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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

THE PIPELAND SAGA

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The content of this Newsletter is, like the curate's egg, 'good in parts'. On balance, I think it is reasonable to be positive about the events of the past few months.

A substantial bequest was received from an Ipswich-based man who loved St Andrews and, in particular, his regular golfing visits, though he never became a member of the Trust. Notification has also been received of a further bequest, this time from a resident of the town and long term member of the Trust.

I would like to thank all individual and joint Life Members who responded so generously to my suggestion in the last Newsletter that they might wish to consider making contributions to the Trust. I hope that I have written personally to all who made donations or completed annual standing orders. If my personal work administration has meant that a name has slipped through the net, I apologise – every pound was received with gratitude!

We said farewell to our Administrator, Lilius Lawrie just before Christmas. We wish her well in her new life in the Highlands.

In the closing weeks of 2015, a group of trustees (Bill Borthwick, Anne Morris, Derek Barrie, Ian Lumsdaine and I) sifted through dozens of applications for the post of Administrator. We eventually appointed Annie Birrell, who took up her duties on 4th January and, at the time of writing, seems to be settling into her job very well.

On one final staff matter, it is excellent news that our Curator, Sam Bannerman, has signed up to remain with the Museum for a further period – perhaps as much as another two years. We are fortunate to have her services; she is held in affection and esteem by all who have the good fortune to work with her.

Within the Trust, our Planning Committee continues to be as busy as ever and

the planning environment as challenging as ever. At the time of writing, the University has just announced its plans to demolish the old Gatty Laboratory and replace it with a modern two storey building. Whilst the proposed building may well look quite exciting and would at least partially hide the ghastly Sea Mammal Research building, the site is in an extremely sensitive area where any developments will need careful scrutiny and should take account of previous design studies for development of this area.

The Pipeland story moved through yet another stage, with the judicial review which was held in Edinburgh in mid January. It is felt that the case against the Pipeland site was well presented and thoughtfully received, whilst the opposing arguments were less convincing, but the outcome remains uncertain. I would like to take advantage of this contribution to our Newsletter to thank and congratulate all those who have written so convincingly and courteously to the St Andrews Citizen explaining why the Pipeland site is unsuitable and that a good alternative has always existed and still does. It is sad that others have forgotten decent manners and avoided rational argument in their pursuit of a quick decision no matter how flawed.

Our Museum goes from strength to strength! Its Committee, volunteers and our Curator run a small but important museum with imaginative and informative exhibitions, cooperation with other museums and valuable outreach activities. By the time this Newsletter is circulated, the new sensory garden should be planted (or about to be) and the kitchen and toilet thoroughly modernised. All the recent improvements owe a great deal to our benefactress, Gillian Falconer, to successful fundraising and to the hard work of many people including, importantly, Andrew Johnson, who has been so successful a leader of the Museum development team.

There is, however, no question of the Trust resting on its laurels. Fundraising gets no easier and the challenges to the fabric and character of our town get no less. Although much serious work lies ahead, it is good to be able to work with such dedicated colleagues and, more often than not, to work with such good spirit and a dash of humour. Before we know where we are, our 2016 AGM will be upon us and we will be looking for one or two new trustees. If you are interested in the Trust's work and can spare the time and energy, why don't you consider becoming a trustee? Your town needs you.

John F. Matthews
Chairman

POLICY AND RESOURCE REPORT

The Policy and Resource Committee has met twice since the last Newsletter was issued. To a large extent the Committee acts as the Trust's Business Committee, giving preliminary consideration to issues which will be discussed and decided at the Trustees' meetings. Thus it tends to cover a range of matters which are considered in detail by the Trust's other Committees and these are accordingly dealt with elsewhere in the Newsletter. To avoid

repetition, this report covers matters which are solely considered by the Committee itself or by the Board.

There are a number of continuing issues, including the question of the two historic doocots and the garden of number 1 Greyfriars Garden. With regard to the former, the purchase of the doocot at Bogward is still in the hands of our lawyers, while as to the latter, we are hoping to garner the support of other organisations in St. Andrews.

With the essential help of our Honorary Treasurer, Ian Lumsdaine, the Committee continues to monitor the Trust's financial situation, which we are happy to report, is reasonably healthy. Additionally, the Trust has recently received an unexpected bequest of around £70,000 from the estate of a non-member but regular visitor to St. Andrews, who clearly appreciated the work which the Trust undertakes to protect the burgh and to record and maintain its heritage. For this benefaction we are extremely grateful. If it is not indelicate, members might like to consider remembering the Trust in their wills, or bequeathing funds in memory of a relative or friend, safe in the knowledge that any moneys received will assist the Trust to continue its essential work.

Still on the financial front, the Trustees are experimenting with a small number of Donation Boxes placed in hotels and shops. They have been in place for only a short time (since just before Christmas) so it is too early as yet to determine whether they will provide a meaningful and regular source of funds or, indeed, whether they are currently situated in the best places. If the experiment is a success, and this will take some time to establish, we may invest in additional boxes. We are very grateful to those businesses which have agreed to host the Boxes.

