The current Vice-Presidents, Dave Buckley, Adrian Corder-Birch, Michael Leach, Andrew Phillips, Martin Stuchfield and Chris Thornton had all indicated that they were willing to continue. Bill Abbott had agreed to be nominated as an additional Vice-President. Their election was proposed by the President, seconded by Philip Wise and carried unanimously.

10. Election of an additional Trustee for 2023-2026

The Constitution requires six members to be elected to the Executive Council. Laura Pooley agreed to be nominated for a three-year term in accordance with clause D2 of the constitution. On the President's invitation she reported that she was a post excavation manager at Colchester Archaeological Trust where she had worked since 2015. Her election was proposed by Carol Colbron, seconded by Paul Sainsbury and carried unanimously.

11. Any other business.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 11.30a.m.

The formal business was followed by refreshments and talks by Neil Wiffen on the history of Broomfield church, including details of the 15th century spire survey enabled by E.S.A.H.'s grant, and by Ros Mercer on the artist Rosemary Rutherford, the subject of the current exhibition in the church, who painted a fresco in the tower and created some of the stained-glass windows.

THE ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

England & Wales - Charity number 213218

Accounts

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

FORMERLY THE ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1852

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

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The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

Trustees and Corporate Information

Patron:	Lord Petre, K.C.V.O., J.P., M.A.
Vice-Presidents:	D.G. Buckley, B.Sc., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. G.M.R. Davies, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A. Dr. P.M. Leach, B.A., M.B.B.S. A.B. Phillips, B.E.M., B.A. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. Dr. C.C. Thornton, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.
Trustees:	N.P. Wickenden, M.A., A.M.A., F.S.A. *President* H. Brooks, B.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A. *Secretary* W.M. Abbott, M.A., F.I.A. *Treasurer* M. Atkinson, B.A., M.C.If.A. N. Brown, B.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot.* A. Corder-Birch, D.L., F.S.A. A. Crosby, B.A., M.Soc.Sc., F.S.A. *Chairman E.I.A.G.* K.L. Crowe, B.Ed., M.A., A.M.A. Dr. M.E. Curteis, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., A.M.A., F.R.N.S. G.M.R. Davies, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A. T. O'Connor, B.Sc., M.Sc. P. Sainsbury, S.E.N. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.†
Curator:	P. Wise, M.A., M.C.If.A., F.S.A.
Independent Examiner:	P. Evans, F.M.A.A.T.
Registered Charity No.:	213218
Registered Office:	13 Greeenacres, Mile End, Colchester, Essex CO4 5DX
Bankers:	Barclays Bank PLC, Brentwood
Blog:	www.esah160.blogspot.co.uk
Twitter:	https//twitter.com/ESAH160
Website:	www.esah1852.org.uk

**Immediate Past President*
†Membership Secretary

Trustees' Report

Structure Governance and management
The organisation is an unincorporated association, originally founded as the Essex Archaeological Society in 1852, changing its name to the Essex Society for Archaeology and History in 1985. It is governed by a constitution as revised and adopted at the 2015 A.G.M. It registered as a charity in 1962. Its objects as stated in the constitution are:

1. to promote and encourage the study of archaeology and history in the historic county of Essex;

2. in furtherance of the above, to publish the results of such studies in the Society's journal, and to disseminate information on Essex archaeology and history through the appropriate media;

3. to organise conferences, lectures and visits for the benefit of members and interested members of the public, and to educate the wider community and other bodies on matters of common interest and concern; and

4. to provide library facilities for Society members and other members of the public.

The management of the Society is vested in a Council of Management who are the trustees of the Society. There are six trustees who are directly elected at the A.G.M., as are the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who are ex-officio members of Council. There are a number of members who serve the Society in various capacities and, as proposed by Council, further ex-officio members are elected onto Council at the A.G.M. The list of trustees is set out on page 1.

Council is aided in undertaking its responsibilities by various committees which report directly to Council, namely Publications and Research Committee, Library and Archives Committee and the Programme Committee. In addition it has special interest sections, named the Essex Industrial Archaeology Group and the Essex Place Names Project, both of which are financially supported. The society is continuing the activities previously associated with the Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress. In 2021 it has taken on the assets and liabilities of the *Essex Journal*. The trustees retain the direct responsibility for, and active supervision of, expenditure.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Inevitably the pandemic disrupted the normal work of the Society, however although physical meetings were not possible the Council continued to meet via Zoom. Similarly, the work of the Committees was carried out via email and zoom meetings. As ever Council is extremely grateful to all those who have given their time and energy to serve on these committees, as well as to those who have represented the Society on other bodies, particularly this year with all its disruptions.

Trustees' Report

Review
At long last 2022 felt like a return to normality (despite a winter resurgence in both Covid and hacking coughs !) I say normality, but perhaps it is actually a new normality, and one in which I am seeing a new and unparalleled appetite for all things heritage.

Heritage Open Days (now spread over two weeks) is busier than ever. In 2022, a hundred tickets or so to get inside Jumbo, Colchester's famous Victorian water tower, were snapped up inside an hour. A heritage group now has its lease and are making a major application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to secure its structural stability and create a new tourist attraction for Colchester. Hylands House, in Chelmsford, now has a free open Sunday every month, and is training new tour guides of the house. Chelmsford Museum won a prestigious Visit England award for its Lottery funded new displays for the ways in which they tell the story of the city. It also won Essex Mum's favourite museum of the year for the 4th year in a row.

That word 'City' – we now have three in Essex, who would have thought that ten years ago. Many congratulations to both Colchester and Southend. Despite inevitable early cynicism, city status really does create a new found sense of pride. I remember the buzz I got in Chelmsford in 2012 the first time seeing a bus with its destination reading 'City Centre'. New blue plaques are being unveiled, it seems like everywhere, at an increasing rate.

The Society has had a busy year, with a near normal programme of visits put together and run by Jane Pearson.

March – Miss Willmott's Garden at Great Warley (37 attendees)

April – Boxted Airfield Museum (21 attendees)

May – Rainham Hall (27 attendees)

July – Colchester Castle with Paul Sealey (6 attendees)

August – Woodham Walter church (21 attendees)

September – Warner Archive at Braintree (8 attendees)

October – Toy Museum and Castle at Stanstead Mountfitchet (9 attendees)

Jane reports that "Paul's session at Colchester Castle was the highlight by far. It could have gone on for another couple of hours as we all agreed on the day. Paul had been asked to pick his favourite six exhibits at the museum and speak about them and he very cleverly picked objects that allowed him to cover a range of fascinating discussions to do with how archaeologists approach and understand their world. It was memorable and highly enjoyable".

