



REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2013

Visits during the year

This year there were two visits in London. The first, on Tuesday 26 February, was an early-evening private tour of St Paul's by its current Surveyor of the Fabric, Oliver Caroe. Those attending were privileged to see parts of the building not open to the general public.

The second was an all day walking tour of Roman Catholic churches of the West End of London, on Saturday 11 May. This was led by Andrew Derrick, a director of the Architectural History Practice. The tour took in Our Lady of the Assumption and St Gregory, Warwick Street – an eighteenth century former embassy chapel, altered by Bentley; the recently refurbished red brick Italianate building of St Patrick's Soho Square; the High Gothic Corpus Christi in Maiden Lane containing some high quality Thomas Earp furnishings, and the post-war French Church in Leicester Place designed by Corfiato, with its restored Jean Cocteau murals.

We are grateful to Oliver Caroe and Andrew Derrick for leading these events, both of which allowed members to see inside buildings, or parts of buildings, not otherwise easy of access.

For various reasons, our proposed trip to Gloucestershire was postponed until July 2014, when it will include a visit to Deerhurst church, including the tower room, led by an expert on the fabric.

Annual conference

The sixteenth Annual Conference, which was attended by something under one hundred people, including a number of non-members, was held at the St Alban's Centre, Holborn on 5 October 2013. Its title was 'Graveyards and their memorials', exploring the topic from medieval times to the present day.

The following people spoke: Aleksandra McClain on 'Medieval memorials in the church and churchyard: a view from northern England', Jonathan Kewley on 'The rise and development of the churchyard monument, 1600–1714', Harold Mytum on 'The Boom and Beyond: the development of gravestones from the eighteenth century onwards', Robert Halliday on 'A brief overview of graveyard memorials in Suffolk', Roger Bowdler on

‘“Soothing the dull cold ear of death”: architecture and sculpture in the Georgian graveyard’, Susan Buckham on ‘Looking at the Scottish kirkyard’, and Jonathan Goodchild on ‘Churchyards: trends, developments and issues’.

The day systematically presented the evidence, more limited and ambiguous the earlier one goes back, and raised interesting general questions about the relationship of monument and graveyard to religious and other social developments. The event, on a topic which has to some extent been neglected compared to monuments inside the church building, was extremely successful and much appreciated by all those who attended.

Annual lectures, etc

The lecture at the Society’s AGM was given by our President, the Rt Revd David Stancliffe. He spoke on ‘Setting the font and the theology of baptism in today’s church’. Covering a good deal of ground, both historically and geographically, he encouraged the audience to consider the possible meanings of baptism, the ways in which these meanings relate to people’s more general response to water, and how they might be reflected in the physical structures used for baptism. There was a large audience for this lecture, which was much enjoyed, and prompted considerable debate.

The annual Dykes Bower Lecture was unavoidably held over this year. At the time of writing (March 2014) it has been confirmed that two events are being organised for 2014: a visit to the new Bishop Edward King Chapel at Cuddesdon in May, in place of the 2013 lecture; and we are delighted that the next annual Dykes Bower Lecture will be given by the distinguished architect Ptolemy Dean in December 2014.

Publications

A number of e-newsletters were issued by the Society during the course of the year. These e-newsletters, which are free to anyone who wishes to sign up, advertise the Society’s events, and draw attention to many other matters of ecclesiological interest, including events organised by other societies. There are about 1,500 recipients, of whom approximately 500 are members of the Society. Care is taken that those members of the Society who do not receive the emailing are at no disadvantage in respect of the Society’s events.

No issue of *Ecclesiology Today* was published. The Council is aware that the publication schedule for the journal has slipped behind, and has plans for catching up, including a double issue in the first part of 2014.

An issue of *Church Crawler* was published, in its new enlarged format.

The Society’s website continues to attract visitors. It went live in 1998, one of the earliest websites for our type of society, and in its time was a leader in its field. Now it looks old-fashioned and rather tired. The Council are planning to update the site in 2014.

During the year the Society opened a Twitter account, and is using this to dip its toe into social media.

Other activities

The Council has been alerted to the fact that the inscription on the tomb of the great Victorian architect, William Butterfield, is now almost illegible, and will soon become quite unreadable. Butterfield was, of course, closely associated with the original Ecclesiological Society (previously known as the Cambridge Camden Society). As next year (2014) is the bicentenary of Butterfield's birth, we are considering whether the Society might arrange for the lettering to be judiciously renewed. If so, there will probably need to be an appeal for funds.

