



A Grotesque at St Lawrence's Church - see page 4

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SALISBURY CIVIC SOCIETY

PROTECTING OUR HERITAGE, SECURING OUR ENVIRONMENT,
SHAPING OUR FUTURE

***To promote high standards of planning and architecture
To educate in the architecture, history and geography of the area
To secure the preservation, development and improvement of features of
public interest within the former Salisbury District***

- The Salisbury Civic Society, which was founded in 1960 as the Salisbury & District Preservation Trust, is involved with the past, present and future of the City and its district. This generates a substantial amount of work which is carried out largely by the Development Committee.
- Its meetings are monthly. New planning applications are examined where they concern listed buildings or conservation areas. Other applications are also looked at where they have special relevance to the future of the city and district. The remit is both ancient and modern. Opinions are formed and comments made where appropriate by this committee the members of which are a mix of both lay and professionally qualified, including architects.
- The Society keeps its members well informed and arranges a very active social calendar. Interesting visits are arranged as well as an exceptional programme of lectures. There is also a scheme to install Society Blue Plaques which are prized by their recipients. All this is the responsibility of the General Purposes Committee.
- The Society's remit is broad so that complex wider issues can be addressed such as the Salisbury Vision, where the Society is represented on the Executive Board.
- The Society is a charity and there is no connection with or formal affiliation to any Local Authority. However the Society is frequently consulted by the Local Authority and has built up a respected working relationship.
- There is a prestigious Architectural Awards Competition, covering both Conservation and New Build with the Awards being presented each year at a New Year's party, traditionally in the Guildhall. Each year a person of distinction is invited to chair the judging panel.
- Members are kept informed through our website, by emails and this quarterly publication.
- The affairs of the Society are overseen by the Executive Committee. Committee lists are on the inside back page.

Contributions to this Quarterly on any relevant subject are welcomed by the Editor and will be acknowledged. Opinions expressed here are those of the contributors and not of the Society, unless attributed.

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*Illustrations in this issue:
Richard Deane, Salisbury
Cathedral, Notre Dame,
Charles Villiers,*

PROGRAMME.

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Meetings will be held at 6.30pm - doors open at 6pm - in the Sanctuary of the Methodist Church in St Edmund's Church Street unless otherwise stated. Details of visits and any changes will be notified on this page and on the Website.

Wednesday 19 June

AGM at 6.30pm followed by a Lecture by
Loraine Knowles, Stonehenge Director, English Heritage
Stonehenge: - A New Dawn

Wednesday 24 July - 10.30am

General Purposes Committee Mystery Visit including a pub lunch

Early September
Visit

From Saturday 14 September

Family quiz

There will be an informal launch near the Guildhall of Salisbury Civic Society's 'Family Quiz' on Saturday 14 September 2013 from 10.30 a.m. It is suitable for all ages and is based on architectural details in the Cathedral Close featured in our book 'Salisbury in Detail' (not necessary for the answers). The Quiz entails a 40-minute walk to view buildings around Choristers Green and in West Walk and North Walk, mostly visible from the safe, grassy areas. As well as simple 'Can you spot ...?' questions, there are others linking the architecture with historical aspects and suggesting background information which could be looked up later.

Free copies of the Quiz will be available in the Salisbury Information Centre from the morning of Saturday 14 September. It will also be downloadable from that date on our Civic Society website and so this year's 'Historic Open Days' experience can be enjoyed at any time at your own convenience.

Thursday 10 October

Lecture: Ruth Newman & Jane Howells, Local Historians
A working man's Samuel Pepys? William Small's unique memoirs of Victorian Salisbury

Thursday 14 November Lecture by Arthur Millie, Playhouse Archivist
From the Chapel to the Beehive – the story of Salisbury Playhouse and its people

Tuesday 19 November

Open Meeting In the Guildhall, at 7.30pm



Master Thatchers, as they appear to be now known - see Richard Deane's article on page 5 - have traditionally signed off their work with the figure of an animal formed in straw. Pheasants are frequently seen but not rabbits, or coneys. Here are examples of 'boxing' hares and a cat.



A GROTESQUE

This is a grotesque from Notre Dame. Strictly speaking a carving of this type is only known as a gargoyle if it functions as a waterspout; maybe the words gurgle, gargle and gargoyle are etymologically related.

Our front cover carries a photograph of a grotesque in St Lawrence's Church in Stratford-sub-Castle. It probably dates from the 14th century and is one of 55 carvings in the church which are at present being assessed with a view to preservation and conservation. It is unclear what is being consumed in the local example, maybe a baguette? And even a double headed fish has been suggested. However this example from Notre Dame raises more gruesome possibilities.

THE MASTER THATCHER AND CONEYS

Traditionally built properties in the Wiltshire vernacular have never been more desirable, and the various trades needed to maintain them are in good shape - apart from one, which seems to have disappeared. Go looking for a thatcher, and you'll be hard put to find one. There are plenty of people capable of doing the work, but none of them seem to answer to that particular name. These days, in this part of the world at least, they're all master thatchers instead.

Anyone styling themselves a 'master mason' is likely to be looked on askance by their fellows, who will wonder why they consider themselves something special, and master carpenters or master plumbers are more or less unheard of. So why in one trade alone has the 'master' appellation come to be pretty much *de rigueur*? The answer can only be that at some point in the past one particular thatcher took up that styling, and managed to convince customers that he was a cut above the average. His competitors would then have felt obliged to follow suit, leading quite quickly to the point where any mere 'thatcher' would have come across as a sub-standard article. So these days they're all master thatchers, and the prefix has essentially become meaningless.

