



## Contents

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### 2016 - A YEAR OF CHANGES

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2016 has certainly been a year of unexpected changes worldwide – considering the outcomes in the referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union and in the US presidential election. And so it has been in St Andrews!

The Trust too, has experienced great change in 2016 – 100% turnover in staff, a new chairman, and a significant turnover in Trustees! It seems no time since Annie Birrell took up the post of office administrator at the beginning of the year and yet she has managed to quickly master our office systems and pension software, contributing new ideas to managing the office and events, whilst dealing efficiently with the many demands from Trustees. Midway through 2016, our museum curator, Samantha Bannerman was – to her great credit-appointed museum manager at the Dundee Museum of Transport. Whilst pleased for Samantha, Trustees were acutely aware of the vacuum she would leave after three years' proactive effort. However I am pleased to say that we were again very fortunate to be able to recruit Nicola Moss – like Sam having worked in the Perth Black Watch museum.. Nicola took up the post of curator in October and has settled in very quickly, gaining the confidence and support of the museum committee, volunteers and Trustees. She brings enthusiasm and many new ideas for exhibitions and events for the coming year – starting in late January 2017 with a coffee morning to launch the display of the Research Group – and this on top of the challenges to secure museum accreditation and plans for refurbishment of the store in Queen's Gardens. The Trust is very grateful to have the services of Annie and Nicola.

The turnover in Trustees has also been significant. I was very fortunate to succeed John Matthews who so ably and generously kept the ship on course during his 2015-6 term. Being an "old" native St Andean, but with a large gap in residency and recent local knowledge, I very much appreciated John's assistance, sage advice and wicked sense of humour!

John, Roy Chapman, and Former Vice-chair Andrew Johnson all demitted office at our 2016 AGM, leaving just 10 Trustees. I am therefore very grateful

to Peter Haselhurst, Jane Claydon, Sandy Bremner, David Watkinson, Clair Tynte Irvine and John Sharp for agreeing to become co-opted Trustees. Just when things were looking up, Bill Sangster announced his “retiral”, and Annie Long and Vice-Chair Peter Murray also decided to step down for personal reasons. They have all been strong supporters and contributed generously of their knowledge, experience and time. For myself, and on behalf of the Trustees, I want to express grateful thanks, and hope for their continued involvement in Trust activities.

We will lose a further Trustee due to rotation at the next AGM. This could leave us in a very precarious position with too few Trustees and six main committees and major events to manage – especially as 2017 marks the Trust’s 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and twenty years of Hidden Gardens. At the end of this letter I therefore reiterate the inter regnum’s plea for new Trustees in the July Newsletter.

Very sadly, in late October, the Trust lost one of its longest, most supportive and generous members – our Honorary Vice President, Gillian Falconer. It is impossible to do justice to Gillian’s contribution to the Trust over the years – in terms of her time, talents and generosity. She was a great character, very artistic and knowledgeable. Her love of plants and gardens was seminal in developing the garden at the museum - as was her exceptionally generous financial support. The “Falconry” and museum refurbishment are lasting tributes to her memory. One of her last acts was a very full donation to enable the re-design and re-planting of the south border - a project to be overseen by Andrew Johnson. Gillian’s passing is a great loss to the Trust.

2016 was also a year of change for the town. The University appointed its new Principal and Vice Chancellor, Professor Sally Mapstone. The University faces great challenges and its future development will inevitably have major impacts on the town, transport and the environment. We have already seen exciting plans for the development of the Scottish Oceans Institute and would hope that any future development in that area would respect the environmental and access provisions set out in the East Sands Urban Design Framework. The Trust also recognizes the critical importance of developing and consulting on a holistic master plan for the west of the town addressing all aspects of amenity, transport and the environment.

We have also seen a remarkable change of fortune in the long-running Madras College planning saga. Following the decision of the Inner House of the Court of Session in March 2016 to quash the approval of planning permission for a new Madras at Pipeland, the Scottish Government’s DPEA, in its examination of the proposed Fife Local Development Plan (FIFEPlan), ruled that the Pipeland site be restored to Green Belt status. The decision recognizes the crucial role that the southern hillside plays in the beautiful landscape setting of St Andrews. It seems that this has been instrumental in re-opening discussions between the University and Fife Council to site the school at Langlands. This site, adjacent to many University facilities, potentially offers great advantages compared to Pipeland, including enhanced educational and sporting opportunities, as well as environmental, transport and deliverability benefits. It also leaves open the possibility for extending the Community Hospital. It is a matter of great satisfaction to the Trust that the agreement apparently provides for sympathetic development of the wonderful 1832 William Burn building, Madras College

South Street, for educational purposes and preserves the hard-won Green Belt. I for one, wish to salute the STEPAL directors and supporters for their courage and conviction in helping to overturn an ill-considered planning proposal. The Trust and its hard-worked planning committee will continue to be ever-vigilant regarding details of the proposals and the potential impacts they may have on our historic town. We hope for constructive dialogue with all concerned parties to bring a new school to completion as early as possible. Thanks are due to Sandy Bremner and his team in planning.