Trustees' Report

The Industrial Heritage Fair was held on 1st October at Silver End, and was attended by a number of local societies. Numbers of visitors were not as high as previous pre-Covid years, but those who came had an enjoyable and free time, including a tour of Silver End itself.

Our last event was the Symposium, held in November at Christchurch in Chelmsford, the first we have managed to hold since before Covid struck. The event was attended by sixty people, paying a mere £10 each. The day comprised talks on the Taylor family of *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* fame by Georgina Bailey, the Civil War Petitions Project by David Appleby (son of John Appleby who served E.S.A.H. as President), recent projects run by the E.R.O. by Martin Astell, the Bronze Age hoard from Havering by Sophia Adams, and excavations at Cressing by Andrew Greef. The £10 ticket also included a sandwich lunch and refreshments, so excellent value and a great way to keep in touch with archaeological and historical research in the county.

The Society made a grant for dendrochronology of St. Mary's Church in Broomfield. Thanks to Neil Wiffen for the following:

"Broomfield St. Mary's P.C.C. applied for a grant to pay for a dendrochronology survey of the spire while the woodpecker-damaged wooden shingles were being replaced. This was taking place as part of a larger body of conservation work being undertaken on the tower. To date, there was very little understanding the age of the spire, the tower being early 12th century. The Royal Commission on Historic Monuments (R.C.H.M.) thought the spire was of 15th century origin, so this would provide an excellent opportunity to support this project in discovering more. Dr. Martin Bridges of the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, who I'm sure will be known to many members of the Society, very kindly agreed to undertake the work which was carried out on a very hot day in July. Ten oak samples were taken, of which three were matched. The likely felling date range is 1464-96 which can be modified a little, with felling probably occurring in the earlier part of the range, and construction most likely to date to the 1470s or 1480s. Work on recording the spire is on-going with David Andrews preparing drawings and in due course a fuller report will appear in the pages of the *Transactions*. Broomfield P.C.C. would like to extend their thanks to the Society for the grant that enabled the survey to be undertaken, to Dr. Bridges for undertaking it, to David Andrews and Elphin and Brenda Watkin for their assistance and on-going input".

We also helped with a grant towards restoring and interpreting the bells and belfry at West Hanningfield. Ann Usher and David Gibson have kindly provided the following:

"We have recently completed an eight year project to repair and strengthen our unique 14th century wooden bell tower and bell frame and to restore our four rare medieval Miles Graye III bells (1676) to be able to ring them full circle after 130 years of being able only to chime them. As we began research in preparation for this work, it soon became clear from the number of experts who came to look at it that we had a bell tower and bell frame of national archaeological and historical importance. Given the

Trustees' Report

number of experts and skilled craftsmen involved in the project along with the hard work of the 'church team' we decided that we should make a permanent record of the work being undertaken. This has now been achieved in the form of a booklet (available at the back of the church for a donation) and a professional video which E.S.A.H. kindly helped to fund. Originally it was going to be a 4-5 minute video but we had so much material and such a big story to tell that the final cut is more likely to be around 12 minutes long. When completed, we can give you the link to view it. Finding the funding for the video project proved much harder than we had anticipated which is why your contribution was so important to us. Many thanks again for supporting us."

Membership of the Society is excellent value for money. Not only does it give one the programme of events and visits, but of course the annual *Transactions*, and more recently the *Essex Journal*, and Newsletter. In addition, every now and then, members receive free of charge a publication in our Occasional Papers series, including last year a 300 page book about the *Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester*. This is one of the greatest achievements of Dave Stenning, for so many years one of the County's timber framed specialists, now sadly (for us) moved away to Shropshire, and also published in recognition of the late Richard Shackle's work in recording buildings in Colchester. I would like to thank our editors, Paul Gilman (T*ransactions*), Steve Pollington (*Essex Journal*) and Victoria Rathmill (Newsletter) for their hard work in producing these throughout the year.

Another free publication sent to members was *Discovering Essex Wind and Water Mills*, produced by members of the Essex Industrial Archaeology Group.

At the end of 2022 the Society had 337 (2021: 315) fully paid individual members, of whom 67 (2021: 65) are family members and 32 (2021: 24) are associates. It also has 73 (2021: 69) paying institutional members. In addition to these 410 (2021: 384) paying members we reciprocate publications with 30 (2021: 32) other institutions and distribute our publications to 11 (2021: 12) other institutions.

The Society's extensive Library continues to be held in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, to which we extend our gratitude. The A.G.M. of the Society was held there in 2022 and members attending were able to view items such as the original Chapman & Andre map of Essex (1777) and Philip Morant's *History of Colchester* (1848) before listening to a talk by David Grocott about his Ph.D. research. I mentioned last year that the Essex Place Names Project, a database of parish historical research, masterminded by James Kemble, and originally hosted by the University, was due to be moved across to our own website, and this has now happened.

The Essex Industrial Archaeological Group (E.I.A.G.), spearheaded by Tony Crosby, has managed to continue to meet on Zoom throughout the year. Reports and newsletters are available on our website.

Trustees' Report

At the last A.G.M., the Society's ten year Strategy was adopted. This sets out the Society's key activities and looks at how we are (or are not) adapting to a new digital and inclusive world, and how we might adapt still further in the years to come. Our Council and Committees (Library, Programme and Publications & Research) are now looking at which actions to prioritise in the next few years.

Despite requests in the Newsletter, nobody has come forward to act as an understudy for our Treasurer, Bill Abbott. We also badly need to improve our social media offer, if we are to keep up to date with modern methods of communication and attract new younger members, although there are some hopeful ways forward emerging. However, if anyone would like to volunteer to help in either of these areas, please do talk to a Society Officer. I have been making pleas for more book reviewers and suggestions for books for review, and I am pleased to say we now have a number in hand. Our editors and committees are trying to ensure that the right book is reviewed for the right publication.

Other regular reports to Council include the Victoria County History, C.B.A. London and C.B.A. East, the Friends of Historic Essex, the Essex Record Office, and the Chelmer Valley Landscape Group.

On behalf of all members, I would like to thank the Society's Officers, Trustees, Council, Committees and Representatives on other bodies for all their hard work and support during the year. The Society could not operate without people who are willingly prepared to give their time for free, in so many different ways. Only some of the people have been acknowledged personally in my report, but I am grateful for everyone who has contributed.

Lastly it is with enormous pleasure that I shall be proposing at the A.G.M. that our long standing Treasurer, Bill Abbott, is made a Vice-President of the Society. Bill has been our Honorary Treasurer since 2003 – a feat only matched by Henry Laver (1929-1949), and exceeded only by James Round (1868-1916). Bill has a masterly control over the Society's finances, and in times when interest rates have been virtually zero, has ensured our deposits are best placed.