There's a parallel, if not an exact one, with the humble rabbit. The animal we automatically associate with this name was originally not known as that at all, but as a coney. Hence Psalm 104 (a magnificent piece of nature poetry which, in its King James version at least, is to be recommended to anyone, of whatever religious belief or none) has the lines 'the high hills are a refuge for the wild goats, and the rocks for the conies'. The word also lives quietly on in a multitude of place-names, the most common variant of which is 'coniger'. This comes from 'coney garth' in other words an enclosure for keeping coneys, which, after perhaps originally being introduced to the country by the Romans, and then dying out again, were reintroduced by the Normans, as a food animal.

North of Winterbourne Stoke is a barrow called The Coniger. There's a Coniger Nursery outside Eastleigh, and a Coniger Road in Fulham, no doubt harking back to a long-lost rural past. Other examples abound, throughout the country. One of several variations on the name crops up just south of Dorchester, in the form of Conygar Hill. The derivation may even lie behind names where the connection is now more or less

invisible - Countess Farm at Amesbury turns out to ultimately derive its title from 'coney garth'.

So why has a word once so common now more or less departed from the language? The answer is a simple one, which evokes the 'thatcher' analogy. The young of coneys were known as rabbits, and if your job was selling the animal for meat, you obviously wanted to convince your customers that you were selling it in its youngest and tenderest form. So regardless of its actual age, you advertised it as rabbit meat. Anyone more honestly describing their wares as coney meat was going to find themselves losing out to the rabbit sellers, and sooner or later they were bound to adopt the same practice. And so, inevitably, because meat was the main connection most people had with the animal, the word 'coney' went into a downwards spiral, and in effect reached extinction. Nowadays we might on occasions, particularly at Easter, refer to 'bunnies' as a variant on 'rabbit', but the coney word has disappeared, for ever.

In a slightly alternative world, the same process might have been undergone by sheep, and we might now be referring to all animals of that species as 'lambs', regardless of age. But matters of language can be very hit and miss, and in the same way as we retain carpenters and plumbers, without any 'master' prefix, the sheep lives on. The coney, alas, has gone, but its influence is still there, in the names of landscape features that hark back to a time when, for some at least, a nice bit of rabbit was never far from the menu.

Richard Deane.

Some thatching is illustrated on pages 4 and 28.

We welcome new members

Mr Gwyn & Mrs Dorinda Davies, Mr Richard Griffin,
Mrs Carol Mills, Mrs Nicola Ratcliffe Wilson,
Mrs Stephanie Stokes, Ms Margaret Willmot.

ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - Chairman

The theme for 2012 which continued into 2013 was 'change'. During the year it became clear that improvements to the Market Place, including New Canal, would definitely take place and be completed in 2013. I mentioned in my report last year that there appears to be an inbuilt resistance to change generally in Salisbury and I hope that enlightened leadership by our Councillors may go some way towards ameliorating this. The other aspect of change is that a number of those committee members undertaking roles in support of the Society's objectives have moved on or expressed a desire to do so. We are fortunate in that we have a solid foundation of members who are prepared to step forward and this will enable us to continue to progress. Some of these changes are outlined in the General Purposes Committee report. The tremendous amount of work carried out by committees is also much in evidence and our membership numbers remain steady with new members replacing those who have to leave for whatever reasons. I have continued to represent the Society on the Vision Board and we have been consulted on a number of issues. I believe that the Society is respected and our views heard.

Development Committee *[by Melanie Latham & Richard Deane]*

Applications. Fewer than 2000 planning applications were submitted to Wiltshire Council's southern planning team during 2012, continuing a recent trend of historically low totals, reflecting the economic climate. 399 of these applications were selected for examination, resulting in 46 letters of objection or comment being sent in by the Society, both these figures also being in line with recent years.

Vanners Chequer, Salisbury. Vanners Chequer is the area bounded by Greencroft Street, Bedwin Street, St Edmunds Church Street and Salt Lane. The council-owned part is quite substantial, containing the old registry office building in the centre of the chequer, together with some uninteresting later structures, and is one of the most significant sites made surplus to council requirements by the Bourne Hill extension. None of the buildings in it are listed, but conservation area status gives them some protection against demolition. In September the committee received a presentation from a team from a property company interested in the site, whose proposals seemed generally well thought out. The former office building would be converted into three flats; there would be new houses in a traditional style filling in the gap along Salt Lane, and further new houses behind them. Existing terrace houses on the Bedwin Street frontage would be retained, and converted back to residential use. The committee had the usual concerns about choice of materials and commitment to their successful use, and to successful

landscaping, but its detailed comments would wait for a planning application, expected fairly early in 2013.

Southampton Road Proposals. The March committee meeting was attended by a team of planners and architects who presented a scheme for a new Sainsbury store on a site east of B & Q, and various associated works. The committee was not convinced by any aspect of the presentation, and the Society objected strongly to the planning application which followed. No justification was seen for a store at that location, very close to the edge of town Tesco, when other sides of the city had no such facilities. The landscape impact was seen as unacceptable, as was the blocking effect the development would have on any future more wide-ranging and imaginative ideas for improving that side of town. The claimed improvements to the Southampton Road, and the idea that they would offset increases in traffic generated by the new store, were not felt to ring true, and there was a fundamental objection in principle to new retail facilities on the site, at a time when similar facilities on the Maltings were in the offing. The fact that the Wiltshire Core Strategy, in effect the local plan, contained a formal policy for the Maltings, but nothing for the Southampton Road site, was an additional factor in objecting to the damage the latter might cause to the former. The application was registered in June, but by the end of the year still seemed a very long way from having a decision reached on it.

