



# SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



*The New Artifact Store at Abinger Research Centre  
(photograph by E Corke)*

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

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*How many people does it take to dig one hole. Albury test pitting  
(photograph by Anne Sassin)*

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**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025**

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of Surrey Archaeological Society for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**The Trustees of the charity and the Directors of the company:**

**President:** Miss E Corke (Elected November 2024)

Mr R A Bryson (deceased April 2024).  
Mr D Calow (Secretary) to November 2024  
Mrs E Coburn  
Mr C Coombe  
Miss E Corke Deputy Chair to November 2024  
Mr J Cotton from November 2024  
Mr M A Edwards (Treasurer) to November 2024

Dr J English from November 2024 (deceased April 2025)  
Mrs A C Graham (Joint Editor) from November 2024  
Mr K D Graham (Past President) to November 2024  
Mr P McKee (Treasurer) from November 2024  
Ms C Pittman (Librarian and Archivist)  
Mr M Rose (Secretary) from November 2024

**Vice-Presidents, Honorary Officers and Elected Members**, who are members of Council but, unless marked \*, are not Trustees/Directors:

**Vice-Presidents:**

Dr D G Bird (Past President)  
Mr J F Cotton \*  
Mrs N Cowlard (Past President)  
Miss E Corke \* (Past President)  
Dr J English \*  
Dr D Rudling from November 2024

Mrs A C Graham \*  
Mr K D Graham (Past President)  
Mrs R Hooker  
Dr G P Moss  
Mr D Calow from November 2024  
Mr M Edwards from November 2024

**Honorary Officers:**

Librarian and Archivist: Ms C Pittman \*  
Joint Editors: Mrs A C Graham \*, Ms S Hill, Mr J S Pile  
Editor of *Surrey's Past* and the *e-Newsletter*: Dr A Sassin

**Elected Members:**

Retire 2025: Dr M-J Dawson, Mrs M Sargent, Mr J Brown, Mr C Holland, Mr S Howard  
Retire 2026: Dr G Duncan, Mrs A Morrison, Mrs S Jenkinson  
Retire 2027: Ms S Boggia, Mr C Gibson, Ms K Hawkins, Mrs L Spencer, Mr D Wilkinson  
Retire 2028: Dr M Alexander, Mr J Crouch, Mr A Hall, Ms L Laurent, Dr S Maslin, Mrs S Solarski

**Honorary Vice-Presidents**, who are not members of Council or Trustees/Directors, as at 31 March 2025:

Miss A J Monk (Past President)	Mr A R Hall
Mr J Boulton	Mr A C Sargent
Dr R A Christophers	MR R W Savage
Mr D C H Combe	Mr P A Tarplee
Professor E C Fernie	

**REGISTERED OFFICE:** Research Centre, Hackhurst Lane, Abinger Hammer, Surrey RH5 6SE  
Telephone: 01306 731275; e-mail: [info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk); web: [www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk)

**COMPANY REGISTRATION NO:** 01160052 **REGISTERED CHARITY NO:** 272098

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Kerry Gallagher, FCA, DChA of RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited, Davidson House, Forbury Square, Reading, Berkshire RG1 3EU

**INVESTMENT MANAGER:** Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd, 1 Bishops Wharf, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4UP

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Surrey Archaeological Society was inaugurated on 12 May 1854, incorporated as a company with limited liability on 23 January 1974 and registered as a charity on 13 February 1974. The governing document is the company's Articles of Association dated 18 November 2017. This is the 170th Annual Report of Surrey Archaeological Society and the 51st Annual Report of the incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society. The report and financial statements are for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The Society is governed by the Board of Trustees who are advised by the Council, which meets four times a year, and which includes the Trustees, Vice-Presidents, and Honorary Officers each of whom is elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Council also includes up to 24 members of the Society, six of whom are normally elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve four years. From time to time, members are co-opted to the Council and people from local Heritage organisations are invited to attend.

The Society has Committees and Groups that report to the Council. The Society's investments are managed by an independent investment manager appointed by the Society and supervised by the Investment Committee within guidelines decided by the Trustees. The Research Committee guides research policy and, subject to annual budgets decided by the Trustees, and approvals decided by the Council for grants over £2,500, awards grants to the public and funding for members' projects. The Library and Archives Committee manages the Society's library, archives, and artefacts, decides purchases and recommends disposals subject to review by the Council. The other committees and groups allow members to follow special interests. Each Committee and Group includes Trustees of the charity as ex-officio members.

### **Committee members as at 31 March 2025:**

*Library and Archives Committee:* Ms C Pittman (Chair), Dr M Alexander, Mr D Calow, Miss E Corke, Mrs C Garrard (Surrey Heritage), Mrs R Hooker, Ms H Lynott (Secretary, from April 2024), Mrs A Morrison, Dr M-J Dawson, Dr A Sassin.

*Publications and Editorial Committee:* Dr G P Moss (Chairman), Mrs A C Graham (Joint Honorary Editor), Ms S Hill (Joint Honorary Editor), Mr J. S. Pile (Joint Honorary Editor), Mrs R Hooker (Secretary), Mr R Briggs, Dr A Sassin, Ms L. Collett (Illustrations Editor).

*Research Committee:* Miss Corke (Chair), Mrs R Hooker (Secretary), Dr D Bird (to November 2024), Mr D Calow, Mrs N Cowlard, Mr S Dennison (from January 2025), Dr G Duncan (from April 2024), Mr M Edwards (to November 2024), Mr D Graham, Mr P McKee (from November 2024), Mrs A Morrison (from August 2024), Dr G Moss, Ms C Pittman, Mr M Rose (from November 2024), Mrs A Sassin, Mrs L Spencer.

*Non-voting members:* Dr D Bird (from November 2024), Mr M Butcher, Mr M Edwards (from November 2024), Dr G Lachelin, Ms B Lambert, Mrs S Solarski, Accounts (L Hack) and Librarian (Ms H Lynott).

*Surrey Local History Committee:* Dr G P Moss (Chairman) Mrs J M Balchin (Secretary), Dr M Alexander, Mr S Jenkinson, Dr J Pooley, Dr A Sassin, Mr P Stevens, Dr D Taylor.

*Surrey Industrial History Group:* Mr G Brooks (Chairman), Mr H Anscombe (Secretary), Mr S Dennison (Newsletter Editor), Mr M Herbert, Mr R Shenton, Mr S Ritchie, Mr A Norris.

*Outreach Committee:* Dr A Sassin (Chair), Mr R Briggs, Mrs E Coburn, Mrs R Hooker, Ms C Pittman, Mrs S Solarski, Mrs P Taylor, Mr D Calow, Mr J Brown, Ms S Boggia, Mrs L Spencer, Dr M-J Dawson.

### **Method of recruitment, election and training of trustees and members of Council**

Trustees/Directors and members of Council are elected from the membership of the Society at the Annual General Meetings and are normally selected from those members who are particularly interested and who have skills of value to the Society. Each new Trustee and each new member of the Council receives an induction pack that sets out responsibilities and good practice, explains the policies of the Society and provides copies of previous minutes.

**Risk management**

The Council assesses the potential risks to the Society each year and prepares a five-year rolling strategy to mitigate risks identified and guide new developments. The main risks identified relate to not achieving a broad-based and diverse membership and a consequent shortage of active and experienced members. The risks are mitigated by developing the use of social media, increased training opportunities, active succession planning and increased use of specialist help on excavations. Another key risk is the loss of data, mitigated by a strong backup policy.

**Professional indemnity insurance**

Surrey Archaeological Society has insurance to provide an element of professional indemnity cover for Trustees and Directors amounting to £250,000 in respect of any one claim. This cover is included in the Society's general insurance and the cost is not available separately.

