

Annual Report of Scarborough Archaeological & Historical Society 2010

This Annual Report covers the Society's 'year' of 1 April 2009 until 31 March 2010

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1108962

ADDRESS

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ADMINISTRATION

The Society and its property are administered and managed in accordance with the Constitution adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 4 April 2005. The Society is administered by the members of the Committee, constituted by clause 6.0 of the Constitution, and by the Trustees.

TRUSTEES

Trevor Pearson FSA (Chairman of the Trustees), Bryan Berryman, Dr Jack Binns, Martin Bland, Kate Flounders, Chris Hall, Sue Ogilvy

COMMITTEE 2009-10

President Trevor Pearson FSA Vice-Presidents Bryan Berryman, Dr Jack Binns

Executive Officers Chairman Chris Hall, Vice Chairmen Keith Johnston and Colin Langford, Secretary Kate Flounders, Treasurer Martin Bland

Committee, Robin Boddy, Farrell Burnett, Linda Kemp, Vanessa Milner Sue Ogilvy, Mark Vesey, Sue Wood.

During the year Daniel Henley-Welch, Lynda Henley-Welch and Wendy Somerville-Woodiwis were co-opted onto the committee

The Committee appointed members to the following posts: -

Editor of Transactions, Membership, Minutes, Publications Manager, Programme, Fieldwork, Publicity, Web master

OBJECTIVES

The Society's objectives are set out in clause 3.1 of the Constitution and are: -

To advance the education for the public benefit in the archaeological and local history of Scarborough and the surrounding area by the following:

- a) To increase and disseminate knowledge of and interest in the same.
- b) To undertake and support research into sites and archives of archaeological, architectural and historical interest, and the publication of the results of such researches.
- c) To encourage the identification, protection and preservation of such sites and archives.

HOW WE CARRIED OUT OUR OBJECTIVES

a) Dissemination of knowledge

Lectures –

The year started with a well attended lecture on 6 April 2009 by Dr Jack Binns on 'Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Whitby' which was also a 'fringe' event for Scarborough Literary Festival

The society hosted a lecture in July 2009 as part of National Archaeology Week and in collaboration with the Scarborough Museum Trust. Nigel Melton gave the lecture on the subject of Gristhorpe Man. The lecture was well attended.

The 2009/10-lecture programme started on 5 October 2009 and in all 12 lectures were given at Scarborough Library. The members evening on the 8 March 2010 heard reports from Mark Vesey, John Hinchliff, Wendy Somerville-Woodiwis, Martin Bland and Chris Evans. The lectures were well attended and the average attendance at the lectures was around 75. A wide range of themes were covered from The Lives of the Bronte sisters to the Wrecks on the 'Yorkshire' coast.

The full list of lectures is annexed

Guided walks and field excursions – on 28 June Chris Hall, the chairman led a guided walk from Ralphs Cross to the National Park Centre to celebrate trods and our publication on this topic. This event was held jointly with the North York Moors National Park some of whose staff and volunteers joined us. This event was arranged around the Moorsbus network and it is pleasing to note that most participants chose to use this green travel option. On 11 July led a successful guided walk around Brompton. Joan Evans is thanked for the provision of refreshments. A joint field excursion was held on 12 September to Star Carr with Rotunda Geology Group this was jointly led by John Hudson of RGG and Patrick Hadley

On Saturday 25 July a day event was organised with Scarborough Museums Trust titled Ware & Fair. Medieval Scarborough ware was traded internationally and this day included pottery making demonstrations by John Hudson claypotter (not the RGG John Hudson), interactive sessions with children and a lecture by Chris Hall

Trips to Bowes Museum and the Birch Hall museum store were organised by Vanessa Milner and Sue Wood both were very well received.

Heritage Open Days - The Society worked in partnership with the Civic Society and Scarborough Borough Council to organise several local events. Heritage Open Days is a national event which celebrates England's architectural, historic and cultural heritage by offering free access to interesting buildings that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission, and tours and activities that bring local history and culture to life. The open days were held between 10 and 13 September 2009.