Planning Forum and Open Meeting. For the February Planning Forum David Milton, from Wiltshire Council, gave a very useful talk on localism and related topics, including neighbourhood plans, which gave the Society quite a lot to think about in terms of how opportunities now being presented might be taken advantage of in the future. The Society does not see itself, however, as the sort of body which should be taking a lead role in getting neighbourhood plans produced locally. In November the Open Meeting dealt, not for the first time, with design issues, hearing two speakers from Winchester explain the ways in which that city seems to manage a more effective approach to encouraging good design than Salisbury does. The committee subsequently discussed how lessons might be learned from the Winchester experience; a discussion which it was hoped might bear some sort of fruit in 2013.

Salisbury Market Place and Maltings Redevelopment. After the fraught progress of the Market Place improvement scheme in previous years, 2012 saw a much quieter, but very slow, progression towards agreement on a less ambitious project, which left the existing trees in place. In other respects the shape of the scheme did not seem likely to differ unduly from the original one produced by Salisbury Vision, which the Society had been largely happy with, and by the end of the year the

start of actual work on the ground, after years of discussion, looked to be not far away. During the year attention turned to the Vision's ideas for redevelopment of the Maltings, and in May a team from the Society had a meeting with Stanhope, the developers selected to be Wiltshire Council's partners for the project. This was followed a month later by a presentation by Stanhope to Society members, the first consultation event to be arranged for the project. These initial meetings dealt with the scheme's general approach rather than any specific details, and were felt to be very encouraging. The ensuing public consultation process proceeded fairly slowly, but at the end of the year an exhibition was held in the Guildhall, not as informative as some would have liked, but open to criticism on the grounds that there was no evidence as to how some critical problems were being approached, rather than because what was shown seemed to be heading in the wrong direction. Subsequent comments by the Society focused in particular on the need to find alternative premises for Salisbury Library, to enable the old Market House frontage to be opened up to form an imaginative new entrance to the Maltings development.

Eyesores. The eyesores campaign, aimed at countering visual blight in and around the city, continued, though the Salisbury Journal did not display any great keenness for highlighting particular examples. It did however feature litter-strewn areas in the Maltings, and the degenerating state of the long-standing hoardings round the former BP garage site, at the junction of the Wilton and Devizes roads. In other cases a direct approach by the Society proved fruitful, with improvements to the Bathstore premises in Endless Street, and the removal of ivy which was threatening some old painted advertising, featured in Salisbury in Detail, on an end wall in Fisherton Street. An emerging project in the 'direct action' category was the 'Electric House' clock outside Blacks in New Canal, which is also featured in the Society's book. It was hoped that during 2013 a price could be obtained to get the clock working properly, and to tidy up its tatty appearance, and that funding could be obtained for this elsewhere, with the Society's role just being an enabling one. At the end of the year there was real hope of the garage site hoarding finally nearing the end of its days, with an exhibition of proposals for using the site for social housing, designed rather more successfully, it was felt, than a previously approved scheme for flats and shops there. An application was anticipated for 2013, with the disappearance of the hoarding hopefully to follow.

Salisbury in Detail. Book sales continued at a steady but unspectacular level, with enough copies in hand for several years ahead. There were two particular areas in which the book had a wider impact, the first

of them the addition of some very nicely designed boards, using images from the book, as decoration for the Cardiac Suite at Odstock Hospital. The other area was the prompting given by the book to other civic societies to produce something similar for their own locality, and November saw the publication by the Peterborough Civic Society of 'Peterborough in Detail', in which the inspiration provided by the Society was fully acknowledged. The Peterborough book takes a slightly different approach in some respects, while still clearly being influenced by Salisbury in Detail, and was felt by those members who saw it to be a very successful production. Another 'in Detail' book, for Eastbourne, remained a strong possibility by the end of the year, though perhaps not specifically a project by the local civic society.

Awards Scheme. 2012 saw work to existing buildings being looked at, with a judging panel chaired by Salisbury Festival director Maria Bota. Awards were given to four schemes in Salisbury, namely an extension to a house in Harnham Road next to the river, the mural paintings under Milford Bridge, work to the inscription band on the north front of the former Infirmary building, and new entrance arrangements at St Martins Church. Outside the city awards went to two further schemes, an extension at Downton Primary School, and work at a historic house called Samways in Alvediston. Commendations were given for repairs to the Beckford Arms at Fonthill Gifford after fire damage, and a replacement porch at Myles Place in the Cathedral Close. The range and quality of the winners made this a particularly successful year.

Traffic in the City Centre. Efforts continued to promote ideas set out in a pamphlet in 2010, centred on removing traffic from Minster Street and Silver Street by redirecting it along a new route through the Maltings. This necessitated such a road being incorporated into the proposed redevelopment of the Maltings and central car park, and it became clear that the route through the Maltings envisaged in the emerging proposals for that site is too far west to enable it to fulfil that particular role. By the end of the year it was looking as though the Society would have to accept that actual pedestrianisation of Minster Street and Silver Street is unlikely to be practical, and that its efforts would need to be directed towards an alternative approach. This would adopt the increasingly accepted 'shared space' concept, which gives pedestrians equal rights with motor vehicles, slowing the latter down, and hopefully persuading drivers who don't really have to be in those streets to find other routes. A better environment for pedestrians there is seen as particularly important as a contribution to improving the crossing from the Maltings to the Market Place at the Cheesemarket, which will be critical if the Maltings redevelopment is to achieve its full potential.

Involvement with Other Bodies. The Society continued to be represented on the Salisbury Conservation Advisory Panel, and maintained links with the local CPRE branch, and with the Salisbury Campaign for Better Transport. It also set up links with the new Salisbury Greenspace Partnership, whose aim is to bring various bodies together in order to plan, design and manage local open spaces.

