**SCHAEMUS MUSEI** or The Scheme for fitting up the Museum of the Gentlemen’s Society
25 May 1727 Considered & Approved by the Society M.J. Secretary

There are 6 presses & 1 more (no. 6) may be over the Chimney

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<th>Skeleton</th>
<th>Mummy</th>
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<th>BOOKS</th>
<th>Pictures, Prints, Drawings</th>
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<th>Small natural Rarities Beasts, Fish, Birds, Vegetables</th>
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<td>Larger Natural Curiosities of Beasts, Birds, Fishes &amp; Vegetables</td>
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Herein the Concerts Collection of Musick is kept |
| 1 | Utensils Candlesticks, Bottles, Brushes, Sponge, etc |

Subjects fitt to be reposited in the Museum Society Gentlemen’s Spalding

1. **HUMAN**
2. **QUADRUPEDS**
3. **BIRDS [volatil]**
4. **FISHES**
5. **AMPHIBIOUS** in small boxes
6. **INSECTS** TREES, SHRUBS, HERBS & their seeds in the Garden in Hortus Siccus

II. **VEGETABLES** -

III. **SHELLS** etc Exuviae (shed skins) Fossils Stones Metals Minerals } in small Boxes

1. **BOOKS** Dictionarys Voyagers, Memoires, Acts Royal Society
2. **PRINTS** DRAWINGS

**ARTIFICIAL**

III. **CARVINGS** CASTS MEDALS }

Turnings Coins, Cameos, Intaglios, Past

Instruments Telescope Barometres Thermometres Microscopes Magnifying Glasses Hydrostastical Tubes

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2015**
SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

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Charity No. 216131

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Solicitors
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23 New Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1 DH

Accountants
Duncan & Toplis
Enterprise Way, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 3Y

Front cover: Maurice Johnson's Schema Musei 1727, re-drawn by Philip Stickler, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge, from a transcription by Michael and Diana Honeybone. The large boxes labelled NATURAL and ARTIFICIAL amplify the contents of the cabinets arranged around the walls; the space they occupy in the diagram was intended as a working space.
MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND OTHER OFFICERS
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

Members of Council

Ex officio (elected at an AGM, acting officers appointed by Council)

President and Keeper of Coins & Tokens                   M.H. Snowdon
Senior Vice-President                                              D.J. Mossman
Vice-President                                                        T. Grimes
Vice-President and Lanternist                                  C.E. Baslington
Acting Hon. Curator and Curator of Medals             M.J. Hollanders
Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Membership Secretary        S.M. Barsley
Hon. Secretary                                                       M.D.I. Chisholm
Librarian                                                                D.Frazier Wood
Hon. Lecture Secretary                                            H. Fuller

Representative members elected at an AGM or co-opted by Council.
(Individuals’ offices are held at the pleasure of Council and do not confer
ex officio membership of Council.)

Chairman of Council                                             F.N. Casswell
R.C. West
B.P. Jarvie
N.R. Gant
A.B. Watson
I. Hoult
J. Gant
S.A. Freeman

Other Officers appointed by Council (not members of Council)

Assistant Curator                                                    P. Clay
Deputy Librarian                                                    M. Brassington
Assistant Librarian                                                   M.J. Pemberton
Curator of Natural History                                      E.J. Redshaw
Philatelist                                                              G. Darley
Curator of Archaeology                                           R. Buck
Email manager                                                       L.A. Eldridge
Assistant Secretary                                                  S. Martinelli
Caretaker                                                               G. Cupper
The Society was founded in 1710 by Maurice Johnson, its emblem being the Water Bouget, taken from his armorial bearings. The early eighteenth century was an exciting time of world exploration, scientific discoveries, cultural and social change. With the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 came the founding in the same year of the ‘Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge’, and those in the provinces were eager to be abreast of the latest news and discoveries. Johnson was a lawyer who had experienced the coffee house society in London. At home in Spalding, he and other gentlemen met once a week to share and discuss cultural, scientific and antiquarian knowledge, aided by correspondence with individuals around the world. The Spalding Gentlemen’s Society is the oldest provincial learned society in Britain to have survived, being approximately contemporary with the Society of Antiquaries in London, with which body there was overlapping membership.

Today, the Society owns its hundred-year-old premises, housing a museum collection, library and archive materials that include items of national and international importance. The Society is recognised as a local depository for manorial documents.

**Status**
The Society is a registered Charity and is also incorporated as a ‘not for profit’ Company limited by guarantee. The liability of members should the Society be wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £2 per member.

**Objectives of the Society**
Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Society exists to ‘promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and the study’ of what may now be called the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. The two most important ways by which this is currently done are: maintaining the museum, library and archive holdings in the Museum premises; and the annual series of twelve Friday evening lectures, open to the public, delivered between September and March at the Spalding Grammar School.

**Membership of the Society**
Membership is open to men and women aged eighteen and over who support the Society’s objectives. The annual membership fee at present is £60, with £10 as the one-off entrance fee.

**The role of members and the benefits of membership**
Annual membership fees provide significant revenue to support the Society’s work, almost all of which is undertaken by volunteers, most of whom are members of the Society. Society members have a crucial role to play in the election of the President and the other officers and members of the Council of Management, the body that manages the Society’s affairs. Council members are trustees and directors under Charity and Company laws respectively. Thus it is that Society members have the privilege and the duty to ensure that Council remains true to the Society’s objectives.

There are several ways in which Members of the Society can benefit personally. There are opportunities to volunteer to assist with the many tasks that must be undertaken to keep the Society functioning, with appropriate training. There is ready access for Members most Monday mornings between 9.0 a.m. and noon and on Thursday evenings between
7.00 and 9.00 p.m.: at other times, prior arrangement is necessary.

**Access for non-members**
Non-members are welcome for individual and group visits, and for scholarly work, but please be in touch beforehand to make the necessary arrangements. The best time for individuals to come is on a Monday morning, when group visits are not accepted; at other times, access will depend on the availability of volunteers.

**Public lectures**
Lecture details are available on the Society’s website and are publicised in the local press. Admission for members and non-members is normally £2 at the door. On rare occasions, there may be a higher charge; if so, the relevant details are publicised in advance.

**Public benefit**
Details of the public benefit provided by the Society in pursuit of its charitable objectives may be found in the ‘Report of members of the Council’ contained in the Unaudited Reports and Financial Statements contained in this Annual Report.
A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members

For me personally, 2015 was a mixture of pleasure and sadness.

I have been a member of the Society since 2000, joining Council two years later. It has been an enormous pleasure that, recently, the Society has come alive, and an equal pleasure to have been party to that awakening. These days, on Monday mornings the Society is a hive of activity, as is also the case on the Thursday Coffeehouse evenings. Moreover, the atmosphere is one of good-natured intellectual engagement.

Underlying this change is awareness that, in order to survive, the Society will have to change. What those changes may be, and how they will be accomplished, are now the questions with which Council, along with the Society as a whole, is engaged. The direction of change is embodied in the Vision Statement, which is in fact an expansion of the Memorandum and Articles of Association (our constitution) – “to promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and the study of” what we now generally call the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. To do this adequately, we need to build on the excellent public lectures and the programme of booked tours and Sunday opening once a month in the winter months, by enabling members of the public to visit the Museum without the need for Society Members to be present and acting as guides. We need also to provide better access to the Library and Archives for research work. And we need space for temporary exhibitions, for better storage and for conservation work, to mention some of the more obvious current deficiencies.

As a Grade II listed building, our existing premises are a heritage asset but they are also a problem. Even assuming that the subsidence problem at the rear of the Maples Gallery will be sorted, the building is not big enough, and has some serious inherent problems – for public access, for providing appropriate environmental conditions for different kinds of holding, and for maintaining control over access to the Library were members of the public able to visit the museum without attendant volunteer guides. So, how do we provide for our needs and at the same time find a proper use for the existing building?

This question brings me to another issue. At the present time, the Society’s total income is not very large. For a long time, the attitude has been that activities must be limited to the funds available. More recently, Council has been taking the view that we should identify what needs to be done and then seek the funds that would make the realisation of our ambitions possible. To this end, raising the annual membership subscription was an important step. Council has become pro-active in seeking grants and more remains to be done on that front. Indeed, the prospect is that during 2016 the Society will submit to the Heritage Lottery Fund a grant application for the purpose of obtaining professional evaluation of the options available to the Society. This could be the precursor to a major capital grant application, to HLF or another funding body. As part of this whole enterprise, I would like to see a concerted campaign to increase the Society’s endowment funds, with the aim to increase the annual income under the control of the Society.
A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT continued

I wish to pay tribute to the work of numerous volunteers, without whose labours the Society could not exist. Your commitment to sustaining the Society is to be celebrated. Thank you.

My sadness is that failing health has limited my participation in the multitude of things that have been done and are currently in hand. The support and encouragement I have received from many people is something for which I am truly grateful.

Finally, may I encourage you, and Council, to continue on the journey of reform and revitalisation, conscious that the final destination cannot at this stage be known.

Michael Snowdon
Much the most important event in 2015 was the news that the Society had gained Accreditation for the museum collection (not including the library and archives, which are treated separately). This award from the Arts Council is a form of quality kite mark, signifying confidence in the existing arrangements on the one hand, and the ability to carry out intended improvements on the other. Two years hence, the Society will need to justify the continuation of accreditation, particularly the extent to which the promised improvements have been made or are then in hand – especially documentation and curation of the holdings, and increased public access. With accreditation comes support and funding opportunities that would not otherwise be accessible, a matter of considerable importance for the future.

Gillian Tresidder was responsible for persuading Council to apply for accreditation; the Society owes her a considerable debt.

Not long after the accreditation news, the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded nearly £10,000 for the conservation and sharing of forty-four original William Stukeley drawings. Stukeley was a founder member of the Society and a notable antiquary. When the drawings have been cleaned and conserved, they will be mounted for storage in appropriate acid free boxes. Seventeen clip-in frames will be supplied and in the autumn of 2016 there will be an exhibition at Ayscoughfee Hall Museum. John Smith, who is researching the provenance of the drawings and preparing revised catalogue entries, will give a talk in the Society’s public lecture programme, also in the autumn of 2016.

This grant marks an important step building a working relationship between the Society and the Heritage Lottery Fund, reflected in the outcome of the second meeting with Fund officers, in September. Following that meeting, the Society was advised to submit a Transition Grant application to HLF. The purpose of such a grant would be to obtain a professional review of the options available to the Society seeking to implement the Vision Statement, and advice on the best way forward. This review may well lead to a major capital grant application, to HLF or other grant giving bodies.

Council has agreed that an application should be made for a Business Development grant from Museum Development East Midlands, for assistance in preparing the Transition Grant application. The maximum grant from MDEM would not cover the full cost of this preparatory work and Council has agreed to contribute some funds. Work on this MDEM grant application was ongoing at the close of 2015; if the request to MDEM were to be unsuccessful, other ways of helping with the costs would be sought.

After a long period of frustration, the year closed with some real action with regard to the insurance claim for subsidence in the Maples Gallery. The change of attitude seems to be associated with a change of personnel handling the claim on behalf of the insurer. However, it has been realised that the rear wall of the Gallery is visibly leaning outwards. Measuring devices were placed to determine whether the wall is still moving or has stabilised. These showed that movement does appear to be continuing and it may be mid-2016 before we know for certain and decisions can be taken. Meantime, work has been
completed to rectify the broken drains and rationalise the run of the drains. That we have got this far is largely due to the expertise and persistence of Colin Baslington.

Much else has been happening. It became apparent during the year that the Society’s email address was not functioning properly, and that the obsolete system meant that nothing could be done to rectify the matter other than by changing provider. Consequently, a new address – sgsinfo@btconnect.com – has been brought into use, but even this has proved surprisingly problematic; the problems had not been fully resolved by the year’s end. Lesley Eldridge has struggled valiantly with this whole issue, unseen by most Members of the Society but doing a vital job, fundamental for better communication in the future and hence for the wellbeing of the Society.