The October annual lecture was a great success. It was held in the splendid surroundings of the St Leonard's Music School – designed by our Honorary President, Robert Steedman. Rachel Hart, Keeper of Manuscripts and Muniments, St Andrews University Library, fascinated everyone with her selection of “The Treasures of the University Library”. Rachel's selection was remarkable, not just for the importance of some of the priceless artefacts, but also for the huge range – and the fact that this was the tip of the iceberg.

It was good to return “home” to our museum to host the winter reception – the museum is very atmospheric at this time of year and was beautifully decorated. Members were treated to a delicious buffet to be followed by very slick, witty and perfectly timed Christmas readings by Alan Tricker and Brenda Hunter of Red Wine Productions. Thanks are due to the Programme Team and all the volunteers who made these events such a success.

Our treasurer's (Ian Lumsdaine's) report notes that we continue to run a deficit on “normal” trading. A significant element of the deficit is maintenance of our building stock which has been higher than normal this year. The Trust has been the beneficiary of three generous legacies, sufficient to bring the Trust back into surplus. Investment income remains a substantial and vital component of our total income. The Trust is exploring alternative ways to augment its income in these changing times - including, of course, growing our membership. I want to thank both Ian for his precise management of our finances and Annie Long for her initiative on fund-raising.

Looking ahead, 2017 marks the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Trust. This will be an opportunity to communicate some of the Trust's many achievements in preserving the historic character and amenity of our town. I suspect many of us who are “too” familiar take it all rather much for granted and we should perhaps blow the Trust's trumpet a little louder. The Trust has saved many buildings, helped enhance the environment and holds a large number of St Andrews treasures in its collection – including old photographs and paintings. We continue to capture the town's social development providing a rich sense of people and place. We may be about to enter our ninth decade, and the pace of change may be quickening, but our mission is surely as valid as ever. This is a good point to return to where I started:

*Will you, as a member, consider becoming a Trustee? Do you have particular experience or skills that would be helpful? Most of us have skills that we may be too modest to recognize and every kind of experience has its value. If you don't feel able to help, who do you know, or know of, who might be ready, willing and able to help in the running of the Trust. It would be truly appreciated if you would give this problem careful thought.*

Please contact me via the Trust office with any offers of help or willing names.

Finally, may I take the opportunity to wish all our members a very good New Year

Bill Borthwick,  
Chairman

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## ENVIRONMENT REPORT

*"January opens  
The box of the year  
And brings out days  
That are bright and clear  
And brings out days  
That are cold and grey  
And shouts, "Come see  
What I brought today!"*

*Leland B. Jacobs, January*

*Happy New Year 2017 to ALL Trust members!*

As with my fellow Conveners, I find myself writing this report before Christmas and the year's end. Regarding the Environment Committee, there appears to be scant news for this January edition.

Since our October newsletter many of our committee's initiatives have come to a standstill, especially with regards to Boase Wood. Although I reported at the time that Special Branch's "pro bono" service in Boase Wood would continue for the foreseeable future, this seems to prove unlikely. Our lines of communication with Mark Edward have unfortunately been met with an impasse. Despite phone calls and emails, we are unaware of any recent work that has been conducted in the wood by the company. As a result, after consultation with our Chair, our Administrator posted a letter to Special Branch in mid November, querying the status quo with this pro bono arrangement. We also informed Mark that we had contacted Martin Langton to conduct another survey in Boase Wood. He was asked to concentrate on the health and safety of the woodland area by the boundary wall and whether any trees might need to be felled. This was as a result of a neighbour's ongoing concern for his property which is adjacent to Boase Wood. To date, our office administrator has not received a reply.

Regarding the proposed Heritage sign, it has been decided to shelve this proposal for the time being. Hopefully this personal "pipe dream" of mine might be fulfilled in the future through the hands of the next Environment Convener. I very much doubt that this will come to fruition

before my second term of office ends in May 2018.

Environment committee member, Dave Seeley is now wearing the “hardhat” of Property Convener. He has now taken on the responsibility for monitoring the Bogward Doocot. I trust that he will provide an update in his own report regarding the work that has been completed at this property, making it safe and secure.

At our October Board meeting I suggested that this year we should not take part in The Scottish Civic Trust's “My Place Award”. With 2017 being the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Trust, the alternative suggestion was that we should concentrate on our own “Pride of Place” Awards, historically held every four years. Forward plans are already in hand with all the previous awards data being scrutinised by yours truly over the next few months. Meanwhile, I would be grateful if members could contact me with their own personal suggestions as to possible 2017 Award winners. Please contact me on 01334 476623 or by email on [polonica132@googlemail.com](mailto:polonica132@googlemail.com). Further details as to how this proposal is progressing will be detailed in our next Newsletter.

