



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> November 2012

in the Whiteway Centre, Rottingdean  
at 7.30pm

## Table of Contents

Introduction: <i>Chris Davidson</i>	3
Notice of Annual General Meeting	4
Chairman's Report: <i>Valerie Whittle</i>	6
Secretary's Report: <i>Barbara Coligan</i>	9
Grange Museum Report: <i>Marcus Bagshaw</i>	10
Grange Gallery Report: <i>Barry Hinchcliff</i>	11
Windmill Report: <i>Colin Dellar</i>	11
Kipling Garden Report: <i>Valerie Whittle</i>	12
Legal Report: <i>Derek de Young</i>	13
Planning Report: <i>Jean Talbot</i>	14
Membership Report: <i>Joan Griffiths</i>	15
Local History: Vicars I Have Known. <i>John Leech</i>	16
AGM minutes Jan 2012	18
AGM minutes March 2012	21
Financial Accounts 2011-12	23

## Introduction

Welcome to this year's Annual General meeting, my first as Chairman of the Society. As soon as I joined the committee, I realised that we had a strong team, all with considerable experience and expertise, which is evident in their contributions to this year's Annual Report. I would like to pay particular tribute to the outgoing Chairman, Valerie Whittle. She is, of course, well known throughout the village for her work in the Kipling Gardens but equally important has been her enormous contribution to all aspects of the Society as a committee member since 1995 and Chairman for the last three years. She will be a difficult act to follow, and I have been very grateful to her for all the support she has given me personally since I started.

Valerie has kindly agreed to provide the summary of this year's activities in which she has been so much involved. There have been many highlights, with the two exciting exhibitions with Enid Bagnold reaching national prominence in a full feature in the Telegraph. The Fifties Fashion exhibition, opened by The Beverley Sisters, also attracted a new and younger audience, many of whom had probably not been born when they were at the height of their fame. The Windmill not only played host to many interesting art exhibitions but also actually featured briefly in a BBC trailer.

All these activities, however, come at a price, and that is of the many hours of time, given freely, by our committee members and volunteers. As I have become more involved with the Society, I have become increasingly aware of the enormous amount of time and good will from so many different people, for which we should all be grateful. But we do need more help, and one of the key objectives for the next year will be to encourage more people to join the Society, and to enlarge the pool of Stewards and our other volunteers.

Finally, I must thank Barry Hinchcliffe, who retired this year. The Gallery has really been his brainchild, and everyone involved in The Grange knows how much time and devotion he has given over almost twenty years. In that time it has seen many artists display their work, but Barry's constant oversight has meant that this has always been of a high standard. As a result the Gallery has established a reputation that means that we now have a waiting list of almost a year for artists to exhibit. We are delighted to welcome Amanda Davidson, an artist already well known in the village, to take over his role as Gallery Exhibition Organiser.

Chris Davidson, Chairman

## NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Thursday 22nd November 2012, at 7.30pm in the Rottingdean Whiteway Centre, Whiteway Lane, Rottingdean. BN2 7HB**

### AGENDA

1. To approve the minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting
3. Presentation of the 2012 Annual Report
4. Presentation of the Annual Accounts for 2011-2012
5. To approve amendments to the Charity's Rules
6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

The following are willing to stand for election as Officers of the Executive Committee:

Christopher Davidson as Chairman

Barbara Coligan as Secretary

Anne Johnson as Treasurer

The following are willing to stand for election as Executive Committee Members:

Valerie Whittle

Colin Dellar

Derek de Young

Joan Griffiths

Marcus Bagshaw

Amanda Davidson

To approve the election of Barry Hinchliff as a Vice-President

Nomination for election of any person as an Officer or Executive Committee Member must be submitted to the Secretary together with the names of the proposer and the seconder and, with the written consent of the nominee not less than 7 days before the AGM.

7. Consideration of business for which written notice shall have been given to the Secretary at least 7 days before the AGM.
8. Any other business at the discretion of the Chairman, but no resolution shall be passed in respect of such business raised.

## APPROVAL OF THE NEW AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES FOR THE CHARITIES COMMISSION

The Charities Commission has accepted the majority of the amendments that were made to the original Rules circulated to members and approved at the 2011 AGM, but with two exceptions, which now need further approval by the AGM:

**Proposed Rule Change 2b :** To remain unchanged from the original.

2. The Society's objects are set out in a Deed of Declaration of Trust establishing the Society dated 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 1960 and are:

- a) To preserve the village and the amenities and rural surroundings of Rottingdean and improve the same, and
- b) To preserve and maintain the Rottingdean Windmill.

***Proposed change: Rule 2b. To preserve and maintain the Rottingdean Windmill. To provide facilities at Rottingdean Grange subject to the terms of the lease with Brighton & Hove City Council.***

**New Rule 17 :** This proposed rule to be deleted.

***Take in new Rule 17. The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members of the Society voting at an AGM or Special General Meeting of the Society confirmed by a simple majority of members of the Society voting at a further Special General Meeting held not less than fourteen days after the previous meeting. If a motion for the dissolution of the Society is to be proposed at an AGM or a Special General Meeting this motion shall be referred to specifically when notice of the Meeting is given. In the event of the dissolution of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable institutions having objects similar to those here in before declared as shall be chosen by the Committee and approved by the Meeting at the which the decision to dissolve the Society is confirmed.***

Barbara Coligan (Secretary)

## Chairman's Report

Valerie Whittle

**The Grange:** When we took over The Grange in 1993, none of us could have realised what it would demand of our Society's time and resources. Over the period under review, from 2011 – 2012, there has been much to do connected with the external decoration and the up-grading of the fire regulations and the consequent restriction on our use of the fire escape which is below the minimum size required by the Fire Officer for any but the most limited use.

