

# Spalding Gentlemen's Society

## 2022 Annual Report and Accounts





## **SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

### **Patron**

His Grace Sir Richard Walter Montagu Douglas Scott, KBE, KT,  
Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry

### **Registered Office**

The Museum, Broad Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1TB  
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Email: [info@sgsoc.org](mailto:info@sgsoc.org)  
Website: [sgsoc.org](http://sgsoc.org)

Registered No. 543260  
Charity No. 216131

### **Bankers**

National Westminster Bank plc  
Market Place, Spalding, PE11 1ST

Barclays Bank plc  
Hall Place, Spalding, PE11 1SR

### **Solicitors**

Maples Solicitors LLP  
23 New Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1DH

### **Independent Examiners**

Duncan & Toplis Limited  
Enterprise Way, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 3YR

*Cover image: Brass astronomer's astrolabe previously owned by Lord Chancellor Sir Christopher Hatton (1540-1591). This Flemish made instrument was given to the Society by William Gilby in 1729.*

# Spalding Gentlemen's Society 2022

## Annual Report and Accounts

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## About the Society

The Spalding Gentlemen's Society was founded in 1710 by Maurice Johnson II (1688-1755). Its current emblem, the water bouget, comes from Johnson's armorial bearings. The early eighteenth century was an exciting time of world exploration, scientific discoveries, and cultural and social change. The foundation of the Royal Society in 1660 had fostered an increasingly active scientific and intellectual culture in England, and those in the provinces played a full and active part in it. As a young lawyer in London, Johnson had participated in coffee house society and become a close friend of members of the Royal Society and of a group of antiquaries with whom Johnson would found the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1717. When he returned to Spalding in 1710, however, Johnson and other gentlemen began to meet every week to discuss cultural, scientific and antiquarian subjects, aided by correspondence with individuals throughout Britain and around the world. This small group formed the nucleus of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society, the oldest provincial learned society in Britain.

Today, the Society continues to meet weekly on Thursday evenings to discuss a wide range of topics. It owns its hundred-year-old premises in Broad Street, which houses a museum, library and archive of national and international importance.

The Society is a registered charity and is also incorporated as a not-for-profit Company limited by guarantee. Should the Society be wound up, the liability of members is limited to a sum not exceeding £2 per member.

## Vision Statement

Founded in 1710, the Society began as a group of gentlemen who came together to share and create knowledge. Today, membership is open to anyone aged eighteen or over, irrespective of gender.

In the eighteenth century, new members were required to donate a book or books to the value of at least £1. This provided the nucleus for the nationally and internationally important library, archive and museum collections now held.

For more than 300 years, the Society has been a beacon of Enlightenment ideals. It is Britain's oldest surviving provincial learned society and the second oldest museum collection, an early partner of The Royal Society and The Society of Antiquaries of London. Today, we aim to connect members, visitors and the wider public with the world through interactive engagement with our collections on-site, virtually and by outreach. We believe that curiosity, discovery and the search for knowledge can and should be nurtured and open to all.

**Our Mission** is to support the creation and sharing of knowledge by providing access to our collections by offering innovative social and educational projects for all people.

## Our Aims

- To tell the unique story of the Society and its members.
- To provide opportunities for members, volunteers and visitors of all backgrounds, living locally or further afield, to enjoy and engage with our remarkable collections.
- To provide volunteers and students with opportunities to learn new skills in collections management and conservation.
- To curate, develop and store our collections in secure and versatile accommodation to ensure their continued improvement and to benefit future generations.
- To maintain and develop a range of educational programmes, including the long-established series of public lectures.

## Membership of the Society

Membership is open to anyone aged eighteen or over who supports the Society's objectives. The annual membership fee is at present £60. However, since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 the Society has offered joint membership to two people living at the same address for a membership fee of £95 per annum.

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

There are several ways in which members of the Society can benefit personally. There are opportunities to volunteer to assist with the many tasks that must be undertaken to keep the Society functioning, and volunteers can benefit from numerous opportunities for training provided.

## Access for Non-members

During 2022 non-members were welcome to visit the Society for individual and group tours, and to undertake personal or scholarly research. Arrangements for such visits were made in advance by contacting a Curator or Librarian. The Society held Sunday afternoon open days normally on the third Sunday of the month and was open on Wednesdays between 11:00am and 1:00pm.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 the Museum is open 10am to 4pm from Tuesday to Saturday. However, group visits should still be booked in advance.

Entry to the Museum is free of charge.

**Public Lectures** Details of upcoming lectures will be made available on the Society's website and are publicised in the local press. There is an admission charge for members and non-members at the door.

**Public Benefit** Details of the public benefit provided by the Society in pursuit of its charitable objectives may be found in the 'Report of Trustees' contained in the Unaudited Reports and Financial Statements contained in this Annual Report.

## Members of Council and Officers of the Society as of 31 December 2022

### Ex officio Members of Council

*Ex-officio members are elected at an AGM*

President		T Grimes
Secretary		M Price
Treasurer	<i>Resigned 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022</i>	S Barsley
Curator		I Hoult
Librarian		D Frazier Wood
Lecture Secretary		D Mossman

### Representative Members of Council

*Representative members are elected at an AGM*

	E Sneath
<i>Chair of Council</i>	P Keeling MBE DL
	M Gilbert OBE
	G Dayes
	C Penney
	J Dobbs

### Appointed officers

*Officers of the Society are appointed by, but are not members of, Council*

Assistant Curator	P Clay
Assistant Librarian	D Clay
Curator of Medals	S Thompson
Curator of Archaeology	R Buck
Curator of Natural History	S Chadd
Philatelist	G Darley
E-mail co-ordinator	L Eldridge
Outreach	S Hoult
Caretaker	G Cupper

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society**  
**held at Broad Street Methodist Church, Spalding on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at 19:30hrs.**  
 Agenda by order of the Council – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

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1. **Present:** C Baslington; M Blake; N Brooks; S Brooks; T E Carter; F N Casswell; G C Cooper; G Dayes\*; M E Evans; M Gilbert\*; A G Grimes; T Grimes\*; A Hawkins; N Hawley; M Hollanders; I Hoult\*; S Hoult; D Jacobs; A G Keeling; P Keeling\*; D Mossman\*; D Nekrasovs; M Price\*; I Regolo; E Sneath\*; H Violet\*; P Wensor; R S Willingham (28 members)  
**Council members\***  
**Proxies:** Completed proxy forms had been received from: L M Clarke; P Gray; C J Lewis; S Martinelli; The Reverend J Moon; W Wright (6 members)
2. **Meeting Opened** The meeting was opened by the Chairman, **President T Grimes**, declaring that a quorum was present and welcoming all those attending.
3. **Apologies for Absence** S M Barsley\*; H Casswell; D Clay; P Clay; The Lord Cormack; P Dorr; D Gratton; Sir John Hayes; B P Jarvie; C J Lewis; S Martinelli; The Reverend J Moon; C Penney\*; J Smith; Lord Taylor of Holbeach; G Tresidder; R West; (17 members)
4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Broad Street Methodist Church, Spalding on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 19:30 had been circulated with the Annual Report 2021.  
 The Chairman asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the minutes of the AGM of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
5. **Matters arising from the previous minutes.** The chairman asked if there were any matters arising from the previous minutes. There were none.
6. **Annual Report.** The Annual Report for 2021 had been previously circulated and was to be received by the meeting.  
 The Chairman asked whether there were any questions or comments on the report.  
 There were none.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the report.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
7. **Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements.** The Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 had been previously circulated in the Annual Report 2021 and was to be received by the meeting.  
 The Chairman asked whether there were any questions or comments.  
 There were none.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
8. **Election of Officers and Representative Members of Council.**
  - a. **President: T Grimes** had been nominated for re-election as President.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **P Keeling** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the re-election of **T Grimes** as **President**.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
  - b. **Secretary: M Price** had been nominated for re-election as Secretary.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **P Keeling** and seconded by **T Grimes** that the meeting approve the re-election of **M Price** as Secretary.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
  - c. **Curator: I Hoult** had been nominated for re-election as Curator.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the re-election of **I Hoult** as Curator.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
  - d. **Lecture Secretary: D Mossman** had been nominated as Lecture Secretary.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the election of **D Mossman** as Lecture Secretary.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
  - e. **Representative Members: G Dayes** and **E Sneath** had been nominated for re-election as Representative Members.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the appointment of **G Dayes** and **E Sneath** as Representative Members.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
9. **Re-appointment of Independent Examiners** The meeting was recommended to re-appoint **Duncan & Toplis Limited** as Independent Examiners and authorise the Council to determine their remuneration.  
 The Chairman asked whether there were any questions or comments.  
 There were none.  
**Decision:** It was proposed by **T Grimes** and seconded by **M Price** that the meeting approve the re-appointment of **Duncan & Toplis Limited** as **Independent Examiners** and that Council be authorised to determine their remuneration.  
 The motion was put to the vote and **carried** unanimously.
10. **AOB** The Chairman asked if there was any other business.  
**M Hollanders** enquired why the proposal to stop offering life membership of the Society to new members had not been brought to this meeting for a decision.  
**T Grimes** and **M Price** both commented that there is no requirement within the Articles of Association for decisions concerning subscriptions to be brought to the Annual General Meeting and therefore the decision had been made by the Council.
11. **Meeting Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 19:50.