**Trustees' and Directors' responsibilities in the preparation of financial statements**

The Trustees, who are also the Directors of Surrey Archaeological Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the Trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom regarding the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation of other jurisdictions.

**Independent Examiner**

Kerry Gallagher, FCA DChA of RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited has indicated her willingness to continue in office.

**Statement as to Disclosure of Information to the Independent Examiner**

The Trustees and Directors at the date of approval of this Trustees' annual report confirm that, in so far as each of them is aware, there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware, and the Trustees and Directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

**Surrey Archaeological Society staff**

Librarian: Ms Helen Lynott

10.00 -16.00 on Monday and Tuesday

Outreach Project Manager: Dr Anne Sassin (18 hours per week)

**Representation on local committees at 31 March 2025:**

Council for British Archaeology South East	Mrs R J Hooker
Council for British Archaeology London	Mr M Rose to November 2024, Ms C Pittman from November
Reigate Heath Management Committee	Mrs J Newell
Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation	Dr G P Moss
SCC Historic Environment Group	Miss E Corke, Mr D Calow to November 2024, Mr M Rose from November
Surrey Hills Board (advisory member)	Dr A Sassin
Surrey Museums Partnership	Mr D Calow

**Honorary Local Secretaries (Organising Secretary M Rose)**

<i>Cobham, Oxshott &amp; Stoke D'Abernon</i> Dr D C Taylor	<i>Reigate, Redhill, Merstham &amp; Gatton</i> Mr R L Ellaby
<i>Epsom &amp; Ewell</i> Mrs N A Cowlard	<i>Alfold, Cranleigh, Dunsfold, Ewhurst and Hascombe</i> Dr J English
<i>Albury, Chilworth, Shere &amp; St Martha</i> Mr A V Norris	<i>Dockenfield, Farnham and Wrecclesham</i> Mr K D Graham
<i>Ash, Normandy, Pirbright &amp; Worplesdon</i> Mr R Wild	<i>Charlwood, Horley</i> Mrs R J Hooker
<i>The Clandons, Effingham &amp; the Horsleys</i> Mrs A Vallis	<i>Hambledon</i> Miss A Monk
<i>Guildford, Artington, Burpham, Merrow, Peasmarsh, Puttenham, Seale &amp; Sands, Shalford, Stoke &amp; Stoughton, Tongham, Wanborough</i> Mr D Calow	<i>Woking</i> Mr R and Mrs P Savage
<i>Abinger &amp; Wotton</i> Miss E Corke	<i>Croydon</i> Mr C J W Taylor
<i>Ashted and Leatherhead</i> Mr N Bond	<i>Kingston upon Thames</i> Mr J F Cotton
<i>Dorking, Brockham, Mickleham, Milton, Westcott</i> Mr F Pemberton	<i>Merton</i> Mrs R Turner
<i>Fetcham &amp; the Bookhams</i> Mr P Stanley	<i>Richmond upon Thames</i> Mr P Brown
<i>Banstead, Chipstead, Kingswood, Woodmansterne, Walton</i> Mr C J W Taylor	<i>Sutton</i> Mr M Rose

**Membership**

Subscriptions are for the financial year and are due on 1 April. Subscriptions for 2024-25: ordinary members: £30; associate members (living at the same address as an ordinary member): £5; full time student members (between 21 and 26): £12.50; junior members (16 to 20): £6; junior members living at the same address as an ordinary member: free; institutional members in Surrey: £30; elsewhere in UK: £40; overseas: £50. An application form is available on the Society's website.

Members are asked to inform the Secretary of a change of address. Members are also asked to inform the Secretary of their intention to resign and if they learn of the death of any member.



### **Legacies and donations**

The Society is a registered charity and is very grateful for legacies and donations that are an important source of finance to help the Society with its work. Gifts, when relevant to the work of the Society, are gratefully accepted although it may not be possible to accept all offers. The main categories of acceptable gifts are printed books and pamphlets, maps, prints, photographs, original drawings and other graphic matter, manuscript material and significant archaeological finds relating to Surrey.

### **Contributions for publications**

The Editors are pleased to consider articles, notes, and reports for publication in the *Collections*, *Surrey History*, the *e-Newsletter*, *Surrey's Past*, *SIHG Newsletter* or a Research Volume. Consultation at an early stage is advisable so that drawings and other illustrations are prepared to suit page sizes.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The principal aims of Surrey Archaeological Society are to promote the study of the archaeology, prehistory and history of the County of Surrey as defined by the 1854 boundaries and subsequent enlargements. The Society carries out research, excavations, fieldwork and surveys and provides opportunities for the public to visit its sites and for members to train and participate in its activities. The Society arranges meetings, lectures, exhibitions, visits to archaeological sites and places of historical interest and actively encourages research findings to be published in its journals which are increasingly available free of charge on the Society's website. The Society maintains an extensive specialist lending library where books and publications relating to Surrey's heritage may be consulted free of charge by members of the public. Membership of the Society is open and new members are welcome.

The Society published the Surrey Archaeological Research Framework (SARF). This is available free of charge on the Society's website and provides a basis by which the Society's research and activity can be measured and expenditure allocated. This important project was developed with other key heritage organisations in Surrey. Local History conferences and meetings provide opportunities for members of local societies to extend their knowledge and demonstrate the results of their research. These events are publicised on the Society's website and in its regular *e-Newsletter* and in *Surrey's Past*.

The Society makes grants to members of the public and supports projects arranged by its members that contribute towards answering questions raised in the Research Framework. Grants up to and including £2,500 are decided by the Research Committee while grants over £2,500 are decided by the Council. Application forms are available on the Society's website and should be submitted to the secretary of the Research Committee. Applications are assessed based on the relevance of the subject to the Research Framework and the probability that the project will be completed correctly, within the time agreed and, most importantly, that the results will be published. The Society is independent but has shared membership with local, regional and national Heritage organisations. Its local links are with Guildford Museum, Surrey History Centre, Surrey Historic Environment Group, Historic England and many Surrey based local history and archaeological societies and museums. Society members actively support regional groups of Industrial Archaeologists, the Council for British Archaeology as well as Societies in neighbouring counties. The Society maintains links with the heritage department of universities in the region.

### **Public benefit statement**

The main beneficiaries of the charity are those that participate in its activities designed to promote the study of archaeology and history and the main benefit provided to those beneficiaries is enhanced knowledge of the pre-history and history of the County of Surrey. The trustees' assessment of public benefit is based upon the level of participation in its activities and the interest shown by the public more generally in the work of the Society. The trustees have taken The Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit into consideration in preparing this public benefit statement.

It is with great sadness that the deaths of the following members are recorded: Mr Peter Clamp, Mrs Jean Clew, Dr Martin Cole, Dr Malcolm Lyne, Dr Judie English, Dr G Goulty, Mr Peter Smith, and Mr Peter Youngs.

On 31 March 2025, the membership was (31 March 2024 figures in brackets): Honorary 12(3); Life 1(2); Ordinary 465(487); Associate 35(35); Junior 13(19); Student 1(4) and Institutional 77(86). Total 604(636).

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

### Report from the President of the Society

This year saw many changes, some quite major, meaning that a good many members spent a lot of time and effort in achieving unaccustomed goals. It is to the credit of all involved that the accustomed activities of the Society were successfully carried on as normal, with increased participation by both members and non-members.

**To start with the changes:-** Anyone visiting the Research Centre during the summer will have seen the new store being built. I thank the contractor, Dave Darling, for the care and consideration taken during the build and above all for the quality of the workmanship. We now have a solid, well-insulated store that, with care, should solve our storage problems for some time. The building was completed in time for the shelving contractors to fit the shelving near the end of September. There then followed many trips from Guildford Museum's Woking Road Depot Store to move all our archaeological collections from there to the new store. With the assistance of a man-with-a-van all 970 boxes were moved by early February. The Society owes a lot to the great help given throughout by Sarah Leary, Guildford Museum's Collections Manager, and her assistant Rosie Thorburn. The boxes and their contents are now in the care of the newly-formed Collections Review Group under the Library and Archives Committee. Some of the newly-arrived objects can be seen displayed in the Research Centre.