On a different tack, in November, 2015 the Trust awarded its first Murray Prize for a published or publishable work on the history of St. Andrews. It was awarded to Dr Sally Foster of the University of Stirling for an article entitled : "*The legacy of nineteenth century replicas for object cultural biographies: lessons in duplication from 1830s Fife*". We held a presentation ceremony of a cheque and Certificate at the Trust's Museum on Monday 30 November (appropriately St. Andrews Day) and received good press coverage. We are very grateful to the staff of the St. Andrews Institute of Scottish Historical Research for advertising the competition around UK universities and for providing the academic judging panel. There were seven entries, a somewhat wider field than we might ever have contemplated. Thus the Competition served both to spread knowledge of the work of the Trust and to recognise outstanding original research on the history of St. Andrews. This year's Competition was organised in some haste, given the intention of meeting the St. Andrews Day deadline, so there was insufficient time to have the commemorative medal ready. This is currently being prepared by a specialist firm in Edinburgh, using the Trust's crest as the basis of the design. The initial stock of medals should be available by the time of the next Newsletter or soon thereafter. Dr Foster will, of course, be sent an engraved medal in due course. The competition is biennial, so the next one will take place in 2017.

Continuing with historical matters, the Trust is delighted to support the work of Miss Veronica Whymant on an oral history of St. Andrews. In the first instance, she will record the

memories of town residents and others of the 1940s and early 1950s. If you feel that you would like to contribute to the project or know of others whose recollections should be recorded, please let Veronica, Anne Morris or me know.

Peter J Murray
Policy and Resources Convener

PLANNING REPORT

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

During this four month autumn / winter period, 112 new planning applications have been registered in the St Andrews ward; 85 have been determined. These include 13 applications in respect of HMOs with total capacity of 48 persons; some of these relate to Certificates of Lawfulness to regularize ongoing letting of central and other properties. The embargo on new HMOs in the central conservation area does seem to be leading to increased applications outwith this area – despite the fact that there is reported to be a significant number of HMO properties remaining unlet. Most applications, though not all, are gaining approval.

PLANNING DEVELOPMENTS

As the new flats at Kinnessburn Road reach their full height, we note with disappointment their scale and dominance, exacerbated by their closeness to the road.

There have been no applications for major residential developments in St Andrews itself during this period, but Avant Homes have submitted an application (15/04130/PPP) for planning permission in principle (PPP) for around 76 houses, including affordable houses at *Nydie Mains Road, Strathkinness*.

Abbeyford Leisure has submitted a request to Fife Council for a screening opinion concerning a proposal (15/04108/SCR) to extend the *St Andrews Holiday Park at the Kinkell Braes*. The proposed development comprises up to 60 new caravan pitches for holiday use in the agricultural field to the south, screened by a new stone boundary wall, as well as trees and hedging. This is an extremely sensitive location, encroaching on the Green Belt and would certainly impact St Andrews landscape setting and the outstanding vistas on the approach road from Crail.

It is noted that further transport and construction phasing information is now available concerning the application 15/01823/EIA for a mixed development including 350 houses at *Craigtoun North*, although no extension appears to have been granted for public representations. Transport Scotland considers that traffic movements from the site will have negligible impact on the A92, the nearest trunk road and apparently accepts the developer's evidence that local road capacity is adequate. The Trust has already objected to the

potentially large increase in traffic on the local minor rural and urban road networks serving this development, which are very poorly maintained and present safety risks.

Similarly, further supporting statements from the developers of the former *New Park playing fields* (proposal 15/02815/PPP) have been posted since the application was closed to neighbour consultation. A letter from the agent to Fife Council urges acceptance, noting that the development will help address the anticipated shortfall in affordable housing and appears to hint that planning officers have previously indicated their support for this application in principle. Further economic justification is provided although again no extension has been granted for public responses. It is noted that Sport Scotland has requested clarification whether the loss of the New Park sports ground was compensated for when New Park was merged with St Leonards. This implicitly underlines the Trust's position that sports amenity space is at a premium in St Andrews and especially in this part of town.

The University has just submitted a proposal (16/00044/FULL) to erect a new building for the **Scottish Oceans Institute at the Gatty Marine Laboratories**. Whilst options to retain the façade of the existing Victorian building have evidently been considered, the proposal concludes this would be impractical and proposes demolition. Instead a bold, contemporary and dynamic design is proposed using quality materials and inspired by wave- and sail-forms. The material proposed for wavy-shaped solar shading panels is Corten steel which is claimed to oxidise to a stable, russet-red patina maturing with age. Such contemporary design in such a sensitive location will undoubtedly polarise opinion. The planning committee is now reviewing this proposal. There is concern that the Design and Access Statement is rather restricted in the way it treats the context of the building and its wider landscape setting. The Fife Council "East Sands Urban Design Framework - 2010" sets out broad guidelines for the development of the whole seafront and hinterland, addressing issues such as enhancing the sense of arrival to the town, reinforcing the distinct character and origins of the area, and improving access and movement. Some re-development of Albany Park and the Estates building (old laundry) may also be anticipated. Any new development at the Gatty should therefore assimilate this, assuring a coherent approach to development all along the seafront to meet the legitimate aims of the East Sands Urban Design Framework. Getting the balance right, between a functional, yet stylistically interesting, building for this important institute whilst avoiding it becoming a distraction from the ancient built and natural heritage, is a big challenge.

