



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### BUILDINGS, BUILDINGS, EVERYWHERE

## Contents

Chairman’s Letter .....1

Policy and Resources.....2

Planning Applications..3

Environment.4

Finance and Property.....6

Fundraising...7

Membership, Publications & Publicity.....9

Museum.....10

Museum Re-development14

Commission on Housing..15

Administrator.....17

Obituary.....17

Trustee News.....18

Dates for Your Diary.....18

Conveners...20

Anyone doubting the Preservation Trust’s need to exist, only has to take a walk east along Queen’s Terrace or look up north from Greenside Place.

There is no avoiding the large steel structure jutting out from the bottom of Westburn Lane, the southern extremity of a development containing 14 dwellings, priced between £400,000 and £800,000. It is a contemporary design: nothing wrong with that. What is so offensive is the scale and prominence of the buildings, its lack of sympathy with the form and texture of its surroundings and its disrespect for neighbours. It is hard to comprehend how a planning authority could have permitted such a building. In her eloquent, closely reasoned, five-page letter of objection on behalf of the Trust, Margaret Humfrey, then planning convener, concluded:

*“If developments such as the above proposal were allowed to proceed, the beautiful historic town would soon lose its appeal to students and tourists alike from all over the world. After all, they would be able to see such developments in any one of hundreds of modern towns, but there is only one St Andrews, and we must protect it at all cost.”*

That is why, against the odds, we continue our fight to stop inappropriate developments – none more so than the proposed new school at Pipeland. You can find the latest news on that epic struggle in an insert included with this newsletter.

In the same area as Westburn Lane, we have just learned that the Reporter has approved, on appeal, the application to build 17 flats at Abbey Park St Nicholas – just behind the houses on the south side of Greenside Place. This was the fifth application for the same site and it exemplifies the tenacity of many developers. Our only consolation – if there is any, having submitted successive objections – is that this proposal is less obnoxious than the first, that the Reporter is insisting that there should be no HMOs and that the planned penthouse is omitted.

In happy contrast is the restoration of 52 South Street, which was the worthy

winner of one of our Pride of Place awards last autumn. We recently entered this remarkable piece of work in the Scottish Civic Trust's "My Place" awards. Although it was not selected, it was warmly received by the distinguished judging panel, demonstrating that the best of developments in St Andrews are of a national quality. Another example of an outstanding refurbishment is the University's conversion of Martyrs' Kirk into a library and reading room for its Special Collections.

As Spring breaks through, there is also cheering news from the Museum Garden, where ambitious plans for redevelopment are well advanced. They include a splendid, timber-built garden store with a "living roof", a proper store and study area for our pictorial collection (fashioned out of the derelict washhouse we bought) and a much improved garden layout with some exciting new planting. We feel sure this will be a major enhancement to our increasingly popular Museum.

Since the last newsletter, the Town Commission on Housing has published its eagerly awaited report. It is a very impressive document, containing 12 major recommendations. We, in company with the other five organisations which set up the Commission, are making good progress on determining the way forward. More details are to be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The AGM is on Thursday, 15 May at 7 pm in the Town Hall and we look forward to seeing many of you there, sharing with you news of these and our other activities, and hearing your views.

Graham Wynd  
Chairman

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## **POLICY AND RESOURCES REPORT**

As noted in the last Newsletter, the new Policy and Resource Committee has been busy since its inception in June last year. It is now getting into its stride as the forum where new ideas can be first discussed and then developed, before being put to the Trustees for decision and where routine business can be dealt with, without taking up precious time at full Trustees meetings. As the functions of the old Finance and Property Committee were subsumed, considerable attention is able to be paid to these matters. It is also an opportunity to keep Committee Conveners briefed on the full range of the Trust's activities.

A particular issue of concern has been the low level of human and financial resource which the Trust has been able to commit to support that part of its work which deals with issues of planning - be they planning applications or planning policy. A small working group has been established, which has investigated how other civic societies handle this aspect of their work (in particular the Cockburn Association) and has had very useful meetings with a member of staff of the Department of Town and Regional Planning of the University of Dundee. Final

recommendations will be ready for consideration by the Trustees in the near future.

Negotiations have also been underway with St. Andrews University with a view to the Trust lodging its non-current planning records within the University's Special Collections, where they can be professionally stored, protected and catalogued. The material will remain in the ownership of the Trust but cataloguing and access will in future be managed by Special Collections. These records form a key source for a wide range of aspects of the history of twentieth century St. Andrews and need to be made more readily available to researchers. The fact that their removal to safe storage will release much needed space in the Queen's Gardens Office is an added bonus.