As we move into the business of seeking grants from external bodies, it becomes necessary to know how much time is actually given to the Society by volunteers – those who are members of Council and all the other volunteers upon whom we rely. Grant-giving bodies like to know how much time in aggregate is provided by volunteers, so that they can understand how the Society works. In addition, it is common for funding bodies to ask for a contribution from an applicant towards the total cost of a project for which funding is sought, a contribution that may either be cash or in kind. This means that one can obtain the total cost of a project, including the cash equivalent of volunteer time involved; the cash value of volunteer time is treated as a contribution in kind. As a consequence, a system has now been put in place whereby volunteers are requested to keep and report a log of time spent, the file being kept in the Johnson Room.

The Arts and Humanities Research Council declined to support the major research grant application described by Anna Marie Roos in last year’s Annual Report. This is disappointing, but not a disaster. For example, instead of digitisation of documents being done as part of the research project, with the equipment and training being a long-term legacy for further work, active steps are being taken to achieve the same objective by other means.

In July, Tom Grimes resigned as Hon. Curator, having held the office since 2007. Council warmly thanked him for his services. He remains a member of Council as Vice-President. Council was glad to appoint Marilyn Hollanders as Acting Hon. Curator and Ian Hoult as Deputy Hon. Curator.

We personally are much indebted to Council members and other volunteers for their support and practical assistance, without which the Society could not function.

Nick Casswell
Michael Chisholm
In November 1712, Maurice Johnson wrote down the Rules and Orders of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society. It 'was instituted for supporting mutual benevolence and ... improvement in letters [learning].' In 1709, Johnson had returned to Spalding having completed his classical and legal education at Eton and in the Inner Temple, one of the four London Inns of Court. In London, he had enjoyed the coffee-house culture, discussing the latest periodicals in establishments like Button's Coffee House where he met the literary elite of England, particularly Steele, Addison, Gay and Pope. On his return to Spalding, Johnson started a club at the coffee-house in Abbey Yard to read Steele's Tatler and the Spectator.

This group was to be different from the gossipy London clubs, however. From the first, Johnson was determined that his society should be 'a Universal Literary meeting for the sake of Improvement in Friendship and Knowledge: without views of any other profit or pleasure' (MB 1 fol.73). He initiated a major project, the cleaning and cataloguing of the seventeenth-century Spalding Parish Library. This work still goes on: today the SGS houses the Parish Library and takes care of it.

The group collected round Johnson developed into an amiable weekly meeting of local doctors, apothecaries, clergymen, lawyers, teachers and merchants, who were determined to turn their friendly club into a society for the study and communication of 'whatever is useful, new, uncommon and curious in any Art or Science' (MB 1 fol.25). To do all this effectively needed suitable premises. Johnson decided in 1720 that what was needed was 'a Musaeum'. To understand Johnson's plans, it is necessary to define the word in its eighteenth-century sense: a 'museum' or 'musaeum' was 'a Study or Library; also a College or Publick Place for the Resort of Learned Men' [The New World of Words 1706]. This is what Johnson established in Spalding and still flourishes today, now also a 'resort' for women members (as Johnson suggested in 1733).

Initially, the Society met in a range of temporary accommodation: first in a coffee-house, then in each other's houses and the Record Room of the Town Hall. In 1718, the recently-appointed Master of the Grammar School, the Revd Timothy Neve, allowed the society to use a room at the west end of the Vicarage house of Spalding. Here the Society began to bring together its cabinet of curiosities, vital for anyone with an interest in learning. 'Curiosity' has changed its meaning over the centuries: in 1694 it meant 'scrupulousness and accuracy'. This was a development from the earlier meaning which saw it as a religious failing. It now had a positive association as a genuine search for truth.

'Curiosities' were rarities collected by the 'curious'. For two centuries across Europe, gentlemen had brought together rare artefacts and natural items into cabinets or show-cases. In Cabinets for the Curious (2006) Ken Arnold gives the example of Sir Thomas Grosvenor in 1678, 'who did not trifle away [his 'moneys'] but bestowed them upon good Books, Medals, and other useful Rarities worth the Curiosity of a compleat Gentleman' (p.70). By the later seventeenth century, they were widespread, the best known and largest in England being that 'Collection of Rarities Preserved at South Lambeth near London by John Tradescant' in 1657 (Figure 1). This...
The study of the books in the fifth case led to the creation of a systematic division of knowledge, similar to Nehemiah Grew’s 1681 Royal Society division of books into Animals, Plants, Minerals and Artificial Matters, early evidence of the now
commonplace division of scientific knowledge. The main accepted division of knowledge was, by 1700, Natural and Artificial (i.e. man-made), and this was to be the basis of the systematic planning of the SGS's museum room which began in 1720 and was finalised by 1728.

The modern SGS is fortunate in that several contrasting plans for the construction of its first museum still exist. They have been described by John Harris in his excellent article, 'Designs for the Museum and Library of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society' (The Georgian Group Journal vol.xix, 2011). It focuses on a series of plans for a purpose-built museum, ranging from Johnson's of 1720 for adapting the chapel used by the Grammar School to provide separate accommodation for them and for the SGS, to plans drawn up in 1725 by Messrs Todd and Sands, John Talman, William Stukeley, Capt. Francis Pilliod and Giuseppe Andrea Grisoni. Unfortunately none of these plans gained final acceptance. The Society's problems found a less expensive solution in early 1727, when a member, the Revd Joseph Sparke, offered the use of rooms with a garden in the Abbey Yard for the Society to rent.

Johnson drew up plans and diagrams for the use of these rooms as the Society's museum. Two versions of this scheme exist, one as a diagram as seen from above (Figure 2) and the other, based on it, listing in detail the categories of exhibits to be stored and displayed there (front cover, redrawn). They are fascinating depictions of an on-going planning process, since they both show initial ideas crossed out and later ideas written above them. Both show a central working space, which is occupied in Figure 2 by a large table, presumably that around which members could sit at meetings. Figure 3 shows a more detailed plan of this table and its contents, as set out for a society meeting. In each case the handwriting is that of Maurice Johnson, the Society's Secretary and founder.

A small sketch, in the margin of plans for the Society's garden, gives an insight into
It is with the listed contents of these cupboards that we enter into the eighteenth-century SGS concept of a museum – a place not just for storing, displaying and admiring collections but for using them for active study and research. An insight into the study taking place is given by the listing of the contents of the cupboards, which is the more remarkable in being precisely categorised, a new development in the early eighteenth century.

Number 1 contains 'utensils', listed as practical items, 'candlesticks, bottles, brushes, sponge &c'. The 1727 "Schema for fitting the Museum & Garden" (MB 1 folio 161) records the utensils necessary for the Garden: 'spade, setting trowels, rake, scythe, pruning knife, pair of shears, rolling stone, watering pot' and a hoe. Perhaps some of these were kept in the Museum room in addition to the Hortus Siccus or collection of dried plants.

Number 2 was intended for 'Instruments, Mathematical & experimental', expanded in the list on the front cover as 'Telescope, Barometres, Thermometres, Microscopes, Magnifying Glasses, Hydrostatical Tubes'. The purchase of these items is carefully recorded in the SGS minute Books of the 1720s and their use is recorded in experiments. Also 'herein the Concerts Collection of Musick is kept'. The 'Concert' or 'Consort' was the local musical society who rehearsed weekly in the Society's room in return for providing an annual anniversary concert for the SGS.

Number 3, originally intended for 'Larger Natural' specimens of natural history, is changed to 'Artificial curiosities', man-made by artificers or craftsmen.
'Curiosities' had the eighteenth-century meaning of 'distinctive or rare items worthy of study'. These are listed as 'Carvings, Turnings, Casts, Medals, Coines, Cameos, Intaglios, Past[e]s'.

**Number 4** was originally intended for 'Larger Artificial' items but this was changed to 'Natural'; this was expanded for 'Larger Natural Curiosities of Beasts, Birds, Fishes & Vegetables'.

**Number 5**, next to the fireplace, was originally designed for 'Small Artificial' items but was finally agreed as holding the intriguing 'Skeleton & Mummy'.

**Number 6**, 'over the Chimney', was to house part of the Society's library, containing works of reference most likely to be required at meetings, plus 'Pictures Prints & Drawings'.

**Number 7** housed 'Small Natural Rarities Beasts Fish Birds Vegetables'.

The extended list occupying the main section of the front cover provides an insight into the developing processes of categorisation, particularly in natural history. Johnson's list was made before Linnaeus' classificatory work was done in the 1730s and is therefore to some extent his own, though influenced by the other collections being developed at that time, notably that of the Ashmolean in Oxford and the Royal Society in London. It demonstrates the practical research being carried out at the SGS, much of which is written up in the Minute Books and the scores of dissertations and papers carefully preserved in the amazing archive of the Society and in its unique library. Johnson's scheme proved a lasting success; in the twenty-first century the Johnson Room's layout is remarkably similar to the plan of 1727.

**Michael and Diana Honeybone**

**Reading List**

1. Spalding Gentlemen's Society Minute Book 1 1712-1728 (referred to in text as MB1).
2. Ken Arnold *Cabinets for the Curious* 2006
3. R.T.Gunther *Early Science in Oxford* vol.iii 1925
THREE VICTORIAN GENTLEMEN AND THE SOCIETY’S PREHISTORIC COLLECTION

When first involved with the Spalding Gentlemen’s Society in 2008, I was an undergraduate archaeology student researching Spalding Priory for my thesis. Despite not being my remit, I was naturally drawn to the archaeology cabinet in the Maples Gallery.

Here is a fascinating collection of stone tools, knapped flints and other artefacts, the oldest of which dates back to at least 1.5 million years, to the time of our early ancestors. I became intrigued by the nature of the collection and was interested to learn more about it, but other commitments took up my time, so these ancient artefacts would have to wait a little longer before I could start to unravel their story.

Fast forward to early 2015, and now a full member of the Society, at last I had the time and inclination to begin my investigation into the provenance and context of the archaeology collection. The starting point was a hand written catalogue describing the bulk of the collection. My first job was to transcribe this document, the script being rather hard to decipher. From the catalogue entries and information cards, I began to establish that a man named Alfred Savin was responsible for building the collection in the first place, mainly from finds near his native town of Cromer but also from sites along the Norfolk coast.

Born in 1860 (d. 1948), Alfred Savin was a well known figure in Cromer. His family ran a jewellery and watch making business, and over time he became a very respected amateur palaeontologist and archaeologist. He assisted the Geological Survey work preparing the Cromer sheet and began

Polished flint hand axe collected by A. Savin in 1885 and described by Sir John Evans (Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain and Ireland, 2nd edn 1897, p. 100). Number 20 in the SGS collection. Photograph by the author.
collecting flint tools and fossils from the Cromer foreshore.

In 1885, he discovered a flint hand axe that came to the attention of Sir John Evans (1823-1908), a prominent archaeologist. The two became friends, initially through correspondence and finally meeting to explore Cromer sites. Evans mentions Savin and his collection a number of times in the revised second edition of his seminal work *Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain and Ireland* (1897). Savin’s overall collection is considered to be important in terms of Norfolk’s archaeological heritage. Until purchased by Ashley K. Maples (President of the SGS 1930-1950), the partial collection now held by the Society resided in Norwich Castle Museum.

A year before Savin’s birth, Darwin had published his *Origin of Species* (1859). This monumental work had caused great intellectual excitement and encouraged scientists, professional and amateur alike, to question the origins of Man and would have been an influential tome for our three Victorian Gentlemen.

Some of the oldest man-made objects in the cabinet were collected from British Somaliland (now Somalia) in the late 1890s, by the big game hunter and archaeologist Walter Seton-Kerr (1859-1938). Born in India and coming from a prestigious family, Seton-Kerr travelled widely and wrote a number of books about his experience. However, his discovery of stone tools on a hunting expedition in 1897 prompted him to gain a greater understanding of Man’s pre-history and to establish, with the help of Sir John Evans, a link between artefacts found in Africa and a type found in Central Europe some years earlier. Items from his collection are in museums worldwide.

Needless to say, there is plenty more investigation to be done but it is apparent that the collection of prehistoric artefacts possessed by the Society is very important indeed. As such, there is a significant need to display the artefacts in a fashion that not only tells their story in an effective way, but also allows the visitor to interpret that story in a fashion that they will remember and enjoy.

