

**John Creasey Museum**

**Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Charity Registration Number: 309535**

**Trustee Name: Wiltshire Council**

**Bankers: Lloyds Bank  
64 Fore Street  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8EU**

**Independent Examiners: Blomfields, Chartered Accountants  
33 Duke Street  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8EA**

**Charity Address: Finance (Accountancy)  
WILTSHIRE COUNCIL  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN**

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**Trustees' Annual Report**

Wiltshire Council has been the sole Trustee of the Museum since 1<sup>st</sup> January 1998. Wiltshire Council is required by the Charity Commission to produce an annual report for the Council's approval. The report follows the requirements of SORP 2005. Under delegated powers, the approval of annual reports on the activity of the Trust and on investment matters, together with any contentious policy issues, are dealt with on behalf of the Council, by Dick Tonge, Cabinet Member for Finance.

**Structure, Governance & Management**

John Creasey Museum was founded in 1973 following a bequest from the distinguished author, John Creasey, as part of his residuary estate. The Museum, the greater part of which is now its literary collection, comprises more than 2,000 books in over 20 languages, as well as manuscripts, designs for book jackets, printed material, objects and ephemera.

The Museum has a wide range of objects and in 1980 the Trustees decided to launch a collection of contemporary art which has since become the main thrust of the Museum's collecting activities. The emphasis has been on collecting art with a



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Wiltshire connection, domiciled, taught, and studied or iconography, and leading British artists. The Creasey Collection of Contemporary Art, the name by which the Museum is now commonly known, now consists of 3077 objects. The Trust fund is unincorporated and is governed by a Trust deed. Under this deed the Trust has been established as a permanent endowment Trust, whereby all of the income is to be used in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

The Council, as the Trustee of the Charity, has arranged for its day to day administration to be delegated to the Associate Director – Communication and Communities (currently Laurie Bell). To assist in carrying out these responsibilities, a Management Committee has been established and its membership is as follows:

- Curator, Peter Riley
- Peter Tyas (Chair) Team Manager Arts and Archives
- Chris Harling Library Development Manager
- Officers from the Council's Library & Heritage Service & Finance
- Peter Blacklock

The Management Committee meets twice a year when reports are submitted by the Curator and Finance for discussion. Updates on exhibitions and development are given and approval of any major purchases is agreed.

#### Related Parties

The Charity has a close relationship with the Edwin Young Collection, Charity reference 309519 – the Trustee is also Wiltshire Council. Both of the Trusts' paintings and objects are displayed at the Young Gallery Salisbury.

#### Risk Management

The Trustee has given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and created a risk register which is available on request. Systems have been designed to mitigate those risks.

#### Objectives and Activities

Under MLA accredited museum status, forward plans should be reviewed at least every five years due to the reorganisation of ACE, (the validating organisation). The Aims and Objectives of the charity will be reviewed and included in the new submission for accreditation.

Re-accreditation has been deferred and the museum has assumed provisional status. New documentation will be submitted by Dec 2016 for the January board.

In the meantime the existing statement will remain valid and in place.



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## Forward Plan 2006 to 2011 (extended to the new re-accreditation date)

### Statement of Purpose

- To preserve and promote the name of the author John Creasey, his books, manuscripts and literary artefacts.
- To preserve and promote the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art.

### Key Aims

- To ensure the long term viability of the Museum. The funds are reviewed regularly to ensure the maximum return on investments. Wiltshire Council continues to fund the part-time curator post.
- To promote the Museum. The Trustees continue to promote the museum through the acquisition of important works. The reproduction of works for cards and posters is proceeding as and when copyright issues have been resolved. Publicity continues to be reviewed with Internet access to the collection and leaflets remaining a priority along with exhibitions of professional artists work selected work from the permanent collection.
- To collect objects identified within the Museum's acquisition policy. The Trustees are actively seeking to improve the collections and establish a significant holding of modern art. Important works have attracted substantial grants from the Art Fund and MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.
- To maintain documentation procedures to Museums Documentation Association (MDA) Spectrum standards.
- To protect, care for and conserve the collections to MGC's standards in the Museum Care of Collections.
- Wiltshire Council through Heritage services support to the collection by providing routine visits, analysis of environmental equipment and general advice.
- To promote the collections through educational work. This aspect of the museum continues to be developed.
- To increase funds. 75% of works have now been photographed. Copyright is not available from artists to generate income for the gallery, however images can be used for publicity.
- To establish a volunteer force. One person has helped with the installation of various exhibitions this year. A friends group is in the final stages of being formed.