Colin Dellar has generously taken over general oversight of building work. I have been responsible for the oversight of the gardens as well as having a general responsibility for all those who make the Grange function. The Council finally completed the external decoration of the Grange last autumn. Since then work has concentrated on upgrading the fire doors and smoke alarms.

The fire escape was cleaned up and repainted with bars added to fill in the wide spaces between the railings on the flat roof that leads to the top of the stairs. Further pressure has brought agreement that all the sections' railings should be filled in and this will be done in the autumn.

The wall on to Whiteway Lane was found to be unstable as a result of being undermined by the mulberry tree in the front garden. This is going to be removed when the wall is permanently buttressed in the spring. It will be replaced by a smaller tree, well away from the wall, in the centre of the lawn.

The Preservation Society is still intending to press for a new fire escape that will free us from the limitations that the Fire Officer has placed on our use of the Gallery and Museum.

**The Gallery:** Liz Plumb resigned at the end of 2011 and Barry Hinchliff very kindly returned to hold the fort until a permanent replacement could be found. I am glad to say that Amanda Davidson took over at the end of September and we warmly welcome her.

Bookings for the Gallery have held up well and Barry has obtained bookings almost to the end of 2013.

**The Museum:** Marcus Bagshaw, our Curator, produced two fantastic new shows in the Spring which have been extremely successful. This has been a wonderful fillip to the Museum, visitor numbers have increased and we have gained very wide and favourable publicity. Hugo Vickers' talk on Enid Bagnold was a high point. The launch

of the Bedazzled exhibition was accompanied by a well-attended party with two of the remarkable Beverley Sisters present.

**The Tea Garden:** We had wonderful weather in March, before the Tea Garden opened and then awful weather thereafter once the season began in April. However, more recently, warmer days have brought a good number of guests to enjoy Lesley Skinner's delicious lunches and teas.

Lesley catered for the party to launch the 1950s fashion exhibition and also the Volunteers party in July, which were both extremely popular with excellent food and drink.

**The Secretary:** I am most grateful to Barbara Coligan, our very reliable secretary, who joined the Committee in 2006, and has had much additional work to do this year in ensuring that we meet the not inconsiderable requirements of the Charitable Commissioners as well as the generally increased level of paperwork demanded of her post. I have been wondering when she will be asking for an annexe to store it all!

**The Treasurer:** Anne Johnston joined us as Treasurer last year. She has been a tower of strength and managed our affairs with good humour and aplomb, simplifying our procedures to suit our relatively small Society.

Heartfelt thanks are also due to our independent Examiner, Afshin Taraz FCA, who once again reported on our accounts as he has done with patience and good humour over a number of years.

**Legal Matters:** We have been extremely fortunate that Derek de Young, a solicitor, has joined the Committee. His knowledge of legal affairs, drafting of leases, contracts and agreements has been of immeasurable benefit to us. He has worked hard with Jean Talbot to re-draft the new Rules that will be presented to the AGM this year.

**Membership:** Our new Membership Secretary, Joan Griffiths, came in with great enthusiasm to launch a membership drive to stem our falling numbers. However, personal problems meant she has been unable to do so this year although she has continued to manage the membership from long distance. We are most appreciative of her persistence in keeping things going and look forward to her taking up residence in Rottingdean again soon.

**Volunteers:** Because of the value of the exhibits in the Museum we have tried hard to push up steward numbers so that there are always two stewards on at a time. This has meant that there is always one steward on duty in the Museum and another in the Gallery. Our three Steward-Coordinators, Liz Talbot, Anita Gilson and Pat Rosine, have been kept busy keeping the diary full to provide cover whenever we are open.

The popularity of the exhibitions has resulted in substantially increased visitor numbers

**Key-Holders** have held up well and we are always most grateful to Declan at The Plough for generously acting as back up key-holder whenever there is some blip in the arrangements. Marion Beadle has kindly taken over the key-holders' rota and the custody of the door keys.

**Volunteer Gardeners** come in one Thursday a month and work under the guidance of Sue Backhouse, our Gardener, who has kept our Lutyens Gardens looking particularly attractive this year.

We depend utterly on our volunteers to keep The Grange running and would be glad to hear of anyone who would like to join our hard-working and reliable team as stewards, key-holders or gardeners.

**Windmill:** This has been a most successful year for the windmill, which has had a record number of visitors this year. Once again the exhibition of contemporary art in the first three weeks of May attracted a record number of visitors 1001. More artists than could be accommodated at this time wished to exhibit and so a second exhibition was held for three weekends in late August and early September. Colin Dellar has been most diligent in maintaining the mill so that no major expense has been incurred and I am most grateful for his successful running of our iconic asset.

**Kipling Gardens:** This has been a significantly successful year for the Kipling Gardens for, in spite of the petulant weather, our entry by the Rottingdean In Bloom committee for the Best Small Parks in the South & South-East was awarded a gold and was the best in the Small Parks division with a special trophy. Evan has kept our Gardens impeccably as always and they are greatly admired by all who visit them.

The Croquet Club has more playing members this year than ever before, making the conduct of tournaments difficult to arrange at some times during the year. Several of the new members have joined the Preservation Society recognising the benefit they derive from the purchase of the Gardens through the initiative of the Society in 1983.