Discussions have also begun with the University of St. Andrews over the establishment of a Preservation Trust Medal and Prize for History "for an outstanding piece of original research of up to 12,000 words (published or intended for publication) on the history or historical heritage of St. Andrews". While the purpose is principally to encourage original research into St. Andrews' history, the intention is also to create positive links with the University and, in particular, with its historians (including art and architectural historians). The Trust's approach has been very much welcomed and negotiations proceed.

At each meeting now the Committee receives reports from Lead Trustees on progress made in taking forward the seven Strategic Priorities agreed in the Trust's Strategic and Action Plans. The Plans were mentioned in the last Newsletter and may be viewed on the Trust's web-site. In this way progress in each Priority area can be regularly monitored and the assistance of other Trustees brought in, as and when required. Details of progress in these areas can be found in the reports of the various Committee conveners elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Peter Murray  
Policy and Resources Convener

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## **PLANNING REPORT**

### **ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE PLANNING RESOURCES**

The Trustees' sub committee established to consider the way forward in the Trust's primary function of monitoring both Planning Policy and Planning Applications as these affect the City of St Andrews and its immediate surroundings held meetings with representatives of Dundee University with regard to identifying a potential candidate or candidates from their Planning course who could assist the Trust in a professional capacity with planning Issues. A potential candidate was identified but dropped out prior to interview when he was appointed to another position. Contact with the University is ongoing with a view to establishing an alternate candidate or alternative methods of fulfilling the Trust's requirements.

Feedback from the Cockburn Society has been received as to the contract terms used by them for appointment of professional assistance.

The sub committee will continue to explore the opportunities available to endeavour to find suitable professional assistance to support the Trust in planning matters such that a recommendation can be put to the Board of Trustees.

It is hoped that, following consideration, the Board will give formal approval to the implementation of these recommendations.

### **RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Work continues on the assessment of new applications with applications either considered or awaiting consideration during January, February and March numbering eighty six.

There have been no significant applications of note during this period which reflects that this is a quiet time of year for major applications.

The trust has objected to four applications for replacement windows in the conservation area where the proposed replacements were either of uPVC material instead of timber or failed to match existing window style.

An objection to pavement seating outside Cromar's restaurant in Union Street is pending.

An approach to an applicant proposing new fascia signage to a shop front in South Street resulted in a positive response from the applicant who will now install a hand painted timber fascia instead of a fascia of printed aluminium.

An objection to the construction of a biomass plant and other supporting infrastructure at Feddinch Golf Course whilst located just out-with the geographical area of the Trust was objected to as development in the Green Belt.

On other planning issues the Trust has been advised of consultation by Fife Council in respect of the Hepburn Gardens Conservation Area to revise boundaries and this will be looked at by a Trustee.

John Peacock  
Planning Applications Convener

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## **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

**“Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'”**

**Robin Williams**

With the month of April now here, I thought that members might find the above quote, humorous but also highly emotive. With winter gone, it is indeed a time to celebrate. New growth is appearing everywhere in our gardens, parks, fields, hedgerows and woodland. Boase Wood is now wearing her spring mantle. On a recent walk, I noticed all the yellow

daffodils and snowdrops have reappeared. The trees are now budding and birds are making their nests. It is indeed the season of “rebirth”.

Since our last newsletter in January there has been a lot of activity in the wood. On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March as arranged, work continued at Boase Wood. Unfortunately with commitments to St Andrews In Bloom, I could not be present to view the team in action. However I telephoned Ian Christie on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March and received his report which is as follows.

**“Mark Edward and his team from Special Branch arrived just after 9am, to start work on the precarious oak tree. Following Fife Council's request, the tree was crowned, with most of its leafy top now removed. Unfortunately all that remains is the trunk but Mark hopes that new growth will reappear in the near future. The main thing is that this oak tree has been made safe for the general public, who regularly pass by the wood. The team also removed another tree close to the path which was overhanging a nearby garden. In a bid to save the daffodils and snowdrops, the team did not spread the mulch from their work but took it away.”**

Unable to be present to take photographs of the team at work, Ian did us the honours. Having received copies of his photographs, these have now been added to the Environment Committee's file on Boase Wood.

The other item that may be of interest to members is the Tree Survey by Langton Tree Specialists. Ian and I received a phone call from Martin Langton detailing the company's intentions. The survey took place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March and was continued on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. The company proposed to survey every tree, which without a doubt is a mammoth task. The end result will not only be an environmental record of the trees in Boase Wood circa 2014 but also an historical database. We hope to have the results of this survey in the very near future. Members may also be aware of my submission to “St Andrews In Focus”, regarding Boase Wood. I was personally delighted with its publication. It is worth recording that St Andrews In Bloom intend to use the article on their presentation boards, for the “Britain In Bloom” judges to view when they visit our town in the summer.