General Purposes Committee *[by James Woods]*

The General Purposes Committee (GPC) is responsible for organising lectures, visits (often including a mystery visit), Blue Plaques, Historic Open Days, publicity and quarterly newsletters on behalf of the Salisbury Civic Society. One or two members of the committee lead on each of these subjects, but all members contribute to their choice and discussion. During the year membership of the committee underwent considerable change. Wendy English retired as Chair and was replaced by the Lecture Secretary, James Woods, who retained his lecture portfolio pro tem; Stevie Paul resigned as organiser of Historic Open Days, to be replaced by Jean Lunnon, helped by a new member of the GPC, Jennifer Blake; Helen Wilcockson resigned as minute taker, to be replaced by another new member, Lis Woods; and Bill Pender joined the committee, initially without portfolio. Alan Clarke and Jenni Dougan continued to work on Blue Plaques; Judi Cross on visits; Ron Smith on publicity and Charles Villiers on the highly regarded quarterlies. Many thanks to all of these, to our other member without portfolio, Don Cross, and particularly to our hardworking and efficient secretary, Marguerite Scott, who has kept the whole show on the road while also taking care of the other Civic Society committees.

Lectures. Four lectures were given in 2012 in the comfortable embrace of the Sanctuary of Salisbury Methodist Church. In April the architectural historian, John Elliott, introduced us to the work that Pugin did in Salisbury around the time of his conversion to Roman Catholicism; in June we heard a well-illustrated lecture by Margaret Smith on John Constable and Regency Salisbury; George Fleming chilled our blood in September with a detailed account of an unsolved murder in Meadow Road in 1908; and, finally, the local historian, Norman Thorne, enlightened us in November on the local and national importance of the work done by Major Robert Poore and the Winterslow Land Court in the late 19th/early 20th century.

Blue Plaques. Despite continuing frustration over attempts to erect a plaque commemorating the heroism displayed at the scene of the 1906 Salisbury railway disaster, two plaques did achieve finality in 2012.

First, in February, Dame Rosemary Spencer unveiled a plaque at Arundells in the Cathedral Close in honour of Sir Edward Heath. At the subsequent reception guests heard reminiscences about Sir Edward from Lord Armstrong, the Dean, the Mayor of Salisbury and Robert Key. Then in December the local 18th century portrait painter, George Beare, was honoured by a plaque unveiled at The Chapel in Milford Street by Dr Brian Allen, recently retired Director of the Paul Mellon Centre for the Study of British Art. Guests could see one of George Beare's original portraits brought over from the Salisbury Museum.

Visits. Three visits were organised during the year. In the first the local historian, Rex Sawyer, took a party of 24 people round Tisbury on a cold, damp April day, calling at the Church of St. John the Baptist, where the parents of Rudyard Kipling are buried, and a splendid 15th century tithe barn, thought to be the largest in England. The following month saw a visit to a'Becketts Vineyard in West Lavington, with wine tasting and nibbles. Unfortunately a planned visit to Romsey in September had to be cancelled for lack of take-up.

Historic Open Days, September 13 – 16. The theme of this year's HODs was "Changing times, changing places", exploring the changes and uses of Salisbury buildings over the centuries. In addition to a railway trail based on Brunel House, six venues participated: Arundells; the Old Mill Hotel; Old Sarum Airfield; the Quaker Meeting House; Salisbury Library; and Wren Hall. The managers of several venues said that they were glad to have been given a motivation to put together (sometimes with help from us) the history of their premises and that their staff had become enthusiastic about the historic aspects of their workplace. Many attendees expressed their appreciation of the tours and information.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2012

In January the banking details of Salisbury Branch, Royal Bank of Scotland, and our account number were changed. This meant that over 200 members who paid by Bankers Order had to be informed and asked to fill in an amended standing order form; RBS refunded the costs which amounted to £431.30. Later in the year £1264.77 gift aid was received for 2011, an increase of £50.75. During 2012 we welcomed 26 new members, 7 died and 18 resigned or were removed for not paying their subscriptions. At the end of the year we had 396 members and 6 corporate members.



VANNER'S CHEQUER

This building was the former Registry Office but became redundant. The Council made it clear to any future purchaser that, though unlisted, the building would have to be retained. In any case permission would be needed for demolition as it lies in a Conservation Area.

See page 23.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT JUNE 2013

AGM. At this year's AGM, to be held in the Methodist Church at 6.30pm on Wednesday 19th June we will be asking you to elect three new officers of the Society. The date for nominations closed on 1st June but we are fortunate in having three volunteers to fill the posts becoming vacant.

The first post is my own as I have decided to retire before the end of the year. I will have been Chairman for over 9 years by then and I firmly believe that any organisation needs a new helmsman from time to time. A member of the Development Committee, Peter Dunbar, is happy to take over from me at the Executive Committee meeting on 2nd December 2013. He will be a very able successor.

Of rather more importance is the fact that our stalwart Secretary, Marguerite Scott, has also decided to retire. She has been in post for some 18 years, which puts my tenure to shame. She will be a very hard act to follow but we are lucky to have a new member, Philip Price, who is eminently suitable to step into her shoes. So that Marguerite and I do not leave at the same time she has offered to carry on as Secretary until such time as Peter Dunbar is settled in, sometime in the New Year. This is not yet a valedictory to Marguerite but I am extremely grateful to Philip for allowing his name to go forward.

The third change will be the Publicity Officer. Ron Smith would like to hand over and Bill Pender, who has been attending the General Purposes Committee, is prepared to assume the role after the AGM. My thanks go to Ron for all that he has done, including the vital task of running the bar with Judy Payne at the annual Awards Ceremony which he has offered to continue doing.