I am delighted that the dispute over the responsibility for the deterioration of the Dovecote has been amicably settled and the rebuilding started in September. This is a very lovely feature of the Gardens and shortly we will all be able to enjoy it once again.

**Planning:** Although there have been fewer planning applications this year there have been several which are a cause of concern with unsightly development, unapproved

developments and an approval by the Planning Committee of alterations to a listed building in spite of vigorous opposition.

It is pleasing that new toilets are to be built on the undercliff walk early in 2013. We have waited a long time for these and the use of the Terraces have undoubtedly contributed to their advent.

Sadly, Jean Talbot who is the Secretary to the Parish Council and responsible for their Planning Reports, as well as those of the Rottingdean Preservation Society, is retiring from this post and I take this opportunity of thanking her for all her diligence and persistence in pursuing this important task on our behalf.

**Retirement – new Chairman:** My Chairmanship ended in July this year and I am delighted that Chris Davidson, who joined us in April, has now taken over from me. He brings a welcome new perspective to the Society and an energy and enthusiasm, which the whole committee is very pleased to welcome. I shall, however, continue as a member of the Committee continuing my involvement in the Kipling Gardens as your representative on the "The Friends".

I have greatly valued the support of the committee and of members over the past few years and thank you all sincerely for it.

## Secretary's Report

Barbara Coligan

The Annual Return was sent to the Charities Commission in February. This consists of three parts: the names and details of the Trustees, the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts. All Committee members are Trustees in addition to 3 Custodian Trustees. The Trustees reported on the structure, governance and management of the RPS, its objectives and activities, achievements and performance and, a financial review. The Annual Accounts were submitted together with an Independent Examiner's Report. The amended Rules that had been presented at the AGM were sent to the Charities Commission for approval.

Douglas D'Enno was the guest speaker at the annual Spring Meeting. He gave an illustrated talk on Enid Bagnold and her life in Rottingdean.

## Museum Report

Marcus Bagshaw

I took on the role of Museum Curator in January 2011 with the intention that over time you would notice a number of significant changes. It is my belief that a museum should be more like a living organism than an artefact preserved in aspic. Changing exhibitions keep a museum alive and interesting. It is therefore my intention to present a series of interesting and stimulating exhibitions.

In this regard my first mission was to bring into focus Rottingdean author and playwright **Enid Bagnold**, best known for her 1935 story *National Velvet*. With other considerable achievements to her name, to mount a fully-fledged exhibition of her life and works seemed the logical step forward. And so in a blaze of publicity, which included a two-page feature in *The Daily Telegraph*, the first major exhibition of Enid Bagnold's work opened at The Grange Art Gallery & Museum on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2012. Much of the material featured, most of it previously unseen by the general public, came from the private collection of writer and broadcaster Hugo Vickers.

As part of his generous support of the exhibition Hugo Vickers came to Rottingdean to give a talk on his friend Enid Bagnold that became a sell-out success. We were equally thrilled by the support of Enid Bagnold's family, many of whom attended the talk and the exhibition, which proved to be a happy and memorable day for all. The exhibition continues to draw many visitors from all over the world, and as a result of its overwhelming popularity the exhibition's run has been extended to May 2013. During this period we hope to screen *National Velvet* in the Village Hall.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 saw the opening of **Be Dazzled!** A Celebration of 1950's Women's Fashion, typically Horrockses Fashions celebrated for their lively floral prints and full-skirted summer dresses. Among the contributors were residents of Rottingdean who wore such clothing during this exciting and glamorous period of women's fashion design.

The exhibition was heralded by a special preview that was complemented by a garden party held in the grounds of The Grange attended by over 100 guests. Our special guests, the legendary song stylists The Beverley Sisters made a significant contribution to the exhibition by loaning a selection of their magnificent stage and TV costumes that are indeed be dazzling! I am pleased to report that *Be Dazzled* has been most successfully received, so much so it has now been extended, and will run until April 2013.

## **Grange Gallery Report**

Barry Hinchliff

As there were no paying bookings from after Christmas 2011, Liz Plumb had hung an exhibition of two well-known local artists. Maggie Cummings and Julia Elliott. After agreeing to look after the gallery again I arranged for St Aubyn's School to hold an exhibition of their work. Some astute villagers may even have had a preview as large cane and paper constructions were manoeuvred down the busy High Street. Many thanks to the school for providing such an interesting show of work.

The 2012 programme started on April 5th. Since then there has been a steady flow of varied thought-provoking exhibitions including montage, sculptures in various media, a lively Brighton Festival Exhibition, Caricatures, and oil paintings large and small. We are booked now for the rest of this year and I have almost filled the calendar for 2013.

As many people will know we have been searching for someone to replace me as Gallery Organiser, and I am very pleased to be able to say the search is now over. Amanda Davidson another village artist with the necessary skills has agreed to take over from me in October. I wish her every success and hope that she enjoys the experience as much as I have during what is now eighteen years.

## **Rottingdean Windmill**

Colin Dellar

For the second year running an exhibition of contemporary art was held at the Mill during the first three weekends in May 2012. This highly successful event, that was organised and co-ordinated by Julia Rowe and Andy Dale on behalf of Future Evolutionary Arts Turbine, attracted a total of 1012 visitors. Many more artists than could be accommodated in the Mill wished to take part, and so for the first time ever a second contemporary art exhibition was organised for the last weekend in August and the first two weekends in September. It would be nice to think that these art exhibitions could become a regular feature of our summer season at the Mill.