An invitation from the Scottish Civic Trust was received on March 12<sup>th</sup> to attend the Awards Reception in Glasgow on Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Chairman, Ken Dalton and architect, Duncan Low attended this function. Although the restoration of No 52 South Street impressed the judging panel, unfortunately it was not a winner. It appears that the Awards are focused on community based projects rather than private homes. However it was suggested that the Trust could enter a competition run by the Saltire Society. They have a category headed “House Design” in which No 52 South Street may prove to be more successful. A decision will be taken on this suggestion at our April Board meeting.

Another item of news is with regards to our Shop Fronts restoration. The committee's advisor, Mr Jimmy Macgregor would like us to consider the cast iron pillar at No 131 South Street. The shop is now known as “Mr Milanos”. A meeting has been planned to discuss whether this is feasible with the remaining funds in our coffers. I will update members on this initiative in our July Newsletter.

Finally on behalf of the Environment Committee, I would like to welcome back into our fold, Dr Iain Matthews. After a period of illness, it is good to have him on board once again.

Marysia Denyer  
Environment Convener

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## FINANCE AND PROPERTY REPORT

The first months of the year are taken up with the preparation and finalisation of the Annual Accounts to the previous 31 December. In conjunction with Ian Palfrey of Henderson Black we have reached the happy position of the Accounts being finalised and being sent to the printers for incorporation into the Annual Report of the Trustees. I must thank Ian, and also our administrator, Janette, most sincerely for all their help and guidance in this large task, as the accounting requirements to enable a charity to maintain the charitable status get more complex every year.

The end figure for the year is a deficit on unrestricted activities of £6,709. There are movements during the year in our restricted funds where payments exceed income by £2,669. After taking into account the realised and unrealised gains on our investments we have a positive net increase in our funds of £49,863. This gives the Trust total funds at 31 December 2013 of £1,071,135.

Dividend income again rose during the year but on the expense side we incurred £8,761 on planning advisory fees as the Trustees decided that we required urgent external professional help to deal with the complexity and urgency of some planning applications. This was an unexpected cost but may be something that may occur again in the future.

In 2012 the Trust purchased the former drying green and washhouse adjacent to the museum. During 2013 the Museum Development Committee has been drawing up plans for the development of this site. These plans will, of course, have a cost and applications have been made to several trusts and funding bodies and that Committee, led by Andrew Johnstone, has to be congratulated in their success in the last few months in obtaining grants which will cover more than half the budgeted expenditure.

The first months of the year also involve the office in receiving the annual and life subscriptions for 2014. I am pleased to say that many members have already renewed their membership, many by standing order through their bank, but inevitably there are some who have not yet renewed. If you have already renewed, many thanks. If you have not yet renewed then can I please ask to do so as soon as possible as the subscription income is vital to the annual finances and work of the Trust.

Our main source of income is from dividends and interest, and I am pleased to report that this should show an increase in 2014 mainly due to the special dividend paid from our holding in

Vodafone.

Ian Lumsdaine  
Finance and Property Convener

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## FUNDRAISING REPORT

Due to the disappointing response to the quiz this year despite the usual advertising, and as only seven teams had entered by the Tuesday prior, the Committee decided to cancel the event. It would appear that the local cinema was showing a live beamed performance of 'War Horse' coupled with the SAMS production of 'Crazy for You' that same evening.

The Quiz regularly nets approximately £400, as such the committee intends to re-stage the event in the autumn, details of the date will be circulated once known.

### WALK AND TALK

As reported recently, due to the success of our last 'Walk and Talk' event, another is planned for the spring of next year, this event has the title of '**Plaques of Distinction**' and will take the form of a walk around a number the plaques erected to commemorate the achievements of notable St Andreans and former residents of the town. The list will cover a wide range of notable people including the most recent beneficiaries; a short talk about each will be in the hands of Anne Morris. The starting point will be All Saints Church Hall, where we will return for supper and refreshments.

### HIDDEN GARDENS 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2014

Plans are well in hand for this most important event, the gardens have been chosen and an appeal for helpers is included in this Newsletter.

- Drivers are still required for the COSMOS bus, please see me for details.
- This will be my last year as the event organiser, John Beaton has kindly agree to take charge of the catering at St. John's Garden, I am seeking a coordinator to work with me in the management of the stalls, with the view to taking over that aspect next year.