AGM Lecture. Following the AGM, which we try and keep as short as possible, we always have a guest speaker. This year we are extremely fortunate to have Loraine Knowles, the Stonehenge Director for English Heritage. She has entitled her talk "Stonehenge: A New Dawn". This will be an ideal opportunity to hear about the latest developments and ask questions.

Salisbury Transport Strategy. In my last report (March 2013) I described how the Salisbury Vision is now the local reference group for Wiltshire Council as it develops its transport strategy. The newly formed Salisbury Transport Strategy Reference Group is meeting on 23rd May. Those attending will be members of the Vision Board (including myself) chaired by Sir Christopher Benson, several appropriate Wiltshire Council Officers and Richard Deane and Margaret Wilmot (Community Area

Partnership and newly elected Independent City Councillor). I will report on this meeting at the AGM.

Events. Since the last Quarterly two events have taken place: an excellent and spine chilling talk by Frogg Moody and Richard Nash about “Haunted Salisbury” on 14th March and two understandably oversubscribed visits on 25th April to the Cathedral library.

As regards the talk I never realised how much “haunting” there purports to be in Salisbury and I am now inclined to walk around clutching a clove of garlic.

On a more practical note James Woods has been asked to look into ways in which audibility in the Methodist Church might be improved. There is a very sophisticated sound system but the use of microphones by speakers is not always as effective as it could be. Perhaps lapel microphones are the answer but we also have to be aware that many of us, me included, have some hearing loss for which there is not always a universal answer. We will do our best.

Conclusion. As this edition contains our Annual Report I have kept this piece deliberately short. Our programme for the rest of the year is in place but there will be changes from time to time which will be reflected in each edition of the Quarterly. Any last minute alterations will be notified by email and it is worth checking our website www.salisburycivicsociety.org.uk for the latest information.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual General Meeting.

Alastair Clark, 22nd May.

VISITS ORGANISER

We are sorry to announce that our long-serving Visits Organiser, Judi Cross, is stepping down at the end of this season. Ordinarily the Society arranges about three visits a year. If you are keen to research thought provoking places and meet interesting people, and are happy to organise transport and refreshments as necessary, please contact me at the following address: lisandjames@gmail.com or 01722 422169.



TISBURY

How to build a wall that immediately looks as if it is collapsing. As the builder moved higher and higher in his task it became less and less easy for him to stand back and review his progress. Of course it could not have been *her* task.

SALISBURY CIVIC SOCIETY**TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2012**

The Trustees present their report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the Year Ended 31ST December 2012. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on Page 4 and comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2005.

Reference and Administration Information**Trustees**

The Trustees during the year to 31ST December 2012 were:

Brigadier Alastair Clark, Richard Deane, Marguerite Scott, Dr. Charles Villiers, Kate O'Connor (appointed 20 June 2012), Ronald Millar, Melanie Latham, James Woods (appointed 20 June 2012), Michael Hallam (retired 20 June 2012) Wendy English, (retired 20 June 2012).

Business Address

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Charity Number

293143

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
14 Minster Street
Salisbury SP1 1TP

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Salisbury SP1 1DB

Independent Examiner

Mr K Flynn
16 Ash Crescent
Hampton Park
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Wiltshire SP1 3GY

Structure, Governance and Management

The Society is an Unincorporated Association governed by Constitution adopted on 16th April 1997 and amended on 12th June 2002.

Charitable Objects

To apply its funds:-

- 1/To promote high standards of Planning in or affecting the area of Benefit.
- 2/To educate the Public in the Geography, History, Natural History and Architecture of the Area of Benefit
- 3/To secure the Preservation, Development of Features of Historic or Public Interest in the Area of Benefit .

Public Benefit

The Trustees have given due regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission on Public Benefit, in respect of the activities of the Society as listed on Page 2 of the Society's Annual Report and contained within The Chairman's Report and the reports of the Development and General Purposes Committees.

Area of Benefit

Salisbury District and Wiltshire

SALISBURY CIVIC SOCIETY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2012 cont'd

Financial Review

During the year the net increase in funds amounted to £660.38, after charging the cost of Special Projects amounting to £9.98, when added to the Accumulated Funds at 31st December 2011 a balance of £25,834.61 is available to carry forward in addition to The Architectural Book Fund of £4,060.02.

Policy on Reserves

The Policy of the Charity is to maintain Reserves of not less than £15,000 in addition to the Architectural Book Fund.

It is our policy to invest our funds with COIF Charity Funds and Secure Trust Bank

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

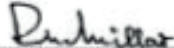
This report was approved by the Trustees on 8th April 2013



Brigadier A. Clark
Chairman



Marguerite Scott
Secretary



R N Millar FCA.
Treasurer

Gift Aid

Most Members already Gift Aid their subscription to the Society to enable it to recover an additional 20% from HMRC at no cost to them.

If you have not already done so please take the time to fill out the Gift Aid Declaration Form enclosed in this issue and return it to the address given.

Please also note that if you have already Gift Aided your subscription and no longer pay sufficient income tax and or Capital Gains tax you should notify the Society accordingly.