In 2011 we had a total of 970 visitors and as always many thanks go to the volunteers who man the Mill on open days and make our visitors so very welcome. During the last year no major work has been needed on the Mill but regular minor maintenance has continued throughout the year.

The opening dates and times for the Mill in 2013 will be as follows – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May – this being National Mills Weekend; Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May; Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June; Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July; Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August; Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September. On all the above dates the Mill will be open from 2.00pm to 4.30pm.

If we are successful in managing to attract another art exhibition next May, to coincide with the Brighton Festival, then details of this will be posted in the diary section of the Rottingdean Village News.

## Kipling Gardens

Valerie Whittle

**The Weather:** As last year, this year's weather has been governed by extremes. At the end of February 2012 all looked fair with the newly planted North East Wall bed showing signs of growth. The primroses and hellebores flowered soon after the snowdrops. In the Rose Garden the beds were showing the shoots of the narcissi, soon to bloom under the roses. However the hot drought of March, which soon followed, meant that spring flowering was short.

**Green Flag:** The Green Flag inspection took place at the beginning of June. The inspectors were well impressed with what they saw and also with Evan's planting plans and our folders and photographs showing the aspects of the Gardens and events outside the scope of their brief visit. They commented favourably on the beneficial involvement of the Preservation Society, and our overall assessment was the best we have received at 75-80%.

**South East In Bloom:** The Gardens were entered in the Small Parks section of this competition and inspected in July. The results came through in mid September. The Kipling Gardens were awarded a gold and received a trophy as the top entry in the Small Parks section.

The Judges commented, *"This beautiful historic site is a fine example of a period garden which is maintained to the highest standards with a vast array of plant species, lovingly cared for with immense passion"*. The full report will appear in the December issue of the Rottingdean News.

**Dovecote and cracked wall:** The dispute over the responsibility for the deterioration of the Dovecote and the adjacent cracked wall between the Council and the owner of the Elms was finally amicably settled after the intervention of the Presentation Society. Work begun in late August. The Dovecote is going to be rebuilt in more durable materials and the crack will be repaired and we will all be able to enjoy this delightful aspect of the Gardens once again. Evan intends to take up the rather

unsightly red paving stones and has prepared a plan for a shrub bed to be made ready during the winter for planting in the spring.

**Border outside the North Wall:** Evan worked hard, experimenting with different plantings in the hope of finding something that would flourish in this dry and gloomy bed. *Liriopes (liriope muscari)* were easily the most successful and planted two years ago. These beautiful mauve lilies have thrived and are now well established. The autumn flowering in October and November should be spectacular.

As usual, Evan has worked skilfully, keeping the gardens in impeccably good order while still finding time for a bit of friendly joshing with those passing through. The Gardens have looked quite lovely, are much admired by villagers and visitors alike and a great credit to Rottingdean.

## Legal Matters

Derek de Young

Since I joined the Executive Committee I have been surprised at the number of legal issues that have cropped up and we have had to consider the position of our Charity. These include:

- The review of the General Insurance and the new Insurance Policy with Case Insurance
- A review of the terms of the leases of the Windmill and the Grange and advising the Committee
- A review of the Constitution of the Charity and the need to amend its Rules
- Preparation and completion of the Licence for the Tea Garden with Lesley Skinner and attending her to deal with her concerns
- Advising on the Blue Plaque for the Coppers family cottage
- Advising on the issue of the repair of the Dove Cote and the boundary wall between the Kipling Gardens and the Elms and correspondence with the City Council to seek to resolve the dispute over the liability for the repair
- Considering the liability for the repair and replacement of the Fire escape and the issue with the City Council
- Further Advising the Committee on the review provisions of the Lease of the Grange and the need to have decided by 25<sup>th</sup> March 2012 whether to take a further 5 years' term from 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012

## Planning Report

Jean Talbot

There have been few major planning applications in the Village during the past year. Possibly this is due to the current economic climate and the lull in the housing market. Whatever the reason, the bulk of planning applications seem to be for extensions to existing properties rather than new buildings.

The Conservation Area Review, with its Article 4 designation that was approved by B&HCC last year, is now firmly in place. The Article 4 Designation gives great protection to the Conservation Area and basically means that almost all development or extensions have to have planning permission. Sadly a long delay in the acceptance of the Review and its Article 4 Designation by the South Downs National Park Authority led to the solar panels on Kipling Cottage being permitted development that have caused a great deal of concern in the Village. B&HCC state that it could not put the Article 4 Designation into being without the approval of the SDNP Authority. The SDNP Authority says that B&HCC could have put the Article 4 designation in place without its authority! Whatever the legalities of the situation, the fact remains that, had the Conservation Area Article 4 designation been in place, the unsightly solar panels could not have been on the roof of Kipling Cottage – a charming building, facing our Parish Church and adjacent to the area of Rudyard Kipling's home, "The Elms", where development is already taking place.

This unfortunate development combined with an out-of-keeping wall in front of Court House on The Green and red-brick steps that have been refused planning permission at the Listed Tudor Close Cottages have clearly shown the need to be ever watchful when it comes to preserving our historic and Listed buildings.

The Parish Council is drawing up outline ideas for a Neighbourhood Plan and it is hoped that these will go out to consultation in November. The Plan is part of the Government's "Localism Bill" and it will take into account what residents want for our Village. All households will be notified and asked for their comments. Public consultation meetings will take place and the views of residents incorporated into the final plan that goes to Brighton & Hove City Council.

