

UPPER WHARFEDALE MUSEUM SOCIETY

Registered Charity Number 1156656

Trustees' Report 2022 - 2023

Trustees: Ian Appleyard (Chairman), Elaine Clare, Mac Geldard, Colin Wilkinson

This report covers the period from April 2022 until March 2023. This proved to be our first full season of opening following the 'lockdown' due to the covid pandemic, which now seems somewhat of a distant memory, although new cases of the disease continue to occur with some regularity, though fortunately usually not with serious consequences.

The trustees continued to meet at approximately six monthly intervals in order to continue a regular review of the running of the UWMS. They were again entirely satisfied that the Society is being run in a satisfactory manner and fully in accordance with the Constitution.

One very pleasing feature of the year under review, was that the remarkable recovery in the fortunes of the museum seen in the summer of 2021, following the lifting of covid restrictions, was continued with considerable momentum through the year of 2022. Freedom to travel again, more people holidaying in the UK (as opposed to abroad) and the 'All Creatures Great and Small' factor combined to bring large numbers of tourists to the village and many of them visited the museum. Visitor numbers, which exceeded 20,000 was a record with corresponding record donations.

I reported last year that remarkable progress had been made towards the achievement of several strategic targets set by the trustees in recent years. It is gratifying to report that these trends have continued strongly:

The Financial Position

The Finances have been very sound for many years. Government grants during the covid period more than maintained the former stability and increased donations during 2021 and 2022 saw our reserves increase to around £25,000, more than twice pre-covid levels. This, in turn, has in more recent times resulted in the need for the trustees to consider what level of reserves it is appropriate to hold. A policy is currently being formulated and will form part of next year's report.

Replacements, refurbishment and maintenance

The strong financial position has allowed the programme of replacements and refurbishment to continue and allowed planning for this to continue into the future. Details of the 2022-23 developments will be given in the Management Committee Chairman's report.

Volunteers/Members

The recruitment campaign in 2021, which resulted in a significant increase in membership, has led to a stability in volunteer numbers, such that we now have approximately 50 active volunteers. The result has been that the 2021 policy of opening morning and afternoon every day was continued in 2022, with the museum being open on more than 90% of sessions. A policy change for 2023 was to revert to closure on Mondays, in order to allow time for administration and maintenance.

Publicity

Leaflets have again been distributed to a large number of accommodation establishments and restaurants in the area. Use has also been made of both local and national social media outlets and our website is actively managed and updated.

The Management Committee

There have been several changes in personnel among committee members, but the number has now stabilised at 10, most of whom, take on specific responsibilities. New Committee members are always welcome. We still lack a permanent chairman, which means that other committee members chair meetings in rotation

The Artefacts

The curator has continued to revamp many of the displays making use of the increased display space, made available by new cabinets. He has also made significant progress with assessing the stored artefacts, many of which have been put on display.

The Trustees wish to put on record their thanks and appreciation for all the work and effort that the volunteer members contribute to the running of the museum. This has always resulted in a considerable degree of stability, but currently those efforts continue to see the organisation enjoy one of the most sustained periods of success in its history.

UPPER WHARFEDALE MUSEUM SOCIETY

Charity Number: 1156656

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND BALANCE SHEET 2022-23

	2022-23		2021-2022		2020-2021	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations	14087		3972		205	
Dickensian Weekends						
Craven District Council Grants			8000		20636	
Coffee Morning	372					
Bank Interest	4				1	
Total Income		14463		11972		20842
EXPENDITURE						
Heating and Lighting	2307		1090		796	
Rates and Water Rates	546		173		342	
Insurance	735		675		675	
Repairs and Renewals	2738		4473		7509	
Promotional leaflets	1631		956			
All Other Costs	750		1317		<u>183</u>	
Total Expenditure		<u>8707</u>		<u>8684</u>		<u>9505</u>
Surplus/Deficit of Income Over Expenditure		5756		3288		11337
Less: Depreciation of Fixtures and Fittings		<u>1037</u>		<u>763</u>		<u>415</u>
Surplus		4719		2525		10922
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022						
ASSETS						
Freehold land and Buildings		71431		71431		71431
Fixtures and Fittings	6863		3738		4153	
New Cabinets/shelving	3502		3888			
less 2022-23 depreciation	<u>1037</u>	9328	<u>763</u>	<u>6863</u>	415	<u>3738</u>
Books and Tapes		89		89		89
Deposit Account		310		306		306
Current Account		<u>24712</u>		<u>22462</u>		<u>23062</u>
Total		105870		101151		98626
REPRESENTED BY						
Accumulated Excess	101151		98626		87704	
Surplus	4719	105870	2525	101151	10922	98626

Richard Clare, Treasurer

P. Sugden, Independent Examiner