



Registered Charity No. 519581

OFFICERS' REPORTS 2018

Chair (Claire Corkill - Acting)

2018 has been another busy year for CBA Yorkshire starting with a successful Symposium that also marked the start of my term as Acting Chair. At the same time a new role of Heritage and Conservation Officer was developed, giving the group the capacity to provide support and advice on planning issues across Yorkshire for the first time, something which has been a long term goal for the group. The publication of Forum continues to promote and disseminate new research across Yorkshire, and we hope to publish our first supplementary volume of the journal next year. In response to the Festival of Archaeology's fallow year, we helped to promote events throughout Yorkshire and via our website and social media, something we will continue to do as part of the 2019 Festival of Archaeology as well as building on our own successful events of last summer. Instead of an autumn showcase in 2018 we hosted the Yorkshire Wolds Heritage Showcase in partnership with York Archaeological Trust as part of their 'Food for Thought' project. Moving forward, it is hoped that further partnership can develop with organisations and in particular our own affiliate members to develop further events and projects investigating and disseminating the archaeology of Yorkshire.

Despite the many successes of 2018, challenges still remain, particularly in terms of attracting new members and committee members. The committee has begun to look at the role of CBA Yorkshire and hopes to create increasing value through the development of skills training and facilitate networking across the region's groups and societies, work that will continue to develop over the coming year. I shall be standing down as Chair at the 2019 AGM but will continue to support the committee as the CBA representative and would like to thank the committee for all their efforts over the last year.

Secretary (Trevor Pearson)

The committee met on four occasions during 2018 on 21 April, 7 July, 13 October and 1 December at the office of the National CBA in York. Our thanks are extended to the CBA for providing us with this facility. As members will remember the committee was faced with a number of vacancies to the committee and in particular the post of chair following the sad passing of Steve Bence just before Christmas 2017. It is therefore most gratifying to report that new people have stepped forward to take on vacant roles during the course of the year and will be out forward for election at the 2019 AGM. they are Claire Corkill (Chair), Alistair Galt (Digital Communications), Megan Clement (Programme), Jo Heron (Membership) and Amy Talbot (Education) though Amy had to step down from the role during the course of the year. Christine Went took on the new role of Heritage and Conservation Officer after the need for such a post was identified in the 2017 Forward Plan. My personal thanks extend to all of the committee for their work during the course of the year and for helping to give the group a future.

Membership Secretary (Jo Heron - Acting)

To December 2018, we had 209 members, of which 144 were also CBA National members and 65 were CBA Yorkshire only. There are some difficulties with the systems we are working under, but hopefully these will be resolved in the not too distant future. My thanks to Ian Drake, for his patience, and Trevor and Paul for their advice and assistance over the last six months or so.

Treasurer (Ian Drake)

The Receipts and Payments Statement for the financial year ended 31st March 2018 together with a summary of the group's balances at that date are shown below. 2017/8 showed a surplus of receipts over payments of £2,580 bringing the group's total balances at the year end to £11,395. A much more secure position than I have been able to report in recent years. This improvement reflects the efforts made by the Trustees to rationalise the group's position. This has been achieved against a background of steadily falling membership numbers (and therefore income) by exercising tighter financial control and reducing the overall cost of the group's biggest expense, by moving to a more cost effect, partly online version of Forum. Worryingly membership income continues to decline, down £1,400 on the previous year despite concerted efforts by all concerned to encourage both individuals and interested groups to join the membership. 2017/18's external activities spearheaded by the first Autumn Showcase brought in a further £600 due in the main to some generous donations from sponsoring organisations. Overall, membership levels apart, 2017/18 was a very satisfactory year financially. It will however be a difficult one to repeat in 2018/9 as much of the income was one off in nature and membership income shows little sign of improving in the current financial year.

CBA Yorkshire Accounts Summaries year ended 31st March 2018.