The new toilets on the Undercliff Walk seem, at long last, to be on target to be built by early next year. The plan is for four unisex toilets with facilities for baby changing and the disabled. Subject to weather conditions it is hoped that the re-building of the toilets will be completed by February next year and they will, like those at Saltdean and Ovingdean, be open all year round.

The very recent news that the Government intends to relax National planning regulations is greeted with consternation by all of us who care about the wonderful Green Belt that surrounds us. It makes our Article 4 designation in the Conservation Area all the more important. We can only hope that common sense will prevail and that extensions and development on the edges of our Village will be sympathetic and not cause friction among neighbours.

Finally I would once again ask all residents who have an objection to a planning application to send a copy of their objection to either the Preservation Society or the Parish Council so that it can be taken into account during the 21-day consultation period.

## **Membership Report**

Joan Griffiths

Last year, when I became Membership Secretary, I was advised that we had 240 household members, but this year I have to report that we have just 206 paid up members. Unfortunately, the membership drive that I had promised could not happen as I have been forced to be in York for much of my time which continues to delay my proposed 'walk about'. My apologies.

However, there are newly printed RPS leaflets on display on the ground and first floor of The Grange, plus a supply at the Rottingdean Club. May I ask that if any of you have new friends and neighbours could you please give them a copy that gives updated details of our background and aims for the future preservation of Rottingdean?

Regarding emails, it would be marvellous if those of you who have email facilities could let me have your address so that any invitations or information concerning the exhibitions arranged in the Grange or Windmill can be emailed to you immediately.

The printed receipts for this year's subscriptions include details of the 2012 art exhibitions and I have given my email address so do please keep in touch. Also as there are also a number of various events and museums displays arranged throughout the year and I am sure you will want to be kept informed. Finally, if any of you have renewed but have not received a receipt please do let me know as I am still short of a few postal addresses for members.

We do need new members interested in protecting our beautiful village. Other articles in this Annual Report give details of the new committee members and the new plans for the museum and art gallery, which should surely encourage more new members.

Please pass round the word!

## ROTTINGDEAN VICARS I HAVE KNOWN

John Leech



The Rev. Lewis Verey (above) was instituted by the Bishop of Lewes on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1917. He was of the 'old-school' in that he always dressed in black and gave his sermons in the sing-songy manner of the age. He regularly visited the village C of E School, then at the bottom of Nevill Road. Our Sunday School was held there in the morning and afternoon. The teacher was Mr Coats of St Aubyns Prep School.

The Vicar accepted the Chaplaincy of St George's, Cannes in the South of France. The appointment involved the absence from the Parish for the winter months. He did not marry but, being a handsome man and an eligible bachelor, he received the unsolicited attention of a number of designing ladies. So much so that to escape them he left the Vicarage to one of the Churchwardens and turned one of Challoners barns, now Court Barn – into a house for himself.

Rev. Verey's congregation was as large as St Margaret's Church could accommodate. He was a scholar with fine sensitiveness of feeling.

The Rev. William Ottey White (see over) succeeded Verey and was instituted by the Bishop of Lewes on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1935. He spent 28 years as Chaplain in HM Prisons including Wandsworth, Dartmoor and Pentonville.



He came to the village at a time of great expansion in the areas surrounding the village, particularly Saltdean which was then included in his Parish. He and Sir Roderick Jones and others led the fight against the threat of Brighton Corporation to widen the High Street (to the new standard) with the consequent destruction of many ancient buildings.

The coming of the War in 1939 made his work still more difficult and he suffered personally when his Vicarage

in Steyning Road was destroyed in December 1942 in one of the air raids. Commander Clarke made a room available at 'Hillside' for his office. In 1950 the new Vicarage was built on the site of Halfway Cottage. The Rev. White was very 'low-church'. He would not allow the Servers to genuflect – "we'll have no Popery here". Worn out by his work, he suffered ill health and resigned the living on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1948. He died 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1949 aged 70.

In those early days the popular hymn 'All things bright and beautiful' written by Mrs Alexander included the following verse:

*The rich man in his castle,  
The poor man at his gate,  
God made them high and lowly,  
And order'd their estate.'*

Nowadays this verse no longer appears!

## **MINUTES OF THE PRE-AGM GENERAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012, THE GRANGE LIBRARY, 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Valerie Whittle (Chair), Barbara Coligan (minutes), Jean Talbot, Colin Dellar, Anne Johnson, Derek de Young, Marcus Bagshaw and Liz Taylor. In addition 31 members attended.

**APOLOGIES:** John Cooper (President), Joan Griffiths (Membership Secretary).

### **1. MINUTES OF 2010 AGM**

As the Accounts were not ready for presentation the minutes of the 2010 AGM could not be approved. The accounts will be distributed shortly, together with notice of the date of the 2011 AGM.

### **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2010 AGM**

**Apologies:** Harold Williams is the President of the Traders' Association, not the Chairman.

**Planning:** Sally Prince asked about progress on the application for building to the rear of 23 Falmer Rd. Jean replied that planning permission had been given but vehicle access to the site had been refused; the owners were going to appeal.

**A.O.B.** Neil Austen said that he had tried to contact the police officer responsible regarding traffic problems in the High Street, but the officer does not answer his phone.