The AGM in November saw the retirement from the board of Trustees of David Calow (Hon Secretary), Mike Edwards (Hon Treasurer) and David Graham (Past President). All had come to the end of their statutory twelve-years limited term as Trustees. The Society owes all of them an enormous debt for the countless hours they have put into their various roles. Those of Secretary and Treasurer in particular demand a great deal of behind-the-scenes work that most members probably never realise happens. We will continue to see all three around as they have other roles within the Society. Martin Rose took over as Hon Secretary and Peter McKee as Hon Treasurer; I am very grateful to both for the energy and enthusiasm with which they took up the roles. Jon Cotton, Judie English and Audrey Graham took the vacant places on the board.

It is with great sorrow that I must report the death of Dr Judie English last month from complications after a road traffic accident. She had been a very active member of the Society for 49 years, leading many projects. A noted landscape archaeologist (among other interests) she will be remembered by many members who took part in field-walking and surveying under her leadership.

Peter Youngs, who was Hon Secretary from 2004-07, and a stalwart on the Library Committee and Lectures Committee for a great many years, also died, at the age of 94. His gentle and kindly presence will be remembered by many members.

**Normal activities:-** While the above changes were taking place we carried on as usual; excavating, surveying, metal-detecting, recording, cleaning, sorting, analysing, writing, editing, reading, arranging and attending conferences and talks, going on visits... in short, discovering, learning and teaching. These are reported on below by the various Groups and Committees, but I must mention – with thanks to all those concerned: Dr Anne Sassin's test-pitting programme at Albury was expanded and is having very interesting results, while her collaborations with other bodies (the National Trust etc) are providing different opportunities for our members. The LIDAR project continues to be popular and produce results.

Excavations at Cocks Farm were supposed to be the last season on this site but the discovery of a roundhouse that extended beyond the trench has led to another in 2025.

We are glad to see an increasing number of work-experience students taking part both on site and at the Research Centre.

Volume 106 of the Collections was a bumper one for those of us particularly keen on the Roman period. The editors are to be congratulated on the very high standard they consistently reach.

AARG's reprints of their Roman, and Saxon and Medieval pottery guides, to which was added one for Post-Medieval (ably written by Andrew Francis), are a great success.



Helen Lynott, the Librarian, has made herself so much part of the Society's life that it is hard to remember that she has only been with us just over a year. Liz Hack's prompt efficiency with the accounts is much appreciated.

The Investment Committee dealt (and are dealing) with the changes in financial management.

The Website Group are working hard to update and improve the website.

Altogether, the events of the past year have shown the Society's resilience. We have met challenges that at a first looked impossible and are turning them into opportunities. If they have also shown us that we rely overmuch on a few individuals then that is another challenge to be overcome.

### **Library and Archives Committee**

The Committee has met four times via Zoom in the past 12 months. In response to a recommendation from Council, new Terms of Reference for the Committee were written and, in accordance with the Climate Change Policy Statement, the lighting at Abinger was upgraded to make it more energy efficient. In January, the old boiler was retired and a new boiler, located in the back porch, made the Research Centre a very pleasant place to work in winter. First aid kits were checked to make sure they were up to date.

Our librarian, Helen Lynott, has settled in well. Her job description was revised to match the way the role has developed. While she remains busy answering enquiries, dealing with journal subscriptions, upgrading catalogue entries and arranging the sales of books, she also has to try to untangle problems arising from several issues created by changes in technology over the past few years. New problems arise with disappointing regularity - Helen is a member of the IT Group, and also liaises with Trustees, other staff, committees and tradespeople. A Library Procedure Manual is taking shape.

A small team of library volunteers has been formed. In addition to helping with enquiries, they have weeded the collection of Surrey historical newsletters, retaining only those not freely available online, created a section of the library solely for our own Society publications, with a separate reserve collection in the New Store, and dealt with old filing, all in an effort to free up storage space. The map collection is also being checked, recorded and catalogued as appropriate, and books that are for sale from the Research Centre have been better organised and listed. There is still a long list of jobs to be undertaken in 2025, and more volunteers are welcome.

The Research Centre is now a place where artefacts, SyAS publications, other research volumes, journals, site archives and maps can be consulted together.

We are grateful to Ann and Mr Paul Bishop, Mr Rob Briggs, Mr Mike Farley, Mr Tony Howe and Merton Historical Society for their donations to the library.

### **Library Statistics**

	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>
Items added	75	63	55	44	76	53
Items withdrawn	5	798	369	530	201	1
Journals and newsletters added to stock	n/a	511	468	401	347	115
Loans	244	69	183	160	148	74
Inter-library loans	4	6	10	13	3	3
Book sales	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	82
Library visits by members	104	24	97	86	89	131
Library visits by non-members	19	0	0	8	24	34
Remote research enquiries from members	42	76	48	39	40	57
Remote research enquiries from non-members	36	44	37	40	55	103

### **IT group**

A group of frequent users of the Society's IT systems meets to manage the Society's IT. The group is currently chaired by David Calow and includes Mrs Liz Hack, Mrs Rose Hooker, Ms Helen Lynott and Dr Anne Sassin. Dr Mary-Jane Dawson and Mrs Lyn Spencer join if they are available. The group mapped the Society's IT arrangements, listed the software and deleted old and unused software. The main decision is to move towards Microsoft 365. The group reviewed the Society's backup arrangements and concluded that everything is backed-up, although key elements are backed-up by third party providers of specialist software. These include the Society's Library resources, emails, membership database and accounting. The group does not cover the website as this is the responsibility of the website subgroup of the Outreach Committee.

### **Outreach Committee**

The Outreach Committee has continued for another successful year in its role of overseeing all the Society's outreach activities, to include website and social media platforms, publications, education and training resources, promotional material, outreach events and activities, and community fieldwork and research projects.

As part of the second season of the Albury Park community test pitting project, geophysics and three weeks of test pitting took place between May and September. Approximately 45 volunteers excavated a total of 30 test pits over the course of the season, which included finds processing and assessment, with an additional 10 volunteers helping with the geophysical survey. Approximately 85 school children from Gosden House School, Peaslake School and Clandon C of E Primary School took part in sessions coordinated by the Churches Conservation Trust's Heritage Learning Officer in June, with at least three college students carrying out work experience through fieldwork. An open day event as part of the Festival of Archaeology in July also gave over 60 visitors the opportunity to not only enjoy the displays, but explore the private terraced gardens and hear a talk about the project in the church. The area covered in the 2024 season was expanded to include the former Dog Kennel Lane and paddock to the immediate north of the Tillingbourne, which has not only further filled out the picture of medieval settlement at the site, but has given strong indications of a Roman building by the river. A third season will continue investigation in 2025.

A week of geophysical fieldwork training also took place in October at Hatchlands as part of a joint venture with the National Trust to investigate the possible site of the former Tudor-period mansion that preceded the current house. This incorporated ground penetrating radar, resistivity and magnetometry surveys, with all 27 volunteers, both from the NT and SyAS, able to take part in and learn all techniques. Although the results revealed formal gardens or old boundaries rather than signs of the demolished structure, new features of the former landscape were revealed that will be evaluated later in 2025.

Two days of LiDAR groundtruthing took place at Leith Hill in April with two Society volunteers with another day at Netley Park (involving three volunteers along with the NT regional archaeologist) also taking place the following March. The records of this work are in the process of being reviewed and submitted to the HER. The Surrey LiDAR Portal has continued to receive high levels of interaction and interest, with just under 800 registrants and over 800 citizen records digitised.