Finance

The principal financing activity of the society relates to the cost of producing and distributing the *Transactions* and its Index as well as Occasional Papers, the biannual *Essex Journal* and newsletters. We try wherever possible to get sponsorship grants for individual articles and in the main are for archaeological papers. Grants for Volume 11 of the *Transactions* amounted to £4,930 (Volume 10: £2,900) with the net cost, including distribution, of £2,514 (Volume 10; £4,980). The *Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester* Occasional paper had received £3,150 in grants in 2021, with £8,300 also having been received in 2020. Production costs, excluding distribution to our members, were £13,879 so that the net contribution to funding this paper was £2,429 plus distribution costs.

Trustees' Report

In 2022 the Society's Funds decreased, excluding any change in investment values, by £10,629. The previous year there was an increase of £13,276, but this included the £12,010 received as a result of taking on the *Essex Journal*. It also included the £8,300 grants for the *Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester* occasional paper. 2021 included exceptional expenditure of £9,000 related to our website development and in the opposite direction the grants we have given have increased by £3,000.

The Society has investible funds, some of which are earmarked as endowment funds where we can only utilise the income on such funds and some are restricted to cover future publications etc. The Society has taken the view that a significant percentage of these funds can be invested in equities (using unit trust funds specifically confined to charities) as it can absorb the volatility in such a strategy. After years of unrealised gains, and in line with the general fall in equity values, the year saw unrealised losses of £10,887. There was also £50,000 deposited on nine months notice with Shawbrook which has now been recalled and will be moved, subject to timing, to increase our existing holding in the M&G Charifund.

The notes to the accounts provide significant detail.

The Society greatly benefits from the input of many volunteers and the unrestricted general reserves of the Society are being maintained at a level which would ensure the capability of producing and distributing volumes of the *Transactions*, Occasional Papers and the *Essex Journal* for at least the next five years.

We have sufficient reserves to make occasional donations and grants to support heritage projects in Essex.

Nick Wickenden, President
29th April 2023

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing these statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of the Independent Examiner

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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:

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention which

a) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or

b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Evans (Fellow Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians)
● April 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming resources		
Members subscriptions (note 2)	**13,817**	14,960
Publications: grants and sales (note 3)	**9,011**	11,200
Other income (note 4)	**2,208**	13,463
Income from investments	**4,629**	4,345
Total incoming resources	**29,665**	43,968
Resources used		
Production costs: *Transactions* (note 3)	**22,721**	10,318
Production costs: Newsletters	**7,568**	2,796
Administration costs (note 5)	**5,791**	16,112
Other expenditure (note 6)	**4,213**	1,466
Total resources used	**40,293**	30,692
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	**(10,629)**	13,276
(Losses)/gains on unrealised investments	**(10,887)**	7,116
(Decrease)/increase in funds	**(21,516)**	20,392

Balance Sheet

as at 31st December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Library books	**100,000**	100,000
Investments (note 7)	**98,187**	119,074
Fixed assets	**198,187**	219,074
Deposit and current accounts (note 8)	**71,860**	74,768
Other	**798**	592
Current assets	**72,658**	75,360
Current liabilities (advance subscriptions)	**(125)**	(304)
Total assets	**270,720**	294,130
Unrestricted funds – general	**106,336**	117,334
Unrestricted funds – designated (note 9)	**—**	4,149
Restricted funds (note 10)	**64,384**	72,647
Historic book collection	**100,000**	100,000
Fixed assets	**270,720**	294,130

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 General

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 Designated funds form part of the general funds but relate to funds which Council have designated as being for a specific purpose. The restricted funds reflect constraints imposed by the donors of the funds. The Historic Book Collection, which consists of books held by the University of Essex and documents loaned to the Essex Records Office, is classified as designated. The Collection is not available for sale, but has been given a value, believed to be prudent, of £100,000. Computers and new books purchased are written off on purchase. Investments are shown at market value and capital appreciation on these investments is shown after the net amount of incoming resources.

2 Members subscriptions

	2022 £	2021 £
E.S.A.H.	10,557	10,882
Essex Journal	1,766	2,545
Gift Aid	1,494	1,533
	13,817	14,960

3 Publications: grants and sales

2022 Analysis

	Mills Booklet £	Trans Vol. 11 £	Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester £	*Essex Journal* Index £	Total £
Income					
Grant income	600	4,930	3,150	—	8,680
Publications: grants and sales	331	—	—	—	331
	931	4,930	3,150	—	9,011
Expenditure					
Printing	1,398	5,322	13,732	—	20,452
Other including distribution	—	2,122	147	—	2,269
	1,398	7,444	13,879	—	22,721
Net (expenditure)	(467)	(2,514)	(10,729)	—	(13,710)

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

3 Publications: grants and sales (continued)

2021 Analysis

	Trans Vol. 11 £	Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester £	*Essex Journal* Index £	Total £
Income				
Grant income	2,900	8,300	—	11,200
	2,900	8,300	—	11,200
Expenditure				
Printing	5,936	—	—	5,936
Contractors	—	—	2,438	2,438
Other including distribution	1,944	—	—	1,944
	7,880	—	2,438	10,318
Net (expenditure)/income	(4,980)	8,300	(2,438)	882

4 Other income

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash Flow from visits and other events	**1,660**	102
Donations	**44**	1,041
Licensing fees and royalties	**168**	72
Sale of library stock (including Trail)	**336**	238
Transfer from *Essex Journal*	—	12,010
	2,208	13,463

Licensing royalties and proceeds from the sale of library stock have been attributed to the P.R.F.

5 Administration costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Dispatching mailings	**277**	3,471
Editors' honoraria	**1,400**	1,200
Insurance	**75**	75
Printing flyers, etc.	**2,312**	353
Room hire	**403**	258
Website	**1,324**	10,755
	5,791	16,112

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

6 Other expenditure

	2022 £	2021 £
Digitisation project	—	361
Donations (note 6a)	3,406	500
E.I.A.G. expenditure	—	50
Purchase of books	527	—
Sundries – *Essex Journal* index launch	120	396
Subscriptions paid	160	159
	4,213	1,466

6a Donations

	2022 £	2021 £
Dendrochronology Report – St. Mary's, Broomfield	750	—
Dick Nunny Smith Preservation Trust	50	—
Funding research on Epping Forest habitation	717	—
Illustrations for Rochford paper	639	—
Media work on West Hanningfield church belfry	1,000	—
Report on finds at Bradford Street, Braintree	—	500
Support for David Grocott's Ph.D. thesis	250	—
	3,406	500

7 Investments

	2022 £	2021 £
COIF Fixed Income Fund (income units)	18,319	31,992
COIF Investment Fund (income units)	34,473	39,010
M&G Charifund	45,395	48,072
	98,187	119,074

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

8 Deposit and current accounts

	2022	2021
	£	£
Advance payments	**638**	432
Barclay Bank balances – current	**69,804**	13,225
Barclay Bank balances – savings	**426**	8,923
COIF deposits	**1,630**	2,325
PayPal	**160**	160
Shawbrook 100 day deposit	—	50,295
	72,658	75,360

9 Designated funds

	2022	2021
	£	£
Essex Place Name Project	—	4,149

This Fund was for a research project which collects and disseminates information on the history of local place and field names in Essex. It was funded by grants, which may be time limited, and donations. The fund was de-designated in 2022.