The fruitful collaboration with planning students and staff of the *University of Dundee's School of the Environment* is continuing on into the new session with a meeting scheduled at the University in January. The Trust will present its mission and case studies to be followed by discussion on planning policy issues. The Trust has continued to benefit from the input of planning students who well versed in the most recent developments of planning policy and inject contemporary views on planning issues and design.

The Planning Committee is pleased to involve **Mr Peter Donaldson**. Peter is a trained architect and formerly worked under William Murray Jack. He was involved in the Trust in the 1980s but moved to Edinburgh to work for Historic Scotland. The Committee is also very grateful to be able to continue to consult its former convenor, Mr David Middleton.

An obituary, written by Elizabeth Williams, to **the late Elizabeth Thomas** valued contribution to the Trust's planning effort is included later in this newsletter. The committee is grateful for the ideas, effort and commitment made by Mrs Elizabeth Thomas and the legacy we inherit.

Bill Borthwick
Planning Convener

ENVIRONMENT REPORT

*“And the Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
Rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.”*

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Trustees and the general public will be aware that the broken links in the chain fencing bordering Boase Wood are now repaired and fit for purpose. “Keeper of the Woods” Ian Christie, has kept me informed as to the woodland's upkeep and any work required in terms of health and safety for the public. Thankfully at the time of writing, no major work has had to be done by Special Branch despite the severe winter weather experienced at the end of 2015 and the early months of 2016. We are still awaiting the erection of the company's sign after considerable delay. However I can report that the firm has repaired the wooden steps that were in disrepair on the central pathway leading up to the main road.

Regarding the planning application for the proposed Heritage Sign in Boase Wood, I am aware of the planning committee's heavy workload. However it is hoped that at the time of reading this report, Bill Borthwick and his team will have begun the process. This is certainly an initiative that I would like to see fulfilled before I complete my term of office as a Trustee.

Due to the recent wet weather followed by our winter spells, the Heritage daffodil bulb planting was delayed. However Jenny Sibbald of St Andrews In Bloom has assured us that this could still take place by mid February. It is lovely to view the colourful hues of our spring flowers in our woodland, hidden from sight in the dark earth, waiting to burst forth. The above poem certainly reflects my personal thoughts on the wonders of Mother Nature in Spring.

As suggested at our December 2015 board meeting, I have taken several photos of the upper and lower pathways on the Lade Braes. This was done in support of Jim McArthur's survey of the Lade Braes. Bill Sangster also supplied us with several photos. Just how this survey may be followed up, we will have to wait for further information. Inevitably, funding any remedial work may have to be sourced if the necessary repair work is outwith Fife Council's budget.

Trustees were asked for suggestions regarding entering the Scottish Civic Trust's "My Place" Award 2016. As no nominations were received they were informed of another category that could be considered. It was decided that we should nominate a local citizen for the "Civic Champion" Award. At our November Board meeting Trustees decided that this person should be Bill Sangster. With his tireless commitment to the town in so many key areas, he certainly fitted all the criteria that the judges look for in a civic champion. Our entry was submitted on the 11th January. The results will be reported in our July newsletter although press coverage of the awards results may be released before then, in the St Andrews Citizen.

Finally our shop fronts initiative has come to a close with the final gold leaf restoration at Minick. The Victorian cast iron pillars that can be seen around our town centre have been brought back to life once again. The St Andrews Preservation Trust wishes to thank all those who have played an integral part in this work, especially art historian Dr John Frew whose diligent research brought these historic features to our attention. Grateful thanks must go to our skilled craftsman, Jake Brown for his intricate, delicate workmanship. Last but not least, we wish to thank the Pilgrim Foundation for their loyal support in financing these superb restorations over recent years.

Marysia Denyer
Environment Convener

MEMBERSHIP, PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY REPORT

ANNUAL LECTURE 2016

All the recommendations of the sub committee set up to consider the annual lecture for 2016 have been approved. The lecture will be in St Leonard's music school on 20th October, A canapés and wine reception will precede the lecture. Details of the speaker and topic together with an order form for tickets will be included with the July newsletter. Tickets will remain priced at £10. Trustee, Annie Long will organise the event .

WINTER/CHRISTMAS

We have barely recovered from the festive season but must look forward to and plan the next one. The winter reception was enjoyed by those attending but the attendance was somewhat disappointing. Therefore a sub committee of Annie Long, Derek Barrie and John Beaton was set up to consider the future of the Winter Reception and make recommendations.