A number of outreach talks on local fieldwork and the work of the Society were given in the winter and spring, including to the Guildford Rotary Club, Camberley Archaeology U3A, Westcott Local History Group, Friends of Hurtwood, and the Annual Symposium. Thanks to the volunteers from the Outreach Committee, the Society was represented at a careers fair at Lord Wandsworth School and at the Kingston Museum's Saxon Fayre, another Festival of Archaeology event, where they welcomed dozens of visitors to the stall. The team who organised these days are warmly thanked, as it is only through support like this that the Society is able to be represented at such events throughout the county.

The Society's multi-period Archaeology of Surrey leaflets continue to be popular at events and at museums which display them, and council members are reminded that stock is available from Abinger for them to be shared more widely in the community. QGIS training was run in September, with further courses intended, depending on demand. Council members are reminded that ideas for training needs are welcome and should be raised with the Outreach Manager.

A sub-group of the Committee was formed to specifically deal with the ongoing need to update the website and has met since the summer to address immediate issues. This included approving the small-scale upgrade of the website from Drupal 7 to the newest Drupal 10 version, which will provide improvements in the short term. A proposal was put forward for a longer-term upgrade and redesign to the website, including changes to the basic homepage layout and

menu structure, which was approved by the Trustees, and further work continues on content changes, with, hopefully, a redesign finished by early autumn 2025.

Currently the SyAS Facebook page has 1,166 followers, Instagram 1,144 followers, and the SyAS YouTube channel 148 subscribers. The latter now contains 31 videos of recorded talks since first being set-up three years ago, with over 7,500 views in total. In line with other heritage organisations and partners, the Society has ceased using its Twitter account and replaced it with Bluesky, with followers slowly accumulating. Its mailing list for the e-newsletter, available to both members and non-members, now goes out to 771 recipients, with 414 of those members receiving digital copies of Society publications.

### **Publications and Editorial Committee**

Volume 106 of the *Collections* was published in December 2024 and volume 23 of *Surrey History* was also published in October. Three issues of *Surrey's Past* were published and a monthly e-newsletter circulated by email.

Postage costs about £3,000 per volume. The Society is looking at ways to reduce this cost including for someone to supervise hand delivery of the *Collections*. Organising hand delivery involves about once a year the delivery of the volumes, dividing into batches for delivery by volunteers and organising their distribution.

The editors are thanked for their hard work in maintaining the high standard of the Society's publications.

### **Research Committee**

The Research Committee is responsible for the grants and allocations given by the Society (Grants are awarded to external projects and organisations, allocations to Society ones). The Committee decides if and how much should be given and then ensures that the project has fulfilled the terms of the grant or allocation. Committee members represent the other Committees and Groups so that all aspects of the Society's interests are covered. As for most committees, all meetings were held on Zoom.

The Research Symposium was held on 8 March 2025 at East Horsley Village Hall, organised by Sylvia Solarski and Ann Morrison, Talks ranging widely in date and topic, chaired by Lyn Spencer and Emma Corke, were enjoyed by a rather disappointingly small audience. The Margary award was won jointly by Mr B Rice for his publication on recent research of Wotton Church and AARG for their recently published pottery identification guides.

A Heritage Open Day was held at the Abinger Research Centre on 15 September when the Abinger lithics group led by Sylvia Solarski and Chris Taylor held a working party. Other groups had displays and were present to welcome visitors, who were few but enthusiastic.

A grant was given to Mr P Hopkins towards the digitization of the Merton manorial rolls. Allocations were given to fund the 2024 excavation at Cocks Farm Abinger; the photography of significant metal objects from Flexford; to Chris Gibson for C14 dating of a stone feature near Rapsley Roman villa (which he decided not to take up); to Emma Corke for further C14 dating of features at Cocks Farm; and to the Domestic Buildings Research Group towards the conservation of the drawings which had been used in our joint publication *The Development of Timber Framing in Surrey's Old Buildings*.

### **Surrey Industrial History Group**

SIHG ran a full 2024-25 programme, including eight evening Zoom talks and six live afternoon talks at Leatherhead. The Zoom talks were very popular, with an average of 59 attendees per talk, about 50% up on attendances for the 2023-24 Zoom meetings; the average attendance for live talks, however, was only 28, which is a little disappointing. We will seek to increase attendances at live talks next year by scheduling two or three live spring talks in the evenings, and actively promoting the live talks through more channels.

We also enjoyed our first daytrip for some years, a very interesting tour of Kensal Green Cemetery with a "railways & engineers" theme, and have another two trips planned for June & July 2025, to the Rural Life Museum and a tour of the industrial archaeology of Farnham.

We have been producing short bi-monthly newsletters for members, and will be producing a journal of longer articles later in the year. We hope to be giving our first "SIHG Conservation Award" for several years later this

year, and also get a regular scheme of small grants to museums and other heritage organisations up and running. We hope these will, in a small way, help and encourage conservation of, and interest in, Surrey's industrial heritage.

During the year we sold 51 publications at meetings and events, raising a total of £245. We are currently investigating reprinting the booklet "Abinger and the Royal Greenwich Observatory - The Recording of Magnetism and Time", for which there is a continuing demand (as there is for several of our older books). Also, we plan to investigate if an extensive rewrite and reprint of our booklet "Surrey Roads - from Turnpike to Motorway" is viable.

Our 2025-26 talks programme is over 90% complete, with seven live talks and eight Zoom talks booked. We have tried to schedule a varied programme that will appeal beyond our core long-term membership.

Membership of SIHG has increased from about 110 to 177 over the last year, which is very welcome, but the SIHG Committee would like to get more members actively involved in the running of the group, and more new blood on the committee. To this end, we have scheduled a live members' talks session.

### **Surrey Local History Committee**

A successful autumn meeting was held on "Medieval Surrey" jointly with the Medieval Studies Group. The meeting was well attended with an interesting programme. The Spring meeting on "Surrey Photographers" had a very enjoyable programme but unfortunately was poorly attended. This was in part due to problems with the Society's online booking system.

The autumn meeting on "Conservation of Records" is planned for 11 October. As this will include visits to the conservation department of Surrey History Centre numbers attending will be limited and bookings will be taken by Surrey History Centre.

### **Artefacts and Archives Recording Group**

Artefacts and Archives Recording encompasses a Pottery group focusing mainly on Roman pottery, a Medieval Pottery group and two Lithics groups.

The Artefacts and Archives pottery group meets on a Wednesday evening to examine mainly, but not exclusively, Roman pottery. The group weigh and measure every sherd of pottery from a site and examine the form and fabric of the pottery and suggest a date range. The group has grown this year with the addition of two students, El and Annabelle, who have been studying on an Access course and will be going to university in September. Jenny, who completed her degree last year, is a more recent addition to the group, but having successfully gained a job at an archaeological unit she will soon be re-locating. The group has been mainly working on pottery from Rapsley Roman Villa, which is still ongoing with many boxes yet to examine. Other sites include pottery from Hampton's excavation at Ashted Roman Villa, and pottery of different periods from Albury Park. We also helped Jon Cotton, in preparing a final report on the Hatch Furlong excavation. One of our most interesting sites was Roman pottery from a field near the Farley Heath temple. Two kilns were found in this field in an excavation by A.W.G Lowther and R G Goodchild in 1939, and their brief report suggested this may have been an industrial area (*Surrey Archaeological Collections* 48). The pottery fabric from the kiln was grey and the quartz inclusions well-sorted making it virtually indistinguishable from pottery found at Alice Holt, Farnham.