10 Restricted funds

	2022	2021
	£	£
Essex Mills Fund	**1,998**	2,465
Essex Journal index	**2,556**	2,556
Mediaeval Merchant	**1,000**	1,000
Pleshey project	**39**	39
Publications and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")	**58,791**	58,287
Timber-Framed Buildings of Colchester	—	8,300
	64,384	72,647

Essex Mills Fund
Seeded by the residual amount from the monies received on taking over the Essex Mills Trust enhanced by sales of related publications and available for mills related projects.

Essex Journal index
Pre-funding for an Index for the *Essex Journal* acquired on assumption of the responsibility for that publication.

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2022

10 Restricted funds (continued)

Mediaeval Merchant

Pre-funding for an Occasional Paper.

Pleshey Project

The Society is in receipt of grants to fund writing up Bassett's excavation work at Pleshey in the 1970s. Eventually this work will be published as an Occasional Paper.

Publication and Research Fund ("P.R.F.")

The P.R.F. exists to support the publications and research of the Society. Specific subscriptions to this fund have been received on the basis that they would form an endowment fund generating income which would support the purpose of the fund This inalienable element of the fund amounts to £32,465. Subsequent attributions to the fund have not been so constrained.

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Special Collections Room at the Albert Sloman Library, University of Essex, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ and via Zoom video conferencing platform on Saturday, 25th June 2022 at 2.30p.m.

In the Chair:	Nick Wickenden (President)
Trustees:	Bill Abbott (Treasurer), Adrian Corder-Birch (Vice-President), Mark Curteis and Mark Davies.
Associate members of Council:	Jane Pearson (Programme Secretary and Librarian) and Philip Wise (Curator) also David Grocott (speaker), Kathy Walsh (University Librarian) and four other members of the Society.
Via Zoom conferencing platform:	Mark Atkinson (Trustee), Paul Gilman (Hon. Editor), Paul Sainsbury (Trustee), Martin Stuchfield (Vice-President and Hon. Membership Secretary), Chris Thornton (Vice-President) and four other members of the Society.

1. **Opening remarks**
The President welcomed members to the University of Essex Library and thanked Kathy Walsh the librarian for attending. The meeting was also being broadcast online. The A.G.M. would be followed by a talk from David Grocott on his use of E.S.A.H.'s library for research. The President commented on the shortage of material and reviewers for book reviews in the Society's publications. He noted the death of Jenny Ward, a former President, as well as other notable members Ernest Black, Vic Gray and Chris Manning-Press during the year. An article from volume 10 of the *Transactions* (by Andrew Ford on the Peasants Revolt) had won an award from the British Association for Local History and will be republished in the B.A.L.H. news. The President also noted that Colchester is now a city, joining Chelmsford and Southend-on-Sea.

2. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Howard Brooks, Tony Crosby, Ken Crowe, Lucy Jack and Michael Leach

3. **To approve the minutes of the A.G.M. held on 26th June 2021**
The minutes of the 2021 A.G.M., as published in the Annual Report and Accounts, were approved as a correct record.

4. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising

5. President's Report for 2021

A written report in the Report and Accounts had previously been circulated to all members. The President highlighted that E.S.A.H. has a good programme of events thanks to Jane Pearson and a first-class website thanks to Martin Stuchfield. The index for *Essex Journal* was being completed by Neil Wiffen. Martin Stuchfield had worked hard to ensure that subscriptions were up-to-date. The Society has three strong publications with three editors working on *Transactions*, *Essex Journal* and the digital newsletter – Paul Gilman, Steve Pollington and Victoria Rathmill were thanked. The extensive library continues to be hosted by the University; the latter had also hosted the Place Names Project but this is now available on the Society's website. E.S.A.H. had subscribed as an institutional member of L.A.M.A.S. The Industrial Archaeology Group continues to be strong and has developed a strategy alongside E.S.A.H.'s main strategy to be addressed later in the meeting. The President thanked everyone on Council for their continuing hard work on behalf of the Society.

6. To approve the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts

The Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 had been previously circulated to all members and upon the proposal of Mark Davies, seconded by Neil Wiffen, were unanimously approved.

7. Election of Independent Examiner

Peter Evans had indicated that he was willing to continue and was re-elected unanimously.

8. Election of President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2022-2023

Nick Wickenden, Howard Brooks and Bill Abbott had indicated that they were willing to stand for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively were unanimously re-elected. They would be ex-officio members of Council.

9. Election of Vice-Presidents for 2022-2023

The current Vice-Presidents, Dave Buckley, Adrian Corder-Birch, Mark Davies, Michael Leach, Andrew Phillips, Martin Stuchfield and Chris Thornton had all indicated that they were willing to continue. Their election was proposed by the President, seconded by Jane Pearson and carried unanimously.

10. Election of Additional Trustees for 2022-2023

The Constitution requires six members to be elected to the Executive Council. Mark Atkinson, Adrian Corder-Birch and Paul Sainsbury, having completed a three-year term, were willing to be re-elected for a further three-year term, in accordance with clause D2 of the constitution. All were unanimously re-elected. Richard Havis had decided to stand down due to other commitments. Teresa O'Connor, a historic environment consultant at Essex County Council, had agreed to stand and was duly elected.

11. Approval of the Ten Year Strategy

A copy of the strategy developed by Council but led by Nigel Brown had been previously circulated to members with the digital newsletter. The President reported that responses had stressed the importance of continuing to publish the Transactions, Essex Journal and occasional papers as hard copies. He noted that the Society had no intention of changing this, publications being core to the Society's activities. The Strategy also highlighted the importance of the library and the programme of events, including the annual symposium. It is proposed to hold a joint Morant lecture and lunch with the E.R.O. The grant programme has been reinvigorated and several payments made to applicants as listed in the Trustees' Report. Links to local societies, museums and other relevant networks would be developed and issues of diversity and gender balance addressed. Martin Stuchfield read a comment by Christopher Thompson suggesting the strategy be revised in respect of planning policy. The President noted that this strategy is a working document and these comments would be reviewed and considered by the Executive Council. It was agreed to adopt the E.S.A.H. strategy and E.I.A.G. strategy that would published on the Society's website.