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## Conservation

The following works were conserved:

One pastel of country garden full of flowers by M Davies  
One watercolour with acrylic of a landscape by Paul Sharp, dated 1967  
One abstract watercolour by Roland Suddaby  
One abstract watercolour by Roland Suddaby  
One watercolour by David Kennard  
One small watercolour of a landscape  
One extraordinary graphite drawing  
One etching of trees by H Townsend  
One etching of circles by H Townsend  
One abstract screen print by Alan Davie  
One Henry Moore lithograph entitled 'Stonehenge VII'  
One graphite drawing of a 'Young Girl' by Stanley Spencer.  
One etching by Barry Flanagan 'For John Constable' and dated '76.  
One print entitled 'Hampstead Heath' and numbered 98/100.  
One cancelled etching by Augustus John of a garden shed and dated 1905.

## New Acquisitions

1 x 'Black War' badge Tim Carson £42.00  
1 x 'White War' badge Tim Carson £42.00  
Charles Ginner 'Boscastle' pencil & Marjorie Holland 'St Ives Abstract' water colour both for £450.00  
1987 Gouache - Illustration from "Playhour" Comic.13x9cm £7.00  
1987 Gouache - Illustration from "Playhour" Comic.12x11cm £7.00  
1982 Gouache - "Paddy-Paws the Puppy" from "Jack and Jill" Comic.15x8cm £7.00  
1982 Gouache - "Paddy-Paws the Puppy" from "Jack and Jill" Comic.15x8cm £7.00  
1982 Gouache - "Paddy-Paws the Puppy" from "Jack and Jill" Comic.15x8cm £0.00  
1982 Gouache - "Paddy-Paws the Puppy" from "Jack and Jill" Comic 15x8cm £0.00  
Arthur Kemp - Mid 20th Century. Watercolour, Farm by Water A2 54x34cm £43.00  
Paul Sharp - Mid 20th Century Pen and Ink Drawing, Wilton House Bridge A4 28x20cm £14.00  
Paul Sharp - Mid 20th Century Pen and Ink Drawing, Post-War Period Exhibit A4 27x21cm £10.00  
Paul Sharp - Mid 20th Century Pen and Ink Drawing, Bull A4 25x19cm £11.00  
Original Mid 20th Century Gouache - Infirmary Scene – Illustration A3 30x26cm £0.00  
Wilfred Hardy - Original 1975 Gouache, Graf Zeppelin – Illustration 22x16cm £26.10  
Original Mid 20th Century Gouache - Parachutists - Illustration -Look & Learn A4 22x12cm £19.00  
Richard Hook - 1976 Gouache, Nordic Warrior - Once Upon a Time Annual A3 39x29cm £31.80  
Jack R. Keay - Original 1980 Gouache, Knight with Sword – Study Illustration A2 40x30cm £42.00



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Mid 20th Century Gouache – Foreign Invasion - Illustration - Look & Learn A3  
34x28cm £26.80

Charles Cundall - Village and Amberley Chalk Pit, 1969 Signed with studio stamp to reverse, inscribed with title and dated on the reverse 9 1/4 x 14 1/8 in. (23.5 x 26 cm)  
£275.00

David A. Weeks - Mid 20th Century Pen and Ink Drawing, Anatomical Studies  
£27.00

### **How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit**

The aim of the Trust is to advance the education of the public by establishing and maintaining for exhibition to the public a collection of watercolours, paintings, prints and drawings. (For full details see objectives and forward plan explained above).

To fulfil these aims and its charitable purpose for public benefit:-

- New purchases are acquired using the Trust's own income and by way of attracting grants through various charities, but primarily The Art Fund and ACE/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.
- Arranging exhibitions of the Creasey Collection (for full programme of exhibitions please see Achievements and Performance below). The exhibitions are held at the Young Gallery, Salisbury which is open 6 days a week. Monday 10am-7pm, Tuesday and Friday 9am-7pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 9am-5pm. There are facilities which cater for the disabled.
- By preparing, printing, publishing, issuing and circulating, gratuitously or otherwise, catalogues, reports, reproductions, books, articles, pamphlets and any other printed matter relating to the Charity's collection.
- The museum has provisional accreditation with Arts Council England Accreditation Scheme. The Trust is also a member of AIM the Association of Independent Museums.
- The collection is stored in our secure store when not exhibited. A number of works are selected to be exhibited throughout the year. The collection is often used by students and artists for study, inspiration and as complementary material to their own work during exhibitions. The Museum has an ongoing program of exhibitions of selected works from artists represented in the collection.
- An investment strategy is in place to maximise income. An annual risk assessment is undertaken to identify potential risks to the charity. Appropriate measures are identified and implemented to mitigate and reduce serious risk.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.