### **3. PRESENTATION OF THE 2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

#### **Chairman's Report – Valerie Whittle**

The Society was initially responsible for the Windmill, Kipling Gardens and the Wash House in Golden Square. It later took on responsibility for The Grange. This involves the lease for the premises, the Gallery, the Museum, the Tea Garden, the Grange Gardens, Key Holders, Stewards, and the Grange flat. This requires about 100 volunteers.

A Gallery co-ordinator is urgently required as are Stewards and Key Holders for the Society to continue its work for the Village.

The Grange lease is due on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and the RPS has to notify B&HCC by 25<sup>th</sup> March if it wishes to renew the lease. The RPS receives income from the flat and from the Tea Garden; however, it is the income from the Gallery that is necessary to renew the lease. Hence it is imperative that a Gallery co-ordinator is found soon.

#### **Planning Report – Jean Talbot**

Regarding the solar panels installed on Kipling Cottage, the SPD12 planning document states that they should be out of sight in a conservation area. Derek suggested that photos of the solar panels should be sent to the planning department of B&HCC.

The Rottingdean Conservation Area Review says that Rottingdean should have Article 4 designation for planning. There will be a meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the toilets on the seafront undercliff walk. The building is owned by B&HCC.

Rottingdean Parish Council agreed with B&HCC to joint funding for the toilets and asked for them to be open at Easter. A realistic figure for the renovation is approximately £100,000.

Norman Cuddeford asked if planning permission had been given to the Denes Motors site. Jean replied that permission had been given with 19 conditions attached; the developers were not happy. Marcus had contacted Sean Wallace of Thames Valley Archaeology Service who will be keeping an eye on the site and any relevant finds will be given to the Grange Museum.

Derek has been monitoring traffic through the village. He said that BT wants to install some cabinets within the conservation area and this will be monitored. Derek also said that the single storey building being constructed at the rear of The Elms should be challenged.

#### **Kipling Gardens – Valerie Whittle**

The gardens were bought by the Society and handed to B&HCC for maintenance. The Green Flag Inspectors queried the fencing that has been put in the dovecote corner because the dovecote and the wall is unsafe. The wall holding the dovecote belongs to “The Elms” and the owners had been asked to repair it. Unfortunately, earlier B&HCC gardener planted ivy against this wall; when it was removed the mortar came away, damaging the wall.

#### **The Windmill – Colin Dellar**

The Contemporary Arts Festival held in the Windmill last spring was very successful with about 600 visitors. Clive Bonny suggested that as Rottingdean holds the world record for the most number of the longest runs in cricket on the Windmill site, this could be mentioned inside the Windmill, together with information that the Windmill site was the place for the last bare knuckle boxing fight. Clive Bonny said that the Neville Road Residents Association was in talks with the Abergavenny estate regarding ownership of and development on Beacon Hill. Colin confirmed that the Windmill was owned by B&HCC and leased to the RPS for 21 years. John Cumming stated that Beacon Hill Nature Reserve is managed by the Rottingdean Parish Council’s Working Group in conjunction with B&HCC. Arthur Collins said that Beacon Hill is within the South Downs National Park and, therefore, protected with very little risk of development taking place. People have the right to ask for plans to be called in.

#### **The Grange**

**Buildings – Colin Dellar.** The 3<sup>rd</sup> and final phase of the restoration, overlooking Whiteway Lane, will commence shortly. The roots of the mulberry tree in the garden have damaged the wall along Whiteway Lane, hence B&HCC is erecting buttresses on

the wall at a cost of £20,000 - £30,000. An arboriculturist is going to advise on what should be done with the mulberry tree. It was planted in memory of Henry Smith; if it has to be removed, a replacement tree could be planted. All the lights in the Gallery have been replaced. The fire escape was inspected; it will be repaired and painted. However, there are restrictions on the number of people allowed in the Gallery at any one time and, therefore, at present it is not possible to hold a Carol concert.

**The Museum – Marcus Bagshaw.** The Museum is very popular with visitors. Marcus said that he would like to keep it so and inject new ideas; he had contacted Helen Derbyshire, curator of East Sussex Museums for help and guidance.

**The Archives – Marcus Bagshaw.** The archives will be stored in more suitable surroundings in an upstairs room making them accessible to visitors.

**The Gallery.** Liz Plumb, who took over from Barry Hinchliff has retired and a co-ordinator is urgently required. It was suggested that John Hurd of B&HCC Arts Council could be helpful with contacts for a co-ordinator. The Society is very grateful to Liz for her work with the Gallery over many years. The Society is also very grateful to Barry for stepping into the breach as temporary co-ordinator.

**The Rules – Jean Talbot & Derek de Young.** Arthur Collins suggested that Rule 3c is amended to the following: “Any person shall be eligible for ordinary membership who is interested in Rottingdean”.

### **Any Other Business**

The Society is grateful to Derek de Young and Arthur Collins for attending every meeting of the Conservation Area Advisory Group. John Cumming thanked the Committee for the work it does on behalf of the Society.

The Chairman thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting.

## 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2012, THE GRANGE LIBRARY, 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Valerie Whittle (Chairman), Barbara Coligan (minutes), Jean Talbot, Anne Johnson, Colin Dellar, Joan Griffiths, Marcus Bagshaw, Derek de Young, Barry Hinchliff. In addition there were 21 members present.

Prior to the meeting, all members of the Society received a booklet entitled "ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING" containing the Agenda for the Meeting, the Accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011 together with the Independent Examiner's Report, the minutes of the Pre-AGM General Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and, suggestions by John Cumming for changes to some of the Society's rules.