	Receipts 2017/18	Receipts 2016/17	Payments 2017/18	Payments 2016/17
National Group Subscriptions	2,638.00	4,090.00	0.00	0.00
Previous years Subscriptions	45.00	482.50	0.00	0.00
Symposium and AGM	1,295.34	1,448.00	857.96	992.24
Forum	300.00	205.00	995.20	4,172.41
Excursions	710.52	50.00	449.10	0.00
Thubron/King Award	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
Autumn Showcase	1,853.48	0.00	1,418.70	0.00
Investment Income	1.77	2.84	0.00	0.00
Secretary Expenses	0.00	0.00	162.18	56.35
Treasurer Expenses	0.00	0.00	38.38	0.00
Administration	0.00	0.00	156.89	148.89
Meeting room hire	0.00	0.00	130.00	130.00
YAS subscription	0.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
	7,044.11	6,278.34	4,453.41	5,544.89
Summary 2018				
Balance brought Forward	8,805.22			
Receipts	7,044.11			
Payments	4,453.41			
Balance carried forward	11,395.92			
Balance sheet 31 March 2018				
Community Account	10,534.02	7945.09		
Business Saver	146.90	146.82		
CIOF Investments	715.00	713.31		
	11395.92	8805.22		

Editor (Christiane Kroebel)

The editor's job is quite relaxed during the year but gears up to a couple of intense months in December and January to get FORUM ready for the AGM in early February. It was good to receive a number of unsolicited manuscripts and some more after a slight nudge. Especially nice to see are repeat authors and groups so that we can follow their continued activities. Forum in print will be with you at the AGM and Mike Turpin, who has volunteered to assist with editing, and I am expecting to have FORUM Extra online finished by then as well but it may be delayed by a few days.

Over the last few years, we have been considering expanding our publication offer with the idea of producing a supplement or occasional paper in conjunction with one of our affiliates. So far, this has not happened but we are currently in the early stages of talks with Historic England to publish a paper on the recent excavations and reassessment at Conisbrough Castle with its element of public, private, and community organisations working together.

Digital Communications Officer (Alistair Galt - Acting)

I took over the responsibility of Digital Communications Officer after the 2018 Annual General Meeting, which has allowed other committee members to focus on their roles, rather than having to respond to issues that crop up on social media and updating the website.

The first few months involved getting to know the website layout and making it more streamlined, as some of the pages were no longer appropriate. All websites are a work in progress, and as the committee and the charity changes, the website will adapt as required. My role doesn't just include the website – our social media platforms were also undermanned, so now we are advertising ourselves much more, and we have a steady stream of interested individuals.

One of the main highlights for myself has been the fallout of the lack of a National Festival of Archaeology for 2018. This was to occur over the Summer and in past years was spearheaded by the Council of British Archaeology, but funding was not forthcoming so it was postponed for 2019. However, we were given permission to do a regional Festival of Archaeology. I undertook the bulk of the work for creating the logo for the Yorkshire Festival of Archaeology 2018, advertising the Festival and supplying interested parties with materials. Overall, we had about a dozen events under the banner of the Yorkshire Festival of Archaeology 2018 and received largely positive feedback.

Future developments include adding an online payment option for the website so we can accept online membership payments and continuing to develop the website to meet the needs of CBA Yorkshire.

Programme Secretary (Megan Clement - Acting)

During the course of the year CBA Yorkshire has led two large scale events, including the CBA Yorkshire Archaeology Day, the main event was the Yorkshire Wolds Heritage Showcase in October. There were many fascinating talks from professionals in the sector and local archaeological groups working in the area to discuss what aspects of the Wolds they were researching, investigating and advocating for. The day was run by York Archaeological Trust and as aimed to help support their Research Agenda for the Yorkshire Wolds. An update on progress will be given at the Archaeology Day in February 2019 by York Archaeological Trust.

As part of the Yorkshire Festival of Archaeology, three walks were hosted on the coast; including Tour of Scarborough Old Town, Bram Stoker's Whitby and Auburn Sand Foreshore.

