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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

THE LAST THREE MONTHS AND THE PAST FOUR YEARS

By the time of the AGM, my time as Trustee and Chairman will be 'up'. I hope you will indulge me if I use this quarterly piece for a little retrospection over the past four years of "my watch" as Chairman.

It was said that Calais was engraved on the heart of Queen Mary I (of England). I suspect that the word Madras might well be imprinted on mine! It has been a long and, often, bitter battle, and I am so sorry that the result of the judicial review, the last obvious opportunity to halt the madness of Pipeland, has gone against us. It remains to be seen if there are any further avenues that can usefully be explored. Whatever the outcome, I do not for a moment regret the resources and emotional energy expended on our side of the Madras argument. Preserving the amenity and historic character of St Andrews is, after all, our founding mission. And it is, perhaps, indicative that we have not received a single criticism from members about our stance on Madras.

It is almost axiomatic that we have more disappointments than successes in challenging planning applications, especially the major ones. And even the victories can turn sour when well-resourced developers appeal or re-submit their applications. One such, at the massive Abbey Park development, had gone through five re-submissions before finally being approved (albeit in a more acceptable form). We have recently scored wins against two prospective calumnies - the Rusacks extension and the West Sands Visitor Centre (both against planners' recommendations) - but, for how long? Still, we must persist.

One major success occurred in 2011 when the HMO moratorium was voted through, again contrary to planners' advice. We shall be checking that it is included in the latest FitePlan due to be published very soon. Another achievement for the Trust has been the Town Commission on Housing which produced a widely acclaimed report. The proof of the pudding is about to be

tested as we seek to establish a successor body to address the Commission's recommendations.

We can all be very proud of our Museum, which has blossomed under a succession of gifted Curators (none more so than the present one). Attractive exhibitions, fascinating talks and other events now make the Museum a very busy place with outreach stretching into the local community. Underpinning the operation is an industry-standard system of cataloguing, which was implemented about two years ago. The Curator is enthusiastically supported by a small army of committed Trustees and Volunteers - and, this year, by a trainee, paid for by Museums & Galleries Scotland, which recently renewed its prized accreditation of the Museum. One innovation that appeals to many is the splendid annual exhibition, now a fixture put on by the Volunteers' Research Group.

A speculative enquiry to the developers who had bought the Castle Tavern, neighbouring the Museum, led to months of patient negotiation and the eventual acquisition in 2012 of the old drying green and dilapidated washhouse. The glorious results are now there for all to see: a purpose-designed research room to house our extensive pictorial collection; a novel oak-built garden store with a living roof, freeing up valuable space for Museum displays; and, a re-ordered and re-planted garden. None of this would have been possible without: (i) the fortuitous arrival, mid-negotiation, of a solicitor's letter announcing that we had been left a legacy of nearly £100,000; (ii) the entrance of a fairy godmother (a Trust Member), waving her wand and producing a succession of very generous gifts, to fund building and development work; (iii) the philanthropy of several charities that have given us grants. Those who have contributed towards the project are being invited to a Grand Opening in late April.

The Trust has been to the fore in several initiatives to enhance the St Andrews townscape. We played a major part in the project to restore Martyrs' Monument. We participated in another to put up pedestrian fingerpost signs around the town. The cast iron shop front project, now drawing to a close, has received national publicity. The project, funded by the Gordon Christie bequest, to erect plaques commemorating those with notable St Andrews associations has now borne fruit. The first four, including the much-publicised James Gregory meridian line, are in place. Latest plaques installed this quarter honour Open winner, Jock Hutchison, and pioneer photographer, Thomas Rodger. We continue our efforts to convert the disgracefully neglected garden at 1 Greyfriars Garden into a public garden. We have obtained planning approval and we have concluded a binding agreement with another exceedingly generous Trust member to fund our purchase of the garden.

In 2013, we celebrated 50 years of Trust ownership of Boase Wood at a delightful reception, enabling us to cement our relationship with the Boase family and thank appeal donors and wood volunteers. We now have an advantageous agreement with local tree surgeons to carry out the ongoing maintenance of the wood at no cost to the Trust. The third of our well-regarded, Pride of Place Awards, encouraging building owners to take an interest in the appearance of the town, took place in 2013. For the past three years we have also sponsored entries in the Scottish Civic Trust's annual awards, this year promoting the University's stunning conversion of Martyrs' Church. Although an award has eluded us, we have gained

recognition on a national stage. We have recently joined other town organisations in an exciting initiative, the Civic Pride Campaign, to identify and put right the things that blemish the town centre - be they errant wheelie bins or buddleia in the rhones.