Richard Buck

*Editor’s note. This paper summarises Richard Buck’s coffeehouse evening talk.*
VINCENT CROW COLLECTION OF NON-MARINE MOLLUSC SHELLS

The Vincent Crow collection of British non-marine mollusc shells was acquired by the writer in 1974 following the disposal of various natural history specimens formerly held by the late Mr Cary Riggall of Collingham, near Newark. The Crow collection was subsequently donated to the Society.

The shells were supposedly collected in the Louth area of Lincolnshire by Vincent Crow (fl. 1900-1920), son of Benjamin Crow of Louth (fl.1893-1927), during the first quarter of the 20th century. There are some 630 specimens, contained in seven cigar boxes and one cardboard tray. An additional box contains marine shells and sea urchins. The non-marine specimens range in size from the small herald snail Carychium minimum at 1.7mm to the common garden snail Helix aspersa (Cornu aspersum) at 35mm. Scientific names given in this account are those used in the collection, followed in parentheses by the modern name where this has changed.

Whilst preparing a catalogue of the collection it became apparent that the statement “reputedly collected in the Louth area” in Riggall’s notes does raise serious questions about the collection, something that initially became apparent with two specimens. The calcifuge snail Zonitoides excavatus was supposedly collected near Louth, a predominantly calcareous area and therefore not suitable for this snail. The species was, and is, only known in Lincolnshire from the heathlands around Woodhall Spa. The other snail was Helicodonta elegans (Trochoidea elegans), which has a limited distribution on the chalk downs near Dover and at two other sites on the South Downs (Kerney 1999), sites far removed from Louth and even Lincolnshire. These two shells prompted the question: where were the other snails collected and by whom?

Some of the shells contain folded paper notes, extracted by using curved forceps. Other shells bear catalogue number slips known to have been used by C.S.Carter (1865-1933). Many of the specimens are identified as varieties beloved by Victorian conchologists and contain notes written by him in a hand well-known to the writer. By referring to the early volumes of the Transactions of the Lincolnshire Naturalists’ Union, it has been possible to locate where some of the rarer varieties were found, and by whom. By checking all of the inserted notes and number slips, it transpires that most, if not all, of the specimens were collected by Carter or by H.W.Kew (1868-1948). Whilst both gentlemen were residents of Louth they also collected quite widely elsewhere in the British Isles, hence specimens from Dover, the Craven district in the Pennines and from Jersey. A third person, the Rev A Thornley, provided two shells from Portrush.

John Redshaw

References:
Anon, 1900-1925. Transactions of the Lincolnshire Naturalists’ Union.
TREASURER’S REPORT

The Society technically made a surplus of £17,931 during 2015; however, income of almost £10,000 came in the form of a grant, with most of the expenditure due to fall in 2016. This positive picture compares with a deficit of £6,115 in 2014, in which year about £5,500 was spent replacing the central heating boiler.

There was a reduction in the membership, as expected due to the rise in subscriptions on January 1st 2015 agreed at the 2014 AGM. Nevertheless, subscription income rose from £14,818 in 2014 to £20,560 in 2015, a figure that includes payments for two life memberships. Gift Aid in 2015 amounted to £4,357, including £453 received as a tax rebate under the small donations scheme. Gift Aid income provides significant revenue to support the Society’s work and development.

The Society has gratefully received grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund for £9,800, for conservation of the William Stukeley drawings (most of the expenditure falling in 2016), and £1,295 from the East Midlands Development Network for the cost of Modes training, a new laptop and a new donation box.

The public lecture programme and the annual Members’ Outing both resulted in small profits.

The results are in line with the budget figures agreed by Council.

In these times of increased costs, low interest rates and economic uncertainty, it is important to emphasise the need for the Society to raise the amount of income it receives. Council is extremely grateful to the Members for their continued support.

I wish to thank those Members who have completed Gift Aid Forms. In total, the Society received £3,904 in tax rebate on account of Gift Aid declarations. Members who have not completed a form but would like to do so will find the form on the Society’s Website or may obtain one from the Membership Secretary.

Susan Barsley
Treasurer
The following organisations have visited the Society during 2015:

- Ayscoughfee Hall School
- Salon de Provence School
- Spalding Club
- Norfolk Art Fund
- Folkingham History Group
- John the Baptist School
- Priors Oven
- Stamford National Trust
- Lincs Heritage Forum
- Cambridge Bibliographical Society
- Moulton Mill Volunteers
- Grantham Civic Trust
- Tydd Wives
- Macmillan Support
- Fulney WI
- EverYoung Club
- Anything Goes
- Sutterton WI
- Lincoln Mothers Union
- F Roberts
- Golding Young
- Whaplode WI
- Speyer
- Goring on Thames

During 2015 approximately 965 visitors in total entered the Society, either for research or viewing our collection of artefacts, the archives and the library.

This year’s Open Day was on 12 September and saw 115 members of the public through the door, with the aid of 28 stewards in the galleries answering questions and showing the public around. There were positive feedbacks. We also opened the museum on the third Sunday in the month in the afternoons during the winter months.

In May, we were finally given Museum Accreditation status. This allows the Society to apply for grants and funding for conservation and preservation to ensure our collection remains stable.

In June, we lent five items to the Great Lincolnshire Exhibition (which ran from 27 June to 27 September) - the Astrolabe, 1733 Magna Carta, 1260 Vulgate Bible, Charter of Inspeximus and the Croyland Cartulary. A number of our members attended a special opening of the exhibition for the annual outing.

During October, we loaned two smocks, two woad Spuds and a woad crushing bar to Moulton Windmill for their Woad weekend.

With the aid of a grant, we have sent forty-four William Stukeley drawings away for conservation; when these are returned, they will be loaned to Ayscoughfee Hall for an exhibition.

Once again the Museum and Library has benefited from new acquisitions as recorded in the Society’s accounts. Regrettably some donations had to be refused due to lack of space, especially for larger items, but we thank the donors for considering us.

Volunteers have continued to assist in labelling and marking the artefacts. This is especially important in the Turner and Maples galleries as we expect building work to commence sometime in 2016 when both galleries will have to be completely cleared. Other volunteers have been cataloguing and putting information onto the computer that was previously only hand written.

In July, Tom Grimes resigned as Curator. We jointly stepped in to fill the gap until
the next Council meeting, in September, when it was decided to appoint Marilyn as Acting Hon. Curator and Ian as Deputy Curator. We have attended many MDEM (Museum Development East Midlands) courses during the year. These have covered conservation, museum management, documentation, handling volunteers, security and emergency planning to name but a few. With this knowledge, we are attempting to run the museum smoothly. We wish to take this opportunity to thank Tom for his assistance and patience in helping us and answering all our questions during the last few months.

Thanks must go to our hard working volunteers, both members and non-members, who give their time and expertise freely. Without these people, the museum would grind to a halt. Our caretaker, Graham Cupper, has continued to photograph new acquisitions besides caring for the museum and its contents; special thanks go to him.

Our thanks go to Council members for their support in this transitional period.

Marilyn Hollanders
Ian Hoult
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY’S REPORT

The society has been pleased to welcome the following new members during 2015:

Mr B E Ashwell Retired Engineer
Mr J A Bellamy Agricultural Contractor
Dr N Bennett Archivist
Mr S R Bishell Retired Businessperson
Dr M C Blake Retired
Dr P Buck Lecturer
Mrs J A Burgess Semi- retired Company Director
Mr M Burgess Clinical Nurse
Mr J E Capek Architect
Mr G Carter MFA FLS Garden Historian and Museum Designer
Mr M D Cartwright Student
Mrs J M Chapman Retired
Mr P I Darley Undergraduate
Mr R P Dobbs Farmer
Mrs L A Eldridge Retired Project Manager
Mrs A Faulkner Retired
Mr P R Francis Retired Engineer
Mrs P A Goose Company Director
Mr D A Gray Retired Company Director
Mr B W Green Retired
Mr R G Hobson Ecologist
Mr D S Jacobs Photographer
Mr A J King Property Developer
Mrs K Lingard Retired
Mr I D Mann Retired English/Theatre Teacher
Dr A W Moore Independent Curator and Art Historian
Mr I A Morrison Retired Systems analyst
Mrs J E Pipe Retired
Mr R Quinton Retired
Mr P A Ruysen Horticulturist
Mr A R Shortland Clock Restorer
Mr A H Smith Semi-retired Grower Merchant
Mrs D R Smith Writer and Events planner
Mrs G E Stephenson Retired
The Lady Taylor of Holbeach Retired County Councillor and Charity Chairman

The Rt. Hon. Lord Taylor of Holbeach CBE FRSA Government Chief Whip House of Lords
Mr S R Thorpe Food Manufacturing Auditor
Ms H J I Violett Retired local gov. manager/immigration lawyer
Mr A M Wilson Regional Supply Manager
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY’S REPORT continued

The Following are no longer members of the Society:


The date in brackets indicates the year each individual joined the Society.

The Membership currently stands at 309, including 20 Life Members

Susan Barsley
The library was a hive of activity in 2015, with an increasing number of visitors undertaking research and a team of volunteers achieving valuable work in caring for and cataloguing the collections.

Significant progress has been made in the Cadas Room, which was judged to be an unacceptable environment for paper and manuscripts following an environmental assessment undertaken in 2014. Members and regular visitors will have noticed the steadily growing rows of grey archive boxes in the librarian’s office and ante-room, which contain much of the material formerly kept in the Cadas Room. We are grateful for the hard work and keen eye of Judith Withyman, who has listed the contents of each box and repackaged the contents in acid-free envelopes.

Additional conservation work has been undertaken by Peter Gorman, who is creating protective sleeves for some of the most fragile books in the library. In the Strong Room, Diana and Michael Honeybone have undertaken a systematic survey of the contents of every drawer and box, and are creating updated contents lists. In the library, work on the electronic catalogue continues. With assistance from volunteers Michael Pemberton (now assistant librarian) and Michael Bullock, the catalogue of printed books and pamphlets has progressed to “Drake”.

This work has yielded some surprising discoveries, including original letters to and from early members, and several documents relating to the Society’s early history. There is always something new to see at the Society.

Finding space for new additions to the library is, as ever, a challenge. Conserving the many fragile books, pamphlets and manuscripts in the collection leads to a need for more space as overstuffed boxes are emptied and their contents carefully repackaged. As a result, several infrequently requested books have been removed to Ayscoughfee Hall for temporary storage. Over the course of 2015 the following books were moved to Ayscoughfee: *Encyclopaedia Britannica Year Books 1979-1988*, *Public General Statutes*, *Justice of the Peace/Local Government Review*, *Rose Annual*, *Whitaker’s Almanacs* (every tenth issue remains on-site), *Green’s Encyclopaedia of Scots Law* and *Lincolnshire Life*.

The end of the year saw reorganization of the management of the Society’s collections, with the archival materials now forming part of a combined Library and Archive, with the Museum holdings separately managed. Members wishing to consult printed or manuscript materials in the Strong Room should contact a librarian. We are currently taking the first steps toward the creation of a dedicated archive database. This is a major, long-term undertaking but one that is necessary as the Society continues to develop as a more research-friendly, research-active institution.