The Museum and Garden this year will be in the hands of Kate Ekanger who will be mustering help and support from the regulars.

### WANTED

The theme for Marysia's stall at St John's garden this year is 'Music & Film' to help her, would you please look through your collection of CDs and DVDs and donate those that might like a new home? All items care of the office please.

Andrew Johnson  
Fundraising Convener

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St Andrews Preservation Trust Presents

## It'll be alright on the night

A comedy set backstage and onstage  
at  
The Old Byre Theatre

**This play allows the audience to glimpse backstage events in the 1960s Byre Theatre. As the title suggests, the focus will be on comedy – missing costumes, lost actors, a fretting director and a stage manager trying to hold it altogether ready for a performance of “The Open”**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup>/Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>/Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>/Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014  
7.30 pm.

Preservation Trust Museum 12 North Street,  
St Andrews KY16 9PW

### Tickets £10

*Ticket price includes drinks reception afterwards*

Tickets available from Preservation Trust Museum 12 North Street St Andrews  
Tel 01334 477629 E: curator @standrewspreservation trust.org



## MEMBERSHIP, PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY REPORT

This is a combined Programme, Membership, Publicity and Publications report, effectively an account of matters raised and decisions taken at the last committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

Reminders are being sent out to those who have not paid their subscriptions for 2014. Income from subscriptions is roughly the same as at this time in 2013. There is still about £700 outstanding. If you are one of the non-payers can we urge you to rejoin? – a strong Preservation Trust with a large membership and raising serious sums of money has never been more necessary.

The committee has arranged to e-mail supporters of the “New Madras pro North Haugh” campaign who are not Trust members to ask them to join. It should be noted that a significant number of members of this campaign are already members of the Trust. A mailing is also being prepared with Anne Morris to encourage membership among the FP Girls Club and a flyer will be distributed at the AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> June of the After Many Days Club of university alumni. A meeting of the Museum Convener, Curator and me will discuss promotion of membership through the museum. A “sign up a friend” promotion will be tried at the AGM. A reception for town businesses is planned to try to encourage more corporate memberships.

Details of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lecture on the Marquis of Bute by Rosemary Hannah on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October will be included in the July edition of this newsletter.

A discussion has taken place as to the format of this year’s two members’ receptions. The usual pattern will be followed for the summer reception on 18<sup>th</sup> July and Cherries be engaged to cater. The winter reception on 13<sup>th</sup> December will comprise mince pies, shortbread, mulled wine and entertainment.

The committee has discussed “outings/visits” for members. There will be a visit to 52 South Street (Ken Dalton’s home). Arrangements are in the hands of Simon Kidd and the visit will be followed by a wine and nibbles reception hosted by the Trust. A flyer giving full details of date, time etc and containing a booking form is included with this newsletter. A day trip to Ceres will be visiting key historical sites and the Ceres Folk Museum in early autumn. In addition John Henderson, the blacksmith who has relocated his business wishes to invite Trust members to visit his new premises followed by a buffet supper. Details will follow.

Again we have had reasonable press coverage, particularly of the curator pictured with medals from World War I being displayed in the summer exhibition. In addition an illustrated article on the Boase Wood had been written by Marysia Denyer and published in “St Andrews in Focus”.

Two new Christmas cards have been commissioned for this year and we will order 1,000 of each. The committee has agreed to two cards both designed by Walter Watson. Anne Morris

is liaising with the artist. The Calendar Sub Committee is advancing its plans for a 2015 full colour calendar featuring photographs taken by Sam Taylor – “One Man’s View of St Andrews.” This year sponsorship has been obtained from 12 local businesses thanks to the efforts of Pat Harvey and Anne Morris.

Anne Morris continues to design and compile a leaflet about the Josef Kozacki plaques recently erected at the Ardgowan Hotel in North Street – leaflets will be produced for all plaques provided from the Gordon Christie bequest. Trustee, Colin McAllister is in charge of implementing the Christie bequest.

Derek Barrie  
Membership, Publications and Publicity Convener

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◊ TIMES PAST ◊  
**ARTICLES DRAWN FROM THE ARCHIVE**

**PLEASE JOIN THE ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST**

*Anne Morris has found this press cutting – date unknown:*

St Andrews faces a greater threat from modern redevelopment than ever before in its history. New housing, flats, shops, offices, University expansion, road schemes and traffic management – all can disfigure or destroy parts of this beautiful and historic town. To help in the urgent work of conservation and preservation of this unique urban heritage the St Andrews Preservation Trust urgently needs new members, both amongst permanent residents of the town and amongst visitors and well-wishers.