The Medieval Pottery group meets at Abinger Research Centre on alternate Sundays. The group have completed the examination of the pottery from The Hythe in Staines, which was an excavation carried out by the late Phil Jones of the SCAU. This excavation, in the car park of a local hotel, resulted in large amounts of pottery and ceramic building material, but no final report was produced. The group has also examined a large quantity of pottery from the Ashted Medieval pottery kiln, which was excavated after builders had demolished a bungalow.

The new Lithics group meets on Sunday mornings at the Abinger Research Centre on an almost monthly basis. As well as analysing members' own lithic collections, the group has examined assemblages from Surrey sites including Albury Park and Mill Mead, as well as the Kent site of Lullingstone.

### **Collections Review Group**

This Group was set up in December 2024 as a result of the reception at the Research Centre of the Society's archaeological archive from Guildford Museum's store at the Woking Road depot. The aim of the Group is to reassess all the accessioned collection, using up-to-date methods and codes, producing a digital record that will ultimately be placed on the Society's website for the use of researchers. It is hoped that this will raise the profile of Surrey's archaeology, particularly our more important sites, some of which are currently not as well-known as they should be. The Group is co-operating with the Medieval and Roman Pottery groups to achieve this end.

So far work has been completed on three of the sites with smaller archives, while of the larger Ashted Roman Villa and Tilery is almost finished (136 boxes of which 43 contained un-accessioned items; 354 accessioned items: this does not include finds from David Bird's 2006-16 excavations). A good start has been made on Rapsley Roman villa (the largest remaining in terms of finds, with 78 boxes; 3664 accessioned items). Work includes not just rerecording but also identifying any finds to be discarded and accessioning anything worth keeping that has not yet been accessioned. Guildford Museum's catalogues, including their cards, are of great assistance in this work. This has of course not all been achieved since January, but is largely the result of many months of earlier work by the pottery groups and especially by the Thursday group from which the CRG derives.

Group members: Ms E Corke, Mr S Dobinson, Ms L Laurent (and others who have helped include Mrs A O'Gorman, Mr C Gibson, Mr R Jewell and Mr P Burgess). The Group welcomes new members and students on work experience.

### **Medieval Studies Forum**

The Medieval Studies Forum had a slow start to the year 2024–25. The first notable events were two MSF-led but SyAS-badged activities delivered on consecutive days in late July 2024. The first was a stall at the Saxon Fayre held in the historic Market Place of Kingston upon Thames on Saturday, 27 July, visited by a great many people over the course of several very hot hours. The second was the open day for the 2024 season of test pitting for the Albury Park community archaeology project, which took place on Sunday, 28 July. We even managed to persuade some visitors at the Kingston event to go to the one happening in Albury the next day.

The Forum held a joint symposium with the Surrey Local History Committee, appropriately on the subject 'Medieval Surrey', on 12 October at the Surrey History Centre in Woking. Attendees were treated to papers on the early medieval charter texts relevant to Farnham; the cave-shrine at St Catherine's Hill near Guildford and its context; the rich documentary sources pertaining to Surrey's late 15th-century gentry; the insights to medieval life in Surrey provided by manorial accounts; and the stories of medieval and later Chaldon Court and Rowhurst near Leatherhead.

On 14th November, our annual lecture and AGM double-header on Zoom. The AGM saw the re-election of the existing MSF committee and, following Dr Mary Alexander's decision to step down earlier in the year, the election of Janet Wilson as an ordinary committee member. The lecture that followed, was given by Prof Ian Freestone (formerly of the UCL Institute of Archaeology), who spoke brilliantly about 'Medieval Glass', from the early days of its manufacture to the important distinction between coloured and stained glass.

Our final event of the reporting year was also our first MSF-only, in-person meeting; a study day dedicated to 'Medieval Houses' held in East Horsley on 22 March 2025. The day was a great success, with a packed room hearing talks on standing buildings (including West Horsley Place, which attracted several first-time attendees owing to its turn as Button Hall on the television series 'Ghosts'), relevant documentary sources, archaeological excavation results, and the various things required to make a brick in late medieval to post-medieval Surrey.

The Forum committee has met several times via Zoom over the course of the year to propose and prepare events and reflect on the successes or otherwise of events that had recently happened. Enhancements to the MSF pages of the SyAS website were also discussed, but not progressed on account of the delays to the wider SyAS website overhaul. The January 2025 committee meeting also saw the first of a series of discussions about the future direction of the Forum.

At the end of the reporting year, the committee comprised: Mr R Briggs (Chair), Mrs P Savage (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Mrs S Jenkinson (Meetings & Events Secretary), Mrs L Spencer, Dr A Sassin, Dr P Balmer, Mrs J Wilson.

### **Prehistoric Group**

The Prehistoric Group held a successful study day in the Leatherhead Institute on Later Prehistoric pottery in May 2024. A small team continues to catalogue the Rankine Collection held in Farnham Museum and this is ongoing with regular monthly meetings due to finish in summer 2025. The Reigate lithics group continued to work on both the lithics from the Abinger excavation of 2024 and completed cataloguing the large collection from the 1960s excavation at Weston Wood. An expert report on Weston Wood should be arranged in 2025-26.

The Zoom talk for the Group was given by Professor Mike Parker Pearson of UCL at the Society AGM in November. The e-newsletter of digital links for mainly news across the range of prehistory continues. Future events are now under consideration for 2025-26.

### **Roman Studies Group**

Members of the Roman Studies Group are actively interested in all aspects of Roman Surrey and the main themes of Roman South-East England. The Group organises excavations, conferences, a monthly series of winter talks, training, workshops and visits to notable Roman sites and current excavations.

We are working more closely with the Sussex School of Archaeology and History (SSAH) which helps develop more wide-ranging projects. The *Shining a Light on the disposal of the dead in Roman South-East England* conference held in conjunction with SSAH in 2023-24 was successful and publication of the talks is in progress. A second joint conference *Shining a Light on Roman Rural Settlements in South-East England* was also a success with about 100 attendees in the hall and 100 online.

The 2024 excavations at Cocks Farm Abinger provided important new evidence for this multi-period site. A further complex pit produced 325g of Grooved Ware-style pottery and 5606g of flint, two thirds of which was struck. Two more roundhouses were found (RH6 and RH7), both double-walled, with a suggested date of c2289-2130 BC from charcoal in the above associated pit. A small, oval Iron Age pit contained possible pottery wasters and six sherds decorated with finger grooves with stab holes in the base of each groove. Charcoal from this pit was dated 207-50 BC. Seven tree holes contained prehistoric but no Roman material supporting the previous interpretation of a few prehistoric trees on the site but no Roman or later trees yet identified in this area. The main east-west Roman boundary ditch was found to continue into T37 and T38 with late Roman pottery in the upper fill suggesting it was at least partly open after AD 350, and an east-west line of postholes appeared more typical of the wall of an additional Roman building than a fence, an identification confirmed in 2025. We were pleased to welcome a second team of archaeology students from Austin Community College, Texas, to work on the site for the first week of the excavation.

The winter talk season was again held on zoom, giving us the opportunity to invite speakers from further afield. David Millum brought us up to date on recent work at the defended Roman roadside settlement at Bridge Farm, Professor Ian Freestone spoke on the *Long Roman Glass Industry*, Chris Gibson told us about the results of his Roman Roads team in the Ewhurst area and their work with young students at Sayer's Croft, Dr David Bird kindly explained his prior-to-publication analysis of Ashted Roman villa, Emma Corke told us about Cocks Farm, as described above, and Lilian Ladle discussed her remarkable excavations at Druce Farm Roman villa, near Dorchester.

John Felton kindly arranged visits to Bridge Farm and Rocky Clump, Fishbourne and Bosham and to Stanchester Roman Villa. After seven years of organising excellent events, John has decided to hand this responsibility on and must be thanked for the enthusiasm and care he has brought to the task. Our thanks are also due to Nikki Cowlard for her constant support not only as Secretary but with organising the Cocks Farm excavations, helping with conferences and dealing with the many things needed to help a Group run smoothly.