Following a survey of the collections (both library and archive), we have implemented an acquisitions policy in order to focus on subjects of most interest and greatest value to members, the public and the increasing number of researchers visiting the Society. We have a particular interest in acquiring books, manuscripts, drawings, maps and prints relating to the Society’s history and members, to South Lincolnshire and the Fens, and to Spalding and the surrounding parishes. We are also interested in acquiring other maps relating to Lincolnshire, the Fens and the wider region; and print or manuscript material on topics related to the objects in the Society’s collections. Members are encouraged to notify the librarians if they become aware that any material likely to be of interest becomes available either from individuals, at auction or otherwise.
A book of the names of all parishes, market towns, villages, hamlets and smallest places, in England and Wales. Alphabetically set down, etc. Matthew Simmons for Thomas Jenner, 1657.
Boston Guardian, "What Lincolnshire was like 200 years ago". 30 August 1930.
Ogilby, John David. The Christian Athlete. The address to the students of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, at the annual matriculation. 1847.
Cook, A. M. A Short Guide to the Church of St Botolph in Boston. n.d.
Cook, A. M. Some Boston Ballads. n.d.
Guide to Shopping in Holbeach. n.d.
Holbeach Local Guide. c.1975.
Holbeach Official Guide. n.d.
Maples Family. File of miscellaneous documents relating to family history.
Newspapers. Five twentieth-century commemorative issues.
Phillips, C. W. The present state of archaeology in Lincolnshire. Royal Archaeological Institute, 1934.
Sprague, Austin. Tales of Old Boston. 1902.
Stamp, L. Dudley. The Land of Britain (Land Utilisation Survey 1932/3) Part.
The Society also receives regular issues of the following periodicals by subscription:

AIM: Association of Independent Museums
The Antiquaries Journal
Archives Journal
British Archaeological Journal
British Numismatic Journal
British Record Society Publications
British Records Association Publications
Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries
Coin News
English Place-Name Society Publications
Fenland Archaeological Trust Publications
Genealogical Magazine
Harleian Society Publications
Journal of the British Archaeological Association
Journal of the English Place-Name Society
The Library
Lincoln Record Society Publications
Lincolnshire Life
Lincolnshire Past and Present
Medal News
Museum News
Museums Journal

Dustin M. Frazier Wood
Marion Brassington

A NOTE FROM NICOLAS BARKER FBA

The morning after his public lecture on the treasures of the British Library, Nicolas spent some time in the Society. He subsequently wrote as follows:

'I made a note of the tools on the binding on the 1493 Gower Confessio Amantis, and identify them as the work of the “Dragon Binder”, since equated with Thomas Bedford, University Stationer at Oxford, where he also worked for Magdalen College.’

Nicolas is a member of the Society; he was the first Head of Conservation at the British Library.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for continued support of the lecture programme. In the last year, as well as the usual season at the Grammar school, we were delighted to have the opportunity to present a one off lecture in June at the Spalding Parish Church about the creation of medieval manuscripts to an audience of 34.

At the Grammar school, two students raising funds for their trip to Ecuador have been supporting us. At each lecture, they have been providing refreshments and I hope we can continue this relationship in the future.

For 2015, I am pleased to report that the average attendance at the regular lectures was 79, an increase from last year. This increase was due in part to some specially popular, lectures including Benjamin Zephaniah and Sandra Smith (the latter from the Victoria and Albert Museum). Improved publicity no doubt contributed to this increase, and was probably responsible for 48% of the 948 audience being members of the public as distinct from members of the Society. However, publicity in general needs further development.

With this in mind, looking to increase the Society’s contact with members of the public, it is with great pleasure I can announce that in June 2016 we will be hosting the first celebration of Maurice Johnson to be held on his birthday, June 9th. The aim is to have a celebratory event each year on or near this date. The intention is to expand awareness of the Society and hopefully bring new people into contact with it and the Museum. For the 2016 event, we will be having a talk at the South Holland Centre from actor and adventurer Brian Blessed. Tickets are available from the Centre’s box office, in person, over the phone or 24 hours a day online.

Hopefully, you will be able to join us for this event and for the 2016–17 season.

Finally my thanks go out to Colin Baslington for his assistance at the lectures, the Spalding Grammar School, the support of the Council of the Spalding Gentlemen’s Society and to everyone who has attended a lecture.

Harrison Fuller
PHILATELY REPORT

There were fifteen commemorative issues and four Post & Go issues in 2015. As members may be aware, new issues are displayed in a small cabinet in the lobby. I hope members enjoy looking at these and find the commentary informative.

The year’s first stamp set depicts scenes and characters from Alice in Wonderland.

February’s ‘Inventive Britain’ set features six visual interpretations of the key functions of Colossus, Catseyes, Stainless Steel, Carbon Fibre, DNA Sequencing and i-limb by GBH, plus CGI depictions of the World Wide Web and fibre optics.

On 18 February the first set of Post & Go stamps was issued, these were titled ‘Working Sail’.

The following bridges featured in the March issue: Tarr Steps, River Barle; Row Bridge, Mosedale Beck; Pulteney Bridge, River Avon; Craigellachie Bridge, River Spey; Menai Suspension Bridge; High Level Bridge, River Tyne; Royal Border Bridge, River Tweed; Tees Transporter Bridge; Humber Bridge; Peace Bridge, River Foyle.

The April issue commemorated ‘Comedy Greats’. These stamps show: Spike Milligan, The Two Ronnies, Billy Connolly, Morecambe and Wise, Norman Wisdom, Lenny Henry, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, Monty Python, French and Saunders and Victoria Wood.

Three sets were issued in May. On 5 May the 175th Anniversary of the Penny Black set was issued. The miniature sheet features images of the Penny Black and Twopenny Blue, overlaid with First Class values.

The First World War centenary stamps represent: the Poppy, Poetry, Portraits, War Art, Memorials and Remembrance and Artefacts. The final set of the month was the Post & Go ‘Heraldic Beasts’.

In June two sets were issued. The first commemorated the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, with stamps depicting the document itself as well as major international bills and declarations inspired by it. The second set depicts key exchanges in the Battle of Waterloo.

On 16 July the Battle of Britain set was issued. The miniature sheet shows Churchill at a coastal defence position near Hartlepool on 31 July 1940. The stamps show: pilots scrambling to their Hurricanes, Supermarine Spitfires on patrol, an Armourer replacing ammunition boxes, Spotters of the Auxiliary Territorial Service, Operations Room at Bentley Priory, and Pilots of 32 Squadron awaiting orders.

The August set celebrated the bee. The stamps reveal the splendour of the Scabious Bee, Great Yellow Bumblebee, Northern Colletes Bee, Bilberry Bumblebee, Large Mason Bee and Potter Flower Bee.

There were two general sets issued in September: the Rugby World Cup and the Post & Go set Sea Travel.

On Wednesday 9 September there was a special addition to the stamp programme: a miniature sheet marking the historic day when Her Majesty the Queen became the UK’s longest-reigning monarch.

In October, the Star Wars stamps were issued. The twelve first class stamps feature nine characters from episodes I to VI of the popular saga, together with three new characters from the forthcoming “Star
Wars: The Force Awakens’. The miniature sheet, created using film archive images and stills from the new film, shows iconic Star Wars vehicles. These are set against a dramatic spacescape with the fearsome “Death Star” at its heart, making this a rather stunning miniature sheet.

The last Post & Go issue ‘Winter Fur & Feathers’ was issued in November. The stamps depict the Mountain Hare, Red Fox, Redwing and the Red Squirrel.

Christmas stamps feature scenes from the Nativity story: the journey to Bethlehem, the Nativity, the animals of the Nativity, the Shepherds, the Three Wise Men and the Annunciation.

Gary Darley
ANNUAL OUTING

The Annual Outing on 1 July took us to Lincoln to see the Great Exhibition organised by Lord Cormack and the Historic Lincoln Trust. The Society had loaned a number of its treasures to the Exhibition and Lord Cormack had invited us to a special viewing.

We were met at the Usher Gallery by Trust representatives Robin Battle and Andrea Martin. A wonderful collection of George Stubbs paintings was on display, normally in private collections, as well as the superb Louth Panorama, now back on show at Louth Museum.

Our next stop was the Wren Library at the Cathedral, where we were welcomed by Julie Taylor. We were given a fascinating introduction to the Library as well as viewing the items on temporary display as part of the Exhibition.

It was just a short walk to the Lincoln Hotel for a buffet meal and a chance to sit down and cool off. It transpired that we had chosen the hottest day of the year for the outing and the chance to sit in a comfortable air conditioned room was greatly appreciated.

The coach then took us back down the hill for the main event at The Collection. Andrea Martin was awaiting us with drinks and nibbles and we were able to view a superb exhibition celebrating the achievements of Lincolnshire’s most accomplished sons and daughters. It was a great honour to see the Gentlemen’s Society items in such fine company alongside the Luttrell Psalter and the Heneage Jewel. The Exhibition was a superb achievement for its organisers on behalf of Lincolnshire and stirred real pride in those of us who belong to the county.

We are very grateful to Lord Cormack for his invitation and the arrangements made on our behalf. Andrea Martin and Julie Taylor went to a great deal of trouble to make us so welcome. Special thanks to Robin Battle who guided us throughout the day. His skills of diplomacy and navigation through the cool of the cloisters were quite possibly life saving.

The organiser will take note that an assurance that a coach has air conditioning should be accompanied by an assurance that it is working. Despite the heat, the thanks of a delightful company of Society members and guests were gratefully received.

We hope that an equally enjoyable event will be as well supported in 2016.

Nick Casswell
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society held on Friday 25th April 2014
Agenda by order of Council - 14th March 2014

Presiding Officers
M.H. Snowdon* (Senior Vice-President) in the Chair; M. Chisholm* (Acting Hon. Secretary); S. Barsley* (Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Membership Secretary)

Members Present:
D.K. Baker; C.E. Baslington* (Hon. Lanternist); G. Biggs; G.G. Buck; M. Byrd; T.E. Carter; F.N. Casswell* (Chairman of Council); A. Chapman; J. Chisholm; S. Cooke; J.D. Crosthwaite; P. Dorr*; D. Frazier; H.A. Fuller; J. Gant; N. Gant*; A. Goodrum; T. Grimes* (Hon. Curator); E. Hall; D. Hemmant; I.D. Henshaw; M. Hollanders*; D. Honeybone; M. Honeybone; I. Hoult; B.P. Jarvie*; F. Ledwidge; D. Mossman* (Hon. Lecture Secretary); E. Napier; I. Naylor; G.A. Petch; J.D. Redshaw; N. Snowdon; A. Thomas; M.S.A. Townend; D. Trawford; G.R. Tresidder* (Second Vice-President); S. Watson*; J. Waugh; P. Wensor; R. West*.

Totals
44 of which Council: 14; Members: 30

The meeting was opened at 19:35 hours by the Senior Vice-President, M.H. Snowdon, declaring that a quorum was present and giving a warm welcome to all those attending.

The ordinary business of the meeting was as follows:

1) Apologies
Apologies for absence were received from: M. Anderson; The Lord Cormack; B. Hemmings; C.J. Lewis; R. Lewis; S. Martinelli; Dr. McGregor-Boyne; Revd. J. Moon; W. Parker; N. Ryan* (Hon. Librarian); J.N. Smith; P. Start; M. Swallow. Total: 13.

2) Minutes
The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held of Friday, 26th April 2013 had been previously circulated in the Annual Report 2013. The Senior Vice-President asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Decision: It was proposed by R. West and seconded by G. Tresidder that the meeting approve the Minutes of the AGM of Friday 26th April 2013. This motion was carried nem con.

3) Revised Minutes
The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 27th April 2012 had been previously circulated in the Annual Report 2013. The Senior Vice-President asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Decision: It was proposed by the Senior Vice-President and seconded by M. Chisholm that the meeting approve the Minutes of the AGM of Friday 27th April 2012. This motion was carried nem con.

4) Matters arising
M. Chisholm was invited by the Senior Vice-President to speak to this item. The meeting was referred to the briefing paper previously circulated and here recorded under Addendum 2. M. Chisholm stated that the deferment of the 2012 Minutes at the last AGM was unfortunate given that they had been printed in the Annual Report. In the light of this the Council proposed that the AGM papers, including the Minutes, should be prepared separately but included with the distribution of the Annual Report. After the Minutes receive approval at the subsequent AGM then they would be printed in the Annual report for the year following.

Decision: It was proposed by N. Casswell and seconded by M. Chisholm that the meeting approve the separate preparation of the AGM papers and subsequent printing in the Annual Report after ratification. This motion was carried nem con.

5) Annual Report
The Annual Report and Accounts for 2013 had been previously circulated in the Annual Report 2013. The Senior Vice President asked whether there were any
questions or comments. There were none.

**Decision:** it was proposed by the Senior Vice-President and seconded by D. Baker that the meeting accept the Annual Report 2013. This motion was carried nem con.