Membership is open on the following terms and conditions :-  
Annual membership: an annual payment of not less than £1.00  
Life membership: a single payment of not less than £20.00

**If at all possible, please give more than the minimum amounts mentioned**

**Nothing has changed!!**

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**MUSEUM REPORT**

**MUSEUM FORWARD PLAN**

The Curator has up-dated this to cover the period 2014-2016 and a copy was sent to the Museum Mentor, Emma Jane Wells, for her comments and further advice. She has since proof read it and the Curator and the Convener have arranged to meet to discuss the up-dated version prior to its circulation to Trustees.

**MUSEUM BUDGET**

In January, the Curator and the Convener met with Ian Lumsdaine, Finance Convener, to go over the details of the Projected Budget for the Museum for 2014. Following his scrutiny and advice the Budget was accepted and copies were circulated as appropriate. The Curator and the Convener continue to receive monthly reports of the museum trading and budget comparison from the Finance Convener, with his comments. Should there be any concerns a meeting would be arranged. To date this has not been required.

**GRANTS**

The Curator has been successful in her most recent grant applications to Museum Galleries Scotland and Fife Council to assist with the costs of forthcoming exhibitions and she is to be thanked for her achievement in raising this additional funding.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

The Curator has put in place Tiny Tags, purchased following the Grant for £897, in the Museum and in the Stores. The hydrographs have been left in place to make a comparison between the old and the new. The Curator continues to take readings, copies of which she distributes and explains at the monthly Museum Committee Meetings. As drafts from the windows remain a problem, Andrew Johnson has very kindly agreed to caulk the windows, to seal any gaps.

**OUTSIDE DISPLAY BOARD (IN THE FRONT GRARDEN)**

A second quote has been received and accepted and a detailed application 'to erect an advertising board' is being sent off by the Curator. The costs of this display board are being met from the Gillian Falconer Fund, which pertains to the Museum Building and Garden.

**POST OFFICE DISPLAY**

This display case has now been mounted on the wall in the downstairs area.

**STORES REFURBISHMENT**

The Museum Mentor has visited the stores and given advice to the Curator. She will continue to offer support as future plans develop.

**EVENTS IN THE MUSEUM**

The Research Group's Exhibition (25<sup>th</sup> January - 2<sup>nd</sup> February) was extremely successful with a record-breaking 376 visitors. All of those involved are to be congratulated on their splendid displays and in all the hard work and creativity given in their preparation. Following the Research Group Exhibition, Jurek Putter gifted to the Trust the original Artwork he created for Frances Humphries' display on Mediaeval Churchmen.

The Coffee Morning arranged to encourage Membership of the Trust, held in the Museum, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January was also well attended.

Another very successful 'Scrapbooks & Remembering Session', prepared by Pat Harvey and the Curator, was held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. As these are proving so popular a further two are planned. These will take place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

STANZA's three events held in the Museum between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March were well attended with 263 visitors and due to the good weather visitors were able to linger in the garden and view and participate in the *Spinning Poetry* installation. Comments made by visitors were very positive and it was felt that the Museum offered a very appropriate environment for the two indoor displays.

### RECENT AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*Toy Stories* : 29<sup>th</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. In preparation for this exhibition the Curator and the Convener visited Lawhead Primary School on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to hold a 'workshop' with the Primary 4 pupils whose creative writing, about the selection of toys drawn from the Museum Collection, feature in the Exhibition.

- *Three Ages of the Byre Theatre*: 19<sup>th</sup> April - 4<sup>th</sup> May : 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *It'll Be Alright on The Night*, a play performed by Red Wine Productions and directed by Alan Tricker will be performed in the Museum at 7:30 p.m., during the Byre Exhibition, on the following nights:-  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April : Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April : Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May : Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.  
 Tickets cost £10 each and are restricted to a maximum of 20 per performance.  
 Please contact the Curator, Samantha Bannerman (Museum Telephone Number 01334 477629) if you would like to attend one of the performances.
- *Who Lived Here? The Fisherfolk of St Andrews* : Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. As part of the Festival of Museums 2014, this one-day event is a celebration of the Fisherfolk of St Andrews. There will be storytelling, crafts and music and a self-guided tour of The Ladyhead.
- *St Andrews and the Great War*: 31<sup>st</sup> May – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- *Great War Gallery Talks*: 6<sup>th</sup> June : 4<sup>th</sup> July : 1<sup>st</sup> August. Join the Curator to find out more about the objects on display in the Summer Exhibition.

### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers' Talks:-

- In January, Frances Humphries and May Watt gave a very interesting talk on '*The Work of the Research Group and Family Trees*'. This talk provided an excellent insight into the detailed and rigorous research which is carried out by the Research Group culminating in their splendid exhibitions.
- In February, Andrew Johnson delivered an excellent, comprehensive and very informative talk on '*Stonemasons' Marks*'. The audience left encouraged and

determined to find the stonemasons' marks which Andrew had identified.

- In March, a fascinating talk entitled '*Gauntlet Gloves gifted by Charles I*' was given by Claire Robinson, a member of staff from MUSA (and a former Curator at the Trust Museum). The members of the audience were impressed to note the results of Claire's scrupulous research which she has carried out to establish the provenance and authenticity of the Gauntlet Gloves.

### **OTHER VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

The Curator arranged a most interesting visit and guided tour for Volunteers, in March, to The Black Watch Museum at Balhousie Castle, Perth.

The Group were extremely fortunate to be able to travel in style - in a mini-bus with a very prestigious driver – none other than the Trust's Vice-Chairman, Andrew Johnson!

Re-organisation of the Museum Stores: Each Monday Marjorie Dickens and a new student Volunteer, Charlotte Mayer, are assisting Anne Thorne and the Curator with the inventory of the items in the Store at the Trust Office.

Easter Exhibition:- An 'induction' meeting to familiarize Volunteers and Trustees with the forthcoming Easter Exhibition was arranged for Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April, at which time Jimmy Bone gave a talk on the Byre Theatre.

### **DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM**

The following items have been donated recently:- a School and Ambulance Certificate – awarded to local people in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century: a Suitcase - made by Myles the Saddler and an Annabel Kidston sketch which will be added to the Trust's Annabel Kidston Collection.

In addition Mr Archie Provan's nephew has gifted three boxes of items – photographs, books and personal effects relating to his late Uncle, Mr A Provan, who for many years was the Local Government Officer in charge of Fife County Council's Office at 13 Queen's Gardens.

### **NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM**

There were 8906 visitors to the Museum in 2013 and 8787 visitors in 2012....let's try to make this a record-breaking year!!

Please Support **your** Museum by coming along, with friends and family, to as many of the events detailed in the Museum Leaflet/Flyer as you possibly can. Thank you.

Anne Morris  
Museum Convener

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## MUSEUM REDEVELOPMENT REPORT

### UPDATE ON BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS AND PLANS

A letter accepting the quote from Stuart Niven and Son has been sent with a request for written confirmation of certain aspects including their offer as a charitable gesture, to undertake the preparatory work in readiness for the construction of the Outdoor Wooden Storage Building with Living Roof.

Tom Douglas has submitted a multiple planning application of our behalf, which includes the latter, this process may take two to three months and may require a site visit by a member of the Fife Planning department, if so I will ask Tom to be present.

Once the building work is complete, the MDC committee is considering the creation of a 'sensory' garden for the benefit of the blind and those with limited sight. A grant may be available from the Lady Skiffington Trust which gives generous grants for this type of installation.

### OUTDOOR WOODEN STORAGE BUILDING WITH LIVING ROOF

The committee was delighted as I am sure you were, with the generous offer from Gillian Falconer to pay for what I sure will be not only a most useful building but an item of great interest to our visitors. Work on 'The Falconry' as it will be known, will begin once plans have been approved.

### GARDEN UPDATE

Tidy Gardens have been on site and prepared the border to the right hand side of the garden in readiness for the planting out of the roses which had been sponsored by a number of the Museum Volunteers and some Trustees. We are grateful once again to Gillian for this splendid idea. Plastic plant signs have been purchased to record the name of each rose and its sponsor, a party is planned for an official opening of the border.

Whilst on site the workmen from Tidy Gardens trimmed the privet hedge and have since returned to clear and prepare the main border of the garden, including the rockery, ready for replanting. Once the plans have been agreed for the proposed work, they will return to clear and prepare the area for the outdoor store once plans have been accepted.

### GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

Our application to the St Andrews Community Trust was successful; we have been granted £5000 towards our project. Further applications have been made to The St Andrews Pilgrim Foundation resulting in a grant of £7000 and the R & A resulting in a grant of £1000. An application to the Kinburn (St Andrews) Charitable Trust for consideration at their meeting in March was successful with a grant of £5000.

Andrew Johnson  
Museum Redevelopment Convener

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## ST ANDREWS TOWN COMMISSION ON HOUSING

The eagerly awaited report of the St Andrews Town Commission on Housing was released in February 2014. The aim of the Commission was ‘to consider the housing needs of all groups in St Andrews, how these are currently met and how they might be better met in the future’.