## President's Letter 2022

Remember Covid? It was the determining factor for our lives in 2020 and 2021. Even at the start of 2022, the first Council meeting was held “remotely” over Zoom. Thank goodness it is now a distant memory, although infections are continuing, but not as seriously as before.

But Covid has left us with some improvements to our activities. We have become familiar with the Zoom system, which enables us to communicate remotely. We now use it to put the Coffeehouse evenings online, and while we prefer to hold Council meetings in the Museum, some members are able to “attend” remotely via Zoom if they need to do so. This means that our more distant members can take part in our activities.

The other officers reports give more information about what has been achieved in their areas.

The rented space in Broadgate House in Westlode Street continues to make the Curatorial and Archival operations much easier. It has enabled them to use the space in the Museum more flexibly and to store some items, and to put on special displays in freed up space.

Tuesdays in the Conservation studio continue to be a delight. The number of volunteers working there continues to grow, and the amount of work undertaken there is immense. Volunteers are being trained in conservation techniques and are learning about the items in the collection as they do so.

We continue to worry about the main Museum building. It is clearly moving and is becoming less stable. The need to redevelop significant parts of it is now even more important.

A major development in 2022 was the purchase of the Business Centre in Broad Street which will hopefully help to solve our space and redevelopment problems. The purchase was made possible by a most generous donation from a local Charity. This major resource will make our redevelopment plans feasible, but it will not be simple. The range of possible developments is considerable, and we will be spending the next few years first deciding on plans and then arranging for more external funding to implement them.

The Society has continued to benefit from grant funding for conservation from public and private donors. This has enabled us to improve the care and display of the collection. It is clear that our donors are as enthusiastic about maintaining the quality of our collection and displays as we are.

These donations have enabled us to maintain our finances at a healthy level as far as day-to-day running is concerned. However, the major developments to the property will require much more substantial support, which will have to come from outside bodies.

Another development is that we now have another employee in addition to our caretaker. Eleanor Chadd came to us after university with a Master's degree in Care of Collections, and is working on the museum database and the accounting and membership systems.

Our outreach activities, both for members and the public have expanded and continue. We are still not as widely known in the local area as we want and need to be, but we are putting considerable effort into making ourselves better known.

Although strictly speaking our decision to open for 30 hours each week was implemented in January 2023, the considerable planning required was done in 2022. This development needs 30 volunteer stewards to give three hours a week. Again, we are very grateful for their generosity and interest.

We have produced several issues of our new publication called “The Antiquary”. This is entirely written by our volunteers, and the production standards are of the highest quality. Intriguingly, The Society of Antiquaries has now followed us by starting to publish a journal with the same name. This is another example of a Spalding start where London has followed!

Finally, I must pay tribute to my fellow officers of the Society and the volunteers who give their time so freely to different aspects of the Society's work. The Society depends on the volunteers for its life and, indeed, its continuing existence.

**Tom Grimes**



## Chairman's report

Writing this, now in my third year as Chairman, I still find that almost every time I walk into the Museum, I learn something new. I'm constantly impressed what an amazing organisation SGS is; meetings with others from the heritage sector re-enforce this view. Not only do we have what is thought to be the most intact collection of items from the Age of Enlightenment, but we also have an amazing Library and have collected this cabinet of curiosities. We have fantastic volunteers; during 2022 the numbers working on the conservation of the collection have grown and grown. The whole organisation is run by really knowledgeable volunteers, who unstintingly give their time and energies to running the Museum and Society in a really professional way. This is not going unnoticed by organisations such as Arts Council, Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, when they have visited us. They are obviously impressed with the level of activity and progress that we are making to bring in and involve more visitors, volunteers, researchers, students and children.

2022, although still under the threat of Covid, has been a positive year for the Society. The work of cleaning, cataloguing and re-exhibiting the Collection and Library has continued at a good pace; we are grateful not only to the growing number of volunteers, but also to the members and funders who have donated items and money for the cleaning and repair products.

We celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with the South Holland Jubilee Poet Laureate competition. We worked with the Yaxley Young Technicians Academy, who filmed the event and created the artwork. Miles Green was chosen by a panel to be the South Holland Jubilee Poet Laureate for his poem Jubilate. This was translated into the languages you hear when walking through South Holland and together with the short-listed poems was published in a booklet, still available at the museum.

The Trustees, as well as individually attending training courses, have all attended a whole day Governance away day, funded by The Association of Independent Museums. This will give us tasks to work on for much of 2023.

At the end of September, we finally achieved the purchase of the neighbouring Business Centre, which is so needed for us to access the rear of the museum, to demolish the 1960's buildings and the strong room which are relentlessly pulling over, and apart, the 1911 Museum building. Much of the year has been spent towards applying for the funds to do the repair work. The major grant applications quite rightly require good plans and policies to be in place and I thank all the Trustees who worked on the huge Arts Council MEND 2 application. Sadly, we weren't successful with that application. Nevertheless the funders were clearly impressed by what we are trying to achieve and have encouraged us to apply for MEND 3 in 2023. If we are successful with that, we will be looking to do the major repair work in 2025.

Our librarian, curator and head of engagement have been very busy this year, changing displays in cabinets around the Museum to give a constantly changing scene. They have also been working with students from Rochampton University, together with some of our members, on the major research for the Curious Connections exhibition, which is still on view in the Johnson Room. There are so many artefacts for this exhibition that the contents of the cabinets keep changing. If you haven't seen this exhibition yet, it is a fascinating view of the many world-wide connections of our early members and influences on our area.

2022 also saw the conclusion of our Arts Council funded project 'Engaging with People, Past and Present' which ended with a portrait exhibition at the museum. It also saw the start of a much bigger Arts Council funded project 'Taking the museum into town' with several public and schools workshops, using artefacts from the Museum. These artefacts have been used to create brass plaques for a trail that will be unveiled in Spalding on 15 July 2023.

Our monthly Coffee House evenings continue to be well supported online and in- person in the Lecture Room, followed by a social coffee and cake in the Johnson Room. Thanks go to the team that run the online screening and to all the contributors. Our winter lecture season has proved popular and we're grateful to David Mossman for coming back from retirement to organise some very interesting lectures.

With the year ending our Treasurer Sue Barsley retired. Thank you Sue for your many years of diligent book-keeping for the Society.

And thank you members for your continuing interest and support, it is hugely appreciated, we look forward to seeing you in person or online in the coming year.

**Petronella Keeling**

### **Curator's report**

2022 has seen a huge change in the museum from new exhibitions to non-member and member visitor numbers. Group visitor numbers are a little disappointing with probably only half of the number stated actually arriving, this is not surprising as there is still reticence about mixing in groups but overall visitor numbers are still on the rise. For 2022 we had 1072 non-member visits and 2209 member visits which is a substantial increase on the previous year of 382 non-member visits and 1178 member visits.

Broadgate House has gone from strength to strength with our volunteers doing things they never thought they were capable of, all under the guidance of our conservator Mary. We have been given another plan chest from Stuart Le Sage which allowed us to expand the categories that we can use for the maps that we hold.

With a grant from the Pilgrim Trust through AIM we were able to have the wooden panel painting cleaned, repaired and remounted. This was a task undertaken by Hirst Conservation and primarily by one of their team Mackenzie Higgins who took 19 hours just to clean off the various layers of grime and varnish. It was then a task of repairing the various areas of loss or damage to the paint. A higher level of detail has now been exposed giving people a much better image to enjoy. It has now been rehung in a different place at eye level.

We were greatly assisted by Emma Chaplin who again with a grant, this time by MDEM, to assess our collections. We decided to look at what we had on our Modes database and see what had been inadvertently accessioned. Emma took us through the process of looking at an item and grading it in relation to the condition and how it sits within the collection. Unfortunately chairs and other furniture had been added to our Modes system meaning that in theory we were not able to use them. We went about deaccessioning them as a training exercise and this proved very useful. We then looked at a herbaria collection that we held for Prof Seaward having contacted him and agreed a transfer to Joseph Banks Society (JBS) who already hold part of the collection. He was in agreement and so once again just to prove the system and to show due diligence we used the deaccessioning process. That herbaria has now gone to JBS and they are now digitising, repacking and properly storing it at their facility, something we would not have been able to do.