Education Officer (Amy Talbot - Acting)

Amy was asked to undertake an education afternoon at Battyeford Primary School in April 2018 on behalf of CBA Yorkshire. The visit took the form of a hands on session which the children loved as they were able to get their hands on the finds. Amy also delivered a photo slideshow, of places such as Pompeii, The Lake District and the Isle of Man, showing pictures of the archaeology in each of the places which encouraged a wide range of questions from the children relating to

working in archaeology. Amy also helped out on the CBA Yorkshire stand at the Eboracum Roman Festival in York in June and had plans to deliver a range of events but circumstances meant that she had to step down from the role towards the end of the year.

Heritage and Conservation Officer (Christine Went - Acting)

I took over the role after the 2018 AGM. During 2018 I submitted comments regarding three controversial planning applications on behalf of CBAY. The first was to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding extensive alterations to the coastguard station in Flamborough objecting to the plans as submitted and, together with the Council's Buildings Conservation Officer, requesting a survey of the building to Historic England Level 2 specifications. The original plans were significantly altered and the Council attached a condition to its permission regarding the survey. In the autumn I worked closely with Historic England regarding two further planning applications. The first was a proposed development of 22 houses along a section of the Roman Ridge adjacent to Wincobank hill fort, Sheffield, and the second concerned the proposed erection of a cafe/restaurant/hotel with ancillary constructions at Castle Hill, Almondbury. In each case CBAY submitted objections. Both planning applications are pending decisions. When these are available I will post the results on the CBAY website.

Looking forward to 2019, I will be continuing to explore further ways of spreading the 'Speak Up' message, including the setting up of a Heritage & Conservation Twitter account.

National CBA (Claire Corkill)

Over the last year, the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) has continued to deliver a range of successful projects and activities. An extensive survey was carried out looking at community archaeology across the UK with the results published in CBA Research Bulletin 6, Supporting Community Archaeology Across the UK (<http://new.archaeologyuk.org/cba-research-bulletin>). The Home Front Legacy project enabled community groups and individuals across the UK to record First World War sites in their local area and ran throughout the First World War centenary. 5,660 sites were recorded during the project and all of the data recorded will soon be freely available via the Archaeology Data Service. Our annual Archaeology Day was held at the University of York Archaeology department and saw Professor Nicky Milner give the De Cardi lecture on the latest research on the Mesolithic site of Star Carr and attendees were able to meet with members of the Star Carr team to find out more about the techniques used on site and handle some of the finds. The Festival of Archaeology (www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk) did not take place in 2018 but following a year off is back for 2019. Events will take place across the UK from 13-28 July, including special events to help celebrate the CBA's 75th anniversary.

Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society rep (John Cruse)

Management Board Report

The proceeds of the sale of Claremont have now been invested in the CCLA, yielding an annual dividend, which together with subscriptions from members and additional investment resources, should now yield sufficient funds to more than cover our slimmed-down operating costs, based on our hired office at Stringer House, 34 Lupton Street, Hunslet, LS10 2QW.

As a result, our 2019 Draft Budget will contain provisions for funding a wider range of research projects and procedures for administering these investigations are currently under review. If you have projects requiring small grants, please apply to the YAHS Grant Secretary.

The five main YAHS Sections organised 26 talks and 2 visits.

Our twenty affiliated societies contributed a further 140 events to the overall YAHS programme.

Funds from the Society have assisted Dr Halkon's investigations of a Bronze Age ring-fort at Kipling House Farm, Middleton-on-the Wolds, as well as ensuring the publication of a quern report. An updated YAHS web-site was commissioned & 'Briefing', a periodic e-newsletter was launched.

Publications available to YAHS and section members

Yorkshire Archaeological Journal (Vol 90) was published in November 2018. Its 238 pages included five archaeological articles, five on historical topics, two obituaries and seven book reviews.

Prehistoric Yorkshire (No 56) was issued in December 2018, with 116 pages of articles (including significant new DNA discoveries (derived from bodies in Craven caves) and research into the links between the Yorkshire henges and neolithic axe routes), along with research reports and reviews. Medieval Yorkshire: was issued this autumn. Yorkshire Family History - journals no 43 & 44 have been issued.