12. Any other business.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 3.10p.m.

The formal business was followed by a talk by David Grocott, who had used the Society's library extensively for his research for many papers including – Medievalism and the radical imagination.

THE ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

England & Wales - Charity number 213218

Accounts

The Essex Society for Archaeology & History

FORMERLY THE ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1852

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ending 31st December 2021

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Trustees and Corporate Information

Patron	Lord Petre, KCVO, JP, MA
Vice-Presidents	D.G. Buckley, BSc, MCIfA, FSA A. Corder-Birch, DL, FSA G.M.R. Davies, MA, FSA, FMA Dr. P.M. Leach, BA, MBBS A.B. Phillips, BEM, BA H.M. Stuchfield, MBE, JP, DL, FSA, FRHistS Dr. C.C. Thornton, BA, PhD, FSA, FRHistS
Trustees	N.P. Wickenden, MA, AMA, FSA *President* H. Brooks, BA, MCIfA, FSA *Secretary* W.M. Abbott, MA, FIA *Treasurer* M. Atkinson, BA, MCIfA N. Brown, BA, MCIfA, FSA, FSAScot *Immediate Past President* A. Corder-Birch, DL, FSA A. Crosby, BA, MSocSc, FSA *Chairman EIAG* K.L. Crowe, BEd, MA, AMA Dr. M.E. Curteis, BA, MA, PhD, AMA, FRNS G.M.R. Davies, MA, FSA, FMA R. Havis, BA, MCIfA, FSA P. Sainsbury, SEN H.M. Stuchfield, MBE, JP, DL, FSA, FRHistS *Membership Secretary*
Curator	P. Wise, MA, MCIfA, FSA
Independent Examiner	P. Evans, FMAAT
Registered Charity No.	213218
Registered Office	13 Greeenacres, Mile End Colchester, Essex CO4 5DX
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC, Brentwood
Blog	www.esah160.blogspot.co.uk
Twitter	https//twitter.com/ESAH160
Website	www.esah1852.org.uk

Trustees' Report

Structure Governance and management

The organisation is an unincorporated association, originally founded as the Essex Archaeological Society in 1852, changing its name to the Essex Society for Archaeology and History in 1985. It is governed by a constitution as revised and adopted at the 2015 AGM. It registered as a charity in 1962. Its objects as stated in the constitution are:

1. to promote and encourage the study of archaeology and history in the historic county of Essex
2. in furtherance of the above, to publish the results of such studies in the Society's journal, and to disseminate information on Essex archaeology and history through the appropriate media
3. to organise conferences, lectures and visits for the benefit of members and interested members of the public, and to educate the wider community and other bodies on matters of common interest and concern
4. to provide library facilities for Society members and other members of the public.

The management of the Society is vested in a Council of Management who are the trustees of the Society. There are six trustees who are directly elected at the AGM, as are the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who are ex-officio members of Council. There are a number of members who serve the Society in various capacities and, as proposed by Council, further ex-officio members are elected onto Council at the AGM. The list of trustees is set out on page 2.

Council is aided in undertaking its responsibilities by various committees which report directly to Council, namely Publications and Research Committee, Library and Archives Committee and the Programme Committee. In addition it has special interest sections, namely the Essex Industrial Archaeology Group and the Essex Place Names Project, both of which are financially supported. The society is continuing the activities previously associated with the Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress. In 2021 it has taken on the assets and liabilities of the *Essex Journal*. The trustees retain the direct responsibility for, and active supervision of, expenditure.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Inevitably the pandemic disrupted the normal work of the Society, however although physical meetings were not possible the Council continued to meet via Zoom. Similarly, the work of the Committees was carried out via email and zoom meetings. As ever Council is extremely grateful to all those who have given their time and energy to serve on these committees, as well as to those who have represented the Society on other bodies, particularly this year with all its disruptions.

Review

I think we all assumed that 2021 would be when life started getting back to normal. How wrong we were ! Our lives have continued to be affected by the dreaded coronavirus and once again, as I write this, we hope the worst is behind us. Let us hope we are right this time. The Society's programme was again written off with the exception of a tour I led to Pleshey Castle in the early summer. We also had to abandon the Symposium at quite short notice. However, the 2022 programme is now underway, with several events rescheduled and some new ones. Jane Pearson, our programme secretary, has got the bit between her teeth, and is determined to be more adventurous and ambitious.

However, numbers attending the Morant Lecture and Morant Dinner have been dwindling in recent years, and Council has decided to merge the two, with a resurrected event combining both a talk and refreshments.

It seems to have been a year when we have lost several dear friends of the Society. Having lost Stan Newens last year, we have also seen the sad deaths of Ernest Black, Chris Manning-Press, the brilliant archaeological illustrator Pete Froste, Vic Gray, and Jenny Ward. Jenny served as our only lady President (with the exception of Ann Turner who stood in for one year). She was a very distinguished medieval scholar, and only recently was helping Chris Starr with the forthcoming occasional paper, 'Medieval Merchant'. Jenny contributed regularly to both the *Transactions* and the *Essex Journal*, of which the Autumn 2018 edition was dedicated to her 80th birthday. Jenny had time and a smile for everyone, and was a regular attendee of our events and excursions, and will be sorely missed. Full obituaries are appearing in our publications.

With the programme curtailed, your Council has still been hard at work. Thanks to the sterling efforts of Martin Stuchfield, we now have a first class revitalised website, with a publications section boasting pdfs of every single copy of the *Transactions* prior to the last five years, as well as our Occasional Papers, more recent *Essex Journals* and some *Essex Reviews* – more are in the pipeline. These all have an easy search facility, and the whole site is well worth taking a look. An index of the *Essex Journal* is close to being completed and members will receive a hard copy. The work by the previous editor, Neil Wiffen was recognised at a launch on 30th October.

Martin Stuchfield, and our Treasurer, Bill Abbott, have also wrestled with unpaid subscriptions of our institutional members, and I can now report these are up to date, with a corresponding increase in subscriptions raised. Many societies operate a system whereby their annual journals and transactions are received for our library, and ours are duly reciprocated. It is therefore worrying that in January we heard from LAMAS (London and Middlesex Archaeological Society), that they were closing their library, and would no longer participate in this scheme. We now subscribe as a paid institutional member so that our run of transactions of this important near neighbour remains up to date, but the closure must be a blow for their members.

At the end of 2021 the Society had 315 (2020: 295) fully paid individual members, of whom 65 (2020: 65) are family members and 24 (2020: 20) are associates. It also has 69 (2020: 73) paying institutional members. In addition to these 384 (2020: 368) paying members we reciprocate publications with 32 (2020: 32) other institutions and distribute our publications to 12 (2020: 12) other institutions.