Membership

With regret the Council noted during the course of the year the death of the following members, either in 2013 or earlier: Mr R. T. S. Charlton, Dr T. F. Friedman, Mr C. Haffner, Dr N. A. Routledge.

At the close of 2013, there were 850 active individual members in the UK (either Life or Honorary members, or with up to date annual subscriptions), at 789 different postal addresses (2012: 964 at 892 addresses). In addition there were 12 overseas members.

During the year 34 members formally resigned, most giving the increased subscription (from 1 January 2013) as the reason whilst a further 38 failed to pay their subscription, or respond to the subscription reminder. Likewise, 55 members have not responded to the subscription increase despite several letters and have been removed from the active membership list. Eight members have moved and not advised of their new address.. Twenty-one new members joined the Society.

The change of subscription has led to a very great deal of work for the Hon. Membership Secretary, ably supported by the Hon. Treasurer, and the Council would like to express its thanks to both of them on behalf of the members of the Society.

Governance and administration

The Laws of the Society describe its aims and how it is governed. They were last modified and approved by the AGM of 19 April 2012. The Society's affairs are administered by a Council, and the Laws describe how members are elected by the membership onto the Council, or are co-opted onto that body.

Continuing to meet four times a year in central London, your Council has transacted a variety of business in pursuance of the aims of the Society. In exercising its duties, it has taken due regard of the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

The Council normally meets at Church House, and the Society is grateful to the Church of England authorities for allowing use of their premises in this way.

During the course of the year Mr Keith Lovell resigned from membership of the Council. We would like to thank him for his (always helpful) contributions to our discussions.

The Council has reviewed the training received by new members of Council. As at present, it is intended that this training will draw as appropriate from the history of the Society, its Laws, its policies and the supporting evidence, its recent and planned activities, and general guidance on the responsibilities of a Trustee.

Thanks

As always, the Council is grateful to those members who provide active support to the Society in so many ways: organising and attending events of various kinds, contributing to *Ecclesiology Today* and *Church Crawler*, and carrying out administrative tasks of one sort or another. The Council would particularly like to thank Brigid Ockelton for distributing publications. It is grateful, too, to Mark Ockelton for his willingness yet again to inspect the Society's accounts.

The Council of the Ecclesiological Society
10 April 2013

Details of the Society

The Ecclesiological Society is a registered charity, number 210501

Address: c/o the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0HS. General correspondence should be sent to: 68 Scholars Road, Balham, SW12 0PG. Email: admin@ecclsoc.org

Website: www.ecclsoc.org

Twitter user name: Ecclsoc

Members of Council are the Trustees of the charity, and during 2013 they were:

Dr Paul Barnwell

Dr John Elliott

Dr Geoff Brandwood

Anthony Gilmour

Dr Suzanna Branfoot

Dr Valerie Hitchman

The Revd Dr Lynne Broughton

Ruth Knight

Sarah Brown

Keith Lovell *resigned during year*

Trevor Cooper

Paul Velluet

Andrew Derrick

Dr Christopher Webster

Phil Draper

ACCRUED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Figures rounded to nearest pound.

	2013	2012	<u>Notes</u>
Income			
Subs and donations and sundry	12249	9974	1
Life member subs	1200	1900	
Surplus/(loss) from conference	-353	-590	
Surplus/(loss) from other events	295	166	
Sale of inserts into Eccl Today	0	240	
Sale of books	19	640	2
Interest - Activity Fund	910	980	
Interest - Life Members Fund	467	483	
Interest - other Funds	480	548	
Income from subs, events etc	15265	14341	3
Expenses			
<i>Ecclesiology Today & Church Crawler</i>	1393	8929	4
Printing and posting pews book etc	0	1112	5
Admin, sundry & general post	520	2163	6
Net cost of AGM	747	1744	7
Website & publicity	168	140	
Total expenses	2828	14088	
Surplus of income over expenses	12437	253	8
Money drawn down from / (transferred to) our Funds			
Transfer to Life Members Fund from income	-1200	-1900	
Drawdown (of capital) from Life Members Fund	750	750	9
Drawdown from Pub and SP&M Funds for pews book	0	1000	10
Sum of other transfers out of / (into) Funds	-11987	-103	11
Net drawdown from / (transferred to) Funds	-12437	-253	

Notes

1. Subscriptions were raised at midnight on 31 December 2012
2. This includes sale of back stock of publications. In 2012 this included the book on church seating.
3. Note that income does not take account of the change in market value of our financial assets.
4. In 2012 there were two editions of *Ecclesiology Today* (ET45 and ET46), though the latter was delayed in production over the Xmas period and appeared early in 2013. In 2013 there were no editions published. *Church Crawler* appeared in both years.
5. In 2012 our independent distributor paid for the church seating book to be reprinted and he owns the reprints; the Society made a grant of £1000 towards the reprint in order to make it a viable proposition, so that the book remained in print and available to the public.