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## Access Details

Over 20,000 visitors have visited the Galleries during the past year. The collection continues to attract interest from local schools, artists and the local community.

- Exhibitions are promoted through the website: [www.younggalleriesalisbury.co.uk](http://www.younggalleriesalisbury.co.uk). The local press advertise the Gallery program of exhibitions. Some coverage is given through county magazines such as the Evolver and selected exhibitions are advertised by BBC Wiltshire Sound and local radio Spire FM.
- The collection is available for access at all times through an appointment with the curator; however, selected images are also available on the website Wiltshire Treasures. The collection is able to be viewed through the designated website. [www.wowheritage.org.uk](http://www.wowheritage.org.uk)

## Achievements and Performance

A continuous programme of exhibitions supported by and displaying selected works from the Creasey Collection. They included:

- **April 2015** – Peter Glover – Retrospective (paintings)
- **May 2015** - preSENSE project – Wonderment by Linn O’Carrol
- **June 2015** – Jon Adams installation
- **July 2015** – preSENSE project – Settlement by David Davies
- **August 2015** – The Baron and the Toff. John Creasey Book Illustrations
- **September 2015** – preSENSE project - Palimpsest **7 Jewellers**
- **October 2015** – Group 7 paintings
- **November 2015** – Army Art Society
- **December 2015** – BIGSTONE&RAIN project exhibition of art works
- **January 2016** – Southern Federation of Photographers
- **February 2016** – Creasey Collection selected by school children
- **March 2016** – Charles Cundall – A working method. Preparatory art works and drawings

## Curator's Comments

### **Exhibition Program**

- Continues to support local artists and community shows.
- Exhibit works from the permanent collection raising the profile of John Creasey and primarily 20<sup>th</sup> century art.
- Through arts grants re-invigorate our collections and our relationship with the public. preSENSE has provided four important exhibitions which highlight the potential of the collections.
- Work closely with The Army Art Society and strengthen its links with the armed services based at Tidworth Garrison.
- Work closely with the local schools to develop the educational value of the collection.
- Promote the work of the collection through websites, including Visit Wiltshire.
- Upgrade our galleries/exhibition spaces.

### **The Permanent Collection**

The Trust continues to acquire works to complement the existing collection as and when possible.

We have been offered through The Art Fund an important work on paper by Keith Vaughan which is a significant addition to the 20<sup>th</sup> cent. Art collection.

### **Development**

Of major importance is the consolidation of the work of the museum and is achieved primarily through grants awarded by Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the V&A Purchase Grant Fund. The Trust will continue to work with these organisations and others to improve the Trusts profile, infrastructure, quality of art exhibitions and associated education work.

### **Financial Review**

The financial position of the Charity for the year is shown in the financial statements. Income for the year amounted to £10,593 compared with £7,320 in the previous year. The difference was due to the Other Worlds Project final grant being received for £3,800. Expenditure totalled £11,855 during the year, compared with the previous year's figure of £11,711.



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The balance on the Other Worlds Touring Exhibition was £2,663 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Negotiations are still taking place with the funders, if and how this balance can be spent.

The general reserve at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 was £3,900 and the Trust's acquisitions fund reserve stood at £2,074.

The capital balance of the Charity held in investments at 31 March 2016 was valued at £178,306. This is a slight decrease on last year when the investments were valued at £188,370. Investments are held on a long term basis and fluctuations like this can be expected.

### Reserves Policy

The Trustee acknowledges that reserves should be built up in order to secure the future of the Trust and allow the good work that it provides to be protected and continued in to the long term. Ideally the reserve should be sufficient to cover one year's expenditure to include conservation, exhibitions and support costs without which the charity could not further its objectives.

It was decided in July 2015 that the curator costs normally paid by the Edwin Young Trust should be apportioned more fairly against both the Edwin Young Trust and the John Creasey Museum. In line with this, the general revenue reserve was increased by the curator costs of £2,500, making the new reserve £3,900.



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ON BEHALF OF WILTSHIRE COUNCIL TO THE CHARITY

21/11/2016

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