Marysia Denyer  
Environment Convener

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## PLANNING REPORT

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee meets on a fortnightly basis to critically and constructively review planning applications submitted to Fife Council for the St. Andrews Ward and those relating to the Conservation Area.

### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Between June and December 2016 there have been 177 planning application submitted and 188 planning applications determined within the St. Andrews Ward as noted:

#### Applications Registered

Pre-Application Screening	1
Proposal of Application Notice	1
Planning Permission in Principle	2
Full Planning Permission	88
Listed Building Consent	27
Non-Material Variations	22
Advertisement Consents	6
Tree Conservation Area	14
Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed)	8

Certificate of Lawfulness (existing)	7
Discharge of Planning Obligations	1

*Applications Determined*

Environmental Impact Assessment – refused	1
Planning Permission in Principle – with conditions	2
Pre-Application Screening – no PAN required	1
Proposal of Application Notice	1
Full Planning Permission – no conditions	21
Full Planning Permission – with conditions	61
Full Planning Permission – withdrawn	4
Full Planning Permission – refused	2
Listed Building Consent - no conditions	10
Listed Building Consent - with conditions	14
Listed Building Consent - withdrawn	4
Listed Building Consent - refused	2
Advertisement Consent – no conditions	3
Advertisement Consent – with conditions	3
Advertisement Consent – refused	1
Non-Material Variations - no conditions	18
Non-Material Variations - refused	5
(Planning Permission required)	
Tree Conservation Area	13
Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed)	8
Certificate of Lawfulness (existing)	9
Discharge of Planning Obligations	1

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIONS/COMMENTS, ETC.**

The Planning Committee has commented on and objected to a variety of planning applications since June; the most noteworthy being:

- Revised Planning Applications - 15/03789/FULL and 16/00049/LBC, 6a Greyfriars Gardens, (Installation of Replacement Extraction Flue).
- Planning Application 16/02052/FULL - Application to build a large garage / workshop in the garden of 4 Lade Braes, referring to tree conservation.
- Planning Application 16/02698/FULL - Change of use of agricultural land to form extension to caravan park to accommodate 43 static pitches for holiday use and associated vehicular access and drainage infrastructure at St Andrews Holiday Park, Anstruther Road.
- Planning Application 16/03072/FULL and Listed Building Consent 16/03071/LBC -

Outdoor dining area and external alterations including re-positioning of retractable roof at the West Port Hotel, 170 South Street.

- Planning Application 16/03693/FULL - Alterations to boundary wall, formation of vehicular access and hard standing and erection of gate at 6 John Street.
- Planning Application 15/00762/NMV1 - External alterations to restaurant including erection of bin store, installation of window and door (Non-material variation to 15/00762/FULL to retain external store and kitchen, remove proposed external bin store and alterations to balustrade) - The Glass House, 80 North Street.
- Planning Application 16/03479/LBC - Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations including two storey extension to rear of 4 Greenside Place.

In addition, various submissions have been made to DEPA for Appeal PPA 250/2270 - Priory Gardens.

Also, positive comment was made to Roads Lighting, Transportation and Environmental Services Department of Fife Council about their Pre-planning Advice note for street lighting improvements in the:

- Golf Place and The Scores (West end of Murray Park).
- The Scores (East end of Murray Park).
- North Castle Street and East Scores.

#### OTHER

Representation has been made to Fife Council's Planning Enforcement Officer concerning the erection of advertising banners at the Byre Theatre on Abbey Walk and South Street without having the necessary advertising permission under the control of advertising legislation. In addition, the opportunity was taken to draw attention to the many "A" Boards present in St Andrews town centre without advertising consent and which present a hazard to visually impaired pedestrians.

The Trust has written to the Chief Executive of Historic Environment Scotland voicing the Trust concerns regarding the poor condition of the Abbey / Cathedral wall along the length of its Abbey Street - Abbey Walk frontage.

On 23rd September 2016, representatives from the Trust were guest speakers to the Town and Regional Planning Faculty at the University of Dundee, providing them with an insight to the St Andrews Preservation Trust, the role of the Planning Committee and the many challenges the Committee faces. The Trust's objective is to continue the helpful relationship it has had with the Faculty's students over the last two years.

Sandy Bremner  
Planning Convener

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## MEMBERSHIP, PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY REPORT

### MEMBERSHIP

I reported in the October 2016 newsletter that a serious attempt was to be made to recruit new members and assess and improve services to members. Unfortunately Annie Long, who has already done work on this and who was to head up a sub committee on recruitment has resigned as a trustee. Annie has been promoted in her day job with the National Trust for Scotland. She has had to cut back on her non National Trust activities. However Jane Claydon has stepped into the breach and will chair the sub committee, which is quick off the blocks and has met twice already. New trustee Claire Tynte Irvine joins the sub committee which is drawing up a short survey of members to be distributed with this newsletter.

