

John Creasey Museum
Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31st March 2014

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

Trustees' Annual Report

Wiltshire Council has been the sole Trustee of the Museum since 1st January 1998. Wiltshire Council is required by the Charity Commission to produce an annual report for the Councils 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 Performance, Risk Procurement and Welfare Reform.

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 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 3035 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 Salisbury Library & Galleries in Wiltshire.

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 due in August 2014, though given the level of changes currently underway it is likely that the Museum will seek to defer accreditation.

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

Forward Plan 2006 to 2011 (extended to August 2014 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.
 - Our 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.
 - We 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.
 - We 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.
 - The digitisation of works remains a priority.
 - To establish a volunteer force.
 - This is in progress and should be operational by 2014.

Conservation

There were no items sent for conservation in the year.

New Acquisitions

19th century graphite drawing of Hunting Sports day £33
Linda Crane – drawing titled ‘Scrub’ £33
Linda Crane – drawing ‘Barrow and Bench 1976 £43
Linda Crane – drawing ‘Fench Line’ £43
Chris Draper – watercolour “Facebook” interior of HMS Illustrious plus 2 watercolour studies of repatriation £500
Catherine Olive Moody – drawing ‘Bedroom with disgarded boots and ornate metal bed 1940’s’ £190
Isla K. Hockney – Watercolour and acrylic Early Morning Light £280
Susan Wiltshire – Oil on board ‘Landscape’ £50
Susan Farrer – Etching £100
Jo Barry – drawing ‘Tanlle’ £100
Heather Townsend – Acetate etching untitled £15
Heather Townsend - Etching Trees £15
Margaret Priest – Etching For Constable 1976 Tate £100
Barry Flanagan – Etching For Constable 1976 tate £100
Kalman Kemeny (1896-1994) – drawing Soldiers head c.1917 £225
Kalman Kemeny (1896-1994) – study of soldiers at the front £125

De-acquisition

- None to report

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 primarily The Art Fund and MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.
- Arranging exhibitions of the Charities collection (for full programme of exhibitions please see Achievements and Performance below). The exhibitions are generally held at Salisbury Library which is open 6 days a week. Monday 10am-7pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-7pm, 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 Trust is in the process of resolving copyright issues and when they have been given

permission from the artists represented in the collection the Trust will proceed with the publication of cards, prints and leaflets.

- The museum has national accreditation with the MLA. Museums Libraries and Archives. 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 which are shown throughout the year.
- An investment strategy is in place to provide an adequate level of income throughout the year.

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.

Access Details

- Over 23,000 visitors have been recorded over the past year to see various exhibitions. The collection continues to attract interest from local schools, and artists.
- Exhibitions are promoted locally through the local press What's On. Some coverage is given through magazines such as the Evolver magazine 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. Funding has been achieved to deliver a purpose built website through the PreSense project in 2014.

Achievements and Performance

A continuous programme of exhibitions of work from the Creasey Collection of Contemporary Art has been mounted in the Creasey gallery during 2013/14. These have included:

- **April 2013**
Edwin Young Centenary exhibition
Royal Watercolour Society exhibition
- **May 2013**
Royal watercolour Society exhibition

- **June 2013**
- Dali – prints from the Goldmark Gallery and Surrealist works loaned from Southampton City Art Gallery.

- **July 2013**
- Salisbury Group of Artists Exhibition

- **August 2013**
Jill Kennington Photographs

- **September 2013**
- Group 7 - Contemporary Art produced by leading regional artists

- **October 2013**
Pete Gilbert painter

- **November 2013**
Army Art Society annual exhibition

- **December 2013**
Susan Wiltshire paintings
Althea Wynne Bursary exhibition

- **January 2014**
Creasey Permanent Collection

- **February 2014**
Creasey Permanent Collection
Art Shop – students work from senior schools in Salisbury

- **March 2014**
John Maine – Sculptors drawings complimenting JOHN Maine Sculpture at the Cathedral

Curator's Comments

Other Worlds – Touring

The first venue for this Touring Exhibition was Warminster Festival, followed by Wellington Academy and The Pound Corsham. Other venues are being explored for 2014-15.