Talks to other groups/organisations - Members of the Society gave talks about our work and the results of our research to various groups including Brompton Local History Society, Friends of Malton Museum, Council for British Archaeology Symposium, Castle Ward Tenants & Residents Association.

Publications – Sales of the Society's publications were brisk in 2009-10. Chris Evans' Trods of the North York Moors, which was published in October 2008, was reprinted just a few

months later in spring 2009 and has now sold more than 600 copies. In autumn 2009 we were able to reprint our bestselling Rosedale Mines and Railway, ensuring that the book remained continually in print since its original publication in 1974.

The website continues to be an important way of disseminating information and was given a makeover during the year making clearer and much quicker to use. The web site generated a number of enquiries on the history and archaeology of the area that were answered by our members.

b) Research

Excavations – Following the survey work reported in the last Annual Report, the Society continued its investigations into the square enclosure on Seamer Moor by the excavation of six trenches in September 2009. This work will be reported in the forthcoming edition of Transactions.

Post Excavation Group – the post excavation group examines, records, researches and archives artefacts produced from excavations and prepares them for deposit with the Museums & Gallery Service. Extensive work has been done this year on the finds from the Marine Engineers site

c) Sites and archives

Scarborough Library Archives Cataloguing Group

This group of some fifteen members was formed to contribute to the effectiveness of Scarborough Library's local history collection (the Scarborough Room). Each week members work on maps, illustrations, newspapers, journals, programmes, manuscripts and printed works to create checklists, databases, digital images and published research papers.

Scarborough Community Archive Network

The Society continues to collect images to be stored digitally and to be available through the Commanet website.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Working in partnership with other organisations and community groups is important in the delivery of our Objects. During the year we worked in partnership with: -

Scarborough & District Civic Society, English Heritage, Scarborough Borough Council Planning Services – Heritage Open Days

Scarborough Maritime Heritage Group – handling archival material

Scarborough Museums & Gallery Service – Heritage Open Days, excavation archive and medieval pottery day

North Yorkshire County Library – literary festival

The Scarborough Branch of the East Yorkshire Family History Society – Collaboration on medieval Scarborough names.

MEMBERSHIP

The Society has 159 members a small increase on last year (150). Of the 159 members 6 are life members and 5 are institutional members.

The Society is a member of the following organisations: -

Council for British Archaeology
Council for Independent Archaeology
Coast & Moors Voluntary Action
Yorkshire Archaeological Society

Signed.....

Trevor Pearson Chairman of the Trustees Chris Hall, Chairman of the Committee

APPENDIX 1- LECTURES

The lecture meetings are held on Monday evenings at 7:30pm in the Concert Room, Central Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough,

6 April 2009

Sir Hugh Chomley of Whitby

Dr Jack Binns
(After the AGM)

23 April 2009

Cleopatra the Great: The woman behind the legend

Dr Joann Fletcher
Scarborough Literature Festival

9 June 2009

Fashion & women's rights in the 19th century

Karen Snowden

23 Sept 2009

The Market History of Scarborough

John Rushton
Held at the Market Vaults

5 October 2009

The Lives of the Bronte family

Isobel stirk

19 October 2009

A royal Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Street House, North East Yorkshire

Stephen Sherlock

2 November 2009

Excavations at Star Carr, Seamer: past, present and future

Nicky Milner

16 November 2009

From Stonehenge to Hadrian's Wall recent discoveries by English Heritage

Trevor Pearson

30 November 2009

Wrecks of the Yorkshire Coast

John Buglass

14 December 2009

Military Archaeology

Roger Thomas

11 January 201

Cancelled due to inclement weather

25 January 2010

The history of Scarborough's pleasure cruiser Corona

Tom Machin

8 February 2010

Building stones in Scarborough

Professor Peter Rawson

22 February 2010

From Grovehill to Grytviken: Viola-Dia, the life and times of the oldest surviving

North Sea fleeting trawler

Dr Robert Robinson

8 March 2010

Member's evening

23 March 2009

AGM followed by a lecture by Vanessa Milner

Shuttleworth – Gardens and Aeroplanes