

# **Annual Report of Scarborough Archaeological & Historical Society 2010-2011**

This Annual Report covers the Society's 'year' of 1 April 2010 until 30 March 2011

## **REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER**

1108962

## **ADDRESS**

PO Box 378  
Scarborough  
YO12 4WS

## **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 (Chairman of the Trustees), Bryan Berryman, Jack Binns, Martin Bland, Kate Young\*, Chris Hall, Sue Ogilvy,

### **COMMITTEE 2010-2011**

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

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

Committee, Robin Boddy, Farrell Burnett, Dan Henley-Welch, Lynda Henley-Welch, Linda Kemp, Geoff Milner, Vanessa Milner, Sue Ogilvy, Wendy Somerville-Woodiwis, Mark Vesey, Sue Wood.

During the year Dr Brian Rahn was co-opted onto the Committee

\*During the year Kate Flounders changed her name to Kate Young

The Committee appointed members to the following posts:-

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

## **OBJECTS**

The Society's objects 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 OBJECTS

### a) Dissemination of knowledge

- i) Lectures and day schools.

There were two lectures after the 2010 AGM in the winter/spring lecture season, David Neave on Sledmere and our contribution to the Scarborough Literature Festival, a talk on the Royal Navy in Transition by Professor David Bradley

On Saturday 31 July 2010, as part of the Festival of British Archaeology, we jointly organised a Star Carr day school with Scarborough Museums Trust. This free event, which was oversubscribed, attracted attendees from throughout the region. The speakers for the day were:-

*Nicky Milner* (University of York) The history of discoveries at Star Carr

*Barry Taylor* (University of Manchester) The prehistoric landscape of Star Carr

*Ben Elliott* (University of York) Antler working at Star Carr

*Patrick Hadley* (Enkyad Heritage Media) Visualising Star Carr

There were six lectures during Autumn 2010 covering both history and archaeology all of which were very well attended and similarly in the Winter/spring 2011 the six lectures shown an equal diversity of topic. Special mention must go to the lecture on Peru by Dr Nick Branch who came up specially from Reading University. Despite the bad weather at times all the lectures were well attended with between 80 and 100 people present.

A full list of the lectures is annexed

- ii) Field excursions and other activities

On Saturday 22 May 2010 the society participated in a Family & Local History Day held at St Andrew's URC, Ramshill organised by East Yorkshire Family History Society – Scarborough Branch where we had a display stall

On Saturday 26 June 2010 a tour of the Hungate dig conducted by Peter Connelly (Project Director of the Hungate Excavation at York Archaeological Trust)

On Saturday 5 February 2011 at the CBA Symposium, Northallerton the Society had a book stall and display

In addition to the Festival of British Archaeology, we continue to participate in Heritage Open Days working 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.

- iii) Publications –

During the year, Farrell Burnett had to relinquish the post of Publications Officer and this role has been taken over by Wendy Somerville-Woodiwis. The Society would like to formally put

on record its thanks to Farrell Burnett for all the hard work she has put into both driving up the quality of our publications and putting our publications on a really sound footing.

It is clear that the recession has affected our retail sales greatly with retail orders this year nearly halved from those last year. Numerous small shops have closed across the region and those that remain open re-order very conservatively. In addition local/regional authorities and quangos such as English Heritage have been increasingly cutting their ordering. Nevertheless, the dissemination of knowledge through our publications remains an very important part of our work.

Transactions 42 was published in October. The publication of Transactions, which first commenced in 1958, is very important to the to the Society and its objectives. The Society can feel proud that we have published such a well respected journal, to high standards, over such a long period; and continue to do so. Under the Editorship of Keith Johnston we have broadened both the subject matter and the range of contributors in recent years.

## **b) Research**

### **i) Excavations and Post Excavation Group**

It was a quiet year for field work. Further trenching was carried out at the square enclosure on Seamer Moor and a small excavation was carried out in the garden of 3 Westbourne Park. Geophysical and earthwork survey was carried out in a field containing ditched enclosure at West Lane Snainton. Interim Archaeological Report 39 'An archaeological excavation at Aurborough Street Scarborough' was published in November 2010. Reports such as this, known as grey literature, are deposited with the National Monuments Record, County Historic Environment Record, the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, the library and the museum. This year we were invited to upload our grey literature onto a national database known as OASIS; training was provided by English Heritage to enable us to do this.