The Trust has also expanded its programme of events. Some, make a substantial and essential contribution to our coffers. The largest is Hidden Gardens, which is continually refreshed and, every year, comprises yet more attractions. Others, such as receptions, lectures and visits may make a more modest surplus but they are primarily aimed at entertaining Members. We marked the Trust's 75th anniversary in 2012 by holding a lecture (on St Andrews shop fronts), with an accompanying, and popular, booklet. The lecture has now become an established feature of the St Andrews calendar, and the fourth will be held this autumn.

These numerous activities have been amply covered in many favourable column inches, and photographs, in the local press. They have given us a more prominent public profile and a welcome counterbalance to the brickbats flung our way by vociferous pro-Pipeland detractors. Our membership has held up well and now numbers just over 600. Nevertheless, there is much more we would like to do to increase our numbers.

The Strategic Review we carried out in 2013 has certainly proved its worth. It has given us fresh focus, spawning seven strategic actions, which are reviewed every month by a newly-created Policy and Resource Committee. One of the seven, to identify additional sources of income, resulted in an immediate increase in our crucial investment income. Another, to examine how we could strengthen our planning function, has brought about a very promising collaboration with town planning students and staff at Dundee University. A third, to re-order the Office in Queen's Gardens, has given us a meeting room, to which we can invite visitors - and not feel ashamed!

If all of this sounds a touch self-congratulatory, be not deceived. Anything that has been achieved in the past four years has come about through the ideas, commitment and hard graft of my fellow Trustees and Members, our Staff and friends, who, through thick and thin, have remained loyal to the ideals of the Trust. I am enormously grateful for the support - and friendship - they have given me. Following the untimely death of Charles McKean in 2013, Robert Steedman graciously accepted the mantle of Honorary President. We are grateful for the time, professional expertise and encouragement he has given us. We were extremely sad to hear that Robert's wife, Martha, had died, and we extend to him and the family our heartfelt sympathy. The kindness I have been shown by so many has made it a privilege and a pleasure to be your Chairman. The Trust is in excellent hands and I wish the new team all good fortune in the coming years.

Graham Wynd
Chairman

POLICY AND RESOURCE REPORT

Once again this note covers two meetings of the Policy and Resource Committee. The Committee now has a set routine and, as normal, reports were received from Lead Trustees on their progress in taking forward the Trust's seven agreed Strategic Priorities. Most of these will be covered by appropriate Committee Conveners elsewhere in this Newsletter, except for the continuing saga of the garden of No. 1 Greyfriars Garden. As intimated last time, a very generous benefaction has been made to the Trust to fund the purchase of the derelict garden. As expected, the current owner still does not wish to sell, nor, it would appear, is he willing to maintain it at an acceptable standard. Thus the preliminary steps towards compulsory purchase by Fife Council at the expense of the Trust (and with a view to transfer to the Trust) are now being explored. This may be a long and complex process but one which will ultimately be of great benefit to the town.

With regard to the two historic doocots, which the Trust is assumed to maintain by the general public but whose heritable titles are in some doubt, we await advice from our solicitors. Hopefully this unsatisfactory situation can be resolved in the not-too-distant future.

The Trust's own historic records are of some importance in the recent history of St. Andrews and more work has been done to secure their safety and accessibility. The last major tranche of unsorted planning documentation will soon go into the safekeeping of the University's Special Collections Department and, as a bonus, a considerable amount of office space will be cleared. Thanks must also go to Arlen Pardoe who has overseen the digitisation of the Trust's Annual YearBooks back to 1938. These are now available for consultation on the Trust's website, while the Trust's Newsletters are available back to 1995.

In October 2013 the Trustees adopted a five-year Strategic Plan (available on the Trust's website) and as part of its regular review, the Committee considered whether any amendments or updating were required. There was generally felt to be little at present which required alteration but the Committee members wished to place on record their thanks for the outstanding assistance to the Trust's Planning Applications Committee being provided by the staff and students of Dundee University's Department of Town and Regional Planning. They were also pleased to note the considerable extent to which many of the Plan's aims and objectives had progressed. A great deal has been and is being achieved.

The Committee noted that there would be a period of consultation on Fifeplan between May and July. A small group would need to be established to prepare the Trust's responses and it was agreed that the planning students from Dundee would be asked to offer advice.

The Honorary Treasurer will comment in greater detail on the Trust's financial position later in the Newsletter but the Committee noted with some concern that a considerable deficit is projected for the current financial year and that steps need to be taken to avoid this. On a brighter note, the funds from the James Buist Bequest are in the process of being transferred

from Fife Council to the Trust via the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR). This will be a very welcome addition to the Trust's capital funds.