During the year we were gifted a christening robe and a wedding dress by Mr and Mrs Frapiano. It had come into their possession some years before but they had not known what to do with it so they kindly gifted it to us. Looking at it we realised that it was badly in need of care, to this end the conservation team set to and cleaned, vacuumed and steamed it taking out the heavy creasing it had sustained over the years. Another gift came from Mr and Mrs Page who gifted

two large prints that they were no longer able to accommodate in their new property. They were of King Henry leaving Dover and the Field of Cloth of Gold. Again with help of the conservation team they were removed from the frames, smoke sponged and had various foxing spots removed, they were then reframed and hung in the lecture room where you can now view them with details of the history of the prints.

After a visit from Melanie Giles who gave us a lecture on bog bodies she then wanted to examine the Amcott shoe. She has decided to do more work on the history of the shoe along side one of her undergraduate student and hopefully this will increase our understanding of one of the original collection artefacts.

MDEM have once again been instrumental in giving us grants for conservation supplies that we so vitally need to carry on the work that is being done for the care of the collection. We also had another grant to employ for a determined project Eleanor Chadd who went through our Modes to update and correct issues that had arisen over the years, this has been very successful and it is now in a better and more usable state.

Newark Civil War museum have returned some of the items on loan to them and have borrowed other pieces to enhance their exhibition, The World Turned Upside Down.

People are still offering items for the collection and library, below are this year's contributions:

Roy Willingham, gift of	Various C.D. ARP items
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Mark Carroll, gift of.	1899 silver medal Toronto Industrial Exhibition
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Capt. W Wells gift of	WW Two RAF Dry compass
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Mary Pateman gift of	Various RAC/ tulip parade archive and photographs
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Marion Stockwell-Hollier gift of	WWI diary from the trenches
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As always in my final assessment of the year I must thank all of the volunteers and the Stewards for their constant help and support without whom what we have achieved could not happen, thank you all.

**Ian Hoult**

## **Conservation Report**

This has been a busy year for the conservation of the SGS collection. I am delighted to report that the team of established individuals (some members and some not) whose work towards the conservation of the collection has grown in skill and number. The team varies in age from their early 20's to the young 90's. Everyone brings different skills, knowledge and talents and the work achieved is invaluable. It is important to state that there is a difference between a volunteer and a conservator, the volunteers are aware that at some point their involvement in a treatment process will stop if the task becomes too technical or requires a specific level of trained dexterity.

All our volunteers have undergone training and this is a recurring process. A good example of this is the ongoing work on the wax seal collection, specifically the loose seals. At the moment the volunteers have worked on the storage of this (thanks to a grant from MDEM). In future all the seals will need to be cleaned and consolidated. This will be a complex and time-consuming process. The support of Jem, a regular volunteer needs specific mention as he designed and

made a cutting system to be used on the archival storage material that hugely speeds up production of seal cavity mounts.

Thanks to the volunteers, most of the shell collection has been cleaned and the pest infected cotton wool that had been used in their storage has been replaced by less edible materials. The conservation team has continued with the mammoth task of condition surveying the collection, to assist identification and priorities (think of a condition survey as being like a set of medical notes, to be referred throughout the object's life). I would like to thank Patty here, as she has taken on the task of cataloguing the condition surveys. This will be an invaluable resource for the collection in the future.

The volunteers have also built bespoke storage containers for many of the objects. Here I would like to thank Chris who has now been able to custom build storage for many of our items and has passed his skills on to others. This has also resulted in a huge financial saving for the Society. Work has continued collaboratively with the archivist culminating in the Curious Collections exhibition. There has been a major focus on the rehydration of maps and folded documents, whilst unrolling and flattening. After being left to dry naturally these items are cleaned ready to be stored flat in special plan chests.

The work of the volunteers has enabled me to focus on some specific objects with more complex conservation requirements. All the objects for the curious collections exhibition were cleaned to ensure they were ready for display. I have worked on one of our double-sided composite fans to allow it go back on display. I have continued working on the Napoleonic prisoner of war straw boxes. With the expanding skill set of our volunteers they are able to do more, it has now become more often that they can complete certain elements of a task (i.e cleaning or basic colour matching) and I then complete the more technical elements of the treatment.

The volunteers have continued their ongoing training programme of collection-based care which I personally feel should be a mandatory programme for every member and volunteer who actively handles objects and archival materials.

This may sound a lot (and it is) however, it is the first part of an object's conservation journey. The true alchemy of the collection moving forwards will be finding the balance between securing the appropriate conservation needs of the entirety of the collection and securing the collection's future. With all of the necessary changes that this will entail, whilst still keeping the spirit and magic that makes the Society so undeniably unique.

I would like to thank Ian, Dustin, Eleanor and Sharon for their help and encouragement and all the conservation volunteers from the weekly regulars, to those who come when they are able. You are a fantastic team to work with.

Finally, my thanks go to the kettle at Broadgate House, you are so useful – not just in tea making, and also the cake and biscuits that fuels the team.

**Mary Evans**

## **Librarians' Report**

I want to start by thanking all of the collections volunteers who have contributed countless hours to the library and archive holdings over the past year.

Two important changes to our working arrangements have happened over the last year. First, responsibility for a number of collections that have historically come under the Museum have transferred to the Library and Archive. These include photographs, prints and drawings, maps, and works on paper, which share conservation, cataloguing and exhibition needs with books and manuscripts. Second, collections care has become increasingly unified: volunteers move seamlessly between working on museum, library and archive holdings, making sure the Society's collections are in good condition, properly catalogued, and, increasingly, digitised. One of the great joys of the past year has been realising a unified collections strategy that spans care, exhibition, research and public engagement with all of the Society's amazing holdings.

We field a steadily increasing number of research queries every year. Over 100 research requests came in during 2022, and we hosted the same number of research visits. As the Society becomes better known in national and international academic circles, we also benefit from new research by colleagues around the world. This year's library acquisitions include brand-new research on the collections, including subjects ranging from ancient astronomy to the industrial revolution to garden design to fine art. Take a few minutes to visit the display of new books when you're next in the museum, and discover some of the cutting-edge work that draws on the Society's collections.

I also encourage all members to keep an eye on the Society's social media channels, to attend coffeehouses, and to visit regularly to see new exhibitions. All feature new work by the PhD, MA and BA students who come to the Society in growing numbers for placements related to their courses. The library and archive also support numerous local history organisations and groups, who also add considerably to our holdings and what we know about them. All are welcome: our holdings are here for everyone to enjoy, learn and benefit.

Particular energy is being put into the Society's 'Original Collection': the museum, library and archive materials that were acquired between the Society's first meetings in 1710 and its reconstitution in 1814. These holdings are the best-preserved early museum in the UK. New research continues to expand our knowledge and understanding of them, just as cataloguing and conservation makes them more accessible to more people than ever before. Late last year we applied to have the Original Collection recognised as an Arts Council 'Designated Collection': one of fewer than 200 collections recognised as being nationally and internationally important, and essential reference points for their subjects and periods. We were successful with our Stage 1 application; a Stage 2 application will be submitted in early 2023, with a result expected later in the year.

Finally, I want to thank the Assistant Librarian, Diane Clay, and her team, whose work to digitise, catalogue and organise the library collections truly is invaluable.

**Dustin M. Frazier Wood, Librarian**

## **Assistant Librarian's Report**

I work in the library on Monday mornings and Tuesday afternoons, assisted by Cherry Jeffery and Celia Fitton.

The library stock of about 30,000 books and pamphlets is currently recorded on catalogue cards, which are filed in catalogue drawers in the library office. Our mammoth task is to record all the library stock onto a computer database, which will make searching so much easier when looking for a particular author, subject or title. We have, so far, recorded about 8,500 items on the database. All the books in the library office have been entered, as well as books in the George

Bailey art collection, plus all the books in the local collection, and we are now working our way through hundreds of local pamphlets! Every book and pamphlet is handled and checked before being catalogued. At the same time, we accession new books and donations, ensuring that they are also recorded on the database.

As well as this, we are available to assist those who need to carry out research in the library, which is usually connected with local information. In the course of our work, we come across some really interesting and fascinating items and it is very easy to get side-tracked, so we have to try our best to stay focussed! The library contains such a huge wealth of information, going back hundreds of years; and, like everything else in the museum, is a never-ending source of interest and amazement.