**6) Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet**

The Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December 2013 had been previously circulated in the Annual Report 2013. The Senior Vice-President invited the Hon. Treasurer to speak to the Accounts. S Barsley reported that there was a printing error in the Accounts: On page 44 the "Rates" should be £1154 and not £3695 this did not affect the totals which were correct. Questions were invited on the Accounts. There were none.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the Senior Vice-President and seconded by S. Barsley that the meeting adopt the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December 2013. This motion was carried nem con.

Under the terms of the Articles of Association:

The Senior Vice-President then vacated the Chair in favour of the Second Vice-President, G. Tresidder and retired from the room for the next agenda item.

a) The Office of President fell vacant following the resignation of Dr. J. Cleary. M. H. Snowdon, the retiring Senior Vice-President, has confirmed his willingness to stand.

**Decision:** It was proposed by N. Casswell and seconded by S. Watson that M.H. Snowdon be elected President for the forthcoming year. This motion was carried nem con.

The President was recalled to the meeting and congratulated. He resumed the Chair.

The President stated that this was the high point of his career on the Council of the SGS. He had been working towards the modernisation of the Society for ten years and he now felt that the Society had a first-class team on the Council and that the Society could move forward into the future. The membership applauded this statement.

The President consulted the Acting Hon. Secretary whom informed him that no nominations for any of the offices had been received from the membership and that the subsequent elections could be taken "en bloc".

The President then read out the candidates for election as from the listing below:

b) A **Vice President** serves for three years and is not eligible for re-election at the meeting at which he or she retires.

With the retirement of the Senior Vice-President, Mr. M. N. Snowdon and the death of A. R. Withyman, there are two Vice-President vacancies to fill. D. Mossman and T. Grimes have confirmed their willingness to stand and it is recommended they both be elected.

c) The Officers of the Society are appointed under Article 38 (C) of the Articles of Association for a period of three years.

i) **The Honorary Secretary.** The Acting Hon. Secretary is currently a co-opted member of Council who must offer himself for election. M. Chisholm has confirmed his willingness to stand and it is recommended that he be elected Hon. Secretary.

ii) **The Honorary Lecture Secretary.** D. Mossman has indicated his desire to retire from the post of Lecture Secretary. As of this meeting, Council does not have a nomination to put forward but members are encouraged to consider the position.
d) One third of the Representative members retire by rotation at the Meeting and is eligible for re-election. Those members co-opted during the year also retire and are eligible for election. There are four Representative Member vacancies on Council – three individuals standing down by rotation and one unfilled vacancy. Council proposes the re-election of B. Jarvie and R. West; it also proposes that Julia Gant and Ian Hoult be elected for the first time. All four have indicated their willingness to stand.

**Decision:** It was proposed by G.A. Petch and seconded by G. Tresidder that the officers recommended under sections b-d be severally elected to their respective offices “en bloc”. This motion was carried nem con.

**Note:** Any member qualified to be present and vote at the meeting may nominate any member for any of the Society's positions. Such nominations to be submitted in writing to the [Acting] Hon. Secretary to be received not later than the 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting [Friday 18 April 2014] together with a written consent to act from the person so nominated. Such nominations shall be offered for proposal at the meeting. [A copy of the nomination form was sent to every member.]

[A full list of Officers and Council members as of the end of this AGM appears under Addendum 1. NB: The two Vice-Presidents agreed post-AGM that David Mossman would be second and Tom Grime third in seniority which agreement was reported to Council on 9th May 2014.]

The meeting is recommended to re-appoint Messrs. Duncan & Toplis as reporting accountants and authorise the Council to determine their remuneration. The President asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the President and seconded by S. Barsley that Messrs. Duncan & Toplis, the Society's reporting accountants, be so re-appointed and that Council be authorised to determine their remuneration. This motion was carried nem con.

**Time 19:50**

The extra-ordinary business of the meeting was as follows

9) **Report by Council**

The meeting was invited to receive the Report by Council on “Accreditation and steps to secure the future of the Society” which had been circulated as part of the papers for the AGM and appears in these Minutes under Addendum 3. The President asked if there were any questions or comments on this Report and the way forward for the Society. There were none.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the President and seconded by M. Chisholm that the Society accept the Report by Council on “Accreditation and steps to secure the future of the Society”. This motion was carried nem con.

**Specific matters for decision by the AGM**

These matters were subject to a vote. The tellers were: M. Chisholm and B. Jarvie.

10) **Amendment of the Articles of Association**

The meeting was invited to amend the Articles of Association with respect to the admission of new members. A detailed explanation of this proposal had been circulated as part of the papers for the AGM and appears in these Minutes under Addendum 4. The President invited the Secretary to speak to this item. M. Chisholm explained that this was the final part of the changes sought by the Charity Commission with respect to the admission of members. The first change had been the acceptance of women for membership in 2006. The change now proposed was to answer the requirement from t to have an open and transparent admission.
process for membership. Council had formulated and put into practice this new procedure, but had been advised by the Society Solicitor, R. Lewis, that, as it meant a change in the Articles of Association, then it should be regularised and ratified by the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. This regularisation was now before the meeting and this motion would see the Society in harmony with the demands of the Charity Commission.

The President asked if there were any questions or comments. Two questions arose: 1) Was the applicant for membership canvassed for any skills or commitment that they might contribute to the Society? D. Mossman reported that this question was part of the new application form. 2) Did the Society have to give a reason for any refusal of membership? D. Mossman reported that a reason had to be given in the event of a refusal and that the applicant had a right of appeal. There were no further questions or comments.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the President and seconded by D. Mossman that paragraph 10 (original numbering) in the Articles of Association, be replaced with the new paragraph as set out in Addendum 4. A vote was taken: FOR: 44; AGAINST: 0. Therefore the motion was carried.

**11) The Vision Statement**

The meeting was invited to consider and accept the “Vision Statement” presented by Council and to endorse it as setting out the direction of travel for the Society. A full text of this Vision Statement had been circulated as part of the papers for the AGM and appears in these Minutes under Addendum 5. M. Chisholm stated that it was important to remember that the Vision Statement is a “work in progress” and represented where the Society was at the present time – it was not “set in stone”. The President asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the President and seconded by D. Honeybone that the Vision Statement set out in Addendum 5 is accepted as a “work in progress” and setting the direction of travel for the Society. A vote was taken: FOR: 44; AGAINST: 0. Therefore the motion was carried.

**12) Annual Subscription**

The meeting was invited to consider the proposal from the Council to raise the Annual Subscription. A full text of this proposal had been circulated as part of the papers for the AGM and appears in these Minutes under Addendum 6. The President asked if there were any questions or comments. A discussion then ensued on subscriptions and other income. The following suggestions were referred to the Council to be taken under advisement:

1) A student rate for those over 18 but still in tertiary education.
2) A junior rate for those under 18 who would be Associate members.
3) A Senior rate for those over retirement age [perhaps fixing on the current rate but allowing it to be overtaken by the standard rate].
4) A rate reduction for a partner of an existing member. (This had some opposition as each person would have full access to the Society’s benefits.)
5) That members should be invited, at the time of the renewal of subscriptions, to make a donation to the Society to assist its finances.
6) That consideration should be given to the Treasurer’s work-load if multiple subscription rates were proposed.
7) That Council should review subscription rates more frequently (perhaps annually or biennially).
8) That the concession of taking a guest free of charge to a lecture be withdrawn.

At the end of the discussion a proposal had emerged that the current subscription be raised to £60 and not £50.

**Decision:** It was proposed by M. Byrd and seconded by P. Wensor that the proposal to raise the subscription rate for 1st January 2015 be amended from £50 to £60. A vote was taken: FOR: 19; AGAINST: 9. [Abstentions: 16]. Therefore the motion was
[A substantive vote was then taken on the amended proposal.]

**Decision:** It was proposed by N. Casswell and seconded by G. Tresidder that the subscription rate for 1st January 2015 be increased from the current £40 to £60. A vote was taken: FOR: 33; AGAINST: 6. [Abstentions: 5]. Therefore the motion was carried.

13) **Date of AGM**

The meeting was invited to consider and confirm the date for the next Annual General Meeting - the equivalent date being Friday, 24th April 2015. There was some discussion. Council was asked to consider the addition of a social element to the meeting and possibly looking at an alternative evening for the AGM.

**Decision:** It was proposed by the President and seconded S. Barsley that the next Annual General Meeting should be held in the Society’s Lecture Theatre at 19:30 hours on Friday 24th April 2015. This motion was carried nem con.

14) **AOB**

a) S. Watson stated he was much encouraged by the turnout for tonight’s meeting. He asked the meeting to encourage members to make use of the Museum on Thursday evenings when attendance was very low.

b) G.A. Petch asked Council to consider further money-raising activities.

c) N. Casswell asked all the members present to please ensure that the Membership Secretary was informed of their e-mail address (Postal rates were now astronomic and the Society would like to avoid them). In addition, could members ensure that changes of contact details were made available to the Membership Secretary. M. Chisholm stated that the Society was in the process of change and more frequent communication with the membership would be one of the goals so he endorsed N. Casswell’s appeal. There was a request that any electronic communication was as universal as possible by using the PDF format in particular.

d) The President reminded everyone present that Council was still on the lookout for a Lecture Secretary – any suggestions would be gratefully received.

e) N. Casswell asked members to consider giving their support to the proposed outing which was lacking at the moment. J. Gant reminded everyone that the visit to Ellys Manor House was a private visit and this engaging place was not normally open to the public.

f) P. Wensor asked whether Council could give consideration to obtaining a Patron as the position had lapsed for a number of years. J. Chisholm mentioned that some Societies like the appointment of their Patrons to Fund-Raising activities and it may prove effective in the procurement of funds.

g) M. Honeybone wryly remarked that the meeting should look to the Founder, Maurice Johnson, for a lead in the matters that had been discussed. Maurice a) made sure he had a Patron; b) was a prolific correspondent – using the e-mail of his day; c) believed in subscriptions being high; d) laid down the subject of the week for the Thursday-night discussion.

15) **Close**

Having thanked everyone for their attendance, the President closed the meeting at 20:44 hours.

Minutes recorded by B. Jarvie - 25th April 2014
Table of Council and other Officers of the Society after the AGM 2014.

Officers who are not members of Council are shown in italic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office(s) held</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Year/Date Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Honourary</td>
<td></td>
<td>“Elected” = Council member</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 The President</td>
<td>M.H. Snowdon</td>
<td>Elected Annually</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curator of Coins and Token</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elected triennially</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>2 Vice-President 1 (Senior)</td>
<td>G.R. Tresidder</td>
<td>Elected triennially</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>3 Vice President 2</td>
<td>D. Mossman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>N. Ryan</td>
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<td>1 Representative Member</td>
<td>P. Dorr</td>
<td>One-third elected annually</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Representative Member</td>
<td>N. Casswell</td>
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<td>M. Hollanders</td>
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<td>5 Representative Member</td>
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<td>One-third elected annually</td>
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<td>E. J. Redshaw</td>
<td>Appointed by Council</td>
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<td>G. Darley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Secretary</td>
<td>S. Martinelli</td>
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Addendum 1

Addendum 2

Background and explanation to accompany the AGM Notice and Agenda

Council hopes that it will be helpful to Members to provide some general background for the AGM, to set out the specific proposals as indicated on the Agenda, and to explain why these resolutions are being put before the Membership.

The Annual Report and AGM Papers

In recent years, the Annual Report for Members has served three functions:

1) As a report on the preceding calendar year for Members.
2) As the report that each year must be sent to the Charity Commission and Companies House.
3) As the vehicle for giving notice of the AGM and agenda, and other forward-looking information.

Council has decided to separate these functions.

The Annual Report for 2013 continues to be designed for Members. At the back, it includes the document prepared by the Society’s accountants, Duncan and Toplis – the “Unaudited Reports and Accounts” – which contains a coherent account of the public benefit provided by the Society. The Duncan and Toplis document is the one that will be sent to the Charity Commission and Companies House.
This year (2014), notice of the AGM has not been included in the Members’ Annual Report but is a separate document posted at the same time. It is intended that this arrangement will be the future pattern.