Peter J Murray
Policy and Resource Convener

PLANNING REPORT

FUTURE PLANNING RESOURCES

Representatives of the Planning Applications Committee met with the first incoming cohort of undergraduate and post graduate planners at the University of Dundee on the occasion, earlier this year, when they visited St. Andrews to look at some of the issues which have been addressed by the Trust and will be the subject of anticipated planning applications within the coming year.

Trustees outlined the role of the Trust with respect to the planning applications received and reviewed by the Trust with reference to the applications for the conversion of shop fronts and the moratorium on HMOs in the Conservation Area.

In subsequent months we have continued to benefit from input at our planning applications meetings of a post graduate and undergraduate planners from the University and we look forward to being able to continue this co-operation in the coming year.

The post graduate who has provided assistance over past months has now completed his studies and, whilst he will still be living in Dundee, has found consultancy work which will require him to spend time in London. The extent of his ongoing involvement with the Trust is therefore currently unknown.

TRAINING IN PLANNING MATTERS

The training for all Trustees in the planning process to be provided by University start" was arranged for the evenings of the 19th and hopefully 26th March.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

During the period January to March sixty seven new applications have been advised by Fife Council as of the date of preparation of this report and given consideration.

MADRAS COLLEGE

The outcome of the of the Judicial Review in respect of the proposals for Madras College is still awaited as I write this report.

Other previously mentioned applications to which the Trust objected have been the subject of further review.

KINNESSBURN BOWLING CLUB (inappropriate materials) - (subsequently approved by Council officials)

A revised proposal for the development of this site has now been submitted with a request to increase the number of flats to seventeen as a result of increased costs incurred in the foundation works undertaken.

Whilst we do not accept the reasoning for the increase in the number of flats (which we consider reflects poor site investigation work by the developer prior to work commencing) the revised scheme is, in our opinion more visibly pleasing than the earlier application and no further objection has been submitted.

2 WEST ACRES (inappropriate boundary fencing) (subsequently refused)- remedial work to remove the fencing is still outstanding.

138-140 MARKET STREET (signage and shop front alterations not in keeping with the requirements of the St. Andrews Design Guidelines)- (Application rejected).

Notwithstanding rejection this work appears to have been undertaken which has been notified to Fife Council who have referred the matter to the appropriate officer for remedial action.

PROPOSED NEW WEST SANDS VISITOR CENTRE

The refusal of this application was the subject of an appeal by the applicant with the appeal subsequently refused by the appointed Reporter.

A revised submission for the Visitor Centre will, we anticipate, be submitted in due course which, we hope, will be more acceptable.

THE OLD POLICE STATION

The refusal of the proposals for the redevelopment of the former police station in North Street to construct apartments with underground car parking provision was also the subject of an appeal by the applicant and, once again, the Reporter rejected the appeal. Again we anticipate a revised submission in due course for this site.

PLANNING POLICY

A consultation process has been advised for the new Tayplan and is scheduled to take place between May and July of this year. Tayplan like the previously advised Fifeplan has potential implications for North East Fife.

As the Trust currently has no Committee reviewing Planning Policy the Trust would

welcome expressions of interest from any members who would be prepared to give of their time to consider the new Tayplan proposals and provide constructive comment on its content to the Trust.

Anyone with interest in providing such input should advise Ms Liliias Lawrie in the Trust office in the first instance. (01334 477152)

The draft documentation for Tayplan is now available online for review.

John Peacock
Planning Convener

ENVIRONMENT REPORT

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks GO! "

Christopher Morley

The above quote leads me into my April report, starting off with an update on Boase Wood. Our "Keeper of the Woods", Ian Christie, continues to monitor our wonderful green space at the end of the Lade Braes. In conjunction with Mark Edward of Special Branch, these gentlemen are making sure that our woodland is safe for all who pass by. At present, Trustees await Mark's proposal for the design of his company's sign. As we do not wish to have a proliferation of signs in our woodland, it has been suggested that these could be mounted below ours, one near Lawmill Bridge and the other by the main road. We have also asked Mark to remove the unsightly old notice board that is pinned to a tree within the woodland, visible from the main road. We are grateful to Mrs Elizabeth Williams for drawing to our attention its state of disrepair. Members will also be pleased to note that after three different treatments, the woodland is now clear of the dreaded, invasive Japanese Knotweed. Special Branch have also cleared the footpath of leaves and removed any dead wood. We are extremely grateful to Special Branch for their continued "pro bono" assistance with the maintenance of Boase Wood.