We hope that all members who pay their subscription by standing order will by now have changed their standing orders to take account of the 2016 increases in membership subscriptions Any members in arrears should have received a reminder from the office. We also remind you that 2017 subscriptions are now due.

### PRESS COVERAGE

A press release in the name of the chairman went to both the Courier and the Citizen welcoming the agreement between the University and Fife Council on a site at Langlands on the western approaches to the town for the new Madras College. This site meets the two main criteria demanded by the Trust, namely it be on the west of the town to keep school buses out of the centre and maintain unchanged the Green Belt. Our thanks go to all who have supported us in our support of STEPAL which achieved its primary aim of the rejection of Pipeland, a totally unsuitable site.

Both papers carried photographs and obituaries of Gillian Falconer, an honorary vice president of the trust who has died at the age of 90. An appreciation of Gillian's life and work is included in this newsletter, written by Anne Morris. This tribute was delivered by Andrew Johnson at the service celebrating Gillian's life.

It has been agreed by the Board that a press officer, who need not be a trustee will be appointed at the 2017 AGM of the Trust. Although press coverage has been satisfactory in recent years it is felt that it could be even better with one person solely in charge.

### PUBLICATIONS

These are to be the responsibility of a "Members Services" committee. This committee will take charge of the newsletter and the Year Book Publications will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis. These changes are part of a general restructuring of committees within the Trust which will be explained at the AGM in May.

Derek Barrie  
Membership, Publications and Publicity Convener

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

This report is written nearly at the end of December and year end trading is still not finalised. Cumulative income and expenditure show on normal trading that we have an excess of expenditure over income and this has arisen due to significant costs being required on repairs and maintenance to our properties, including our investment property.

However, against this deficit I have to report that we have received legacy income from three legacies which will return our bottom line figure to a positive balance. The final year accounts will bring in several accounting adjustments, such as depreciation and stock adjustments, but we should show a surplus in the year-end figures.

January is the month for the receipt of annual subscriptions and we are looking at the possibility and cost of operating a direct debit system for the subscriptions in future years. We will keep members informed of our plans.

Our investment portfolio continues to provide a critical source of income, whilst maintaining the capital value and we are in regular contact with our brokers to ensure that this continues. It is still too early to predict the long term effect, if any, that the Brexit vote will have on our principal source of income of dividend and interest from our portfolio as it is only when the companies in which we have invested decide on their dividends will we know the effect in the next few years. At the moment our brokers are advising us to wait and see and not to change our holdings .

Ian Lumsdaine  
Treasurer

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## MUSEUM REPORT

### EVENTS IN THE MUSEUM

The very successful & extremely popular Summer Exhibition *Sticks and Stones, Bats and Balls : Sport in St Andrews* closed on Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. The associated talk given by Keith Neilson & Ian Poole, entitled *Our Sporting Lives*, was well attended and as there was some excellent information imparted Veronica Whyment the Oral Archivist intends to recruit Ian Poole as a participant in the Oral Archive Project.

The Volunteers' Research Group Exhibition (8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October) was very attractively presented and show-cased previous projects. The Committee members and the Research Group

members are extremely grateful to Arlen Pardoe who produced a great number of very detailed and very professional additional booklets related to the individual projects. Unfortunately, due to copyright issues, these cannot be sold but copies may be studied in the Research Room at the Museum. Arlen also continues to digitise the research projects.

The St Andrews Voices Installation *Mortuos Plango, Vivos Voco* was open to the public between the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. This had been described as ‘...a 10 minute masterpiece...poignant, even haunting’ (Financial Times) & for some of those who visited the Museum and experienced the sound installation this appeared to be a good description although others felt that the Museum was too small to give full effect to the sound and a larger building e.g. The Town Church might have been a more appropriate setting.

Unfortunately, due to pressure of time on the pupils involved in setting up the Madras Archive Group Exhibition, this event has been postponed until further notice.

The final exhibition of the year, the Annual Art & Craft Exhibition opened on the 26<sup>th</sup> November and closed on the 4<sup>th</sup> December with the Preview Night held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November. The funds raised from this event were boosted as some of the exhibitors donated all of their sales monies.

A group of 20 Primary 1 pupils from Canongate Primary enjoyed a visit to the Museum in November.

### **MISS GILLIAN FALCONER**

At the Museum Committee Meeting held on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> November, Chaired by Dr Peter Murray, it was with much sadness that the members of the Committee recorded the death on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016 of Miss Gillian Falconer.

Gillian’s financial and active support of the Museum and the Garden, which she loved, spanned many decades and she was an active member of the Museum Committee until her health declined. She will be sorely missed but fondly remembered and it is a great tribute to her that her generosity will be recalled & thought of in every area of the Garden and the Building at Number 12 North Street.

