Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society

SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SC044758

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report for the year ended 31st January 2020.

1. Trustees

Chair/President

Mr Rob Close

Secretary Treasurer Mr Denis Rattenbury¹

Mr Ian Holland

Note: 1 The Secretary also serves as the Publications Convenor

2. Contact and Address

c/o Ian Holland, 41 East Park Road, Ayr, KA8 9JF

Constitution

The Society is a Scottish Charity Number SC044758 and is governed by the constitution last revised and adopted at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on Thursday 9 October 2014.

4. Objectives

The Society's objectives are to promote an interest in heritage, culture and environment particularly of and within Ayrshire by:

- encouraging the study of these subjects and stimulating research
- holding regular meetings and organising excursions
- promoting the conservation of the heritage of Ayrshire
- publishing regularly material related to these objectives
- co-operating with any other organisation(s) as may be appropriate

5. Management

The Management Committee, who hold regular meetings, are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the Society. They generally control the activities of the Society and have a general responsibility to safeguard the assets of the Society.

Members of the Management Committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting each year and a member can serve for a maximum period of three years before standing for reelection.

6. **The Management Committee**

The Committee currently comprises the Trustees and the following elected members:

Vice President
Mr Angus Rodger
Minutes Secretary
Mrs Katherine Scott
Excursions Convenor
Lectures Secretary
Mr Billy Young²

Publications Committee¹ Messrs Dane Love³ and Alastair Weir³ Ordinary Members² Mrs Sheena Andrew, Miss Anne Milligan

Note: ² The Lecture Secretary also serves on the Publications Committee

³ The indicated members of the Publications Committee also serve as Ordinary Members

At the Management Committee on 19 March 2019 Mr Ian Riggans, who had been unable to attend for a considerable period, was removed from the Committee.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

Activities

In order to achieve the Society's aims, relevant lectures are held over the winter season, relevant excursions are held over the summer season and monographs are produced on relevant subjects. The latter are free to our members. The lectures and excursions are open to members of the public.

Monographs on topics relevant to Ayrshire are published at a rate of one minimum per year and are free to members.

"Ayrshire Notes" are published twice yearly in conjunction with Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies and are free to members.

8. Achievements and Performance

The membership continues to be steady with new members coming in to replace those we have lost. The loss is mainly due to the inability of the members to attend the meetings. In general, the slight drop in membership, is not greatly concerning as some memberships come in late.

We are receiving a positive response regarding the subject matters of the lectures, the standard of our publications and also the venues of the excursions.

We are now advertising through the Scottish Local History Forum and through Nielsen, our ISBN contact. And our publication sales have increased.

We have continued to scan a number of our older out-of-print monographs and collections and have up-loaded them to our new web-site. Likewise, we have up-loaded some of our Ayrshire Notes. This will make them more readily available to the general public. There has been an increase in interest and this has resulted in more sales of our available publications.

We have how a Facebook site which holds up-to-date information for our members and other interested parties.

9. Financial Review

The main sources of our funding are from memberships and from sales of publications.

The payments exceeded the Receipts in the year by £285, decreasing our total fund balance to £14,150. This was due to the slight drop in memberships and to the more expensive (larger) monograph publication.

We have a commitment to reducing where possible our expenditure. As such we are moving to more use of emails and to Facebook. We also continue to save by handing out our communications at meetings or by hand delivering them. This amounted to around £364 this year.

We at present operate only a current account with the Clydesdale Bank as the interest is so minimal. Should this improve the Treasurer will be looking to find a suitable bank or the like with which to create a new deposit account.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

10. Reserves Policy

The Management Committee's policy is to maintain reserves at a level which will allow the Society to take advantage of any opportunities which may arise from time to time.

The Management Committee is keen to publish monographs relevant to Ayrshire but occasionally there is the potential to publish a series of related monographs into a larger publication. We have in hand the potential publication of an archaeological investigation. Previously we published a similar article in an A4 layout and we would like to do the same here. This would be instead of our normal A5 publications. We also have a number of potential monographs which are progressing towards publication stage.

11. Plans for Future Periods

The Society's is continuing to update its new website and are committed to keeping the Facebook up to date and interesting. The numbers accessing our sites have increased and we have had new members through this access. We have also increased our local advertising.

We have found recently that academics are now approaching us to publish their articles though our system which means that we are being seen as the publishers of up-to-date and reliable articles.

The Committee also intend to attempt to reach a wider field of interest for our publications.

Approved by the Trustees on !9. March 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Rob Close

Chair/President

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the Trustees of Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st January 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the society and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

Andrew P Templeton

Andrew Templeton

20 April 2020

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted 2020 £	Funds 2019 £
Receipts			
Voluntary Receipts: Donations Socials		96 420	328 360
Receipts from Charitable Activities: Publication Sales Memberships Excursions Gift Aid		824 2,470 1,292 478	659 2,664 919 485
Total Receipts		5,580	5,415
Payments			
Cost of Charitable Activities Social Events Governance Costs	3 4	5,533 332 0	3,770 200 0
Total Payments		5,865	3,970
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		(285)	1,445

STATEMENT OF BALANCES AT 31 JANUARY 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	
		2020 £	2019 £
Funds Reconciliation		~	
Bank Balances at 31 January 2019		14,432	12,987
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		(285)	1,445
Balances at 31 January 2020	\	14,147	14,432
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Bank Balances Current Account		14,147	14,473
Less cheques not cashed			(41)
		14,147	14,432
Other Assets			
Nominal Value of Books, Maps and Tubes		3	3

Liabilities

All liabilities were settled by the year end

The notes on page 7 form an integral part of these accounts.

Rob Close - Chair/President

Ian Holland - Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2020

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

In the Trustees' opinion all funds are unrestricted.

3. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Excursions	1,325	1,043
Printing, postage & stationery	2,959	1,635
Hire of Hall/Room	466	539
Lectures	453	311
Subscriptions	150	202
Miscellaneous Expenses	180	40
	5,533	3,770

4. Governance Costs

No charge has been made by the Independent Examiner.