At our last Board meeting, we discussed the possibility of using some of the Appeal funds to refurbish the chain fencing at the wood. I also suggested that we might mount an information board for the general public, giving the history of the wood, its acquisition by the Trust, along with its flora and fauna. However at our recent Policy and Resource meeting some Conveners doubted the need for an information board, as one already exists by Lawmill Cottage. On close inspection I noticed that this two sided board makes no reference at all to Boase Wood. In light of this observation, at our last Trustees meeting I asked the board to consider whether we should go ahead with my suggestion or not. As the St Andrews Partnership have been responsible for several new Heritage signs in the town, I had contacted Patrick Laughlin for guidance and advice. He has supplied me with details regarding the manufacturer, the authors who specialise in what is termed as the "interpretative writing" and the possible costing. I

have also contacted local blacksmith. John Henderson, regarding the replacement of the seven missing links of chain and asked him to give me a quote. These proposals will be discussed once again at the next Trustees meeting. Hopefully the Environment Committee will acquire **their** "green traffic light" to go!

Recently, we received a request from Jenny Sibbald of "**St Andrews In Bloom**". She sought approval to plant **Heritage** daffodil bulbs in two areas of the wood that are quite sparse of spring flowers. This is especially noticeable in an area next to the path by the metal railings. Conveners agreed to this proposal going ahead, as did Ian Christie. The planting out with Bloom members will take place in September, along with a group of pupils from Lawhead School and some members of the Trust.

We were saddened to hear of the recent death of Anne Boase and our condolences were expressed to the family, both from our Chairman and the Environment Committee. We have been informed that Anne wished to have her ashes scattered in Boase Wood. The Trust respects this wish and the service will take place in due course, as at present, no date has been intimated by the family.

Referring to our January newsletter, I stated that it was not anticipated that the Trust would enter the **Scottish Civic Trust's "My Place" Award 2015**. However I am delighted to now report that the Trust did indeed submit an entry. This was the University's **Martyrs Kirk Research Library** project. On behalf of the Environment Committee. Trustee Simon Kidd is to be congratulated and thanked for taking on this time consuming work. He committed himself admirably to the necessary research and its submission by the extended deadline of the 7th February. The judges visited Martyrs Kirk on Wednesday 18th February. The awards ceremony takes place in Glasgow on 26th March. We wish all parties involved, the very best of luck. If you would like to see our submission, this can be found online at the link below.

<http://www.myplaceawards.org.uk/galleries/2015-gallery-of-entrants.aspx>

Finally, members may be aware that Elspeth Methven has ceased trading at her former lingerie shop at 9 Church Street. She is now looking forward to her retirement. On behalf of the Preservation Trust we wish her many happy, healthy years ahead. Mr Julien Poix, who runs "La Petite Epicerie" in Anstruther is now the new owner. These premises were one of the first shop fronts to be restored to its Victorian heritage and consequently, received a "Pride of Place Award". As a result, a meeting has been arranged with Mr Poix, to discuss any proposals that he might have for this historic shop front. Along with our Chairman, myself, and architectural historian, Dr John Frew we will discuss any changes that he might have planned. We are optimistic that Mr Poix will appreciate the costly restoration of these magnificent cast iron pillars to their Victorian style and wish to maintain them for posterity.

Marysia Denyer
Environment Convener

TREASURER'S 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 most sincerely for all his 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 trading deficit on ordinary activities of £6,358 with both income and expenditure being closely in line with 2014. There has been considerable activity in both the income and expenditure of our funds which carry a restriction placed on them by the donors. Income from our investment portfolio has been satisfactory and the capital base has been maintained.

During the year we capitalised £50,618 of expenditure, mainly on the new buildings at the museum, together with their fittings. The Trust has been fortunate in receiving external funding for much of this expenditure. These costs will be charged over the useful life of the assets through the depreciation accounting policies of the Trust. The Trust total funds at 31 December 2014 are £1,099,332, made up of some assets at cost and some at valuation, and include the properties owned by the Trust.

The first months of the year also involve the office in receiving the annual and life subscriptions for 2015. 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 you to do so as soon as possible as the subscription income is vital to the annual finances and work of the Trust.

Ian Lumsdaine
Treasurer

FUNDRAISING REPORT

HIDDEN GARDENS 28th JUNE 2015

Plans continue apace in relation to this excellent annual event. Its most important aspect is the choice of gardens. At the risk of repeating myself, if you have not taken part before and would like to have your garden included or know of a garden that you would like to recommend, please forward brief details to Liliás care of the office.

Helpers are also sought. If you are able to give a few hours on the day, either selling tickets or

helping to serve the delicious refreshments at St Johns Garden, please give your details to Liliias at the office.

In return for your efforts, you will receive a complimentary ticket to view the gardens.

I am delighted to inform you that Thornton's Law (previously known to the Trust as Murray Donald) has agreed to act as main sponsor of the event for three years. This is a most welcome association and demonstrates the esteem held by many of our Hidden Gardens Day.