I mentioned in my foreword in the spring newsletter that we have three editors of our publications, which remain the bedrock of the Society. Paul Gilman has produced volume 10 of Essex Archaeology and History (the *Transactions*), and volume 11 is with the printers (as I write). We have a number of Occasional Papers forming a queue as well. Paul is assisted by Assistant Editor Henry Webber, and a Publications Committee, chaired by former President Dave Buckley. Chris Thornton also does a lot of liaising with both authors and our printers. Steve Pollington took over the editorship of the *Essex Journal* last year and has produced two excellent editions, volume 56 numbers 1 and 2. Victoria Rathmill took on the editorship of the Newsletter which we rationalised to two copies each year, and which are distributed digitally.

The Society's extensive Library continues to be held in the Albert Sloman Library at the University of Essex, to which we extend our gratitude. Although closed during 2021, this remains a hugely important resource for our members and I know that Sarah Demelo has been keeping an eye on things. The University has also to date looked after the Essex Place Names Project, a database of parish historical research, masterminded by James Kemble. In recent years, with staff changes, and the increasing age of the database software, this has become untenable, but Council deemed it so important that we have transferred it across to our own Society's website.

Guided by our treasurer, in the knowledge that we do hold substantial financial reserves, Council has put in place application details and a form for researchers seeking small grants. In 2021, we have awarded a grant of £717 to a Ph.D student researching Romanichal and Traveller inhabitation of parts of Epping Forest from the 18th-19th centuries using at least three surveying methods, surface surveys, magnetic susceptibility, and magnetometry. We have written a letter of support to the Essex Bridleway Association, which is planning an application to the National Lottery, in conjunction with the Essex Record Office, to digitise the county's enclosure and tithe maps. Should the E.B.A. be successful, we have offered a grant of £250 (*Please note: this application has now been withdrawn*). Lastly we have awarded the West Hanningfield Parochial Church Council £1,000 towards a media project recording the tower, belfry and bells of St. Edward and St. Mary Parish Church. All grants will in due course be written up with a photographic record for our website.

The Essex Industrial Archaeological Group (E.I.A.G.), spearheaded by Tony Crosby, has managed to continue to meet on Zoom throughout the year, with lectures on Stow Maries Aerodrome, and Ironbridge. The next Industrial Heritage Fair, which is normally held every two years, is being planned for Silver End on 1st October and as I write, a number of organisations have already booked their tables. A small publication on Essex mills is imminent. The Group comments independently on relevant planning issues, and has helped E.C.C. Place Service review redundant railway bridges, and Historic England's Draft Industrial Heritage Policy. It also wrote to Historic England bemoaning the sad condition of the Thorrington Tide Mill, which is Grade II* but now in private ownership, having been transferred out of the County Council's ownership. It now sadly features on Historic England's At Risk Register. The Group has also written to Historic England concerning the state of the Courtauld buildings in Halstead.

Few other planning comments have been submitted to local authorities. The limited availability of expert members of the Society who are able to comment on such matters on

behalf of the Society is a matter of regret, and features in our draft ten year Strategy, which Council has been considering for some time, a process which has been led by our immediate past President, Nigel Brown. One answer might be specific training for interested individuals.

Council has circulated the draft ten year Strategy. This sets out the Society's key activities and looks at how we are adapting to a new digital and inclusive world, and how we might adapt still further in the years to come. Obviously any strategy may be thrown off course by unforeseen challenges in the future such as COVID, but it is nevertheless important to have a sense of direction. The next step will be to assess how we might implement new actions.

Other regular reports to Council include the Victoria County History, C.B.A. London and C.B.A. East, the Friends of Historic Essex, the Essex Record Office, and the newly-formed Chelmer Valley Landscape Group. This Group brings together representatives, inter alia, from ourselves, the Essex Wildlife Trust, the National Trust, Chelmsford City Council, Maldon District Council, Braintree District Council, Essex Waterways, the Chelmer Canal Trust and many of the valley parishes. The recent 50th anniversary of the publication of J.A. Baker's seminal work, 'The Peregrine' provided the impetus for our Society to initiate the group's establishment. Nigel Brown attended its workshops held in November 2021, which considered conservation, management and enhancement of the natural and historic environment in the Valley; the cultural significance of the landscape; and managing and facilitating public engagement. The workshops helped C.V.L.G. to clarify its long term aims and to establish some practical actions that hopefully might be delivered in the Chelmer Valley in the next few years.

On behalf of all members, I would like to thank the Society's Officers, Trustees, Council, Committees and representatives on other bodies for all their hard work and support during the year. The Society could not operate without people who are willingly prepared to give their time for free, in so many different ways. Only some of the people have been acknowledged personally in my report, but I am grateful for everyone who has contributed throughout yet another year beset by coronavirus and the restrictions this has placed on normality. In particular, I would like to express thanks to Bill Abbott, Howard Brooks, Nigel Brown, Paul Gilman, Jane Pearson, Martin Stuchfield and Chris Thornton. I hope that my report next year will be able to review a year when we have been able to meet in person and participate in the county's history and heritage.

Finance

The principal financing activity of the Society relates to the costs of producing and distributing the *Transactions* and its Index as well as occasional papers. We try wherever possible to get sponsorship grants for individual articles and in the main are for archaeological papers. Grants for Volume 10 of the *Transactions* amounted to £2,900 (Volume 9: £4,140) with the net cost, including distribution, for Volume 10 being £4,980 (Volume 9: £3,132).

In 2021 the net increase in the Society's Funds was £20,381 (2020; £5,876) . Excluding capital appreciation of £7,16 (2020; £7,099) the net incoming resources was £13,276 (2020; outgoing of £1,224) However in the course of the year we took on the assets and liabilities of the *Essex Journal*, where the initial transfer was £12,010, including £5,640 devoted to the production of an index. In the course of the year some of that fund has been used to pay the indexer and we have also received continued payments of £10 from previous subscribers of the index. Many of these subscribers are members of ESAH and receive the *Journal* through

that membership, but some are not and continue to receive the *Journal*. The net effect is that most of the increase in the incoming resources can be ascribed to taking on the *Essex Journal*.

A major outgo in 2021 was the development of our Society website costing just over £10,000

In the course of the year we switched a further £20,000 of our assets held on deposit into the M&G Charifund. This underlies the increase in our investment income and has enhanced the capital appreciation for the year. It is the nature of our holding in investments that their value will oscillate.

The notes to the accounts provide significant detail.

The Society greatly benefits from the input of many volunteers and the unrestricted general reserves of the Society are being maintained at a level which would ensure the capability of producing and distributing volumes of the Transactions and Occasional Papers and the *Essex Journal* for at least the next five years.