6. These costs include travel costs of Council members to Council meetings. Included in these costs will be some associated with the conference and other events. As well as general post, this includes the postal costs of one-off mailings to members. In 2012 the Society bought a substantial quantity of stamps at old prices, and the cost is included in that year, substantially reducing the cost of stamps in 2013.

7. The AGM is a free event, associated with a free Annual Lecture open to everyone. In 2012 it bore the unusual costs associated with extensive photocopying and mailing to explain the proposed change to subscriptions and to the Laws of the Society.

8. In 2013 our unusually large surplus was due to the fact we did not print *Ecclesiology Today*. A high proportion of the surplus is being put aside for future printing.

9. In addition to interest, some capital is drawn down from the Life Members Fund each year.

10. In 2012 we made a grant of £1000 to support the reprinting of the book on church seating (see note 5), taken from our funds.

11. In 2012, amongst other movements, we deposited a special donation of £200 into the Special Purposes and Memorial Fund. In 2013 we deposited £2000 into the same fund, £3500 in the Publications Fund, and the balance into the Income Fund.

Figures rounded to nearest pound

Investments	Value 31-Dec-12	Interest earned	Interest reinvested	Sold / withdrawn	Mkt price movements	Value 31-Dec-13
£125.51 3.5% War Stock	94	4	0	0	6	100
129 Electra Investment Trust ordinary share	2470	0	0	0	561	3032
CBF CoE Fixed Interest Fund 1F	87	1	1	0	-2	0
CBF CoE Fixed Interest Fund 2F	32190	1639	1639	0	-2301	31614
	34841	1644	1640	0	-1735	34746

Financial assets	31-Dec-13	31-Dec-12
Investments at market value (as above)	34746	34841
CBF CoE Deposit Fund	37179	36967
Cash at bank and in hand	1090	984
Income expected, not yet received	0	0
Total financial assets	73015	72791

Cash Liabilities

Expenses incurred, not yet paid	200	10034 At Dec 31 2012 included ET46 and other incurred expenses
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Surplus of financial assets over cash liabilities

Net financial assets (surplus)	72815	62757
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Note: The change in this surplus correctly does not equal the income for the year for a number of reasons (e.g. includes change in market value; liabilities and accrued income have been revalued)

Figures rounded to nearest pound

Allocation of financial assets

	31-Dec-13	31-Dec-12	Comment
Harrison Fund	0	87	See note below
Life Member Fund	18750	18300	This funds Life Members, from interest and capital. Topped up with new Life Members.
Special Purposes and Memorial Fund	5200	3200	See note below
Publications Fund	9000	5500	See note below
Activity Fund	39865	35670	See note below
Total Funds	72815	62757	
Set aside for cash liabilities	200	10034	Our estimate of what we owed at the end of the year
Total financial assets	73015	72791	

FUNDS

The Harrison Fund was for publications relating to City churches. The Fund was closed and the balance transferred in February 2013.

Capital from the Special Purposes & Memorial Fund is used from time to time for special projects, often outside the routine of the Society's activities. In the near future it is likely to be used to update the Society's website.

The Publications Fund is used amongst other things to support the cost of printing the publications distributed by the Society. The next use of this Fund is likely to be the delayed editions ET47 and ET48 of *Ecclesiology Today*, and in this expectation the Fund has been especially topped up.

The Activity Fund is used to expand the range and accessibility of activities carried out by the Society beyond what might otherwise be affordable. It currently provides an income of very approximately £900 per annum. It is also a de facto contingency fund.

NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

The Society possesses a stock of books and booklets. Their value at the lowest of cost and retail value is estimated to be less than one thousand pounds.

The Society possesses an old Kodak carousel projector of little or no value.

The Society possesses a part-set of *The Ecclesiologist*, used by the Editor of *Ecclesiology Today* for reference purposes.

The Society possesses a number of postage stamps, purchased before the mid 2012 price rise.