Andrew W Johnson
Convener

MEMBERSHIP, PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY REPORT

MEMBERSHIP

Can we remind members who have not paid their subscriptions for 2015 that these are now about three months overdue. Membership fees remain unchanged at £18 for an individual member and £30 for joint annual membership. Cheques should be made out to "St Andrews Preservation Trust Ltd" and be sent to the trust administrator at the trust office, 4 Queen's Gardens, St Andrews KY16 9TA

We planned to hold a reception for local businesses early in March and invited over 40 businesses which had had connections with the trust through events like "Pride of Place," sponsorship of our 2015 calendar and the "cast iron pillars initiative". Unfortunately the response was poor and we had, reluctantly, to cancel the event. We will think of other ways of trying to strengthen links between the Trust and the local business community. At the moment we have 9 corporate members.

PUBLICITY

We continue to get good local press coverage from the Courier and the Citizen. The press coverage is also usually accompanied by an appropriate photograph. Recent coverage has included the exhibition mounted by the volunteer research group. Andrew Johnson and I met with Maureen Ferrier of the "Citizen" to discuss a possible feature to mark the opening of the research room and the "falconry" (a new state of the art garden store funded by Honorary Vice President, Gillian Falconer.) The article and photographs duly appeared and have been favourably commented upon. A further spread is likely when the official opening takes place on 19th April. The "Citizen" is also planning a feature about the forthcoming easter exhibition. A press release covering the three remaining plaques, currently being funded from the Gordon Christie bequest, will be done once the third plaque to Boswell and Johnson is in place. The plaques to Thomas Rodger and Jock Hutchison are in situ at New York Cottage on Bridge Street and at 30 North Street.

PUBLICATIONS

Christmas Cards and Calendars

We have agreed to order one new card for this year. We are encouraging members of an artistic bent to produce designs for a card and submit them by 15th May to the office at 4 Queen's Gardens. The trustees will then select one design.

The sale of calendars only made a small profit last year, and that was thanks to sponsorship from local businesses. It has been decided not to publish a calendar for 2016 but to rejoin the market for 2017. In publishing for 2017 we will hope to learn lessons from the last two years' calendars and market a 2017 calendar more successfully and earlier in the year.

A "History of the Museum Building" written by former curator Jennifer Reid, will be published after some additional paragraphs have been added by our current curator, Sam Bannerman about the renovations and extension. We have been awarded by the Strathmartine Trust a grant towards the cost of publication.

Work on the Year Book is well underway and will be distributed to members along with this newsletter. As usual an article has been commissioned which is of particular interest to trust members. This year former Trust Chairman, Elizabeth Williams has contributed an in depth article on the development of Hepburn Gardens.

Derek Barrie
Membership, Publications and Publicity Convener

MUSEUM REPORT

MUSEUM GALLERIES SCOTLAND :

THE HERITAGE HORIZONS TRAINEESHIP PROGRAMME

The Curator and the Convener welcomed Francesca Purvis, the Trainee appointed to the Trust Museum, on the 2nd February and discussed the format and details of the weekly Activity Plan which Samantha Bannerman had prepared for use by Francesca.

As the Museum 'Library' has been moved into the newly refurbished Research Room, Francesca's study area will be in the Minstrels' Gallery in the Museum. The Curator has submitted an application to Museum Galleries Scotland for funding to cover the costs of a laptop for the Trainee. The Curator attended a Supervisor Training Day on the 21st January. The Curator and the Trainee attended the Heritage Horizons Traineeship Programme Official Launch, held on 18th February in the City Arts Centre, Edinburgh and a further Training day on the 18th March. The Curator and the Convener intend to hold regular meetings with the Trainee. It should be noted that the process of supervising the Trainee is facilitated, greatly, by the very detailed procedural guidelines provided by MGS.

PRESERVATION TRUST MUSEUM: BUDGET TO 31M DECEMBER 2015

The Curator and the Convener met with Ian Lumsdaine to finalise the details of the original draft Budget for Year to 31st December 2015. Following Ian's scrutiny, advice and with minor amendments this was agreed by the Treasurer. It was decided to review the Museum's charges for the reproduction of photographs and the method of charging for the use of photographs in publications.

Ian's support and guidance in this matter is appreciated very much indeed as is the time and expertise he gives to supplying the Curator and the Convener with monthly 'returns'.

MUSEUM GARDEN AND RE-DEVELOPMENT

This splendid and outstanding achievement by Andrew Johnson, who has single-handedly taken on the Role of 'Master of Works', is nearing completion. Andrew's Report to Members in this Newsletter provides much information and an up-date on the Project. It is to be hoped that Members will visit the Garden to admire this notable development which will enhance visitor experience & draw in many more visitors. Andrew's Committee are already planning the next phase - the design and establishment of a Sensory Garden. The Trust Museum & Garden can now, without doubt, be regarded as the Trust's 'jewel in the crown'.