Salisbury Civic Society
Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31 December 2012

		Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2011	
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Salisbury In Detail Book				
Sales		1,816.30	3,114.57	
Cost of Sales		1,284.64	2174.88	
Gross Profit		531.66	939.69	
Expenses		13.93	41.05	898.64
Salisbury City Walks			0	225.00
Unrestricted Donations			200.00	8.00
Members' Subscriptions				
Members Subscriptions		5,337.05	5,651.55	
Income Tax Repayment		1,264.77	1,194.02	6845.57
Miscellaneous Income			31.00	0.00
Visits			0.48	-2.84
Total Income			£7,351.03	£7,974.37
Expenditure				
Awards Evening			33.15	100.24
Web Site Costs			64.93	60.87
Advertising			0.00	325.08
Bank Service Charges			-65.64	0.00
Committee Expenses			1,719.39	1854.95
Historic Open Days				
Expenditure		217.28	923.08	
Grants Received		0.00	217.28	123.08
Insurance			245.00	245.00
Printing and Reproduction			2,468.19	2395.71
Room Hire & Meetings Expenses			1,265.80	1,435.00
Secretary's Expenses & Postage			616.16	438.72
Subscriptions			659.50	603.00
Total Expenditure			£7,223.76	£7,691.66
Net Ordinary Income			127.27	382.72
Other Income				
Interest Income			543.09	360.32
			670.36	743.04
Other Expense				
Special Projects				
Artcare Salisbury District Hospital		0.00	300.00	
Web Design Competition Prizes		0.00	560.00	
Ram Restoration Expenditure		9.98	9.98	2,520.00
Net Income /Deficit			£660.38	£1,776.96

		Dec 31, 2012		Dec 31, 2011	
ASSETS					
Fixed Assets					
	Projector	181.51		181.51	
	Accumulated Depreciation	-181.51	0	-181.51	0
Current Assets					
	Stock of Salisbury in Detail Book	4,633.24		5,917.88	
	Debtors and Prepayments	1,725.65		1,170.58	
	Secure Bank Trust	20,775.15		10,554.69	
	Cash at Bank	1,107.33		1,670.51	
	COIF Charities Deposit Fund	1,800.00		12,800.00	
	Total Current Assets	30,041.37		32,113.66	
Current Liabilities					
	Sundry Creditors	946.74		3,679.41	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			29,094.63		28,434.25
NET ASSETS			£29,094.63		£28,434.25
Equity					
	Architectural Book Fund		4,060.02		4,060.02
Equity					
	Opening Balance Equity	24,374.23		26,151.19	
	Net Income/Deficit for the Year	660.38	25,034.61	-1,776.96	24,374.23
Total Equity			£29,094.63		£28,434.25
ACCOUNTING POLICIES					
The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with SORP, "Accounting and reporting by Charities"					
The principal accounting policies which the Trustees have adopted are set out below.					
INCOME					
Income from Members' Subscriptions is credited to the Income and Expenditure Account on a cash basis.					
All other Income is credited to the Income and Expenditure Account on an accruals basis.					
EXPENDITURE					
Development Committee Expenses are debited to the Income and Expenditure Account on a cash basis.					
All other expenditure is debited to the Income and Expenditure Account on an accruals basis.					
Stock of Salisbury in Detail Books is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.					

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
"SALISBURY CIVIC SOCIETY"

I report on the accounts of the Salisbury Civic Society for the year ended 31st December 2012.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- a. examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- b. to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- c. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 view given by 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
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act
 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



.Name: Kevin Gregory Martin Flynn BSc CMgr FCMI GMCA FCMA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address: 16 Ash Crescent, Hampton Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GY

Date: 25th March 2013

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Three recent proposals illustrate the range of intended work with which the Society can become involved, and give some indication of the sort of underlying principles which can be evoked as appropriate responses are agreed on.

Salisbury Railway Station The Quarterly of March 2012 included an account of the Society's reaction to an application to repair canopies at the station, which four years earlier had been listed thanks to a Society initiative. The proposal included a significant use of GRP, in other words plastic, to replace timber elements in the canopies, and a sample of this material was seen by the Development Committee secretary prior to the committee discussing the application. The secretary reported that the GRP was a reasonably convincing facsimile of timber, but it was decided nevertheless to object, since, as the Quarterly piece put it, 'the view was taken that the station had been listed as a traditional building using traditional materials, and that the amount of falsification entailed if those materials changed over to ones completely unknown when the station was built was not acceptable'. The application was subsequently refused, leading to a rethink by Network Rail and the submission of amended proposals at the end of 2012. For many of the canopy parts which needed replacing, the intention was now to use timber in a like for like manner, with a new material now proposed only for limited parts of the canopies, most notably the daggerboards. These are the decorative boards which project downwards from the edges of the canopies, and which due to their position are difficult to reach for painting or other maintenance, without disruption to services. The proposed replacements would now not be in GRP but in a composite material, consisting of a plywood core with a plastic coating, simulating the grain of timber. This was more convincing than the previous product, since it no longer had a seam. According to Network Rail, it would actually be a more expensive material than wood, so its use was not aimed at reducing the cost of the repair project, but at longer-term benefits. A sample board was made available at the December 2012 committee meeting, and the outcome, in the words of the minutes, was that 'It was agreed that it seemed like a sensible compromise, and that there was no reason why the Society should oppose its use. The secretary commented that the case demonstrated not only the value of the Station listing which the Society had successfully sought [since without that status, approval would not have been needed for work to the canopies], but also that it had been right to object to the previous application for the wholesale use of GRP. The effect of this had been to strengthen the conservation officer's hand in going back to Network Rail to ask them to think again, and the latter had then tried a bit harder and come up with something much more acceptable.' The Society's involvement with the planning system cannot be said to result in a plethora of cases where its influence can be quite clearly shown to have prompted a positive outcome, but the railway station certainly comes into that category.