**Agenda item 9 - Accreditation and steps to secure the future of the Society**

Members will be aware that the Society has applied for Accreditation of the Museum, but not at this stage the Library or Archives (see the article by G. Tresidder in the Members’ Annual Report). Accreditation implies raising the standard of care and conservation of the holdings, and improving access to the best of our ability. It also opens opportunities for grant funding, and for advice and training. Assuming success in the application, there will be cost implications for the future.

Early in October 2014, members of Council met for an Away Day, with a professional facilitator to help the discussion. The purpose was to consider issues relating to the formulation of a business plan and the future of the Society. The four broad concerns identified were:

1. Finances
2. Buildings
3. Purpose of the Society
4. Membership and outreach

It may seem odd that the question of finance was a concern given that, in recent years, the annual accounts have regularly shown a surplus of income over expenditure. The problem is that though there has been a surplus, this has been achieved by very low expenditure – less than £30,000 annually. As a result, long-term problems have been allowed to accumulate, as may be illustrated by the following events that have occurred since last year’s AGM:

1. Late in 2013, the roof above the Cadas Room developed a leak (mercifully, there was no damage to items stored in the room). The cause of the leak was a buddleia bush growing out of brickwork. Arrangements are being made for regular inspection of the building’s exterior.
2. Early in 2014, the central heating boiler finally packed up after thirty-seven years. It has been replaced, at a cost of £5,300. However, the existing pipework and radiators are not fit for purpose in the twenty-first century.
3. To increase the Museum’s security, a new lock has been fitted to the front door with a secure modern key instead of the former easily replicated Yale.
4. Mould, caused by dampness, has been found on documents in the Cadas Room and some cupboards in the Maples Gallery. The problem was identified in a July 2011 conservation survey by Hirst Conservation and confirmed by Anthony Smith (Chairman of the British Records Association) in 2013. In March 2014, Council determined upon a process whereby documents in the Cadas Room and some volumes in the Maples Gallery will be moved to dryer conditions to prevent further deterioration pending a long-term solution.
5. At its January 2014 meeting, Council set a budget for the year – an innovation in the context of recent years. This showed that any approximation to reasonable expenditure for running the Society, as presently organised, implies a significant annual deficit to be funded from reserves.

Realistic future expenditure expectations must include the following costs: dealing
with subsidence damage to the building irrespective of any insurance monies that may be forthcoming; costs associated with upgrading the present building (e.g., replacing the present heating system with something more appropriate for a museum and its contents); and costs related to the acquisition of additional (or alternative) premises. Such expenditures would far exceed the Society’s currently available resources.

Those present at the October Away Day concluded that the Society needs to find significant external funds. The November meeting of Council formally accepted that recommendation, at the same time deciding to open a dialogue with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The regional director of HLF, Lesley Owen-Jones, visited the Society for the first time on 17 December 2013. She very clearly indicated that HLF would be willing to help with significant support. She pointed out that the whole process, from the initiation of the dialogue to the completion of a major project, would take several years.

Working with HLF involves four basic steps:

2. Development of one or two small projects, to build mutual confidence and a working relationship.
3. In parallel with 2, development of a major project proposal. This might take two or three years to work up.
4. Implementation of the major project.

Once implemented, HLF would provide support for revenue expenditure for a few years while the Society built up an adequate revenue base. We are at the very beginning of this long process and though the prospects are good there is no guarantee of ultimate success, but Council is clear that every effort must be made to ensure an outcome that will safeguard the Society for the future. Council has given considerable thought to the text of a Vision Statement and the resulting text is presented under agenda item 11.

**Agenda item 10 - Revision of the Articles of Association about the procedure for admitting new members to the Society**

Members will recollect that an Extraordinary General Meeting in December 2006 agreed that women should be admitted to membership of the Society. Nevertheless, the Charity Commission, which had been pressing for this change for some time, remained concerned about the actual procedures used for admitting new members irrespective of gender, as set out in paragraph 10 of the 1955 Articles of Association (original paragraph numbering).*

After further dialogue with the Charity Commission, in the summer of 2012 Council decided to change the admission procedure to that which is shown on the back of the current application form. Council has agreed a new text, which is nearly verbatim the text on the back of the current application form, intended to replace the existing paragraph 10 in the Articles. This new text reads as follows:

*Membership applicants must be aged eighteen or over at the time of applying: they do not need to be proposed and seconded. Applications shall be considered by the Membership Committee of the Society, which shall decide whether an applicant will be admitted to membership. The members of the Membership Committee shall all be members of the Society’s Council of Management. The Membership Committee may ask to meet an applicant in person before deciding whether the applicant will be admitted. If the Membership Committee should decide to reject an applicant for
membership, the applicant shall be informed of the reasons for that rejection. A rejected applicant shall have the right to appeal against the decision of the Membership Committee. Any appeal shall be considered by the Society’s Council of Management (excluding the members of the Membership Committee). The decision of the Council shall be final.

[The age limitation has been in force for some years due the fact that Membership commits the Member to a maximum liability of £2 towards costs and liabilities in the event that the Society were to be wound up, an undertaking that in law cannot be given by someone under the age of eighteen.]

The AGM is asked to agree the replacement of paragraph 10 (original numbering) in the Articles of Association, as set out above.

NB The paragraph to be replaced is reproduced below:
Under the existing constitution, set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1955 (paragraph 10, original numbering), the procedure for admitting new members is as follows:
Any person (not being at the date of incorporation of the Society a Member of the said un-incorporated Society) who is desirous of being admitted a Member of the Society shall complete a form of application and be proposed by one and seconded by three other Members. The election to Membership of every such applicant shall be determined by Council who may from time to time make and vary regulations as to the manner in which they shall vote in regard thereto and as to the majority of votes required for the election of an applicant, and who shall have an uncontrolled discretion to reject any such application. The current election rules state: Balloting – one adverse vote in four or part of four, and in any circumstances three adverse votes, will exclude applicant from membership. The text stating that “any person” may apply has been qualified by the restriction that such persons must be eighteen years of age or older.

Addendum 5

Agenda item 11 - A Vision Statement for the Society

As noted under Addendum 3 above, the Heritage Lottery Fund has asked the Society to develop a Vision Statement as the first step towards prospective funding.

In constructing a Vision Statement, the Society must take account of what is called “public benefit”. As set out in the Memorandum of Association, the purpose of the Society is: “To promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and the study of” what may now be loosely called the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. In return for prospective substantial funding, the HLF would expect a substantial increase in public benefit, i.e., benefit for the public at large.

In developing a Vision Statement, we have been asked to work “in the abstract”, that is to say, without reference to the existing premises or any prospective facilities. The Statement is intended to show what we wish to be in the future. To what extent, and in what manner, those ambitions could be realised in practice would be the subject of on-going detailed discussion and negotiation.

The Vision Statement set out below was agreed by Council at its March 2014 meeting. An earlier version had been agreed in February and was shown to Lesley Owen-Jones of HLF. The text reproduced below incorporates changes made in the light of her comments. Society Members will realise that the document below represents a work in progress and very likely there will need to be some further refinement. Council hopes that Members will accept the
document as a statement of the direction of travel for the Society upon which Council may go forward.

Vision Statement
Agreed by Council, 14 March 2014
(a work in progress)

The Spalding Gentlemen’s Society is a provincial society unique in Europe, possessing artefacts, pictures, books, manuscripts and other archival material covering more than three hundred years of local and national development.

Primary aim
To build on the 300-year ideals of the Society as represented in the 1955 Memorandum of Association, sustained by the active participation of its members: “To promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and the study of” what may loosely now be called the Arts, Humanities and Sciences.

The general approach
1) To preserve the cultural heritage of the museum collection, and use of that collection, within the ethos and structure of a unique provincial antiquarian society.
2) To research, identify and then employ every opportunity to reach out to a worldwide audience irrespective of gender, age, culture or race, and give every individual whether casual visitor, academic researcher or online enquirer, opportunity and encouragement to engage with the museum and be enriched by the experience.
3) To develop creative and innovative education and outreach initiatives through exhibitions, lectures, tailored programmes, publications, technology, loans and undertaking external speaking programmes. Our initiatives will be regularly reviewed to remain fresh, relevant and challenging.
4) To increase access and create experiences which value inclusivity and diversity; which thereby enrich lives by broadening perspectives, attitudes, and self-knowledge.

The practical development of this vision
1) To provide facilities for Spalding and the wider public to maximise both physical and virtual access to museum, library and archive resources.
2) Members of the public should be able to visit the museum without being accompanied by a member or members of the Society, as at present.
3) There would have to be secure museum display arrangements.
4) There would need to be adequate museum signage, information about the items on display.
5) There should be museum interest for all age groups.
6) Access to the library and archives would have to be controlled.
7) For the museum, library and archives, there should be facilities for members of the public to pursue their interests, in person or online.
8) To continue and build upon the existing programme of public lectures.
9) While members of the public would be expected to pay for museum entry, members of the Society should have free access during opening hours.

Necessary components
1. There would have to be a nucleus of paid staff, working with the team of volunteers.
2. There should be adequate space, additional to the permanent display areas, for:
   a) Temporary exhibitions.
   b) A lecture theatre.
   c) Storage facilities.
   d) Workshop facilities.
   e) An office.
   f) A meeting/education room.
   g) Toilet facilities.
   h) Possibly a café/shop
   i) Reception

The AGM is asked to consider the Vision Statement set out above as setting the direction of travel for the Society.
(NB Council intends that the discussion should focus on the main issues. Matters of detail should be sent to the Chairman of Council or Acting Hon. Secretary, at the Society’s email or postal address, either before or after the AGM, for consideration by Council.)

Addendum 6

Agendum 12 - Proposed increase in the annual subscription
Currently, the annual subscription (plus Gift Aid) normally generates over half of the Society’s income. The annual subscription is specified in paragraph 8 of the Articles of Association (original numbering); last amended to £40 with effect 1 January 2005. Since then, inflation has eroded the real value of the subscription and Council considers that the time has come to propose an increase.

Between January 2005 and October 2013, the Retail Prices Index rose by 33% and the Consumer Price Index by 18%. On this basis, for the real value of the subscription to be restored to the January 2005 level would require an increase of about 25%, to £50, with effect January 2015. Council has agreed that the annual subscription should be raised to £50 with effect 1 January 2015.

The AGM is asked to agree that the annual subscription be raised to £50 with effect 1 January 2015.
SPALDING GENTLEMEN’S SOCIETY
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)

UNAUDITED REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2015

INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members of Council</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the Members of Council</td>
<td>42 - 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Members of Council’s Responsibilities</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent examiners report</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of financial activities</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance sheet</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting policies</td>
<td>48 - 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes to the financial statements</td>
<td>50 - 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income and expenditure account</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of total recognised gains and losses</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT – M H Snowdon
VICE PRESIDENTS – D J Mossman, T Grimes, C E Baslington
HON. TREASURER – Mrs S M Barsley
HON. SECRETARY – Professor M D I Chisholm ScD FBA
ACTING HON. CURATOR – Mrs M Hollanders
HON. CURATOR OF COINS & TOKENS – M H Snowdon
LIBRARIAN – Dr D Frazier Wood
HON. LANTERNIST – C E Baslington
HON. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY – Mrs S M Barsley
HON. LECTURE SECRETARY – H Fuller
REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS – F N Casswell (Chairman of Council), B R Jarvie, R C West, A B Watson, N R Gant, I Hoult, Mrs J Gant, S Freeman.

REGISTERED OFFICE
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
Broad Street
Spalding
Lincs
PE11 1TB

SOLICITORS
Maples & Son
23 New Road
Spalding
Lincs
PE11 1DH

BANKERS
National Westminster Bank plc
Market Place
Spalding
Lincs
PE11 1ST

ACCOUNTANTS
Duncan & Toplis Limited
Enterprise Way
Pinchbeck
Spalding
Lincs
PE11 3YR

SPALDING GENTLEMEN’S SOCIETY
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UNAUDITED REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members of Council</td>
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<td>47</td>
</tr>
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Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
REPORT OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Council of Management, who are trustees and directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present to the members their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) ‘Accounting and Reporting by Charities’ (revised 2005) in preparing the annual report and statements of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society is a company limited by guarantee and registered under the Companies Act 2006, registration number 543260. The governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 13 January 1955, as subsequently amended. The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the object of the Society, and no portion shall be paid or transferred to any member. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £2. The company has obtained the consent of the Registrar of Companies to be exempt from the requirement to use the word “limited” in its name. It is a registered, charity number 216131. Members of Council are trustees for charitable purposes. Membership of the Society is open to all on payment of the annual membership fee. There are some 309 members; 40 joined during 2015.