2017 CALENDAR

Preparation of a **2017 calendar** designed by Arlen Pardoe is well underway. It is hoped to have copies for sale at the AGM, but they will definitely be available on Hidden Gardens Day. Sponsorship of £30 for each month has been secured with 12 local businesses thanks to

the efforts of Anne Morris and Marysia Denyer.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The committee intends to produce just one card design for 2016. It will be a photograph of a winter scene in St Andrews. Anne Morris and Pat Harvey have been asked to find something suitable from the photographic archive .

MEMBERSHIP

Evidence suggests that the vast majority of members accept the need for the increases in subscriptions from 1st January, given that it has been five years since the last increase. The number of resignations appears less than expected. Some chasing up will be necessary of members who have not yet altered standing orders. The appeal letter to life members has raised in excess of £2,500, considerably more than expected. Our thanks go to those who responded to the appeal so positively. If you know of friends or relations who might be encouraged to join, new membership application forms are available from Annie in the office and Sam at the museum.

PUBLICITY

we continue to get reasonable coverage in the “Citizen” and, to a lesser extent the “Courier”. At the time of writing we hope to get good coverage of the volunteers’ research projects. We were pleased with the coverage we got of the awarding for the first time of the Murray History Prize promoted by the Trust.

PUBLICATIONS

The History of 12 North Street is now on sale at £4 in the office and the museum. We received a grant to help towards its publication from the Strathmartine Trust. Further details and an order form are included on a “flier” with this newsletter. We hope that the **2015 Year Book** will include an article about Mount Melville and Craigtoun researched by David Scott. **Other Publications:** in the coming months we intend finding ways and means, including on line, of promoting a range of publications we have in stock

Derek Barrie
Membership, Publications and Publicity Convener

MUSEUM REPORT

MUSEUM GALLERIES SCOTLAND HERITAGE HORIZONS TRAINEESHIP PROGRAMME

Unfortunately, due to on-going health issues, the Trainee has had to withdraw, by mutual consent, from the Heritage Horizons Traineeship Programme. I know that members would

wish to join the Museum Committee in wishing Francesca well in the future and to thank her for her contribution to past events held in the Museum.

PRESERVATION TRUST MUSEUM : BUDGET FOR YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016

The Curator and the Convener continued to receive monthly 'returns' from the Treasurer Ian Lumsdaine, with his comments throughout 2015. These were studied and if required Ian advised on necessary action. A meeting was held in December 2015 to plan the proposed Budget for Year to 31st December 2016 and after study of the 2015 Budget figures a Museum Budget for 2016 was drawn up and approved by the Treasurer.

CURATOR'S NEW CONTRACT

January 2016 – December 2017. This 2 year contract has been accepted and signed by Samantha Bannerman which is excellent news.

DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE GARDEN AND THE MUSEUM

We are indebted to Andrew Johnston for arranging for the purchase of new chairs for use in the garden and in the Museum. He also arranged for the old chairs to be uplifted.

Miss Gillian Falconer is also to be thanked, as she has provided the funds for the purchase of the chairs. A whiteboard has been placed in the Falconry for the use of the Garden Volunteers.

I would refer you to the Report by the Chairman of the MDC Committee, Andrew Johnson, which provides the up-date on the proposals for the design and establishment of a Sensory Garden as well as providing details of the work currently underway on the improvements to the cloakroom and kitchen within the Museum.

Arlen Pardoe has fitted a doorbell connection within the Research Room. In addition he has fitted a much more appropriate door-bell fitting at the front door, replacing the plastic fitment with a most attractive antique-style bell push.

The short film which will be used in the Blacksmith Exhibition was completed on the 6th November by students of the University of Dundee. A final edit is being completed by the Curator ready for the opening of the Exhibition in Spring 2016. As the Project for her Degree, Museum & Galleries M.Litt. student, Bianca Packham, has refurbished/re-interpreted the Chemist's Shop. Whilst preparing the new lay-out Bianca came across a box of 29 items which were removed by the University's Chemical Hazards Adviser, Dr Aitken, who disposed of the contents. Dr Aitken also compiled a list of the contents which will be very useful in the re-display.

EVENTS IN THE MUSEUM

The successful Summer Exhibition '*Furs, feathers, frills & florals : four decades of fashion* :

1919 -1959' closed on the 4th October 2015.

The 1st St Andrews Girls' Brigade & Guildry Exhibition which was curated by the current company of the 1st St Andrews Girls' Brigade and which celebrated 100 years of their history, opened at noon on Saturday 10th October and closed on Sunday 18th October. The Exhibition was exceptionally well attended and was greatly appreciated by over 450 visitors which is an outstanding number.

A number of the girls were on duty in the Museum during the Exhibition and answered visitors' questions admirably.