Committee members: Mr D Calow (Chairman and Treasurer), Mrs N Cowlard (Secretary), Dr D Bird, Miss E Corke, Dr G Duncan (Roman coins), Mr J Felton (visits), Mrs K French, Mr D Graham, Dr G Lachelin, Dr D Rudling (SSAH), and Mrs L Spencer.

### **Scheduled Monument Monitors**

Historic England relies on local volunteer monitors to report regularly on the condition of accessible Scheduled Monuments in the modern County of Surrey. There are 165 scheduled monuments in total although several are on private land or not safe to visit. Martin Rose coordinates the monitors. Some 66 sites have had written reports

and photographs sent to Historic England and the HER in the last three years. A further 17 have been monitored but not in the last three years. There are about 16 monitors at present, about two less than a year ago so we would welcome more volunteers to take 'ownership' of a monument.

## **FINANCIAL RESULTS OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

Total income for the year amounted to £134,399 (2023-24: £136,804), total expenditure was £127,830 (2023-24: £141,129) and net losses on investments were £71,117 (2023-24 net gains £72,362), resulting in an overall net loss for the year of £64,548 (2023-24 net surplus £69,037). Income predominantly comprises unrestricted investment income generated from the Society's investment portfolio managed by Charles Stanley & Co Ltd. Most expenditure is incurred directly on the Society's charitable activities, including running the research library, organising conferences and lectures, and carrying out archaeological excavations. All these activities are available to both members and non-members of the Society. In addition, the Society also makes grants for research and reports available to third parties relevant to the objectives of the Society. The financial results for 2024-25 also incorporate expenditure incurred in the construction of a new building/store at the Research Centre, Abinger.

The Trustees have determined that the resources of the Roman Studies Group, Medieval Studies Forum, Surrey Industrial History Group and Plateau Group, along with the Anniversary Appeal Fund, and the Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund, should be Restricted Funds and have been accounted for accordingly.

**Reserves Policy:** - The Society's principal source of annual unrestricted income continues to be investment income received from the Society's investments portfolio. While annual and regular donations under Gift Aid are an important additional source of funds for the Society, the Trustees want to avoid reliance on voluntary income to supplement the annual budget. Accordingly, the Society's reserves held in the form of an investment policy have a vital role to play in the on-going funding of charitable activities. The Trustees rely on an annual level of income agreed between the Investment committee and Treasurer, together with the advice of the investment advisors to support the annual budget approved by the Trustees. The Trustees believe the combination of investment income and voluntary income will be sufficient to enable the Society to fulfil its charitable objectives in the near future.

Total Society funds at 31 March 2025 were £2,525,017 (2024: £2,589,565), including restricted funds of £62,649 (2024: £64,308). Amounts used to fund tangible and heritage assets totalled £273,927 (2024: £236,395). Therefore, the Society's free reserves as at 31 March 2025 were £2,188,441 (31 March 2024: £2,288,862).

**Investment Strategy:** - Because the Society is dependent upon monies from its investment portfolio, the investment strategy is to maintain a medium to high-risk portfolio to generate return from which the Society can draw funds to support its activities. During the Financial year, the Trustees asked the Society's Investment Committee to undertake a review and report on the execution of the strategy in consultation with the Society's investment managers. After a Trustee review of the Committee's recommendations, revisions were authorised to better secure returns from the portfolio and to reflect current investment methods. One change was to reduce the emphasis on investment income and to give the managers more scope to produce capital return, but the investment strategy remains to generate return from a medium to high-risk portfolio. It remains a priority that the portfolio continues to meet the requirements of the Society's investment strategy derived from the reserves policy as described above. Within the yearend review after consulting with investment managers and auditors the valuation of the Home Reit holding was reduced to £4,858. The investment performance is regularly reviewed against a variety of measures such as the FTSE APCIMS Balanced Portfolio Index and the Asset Risk Consultancy charity indices. The Society's Investment Committee receives regular reports from the Investment managers and meets them on a quarterly basis. The Investment Committee will undertake a review of the management arrangements in 2026. The Trustees are satisfied with the internal governance of the investment portfolio.

## **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The long-term strategy is for the Society to remain an independent charity promoting the study of the archaeology, prehistory and history of the County of Surrey as defined by the 1854 boundaries and subsequent enlargements.



The medium-term aim is to increase the quantity, quality, and accessibility of the Society's research. The Society has increased the amount of the Society's documents that are digitised and freely available on the Society's website. The website will be upgraded to make these more easily accessible. New equipment has been purchased and members trained in its use so that excavations can be carefully targeted and precisely located and new discoveries made. New methods and partners are being developed so that more people can get involved. Closer links with neighbouring universities will help members improve their skills and enable their students to work on Surrey sites.

#### **FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN**

The Society maintains some restricted funds given for a particular purpose by donors and fund-raisers and occasionally holds modest amounts as custodian for small heritage groups without their own bank accounts.

This report was approved by the Trustees and Directors on [REDACTED] 2025 and signed on their behalf by

M Rose, Hon Secretary

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Surrey Archaeological Society (the charitable company) for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 17 to 31.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the charitable company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charitable 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 charitable company's financial statements 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.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit go beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and 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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed: Kerry Gallagher

Date:.....

Name: Kerry Gallagher, FCA DChA

Name of applicable listed body: The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional body: Chartered Accountant

On behalf of RSM UK TAX AND ACCOUNTING LIMITED

Chartered Accountants

Davidson House, Forbury Square, Reading, Berkshire RG1 3EU

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(including Income and Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	45,050	414	45,464	32,450
Charitable activities	3	6,214	800	7,014	11,176
Investments	4	81,921	-	81,921	93,178
<b>Total</b>		<b>133,185</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>134,399</b>	<b>136,804</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		(16,496)	-	(16,496)	(16,094)
Charitable activities	5	(108,461)	(2,873)	(111,334)	(125,035)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(124,957)</b>	<b>(2,873)</b>	<b>(127,830)</b>	<b>(141,129)</b>
Net (losses)/gains on investments	10	(71,117)	-	(71,117)	73,362
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<b>(62,889)</b>	<b>(1,659)</b>	<b>(64,548)</b>	<b>69,037</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(62,889)</b>	<b>(1,659)</b>	<b>(64,548)</b>	<b>69,037</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2024		2,525,257	64,308	2,589,565	2,520,528
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,462,368</b>	<b>62,649</b>	<b>2,525,017</b>	<b>2,589,565</b>
		=====	=====	=====	=====

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(including Income and Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	30,544	1,906	32,450	26,023
Charitable activities	3	9,306	1,870	11,176	10,859
Investments	4	92,603	575	93,178	95,372
<b>Total</b>		<b>132,453</b>	<b>4,351</b>	<b>136,804</b>	<b>132,254</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		(16,094)	-	(16,094)	(16,202)
Charitable activities	5	(119,755)	(5,280)	(125,035)	(111,791)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(135,849)</b>	<b>(5,280)</b>	<b>(141,129)</b>	<b>(127,993)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	10	72,429	933	73,362	(219,050)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>69,033</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>69,037</b>	<b>(214,789)</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>69,033</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>69,037</b>	<b>(214,789)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2023		2,456,224	64,304	2,520,528	2,735,317
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,525,257</b>	<b>64,308</b>	<b>2,589,565</b>	<b>2,520,528</b>
		=====		=====	=====

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY****BALANCE SHEET  
as at 31 March 2025**

Company Registration Number: 01160052

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets:</b>			
Tangible assets	8	38,927	1,395
Heritage assets	9	235,000	235,000
Investments	10	2,159,553	2,249,541
		<u>2,433,480</u>	<u>2,485,936</u>
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Debtors	11	8,777	20,192
Cash at bank		107,620	115,133
		<u>116,397</u>	<u>135,325</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(24,860)	(31,696)
		<u>91,537</u>	<u>103,629</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			
		<u>2,525,017</u>	<u>2,589,565</u>
		=====	=====
<b>Total assets less current liabilities and total net assets</b>			
		<u>2,525,017</u>	<u>2,589,565</u>
		=====	=====
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Restricted income funds	15	62,649	64,308
Unrestricted funds	15	2,462,368	2,525,257
		<u>2,525,017</u>	<u>2,589,565</u>
		=====	=====
<b>Total charity funds</b>	16		

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to small companies.