**Diane Clay, Assistant Librarian**

### **Library & Archive Acquisitions 2022**

- Barrett, W H, *Tales from the Fens* (1966)
- Beasley, R., *A Topography of the Lower Welland* (2022)
- Bennett, S & N. Bennett, eds, *Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire* (2001)
- Bradley, E, *The Story of the English Abbeys*, Vol. 2 (1939)
- Butcher, C., *Our Faithful Queen: 70 Years of Faith and Service* (2022)
- Clark, B, *Mid-19th Century Spalding: A Portrait* (1988)
- Coneybeare, E, *Highways & Byways in Cambridge and Ely* (1910)
- Cross-Rudkin, P., *John Rennie: Engineer of Many Splendid & Useful Works* (2022)
- Dutt, W., *Highways & Byways of East Anglia* (1901)
- Elsoms, *Elsoms: The History* (1994)
- Elsoms, *Elsoms: The Seed Specialists: 175 Years* (2019)
- Glenn, J., with D. Walsh, *Catalogue of the Francis Trigge Chained Library: St Wulfram's Church, Grantham* (1988)
- Greenstreet, J, *The Lincolnshires Survey, temp. Henry I* (1884)
- Hebgin-Barnes, P., *The Medieval Stained Glass of the County of Lincolnshire* (1996)
- Henty, L., *Exploring Archaeoastronomy* (2022)
- Howlett, B., ed, *Survey of the Royal Manor of Hitchin 1676* (2000)
- Longstaffe-Gowan, T., *English Garden Eccentrics* (2022)
- Manterfield, J. B., ed, *Borough Government in Restoration Grantham: The Hall Book of Grantham 1662-1704* (2022)
- Mason, H, *The Black Fens* (1984)
- Miller, S H, *Hand-book to the Fenland* (1890)
- O'Bee, M., *Lincolnshire 17th Century Tradesmen's Tokens* (2022)
- Oughton, Thomas, *Ordo Judiciorum*, 2 vols (1738)
- Pedler, D., *Field and Dyke: A History of South Holland* (2019)
- Pope, A, *Works of Voiture*, Vol 1 (1705)

Pufendorf, S, *Of the Law of Nature and Nations* (1703)

Roe, S., ed, *Oil Paintings in Public Ownership in the Imperial War Museum* (2006)

Roos, A. M., and V. Keller, eds, *Collective Wisdom: Collecting in the Early Modern Academy* (2022)

Sluyter, L., *A Game of Three Halves* (1998)

Thompson, R. H., and M. J. Dickinson, *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles 43: Norweb Collection: Tokens of the British Isles 1575-1750, Part III: Hampshire to Lincolnshire* (1992)

Turner, D., *Edge of England: Landfall in Lincolnshire* (2022)

Ward, Anne, *The Lincolnshire Rising 1536* (1986)

Watson, W., *The Clergyman's Law* (1701)

Wensor, J., and H. Myers, *The Leverton Story 1901-1997* (2021)

Whitehouse, N., and J. Karhapää, eds, *Discovering Hatfield Chase and the Isle of Axholme* (2022)

*Who's Who in Lincolnshire* (1935)

Wills, N T, *Fenland Churches and People between Spalding and Long Sutton, South Lincolnshire* (1988)

Wright, N, *Spalding: an Industrial History*, 1st edn (1973)

Wright, N, *Spalding: an Industrial History*, 2nd edn (1975)

### **Lecture Report for Winter 2022-23**

The lectures in this winter's programme were:

Paul Atterbury	A Life with Trains
Matt Shardlow	Disappearing Insects – Causes and Solutions
Lucy Bamford	Joseph Wright of Derby
Dr Melanie Giles	Bog bodies – Face to Face with the Past
Dr Simon Sleight	Deep History “Down Under”
Alistair Goodrum	The Flying Duchess (of Bedford)
Paddy Lambert	Romans at Priors Hall Roman Villa
Professor Simon Parsons	Artificial Intelligence
Professor Michael Lewis	Archaeology and Metal Detecting in England and Wales
Sir Jonathan Van-Tam	Respiratory Viruses
David Fletcher	Behind the Scenes in the Saleroom
Dr Richard McClary	The Isfahan Friday Mosque and Islamic Architecture

The lectures were all of very high quality. There were a few of them which had interesting features: two were last-minute replacements because of illness, and we were asked not to over-publicise the one by Professor Sir Jonathan Van-Tam because of possible security concerns. In the event, the Spalding police were informed of his visit, and they discretely patrolled the road outside while the lecture continued!

These were minor problems by comparison with those of the Covid period. Thanks particularly to the hard work of our lecture secretary, David Mossman, the programme was most successful. We must also thank the Methodist Church and their IT experts, and the members and visitors for their support.

**Tom Grimes**

## Engagement Committee Report

Engagement relies on people meeting and socialising with ease, from 2020 to 2022 this was a nightmare which everyone understandably found difficult to wake up from. The Society tried very hard at the beginning of 2022 to get some semblance of normality but the lecture season suffered from cancellations by speakers (thanks go to those speakers that responded last minute to the call) but surprisingly the audience numbers were good. The new lecture season at the end of 2022 enjoyed some excellent speakers (thanks to our lecture secretary) and much improved attendance including many new faces, thanks to our increased social media presence.

Portraits Promenade grant project aided by Arts Council, Transported and Electric Egg came to fruition with a stunning display of portraits of local people taken over three Saturdays, surprising good (largely due to a skilled photographer) when considering the appalling weather. This was the Society's first major engagement project and encouraged us to undertake another project ARTeFACT with the same collaborators to showcase the collection in town and raise profile of museum with the creation of an interactive plaque trail. Initially this involved choosing artefacts from our collection, spending days in a primary school, secondary school and Spalding marketplace with the display to encourage public engagement with the plaques creative process.

In celebration of the Queens Jubilee another project to write a suitable celebratory poem was undertaken with the Young Technicians Academy (training academy to teach various aspects of media engagement), resulted after some stiff competition in the appointment of a Poet Laureate for the area. The first project to write a poem in celebration of the the River Welland welcomed a newly conserved panel painting of the Welland Panorama back to the Museum.

Stamford college had received a grant to encourage children and adults alike to value heritage as something they could engage with, this lead to a visit from Uffington primary school to learn about local drainage and visits from adults to study the map collection.

Regular Museum opening started with a modest 2 hour opening on Wednesdays, this is a necessary step towards extended regular opening of the museum regarded as essential by future grant providers. Thanks to stewards for making this happen.

This year saw the welcome return of work experience with a visit from a sixth form student who wanted to visit two years previously before covid intervened, hopefully more will follow as they bring a fresh younger look at what we are trying to achieve.

This year also welcomed the return of the Symposium face-to-face, despite many organisations still struggling to get numbers for such events we welcomed a healthy sized audience to hear a panel of speakers talk about the mediaeval period. Thanks to Michael Gilbert for all his hard work.

Our Society membership remained steady during Covid and is now showing a healthy increase, the offer of joint membership for the first time is proving popular and helps maintain the basic income for the Society's needs. Increasingly there are moves to improve the Society's offer to members by the addition of 'The Antiquary', special member invites to preview new exhibitions and a quiz night. None of these things happen without a lot of volunteers giving their own time and donations in support and particular thanks go to all, especially Dave Jacobs.



Social media presence is essential, the new website has provided a better platform to host an expanding blog presence showcasing members particular interests in the collection. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram appeal to different audiences opening an easy communication route to update and engage with an audience and content is always welcome.



So many members and volunteers have joined the collection and conservation team to work through artefacts giving them TLC and ensuring a longer future, surprisingly on a rough count this has amounted to roughly 4000 hours of work in one year, **amazing!** This does not include all the hours stewarding, researching, article writing, updating website and social media, etc. Together we make a formidable team, thank you all as they are too numerous to mention but special thanks for leading the groups go to Mary Evans, Jonathan Dobbs and Di Clay.



The Society moving forward will need to keep up this momentum, if you can help in any way please contact us for details and keep up your valued support it really makes a huge difference.

Remember contact details for particular officers are on the website, [visits@sgsoc.org](mailto:visits@sgsoc.org) for group visits, [volunteers@sgsoc.org](mailto:volunteers@sgsoc.org) for volunteering opportunities and [outreach@sgsoc.org](mailto:outreach@sgsoc.org) for any other outreach queries.

**Sharon Hoult**

### **Coffeehouse Evenings 2022**

Coffeehouse evenings are held in the Museum on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. A talk is given taking about 30 minutes with questions after. These parts of the evening are also available remotely to members using Zoom. Afterwards, members in the Museum can often inspect items associated with the talk and partake of the refreshments provided.