We have sufficient resources to make further occasional donations to support heritage projects in Essex.

Nick Wickenden, President
9th April 2022

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing these statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of the Independent Examiner

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention which

a) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Evans (Fellow Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians)
9th April 2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2021		
	2021	2020
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Members subscriptions (note 2)	14,960	10,270
Publications; Grants and sales (note 3)	11,200	4,225
Other Income (Note 4)	13,463	264
Income from Investments	4,345	2,683
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**43,968**	**17,442**
RESOURCES USED		
Production costs: Transactions (note 3)	10,318	7,434
Production costs: Newsletters	2,796	1,382
Administration costs (note 5)	16,112	5,291
Other outgo (Note 6)	1,466	4,558
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	**30,692**	**18,666**
NET INCOMING(OUTGOING) RESOURCES	13,276	-1,224
Gains/losses on unrealised investments	7,116	7,099
INCREASE IN FUNDS	**20,391**	**5,876**
Balance sheet at 31st December		
Library Books	100,000	100,000
Investments (Note 7)	119,074	91,959
FIXED ASSETS	**219,074**	**191,959**
plus		
Deposit & Current accounts (Note 8)	74,768	82,376
Other	592	0
CURRENT ASSETS	75,360	**82,376**
less		
CURRENT LIABILITIES (advance subscriptions)	**304**	**595**
TOTAL ASSETS (note 9)	**294,131**	**273,739**
consisting of		
Unrestricted funds-general	117,335	106,954
Unrestricted funds -designated (note 9)	4,149	5,304
Restricted Funds (note 10)	72,647	61,481
Historic Book Collection	100,000	100,000

Notes forming part of the financial statements

Note 1 **General**
These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 Designated funds form part of the general funds but relate to funds which Council have designated as being for a specific purpose. The restricted funds reflect constraints imposed by the donors of the funds. The Historic Book Collection, which consists of books held by the University of Essex and documents loaned to the Essex Records Office, is classified as designated. The Collection is not available for sale, but has been given a value, believed to be prudent, of £100,000. Computers and new books purchased are written off on purchase. Investments are shown at market value and capital appreciation on these investments is shown after the net amount of incoming resources.

Note 2 **Income from subscriptions**

		2021	**2020**
		£	£
	ESAH	10,882	8,835
	Essex Journal	2,545	
	Gift Aid recoveries in year	1,533	1,435
		14,960	10,270

Note 3 Transactions and Occasional Papers

2021 Analysis	Trans's Vol 10	Colchester Timbers	Essex Journal Index	Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grant income	2,900	8,300		**11,200**
Publications; Grants and Sales	**2,900**	**8,300**		**11,200**
Outgo				
Printing	5,936			**5,936**
Contractors			2,438	**2,438**
Other, inc distribution	1,944			**1,944**
	7,880	**0**	**2,438**	**10,317**
Net Income (Outgo)	**-4,980**	**8,300**	**-2,438**	**883**

2020 Analysis	Trans's Vol 9	Total
Income		
Grant income	4,140	4,140
Publications; Grants and Sales	**4,140**	**4,140**
Outgo		
Printing	5,206	5,206
Other, inc distribution	2,066	2,066
	7,272	**7,272**
Net Income (Outgo)	**-3,132**	**-3,132**

Note 4 **Other income**			
		2021	**2020**
		£	£
	Licensing Fees & Royalties	72	29
	Sale of Library Stock	238	25
	Donations	1,041	25
	EIAG Trail Rewrite	0	85
	Transfer from Essex Journal	12,010	0
	Cash Flow from visits and other events	102	100
		13,463	**264**
Licensing royalties and proceeds from the sale of Library stock have been attributed to the PRF			
Note 5 Administration Costs			
	Insurance	75	75
	Editors' Honoraria	1,200	900
	Printing; flyers etc	353	347
	Dispatching mailings	3,453	2,152
	Website	10,755	984
	Room Hire	258	807
	Other printing and Postage	19	26
		16,112	**5,291**

Note 6 **Other Outgo**			
		2021	**2020**
		£	£
	Subscriptions Paid	159	108
	Purchase of Books	0	0
	Digitisation Project	361	0
	Donations (note 6a)	500	4,450
	EIAG outgo	50	0
	Sundries; EJ Index launch	396	0
		1,466	**4,558**
Note 6a Donations			
	Report on Bradford St., Braintree Finds	500	
	Boxted Airfield Historical Group		250
	ERO; Sister Luard Papers		500
	Thaxted Cutlers Publication		1,000
	UoE; Red Book of Stubbers		1,000
	Dr Thos Plume Publication		1,000
	ERO: FS Eden's Drawings		575
	ERO; Parmenter's Ledgers		125
		500	**4,450**
Note 7 Investments			
	COIF Fixed Income Fund (income units)	31,992	34,449
	COIF Investment Fund (income units)	39,010	34,619
	M&G Charifund	48,072	23,548
		119,074	**92,617**

Note 8 Deposit and Current Accounts			
	COIF Deposits	2,325	15,403
	Shawcross 100 day deposit	50,295	50,524
	Barclay Bank Balances - Savings	8,923	8,923
	- Current	13,225	7,526
	Transactions Grants due	160	
	Advance payments	432	0
		75,360	**82,376**

Note 9 Restricted Funds			
	Essex Place Name Project	4,149	5,304
This Fund is for a research project which collects and disseminates information on the history of local place and field names in Essex. It is funded by grants, which may be time limited, and donations.			
Note 10. Designated Funds			
	Publications and Research Fund	58,287	57,977
	Mediaeval Merchant OP	1,000	1,000
	Essex Mills Projects	2,465	2,465
	Colchester Timbers	8,300	
	Essex Journal Index	2,556	
	Pleshey Project	39	39
		72,647	**61,481**

Publication and Research Fund ***("PRF".)***	The PRF exists to support the publications and research of the Society. Specific subscriptions to this fund have been received on the basis that they would form an endowment fund generating income which would support the purpose of the fund This inalienable element of the fund amounts to £32,465. Subsequent attributions to the fund have not been so constrained.
Mediaeval Merchant OP	Pre-funding for an intended Occasional Paper
Essex Mills Project	The residual amount from the monies received on taking over the Essex Mills Trust and available for mills related projects
Colchester Timbers	Pre-funding for an Occasional Paper being published in 2022
Essex Journal Index	Pre-funding for an Index for the *Essex Journal* acquired on assumption of the responsibility for the Journal
The Pleshey Project	The Society is in receipt of grants to fund writing up Bassett's excavation work at Pleshey in the 1970s. Eventually this work will be published in the Transactions or as an Occasional Paper.

Minutes of the Society's Annual General Meeting, held on the Zoom video-conferencing platform on Saturday 26th June 2021 at 2.30pm.