**1. MINUTES OF THE 2010 AGM:** These were proposed for approval by Arthur Collins and seconded by Philip Bradshaw.

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2010 AGM** --- there were none.

**3. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2010-2011** The Annual Report was presented at the General Meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012 in the Library, The Grange, Rottingdean, at 7.30pm.

### **ADDITIONAL REPORTS**

**THE WINDMILL:** During the first three weekends in May artists from FEAT in Lewes, including Lucien Freud's son, will hold a Contemporary Arts Festival in the Windmill. The Arts Council will send a representative to visit the exhibition, which is open during the Brighton Arts Festival and National Mills Weekend. The Beacon Hill Management Committee is organising a Beacon Hill walkabout on the weekend Sat.12/Sun.13 May to observe birds.

**THE MUSEUM.** On Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> May a major exhibition will open on the work of Enid Bagnold and run for 3 months. Hugo Vickers (author of books on royalty) was a friend of Enid Bagnold and has a collection of sketches which he is happy to donate. From Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> June, to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee costumes from the 1950s, on loan from Horsham Museum, will be displayed for 3 months

**PLANNING.** B&HCC will no longer give out paper plans, except to Rottingdean Parish Council. Members of the public can see plans when they meet with Planning Committee members of the Parish Council. Regarding the solar panels fitted on a house in the conservation area of the Village, the Society is taking up the matter with English Heritage, the South Downs National Park and the local MP. The Conservation Area Advisory Group (CAG) has no elected member of the RPS Committee on its

board. The Society is grateful to Arthur Collins who represents Rottingdean on the CAG board.

### **PROPOSED RULES AMENDMENTS**

The Annual Report containing the Society's Rules together with the proposed amendments was distributed to all members of the Society prior to the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012. The Rules and amendments in the Annual Report were approved by the members present. These will be sent to the Charities Commission for approval .

**CHANGES TO RULES.** As per page 6 of the “*ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*” booklet.

1. It was agreed that The Grange should appear as Rule 2c.

2. Regarding Honorary Membership, Arthur Collins said that the original rule on this matter should stand. Sara Brown noted that at a previous Executive Committee Meeting (when Sara was the Treasurer) it was decided to do away with Honorary Members.

3. Jean Talbot voiced disagreement with this suggestion.

Sara Brown pointed out that these amendments have to be approved at an Executive Committee Meeting; they can then be incorporated into the rules and put to the next AGM for approval before they are sent to the Charities Commission.

### **4. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

These were proposed for approval by Joan Griffiths and seconded by Colin Dellar.

### **5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Chairman : Valerie Whittle until the end of July 2012

Vice- Chairman : Chris Davidson co-opted until the end of July 2012, will then take on the role of Chairman

Secretary : Barbara Coligan

Treasurer : Anne Johnson

Membership Secretary : Joan Griffiths

The above Officers were proposed for election by Norman Cuddeford, seconded by Barry Hinchliff.

### **ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Valerie Whittle – Kipling Gardens and The Grange Gardens

Jean Talbot – Planning

Colin Dellar – The Windmill and The Grange (buildings)

Marcus Bagshaw – The Museum

Barry Hinchliff – The Gallery

Derek de Young – Legal matters  
Liz Taylor – Stewards' Co-ordinator

The above Committee members were proposed for election by Norman Cuddeford and seconded by John Cumming.

**6. Consideration of business for which written notice shall have been given to the Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting..** There was none.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman thanked John Leech for writing an article for the Society annually. The current article on the history of the Reading Room was very interesting. The Chairman suggested that Pat Commin is made an Honorary Vice-President. Pat has been an active member of the Society for many years and, although she has stepped down from the Committee is still very supportive and keenly interested. The motion was proposed by Norma Sayers, seconded by John Cumming and unanimously agreed Barry Hinchliff will continue to manage the Gallery until October and was hopeful of finding someone to replace himself, as The Gallery is the showpiece of local artists.

**8. MINUTES OF THE PRE-AGM GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012.**

These were approved by the members.

The Chairman thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting.

---

---

## **RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2012**

**SUMMARY:** The cash surplus for the activities of the Grange for the year ended 30-April-2012 was £4868. This compared with a cash surplus of £7976 (2011). The loss of income was due to a fall in Artist sales and donations during the trading year.

### **CASH FUNDS AND INVESTMENTS**

The cash funds at 30-April-2012 were £118,055 (2011 £113,202) and the investments were £79,256 (2011 £78,673). There were no changes in investments during the financial year.

### **PAYMENTS**

Charitable payments this year are reduced as there was negligible maintenance needed on the Windmill. The office in the museum area is now complete. B&HCC are still not sending utility invoices for the Grange on time and the invoices for the period February 2012 to April-2012 are still outstanding.