The talks have been on a wide range of topics, mostly in some way related to the Society or its collections, or to the Spalding area, but in some cases on a topic of particular interest to the speaker.

A significant number of members still participate using Zoom. Some of these are remote, either in other parts of Great Britain or overseas. We will continue to “broadcast” the meetings in this way as long as there are members who are interested.

The evenings are open to members and their guests without charge.

Topics and speakers in 2022 were:

January	Patty Harris	<i>The Society's Swedish Clock</i>
February	Jem Bowkett	<i>Compleat Book of Knowledge 1698</i>
March	Colin Baslington	<i>The 1921 and earlier Censuses</i>
April	Patty Harris	<i>The Lost Treasure of Holyrood House</i>
May	Alison Fairman	<i>Hanseatic Boston, A Trading hub for 800 years</i>
June	Michael Gilbert	<i>On the Frontline: Spalding in the First Civil War</i>
July	Simon Thompson	<i>Anatomy of an army cap badge</i>
September	Ian Hoult	<i>The Welland Panorama</i>
October	Roy Hackford	<i>Nostalgic Boston</i>
November	Curators talks	<i>Aspects of the work of the Curator, Archivist and Conservator</i>
December	Tom Grimes	<i>What's Missing?</i>

We are extremely grateful to the speakers, to the technical experts, and to the members who organised the food.

**Tom Grimes**



## **FENLAND HERITAGE NETWORK AND THE CENTRE FOR FENLAND STUDIES**

The Fenland Heritage Network was established in 2019 by the Society as a means of promoting local heritage and bringing together organisations working in the sector from across the regions. It has approximately 25 participating groups ranging from museums and local history societies to heritage bodies. Following the coronavirus pandemic it was necessary throughout 2020 and 2021 for the group to meet online which inevitably limited the scope of activities. However, during 2022 we were able to start meeting again in person and on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 we held our third symposium in the South Holland Centre in Spalding. It was an all-day event and the theme was *'Merchants and Traders – Medieval and Early Modern Trade in the Wash'*. There was an excellent attendance with over 70 people coming along to hear a number of talks by experts including Professor Stephen Rigby from the University of Manchester. To see more about the event visit the Spalding Gentlemen's Society or the Fenland Heritage Network Website.



In part, the purpose of the network is to provide a forum for local heritage organisations to meet and discuss issues as well as providing mutual support. This is achieved through the regular meetings of the group and through the network's website providing an opportunity to share information including a calendar of heritage events from across the three counties of the Fenlands. It also includes a blog highlighting and discussing local heritage. It is intended in 2023 to further develop the use of the website to provide access to local research material (see below) provided by member groups and to link this into social media. The aim being to increase the profile of the region bringing more people to our local attractions including the Society.

<https://www.fenlandheritagenetwork.co.uk>

In 2023 and beyond it is hoped we can increase the number of in-person activities working with a number of groups such as Fascinating Fens, Boston Hanse and True's Yard.

The Centre for Fenland Studies has been created by the Society and the Fenland Heritage Network to promote research into the region. It provides an opportunity to pull together source material on the history of the area and to make it easily accessible. It is at an early stage of development but the initial task is to compile a database of local sources and where they are held. Where possible it is hoped that much of the information can be made available online but eventually the intention is to have a physical facility where local historians and academics can come together to research the Fenlands from the earliest times to the current era. As the Museum in Broad Street is redeveloped in the coming years it is hoped that it will be possible to provide a fully equipped research room with access to source material (both archives and artifacts) held by the Society. It would also provide a location for groups to meet and to work on historic research.

The study of the region has been limited and there are many areas for further work. For example, although the medieval period and the role of the Priory have been investigated by members such as John Cleary there is much more to be done to understand the town's importance in the period. Similarly, the evolution of the town in the seventeenth century from front-line in the civil war to cultural centre is to be explored. Then there is the transformation of Spalding, and indeed the Fenlands, from a local market economy to the major agricultural and multi-ethnic community that it has become is another rich area of potential study of many.



*Breeze* in the Port of Spalding – Eighteenth Century

The ultimate aim of the Fenland Heritage Network is to work closely with the Society from which it emerged. Not only to promote access to the heritage sites across the three counties but also to encourage a better understanding of how we have arrived at this point. A better appreciation of our history and heritage can only help to inform our decisions on where we go from here. Visit the website on <https://www.fenlandheritagenetwork.co.uk> not only for information on local events but how you can become more involved with the heritage of the town and the region.

**Michael Gilbert**

## Grants Report

2022 began with the good news that we were successful with an Arts Council £30,000 grant for an engagement project titled “Taking the Museum into Town”. This would involve items from the Collection being used to encourage school children and the general public to interact artistically and verbally about these items. The engagement activities for this grant were led by Sharon & Ian Hoult working as a team with Transported Art and Electric Egg. Transported filming activities and counting participants for the evaluation and Electric Egg for the artistic involvement. At a market stall on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 83 people actively took part in Brass Rubbing or relating memories evoked by the Museum’s objects. The team have also spent very successful days at St Paul’s Primary School and Spalding High School. Images of these items have been made into brass plaques to create a trail named ARTeFACT around Spalding. Using smart phones with augmented reality, the viewer will hear and see ideas and facts about the items and will hopefully be encouraged to visit the Museum. It will also be possible to create brass rubbings from the plaques. The Trail will be unveiled 15 July 2023. Further funds for this £50,000 project have come from Transported Art, Electric Egg, South Holland District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Our Librarian, Dustin Frazier-Wood was successful with a £5000 grant from UK Research & Innovation.

The grant was for a project on the Society's 18th century American/Caribbean colonial collections and connections. Master’s and PHD students from Roehampton University worked together with SGS members to research the minute books and create the Curious Connections exhibition in the Johnson Room.

Working together with Harrison Fuller and The Yaxley Young Tech Academy, we were successful with the National Lottery Community Fund, £10,000 Jubilee Grant; this grant funded a competition to find the South Holland Jubilee Poet Laureate. The competition saw a fantastic range and quality of poetry. Eight shortlisted poets, each with 3 guests, along with 27 SGS volunteers came to the Museum lecture room on 30<sup>th</sup> June, where the winner was announced. Miles Green is the South Holland Jubilee Poet Laureate for 2 years. A booklet with the 8 poems is on sale at the Museum. The winning poem has been translated into a number of Eastern European languages.

We were fortunate to receive another Pilgrim Trust & AIM Remedial Conservation grant for £6,488 to conserve the 1872 painting by Thomas Albin of Fairfax House. The painting consists of enamel and oil on newspaper over scene painter’s canvas. The use of newspaper in the levelling up of coarse canvas was a process usually undertaken by an inmate in a local institution. Previously some consolidation had been done in 1975 but by 2022 the condition had further deteriorated with evidence of the newspaper lifting off the canvas and some paint loss. Hirst Conservation have restored this painting beautifully and it is again hanging in its original place in the Maples Gallery.

The Leche Trust has supported us with a further £2000, this time for conservation equipment and products to enable our wonderful volunteers to conserve the massive map collection. This project has also been supported with equipment from Samuel Mossop, Martin Panter, James Le Sage, Tom Grimes and Ayscoughfee Museum.

The Matterport Scan of the Museum which has created the virtual tour of the museum and is now on the website, was donated by Patrick Mossop.

Sharon Hoult has been successful with a further MDEM conservation grant for £1,000 for conservation products. She was also successful with a MDEM £1,500 grant to employ a freelancer for 10 hours to assist with cataloguing the collection on the Modes database.

We were unsuccessful with:

- a) An application to the MEND 2 Fund to restore the 1910 museum building. Since then, we have been visited by the Arts Council, National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England and have been persuaded to try again in 2023 for MEND 3.
- b) An Expression of Interest to the National Lottery Community Fund to support a heritage, arts and culture festival over 5 years.
- c) The Art Fund Re-image grant, for rebranding, marketing and social media training.
- d) The AIM New Stories, New Audiences grant. We applied to work in partnership with St Paul's school to create a primary schools pilot project which could be taken into other schools.