In the Chair: Mr Nigel Brown (President)
Vice Presidents: Mr Martin Stuchfield
Trustees: Mr Howard Brooks (Secretary), Mr Adrian Corder-Birch, Mr Tony Crosby, Mr Ken Crowe and Mr Mark Davies.
Associate members of Council: Ms Sarah Demelo (Essex University), Mr Philip Wise (Curator) and Mrs Lucy Jack (Minutes Secretary). Mr Nick Wickenden (President-elect) was also present, together with 10 other members of the Society.

a) Apologies for absence were received from Bill Abbott, Steve Pollington, Richard Havis, Dr Mark Curteis, Andrew and Elaine Smith, Patricia Croxton-Smith, David Grayston, Victoria Rathmill, Shirley Durgan and Dr Graham Gould.

b) Opening remarks. The President welcomed members. He noted that Council had planned to hold the AGM at Christchurch Hall in Chelmsford, but the Government's extension of restrictions for an extra 4 weeks had caused the it to be moved online. The AGM would be followed by the presentation and launch of the Society's new website. It would conclude with a talk by Nick Wickenden entitled "Some Highlights of Chelmsford Museum's Recent Redisplay".

c) The minutes of the 2019 AGM, as published in the 2020 *Annual Report and Accounts*, were approved as a correct record. There had been no AGM in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

d) Matters arising. There were no matters arising

e) President's Report for 2020. A written report in the *Annual Report and Accounts* had previously been circulated to all members. The President highlighted that the pandemic had caused the cancellation of all events since the introduction of restrictions in March 2020. So far in 2021 a successful tour of Pleshey castle had taken place and he thanked Nick Wickenden for leading the tour. Arrangements for the symposium on 6th November were underway with a good selection of speakers organised. Despite the pandemic, ESAH had successfully assumed responsibility for the publication of *Essex Journal*, with the appointment of Steven Pollington as the new editor. The usual 4 issues of the Society's newsletter had been published despite the resignation of the editor early in 2020. The newsletter was now online with the new editor Victoria Rathmill also taking on the Twitter account. *Transactions* of the Society also continue to appear regularly with volume 9 published in 2020 and volume 10 due imminently. The Society's online presence would need to continue to be developed for it to keep up to date and appeal to new audiences. The dynamic new website was already online and would be demonstrated later.

f) Presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2020. These had previously been circulated to all members with the AGM papers and were unanimously approved.

g) Election of Independent Examiner. Mr P Evans had indicated that he was willing to continue and was elected unanimously.

h) Election of President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2021-2022. Mr N Brown, having completed his three-year term as President, was due to step down but would remain on Council as Immediate Past President. Mr NP Wickenden had indicated that he was willing to stand for the position of President and was unanimously elected. Mr N Brown duly handed the chair to the new President, Mr N Wickenden who thanked his predecessor for his sterling work over the last three years, especially during the onerous conditions presented by the pandemic.

Mr H Brooks and Mr W Abbott had indicated that they were willing to stand again for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer respectively and were unanimously elected for these offices. They would be ex-officio members of Council.

i) Election of Vice-Presidents for 2021-2022. The current Vice-Presidents, Mr D Buckley, Dr PM Leach, Mr AB Phillips, Dr CC Thornton, Mr HM Stuchfield and Dr J Ward had all indicated that they were willing to continue. Mr A Corder-Birch and Mr GMR Davies had agreed to be nominated and all were elected unanimously.

j) Election of Additional Trustees for 2021-2022. The Constitution requires six members to be elected to the Executive Council. Mr K Crowe, Mr GMR Davies and Mr R Havis, having completed a three-year term, were willing to be re-elected for a further three- year term, in accordance with clause D2 of the constitution. In addition, Dr ME Curteis had agreed to be nominated as a Trustee. All were unanimously elected.

k) Any other business.

Mr Tony Doe reported that the book he had co-edited on the subject of Thomas Plume, which ESAH had supported with a grant, had been published in November and was achieving good sales. The new President thanked him for this encouraging news.

Website

Mr Martin Stuchfield, Vice President and Membership Secretary of ESAH, gave a presentation of the new website **ESAH1852.org.uk**. It was noted that nearly all issues of the Society's publications, including indexes, were available to view and download, except the last 5 volumes of *Transactions* which were available to members only. The two most recent occasional papers and six issues of *Essex Journal* had yet to be digitized. All the Society's application forms, including for membership and grants, were interactive for completion online, or available for printing. Other areas included news, events and a section for EIAG. There was also a comprehensive search facility. Links to all relevant and useful websites were listed and suggestions for additions would be welcomed.

Mr Keith Briggs enquired about *Essex Review* (the predecessor of *Essex Journal),* the inclusion of which had been specified in the Society's blog in April 2019. Martin Stuchfield stated that he had been unaware of the blog entry, but he intended to include *Essex Review* in the digitization project which included a few issues of *Essex Journal* yet to be digitized and uploaded to the website. He would also ask Victoria Rathmill to update the blog post accordingly.

Mr Neil Wiffen enquired about a plan and budget for maintaining the site, ensuring that the content was kept up to date and that the links worked correctly. Martin Stuchfield noted that it was important that the website be constantly reviewed and that several people would be involved in this as updates could be made very easily. Council would decide the details at their next meeting, but the plan was for each section to be updated by those responsible for their area, such as EIAG officers for their section. He intended to step back and take a global view. The main expenditure had already been made with initial set up and hosting costs, but he envisaged that maintenance costs would be minimal. Council fully intended to maintain the website as a valuable resource.

Mr Tony Crosby enquired about a facility for users to purchase or order publications. Martin Stuchfield noted that including an online bookshop would be possible but expensive and Council would have to decide whether the cost would be proportionate to benefits gained from sales. For example, a section just for members had been considered but the cost of this, including providing encryption, was in the region of £2000 which was not currently considered worthwhile. For any relevant publications, links could be provided to the site where they were available for purchase.

Mr Christopher Thompson enquired about links to archives available on the internet, including those from overseas which may be useful. He also offered a digital copy of Philip Morant's historical publication. Martin Stuchfield thanked him for the latter as it was important to ESAH. He requested that members send him suggestions for links to useful sites to be included on the website.

The new President thanked Martin Stuchfield and noted that he would support the digitization of the whole ESAH archive. It was agreed that this was a useful resource for both members and external audiences which should encourage increased membership.

The President concluded the meeting and expressed hope that members would be able to meet in person at events later in the year and at the 2022 AGM.

After the meeting, the President gave an illustrated talk on the highlights of the archaeology and history galleries at Chelmsford Museum. He had overseen the redisplay which had been organised using lottery funding and opened in July 2019. He had retired in November 2019.