The Commission comments that St Andrews is currently one of Scotland’s most pressured housing areas due to its popularity as a place to live, the success and recent growth of the University and the town’s status as a magnet for visitors, tourists, second-home owners and property speculators.

In its 132 page report, it recommends:

- That Fife Council examine the specific housing needs of St Andrews and develop a strategy for housing in the town.
- That Fife Council, in collaboration with the St Andrews community, address an urgent need for affordable accommodation and actively pursue affordable housing development on the Kilrymont site of Madras College when it becomes available.
- That the private provision of new student accommodation be supported and that the University actively promote the building of additional University-managed student accommodation for undergraduates and postgraduates.
- That Fife Council, in collaboration with the St Andrews community, determine an appropriate yardstick for student housing density and meantime give serious consideration to extending the HMO moratorium and to impose restrictions on the renewal of HMO licences until a more comprehensive policy is established. The purpose of a new HMO policy would be to promote a more mixed community in the town centre and elsewhere where pressures for more HMOs are greatest.
- That a new Standing Working Party be created comprising community representatives, the University and Fife Council as forum for reconciling differences and for the advancement of housing development in St Andrews. “The Commission believes that there is an urgent requirement for individuals and organisations to work together”, says the report.

Copies of the report are available from the Trust office. It can also be viewed and downloaded from: <http://satcoh.blogspot.co.uk>.

The Commission was deliberately created as an *impartial* body and, although it took evidence from many interested parties, it reached its conclusions completely independently of outside

pressures. Its members were Dr James Walker (chair), Professor Joe Doherty, Mr Iain Grant, Mr John Matthews and Mr Simon Kidd (secretary). Its work took well over a year, during which time it held more than 60 meetings – an indication of the enormous contribution of time and expertise from all concerned. Everyone who has read the report has remarked on its clarity, professionalism and thoroughness. Privately, it has been estimated that, had a reputable firm of consultants been tasked with this work, it would have cost more than £200,000.

The Trust was the catalyst in bringing together the consortium of six St Andrews institutions (the “Reference Group”) that set up the Commission. These were: the Confederation of St Andrews Residents’ Associations, the University of St Andrews, the St Andrews University Students’ Association, the St Andrews Preservation Trust, the local members of Fife Council and the Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council. Trust chairman Graham Wynd has chaired the Reference Group since its inception in 2012.

Now that the Commission’s work is complete, the Reference Group is acting to ensure that its work and recommendations are taken forward. In particular, it is concentrating on one of the Commission’s central recommendations – to establish a permanent, independent, collaborative group, representative of the major parties interested in St Andrews housing matters. The role of this new group would be to:

- consider the Commission’s recommendations and how they should be implemented (it would also consider those of another recent and complementary report on St Andrews housing, produced by the University and Fife Council);
- keep under review significant housing issues, as they affect the St Andrews community including the student population, and make representations when necessary;
- maintain the extensive base of information gathered during the preparation of both reports, to ensure that it is current.

Already, the six organisations (including the Trust) making up the Reference Group have made a commitment to support the new group and appoint representatives to take part in its activities. It is hoped that they will be joined by nominees from the housing and planning departments of Fife Council and by a representative with a special interest in affordable housing.

Graham Wynd  
Chairman

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## **ADMINISTRATOR – FAREWELL, JANETTE AND HAIL, LILIAS**

Many of you will already know that Janette Gillespie, the Trust's Administrator since 2007, has decided to retire. She leaves at the end of April. Belying her youthful appearance, she has reached an age when she would prefer to spend more time with her family, be free to go away for a day or two, and pursue other interests. Who could blame her? She has certainly earned her retirement.

Janette has been an enormous asset to the Trust over her seven years with us. Fortunately, she is a natural multi-tasker. She has had to be! Her equable nature has meant that, even when faced with the unreasonable demands of Trustees that their work needs to be done 'now', she has always been ready to give a smile and welcome to those visiting or calling the office. Despite the day-to-day pressures, she has run our office (and much else) with impeccable efficiency (and diplomacy). We are extremely grateful to her, and her partner John Kirkaldy, both of whom have supported the Trust in many ways. They remain as Members and we look forward to having them with us at Trust functions.

I am delighted to say that we have found an admirable successor in Lilias Lawrie, who joins us on 14 April. She will have a period of overlap with Janette before taking up the reins fully on 1 May. Lilias lives in Newport and is active in the local community. She has wide experience in business administration and comes to us with glowing references. We offer a warm welcome to Lilias and we hope she will be very happy with the Trust.