Please see the obituary of Gillian’s life later in the newsletter.



## FUTURE EVENTS

Please note these as detailed in the 'Dates for your Diary' item in this Newsletter.

## DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE GARDEN AND THE MUSEUM

Andrew Johnson continues to liaise with the staff and students from Elmwood College, who have started work on laying the foundations of the paths and the central gazebo within the Sensory Garden. Whilst inspecting the Southern Border Andrew discovered what appeared to be an old gravestone which had been unearthed during preparatory work for the foundation of The Falconry. This is currently being investigated by The Scape Trust who are interested in recording the stone with a photographic technique called RTI.

In essence this means that they will digitally map the stone from all angles, then using a specially designed programme will be able to read what is carved on the stone.

The work required to replace the pipe-work leading from the W.C. was successfully completed on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Apparently the existing pipe-work was totally inadequate. The Museum displays were refurbished by an in-house team of Volunteers prior to the Arts and Crafts Exhibition.

The painting of the ceiling, downstairs, was completed early in December and it is hoped that the wooden floor downstairs will be sanded and varnished during the closure of the Museum in January 2017.

## VOLUNTEERS

End-of-Season Party - This was a happy occasion and Nicola was warmly welcomed to her first Volunteers' get-together. At the party Dr Robert Prescott presented the Annabelle Kidston portrait which has been purchased from the Volunteers' Fund. The portrait is of Sir Francis Ibiem, (d.o.b. 29:11:1906) the first African Student to matriculate at St Andrews University. He became Governor of Eastern Nigeria and died in 1995.

Volunteers' Talks : On the 26<sup>th</sup> October, Arlen Pardoe gave an excellent and very informative talk on : *Post Boxes in St Andrews*. As always those attending left determined to look up, down and round about as they walk around the town in order to seek out all the 'hidden treasures' that Arlen has identified. The Volunteers await with much anticipation Arlen's next talk and next subject!

An interesting talk entitled *Fife Pilgrim Way* given by Susan Kettles was held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at which volunteers learned more about the proposed funding of this Project.

The proposed Volunteers' Visit to Dundee to meet up with Samantha Bannerman at the Transport Museum will now take place in April 2017.

## CURATOR'S POST

Nicola Moss has settled in extremely well and has already tackled many of the tasks & undertaken many of the responsibilities as detailed in the Hand-over Notes provided by Samantha Bannerman, her predecessor.

In addition to up-dating the Museum & Garden Guide Leaflet she has prepared and had printed the Museum Events 2017 Leaflet as well as completing a number of the Museum Policies and Plans documents required in support of the forthcoming application for the Museum to achieve full accreditation in 2017.

She has applied for a Grant for the Festival of Museums event and is currently finding out more about funding for the refurbishment of the stores.

At the Museums' Association Conference, held in November, as a delegate Nicola was invited to take part in the Panel discussion.

I know that members would wish to join the members of the Museum Committee in wishing Nicola every success in 2017!

## FURTHER INFORMATION

To keep up-to-date with Museum Matters between Newsletters please click onto our website - [www.standrewspreservationtrust.co.uk/museum.html](http://www.standrewspreservationtrust.co.uk/museum.html)

Alternatively why not contact the Curator to be included on the Museum's monthly e-mail mail out; send your request to [curator@standrewspreservationtrust.org.uk](mailto:curator@standrewspreservationtrust.org.uk).

Anne Morris  
Museum Convener

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## FUNDRAISING AND PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

On Friday 14 October Richard Falconer led ten members of the Trust on a Ghost Tour. The weather was suitably atmospheric – windy and rainy. Richard generously donated his fee of £100 to the Trust.

The Winter Reception was held in the Museum on 9 December. Attended by about forty members, the evening was a great success. Entertainment was by Red Wine Productions – Alan Tricker and Brenda Hunter, who gave Christmas readings and poems which were well received by an appreciative audience.

In the new year The Fundraising and Programme Committee and the Membership, Publications and Publicity Committee are being restructured. This is to avoid an overlap of

each committee's responsibilities. The new committees will be as follows:

### **MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

(purpose: to raise money)

- Subscriptions
- Hidden Gardens
- Autumn Fair
- Christmas Cards/Calendars etc

### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE**

(purpose: to provide activities for members and communicate with them)

- Programme – includes receptions, putting etc
- Annual Lecture
- Newsletters
- Year Book

I shall be giving up as Convener of the Fundraising and Programme Committee and the Convener of the new committee, Membership and Fundraising, will be Peter Haselhurst. This will come into effect at the January 2017 meeting of the committee. I should like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me during the last eighteen months.

