

116th Annual Report of the Council of the London Topographical Society for 2015

Our 115th Annual General Meeting was held at the Cadogan Hall in Chelsea on Monday, 6th July 2015. It was well attended and after the formalities of the meeting David Le Lay gave a short talk on the development of the area of Chelsea known as Hans Town, so called after Sir Hans Sloane.

As usual, Council meetings were held in January, April and September to discuss the Society's publications programme, membership, finances and general administration.

The Society's annual publication for 2015 (No. 176) was the *London Topographical Record, Vol XXXI*, a five-yearly collection of essays and illustrations contributing to our knowledge of London's past. In addition, a second publication (No. 177) was also provided to members: *Two Early Panoramas of The Regent's Park* with text by Dr Geoffrey Tyack. These were the final LTS publications edited by our long-standing Hon. Editor, Dr Ann Saunders, who retired at the AGM after 40 years' service to the Society. In paying tribute to Ann the Chairman estimated she must have overseen production of more than 50 of the Society's publications.

The Chairman gave notice of the deaths of Elspeth Veale, a Vice-President, and Ralph Hyde, a council member. She announced that Denise Silvester-Carr had decided to stand down from the Council and thanked her for her contributions, particularly as former editor of the Newsletter. Sheila O'Connell took over as Hon. Editor from Ann Saunders who was elected as a new Vice-President.

The Society's total income for 2015 was £34,173 while expenditure came to £50,277. The deficit is the result of a decision by Council to reduce the size of our reserves by making grants to suitable London-interest bodies

The Society made two grants this year - £11,356 to the Guildhall Library for conservation work on the library's Tallis Collection; and £10,000 to the British Film Institute, the first of three annual grants, for digitisation and cataloguing of 15-20 short historical films about London which the BFI will produce, in conjunction with the LTS, as a DVD in 2017.

During the year 33 new members joined the Society: at the end of 2015 there were 1208 paid-up members and four honorary members.

Our *Newsletter* was published in May (No 80) and November (No 81). Articles included: *The Gough Collection in the Bodleian Library: Illustrated London* by Bernard Nurse; *Using livery company records at Guildhall Library* by Dorian Gerhold; *A Question of Gauge* by David Crawford; *Remembering Dr. Salter* by Tony Aldous; *Changes at Sir John Soane's Museum* by Sue Palmer; and *Old Lambeth: the Wooley Collection and William Strudwick* by Laurence Marsh. As always, there were many excellent book reviews.

During the year work continued in producing the *Newsletter* in electronic, fully-searchable versions for posting on the Society's website. Editions 76 to 81 are now available in this format with the web editions being published six months after the printed version.

The Society amended its website domain name to www.londontopsoc.org and set up an automatic re-direct from the old domain name www.topsoc.org.

London Topographical Society

Income and Expenditure Account 2015

Income	2015	2014	Expenditure	2015	2014
	£	£		£	£
Subscriptions paid by members	22398	22947	Members' Subscription publications		
Subscriptions from earlier years	80	0	Cost of Printing	16370	11265
Income Tax from Covenants/Gift Aid (not yet claimed for these years)			Cost of Distribution	1949	1523
Total subscription income	22478	22947	Total cost of publications	18319	12788
Profit from sales of publications	6419	8871	Newsletter	4831	4603
Interest Received	1118	985	AGM	2890	2581
Grant Scouloudi Foundation et al	1250	1671	Website	0	690
Sundry Donations	408	458	Administration	29	92
Royalties received	2500	3000	Publication Storage, Service	2852	3030
Total Income for the year	34173	37932	Total Admin costs	10602	10996
			Grant to Guildhall Liby (2015)	11356	
			Grant to Br Liby (2012-14)		11000
			Grant to Br Film Inst (2015-17)	10000	
			Total expenditure for year	50277	34783
Deficit/(Surplus in 2014)	-16104	3149			

Balance Sheet 31 December 2015

Assets	2015	2014	Liabilities	2015	2014
	£	£		£	£
Money in Bank and Nat Savings	176371	174568	Overseas Members' Post	270	210
Advance payments	6069	22415	Subscriptions paid in advance	4418	4196
Value of Publication Stock			Total Liabilities	4688	4406
Stock at end of previous year	14215	3089	Net Worth of Society	190688	206792
Additions to Stock	3000	2040	Change in net worth		
Less value of publications sold	4279	5914	Previous Year's net worth	206792	188643
Revaluation of Stock		15000	Revaluation of Stock		15000
Value of Stock at year end	12936	14215	Deficit/(Surplus in 2014)	-16104	3149
Total Assets	195376	211198	End of Year Net Worth	190688	206792

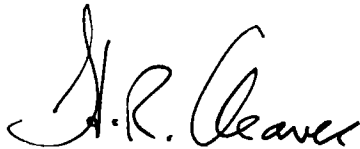
The deficit is the result of a decision by Council to reduce the size of our reserves by making grants to suitable London-interest bodies.

London Topographical Society

Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2015

I have reviewed the accounts for the society, and the underlying records from which the information has been assembled. I have received all of the explanations I have required about the information included in these accounts.

In my opinion the accounts present a true and fair view of the income and expenditure of the Society for the year ending 31st December 2015 and of its assets and liabilities and balance sheet at that date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. R. Cleaver'.

Hugh Cleaver ACA
Independent Reviewer and Honorary Auditor

1st July 2016