The excellent and very enjoyable performances of 'The Wit and Humour of Alan Bennett' on the 18th and 19th November were a great success with both performances sold out. We are extremely grateful to Alan Tricker and Brenda Hunter of Red Wine Productions for their generosity in staging this fund-raising event for the Trust. The refreshments served at the performances were also very generously provided by Alan Tricker. The Annual Art and Craft Exhibition was also extremely well attended with over 400 visitors and a final figure of £673 raised for Trust Funds.

The Museum's previous exhibition *Troubled Waters*, which focused on local shipwrecks and the daring rescues made by the lifeboat crews, went on tour to the Fisheries Museum Anstruther in November and to HM Frigate Unicorn from 7th January – 25th February 2016.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Curator continues to successfully submit applications to various funding bodies.

The St Andrews Community Trust grant for £400 to cover the costs of the Girls' Brigade Exhibition was received in October 2015. A grant of £784 to cover the costs of the blacksmith exhibition was awarded by Museums and Galleries Scotland.

RECENT DONATIONS

Roger McStravick's Book '*St Andrews in the Footsteps of Old Tom Morris*' was up for the People's Book Prize in the non-fiction category. In addition an online golf Magazine '*Global Golf Post*' ran a full-page advert about the book until the end of 2015. As their distribution is 1.2 million people in the USA and 200k people in the UK/IRE and Roger is giving the St Andrews Preservation Trust 10% of any sales this is extremely generous of him. Roger also put a line in the advert to tell readers that the Trust will benefit so this may also reap dividends. The Chairman has written to Roger thanking him for his outstanding donations.

VOLUNTEERS

An enjoyable End-of-season Party for Volunteers was held on the 6th October 2015 following an excellent talk by Hannah Fleming from the Golf Museum on 'Golf Fashion'.

The Programme of Winter Talks for Volunteers continued with a talk in November by Richard Falconer on 'St Andrews Mysteries'. The Annual Christmas Party was held on Wednesday 9th December 2015. During the Party, Gillian Falconer led 'reminiscences' of '*Shops which used to be in St Andrews*'.

A small token of appreciation was presented to Anne Thorne, a Volunteer, who was moving out of the area in December. Anne has supported the Curator on a weekly basis, over many years, in itemizing and making an inventory of objects in the Museum Store as well as helping to accession papers etc which were gifted to the Trust. She will be sorely missed and she leaves with our gratitude and very best wishes for the future.

TALKS

- 16th February: talk by Claire Robinson on 'Recording Scotland'
- 16th March: Talk by the Curator on the Trust's Archive
- 13th April: Walk and Talk by Andrew Johnson on 'Stonemasons' Marks'.

TOURS

St Leonards Juniors visited the Museum on Thursday 29th October 2015 for a tour and object handling session. Another class from St Leonards visited on the morning of the 29th January.

Two 6th Year pupils from Madras Oollege visited on the 2nd November 2015 for a tour of the Museum and to find out about the Archive material held in the Museum.

2016 CALENDAR OF EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS IN THE MUSEUM.

There are many exciting events in the Museum throughout the year. Please take a look at the "Dates for your Diary" Section for full details.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To keep up-to-date with Museum Matters between Newsletters please click onto our website - www.standrewspreservationtrust.org.uk/museum.html

Alternatively why not contact the Curator to be included on the Museum's monthly e-mail mail out. E-mail your request to curator@standrewspreservationtrust.org.uk

FINALLY...

Have you considered becoming a Volunteer and joining the rota of Volunteers who act as Guides at the Museum? Each new Volunteer receives an Information Pack and a very warm welcome! Please contact the Curator, Samantha Bannerman, for more information if you have some free time to give to the Museum. I guarantee that you would enjoy being part of her team and you would find the task very interesting and rewarding.

Anne Morris
Museum Convener

MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

SENSORY GARDEN

We have now had a site visit by two tutors from Elmwood College, Mr Andrew Kydd and Mr Bruce Robertson. Both agreed that the project would be most beneficial to their students, enabling them to be fully involved from design to construction. This will not be a first for the college as they constructed a much acclaimed sensory garden in their own grounds only a few years ago.

Plans will be drawn up for consideration, once the final plan is agreed and costed out. We will set about raising the money so that we can commence the project without delay. If you would care to contribute, please do so via the office, all donations however large or small will be gratefully received.

MUSEUM INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

A design produced by Mr Turpie of Auchtermuchty for a custom made kitchen and toilet made to measure, as opposed to one made to fit, has been chosen by the committee and approved by the Trustees.

Work will commence early February and be completed, all being well, by the end of that month. The upgrade will include new floor covering and decoration.

Andrew Johnson
Museum Development Convener

FINANCE REPORT

Work has now commenced on pulling together the figures in preparation of the annual accounts for the year ended December 2015. Once complete and approved by the Trustees they will be included in the Annual Report for presentation to the members. I am unable to report the 2015 figures in detail at this time.

However there is one major item this year. At the end of 2015 the Trust received a legacy of £73,194 from a will of a gentleman from East Anglia, who although not a member, greatly appreciated the work that the Trust did in order to maintain the character of St Andrews as this was one of the main reasons why he visited the town on regular occasions, not only for golf, but for the town itself. We were unable to invest these funds into our portfolio by the year end but this has now been finalised. This is an unrestricted legacy so our net movement in funds will be positive for the year.