Irene Bennett  
Fundraising and Programme Convener

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## **MISS GILLIAN LAURA CONDIE FALCONER**

Miss Gillian Falconer was born on the 19th March 1926 to the Reverend Herbert Francis Falconer and his wife Laura (nee Somerville). Her father was the Minister at Blackadder Parish Church, in North Berwick, where he was born and lived for the first few months of her life with her sisters Alison (otherwise known to Miss Falconer as "Tig" although the rest of the family called her "Tiggy") and Jacqueline. Unfortunately she was only 7 months old when her father died suddenly and her mother, aged 35, decided to move to St Andrews where she arranged for the family home, Mizzentop, to be built and for her daughters to go to St Leonard's School as Day Girls.

The family was intellectually gifted and all the girls excelled academically and when they left school Alison went to Newnham College, Cambridge to study Mathematics, Jacqueline went to London University where she studied Science and Gillian went to Somerville College, Oxford where she read History.

While at Somerville she became friendly with Margaret Roberts, later to be known as Maggie Thatcher, and they both went together to talks and debates whenever they could. Miss Falconer described Mrs Thatcher as very nice indeed and very 'normal'. Indeed she was sorry

that she had not followed her friend into politics as they would have made “ a good and powerful team!”

Miss Falconer never married although she did find the “right one” in Oxford but unfortunately he died tragically in a motor-bike accident before they could get married. Her sister Alison married and had 3 children – Oliver and Johnnie, who in turn have families of their own - and Caroline who tragically died young. Jacqueline spent her entire life in the area of scientific research and was particularly interested in the study of stem cells.

Miss Falconer said that her late mother had been a remarkable woman in that she managed the limited family budget extremely well and ensured that her girls never went short of anything. During WW2 the family accommodated, as a lodger, an impoverished Polish Count who was also a Colonel in the Polish Army. He had fled Poland during the War with nothing but a diamond ring and he stayed on at Mizzentop as a guest until the end of his days. He is buried in the Western Cemetery.

Gillian was always aware of the value of money and what changes it could bring about if put to good use. She took an active interest in her investments. She recalled as a young girl going to the family solicitor—a Mr Scott Douglas of Edinburgh— and suggesting that some of the family’s money should be invested in Marks & Spencer’s. Mr Scott Douglas looked at her over his glasses with his fingertips touching each other and said that whilst he thought this was an interesting suggestion that he had never heard of Marks & Spencer’s and on that basis he did not think he could recommend such an investment. To be fair to the solicitor when she next visited he apologised to Gillian and said that he had taken a trip home one evening via Marks and Spencer’s and now his wife had shares in that company ... a story which delighted our old friend even to the end of her days.

After leaving Oxford - where she had endured a very debilitating bout of Glandular Fever - Gillian returned to St Andrews to consider her future. She decided that she wanted to pursue a career which involved using her creative and artistic talents. Initially she worked as a photographer - mainly photographs of families, special events and individual portraits whilst at the same time developing her other creative skills - which included metal & wood working, needle work, weaving, patchwork, tapestry, hooky rug-making, collage, jewellery making - to name but a few - but it was her wonderful screen-printed designs on linen which were to become the main aspect of her work.

She designed tray cloths, tea-towels, handkerchiefs & wall hangings - decorated with her drawings of wild flowers, trees, birds and animals all in glowing colours. Liberty and the National Trust ordered thousands of these and they were sold at home and abroad. At the same time she also used her outstanding artistic skills to design and make items for sale to raise funds for the numerous charities she supported. Each year she would make hundreds of Christmas Crackers : Advent Calendars: Teddy Bears: Bottle Bags: Patchwork Quilts or panels: covered notepads : Christmas items to be sold or raffled at Charity Events or Fairs. She instigated the setting up of Exhibitions in both Kellie Castle and the Preservation Trust Museum. Until quite recently she was making plans for her Fund-raising Annual Christmas Stall held at the Trust Museum.

Gillian and a group of friends, including her dear friend June Baxter, ran the National Trust Shop in St Andrews, as Volunteers, over many years, during which time it consistently had the highest sales figures in the country. It also had the best Christmas Window Display - designed and created by Gillian! She was one of the originators of the setting up of STACS the Service which helps transport people to and from hospital visits.

She loved travelling & was an intrepid traveller ... the more challenging the trip the better! When her sister Jacqueline became unwell, Miss Falconer locked up her house in St Andrews and unselfishly went to stay with her sister. Previously she had nursed their mother through her final illness. Initially she intended to stay in Newcastle for a few weeks but it ended up with her staying for several years nursing her sister and then when Jacqueline died arranging for her house to be denuded of every single button, hair grip and piece of paper that her sister had hoarded over her lifetime ... a gargantuan task made worse by Gillian's insistence that nothing was to be thrown away!

Gillian was an inveterate letter writer and whilst she was in Newcastle she sent marvellously descriptive letters to all her friends. The recipient on reading these always felt that Gillian was in the room with them.