Exhibition Program –

To a large extent this year's exhibition program has been given over to the Edwin Young Centenary exhibition program. However, exhibitions complimenting this program have included the Jill Kennington Photography exhibition and the Surrealist exhibition showing a selection of Dali's print and English Surrealists works, borrowed from Southampton City Art gallery. This show allowed us to include the Paul Nash watercolour 'Ghost in the Shale'. The exhibition complimented the Salisbury

International Festival theme of Catalonia during May and June. Another highlight was the Methodist Art Collection, which consists for the most part of religious themed paintings by leading 20th century artists. This exhibition included works by Roberts, Piper, Sutherland etc. The show had real gravitas and works were shown in the Cathedral, St Thomas's Church, the Methodist Church in Salisbury and the Young Gallery Salisbury. Tours and talks were provided to support the exhibition program and the 'Methodist community' undertook to publicise and promote the event. Overall it was a great success and well attended by the general public, proving there is an appetite for better quality art exhibitions.

The Permanent Collection

Some thought is being given to the permanent collection, particularly what are to be the priorities in terms of artists and movements represent. Besides collecting art by leading artists and in particular those with a connection with Wiltshire, the overall framework needs to be considered, especially if we are to present to our audience the main developments in Modern Art.

Development

The Gallery has been renamed the Young Gallery Salisbury. Resolving the multi names confusion and eliminating the perception of us being a sub part of the Library. This is the first step in the re-organising of the visual arts provision supported by the two main trusts in Salisbury. Further discussions will take place.

In 2014 designated galleries have been introduced to allow the Creasey and Young Collections to be shown throughout the year. Each show will be augmented as time permits.

Under the Arts Council England grants program – Grants for Arts we have been successful in receiving a grant to work with two artists in residence, two guest curators and a marketing person to promote the collections and attract new audiences. During 2014 we will be recruiting individuals to undertake this work and an exhibition program will be put in place.

A Young Friends group is being formed to support the work of both the Edwin Young Collection and the John Creasey Museum. This was launched at the Edwin Young Centenary Dinner in November 2013.

The joint Methodist Art exhibition held with the Cathedral marks a significant change in our relationship with other visual arts providers in Salisbury. Partnership is undoubtedly the way ahead in the producing and supplying of important exhibitions. It is planned to hold an exhibition of John Maine's drawings to compliment the main show of his sculpture at the Cathedral in early 2014.

Summary

The John Creasey Museum is continuing to give serious thought to its function and role within the arts sector in Salisbury. It is important that the organisation fulfils its aims and objectives. The allocation of a significant grant from ACE recognises and

affirms the aspirations and thought being given to our role in Salisbury. This particular grant called preSENSE will make a significant contribution to the development of the collection and new audiences.

The grant we have received from the Community Covenant to tour the Other Worlds exhibition will allow the exhibition to be seen by a wider audience in Wiltshire.

Slowly but surely the work of the museum and its collections is being recognised and supported by outside agencies. Art works are being shown at different venues within the County and we now have an exhibition space within the new County Hall Atrium in Trowbridge to share our exhibitions and artists work with. The first show was Faye Godwin photographs which were linked to another partnership project looking at the ancient sites in North Wiltshire. This was followed by a show based on the work of another photographer Tony Ray-Jones, whose work documents and aims to capture peoples lives, be it a beauty contest or dancing at Blackpool Tower Ballroom.

Overall it has been a challenging and eventful year, presenting exhibitions at multiple venues across a large county and running several projects simultaneously.

Financial Review

The financial position of the Charity for the year is shown in the financial statements. Income for the year amounted to £8,403 compared with £25,077 in the previous year. Expenditure totalled £18,880 during the year, compared with the previous year's figure of £6,732. Both these difference in income and expenditure is due to extra grants being given in 2012/13 for various projects and the expenditure for these taking place in 2013/14. Various designated funds are being operated.

The general reserve at 31st March 2014 was £1,500 and the Trust's acquisitions fund reserve stood at £5,616. The designated fund "Other Worlds" had a year end negative balance of £3,800. The Trust is still awaiting the final instalment of the grant which will cover this negative balance. The final report was submitted and will be received in the financial year 2014/15.

The capital balance of the Charity held in investments at 31 March 2014 was valued at £176,022. This is was a decrease on last year when the investments were valued at £184,480. Investments are held on a long term basis.

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. For 2013/14 this was £3,550. However, the Management Committee have decided that a £1,500 reserve is sufficient to carry forward into 2014/15.

Independent Examination

The Charity's accounts, which are maintained by the Assistant Director Finance, are subject to independent scrutiny by accountants Blomfield of Trowbridge.

.....
ON BEHALF OF WILTSHIRE COUNCIL TO THE CHARITY

.....
DATE