About forty volunteers assist Council with the daily affairs of the Society.

Election of Members of Council
Members of Council are elected at an Annual General Meeting. Any casual vacancy other than the President and Vice Presidents may be filled by the Council who may also co-opt and appoint two additional Members of Council. Any member, so appointed, shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for election at that Meeting. Members of the Society may put themselves forward for election at the Annual General Meeting. At each Annual General Meeting, one third of Representative Members of Council and the President shall retire and are eligible for re-election.

Members of Council are mainly retired, and have acquired appropriate skills and experience. Courses and ongoing updated information are available from professional, historical and heritage bodies and training is taken when considered necessary.

OBJECTIVE, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE
(INCLUDING FINANCIAL REVIEW)
The Society’s object is: “To promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and study” of what are now known as the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. To this end, the main current activities are: to maintain the freehold premises housing a museum, library and archives and maintaining and enhancing the holdings contained therein; and the mounting of public lectures. The Society was recognised by the Master of the Rolls, under 1926 national provisions, as a local depository for manorial documents.

Achievement of public benefit
Public benefit was provided in several ways during 2015, firstly by the maintenance and augmentation of the collections, some of which are of national and international significance. Work continues on the records, to make the holdings more readily usable. The Hon. Curator received a considerable number of specific enquiries from members of the public; these were dealt with directly or passed to other volunteers.

The Society’s collections have been augmented by 60 donations and loans, with a small additional number of purchases.
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
REPORT OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

For the whole of 2015, twelve items from the Society’s collections were on loan for public display at Ayscoughfee Hall Museum, Spalding. Five items were loaned for the Great Exhibition at Lincoln to commemorate Magna Carta, and another five items were lent to Moulton Mill for a weekend woad exhibition. For the Magna Carta exhibition, two members of the Society contributed a substantial article on its history and achievements.

Society members can readily access the facilities on Monday mornings between 9.00 a.m. and noon, and on Thursdays between 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. At other times, they must make prior arrangements. Members of the public are welcome for individual and group visits, and for scholarly work, but should be in touch beforehand to make the necessary arrangements. The best time for non-members to come is on a Monday morning, when group visits are not accepted; at other times, access will depend on the availability of volunteers.

Over the year, approximately 965 members of the public visited the premises for one purpose or another, some 115 of whom came on the annual open day, 12 September. The Society was also open to the public on the third Sunday of the winter months. Twenty-four group visits were hosted by appointment.

Twelve public lectures were held at the Grammar School in Spalding, covering a wide range of topics. Everyone pays for admission, the normal charge being £2: there was a higher charge for a special additional lecture, held in the Parish church. The lectures were advertised on the Society’s website, in the local press and by other means. Altogether, lecture attendance was 948 for the regular series, and 34 for the additional lecture.

Talks about the Society were given to the Spalding Business Breakfast Club and at True’s Yard Museum, Kings Lynn.

Further details of the public benefit provided may be found in the Members’ Annual Report for the year.

The Members of Council consider that the Society has achieved its objective during the year.

Surplus for the Year
The operating surplus for the year was £17,931.

Investment Policy
The Society takes appropriate investment advice from its investment committee before amending its investment portfolio. Investments are acquired and held in accordance with the general powers given in the Trustee Act 2000.

Reserves Policy
Factors taken into account in deciding the level of reserves include the need to cover fluctuations in expenditure and the need to have sufficient funds available to finance any potential capital expenditure. The Society is dependent upon the income arising from its investments to fund its core activities and therefore does not consider its investments at 31 December 2015 of £151,501 to be part of free reserves. At the year end, free reserves were £74,982 and it is considered that this is a minimal requirement to cover likely expenditure needed to maintain the charitable status.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

By order of the Council.

Professor M D I Chisholm
Hon. Secretary
Date: 18 March 2016
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
STATEMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL’S RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Members of Council 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 financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Members of Council are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Members of Council are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the society’s governing document and applicable laws and regulations including charities SORP 2015. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity’s website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SPALDING GENTLEMEN’S SOCIETY

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2015 which are set out on pages 6 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of council (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The members of council consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

• examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

• follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

• 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 Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a “true and fair view” and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and

• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 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.

David Gratton BSc FCA
Duncan & Toplis Limited
Chartered Accountants
Enterprise Way
Pinchbeck
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 3YR
Date: 18 March 2016
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Restricted funds</th>
<th>Unrestricted funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INCOMING RESOURCES
Income from activities for generating funds
Subscriptions                     24,917           -           24,917           17,064
Donations                         2,334            -            2,334           3,548
Other Income                      1,838            -            1,838           630
Joining fees                      390             -             390           350
Lecture receipts                  3,310            -            3,310           986
Grants                            11,095          11,095        -             8,992

                            43,884          11,095      32,789         31,570
Investment income:
Dividends                         5,457            -            5,457           5,953
Interest                         357              -            357           354

                            5,814            -            5,814           6,307
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES        49,698          11,095      38,603         37,877

RESOURCES EXPENDED
Costs of charitable activities
Museum expenditure
Running costs                    15,683          1,256         14,427         34,763

15,683          1,256         14,427         34,763
Governance costs                  16,084          3,250         12,834         9,229

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED         31,767          4,506         27,261         43,992

NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS
17,931          6,589         11,342         (6,115)

NET INVESTMENT GAINS
Realised surplus on investments     -            -            -            5
Unrealised (deficit)/surplus on revaluation on:
Fixed assets for own use           -            -            -            -
Investments                        (3,827)        -            (3,827)         2,963

NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS            14,104          6,589         7,515         (3,147)

TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD     571,205         3,178         568,027         574,352

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD     585,309         9,767         575,542         585,613

The surplus for the year for Companies Act purposes comprises the net income/(expenditure) for the year plus the surplus on sale of investments and was £17,931 (2014 (£6,115)).

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.
## BALANCE SHEET
31 December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>349,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>151,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and building society</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>87,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>88,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREDITORS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts falling due within one year</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>(3,483)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>585,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated funds</td>
<td></td>
<td>500,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>74,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>585,309</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Members of Council are satisfied that the Society was entitled to the exemption from the requirement to have an audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. The Members of Council have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The Members of Council acknowledge their responsibility for:

a. Ensuring the Society keeps accounting records in accordance with Sections 386 and 387, Companies Act 2006, and

b. Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at the end of its financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395, Companies Act 2006, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act so far as they are applicable to the Society.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements on pages 5 to 15 were approved by the Members of Council on 18 March 2016 and signed on its behalf by

M H Snowdon       ) President
                   )
Mrs S M Barsley   ) Honorary Treasurer
                   )
Professor M D I Chisholm ) Honorary Secretary
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society  
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)  
ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
for the year ended 31 December 2015

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements of the charity have been prepared in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” published in 2015 and with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements are drawn up under the historical cost accounting rules, as modified by the inclusion of fixed asset investments at market value and the revaluation of tangible fixed assets except that depreciation is not charged as set out below.

The charity has availed itself of paragraph 4 (i) of Schedule 1 of the large and medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the company’s activities.

INCOMING RESOURCES

All incoming resources, including donations and interest receivable, are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Annual subscriptions, donations and legacies are included in the statement of financial activities at amounts receivable for the year.

Life membership subscriptions received are credited to the statement of financial activities in twelve annual instalments.

GIFTS

Gifts of exhibits to the society are not included in the Statement of Financial Activities. They are itemised in note 11 to the financial statements.

INVESTMENT INCOME

Investment income and interest is accounted for when receivable.

GRANTS

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity.
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
ACCOUNTING POLICIES
for the year ended 31 December 2015

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

As explained in note 4 Heritage Assets have not been capitalised or depreciated as no reliable value can be attributed.

DEPRECIATION

There is no depreciation of fixed assets as tangible fixed assets are periodically revalued to market value, and with high residual values depreciation would be an immaterial amount.

INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Spalding Gentlemen’s Society has designated funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes. They include amounts equivalent to the net book values of fixed assets and investments used to enable the Society to continue to carry out its charitable mission.

General funds are other unrestricted funds arising from donations and other incoming resources receivable available to the Society without further specified purpose.

The restricted fund relates to grants obtained specifically for the development of the museum collection.
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Net expenditure for year is stated after charging</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff costs – wages and salaries (2 employees)</td>
<td>4,692</td>
<td>3,567</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Members of council received £2,962 (2014 £1,933) during the year as reimbursed expenses. All members of council are unpaid providing their services voluntarily.
No employees received total emolument of more than £50,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>MUSEUM EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RUNNING COSTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating and lighting</td>
<td>3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>1,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs and renewals (£230 restricted)</td>
<td>2,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation &amp; preservation of artefacts (£180 restricted)</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and postage (£66 restricted)</td>
<td>2,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazines and books</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation of books &amp; archives</td>
<td>1,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisitions</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurances</td>
<td>2,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions and donations</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training (£780 restricted)</td>
<td>916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catering</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philately and medals</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|   | 15,683 | 34,763 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>GOVERNANCE COSTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture fees and expenses</td>
<td>3,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outing costs</td>
<td>1,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>4,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer/office costs (£250 restricted)</td>
<td>2,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy fees</td>
<td>552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Professional (£3,000 restricted)</td>
<td>3,594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|   | 16,084 | 9,229 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freehold properties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 December 2014</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluations</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 December 2015</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The historical cost of the freehold properties is £4,402. Freehold property is included in the financial statements at the Members of Council estimation of market value based on a valuation obtained from R Longstaff & Co on 28 March 2013.
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2015

4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)
The Museum collection is a Heritage Asset which has been amassed over the last 300 years mainly by
way of gift and is of such extent that neither cost nor market value, are readily ascertainable. The
Society has omitted the Museum collection from the balance sheet as permitted by SORP (2005)
paragraph 283. The cost of additions to the museum collection has not been capitalised, being written
off in the statement of financial activities as museum expenditure. Gifts of exhibits during the year to
the Society are not included in the statement of financial activities, being itemised in note 11 to the
financial statements. The museum collection is on exhibit in the Museum and is available for
scholastic research and visits by arrangement with the curator.