Graham Wynd  
Chairman

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## **OBITUARY : NICHOLAS PETER BROOKS FBA**

Nicholas Brooks, Emeritus Professor of Medieval History at the University of Birmingham died on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 aged 73. He had been a lecturer in Medieval History at St. Andrews from 1964-1984 and during that period was a Trustee of the Preservation Trust (from 1971-1984) and Chairman from 1977-1980.

Nicholas was no mere historian. He had a wide-ranging interest in many other aspects of the past, including particularly medieval archaeology, and was very involved in the excavations at the top end of Abbey St when the houses were demolished in 1969 to widen the street. He was also a historical geographer with a profound understanding of the origins of medieval towns. He put this interest to good use jointly with Professor Emeritus Graeme Whittington and they analysed the origins of the burgh of St. Andrews in a joint seminal article written in *The Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* in 1977 (and reprinted in an abridged version in the 2007 Year Book of the Preservation Trust). This study has never been replaced by any further discussion of the town's origins, and Nicholas gave a fresh update on the

subject when he contributed to a Conference organised by the St. Andrews University Archaeological Society on the history of St. Andrews in Feb. 2012. That occasion was the last time that he visited St. Andrews.

In the wider sphere of early medieval historical studies Nicholas Brooks will be remembered as the historian of Anglo-Saxon Canterbury. His study of the early charters of the cathedral started with his Oxford doctorate and came to full completion just months before he died with the outstanding full edition and publication of the whole collection of charters of Christ Church, Canterbury by the British Academy. Also in the past few years he had been deeply involved as a member of the panel co-ordinating research and analysis of the remarkable collection of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver artefacts known as the Staffordshire hoard. Nicholas' passion for medieval church buildings and his understanding of their architecture was put to very good use by his membership (and chairmanship) of the fabric committees of two of the greatest, the cathedrals of Canterbury and Worcester. It is planned to have a memorial event in Worcester Cathedral later this year.

Barbara E. Crawford

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## TRUSTEE NEWS

Colin McAllister steps down as a trustee at the coming AGM and Howard Greenwell has opted not to seek a second three year term as a Trustee. Howard will still be active in a voluntary role within the Trust. Our thanks go to both of them for the hard work they have put in as trustees.

A new trustee has been co-opted, Bill Borthwick, a native St Andean now returned from years working abroad. If you would like to put your name forward to become a trustee or propose another member to be a trustee, please contact Janette or Liliias in the Trust Office at 4 Queen's Gardens, St Andrews, KY16 9TA.

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May** - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

*Easter Exhibition - "Three Ages of the Byre Theatre"*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - 6 pm to 8 pm

*Tour of Restored Mediaeval Merchant's House*

Courtesy of Mr and Mrs Ken Dalton - Wine reception

52 SOUTH STREET - Charge: £7.50

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May** - 7 pm

*Annual General Meeting*

TOWN HALL, QUEEN'S GARDENS

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May** - 11 am to 4 pm

*Festival of Museums 2014*

TRUST MUSEUM AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH, NORTH CASTLE STREET - Admission Free

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

*Summer Exhibition - "St Andrews and the Great War"*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Fridays 6<sup>th</sup> June / 4<sup>th</sup> July / 1<sup>st</sup> August** - 2.15 pm

*Great War Gallery Talk*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June** - 11 am to 5 pm

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

Charge: Adults £6; Children Free

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July** - 6.30 pm

*Members' Summer Reception*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Charge: £7.50

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August**

*Members' Golf Championship*

STRATHTYRUM COURSE

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

*Members' Putting Competition*

'HIMALAYAS' PUTTING GREEN

5pm 'shot-gun' start (meet at 4.45pm prompt)

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October** - 7 pm

*Preservation Trust Lecture*

Our third annual talk: Dr Rosemary Hannah - "John Patrick Crichton Stuart, Third Marquess of Bute"

TOWN HALL, QUEEN'S GARDENS - Charge: £10

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** - 1 pm to 4 pm daily

*Arts and Crafts Exhibition*

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Admission Free

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - 7 pm

*Members' Winter Reception*

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL

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**CONVENERS 2013/2014**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Mr D.G. Wynd</b>
Vice Chairman	Mr A.W. Johnson
Vice Chairman	Dr. P. J. Murray
Environment	Mrs M. Denyer
Finance and Property	Mr I.S. Lumsdaine
Fundraising	Mr A.W. Johnson
Membership, Publications and Publicity	Dr D.A. Barrie
Museum	Ms. A. Morris
Planning Applications	Mr J. Peacock
Policy and Resources	Dr. P. J. Murray

Conveners can be contacted through the Trust Office at 4 Queen’s Gardens, telephone 01334 477152.



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