The Trustees' and Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act; and
- The Trustees and Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements on pages 17 to 31 were approved by the Trustees and Directors and authorised for issue on....., and are signed on their behalf by

Miss E Corke, **President**Mr P McKee, **Treasurer**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Company information**

Surrey Archaeological Society (the charitable company) is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office and principal place of business is at The Research Centre, Hackhurst Lane, Abinger Hammer, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6SE.

The charitable company's principal activities are disclosed in the Trustees' Annual Report.

**Basis of accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and under the historical cost convention, except as modified for the annual revaluation of fixed asset investments.

Within the definitions of FRS 102, the charity is a public benefit entity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in more detail below and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the charitable company, and 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).

**Going concern**

The Trustees and Directors have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and be able to meet all of its financial obligations as they fall due for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements. Accordingly, the Trustees and Directors consider it is appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on the going concern basis.

The financial statements do not include any adjustments that would result should the going concern basis of preparation not be appropriate. In the event that this basis is not appropriate provisions may be required and assets may need to be written down to their recoverable amount.

**Income**

Members' subscriptions, donations and other similar types of voluntary income are brought into account when receivable and voluntary income is included net of any tax recoverable where relevant. Donations given for specific purposes are treated as restricted income.

Investment income and any tax recoverable on interest income are accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other types of income are also accounted for on a receivable basis and recognised in the statement of financial activities when earned by the charitable company.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is allocated directly to the charitable company's principal activities or is recognised as governance or investment management costs.

Grants payable are recognised in the period in which the grants are approved by the charitable company's Trustees and Directors and the approval is conveyed to the claimant, except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised only when the conditions attaching to the grants are fulfilled.

**Publications**

The financial statements do not recognise any value in respect of publications held for resale. The costs of production are written-off as incurred and any proceeds generated thereon by way of sales are credited through the statement of financial activities when received.

**Tangible fixed assets**

All tangible assets purchased that have a cost that exceeds £2,000 and an expected useful economic life that exceeds one year are capitalised and classified as fixed assets. Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write each asset down to its estimated residual value evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Property	- 4% straight line basis
Archaeological equipment	- 25% reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line basis
Other equipment	- 25% reducing balance

**Heritage assets**

The charitable company is the custodian of certain heritage assets in the form of research material, maps, prints and artefacts. This collection of material relating to the archaeology of Surrey is an important historical archive of information and is held by the Society to advance the preservation and conservation objectives of the charity. Access to these heritage assets is encouraged for study and research purposes and can be obtained by prior arrangement through the Society.

Newly purchased heritage assets are initially measured and recognised at their cost. Heritage assets donated to the Society are measured and recognised at their insurance value. At each balance sheet date, the Society's heritage assets are carried at the overall historic valuation for the whole collection.

**Investments**

The charitable company's investments are included in the balance sheet at fair value (their market value). The gains or losses arising upon their annual revaluation are included in the statement of financial activities.



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Leased assets and obligations**

All of the charity's leases are "operating leases" and the annual rentals are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

**Financial instruments**

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments are therefore classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement as financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the entity after deducting all of its liabilities.

**Financial assets and liabilities**

The charitable company's debtors and creditors that meet the definition of either a financial asset or a financial liability are initially recognised at the transaction value and thereafter are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund accounting**

The general fund comprises the accumulated surpluses of unrestricted income over expenditure, which are available for use in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company.

Designated funds are a particular form of unrestricted funds consisting of amounts, which have been allocated or designated for specific purposes by the Trustees and Directors. The use of designated funds remains at the discretion of the Trustees and Directors.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific conditions imposed by donors. The purpose and use of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts. Amounts unspent at the year end are carried forward in the balance sheet.

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

2.	<b>DONATIONS AND LEGACIES</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
	Members' donations	17,298	-	17,298	17,363
	Other donations, bequests and grants	25,584	414	25,998	12,397
	Tax recoverable	2,168	-	2,168	2,690
		<u>45,050</u>	<u>414</u>	<u>45,464</u>	<u>32,450</u>
		=====		=====	=====
3.	<b>INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
	SRF Conference	-	-	-	200
	Research Symposium	627	-	627	1,118
	Other events	834	518	1,352	3,027
	Publications	4,659	282	4,941	6,648
	Other income	94	-	94	183
		<u>6,214</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>7,014</u>	<u>11,176</u>
		=====		=====	=====
4.	<b>INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
	Investment portfolio	80,692	-	80,692	91,615
	Interest	1,229	-	1,229	988
	COIF Unit Trust income	-	-	-	575
		<u>81,921</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,921</u>	<u>93,178</u>
		=====		=====	=====

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

5.	<b>EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b> £	<b>Restricted funds</b> £	<b>Total 2025</b> £	<b>Total 2024</b> £
	Direct costs:				
	Excavation costs	7,319	-	7,319	5,991
	Tools and equipment under £1,000	192	100	292	597
	Research Symposium	820	-	820	286
	Other events	1,051	1,756	2,807	3,748
	Surrey's Past and other publication costs	14,630	792	15,422	19,450
	Surrey History	989	-	989	1,594
	Library staff and other costs	16,807	-	16,807	18,416
	Subscriptions to allied societies	162	-	162	-
	Grants to third parties	766	225	991	6,020
	Outreach costs	22,373	-	22,373	22,705
		65,109	2,873	67,982	78,807
	Support costs:				
	Office staff and other operating costs	15,124	-	15,124	23,534
	Operating leases – land and buildings	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
	Storage and property rates	3,168	-	3,168	2,045
	Volunteers travelling costs	372	-	372	-
	Council and committee expenses	-	-	-	8
	Trustee indemnity insurance	-	-	-	486
	Professional fees	11,861	-	11,861	8,816
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	99
	Depreciation	1,927	-	1,927	498
		38,452	-	38,452	41,486
	Governance costs:				
	Independent examiner's fee	4,314	-	4,314	4,110
	Annual report	552	-	552	619
	Filing fee	34	-	34	13
		4,900	-	4,900	4,742
	<b>TOTAL FOR CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	108,461	2,873	111,334	125,035
		=====			=====

# SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

6.	STAFF COSTS	2025 No.	2024 No.
	The average monthly number of persons employed by the Society (including Trustees and Directors) during the year was, as follows:		
	Direct charitable	2	2
	Trustees and Directors	9	9
		<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
		=====	=====
		£	£
	Staff costs	25,459	31,575
	Pension costs	398	479
		<u>25,857</u>	<u>32,054</u>
		=====	=====

No employee received total emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the current or previous year, and the charitable company has no employees that meet the definition of key management personnel.

No Trustee or Director received remuneration from the charitable company during the current or previous year.

## 7. CONTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The administration of the Society relies upon volunteers, who freely give their time but who, due to the frequency of their visits to the office, are reimbursed for travel costs.

During the year two trustees were reimbursed for any expenses of £372 (2023-24: none).