No depreciation is charged because the annual depreciation and related accumulated depreciation is
immaterial owing to the high estimated residual values of tangible fixed assets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell &amp; Butlers</td>
<td>441 ordinary shares of 8 13/24p each</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,521</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercontinental Hotels Group plc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>337 ordinary shares of 13 29/47p each</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>8,266</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>8,070</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable &amp; Wireless Communications plc</td>
<td>3,188 ordinary shares of US$0.05 each</td>
<td>3,701</td>
<td>2,369</td>
<td>3,701</td>
<td>1,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable &amp; Wireless Worldwide plc</td>
<td>3,188 ordinary shares of 5p each</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAE Systems plc</td>
<td>871 ordinary shares of 2.5p each</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>4,352</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>4,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reed Elsevier plc</td>
<td>1,558 ordinary shares of 12.5p each</td>
<td>2,830</td>
<td>18,649</td>
<td>2,830</td>
<td>17,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyds Banking Group plc</td>
<td>4,275 ordinary shares of 10p each</td>
<td>2,175</td>
<td>3,124</td>
<td>2,175</td>
<td>3,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diageo</td>
<td>500 ordinary shares of 28 101/108p each</td>
<td>5,142</td>
<td>9,283</td>
<td>5,142</td>
<td>9,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaxo SmithKline plc</td>
<td>851 ordinary shares of 25p each</td>
<td>5,079</td>
<td>11,684</td>
<td>5,079</td>
<td>11,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson Matthey plc</td>
<td>811 ordinary shares of £1 each</td>
<td>4,982</td>
<td>21,548</td>
<td>4,982</td>
<td>27,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unilever plc</td>
<td>350 ordinary shares of 3 1/9p each</td>
<td>6,139</td>
<td>10,243</td>
<td>6,139</td>
<td>9,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banco Santander</td>
<td>formerly Alliance &amp; Leicester plc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 ordinary shares of 0.5€ each</td>
<td>GKN plc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>530 ordinary shares of 50p each</td>
<td>Centrica plc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,433 ordinary shares of 6 14/81p each</td>
<td>Legal and General Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,591 ordinary shares of 2.5p each</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

51
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society  
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2015

5  FIXED ASSETS INVESTMENTS  
(continued)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Grid plc</td>
<td>6,183</td>
<td>12,084</td>
<td>6,183</td>
<td>11,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,289 ordinary shares of 11 17/43p each</td>
<td>4,293</td>
<td>2,772</td>
<td>4,293</td>
<td>2,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Sainsbury plc</td>
<td>4,964</td>
<td>6,876</td>
<td>4,964</td>
<td>7,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,071 ordinary shares of 28 4/7p each</td>
<td>4,876</td>
<td>3,009</td>
<td>4,876</td>
<td>3,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish &amp; Southern BP plc</td>
<td>4,965</td>
<td>7,241</td>
<td>4,965</td>
<td>6,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>850 ordinary shares US$0.25 each BT Group plc</td>
<td>4,962</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>4,962</td>
<td>832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,535 ordinary shares of 5p each First Group plc</td>
<td>4,880</td>
<td>6,222</td>
<td>4,880</td>
<td>5,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>780 ordinary shares of 5p each British American Tobacco</td>
<td>4,980</td>
<td>6,222</td>
<td>4,880</td>
<td>5,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>165 ordinary shares of 25p each G4S PLC</td>
<td>2,982</td>
<td>2,367</td>
<td>2,982</td>
<td>2,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,050 ordinary shares of 25p each</td>
<td>81,784</td>
<td>151,501</td>
<td>81,784</td>
<td>155,328</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At 1 January 2015 – market value £ 155,328  153,219
Additions - -
Disposal - (854)
Surplus/(deficit) on revaluation (3,827)  2,963

At 31 December 2015 market value £ 151,504  155,328

6  DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year
Prepayments and accrued income 706  704

7  CASH AT BANK AND BUILDING SOCIETY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 £</th>
<th>2014 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Savings Bank</td>
<td>47,545</td>
<td>47,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Westminster Bank plc</td>
<td>29,264</td>
<td>18,877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current account</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Westminster Key account</td>
<td>9,867</td>
<td>3,278</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barclays Bank</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>87,526</td>
<td>70,295</td>
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</table>

52
Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2015

8 CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year
Accruals and deferred income 3,483 4,181

9 TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS – NON DISTRIBUTABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 January 2015</th>
<th>Incoming resources</th>
<th>Outgoing resources</th>
<th>Gains/losses</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>31 December 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum collection</td>
<td>3,178</td>
<td>11,095</td>
<td>4,506</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,767</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>349,059</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>349,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freehold property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- cost</td>
<td>4,402</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,402</td>
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<tr>
<td>- revaluation reserve</td>
<td>295,598</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>295,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum contents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- revaluation reserve</td>
<td>49,059</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>49,059</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- cost</td>
<td>81,784</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>81,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- revaluation reserve</td>
<td>73,544</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(3,827)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>69,717</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>155,328</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(3,827)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>151,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted income funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General funds</td>
<td>63,640</td>
<td>38,603</td>
<td>(27,261)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>74,982</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>571,205</td>
<td>49,698</td>
<td>(31,767)</td>
<td>(3,827)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>585,309</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net movement in funds
Represented by:

Incoming resources 49,698
Outgoing resources (31,767)
Gains/(losses) (3,827)

14,104

The purpose of the accumulated funds is to support the objects of the Society as set out in the principal activities paragraph of the Report of the Members of Council.

53
## DONATIONS AND LOANS

It is not practicable to place a value on gifts received by the society. The following items were gifted during the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>A Traveller’s Guide (Place names in England and Wales) 1657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>A Young Gentleman’s Trigonometry Mechanics and Optics by Edward Wells 1731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>James I 1601/2 1/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>James I 1604/19 6d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>Elizabeth I 1561-77 6d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>Elizabeth I 1582-1600 1/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>Elizabeth I 1582-60 6d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/01/2015</td>
<td>P Ryde (Spalding)</td>
<td>Mary Queen of Scots 1542-8 6d (bawbee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/01/2015</td>
<td>P Spencer (Spalding)</td>
<td>The Fifties (Publ. Lincs Free Press &amp; Guardian) by Malcolm Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/01/2015</td>
<td>P Spencer (Spalding)</td>
<td>A Miscellany of Memories (Publ. Lincs Free Press &amp; Guardian) by Malcolm Scott Covering the Sixties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/01/2015</td>
<td>by Subscription</td>
<td>British Numismatic Journal v84 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>Page from Boston Guardian 30/8/1930 &quot;What Lincolnshire was like 200 years ago&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>A Short Guide to the Church of St Botolph in Boston (undated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>Tales of Old Boston by Austin Sprague Dec 1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>Some Boston Ballads by AM Cook (undated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>&quot;No Servants&quot; a Comedy by Getrude Jennings c 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>ARP Training Manual No 1 Basic Training in ARP</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>ARP A Practical Guide by S Evelyn Thomas 1939</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/01/2015</td>
<td>R Willingham (Member)</td>
<td>Letter:</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/01/2015</td>
<td>C Lewis (Member)</td>
<td>The Land of Britain (Land Utilisation Survey 1932/3) Part 69: Parts of Holland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/01/2015</td>
<td>C Lewis (Member)</td>
<td>Photograph of demolition at Spalding Railway Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/01/2015</td>
<td>J Honnor (Member)</td>
<td>Photographs of two pictures by E Gentle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/01/2015</td>
<td>by Subscription</td>
<td>Lincolnshire History and Archaeology v 47 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/01/2015</td>
<td>J Redshaw (Member)</td>
<td>CD with catalogue of Marten Perry Herbarium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/01/2015</td>
<td>by Purchase</td>
<td>Roman Coins and Their Values V by D Sears</td>
</tr>
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<td>16/02/2015</td>
<td>T Carter (Member)</td>
<td>Coathanger inscribed &quot;Cooley and Son Spalding&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/02/2015</td>
<td>G Cupper (Spalding)</td>
<td>CD With photographs of Turner and Maples Galleries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>M Buck (Member)</td>
<td>File with information about the Maples family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>S Martinelli (Member)</td>
<td>Guide to Shopping in Holbech (pre-2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>S Martinelli (Member)</td>
<td>Holbeach Local Guide (c 1975)</td>
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<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>S Martinelli (Member)</td>
<td>Holbeach Official Guide (undated)</td>
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<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>S Martinelli (Member)</td>
<td>Wisbech and Upwell Tramway 1966</td>
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<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>S Martinelli (Member)</td>
<td>The Present state of Archaeology in Lincolnshire 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>A Fordham (Spalding)</td>
<td>Spalding Model Railway Society meeting ticket 19/111976 and Commemorative card signed by David Shepherd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/2015</td>
<td>AB Watson (Member)</td>
<td>Commemorative Mug From Loften WW2 Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Donor/Item Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>MH Buck (Member) Coins of England Spink 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>A Cooley (Member) Trousers in case ~ 3cm long Patent No 360457</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors WW1 Victory Medal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors Memorial Plaque Pte C Wiles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors KRR Collar dog</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors Royal Rifle Corps Cap Badge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors Book - The Christian Athlete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2015</td>
<td>Mrs E Wiles (Deceased) via Chattertons Solicitors Papers/letters/Newspaper Cuttings/Photographs of Grave</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/03/2015</td>
<td>Mr D Gilbert (Moulton Chapel) Loan Napoleonic Sword Hilt</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/03/2015</td>
<td>G Cupper (Spalding) CD With photographs of Librarian's Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/04/2015</td>
<td>University of Georgia The Curious Mr Catesby. (Donated, the Society having allowed use of some images from our collection)</td>
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<td>16/04/2015</td>
<td>Suscription Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries v22 no. 1 March 2015</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27/04/2015</td>
<td>A Stennet (member) A Taste of Lincoln Red by Mona Skehel</td>
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<td>18/05/2015</td>
<td>M Hollanders (member) Set of six victory and liberation stamps (9/5/1945) and one £3 Winston Churchill stamp All from Jersey</td>
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<td>18/05/2015</td>
<td>IG Brown FSA (Edinburgh) Reprints of two articles referring to Sir John Clerk (18c member)</td>
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<td>18/05/2015</td>
<td>T Carter (Member) Five 20c Commemorative Newspapers</td>
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<td>18/05/2015</td>
<td>J Redwood (member) CD with catalogue, summary and biography of the JF Musham Collection of Shells (April 2015)</td>
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<td>13/05/2015</td>
<td>Lord Cormack (member) Lincolnshire’s Great Exhibition. Treasures, Saints and Heroes</td>
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<td>20/07/2015</td>
<td>Spalding Town Husbands Loan Minute book of Town Husbands 1955-2000</td>
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<td>21/09/2015</td>
<td>K Dobney (Member) Book - Ten of the Best.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/09/2015</td>
<td>B Parker (Member) Book - John Betjeman Collected Poems</td>
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<tr>
<td>05/10/2015</td>
<td>K Seaton (Member) Book - Spalding &amp; Around Through Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>A Cooley (Member) Sword Stick.</td>
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<td>19/10/2015</td>
<td>G Buck (Member) Brass 30mm Shell Case</td>
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<td>07/12/2015</td>
<td>Unknown (by subscription?) British Numismatic Journal 2009 Paperback</td>
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<td>07/12/2015</td>
<td>Unknown Rural Museums Network - The Power of the Plough 2012 Paperback</td>
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<td>Unknown The SaundersRoe Princess Flying Boat Project 2012 Paperback</td>
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<td>Unknown The Sopwith Bat-Boat 2013 Paperback</td>
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<td>07/12/2015</td>
<td>by Subscription The British Numismatic Journal 2015</td>
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<td>07/12/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/12/2015</td>
<td>W Parker (Member) Two Ration Books</td>
<td></td>
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Spalding Gentlemen’s Society
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and not for profit)
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31 December 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>20,560</td>
<td>14,818</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dividends received</td>
<td>5,457</td>
<td>5,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>354</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
<td>2,334</td>
<td>3,548</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
<td>11,095</td>
<td>8,992</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax repayable – Covenants/Gift Aid</td>
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<td>2,146</td>
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<td>Joining fees</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outing fees</td>
<td>1,590</td>
<td>481</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture receipts</td>
<td>3,310</td>
<td>986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td>49,698</td>
<td>37,877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MUSEUM EXPENDITURE - RUNNING COSTS</strong></td>
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<td>Heating and lighting</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>3,893</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>1,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs and renewals</td>
<td>2,668</td>
<td>11,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation &amp; preservation of artefacts</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>1,127</td>
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<td>Stationery, printing and postage</td>
<td>2,128</td>
<td>3,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazines &amp; books</td>
<td>136</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation of books &amp; archive</td>
<td>1,511</td>
<td>1,222</td>
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<td>Acquisitions</td>
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<td>8,555</td>
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<td>Insurances</td>
<td>2,833</td>
<td>2,657</td>
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<td>Subscriptions and donations</td>
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<td>956</td>
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<td>Training</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catering</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philately and medals</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture fees and expenses</td>
<td>3,103</td>
<td>1,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society outing</td>
<td>1,089</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>4,692</td>
<td>3,567</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>706</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
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<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer/office expenses</td>
<td>2,578</td>
<td>1,340</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Professional</td>
<td>3,594</td>
<td>606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</strong></td>
<td>17,931</td>
<td>(6,115)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES
For the year ended 31 December 2014
(Deficit)/surplus for the year | 17,931  | (6,115) |
Unrealised gains on tangible fixed assets | - | - |
Realised & Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments | (3,827) | 2,968 |

14,104  (3,147)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements of the society