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 and met on several occasions during the year.

### **ii) Trustees Fund**

During the year the Society initiated its Trustees Fund to financially help projects which meet our objectives as a charity. Thus fund, and applications to it, is overseen by the Trustees. Two applications were considered during the year, one of which was referred back to the applicant for more information.

## **c) Sites and archives**

### **i) Scarborough library Archives cataloguing group**

The group has been working on a number of tasks and attending to enquiries from outside sources. Databases are being set up which include Londesborough Theatre Programme transcripts, pamphlets held by the Library, Prescott Spa Cuttings, engravings, cataloguing, 1892 maps of Scarborough – a working analysis of streets, plans & directories, miscellaneous photos, Archaeological Society press cutting books from 1950, solicitors & workhouse ledgers, matching photos of local events to newspaper reports. Discussions are taking place on how the databases can be best used for public access.

### **ii) Scarborough Community Archive Network**

The Scarborough Community Archive Network project came to an end in 2010 due to the host organisation going into receivership. The Commanet website, as it was known, had

community archive photographs and information from over 60 towns and villages across the UK. Whilst it is regrettable that this resource has been lost to the public, the good news is that each town or village should still have a copy of the information, which is usually made available through the local library. In Scarborough's case this is also true and we have uploaded quite a few photographs and stories onto the SAHS website. Just recently a BBC TV researcher expressed an interest in using some of the photographs for a forthcoming documentary on Scarborough

### **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:-

North Yorkshire County Library and the Friends of Scarborough Library – Archives cataloguing group

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

North Yorkshire County Library – Scarborough Literature Festival

Scarborough Museums Trust – Star Carr day school. Excavation archive

The society is represented on the committee of CBA Yorkshire and sends a representative to the Council meetings of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Society has 7 life members, 5 institutional members and 149 ordinary members, giving a total of 161 which is a slight increase over last year.

The Society is a member of the following organisations:-

- Council for British Archaeology
- Council for Independent Archaeology
- Coast & Moors Voluntary Action (formerly Scarborough & District Council for Voluntary Service)
- Yorkshire Archaeological Society

Signed.....  
Trevor Pearson  
President of the Society  
Chairman of the Trustees

Chris Hall  
Chairman of the Committee

## **APPENDIX 1- LECTURES**

Mon 12 April 10

### **Sledmere House and Estate**

Dr David Neave

Mon 19 April 10

### **Wooden walls to Ironclads - The Royal Navy in transition**

Prof David Bradley

Mon 4 Oct 10

### **Life in Haworth in the time of the Brontes'**

Isobel Stirk

Mon 18 Oct 10

### **The Whitby & Pickering Railway: Artists, Founders and Patrons 1836-1865.**

Prof Gordon Bell

Mon 1 Nov 10

### **Scarborough area in early Tudor times**

John Rushton

Mon 15 Nov 10

### **York's other river: an archaeological investigation of the River Foss**

Chris Dunn

Mon 29 Nov 10

### **Windows into the past – Yorkshire Parish Churches**

Anthony Masinton

Mon 13 Dec 10

### **York's bid for World Heritage status**

John Oxley, York City Archaeologist

Mon 10 Jan 11

### **Excavation of an unusual Roman cemetery at York**

Kurt Hunter-Mann

Mon 24 Jan 11

### **Landscape, site and symbol in the Peruvian Andes: Recent archaeological and geoarchaeological research**

Dr Nick Branch

Mon 7 Feb.11

### **Saxons, Vikings and Normans in the Tees Valley**

Robin Daniels

Mon 21 Feb 11

### **Yorkshire coastal fortlets (nee signal stations) -new thoughts on the late Roman frontier**

Robert Collins

Mon 7 Mar 11

### **Members' Evening**

Mon 21 Mar 11

### **Recent discoveries in the north by the English Heritage Aerial Survey team**

Matthew Oakey