The principal income of the Trust is from dividends and interest from our portfolio which is managed by Speirs & Jeffrey in Glasgow. In the 12 months to December 2015 we have

received income of £33,117 compared to £33,079 last year. We have asked for our portfolio to try and achieve a good return and regular meetings continue to be held with them to review the holdings, always bearing in mind the stated conservative policy of the Trust. Regrettably the value of the portfolio has fallen but not as badly as the general fall in shares at the end of the year.

The next largest source of income is from annual and life membership subscriptions and Gift Aid linked with this income. The trustees held the subscription rates for 2015 at the same rate as for 2014 and I am pleased to report that the income shows an increase over last year, mainly in life memberships. The policy has been to take the life membership income in the year that it is received and this inevitably has an effect on income in later years. There have been several fundraising events during the year and these have been well attended and continue to provide a significant contribution to our funds as well as bringing enjoyment to all who attend. The Hidden Gardens weather was kinder this year and both gross and net incomes are better than in 2014.

April saw the official opening of the new Research Room and Falconry in the museum garden. Costs on these projects are now finalised and have been capitalised and as previously reported much of the expenditure was financed by grants and donations. The first award against the income generated from the Endowment Fund was made at the end of the year. There has been activity on other restricted funds during the year.

Our administrator, Liliias Lawrie, left at the end of December to move to the West of Scotland. After a series of interviews Leigh-Anne Birrell was offered the position and I am very pleased to say that she is coping very well with all the financial activity that takes place at the start of each new year.

Ian Lumsdaine
Treasurer

FUNDRAISING AND PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

The Quiz evening, which was scheduled to take place on 5 November 2015 had, unfortunately, to be cancelled. Very few teams showed interest in participating and because The New Golf Club was not fully functioning after their fire, we decided not to proceed. There are currently no plans to hold another quiz in the near future.

The Winter Reception for members and guests was held in All Saints' Church Hall on 4 December 2015. Christmas decorations by Anne Morris and Marysia Denyer gave the venue a festive atmosphere; drinks were served to those attending by Andrew Johnson and John Beaton and catering was by Cherries. Marysia Denyer was in charge of the raffle which raised over £100. The Chairman had invited the University of St Andrews Saxophone Quartet to entertain and they gave a most enjoyable and competent performance. The students joined us for the buffet.

Enclosed in this Newsletter you will find notice for a guided walking tour of Commemorative Plaques in St Andrews erected by the Trust. These have been erected to commemorate notable people who have lived or worked in the town. The guided walking tour will be held on **Friday 29 April, 2016**, beginning at 5.15pm at the Museum in North Street.

At the time of writing, the first meeting of the Hidden Gardens committee has taken place; the date this year is **Sunday 26 June**. Lots of help is required on the day to make this event successful. If you can offer an hour or two of your time we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact Annie Birrell in the office – 01334 477152 or email trust@standrewspreservationtrust.org.uk and leave your name.

Irene Bennett
Fundraising and Programme Convener

ELIZABETH THOMAS

We are saddened to record the death, on 10th September 2015, of Mrs Elizabeth Thomas, who was a Trustee and member of the Planning Committee from 1998 to 2002. She was a very effective, energetic and active Convener of the Planning Committee (2000-2002). She threw herself with great energy and efficiency into the role at a time when a number of high-profile applications were on the table, of which the largest were Kingask (later to be known as Fairmont) and the Judicial Review it gave rise to, Scooniehill, and Feddinch. In view of the threat to the landscapes around St Andrews, both coastal and inland, presented by these proposals, a great deal of work was generated for the Planning Committee and, in particular, its Convener. Elizabeth was a zealous writer of well-reasoned planning letters; and she applied this skill to letters about town-centre applications as well. Some of these letters we kept for use as models. She made the use of inappropriate materials and scale on the fascia of shop fronts and businesses in the old town her especial concern, and some of her letters on the subject have been kept in the Trust's archives as models for future generations of Planning Committee members (since unfortunately the problem does not go away). She had a good line in comparative photos: 'this place does its shop fascias like this; and this is how St Andrews does them' (almost always to the detriment of St Andrews, alas!) - shop fronts, street 'furniture', etc, all was grist to the mill. I particularly remember a display she organised showing what one might call 'old-town friendly' fascias from different places alongside some more crass local examples - the facade of Boots in her beloved Brecon was put alongside that of our own Boots: the comparison was shaming.

The aims of Elizabeth's work in the Trust are those shared by so many of us; her contribution was to keep reminding everyone that a caring attitude to our fragile old town can make a difference.

Elizabeth Williams

TRUSTEE PROFILE – BILL SANGSTER

A trustee well known locally, Bill Sangster was born on 23rd October 1933 in Urquhart Morayshire. He is married with 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Much of Bill's working life was in the RAF in many different spheres including as a gunner/dispatch rider/marksman prior to National Service in 1955. He passed training as a drill Instructor. Most of his service life, however, was in relation to transport.