On her return to St Andrews she threw herself back into life in the town she was passionate about her garden and there was nothing that she enjoyed more in her latter years than sitting amongst her flowers and plants enjoying the sun in the presence of 'Tink' her tame robin. As recently as last year Miss Falconer went with friends to Ingleston and came back with a car load full of lavender and many other plants. There was nothing she liked better than a day out at Glendoick Garden Centre.

As well as being passionately interested and involved in the history and preservation of the Town she was also interested in her Alma Maters i.e. St Leonard's School and Somerville College: birds and wildlife generally and in the work of The Scottish Wildlife Trust; The National Trust and The St Andrews Botanic Garden. She was an Honorary Vice President of The St Andrews Preservation Trust whose much loved Museum and Garden benefited greatly not only from her generous financial support but also from all her active support and creative efforts.

Over the years Gillian was very generous not only to her friends but to many Charities and there are simply too many to mention them all. One of the last gifts she made was to arrange that wheelchairs were sent to Burkino Faso to allow mobility to disabled children. She also funded the education of several girls in that West African Country. Nearer home, when she last visited St Andrews Community Hospital she found that she and the other patients in the ward were cold as there were no spare blankets. She immediately arranged for extra blankets to be supplied so that no other patients would have to suffer as she did!

Although Miss Falconer was clearly a paragon of virtue she was also very thraven and while she was always the first to help other people she found it more difficult to accept help for herself. She was fiercely independent and when she had to face going into a Care Home this was

clearly a very difficult transition for her and for those closest and assisting her often incurred the lowering of the brows which signified that she'd had enough ... and it was a brave soul who ignored these warning signs! She was genuinely interested in everything around her, She loved people and there was no side to her. She was keenly interested in current affairs and was regularly adding to her very extensive library. What she did not like was procrastination and if she was going to do something she wanted it done there and then. She was personally very humble and constantly put other people before herself - one could not have had a better nor more encouraging friend.

She was fiercely independent, indefatigable and inspirational with a great sense of fun. Her dress sense was always colourful, as was her personality, and she filled a room with warmth and vitality, at all times taking a keen interest in everyone and everything. She made each person feel special and one of her favourite accolades was "That's splendid! Well Done!"

Gillian Falconer was simply unique and the world - particularly St Andrews - is a sorry place for her passing ... we shall all miss her enormously.

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## TRUSTEE PROFILE - JANE CLAYDON

Jane Claydon was co-opted as a Trustee in June. She spent the majority of her career as a member of staff at St Leonards. Her first post at the school was Head of the Physical Education Department. She later became Housemistress of Abbey Park North and the Registrar. Her final post was Deputy Head.

During her thirty two years at St Leonards Jane developed an interest in the history of the school and this led her to take over the responsibility for the Seniors (Alumni) Museum and, more recently, to assist Angela Tawse, the school librarian and archivist, with the listing of the very extensive St Leonards Heritage Collection.

Jane's key research interests are the history of gymnastics and games in girls' schools and the contribution made by early 'graduates' of specialist P.E. colleges to the growth of team games in girls' schools. These interests led Jane to writing a book about the history of women's lacrosse and another, about the influence St Leonards had on the development of games for girls in the UK and abroad. Jane has also produced a booklet about the first five years of St Andrews School for Girls when it was located at the corner of Queen's Gardens and Queen's Terrace. In early 2016 Jane pinpointed the location of the 9 hole golf course, laid out by Tom Morris for St Leonards, in 1893.

More recently, following the recent publication of Dr Margaret Beckett's book *Wycombe Abbey Revisited*, Jane was motivated to undertake some research into the forty four plus girls from Wycombe Abbey who entered St Leonards in 1942 when their own school closed.

In addition to her interest in the Preservation Trust, Jane is President of Lacrosse Scotland and

responsible for international liaison. She also undertakes research for US Lacrosse Museum in Baltimore, the England Lacrosse Association and the Bergman Österberg Union Archive at Dartford, the archive which looks after material linked with Madame Bergman Österberg who introduced the *games mistress* into schools in the mid 1880s.

Jane is a member of the MPPP Committee and has recently, chaired a Membership Subcommittee, to look into membership of the Trust. She has also been helping at the Preservation Trust Museum at weekends.

Jane Claydon  
Co-opted Trustee

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## TRUSTEE PROFILE - PETER HASELHURST

I attended St Andrews University as a student from 1968 to 1972, taking a degree in Economics and Modern History. I met my wife there and we got married in 1973. For the next thirty three years we lived in England where I taught Economics in secondary schools. We have two grown up children who both live in Birmingham. Like so many other people we fell in love with St Andrews and regularly visited for holidays while living in England.

In 2006 we had the opportunity to move to Cupar when my wife was appointed Rector of the Episcopal Church in the town. I then taught part time at St Leonards school for several years. When my wife retired in 2015 we moved to St Andrews and are very much enjoying living in this beautiful place.