Projects

The Society is working with The Borthwick Institute, University of York to incorporate Dr George Redmond's records into a dictionary of historic Yorkshire terms. An online interactive version is available online and later in 2019, a hard-back version will be added in the YAHS Record Series. The new edition of Life and Tradition in the Yorkshire Dales by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby was well received. The Society, in partnership with the Dales Countryside Museum, arranged a programme of 50 meetings and events to mark the 50th anniversary of this classic work.

York Archaeological Trust rep (Ian Drake)

I attended the Annual General meeting of York Archaeological Trust on 7th December 2018 on behalf of CBA Members.

Although there were only the usual routine matters on the agenda this meeting proved to be the most contentious of recent years. The minutes of the previous year's AGM was approved. Resolution 1 'To receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018' was preceded by a brief summary of the Trust's activities from the Chairman of Trustees and its financial activities from the Honorary Treasurer. After questions to the Trustees the Report and Statements were approved. Resolutions 2 to 7 related to the appointment of Trustees again after questions and comments from members these resolutions were passed. The resignations of two Trustees were noted, the re-election of two Trustees, who were required to retire by rotation and the election of 4 new trustees were approved. A member questioned whether there were to be any new members to be elected at the meeting as had been the practice and tradition in the past and in line with the Articles of Association. The Chairman responded that there had been five new members in the year (4 new Trustees and A.N. Other) and that these new members had been appointed by the Trustees during the year. He clarified that under the Articles, notwithstanding practice and tradition, these appointments did not require subsequent approval by the membership. A member expressed his and other members concern that they were being asked to elect four new Trustees about which members had received no details prior to the meeting and asked that details of co-opted Trustees requiring membership ratification would in future be provided to the membership prior to the meeting which was being asked to elect them. Finally Resolution 8 to reappoint the Auditors was passed without questions or debate.

To enable members to better understand the unusually contentious nature of YATS AGM it is necessary to relate events earlier in the year. On 24th July 2018 I along with all other members of YAT received notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Trust to be held on 10th August. The sole purpose of the EGM was to approve new Articles of Association for the Trust. These proposed new Articles accompanied the notice of the meeting. This was the first time members had been made aware of the proposed new Articles, just 17 days prior to the meeting. A revision of the Articles was long overdue and for the most part the new Articles were good practise and non-contentious. However the new Articles proposed radical changes to the role of members within the Trust. In the new Articles members (who it was prosed were to be called Honorary Members) were to have no role to play in the business or activities of the Trust. Only the Trustees would appoint Trustees and elect Honorary Members. Only Trustees would approve Annual Reports and Financial Statements. Members would only be provided with information on the activities and business of the Trust but would have no input to Trust matters. A number of members, myself included, thought that insufficient notice had been given for members to study the implications of the new Articles prior to the proposed EGM. I am a representative of CBA

Yorkshire, clearly I had no time to consult CBA Yorkshire's Trustees or the membership and to gather their views on the proposed new Articles. In the event sufficient reaction from Trust members resulted in the Extraordinary Meeting being cancelled. Following consultation with some members who had expressed their concerns the Trust's Executive and Trustees agreed to set up a 'Blue Skies' working group (their words) to look at the future role of members in the Trust. At the AGM the members of the working group were named under the leadership of one of the newly elected Trustees. Their work I believe will start early in the new year. Copies of the proposed new Articles have gone to all CBA Yorkshire Trustees. If anyone wishes to see them and/or make us aware of your views on the proposals please do contact any one of us.

I am conscious that any representative's report needs to be as brief and concise as time allows. I have not reported on the many and varied activities of YAT in the past year or the Trust's Financial Activities and Standing. I usually end my report by saying that I have a copy of YAT's Annual Report and Financial Statements. In previous years the Trust has provided members with a comprehensive illustrated hard copy publication, which is what I brought with me to the AGM. This year, no doubt to save on the cost, members were only e-mailed a copy of the report with the Trust's notice of the AGM. As this document is over 70 pages long I have not printed it all out. I do have a copy of some of the summary pages, if anyone has any questions or comments please do contact me at any time.