EVENTS IN THE MUSEUM

The members of the Research Group are to be congratulated on a very successful Exhibition held from the 30th January - 8th February 2015. Thelma Haworth, the Guest Exhibitor, is to be thanked for sponsoring the very well-attended Preview held on Friday 30th January.

The Coffee Morning held on Saturday 31st of January was also a great success and the Exhibition had over 100 visitors on the first day. Thank you to all of the Trust Members who attended the Coffee Morning as your support is appreciated. Over 200 visitors, whose comments were very positive, attended StAnza's 2015 Exhibition - held between the 5th - 8th March - which included an exhibition of Art & Poetry inspired by the Bell Pettigrew Collection.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Easter Exhibition - 'Preserving Our Past' - 28th March - 26th April 2015.

Stereoscope Magazine - 30th April - 4th May. An Exhibition, entitled *The Intimacy Issue*, and arranged by the student members of the student Photo Magazine, *Stereoscope*, will be held between the 30th April and the 4th May.* The event is partly sponsored by the University's Art History Department and in return for hosting the Exhibition the Museum will receive advertising space in the student magazine.

Festival of Museums 2015 - 'Troubled Waters' - 15th - 17th May 2015.

Summer Exhibition - 'Four Decades of Fashion 1919-1959' - 30th May - 4th October 2015. In preparation for the Summer Exhibition the Curator met with the Curator of Costume and Textiles at the National Museum of Scotland and from the 24th -27th February she visited Bath and London, funded by The Art Fund, for research purposes. The Curator found the research trip incredibly helpful with visits to The V&A in London and The Fashion Museum in Bath. She has compiled the information from the trip into a hints and tips article that is being published on the museum blog over three stages.

DONATIONS

Two of the Volunteers, Anne Thorne and Marjory Dickens, are currently auditing the large collection of 19th and 20th century costumes, donated by Gillian Falconer, in order that they can be accessioned.

ENQUIRIES

there have been several enquiries recently including photographic requests from an author in the US and from the local Community Hospital. The Community Hospital intends to create Memory Boards from the images.

VOLUNTEERS

The Winter Programme of Talks for Volunteers continued to go well with a very informative and interesting talk by Andrew Johnson *-Free and Accepted Masons* (held in the Masonic-Rooms, South Street) on the 11th February 2015 and a tour of the MUSA exhibition *'Doctors in the Making'* on the 14th January 2015. As the date of Kevin Knox's talk on *Club Makers* arranged for the 4th March clashed with STANZA's Exhibition his excellent talk was held in the Trust Office Meeting Room.

The Winter Programme of Volunteers' Talks has now finished for this session and will resume in October 2015.

On the 28th March at 10:00 a.m. the Curator is holding a Coffee Morning to recruit Volunteers. She has advertised the event through the Mailing List, the Fife Volunteer Centre website, the Fife Volunteer website, online *'What's on'* listings and social media. Hopefully, you may have seen her appeal and will have attended the Coffee Morning and already signed-up as a Volunteer! If so, Thank You & 'WELCOME!' to the Team.

Anne Morris
Museum Convener

(*An *'Agreement for the Use of Museum Space by External Bodies'* Form has been devised and implemented by the Curator).

MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT REPORT

RESEARCH ROOM & WOODEN GARDEN STORE

The work here is now complete and a formal opening is planned for Sunday 19th April. The event will be for a limited number of guests due to the constraints of space. The invitees will be the principal donors, tradesmen and those involved in the project. The Trust Chairman, Graham Wynd will officiate at the opening of the research room: Miss Gillian Falconer likewise in respect of what is now known as the Falconry. Both buildings will be of great benefit to the museum and its visitors for many years to come.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the MDC and Museum committee members for all their hard work in seeing the project through to fruition.

GARDEN AREA

Those of you who now look around the garden will notice the splendid new D'Arcy Thompson gate, which has been fabricated by blacksmith John Henderson. The design submitted and accepted by the committee, features a profile of D'Arcy Thompson as a centre piece. It is supported by various examples of the blacksmith's art.

FUTURE PLANS

Our focus now turns to the interior of the Museum where it is our intention to upgrade and improve both the toilet and kitchen facilities. Improvements are long overdue.

Alterations are also intended in respect of the partition wall which presently forms part of the curator's office. This will be cut in such a way as to enable it to be stored and then brought out and reassembled when required for future exhibitions.

The Curator will relocate to the area above, which will be redesigned to make it fit for purpose.