Before moving to Cupar we lived in Essex, Suffolk and then Cambridgeshire. In all the places we have lived in I have always been active in the community, and we joined the St Andrews Preservation Trust soon after moving to the town. When I first lived here as a student I fell in love with the town immediately, and it is a credit to all concerned that the town, although much larger than in 1968, is still instantly recognisable today. I look forward to working with the Preservation Trust and all like minded organisations to help conserve and enhance what is best about the town whilst at the same time recognising the inevitability of some continued growth. St Andrews is in many ways a victim of its own success, which in many ways is a nice problem to have!

Peter Haselhurst  
Co-opted Trustee

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### LEGACIES

In the Treasurer's report reference is made to the legacies received by the Trust. Without the generosity of Trust benefactors we would have to increase subscriptions or cash in some of

our investments. We would also be unable to proceed with capital spending on items like the research room, the sensory garden and development of the garden's southern border. Funding such ventures comes, almost exclusively, from grants and legacies. The Trust struggles to break even in its annual running costs so any legacy is very welcome and helpful. For further information contact the Treasurer Ian Lumsdaine via the Trust Office.

## MADRAS COLLEGE

In the Chairman's report and that of the MPPP Committee we mention the recent welcome news that the long running search for a suitable site for the replacement Madras College may well have been found at Langlands on the western outskirts of the town. This is because of an agreement between Fife Council and the University very similar as regards the site proposed when a similar agreement was rejected over 6 years ago.

The Trust can claim a victory on this issue in that it firmly opposed a site at Pipeland for which planning permission was granted (by the council to itself). Individual trustees and trust members also submitted a large number of objections. Members were kept informed of any developments through briefing notes, particularly from Graham Wynd and then John Matthews as Chairmen, sent out with members' newsletters

When STEPAL (St Andrews Environmental Protection Association Limited) became involved and decided to mount a legal challenge to the granting of planning permission a number of trustees became involved, in effect as members of the STEPAL Board. The Board of Trustees also agreed to two substantial grants to STEPAL to help with legal expenses.

The outcome of the court case was victory for STEPAL – much to many people's surprise. Given the strong support the Trust gave STEPAL, this was also a victory for the Trust. There can be no doubt that, but for STEPAL, a totally unsuitable site would have been used to build the school. The site now chosen by the council and the university meets all the criteria set by the Trust for siting a school, the most important being not on the Green Belt, on the western approaches to the town and keeping buses outside the town reducing congestion.

Well done to all Trust members who have been involved in this saga in any way.

Derek Barrie

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February** - 1 pm to 4 pm daily  
*Display of recent work by the Volunteers' Research Group*  
TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

... and including

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January** - 10 am to 12 pm

*Museum Volunteers' Coffee Morning*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission free - all welcome!

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March** - 11 am to 5 pm daily

*STANZA: Scotland's International Poetry Festival*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

*Artists of St Andrews* - 80 artworks selected from their own collection to celebrate the Trust's 80<sup>th</sup> year.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**11<sup>th</sup> May** - 7 pm (Please note that this date is still subject to change)

*Annual General Meeting* - TOWN HALL, QUEEN'S GARDENS

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May** - 11 am to 4 pm

*Festival of Museums: Our Victorian Childhood!*

Explore what your childhood might have been like in Victorian times - join us for a fun day of activities and crafts.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October** - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

*The Polish Connection*

For centuries, St Andrews has become home to many Polish citizens. Through objects and paintings you can explore the lives of Poles with connections to the town.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June** - 11 am to 5 pm

*Hidden Gardens Day* - The opportunity to visit rarely seen gardens of St Andrews.

Admission Charge: Adults £6; Children Free

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October** - 6 pm to 8 pm

*Museums at Night*

Join us for an evening of thrills and chills and see if you can solve our murder mystery!

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** - 1 pm to 4 pm daily

*Arts and Crafts Exhibition*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

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**TRUSTEES 2016/2017**

**Chairman**

**Dr William Borthwick**

**Vice Chairman**

Dr Derek A. Barrie  
Miss Anne J.M. Morris OBE

**Other elected Trustees**

Miss Irene Bennett  
Mr David Seeley

Mrs Marysia E. Denyer  
Mr Douglas Telfer

**Co-opted Trustees**

Mr Alexander G Bremner  
Mr Peter Haselhurst  
Mrs Claire Tynte Irvine

Miss P Jane Claydon  
Mr John Sharp  
Dr C David Watkinson

**Honorary Treasurer**

Mr Ian Lumsdaine

**COMMITTEE CONVENERS 2016/2017**

Environment  
Fundraising  
Membership, Publications and Publicity  
Museum  
Planning Applications  
Programme

Mrs M. Denyer  
Mr Peter Haselhurst  
Dr D.A. Barrie  
Miss. A. Morris OBE  
Mr Sandy Bremner  
To Be Announced

**Trustees and Conveners can be contacted through the Trust Office at  
4 Queen's Gardens. Telephone 01334 477152.**

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