Vanners Chequer The names of Salisbury's chequers generally derive either from inns within them – for instance Three Cups, Blue Boar, Three Swans – or from prominent individuals who at one time owned or rented property there. Vanners Chequer is in the second category, taking its name from Richard Vanner, a C17th tailor. It comprises the area bounded by Greencroft Street, Bedwin Street, St Edmunds Church Street and Salt Lane, and contains within it the substantial building which formerly housed the register office (and whose end wall contributes a full-page photo to Salisbury in Detail). This and other buildings in the chequer were in the ownership of Wiltshire Council, and were put on the market once the Bourne Hill extension made them surplus to requirements. None of those in the council-owned site were listed, but their location within a conservation area meant that they would need permission to be demolished, and it was made clear to potential purchasers that the former register office, and terrace houses to the north along Bedwin Street, would need to be retained in any redevelopment scheme. Other later structures, inside the chequer and on the Salt Lane frontage, had no merit and could go. In September 2012 a team from a housebuilding company came to the Development Committee meeting and presented their proposals for the creation of 14 dwellings, some in new buildings and some in existing, including the conversion of the central one into three flats, one on each floor. All the new buildings would be in a neo-historic style, done it would seem to reasonably high standards. The committee's reaction was that the proposals looked sensible and appropriate for the location, and that the Society had no problem with the principle behind them, though it might wish to comment on detailed matters once an application was submitted.

The application duly followed in November, with the documentation including a design and access statement which referred to the Society's expression of views after the presentation to it. Apparently the Society had, among other things, 'encouraged the applicants to individualise the buildings within the development and add some of the design 'whimsys' which may be found locally', a somewhat surprising claim since the Society had said nothing of the sort. Its letter to the planners on the application mentioned this, and covered detailed points where the scheme was felt to fall short, including window proportions in some of the newbuild elements, the use of particular materials, and the amount of car parking provision, which seemed unnecessarily high. There was a particular comment about the intention to provide new windows for the terrace houses on Bedwin Street, many of whose existing windows retained attractive old glass, and could perfectly well be repaired rather than being replaced. This point was picked up by the planners, and the permission that was subsequently granted included the retention of existing windows, though whether this will actually mean that the historic glass survives remains to be seen. Work is now under way, and as ever with schemes that include new houses in a neo-traditional style, commitment to detailing and workmanship will have a big impact on the final outcome. Previous examples do not encourage enormous optimism on this point, but perhaps this one will break the trend.

Continued on page 26.

There are several distinguished Cathedral Libraries in England, of which the one at Salisbury is considered of special importance. Edward Probert, Canon Chancellor here, kindly demonstrated some of the works stored in Salisbury to members of the Society recently. Ordinarily this library is only open to scholars by appointment. He has now sent an illustration of a unique manuscript, with his comments.

Jacob's Well.

On the following page (25) is a page (folio 16) from our MS 103, Jacob's Well. This is a long (233 ff) work from the early 15th century, all in English. Unusually the pages are mostly of paper, with some of parchment, and this is the only known copy of this text. Half of it was published in 1900 in an edition for the Early English Text Society by Arthur Brandeis; Vida Russell is currently working on a new, complete, edition for the same society. Its exact purpose and nature are subject of some discussion: the library catalogue of 1880 describes it as a 'theological treatise'; it has also been called a sermon cycle. It has a moralising purpose and gives many exemplary stories. Apparently the English suggests an authorship from Suffolk. As a unique text, there is considerable scholarly interest, including from universities in France and the United States.

Edward Probert.

De modo docuendi.

16
C

Herebefore I have scheldid you
pe aytchles of pe sentence of
pe grette curse. and false tithing is
an aytchle pe of. Wherfore I schall
telle you how se schul tithen truly
for to escape 3rd sytchle out of pe ay
tchle of cursing. // Se oopen to tithen
of all maner of godis trechly gett.

be þe confessor of 30th confessor. & schal
be blyssyd of god. þe 31st & 32nd be fore
curst. and 33rd schal be full of grace.
þe 34th & 35th be fore full of synne. Abi
habundant doliati sup habundant
& gratia p^{er} apo p^{ro} 1 schal be 30th
sooth be example. Cesay tellith
þat a mynke byt out of his herte. &
forsoke his habite. & gaf hym to alle
lustre & synne & curst. & dede.
at þe laste he repentyd hym & took
agen his herte. & his habite. & for
þe & schyffed. & byng fastyng & yv
yn. he plesyd god & forsook synne
in to his ende. & enomore specially
was schayped on his lady. in his byng
for his penance he hadde mo^{re} grace.
he seide to þe Abbot & to his bythe
yn. ayr was schyppfull fader. & do
þe 30th to vertue. a for my god. þe
synfull bythe leste my synne. &
my synne leste me. and 31st god 33rd
þe nie longe. þis. I am 33rd for his
loue to suffre alle tyme. & þe
yn. for. I hadde leue. þen in þe
þe out. a ende & hane loue of my god.
þen þen in heuon blyss for eno. &
hane god. hane ffor. I dede eno. &
for. moze þe I hane for. þe
my god. þen. I dede. & for. to gon
to helle. in þis blyssfull. & dede
be dede. & in his first of his bythe. yn
angel. & melodye. & yn his soule
to heuon. // lo. 31st þe curst in þe
fonten. a fore. þe in þe first. & enan
co amende. þe. do. he dede. & 33rd
schal be to god & to alle angel. of
yn amendment. do. þe gospel tellith.
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pe grette cunse. and sale tothynge is
an apptle pe of. Wherfore I schall
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for to kepe 3rd syt. 1st out of pe ap
ptle of cornynge. 2nd ze schyn to tithen
of all maner of godys tynkly gett.
for pe tenth pte pay of io. 3rd to
god. ex. do. do. Twa new. 4th host.
ze schyn to tithen of alle thynges
pfitzable pay. penownd be pay.
e also of ten do. pay a pay remownd.
ex. conf. 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th 21th 22th 23th 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th 31st 32nd 33rd 34th 35th 36th 37th 38th 39th 40th 41st 42nd 43rd 44th 45th 46th 47th 48th 49th 50th 51st 52nd 53rd 54th 55th 56th 57th 58th 59th 60th 61st 62nd 63rd 64th 65th 66th 67th 68th 69th 70th 71st 72nd 73rd 74th 75th 76th 77th 78th 79th 80th 81st 82nd 83rd 84th 85th 86th 87th 88th 89th 90th 91st 92nd 93rd 94th 95th 96th 97th 98th 99th 100th 101st 102nd 103rd 104th 105th 106th 107th 108th 109th 110th 111st 112nd 113rd 114th 115th 116th 117th 118th 119th 120th 121st 122nd 123rd 124th 125th 126th 127th 128th 129th 130th 131st 132nd 133rd 134th 135th 136th 137th 138th 139th 140th 141st 142nd 143rd 144th 145th 146th 147th 148th 149th 150th 151st 152nd 153rd 154th 155th 156th 157th 158th 159th 160th 161st 162nd 163rd 164th 165th 166th 167th 168th 169th 170th 171st 172nd 173rd 174th 175th 176th 177th 178th 179th 180th 181st 182nd 183rd 184th 185th 186th 187th 188th 189th 190th 191st 192nd 193rd 194th 195th 196th 197th 198th 199th 200th 201st 202nd 203rd 204th 205th 206th 207th 208th 209th 210th 211st 212nd 213rd 214th 215th 216th 217th 218th 219th 220th 221st 222nd 223rd 224th 225th 226th 227th 228th 229th 230th 231st 232nd 233rd 234th 235th 236th 237th 238th 239th 240th 241st 242nd 243rd 244th 245th 246th 247th 248th 249th 250th 251st 252nd 253rd 254th 255th 256th 257th 258th 259th 260th 261st 262nd 263rd 264th 265th 266th 267th 268th 269th 270th 271st 272nd 273rd 274th 275th 276th 277th 278th 279th 280th 281st 282nd 283rd 284th 285th 286th 287th 288th 289th 290th 291st 292nd 293rd 294th 295th 296th 297th 298th 299th 300th 301st 302nd 303rd 304th 305th 306th 307th 308th 309th 310th 311st 312nd 313rd 314th 315th 316th 317th 318th 319th 320th 321st 322nd 323rd 324th 325th 326th 327th 328th 329th 330th 331st 332nd 333rd 334th 335th 336th 337th 338th 339th 340th 341st 342nd 343rd 344th 345th 346th 347th 348th 349th 350th 351st 352nd 353rd 354th 355th 356th 357th 358th 359th 360th 361