**Petronella Keeling**

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

The Society has been pleased to welcome the following new members in 2022:

Mrs Jane Austin	Mr Andrew Inkley
Mr Simon Austin	Mrs Cherry Jeffery
Dr John Baldwin	Mr Gary Kingston
Mrs Jean Bird	Mr Paul Kitney
Mr John Brunton	Dr Robert Lawson
Dr Paddy Bullard	Mrs Wendy Lawson
Mr Nigel Burch	Mrs Judy Lumb
Mr Mark Carroll	Mr Steve Lumb
Mr William Creasey	Mr Graham Morfoot
Mrs Anne Davis	Mrs Patricia Neil
Mr Leslie Dingley	Mr Chris Noble
Mrs Joanna Dobbs	Mr Robert Picking
Mrs Angela Elderkin	Mrs Hilary Preston
Mr Harrison Fuller	Ms Heather Rix
Mr Patrick Gordon	Mr David Sharpe
Mr Barry Grainger	Mr David Spenceley
Mrs Jennifer Green	Mr James Stobart
Mr Roy Hackford	Mrs Judith Stobart
Mr George Hall	Mr David Townsend
Miss Abby Hammond	Mrs Denise Vickers
Mr Keith Harwood	Mr Peter Vickers
Mrs Micki Hemens	Mr Robin Webber-Jones
Mr Patrick Hughes	Mrs Gillian Wing

At the end of the year 2022 total membership stood at 357.

**Graham Dayes**

## **Finance Committee Report**

Sue Barsley, our treasurer, resigned on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. Sue had been a member of the Council since 2011 and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking her for the work that she has done over the years.

The Finance committee are responsible for all the monetary activities of the Society. The members are now Tom Grimes (President), Petronella Keeling (Chairman of Council) and Melvyn Price (Secretary). They have regular meetings to review the current situation and any future developments.

The operating deficit for the year on our unrestricted funds was £10,070. Whereas, the surplus on our restricted funds was £832,656.

The main reason for the size of the latter figure was an extremely generous donation of £865,000 from a charitable trust which enabled us to purchase the adjoining property in Broad Street, Spalding.

In addition to the above-mentioned donation, we have seen an increase in other donations from £5,082 in 2021 to £9,565 in 2022. We are very grateful to the members of the Society and the public, who have given such generous financial support during the year.

The value of shares held by the Society was £166,071 as at the close of business on 31 December 2022 this showed an decrease £2,910 on the previous year. These shares are managed by the Finance committee. This year, as in the recent past, the committee has maintained the policy of not undertaking any transaction that they thought was unnecessary. Decisions were taken in responses to corporate actions (rights issued, takeovers, etc.). This policy has been in place since Stockbrokers were required to charge annual fees for their services, which made most trading decisions expensive. The committee believes that the portfolio remains adequately spread and is suitable to the Society,

There was a small increase in dividend income from £5,336 in 2021 to £5,372 in 2022.

It is estimated that the Society's volunteers contributed a great financial benefit to the Society through all their hard work and time during the year. We are incredibly grateful for their contribution.

We would like to thank all members for their continued support to the Society.

**Finance Committee**

## Investment Performance

Listed Investments	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Cost</u>	2022	2021
			<u>Market value</u>	<u>Market value</u>
		£	£	£
Mitchells and Butlers Plc	631	433	871	1,615
Inter Continental Hotels PLc	247	43	11,718	11,809
B A E Systems PLcc	871	110	7,456	4,789
RELX plc	1,558	2,830	35,647	37,423
Lloyds Banking Group Plc	4,275	2,175	1,941	2,044
Diageo Plc	500	5,142	18,250	20,180
Glaxo Smith Kline Plc	851	5,069	12,234	13,672
Johnson Matthey Plc	765	4,982	16,271	15,652
Unilever Plc	350	6,139	14,637	13,809
Banco Santander	104	0	248	248
Melrose Plc	977	1,835	1,314	1,562
Centricia Plc	3,433	6,477	3,314	2,455
Legal and General Group Plc	3,591	5,471	8,960	10,683
National Grid Plc	1,181	6,183	11,779	12,516
J Sainsbury Plc	1,071	4,293	2,332	2,954
B P Plc	850	4,876	4,037	2,809
B T Group Plc	1,535	4,965	1,720	2,603
Firstgroup Plc	222	780	224	227
Scottish and Southern Plc	450	4,964	7,704	7,421
British American Tobacco Plc	165	4,962	5,414	4,510
<b>Total</b>			166,071	168,981
<b>Change in market value</b>			(2,910)	

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00543260 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 216131

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022  
FOR  
SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Duncan & Toplis Limited  
Enterprise Way  
Pinchbeck  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 3YR



**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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## **SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Council of Management, who are trustees and directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present to the members their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (FRS102) in preparing the annual report and statements of the charity.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The Society's object is: "To promote and foster among the public knowledge, appreciation and study" of what are now known as the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. To this end, the main current activities are: to maintain the freehold premises housing a museum, library and archives and maintaining and enhancing the holdings contained therein; and the mounting of public lectures as part of its engagement with the local and wider community. The Society was recognised by the Master of the Rolls, under 1926 national provisions, as a local depository for manorial documents.

##### **Public benefit**

The Society provides public benefit by the maintenance and development of its collections, some of which are of national and international significance. Improved access, both physical and virtual, is the driver for activities across the Society. The Librarian and Curator receive a considerable number of specific enquiries from members of the public. These are dealt with directly or passed to other volunteers.

A summary of our charitable activities appears below.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Charitable activities**

The Covid pandemic has continued and 2022 commenced with compulsory mask wearing in the museum and at all events. In April 2020 the Society's Council established a Pandemic Working Group to monitor the Government Regulations and Guidelines together with latest information infection rates, both local and national. This Group has continued to meet on a regular basis throughout 2022 and has advised the Council on the appropriate actions that needed to be taken.

The Society continues to have items on loan at other accredited museums and an exhibition is permanently on display at Ayscoughfee Hall. Volunteers have undertaken a number of engagement activities with the public and schools.

The monthly Coffeehouse evenings continued throughout the year even though up until July members could only attend via a virtual platform, however, from September, members could choose to attend either in-person in the Museum or via the virtual platform.

Every attempt was made to continue with the Friday evening public lecture programme, but this was not always possible in the spring due to Covid concerns. The lectures that did take place were delivered at the Methodist Church in Broad Street, Spalding in-person. The winter lectures were well attended.

The Museum continued to be open to the public on the third Sunday afternoon in the month and for two hours every Wednesday. Special open days were held for Celebrating Fen's Day and Heritage Open Week.

At the beginning of 2021 the Society took a three-year rental contract in a nearby building for storage, training and to work on conservation in order to preserve the Society's collections for future generations under the guidance of a qualified conservator.

The Librarian having developed an active group of volunteers to assist with cataloguing and conserving our archives and books has made progress during the year, and digitisation has made the collection more accessible.

Regular articles are published in the local press to disseminate the results of research carried out on our archives and museum collection. Our website describes our activities to a global audience and members have contributed stories of interest from our collection.

The members of Council together with committee members have continued to meet and work by hybrid in-person and online meetings during the year.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The operating profit for the year was £822,586

## **SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Investment policy and objectives**

To manage risk Society funds are split between interest bearing cash accounts and a portfolio of equities. The portfolio is under active review by our Finance Committee which reports value and yield to the Council throughout the year. The portfolio functions to generate a healthy income with no deduction of management fee. The Finance Committee retain the authority to manage the portfolio as necessary.

##### **Reserves policy**

Factors taken into account in deciding the level of reserves include the need to cover fluctuations in expenditure and the need to have sufficient funds available to finance any urgent potential capital expenditure. The Society is dependent upon the income arising from its investments to fund its core activities and therefore does not consider its investments at 31 December 2022 of £166,071 to be part of free reserves. At the year end, free reserves were £257,355. This figure falls well short of estimated potential repair costs and is a necessary requirement to cover likely expenditure needed to maintain charitable status.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The immediate requirement is to match income to the running costs of the Society and to create income streams.

It has become apparent that to provide adequate accommodation for the future in line with the Vision Statement adopted in 2014 considerable capital expenditure will be needed. Steps have been taken and are being taken with a view to seeking major funding. In parallel, it will be necessary to consider all aspects of recurrent income and expenditure to ensure a viable future.

A report from Focus Consultants was commissioned to consider future options for the Society with respect to its premises and business plan. This report, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, was delivered to trustees in November 2017.

The Trustees are actively engaged with the NLHF and other sector bodies to explore sources of funding.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Structure**

Spalding Gentlemen's Society is a company limited by guarantee and registered under the Companies Act 2006, registration number 543260. The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the object of the Society, and no portion shall be paid or transferred to any member. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £2. The company has obtained the consent of the Registrar of Companies to be exempt from the requirement to use the word "limited" in its name. It is a registered charity, number 216131.

Members of Council are trustees for charitable purposes. The governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted at the 2019 AGM, submitted to and accepted by the Charity Commission. This document is published on the Society's website. Membership of the Society is open to all aged 18 or older on payment of the annual membership fee. There are some 350 members.