Bill served world wide including on Christmas Island in the South Pacific, RAF Gutersloh in Germany, and North Africa at Tobruk. He was awarded the Air Officer, Strike Command, Commendation and the Long Service and Good Conduct medals. Bill left the RAF with the rank of Flight Sergeant spending the last 6 years of his military service at RAF Leuchars.

Demobbed in 1977 Bill started a taxi business in St Andrews, then opened 2 launderettes, one in Cupar and the other in St Andrews. During his time as a local businessman Bill was elected to the St Andrews Community Council. As Chairman of the St Andrews in Bloom Committee, Bill, of his own volition cleared and planted new vegetation in the garden at No 1 Greyfriars Garden, tending it for about 3 years. This is the only time in recent years that anything has been done to tidy this eyesore. He also helped organise and install the Christmas lights and floral displays in the town centre.

One of Bill's greatest interests has been the St Andrews Community Safety Panel, which he joined and has been a member of now for about 30 years, currently as Chairman. Bill has also served for roughly the same length of time on the Cosmos Community Centre Management Committee. Having served as chairman, he is currently vice chair.

Bill retired in 1999 from business and enjoyed his leisure time until he was selected as a Liberal Democrat candidate for the Fife Council elections. He was first elected in 2002 and was a Fife councillor until 2011. During this time he deservedly acquired a reputation as an active local councillor who got things done. He endeavoured to raise the standard of all aspects of life and conditions in and around St Andrews.

As a councillor, Bill had twenty committee places or appointments to outside bodies. covering, among others all aspects of licensing, the N.E. Fife Area Committee; Links management, the Pilgrim foundation, Home Start, the Harbour Trust, The Eden Estuary Local Nature Reserve Committee; Town and Gown liaison; The Eden Estuary Local Nature Reserve Committee, Town and Gown Liaison Group and the St Andrews in Bloom Committee. He also played a part in the promotion of town twinning St Andrews with Loches in France –now a reality.

While serving as a Fife Councillor for St Andrews Bill played a leading part in many projects within the St Andrews ward. These included: the Kinnessburn flood prevention and improvement scheme; the installation of the recycling centre at Morrison's supermarket; the upgrading and development of the Bassaguard Industrial site, the repainting of Abbey Court exterior; the upgrading and painting of the sports facility in Tom Morris Drive; the installation of a new sports facility at Cockshaugh Park, the investigation and fund raising to improve the

Martyrs' Monument, the Whyte Melville Fountain improvement and the installation of new equipment to bring it up to Health and Safety standards. Water now flows after more than 100 years. Bill organised a petition to save the 100 year old trees in South Street which were to be cut down and replaced with new saplings during the South Street upgrading programme. This was accepted by Council.

Input to the Chief Constable for the movement of the Police Station on North Street to Pipeland Road vacant Health Board Building. Organised the repair of the ornamental street light at the Town Hall; working with Transportation Department set up a Park and Ride around the town.

While serving as the St Andrews Central Councillor Bill travelled to London accompanied by Fife Council Officials to receive a finalist award, the Great Town Award, for St Andrews which was chosen from all over Britain. This is an annual event organised by The Academy of Urbanism. This award is on show in the display cabinet in the St Andrews Town Hall.

Though now an octogenarian Bill is still very active with the safety panel; the Cosmos Community Centre; the St Andrews-Loches Alliance Committee; the Friends of Craigtoun Park committee; St Andrews Preservation Trust and STEPAL Supporters Group. In particular Bill has been very active in opposing the selection of Pipeland for the new Madras College. He has argued publicly and in the press especially the case against Pipeland for transport and community safety issues.

Bill lists his leisure interests as photography - oil painting - gardening – golf –and an interest in the restoration and improvement of local monuments and facilities. (Melville Fountain – Martyrs Monument – St Andrew's Statue and others).

ARTICLES FROM THE ARCHIVE

AN OCCASIONAL SELECTION BY ANNE MORRIS.

A number of organisations in the town, notably the Community Council and the Preservation Trust, are said to be contemplating a combined effort to improve this popular walk which the council has somewhat neglected. There are also health and safety concerns. Against this background it was interesting to find this extract from the "Citizen" of 120 years ago featuring the Lade Braes and safety concerns of a different kind.

An excerpt drawn from *The St Andrews Citizen*: April 1898

BARBED WIRE ALONGSIDE LADE BRAES WALK

Sir, - Along with others I was, on Sunday afternoon, sorry to see a little girl's dress being badly torn through her having approached too closely to the fence alongside the Lade Braes in

her desire to make room for some people coming in the opposite direction.

The fence referred to is on the south side of the walk between 'Plash Mill' and the new skating pond, and the middle wire is of the objectionable barbed species. This is not the first instance of clothes being damaged by this wire, and if our Roads and Walks Committee cannot force its removal it is better to let the public know of the danger there is in walking alongside the fence.