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

8.	TANGIBLE ASSETS	Property	Computer	Other	Total
		£	equipment	equipment	£
	Cost:		£	£	
	1 April 2024	-	2,251	17,408	19,659
	Additions	39,460	-	-	39,460
	31 March 2025	39,460	2,251	17,408	59,119
	Depreciation:				
	1 April 2024	-	2,251	16,013	18,264
	Charges in the year	1,579	-	349	1,928
	31 March 2025	1,579	2,251	16,362	20,192
	Net book value:				
	31 March 2025	37,881	-	1,046	38,927
		=====			=====
	31 March 2024	-	-	1,395	1,395
		=====			=====
9.	HERITAGE ASSETS			2025	2024
				£	£
	Carried in the balance sheet at value:				
	At 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025			235,000	235,000
				=====	=====
	Historical cost or valuation on acquisition:				
	At 31 March 2024 and at 31 March 2025			14,728	14,728
				=====	=====

The charitable company is the custodian of certain heritage assets in the form of research material, maps, prints and artefacts. This collection of material relating to the archaeology of Surrey is an important historical archive of information and is held by the Society to advance the preservation and conservation objectives of the charity. Access to these heritage assets is encouraged for study and research purposes and can be obtained by prior arrangement through the Society. At each year end, the society members review the heritage assets for any changes in their valuations. They have concluded that at the 31 March 2025, there is no change in the value of the assets.

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

10. INVESTMENTS	2025 £	2024 £
Market value at 1 April 2024	2,249,541	2,118,494
Additions at cost	2,291,984	533,478
Disposal proceeds	(2,310,855)	(475,793)
Realised gains/(losses)	36,194	(9,561)
Unrealised (losses)/gains	(107,311)	82,923
Market value at 31 March 2025	2,159,553 =====	2,249,541 =====
At the balance sheet date, the market value of the portfolio comprised:		
UK investments	349,486	1,197,909
Overseas investments	1,810,067	1,051,632
	2,159,553 =====	2,249,541 =====
Fixed income securities	450,250	743,494
Equities	1,199,612	1,230,309
Property	112,194	98,139
Alternative investments	397,497	177,599
	2,159,553 =====	2,249,541 =====

At the balance sheet date, the historical cost of the investments was £2,275,957 (31 March 2024: £2,173,627).

	2025 £	2024 £
Individual holdings representing more than 5% of the market value of the portfolio at the balance sheet date are as follows:		
M&G Global Dividend Fund	148,657	-
Legal & General International Index Trust	147,947	-
Premier Milton Investment Funds	110,069	-
PGIM Funds Global Real Estate	107,337	-
Schroder Unit Trusts Strategic Distribution	-	123,848
	514,010 =====	123,848 =====

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

<b>11. DEBTORS</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Due within one year:		
Investment income receivable	1,758	10,351
Other debtors	2,169	3,971
Prepayments	4,850	5,870
	<u>8,777</u>	<u>20,192</u>
	=====	=====

<b>12. CREDITORS</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade creditors	872	1,181
Subscriptions in advance	2,700	4,812
Grants payable	10,341	15,285
Other creditors and accruals	10,947	10,418
	<u>24,860</u>	<u>31,696</u>
	=====	=====

Deferred income brought forward at 1 April	4,812	4,257
Deferred income released to the SOFA in the year	(4,812)	(4,257)
Income received in the year and deferred at the year-end	2,700	4,812
	<u>2,700</u>	<u>4,812</u>
	=====	=====

At the balance sheet date, the charity had deferred income relating to subscriptions for the following year.

<b>13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets:		
Equity instruments measured at fair value	2,159,553	2,249,541
	=====	=====

**14. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES**

At the year end, the charitable company was committed to make the following total future minimum payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
In respect of land & building leases –		
Within one year	6,000	6,000
Between two and five years	24,000	24,000
After five years	12,000	18,000
	<u>42,000</u>	<u>48,000</u>
	=====	=====



# SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

### 15. THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains on investments £	Transfers between funds £	31 March 2025 £
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>						
Anniversary Appeal Fund	3,527	-	-	-	-	3,527
Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund	7,767	-	(872)	-	-	6,895
<i>Specialist interest group funds:</i>						
Surrey Industrial History Group	40,129	644	(1,075)	-	-	39,698
Guildford Group	925	-	-	-	-	925
Plateau Group	1,278	50	-	-	-	1,328
Roman Studies Group	7,960	25	(225)	-	-	7,760
Medieval Studies Forum	2,722	495	(701)	-	-	2,516
	<u>64,308</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>(2,873)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,649</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
General fund	2,525,257	133,185	(124,957)	(71,117)	-	2,462,368
	<u>2,589,565</u>	<u>134,399</u>	<u>(127,830)</u>	<u>(71,117)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,525,017</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The Anniversary Appeal Fund was set up to recognise the funding raised in previous years from supporters of the appeal. The money raised will be used to catalogue the journals.

The Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund was set up to recognise the legacy received from Pauline Hulse to be spent in support of the activities of the Artefacts and Archives Recording Group.

The specialist interest group funds were set up to recognise the identifiably individual nature of the activities of these specialist interest groups. Income generated by the groups and the costs incurred are recognised within these funds. Following the closure and realisation of the Surrey Industrial History there are no unrealised gains or losses to report on the revaluation of investments (31 March 2024: None).

Included within the General fund are net unrealised losses arising on the revaluation of investments totalling £116,404 (31 March 2024: net unrealised gains of £75,912).

**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**15. THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY**

	<b>1 April 2023</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Gains on investments</b>	<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>31 March 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>						
Anniversary Appeal Fund	4,247	-	(720)	-	-	3,527
Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund	8,031	-	(264)	-	-	7,767
<i>Specialist interest group funds:</i>						
Surrey Industrial History Group	38,768	1,754	(1,326)	933	-	40,129
Guildford Group	925	-	-	-	-	925
Plateau Group	1,278	-	-	-	-	1,278
Roman Studies Group	8,410	2,087	(2,537)	-	-	7,960
Medieval Studies Forum	2,645	510	(433)	-	-	2,722
	<u>64,304</u>	<u>4,351</u>	<u>(5,280)</u>	<u>933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,308</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
General fund	2,456,224	132,453	(135,849)	72,429	-	2,525,257
	<u>2,520,528</u>	<u>136,804</u>	<u>(141,129)</u>	<u>73,362</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,589,565</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
<b>As at 31 March 2025:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>			
Anniversary Appeal Fund	-	3,527	3,527
Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund	-	6,895	6,895
Surrey Industrial History Group	-	39,698	39,698
Guildford Group	-	925	925
Plateau Group	-	1,328	1,328
Roman Studies Group	-	7,760	7,760
Medieval Studies Forum	-	2,516	2,516
	<u>-</u>	<u>62,649</u>	<u>62,649</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds:</b>			
General fund	2,433,480	28,888	2,462,368
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,433,480</u>	<u>91,537</u>	<u>2,525,017</u>
	=====	=====	=====

# SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

### 16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
<b>As at 31 March 2024:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>			
Anniversary Appeal Fund	-	3,527	3,527
Pauline Hulse Bequest Fund	-	7,767	7,767
Surrey Industrial History Group	-	40,129	40,129
Guildford Group	-	925	925
Plateau Group	-	1,278	1,278
Roman Studies Group	-	7,960	7,960
Medieval Studies Forum	-	2,722	2,722
	-	64,308	64,308
<b>Unrestricted income funds:</b>			
General fund	2,485,936	39,321	2,525,257
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,485,936</u>	<u>103,629</u>	<u>2,589,565</u>
	=====	=====	=====

### 17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Other than as previously disclosed in this set of financial statements, there were no related party transactions in the current or prior year that are required to be disclosed.



Wonderful Bronze Age pot part of the material transferred from Guildford Museum  
*(photographed by Christine Pittman)*



Exterior of the new Artifact store  
*(photograph by E Corke)*