About seventy volunteers assist Council with the daily affairs of the Society in normal years.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new council members**

Members of Council are elected at an Annual General Meeting. Any casual vacancy other than the President may be filled by the Council who may also co-opt and appoint additional Members of Council. Any member, so appointed, shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for election at that Meeting. Members of the Society may put themselves forward for election at the Annual General Meeting. The new Memorandum and Articles of Association dictated that at the 2020 AGM all trustee positions fell vacant and a new Council of trustees was elected. The minimum number of trustees then and thereafter is nine and the maximum twelve.

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

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

An audit of skill sets is made to identify gaps in expertise and governance requirements for the future. New members of Council are advised of their statutory duties and provided with induction information. New and old Trustees are encouraged to participate in training programmes. Members of Council and other Society members have continued to actively participate in training courses. In November all Members of Council attended a whole day Governance Training by Debbie Read Consultancy.

## SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Risk management and mitigation

The condition of our Broad Street premises is our most serious concern. There has been historic settlement and distortion of foundation and flooring with cracks and gaps evident around the building. These defects are not covered by insurance. Historic England have grant supported a monitoring programme for the building from their Buildings at Risk department. At the end of the monitoring period a consultant produced a report with recommendations for remedial work. Historic England recommended that the rear extensions of the museum should be demolished to save the 1911 Grade 2 listed museum building. Funding is actively being sought for this work. At the end of September, the neighbouring Business Centre was purchased, with a donation from The Welland Trust, to enable access to the rear of the museum for the remedial work.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

##### Registered Company number

00543260 (England and Wales)

##### Registered Charity number

216131

##### Registered office

Broad Street  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 1TB

##### Trustees

##### MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT & CURATOR OF COINS & TOKENS - T Grimes

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL - P G Keeling MBE DL

TREASURER - S M Barsley (Resigned 31st December 2022)

SECRETARY - M Price

CURATOR - I Houlth

LIBRARIAN - D Frazier Wood

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - G Dayes

REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS - M Gilbert OBE, E J Sneath, J A Dobbs, C J Penney, D J Mossman

##### Company Secretary

M Price

##### Independent Examiner

Duncan & Toplis Limited  
Enterprise Way  
Pinchbeck  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 3YR

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 23 MAY 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
M Price - Hon. Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Spalding Gentlemen's Society ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Alistair Main FCA

Duncan & Toplis Limited  
Enterprise Way  
Pinchbeck  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 3YR

Date: 8 June 2023

**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	28,542	868,890	897,432	27,719
<b>Charitable activities</b>	4				
Museum and library		2,667	49,595	52,262	98,765
Lecture receipts		3,919	-	3,919	730
Quiz		605	-	605	158
Investment income	3	10,679	-	10,679	6,368
Other income		<u>1,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>366</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>47,642</u>	<u>918,485</u>	<u>966,127</u>	<u>134,106</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
Museum and library		52,790	85,829	138,619	89,026
Symposium		170	-	170	-
Lecture expenses		<u>1,842</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,842</u>	<u>164</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>54,802</u>	<u>85,829</u>	<u>140,631</u>	<u>89,190</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>(2,910)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,910)</u>	<u>21,756</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(10,070)	832,656	822,586	66,672
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>733,754</u>	<u>92,369</u>	<u>826,123</u>	<u>759,451</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>723,684</u></u>	<u><u>925,025</u></u>	<u><u>1,648,709</u></u>	<u><u>826,123</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

# SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	11	362,667	864,104	1,226,771	395,770
Investments	12	<u>166,071</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,071</u>	<u>168,981</u>
		528,738	864,104	1,392,842	564,751
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	13	4,112	1,500	5,612	460
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>197,934</u>	<u>59,421</u>	<u>257,355</u>	<u>263,350</u>
		202,046	60,921	262,967	263,810
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(7,100)	-	(7,100)	(2,438)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>194,946</u>	<u>60,921</u>	<u>255,867</u>	<u>261,372</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>723,684</u>	<u>925,025</u>	<u>1,648,709</u>	<u>826,123</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>723,684</u>	<u>925,025</u>	<u>1,648,709</u>	<u>826,123</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	15				
Unrestricted funds				723,684	733,754
Restricted funds				<u>925,025</u>	<u>92,369</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>1,648,709</u>	<u>826,123</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

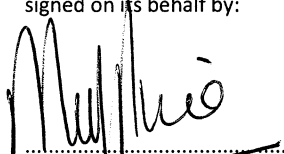
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.


The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 23 May 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
M Price - Hon Secretary

  
T Grimes - President

The notes form part of these financial statements

**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>846,178</u>	<u>57,167</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>846,178</u>	<u>57,167</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(853,460)	(14,609)
Purchase of fixed asset investments		-	(399)
Sale of fixed asset investments		-	3,321
Interest received		<u>1,287</u>	<u>1,032</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(852,173)</u>	<u>(10,655)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<u>(5,995)</u>	<u>46,512</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>263,350</u>	<u>216,838</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u><u>257,355</u></u>	<u><u>263,350</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements



**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>822,586</b>	<b>66,672</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	22,459	11,641
Losses/(gain) on investments	2,910	(21,756)
Interest received	(1,287)	(1,032)
Decrease in debtors	473	1,775
Decrease in creditors	(963)	(133)
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<b><u>846,178</u></b>	<b><u>57,167</u></b>

**2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.1.22	Cash flow	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>263,350</u>	<u>(5,995)</u>	<u>257,355</u>
	<u>263,350</u>	<u>(5,995)</u>	<u>257,355</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>263,350</u></b>	<b><u>(5,995)</u></b>	<b><u>257,355</u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Subscriptions, donations and legacies**

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

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

**Gifts**

Gifts of exhibits to the society are not included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Investment income**

Investment income and interest is accounted for when receivable.

**Grants**

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

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

As explained in note 11 Heritage Assets have not been capitalised or depreciated as no reliable value can be attributed.

Freehold property is periodically revalued to market value. The new addition of freehold property is depreciated on a 5% straight line basis. Museum contents are not depreciated they are considered to have high residual values depreciation would be an immaterial amount.

Other fixtures and fittings are depreciated on a 15% straight line basis.

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Spalding Gentlemen's Society has designated funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Investments**

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

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	874,565	5,082
Gift aid	4,050	3,072
Subscriptions	<u>18,817</u>	<u>19,565</u>
	<u>897,432</u>	<u>27,719</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Rents received	4,020	-
Dividends	5,372	5,336
Deposit account interest	<u>1,287</u>	<u>1,032</u>
	<u>10,679</u>	<u>6,368</u>

**4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Activity	2022	2021
		£	£
Events & activities	Museum and library	-	237
Grants	Museum and library	52,262	98,528
Events & activities	Lecture and Symposium receipts	3,919	730
Events & activities	Quiz	<u>605</u>	<u>158</u>
		<u>56,786</u>	<u>99,653</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Museum	<u>52,262</u>	<u>98,528</u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£
Museum and library	124,922	13,697	138,619
Symposium	170	-	170
Lecture expenses	<u>1,842</u>	-	<u>1,842</u>
	<u>126,934</u>	<u>13,697</u>	<u>140,631</u>

**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Governance costs
	£
Museum and library	<u>13,697</u>

**7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	22,459	11,641
Other operating leases	<u>12,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

**Trustees' expenses**

Members of council received £2,730 (2021 £2,962) reimbursement for purchases on behalf of the Society. All members of council are unpaid providing their services voluntarily.

No employees received total emolument of more than £60,000

**9. STAFF COSTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>4,336</u>	<u>4,004</u>
	<u>4,336</u>	<u>4,004</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Administration		

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

**10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	23,558	4,161	27,719
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Museum and library	19,240	79,525	98,765
Lecture receipts	730	-	730
Quiz	158	-	158
Investment income	6,368	-	6,368
Other income	<u>366</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>50,420</u>	<u>83,686</u>	<u>134,106</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Museum and library	38,643	50,383	89,026
Lecture expenses	<u>164</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>164</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>38,807</u>	<u>50,383</u>	<u>89,190</u>
 Net gains on investments	 <u>21,756</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>21,756</u>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>	 33,369	 33,303	 66,672
 <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>700,385</u>	<u>59,066</u>	<u>759,451</u>
 <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	 <u>733,754</u>	 <u>92,369</u>	 <u>826,123</u>

## 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 January 2022	300,000	106,751	19,912	426,663
Additions	<u>853,460</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>853,460</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,153,460</u>	<u>106,751</u>	<u>19,912</u>	<u>1,280,123</u>
 <b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 January 2022	-	25,189	5,704	30,893
Charge for year	<u>10,668</u>	<u>8,804</u>	<u>2,987</u>	<u>22,459</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>10,668</u>	<u>33,993</u>	<u>8,691</u>	<u>53,352</u>
 <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,142,792</u>	<u>72,758</u>	<u>11,221</u>	<u>1,226,771</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>300,000</u>	<u>81,562</u>	<u>14,208</u>	<u>395,770</u>

The historical cost of the freehold properties is £857,862. Freehold property is included in the financial statements at the Members of Council estimation of market value based on a valuation obtained from R Longstaff & Co on 28 March 2013.

