

117th Annual Report of the Council of the London Topographical Society for 2016

Our 116th Annual General Meeting was held on 6th July 2016 in the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield. It was well attended and after the formalities of the meeting there was a short talk by Society member Dorian Gerhold on his book *London Plotted: Plans of London buildings c.1450 - 1720*, the Society's 2016 publication.

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 2016 (No. 178), as mentioned above, was *London Plotted: Plans of London buildings C. 1450 - 1720*, by Dorian Gerhold, in which he explains how and why London's tradition of ground plans arose, who the surveyors and their customers were and what the plans tell us about the buildings and their occupants. Most of the 197 plans had never previously been published and range from houses, large and small, to warehouses, wharves, industrial premises, markets, inns, company halls and so on.

During 2016 Council Members Denise Sylvester Carr and David Webb resigned for health reasons and three new members joined the Council: Dorian Gerhold, Peter Guillery and Dr Geoffrey Tyack. Sadly, Denise, a long-time member of the Society, died in September 2016.

The Society's total income for 2016 was £29,899 while expenditure came to £40,017. The deficit is the result of a decision by the Council to continue to reduce the size of the Society's reserves by making grants to suitable London-interest bodies

The Society made two grants this year: 1) £10,000 to the British Film Institute (BFI), the second 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; and 2) £1756 to the London Metropolitan Archive (LMA) for assistance in conserving their Visscher 1616 Panorama.

During the year 57 new members joined the Society: at the end of 2016 there were 1237 paid-up members and four honorary members.

Our *Newsletter* was published in May (No 82) and November (No 83) and, for the first time, colour printing was used for illustrations which was well received by members.

Articles included: *Surveying the City: John Britton's London Topography 1820-40*, researched by Stephen Daniels reviewed by Aileen Reid; *London on Film at the British Film Institute* by Ellen McGuinness and Mark Duguid; *Modern Living Framed by the Glory of Gas* by David Crawford; *Victuallers of White Street, Southwark* by David Elis-Williams; *The Park Villages and HS2* by Geoffrey Tyack; *The Survey of London in Whitechapel* by Peter Guillery, and; *Hidden in the corner of the map ... town vignettes on early maps and charts* by Peter Barber. There were several appeals for help with research, on topics ranging from medieval mayors to twentieth century film, testifying to the range of our interests and the high regard in which LTS members are held. As always, there were many excellent book reviews.

LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2016

Income	2016	2015	Expenditure	2016	2015
	£	£		£	£
Subscriptions paid by members	22,810	22,398	Members' subscription publications		
Subscriptions from earlier years	20	80	Cost of Printing	17,605	16,370
Income Tax from Covenants/Gift Aid (not yet claimed for 2015/16)	-	-	Cost of Distribution	2,896	1,949
Total subscription income	23,830	22,478	Total cost of publications	20,501	18,319
Profit from sales of Publications	3,634	3,567	Newsletter	4,774	4,371
Interest received	937	1,118	AGM	2,367	2,890
Grant: Scouloudi Foundation <i>et al</i>	1,250	1,250	Website	455	460
Sundry donations	95	408	Administration	163	29
Royalties received	1,152	2,500	Total Administration Costs	7,759	7,750
Total Income for the year	29,899	31,321	Grant to Guildhall Library (2015)	-	11,356
Deficit	10,118	16,104	Grant to British Film Inst. (2015-17)	10,000	10,000
			Grant to LMA (2016 only)	1,756	-
			Total expenditure for the year	40,017	47,425

BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2016

Assets	2016	2015	Liabilities	2016	2015
	£	£		£	£
Money in Bank & National Savings	167,702	176,371	Overseas members' postage	217	270
Advance payments	4,886	6,069	Subscriptions paid in advance	4,520	4,418
Value of Society's stock of publications			Total Liabilities	4,737	4,688
Stock at end of previous year	12,936	14,215	Net Worth of the Society	180,570	190,688
Additions to stock	3,250	3,000	Change in net worth		
Less Value of publications sold	-3,466	-4,279	Previous year's net worth	190,688	206,792
Value of stock at year end	12,720	12,936	Deficit	10,118	16,104
Total assets	185,307	195,376	End of year net worth	180,570	190,688

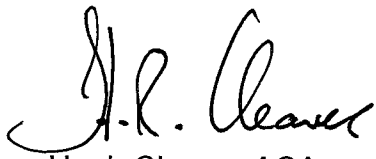
Compared with last year the accounts now show the net profit from the sale of publications; in previous years the profit figure was the gross profit and there was a separate expenditure item of publication storage and service. The 2015 figure above for net profit is the difference of the two amounts in last year's accounts. The accounts are with our examiner and, assuming they are approved, they will be presented at the AGM. Please address any serious concerns to the Treasurer before the AGM.

London Topographical Society

Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2016

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 2016 and of its assets and liabilities and balance sheet at that date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Cleaver', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hugh Cleaver ACA
Independent Reviewer and Honorary Auditor

30th June 2017