**ROTTINGDEAN PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE ENDED 30-APRIL-2012**

	2011-2012 £	2010-2011 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS</b>		
Subscriptions	4681	4422
Gift Aid	0	0
Donations	457	983
Windmill Donations	272	392
	<u><b>5410</b></u>	<u><b>5797</b></u>
 <b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO GENERATE FUNDS</b>		
Rent Received	10800	10800
Tea Garden	2830	3080
Exhibitions and Rent	7363	4182
Museum Sales	961	2225
Other Income	303	161
	<u><b>22257</b></u>	<u><b>20448</b></u>
 <b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Income	2851	3564
Bank Interest	1763	565
	<u><b>4614</b></u>	<u><b>4129</b></u>
 <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u><b>32281</b></u>	<u><b>30374</b></u>
 <b>PAYMENTS FOR GENERATING FUNDS</b>		
Museum Stock for Re-sale	466	607
Grange Rent	5000	5000
Utilities	4305	2125
Advertising and Publicity	63	56
Rental Expenses/ Costs	530	281
Grange Running Costs	3137	3211
Gardening and Plants	2301	2329
Grange Repairs Maintenance and Security	2382	2014
Legal Fees	480	0
Commercial and General Insurance	2548	2692
Membership Costs	330	0
Artist Payments (net of commission)	4585	0
	<u><b>26127</b></u>	<u><b>18315</b></u>
 <b>CHARITABLE PAYMENTS</b>		
Windmill Repairs and Maintenance	101	594
Copper Plaque and Website	50	1188
Subscriptions and Donations	374	360
Administration	0	392
Meetings and Annual Report	716	1123
Trustees Insurance	0	366
Miscellaneous	45	60
	<u><b>1286</b></u>	<u><b>4083</b></u>

**ROTTINGDEAN PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
PAYMENTS FOR GENERATING FUNDS**

	2011-2012 £	2010-2011 £
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<u><u>27413</u></u>	<u><u>22398</u></u>
<b>RECEIPTS NET OF PAYMENTS</b>	<u><u>4868</u></u>	<u><u>7976</u></u>
Cash Funds last year end	113202	105226
Cash Funds this year end	118055	113202

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 30-APRIL-2012**

**CASH FUNDS**

	£
LLOYDS TSB SUBSCRIPTION ACCOUNT	5244
LLOYDS TSB CURRENT ACCOUNT	5825
UNITED BANK TRUST	86942
BARCLAYS WEALTH	6
LLOYDS DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	20000
FLOAT	38
	<u><u>118055</u></u>

**INVESTMENTS** (Cost £85635 )

54,062.403 CAZENOVE INCOME UNITS	33502
46,070.079 IM CAF INTEREST B INC	45754
	<u><u>79256</u></u>

**ASSETS RETAINED FOR CHARITIES USE**

BOOKS AND CARDS	<u><u>788</u></u>
-----------------	-------------------

**LIABILITIES**

DEPOSIT RE-TEA GARDEN	400
DEPOSIT RE FLAT	700
SOUTHERN WATER	73
B&HCC INSURANCE	109
	<u><u>1282</u></u>

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEE'S OF THE ROTTIGDEAN PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

I report on the receipts and payments accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30/04/2012 which are set out on pages \*\*\*\*\*

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 2011) (the Act), as amended by section 28 of the Charities Act 2006 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility :

- \* to examine the accounts (under section 43 of the Act as amended);
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43 (7) (b) of the Act, as amended); and
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
  - \* to keeping accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act : and
  - \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Afshin Taraz FCA, 47, Dean Court Road, Rottingdean, Brighton, BN2 7DL**

# THE GRANGE

## Call For More Volunteers!

We depend utterly on our volunteers to manage the Grange.

The **Stewards** do a duty in the Gallery and Museum on weekdays and Saturdays from 10 – 1pm and from 1pm – 4pm and on Sundays from 1 – 4pm

The three **Steward-Coordinators** are responsible a month at a time making up the diary for duty stewards in the current month. They receive an honararium of £40 for each month when they are responsible for the diary.

The **Key-holders** unlock the Grange by 10 and and lock up at 4 pm

The **Garden volunteers** come for one morning a month from 10 am – 1pm

*If you could spare the time to assist with any of these duties, or if you know anyone else who would like to do so, please get in touch with us.*

For **Stewards** and **Steward-Coordinators** – Telephone 07889 936465

For **Key-holders** - Telephone Marion Beadle 304778

For **Gardeners** – Telephone Sue Backhouse 07802 435510

# ROTTINGDEAN PRESERVATION SOCIETY

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2012

<b>Chris Davidson – Chairman/The Grange</b>	<a href="mailto:christopherdavidson@mac.com">christopherdavidson@mac.com</a>	<b>304349</b>
<b>Barbara Coligan – Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:coligan@ntlworld.com">coligan@ntlworld.com</a>	<b>271451</b>
<b>Anne Johnson – Treasurer</b>	<a href="mailto:ra-johnson@tiscali.co.uk">ra-johnson@tiscali.co.uk</a>	<b>301751</b>
<b>Valerie Whittle – Kipling Gardens/The Grange Gardens</b>	<a href="mailto:valerie.whittle3@gmail.com">valerie.whittle3@gmail.com</a>	<b>305901</b>
<b>Colin Dellar – The Windmill/ The Grange (bldgs.)</b>	<a href="mailto:thedellars@ntlworld.com">thedellars@ntlworld.com</a>	<b>300355</b>
<b>Marcus Bagshaw – Museum Curator/Archives</b>	<a href="mailto:marcusbagshaw@hotmail.com">marcusbagshaw@hotmail.com</a>	<b>301960</b>
<b>Amanda Davidson – Art Gallery Organiser</b>	<a href="mailto:amandadavidson@gmail.com">amandadavidson@gmail.com</a>	<b>07763-584330</b>
<b>Derek De Young -- Legal Issues</b>	<a href="mailto:derekdeyoung@btinternet.com">derekdeyoung@btinternet.com</a>	<b>300353</b>
<b>Joan Griffiths -- Membership</b>	<a href="mailto:joan@rottingdean.me">joan@rottingdean.me</a>	<b>625130</b>