Andrew Johnson
Committee Convener

PROGRAMME REPORT

Our popular Summer Reception for Members and guests is on Friday, 24th July at 6.30 pm. The town will still be a-buzz after the conclusion of The Open Championship at the start of that week so we are fortunate to have the tranquillity of the Museum Garden in which to meet. The latest enhancements will be on display at the rear of our property - the Research Room, new garden store, reconditioned and recently commissioned cast-iron features, freshly planted

borders - masterminded by Andrew Johnson and his team and, hopefully, not obscured by any need for a forest of gazebos! See the enclosed flyer.

Later in the season the Golf and Putting Competitions are on Monday 24th and Wednesday 26th August, respectively. Information on applying for both will be publicised in the July newsletter.

Those who have ventured to the Links or West Sands this spring will have observed progress on the British Golf Museum reconstruction to extend the floorspace for exhibits and add a second-level cafe. The building is scheduled to re-open in June. The Museum & Heritage Curator, Kevin Knox, is keen to welcome Trust Members on a guided tour which is proposed for September. Full details will be listed in the next newsletter.

The Trust's fourth Annual Lecture will be held on Friday, 2 October in the Town Hall. This year, it will be delivered by Dr Michael Turnbull on the subject of Saint Andrew. A former school teacher and further education lecturer, and, lately, Visiting Fellow at The University of Edinburgh after graduating PhD in Ecclesiastical History, he is the author of several books of Scottish interest, most recently "*Saint Andrew: Myth, Legend and Reality*" (2014, 2nd ed). Invitations will be issued with July's communication.

Just a reminder, a few spaces are still available for the Ceres visit on Tuesday, 21 April. We meet at the Fife Folk Museum for 11:00 but please confirm to book beforehand with the Trust Office. We will have a chance to: explore their 2015 exhibition, as well as permanent displays, in the company of Museum volunteers; join a walking tour of the village with Dr Paula Martin as our guide; visit the studios of Griselda Hill Pottery and observe the skilled artists and potters crafting their famous Wemyss Ware® designs and; lunch at the Hatters & Co Tea-room and Eatery.

Simon Kidd
Convener

OFFICE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Further meetings have taken place to which representatives of all interested parties had been invited to enable them to put forward the needs of their respective committees when considering the proposed development. The ideas and suggestions will now form the basis of the committee's direction and focus.

Once a plan has been conceived it will be put to the Trustees for their agreement in principle. The committee will then seek costings and likely grants in support of the work. The results will be presented to the Trustees for their approval.

Andrew W Johnson
Committee Convener

OBITUARIES

TONY HARDIE

Tony Hardie, who was Finance Convenor of the Preservation Trust for a number of years, died recently after a long illness.

After national service in the Royal Navy, he trained as a chartered surveyor. His final post of 22 years saw him as the resident factor of the Lothian Estates in the Borders. He loved the countryside and the various pursuits it offered him: walking, fishing, shooting and simply watching the natural world. The latter is reflected in his excellent Nature Notes for St Andrews in Focus.

In retirement in St Andrews, he was a passionate defender of the environment and campaigned vigorously against the desecration of the landscape - by building in the wrong places or by cutting down ancient trees. His lengthy letters of protest to Fife Council and developers were always immaculately written in his own idiosyncratic hand. As a keen gardener, his speciality was the meconopsis (Himalayan poppy) which he propagated and sold for local charities.

Roy Chapman

EMERITUS PROFESSOR TERENCE LEE

Professor Terence (Terry) R Lee who passed away recently was a staunch supporter of the aims of the Preservation Trust throughout his time in St. Andrews. He had a specific interest in planning and more particularly planning policy.

Co-opted as a Trustee in 1996 he continued to serve as a Trustee until 2001 during which period he was an active member of the Planning Committee. Upon completing his period as a Trustee he became an active member of the Green Belt Forum serving as chairman of the Forum for a time leading up to the eventual creation of the St. Andrews Green Belt.

MARTHA STEEDMAN

(WIFE OF OUR HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROBERT STEEDMAN)

A tribute from the Headmaster of St Leonard's School:

It is with great sadness that I write to say that former Headmistress, Mrs Martha Steedman neé Hamilton, passed away on Tuesday 3rd March. Martha was Headmistress of St Leonards between 1970 and 1988, a period of great change and success for the School. She was highly respected and admired by staff, pupils, Seniors and parents. She remained one of School's most loyal supporters and has been an active and supportive member of the St Leonards Seniors' Society for over 40 years.

MISCELLANEOUS

HEPBURN GARDENS

With regard to the article by Elizabeth Williams in the 2014 Year Book, it coincides with Fife Council's reappraisal of the Hepburn Gardens Conservation Area boundaries - although we are unlikely to see those boundaries extended as far as we would like, to include the eminently suitable streetscapes of the outer parts of Hepburn Gardens and Buchanan Gardens.