Jacob's Well.

Castle Street Tesco Proposals to redevelop the Castle Street building were on show at a public exhibition in early April, but by then the Society's comments had already gone to the developers (a firm called Spen Hill, who are in fact part of Tesco), following a meeting with them by the Development Committee chairman and secretary, and discussion of their ideas at the March committee meeting. The underlying principle, of a completely new building comprising a Tesco store on the ground floor, as now, and a Premier Inn-style hotel on the upper part of the Maltings side, was seen as uncontentious, but there was considerable concern about the proposed design. The current Castle Street effect is one of a large store inserted into two different buildings, each further subdivided to create four units in total, enabling the supermarket to retain some affinity with the general style of the street scene around. The proposals would see this replaced with one long frontage, containing little variety, and topped by a 'false balcony', whose aim is to hide the roof above the store, which would be used only for plant, and to bring the height of the building up to match adjacent properties. The Society commented that a majority of committee members felt that the long and relatively monolithic effect was at odds with the surrounding streetscape, and likely to create a discordant and uncomfortable impact. A minority view accepted that the supermarket function made it difficult to avoid such a treatment, and some suggestions were made as to how this effect might be alleviated, though the design impact was still likely to be less than satisfactory. In effect, the root of the problem is that the basic supermarket use is anomalous in that context, and any design treatment, whether it expresses the function honestly, or attempts to disguise it within an artificially variegated facade, is going to struggle to work.

There were also concerns about the long monotonous elevation on the Maltings side, and about the way the proposals were being developed in isolation from the forthcoming wider Maltings redevelopment. The retention of the current Tesco car park, for hotel customers, was also seen as likely to have unfortunate consequences, given its prominence within the riverside environment. The Salisbury Conservation Advisory Panel, on which the Society is represented, came out with similar concerns about the whole scheme, slightly more strongly worded. The fact that, by the time of the public exhibition, the developers had gone to the expense of having a model of the scheme made, seemed to indicate they were set on pursuing that particular design approach, without apparently receiving any particular encouragement from the planners for it. For the Castle Street side in particular, the character assessment of the area in the draft Salisbury conservation area appraisal document stresses the overall subdivision into relatively narrow frontages, and it is hard to see how the long unbroken elevation proposed can be viewed as anything other than a challenge to this. If a planning application is indeed submitted along the lines of the exhibited scheme, it will be extremely interesting to watch its progress, which is unlikely to be through particularly calm waters.

Richard Deane.

OFFICERS as at 1st June 2013.

PATRON: The Lord Congleton MA, Hon.LLD.

PRESIDENT: Dame Rosemary Spencer, DCMG.

***VICE-PRESIDENTS: Lt Cdr David Allen, Maj Gen Roy Dixon,
Mr ARA Hobson, Mr Ken Wiltshire.***

CHAIRMAN: Brig Alastair Clark.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr Richard Deane.

Executive Committee

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Miss Kate O'Connor (Membership)	kateoconnor@waitrose.com
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THE MASTER THATCHER

Thatch can be used in unexpected sites, for example a church, a bus stop and even an advertising display.

Here, for example, it is found as very traditional thatch in central London, if only temporarily. This was commissioned by the M&G finance company at the Chelsea Flower Show this year. Nowadays, this skill flourishes, in Wiltshire at least, as do many others in wood, glass, and stone plus the essential trades in plumbing and electricity etc, all to a high standard.