The Museum collection is a Heritage Asset which has been amassed over the last 300 years mainly by way of gift and is of such extent that neither cost nor market value, are readily ascertainable. The Society has not obtained a valuation of the Museum collection from the balance sheet, as permitted by paragraph 18.17 of the Charities SORP (FRS102). In most cases it would be impossible to place a reliable value on items in the collection and the volume of unique items mean it would not be practical or a reasonable use of society funds to obtain a valuation.

The cost of additions to the museum collection, library and archives as well as museum has not been capitalised, being written off in the statement of financial activities as museum expenditure. Gifts of exhibits during the year to the Society are not included in the statement of financial activities. The museum collection is on exhibit in the Museum and is available for scholastic research and visits by arrangement with the curator.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 January 2022	168,981
Revaluations	<u>(2,910)</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>166,071</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 December 2022	<u>166,071</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>168,981</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

## 13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>5,612</u>	<u>460</u>

## 14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>7,100</u>	<u>2,438</u>

## 15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	106,011	(7,160)	98,851
Designated fund	524,552	(2,910)	521,642
Designated Building fund	<u>103,191</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,191</u>
	733,754	(10,070)	723,684
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Museum	86,143	829,415	915,558
Library	1,970	(149)	1,821
Building fund	<u>4,256</u>	<u>3,390</u>	<u>7,646</u>
	<u>92,369</u>	<u>832,656</u>	<u>925,025</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>826,123</u>	<u>822,586</u>	<u>1,648,709</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	47,642	(54,802)	-	(7,160)
Designated fund	-	-	(2,910)	(2,910)
	47,642	(54,802)	(2,910)	(10,070)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Museum	915,095	(85,680)	-	829,415
Library	-	(149)	-	(149)
Building fund	3,390	-	-	3,390
	918,485	(85,829)	-	832,656
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>966,127</u>	<u>(140,631)</u>	<u>(2,910)</u>	<u>822,586</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	92,109	13,902	106,011
Designated fund	505,682	18,870	524,552
Designated Building fund	102,594	597	103,191
	700,385	33,369	733,754
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Museum	53,351	32,792	86,143
Library	2,120	(150)	1,970
Building fund	3,595	661	4,256
	59,066	33,303	92,369
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>759,451</u>	<u>66,672</u>	<u>826,123</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	49,388	(38,807)	3,321	13,902
Designated fund	435	-	18,435	18,870
Designated Building fund	<u>597</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>597</u>
	50,420	(38,807)	21,756	33,369
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Museum	83,025	(50,233)	-	32,792
Library	-	(150)	-	(150)
Building fund	<u>661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>661</u>
	<u>83,686</u>	<u>(50,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,303</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>134,106</u>	<u>(89,190)</u>	<u>21,756</u>	<u>66,672</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	92,109	6,742	98,851
Designated fund	505,682	15,960	521,642
Designated Building fund	<u>102,594</u>	<u>597</u>	<u>103,191</u>
	700,385	23,299	723,684
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Museum	53,351	862,207	915,558
Library	2,120	(299)	1,821
Building fund	<u>3,595</u>	<u>4,051</u>	<u>7,646</u>
	<u>59,066</u>	<u>865,959</u>	<u>925,025</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>759,451</u>	<u>889,258</u>	<u>1,648,709</u>



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	97,030	(93,609)	3,321	6,742
Designated fund	435	-	15,525	15,960
Designated Building fund	<u>597</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>597</u>
	98,062	(93,609)	18,846	23,299
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Museum	998,120	(135,913)	-	862,207
Library	-	(299)	-	(299)
Building fund	<u>4,051</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,051</u>
	<u>1,002,171</u>	<u>(136,212)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>865,959</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>1,100,233</u></u>	<u><u>(229,821)</u></u>	<u><u>18,846</u></u>	<u><u>889,258</u></u>

In addition to the unrestricted fund the society has the following designated and restricted funds:

Designated fund:

The council has designated an amount equivalent to the net book value of non-restricted fund fixed assets and investments used to enable the Society to continue to carry on its charitable mission.

Designated building fund:

The council have established a separate fund to work towards the repair and renewal of the society property by designating individual gifts and insurance proceeds received on the property as a building fund.

Restricted building fund:

The council have begun fund raising to provide the reserves required to repair and renew the property from which the society operates in order to be able to provide improved access to and the environment providing suitable protection for the societies collection. Donations and gifts received as part of this fund raising are restricted for these purposes.

Restricted library fund:

Part of the societies collection is a substantial library, which requires significant conservation due to age of many of the books. The council have developed an 'adopt a book' scheme to provide the funds to undertake this work and all income received is restricted for the purposes of library conservation.

Other restricted funds:

Other restricted funds relate to grants received for various projects, which are restricted in use dependent on the terms of the grant in question.

**16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations	6,175	868,390	874,565	5,082
Gift aid	3,550	500	4,050	3,072
Subscriptions	<u>18,817</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,817</u>	<u>19,565</u>
	28,542	868,890	897,432	27,719
<b>Investment income</b>				
Rents received	4,020	-	4,020	-
Dividends	5,372	-	5,372	5,336
Deposit account interest	<u>1,287</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,287</u>	<u>1,032</u>
	10,679	-	10,679	6,368
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Events & activities	4,524	-	4,524	1,125
Grants	<u>2,667</u>	<u>49,595</u>	<u>52,262</u>	<u>98,528</u>
	7,191	49,595	56,786	99,653
<b>Other income</b>				
Retail sales	<u>1,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>366</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>47,642</b>	<b>918,485</b>	<b>966,127</b>	<b>134,106</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Other operating leases	-	12,000	12,000	10,000
Rates	1,277	-	1,277	1,272
Insurance	7,717	-	7,717	6,211
Light, heat and water	7,763	-	7,763	5,341
Postage, stationery & printing	2,779	996	3,775	2,309
Sundries	3,603	-	3,603	664
Repairs and renewals	8,165	-	8,165	3,198
Conservation and preservation of artifacts	124	6,913	7,037	9,050
Magazines and books	293	-	293	44
Conservation of books and archives	37	188	225	1,656
Cleaning	96	-	96	158
Catering	264	-	264	24
Subscriptions and donations	490	-	490	840
Lecture fees and expenses	1,842	-	1,842	577
Professional fees	6,711	16,900	23,611	6,138
Symposium	975	-	975	-
Travel	-	1,061	1,061	280
Retail	-	-	-	483
Grant funded projects	-	24,281	24,281	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>3,225</u>	<u>19,234</u>	<u>22,459</u>	<u>11,641</u>
	45,361	81,573	126,934	59,886

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>Support costs</b>				
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Wages	4,336	-	4,336	4,004
Telephone	1,132	-	1,132	1,277
Accountancy fees	2,034	-	2,034	3,532
Computer and office costs	<u>1,939</u>	<u>4,256</u>	<u>6,195</u>	<u>20,491</u>
	<u>9,441</u>	<u>4,256</u>	<u>13,697</u>	<u>29,304</u>
Total resources expended	<u>54,802</u>	<u>85,829</u>	<u>140,631</u>	<u>89,190</u>
<b>Net income before gains and losses</b>	(7,160)	832,656	825,496	44,916
<b>Realised recognised gains and losses</b>				
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	-	-	-	71
Unrealised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	<u>(2,910)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,910)</u>	<u>21,685</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u>(10,070)</u>	<u>832,656</u>	<u>822,586</u>	<u>66,672</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

The Society maintains membership in a number of Societies and Associations related to our objectives and the contents of our collections. We currently subscribe to and receive the publications of the following organisations:

A I M

Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries  
The Bibliographical Society  
British Numismatic Society  
British Record Association  
Council for British Archaeology  
English Place Name Society  
Fenland Archaeological Trust  
The Harleian Society  
Lincoln Record Society  
Lincolnshire Heritage Forum  
Museum Association  
The Orders and Medals Research Society  
Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology  
The Heritage Trust Network

The Society also receives the following publications, either by donation or subscription

*The Antiquaries Journal*  
*Archaeology*  
*The Bentleian*  
*Genealogists' Magazine*  
*Lincolnshire Life*  
*Coin News*

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The Trustees would like to thank the following organisations, each of which has supported the Society's work to manage, conserve and display its collections and to make them more accessible to members and the public:



Association of  
Independent  
Museums