Elizabeth Williams would welcome any material - documents, anecdotes, etc - that our members might be able to contribute about Hepburn Gardens, since this is an on-going project. All information welcome!

THE DOOCOT AT 46 SOUTH STREET

I thought that members might be interested to hear that the roof of the doocot has been recently repaired by Stewart Niven and Son. They were able to source similar slates to replace the broken ones, so the result is very satisfying.

The Doocot was built (according to the late Dr Cant) by Principal Haddow who was Principal of St Mary's College between 1707 and 1747. He substantially altered the house and laid out the garden, building the lectern type doocot as the garden's central feature, dividing the 'pleasure garden' from the more utilitarian section to the south. The most unusual feature of the Doocot is its garden room with the little fireplace which has a flue in the wall. Apparently Principal Haddow had numerous children, so one imagines that he visualised a peaceful retreat!

During the nineteenth Century, large greenhouses were built along the south wall, heated by a furnace in the basement of the Doocot, and the garden room itself became a fruit store with wooden shelves. When my husband Alan and I bought 46 South Street in 1978 the glass in the greenhouses was all broken, the garden south of the Doocot had been more or less abandoned and the rest of the garden although the grass was mown, had very few plants etc left. We decided to clear the broken glass and to put the whole garden down to grass, which was how it remained until I moved in in 1990 after my husband died. We had planned to re-establish the garden room in the Doocot, so I had the wooden shelves removed, which was when we discovered the fireplace. My builder put in a gas fire and my niece Emma Troubridge who is Senior Scene painter at Covent Garden did the paintings. I like to feel that it has returned to Principal Haddow's original idea of a peaceful retreat.

June Baxter

DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD

The committee dealing with publications has decided to run a competition to design the Trust's Christmas Card for this year. Members interested are asked to submit a design (photograph or drawing/painting) to the office at 4 Queen's Gardens, St Andrews by 15th May. Cards should be 6" by 4".

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 28th March to Sunday 26th April - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

Easter Exhibition - Preserving Our Past

The St Andrews Preservation Trust opened St Andrews' first public Museum in 1981 - this exhibition showcases our most recent acquisitions.

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET

Admission Free

Tuesday 21st April - 11.00 am

Outing to Ceres

A 'behind the scenes' visit to Fife Folk Museum and the Griselda Hill Pottery, and optional guided village walk.

FIFE FOLK MUSEUM, CERES

Admission Charge: £3.00

Sunday 3rd (2 pm to 5 pm) to Tuesday 5th May - 2 pm to 10 pm daily

Stereoscope Review - The Intimacy Issue

Photographic exhibition by University of St Andrews students

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET

Admission Free

Thursday 14th May - 7 pm

Annual General Meeting

TOWN HALL, QUEEN'S GARDENS

Friday 15th to Sunday 17th May

Festival of Museums 2015: Troubled Waters

An action packed weekend of activities and tours relating to local lifeboats and shipwrecks; visit our website for details.

Saturday 30th May to Sunday 4th October - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

Summer Exhibition - Furs, feathers, frills & florals: Four decades of fashion:

1919-1959

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET

Admission Free

Sunday 28th June - 11 am to 5 pm

Hidden Gardens Day

An opportunity to visit rarely seen gardens of St Andrews

Admission Charge: Adults £6; Children Free

Friday 24th July - 6.30 pm

Members' Summer Reception

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET - Charge: £7.50

Monday 24th August

Members' Golf Championship

STRATHTYRUM COURSE

Wednesday 26th August

Members' Putting Competition

'HIMALAYAS' PUTTING GREEN

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

Friday 2nd October - 7 pm

Preservation Trust Lecture

Our fourth annual talk: Dr Michael Turnbull - "Saint Andrew: Myth, Legend and Reality"

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

Saturday 28th November to Sunday 6th December - 2 pm to 5 pm daily

Arts and Crafts Exhibition

TRUST MUSEUM, 12 NORTH STREET

Admission Free

STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS

Thanks to the generosity of the R&A we have a star prize for the raffle to be held at the Hidden Gardens Day on Sunday 28th June. A **Pair of Tickets for the Third Day of the Open Championship** will be the star prize.

TRUSTEES 2014/2015

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Vice Chairmen

Mr Andrew W Johnson
Dr William Borthwick

Dr Peter J Murray

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Mr Roy de C. Chapman
Mrs Marysia E. Denyer
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Miss Anne J.M. Morris
Mr John Peacock
Mr William Sangster
Mr David Seeley

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Membership, Publications and Publicity
Museum
Planning Applications
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Mr A.W. Johnson
Dr D.A. Barrie
Ms. A. Morris
Mr J. Peacock
Dr. P. J. Murray
Mr S. A. Kidd

**Trustees and Conveners can be contacted through the Trust Office at
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