There seems to be a want of oversight amongst those in authority when they allow a barbed wire to be put up at the side of one of the most popular suburban walks to the danger of the lieges' property, and I trust that the publicity which the matter will receive through your columns may be the means of effecting the simple and reasonable expedient of superseding the barbed article by common and non-dangerous wire. - I am, etc.,

Pro Bono Publico

St Andrews, 25th April 1898

The signature "pro bono publico" also shows that the oft-used "name and address supplied" is nothing new.

IN BRIEF

NONAGENARIAN: congratulations to Trust Honorary Vice President, Gillian Falconer who is about to celebrate her 90th birthday.

DOOCOT AT DOOCOT ROAD: Efforts are underway, led by trustee Peter Murray, to confirm the Trust's ownership of this doocot.

LEGACIES: In the past three years the Trust has received legacies amounting to almost £200,000. This has helped enable major projects to be undertaken. Why not consider a legacy to the Trust in your will? It would be very well used.

CIVIC TRUST: The Board of Trustees has nominated trustee, Bill Sangster as its entry to the Scottish Civic Trust's civic champion award.

RED WINE THEATRE COMPANY: Our thanks go to Brenda Hunter, Allan Tricker and their team for donating all proceeds of their recent production in the museum to the Trust.

LADE BRAES: Hopefully we are on the verge of a concentrated effort by various groups in the town to tackle the neglect of this popular walk. We should have more to report in the July edition of this newsletter.

SHOP FRONTS: With the pillars at Minick the butcher's brought back to their former glory the highly successful project in the town centre has been completed.

“ASK THE CURATOR” The editor of “St Andrews in FOCUS” has asked us to tell trust members how much she appreciates the regular feature: “Ask the Curator” written by the Museum Curator, Samantha Bannerman which appears regularly in the magazine. Questions for the curator from members would be welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 3rd to Sunday 6th March - 11 am to 5 pm daily

STANZA: Scotland’s International Poetry Festival

Poet-Performer in Residence

Bespoke oil perfume blends and matching poetry by Rebecca Sharp.

A Potter, a Painter and a Poet

Collaboration between ceramacist Paul Tebble, artist Anne Gilchrist and the late

Elizabeth Burns inspired by ceramics and a Scottish woodland.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

Saturday 26th March to Sunday 24th April - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

Lost Buildings of St Andrews

An Exhibition documenting some of the historically significant buildings of St Andrews that have been lost through demolition.

Through photographs, objects and the stories of those who lived, worked and enjoyed them, these buildings will be brought back to life.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

Friday 29th April - 5.15pm

Preservation Trust Plaques Walking Tour - Anne Morris

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - See flyer for details

Thursday 12 May - 7 pm

Annual General Meeting

TOWN HALL, QUEEN’S GARDENS

Friday 13th to Sunday 15th May

Festival of Museums 2016: Strike a Pose!

Meet local worthies in this photographic exhibition of Victorian studio portraits. Meet some local worthies in this photographic exhibition of Victorian studio Portraits. There will be story-telling to go with the exhibition. Sheila Kinnimonth and Andrew Johnson will assist with the story-telling/acting.

On Saturday 14th, 1pm - 4pm, have your own Victorian Studio Portrait taken in our photo booth!

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

Saturday 28th May to Sunday 2nd October - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

Sticks and Stones, Bats and Balls: Sport in St Andrews

Win, lose or draw, for fun or competition, sport plays an important role in communities across the world.

In this Olympic Year, join us for a glimpse into the amazing history of sport in St Andrews.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

Wednesday 1st June - 6 pm

St Leonards: First in the field

Jane Claydon, former Deputy Head, St Leonards School and author of *St Leonards: First in the field* and *St Leonards: Cradle of Lacrosse*, will talk about the games played at St Leonards from 1877.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free (please book with the Curator)

Sunday 26th 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

Sunday 4th September - 11 am to 4 pm

Autumn Fair

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

Thursday 20th October - 6.30pm

Preservation Trust Lecture

ST LEONARDS SCHOOL MUSIC CENTRE - Charge: £10

Saturday 26th November to Sunday 4th December - 1 pm to 4 pm daily

Arts and Crafts Exhibition

In the text which accompanied the 2016 Programme the Curator, Samantha Bannerman, noted that "...the Trust Museum was gearing up for a fantastic 2016 filled with exhibitions and events." Let's ensure that Samantha's hard work, meticulous planning and creativity are acknowledged and applauded by supporting the events along with family and friends - especially those who may not have visited the Trust's hidden gem!

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

TRUSTEES 2015/2016**Chairman****Mr John F Matthews OBE****Vice Chairmen**Dr William Borthwick
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Mr Andrew W Johnson

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Mr Roy de Courcy Chapman
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Mrs Annie LongMiss Anne J.M. Morris OBE
Mr William Sangster
Mr David Seeley
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None

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Mr Ian Lumsdaine

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