

**THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY
FOLK MUSEUM**

2 Castle Street, Cambridge CB3 0AQ

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

For the period
1st April, 1976 to 31st March, 1977

(Incorporated 5th June, 1946)

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT
as on 31st March, 1977

Patron:

*The Master of Fitzwilliam College

President:

*Councillor P. J. Warren

Vice-Presidents:

- *Dr. G. H. S. Bushnell
- *Hon. Councillor Mrs. M. E. Henn
- *Miss D. M. Howlett
- *F. A. Reeve
- *G. O. Vinter

Treasurer:

*P. J. Morton

ELECTED MEMBERS:

E. E. Harmer, R. G. Heffer, G. Pollard

NOMINATED MEMBERS:

C. K. Phillips, Hon. Councillor S. C. Bowles, Councillors D. Anderson, Mrs. S. E. Dolby, J. A. Philips Mrs. J. Phillips, Mrs. E. A. Sargeant, Mrs. E. Wheatley, P. J. Warren. by Cambridge City Council

Councillors Mrs. D. Abbot, F. C. Symons by Cambridgeshire County Council

P. W. Gathercole by Council of the Senate of the University

G. O. Vinter by Cambridge Antiquarian Society

Mrs. S. Purkis by N.U.T. Cambridge Branch

B. G. W. Cash by N.U.T. Cambridgeshire Branch

Curator and Secretary:

Miss E. M. Porter to 31.12.76

R. Wilson from 17.1.77

*Members of the Executive Committee

THE FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

for the period 1st April, 1976 to 31st March, 1977

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting 1976

THE FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association, being the thirty-first since the opening of the Museum was held on Tuesday, 26th October, 1976, in the Guildhall, Cambridge. The President, Councillor P. J. Warren was in the Chair.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. Sargeant and Mr. Vinter.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman reported that due to serious ill health, Miss E. Porter would be unable to continue her employment as Curator and Secretary to the Association and expressed his personal regret in having to report this news to the meeting.

The provision of alternative housing facilities, appropriate to the health of Miss Porter, was being pursued by the City Housing Manager.

The Chairman recalled that Miss Porter had been a permanent resident of the City since 1933 and prior to taking up the appointment of Curator to the Museum in 1947 had been a teacher. In her work as Curator, she had gained a distinguished reputation and was the author of a number of books on Folklore in East Anglia. In 1968 she was awarded the Court Lake Medal for Folklore and in 1972 she was very pleased to be awarded an Honorary M.A. by the University.

Resolved that a letter of sincere thanks and appreciation be sent to Miss Porter for her services as Curator and Secretary to the Association since 1947 and the hope be expressed that she will be able to continue her literary pursuits.

Minutes:

The minutes of the fortieth Annual General Meeting held on 23rd October, 1975, as reproduced in the Annual Report, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Statement of Accounts and balance Sheet 1975/76

The Treasurer submitted the audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 1976 and drew attention to the fact that the name of the Accountants, Chater and Myhill, had been omitted. He reported that the City Council had made a grant of £4,200 to the Museum and that an application had been submitted for a grant of £3,700 in the next financial year to eliminate the incurrence of any deficit.

Resolved that the audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 1976, as submitted, be approved.

Annual Report of the Council of Management:

Resolved that the Annual Report of the Council of Management for the year ended 31st March 1976 be received.

Appointment of Auditor

Resolved that Messrs. Chater and Myhill be appointed as Auditor to the Folk Museum for the year ending 31st March 1977.

Election of Executive Officers

Resolved that the Patron, President, 5 Vice-Presidents and Treasurer be re-elected to office and that Miss E. Porter be appointed as an additional Vice-President.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Once again the Museum has been faced with increased costs, but due to the fact that the Museum was closed from the beginning of September until the beginning of February certain items of expenditure have been lower than anticipated.

For the first time in several years we had a net excess of income over expenditure to the order of £586, compared with a deficit of £542 for the previous year. The effect of this has been to turn the general fund balance from a deficit of £417 to a balance of £169 and although the year end Bank overdraft was almost covered by a grant overdue from the City Corporation the Museum is non-the-less still in a very weak financial position.

A very much improved grant was obtained from the City Corporation with a view to firstly covering anticipated Bank borrowing near the end of the financial year and to also cover increased salary costs once the Museum took on the part-time assistant in February 1977. Although the Museum is now making strenuous efforts to increasing income from both admission prices and sales of guides, postcards etc. we are also looking to other methods of raising income but nevertheless, it is apparent that if the Museum is to continue to function increased assistance will still be needed by way of grants.

Although it was disappointing to see that our income from admission fees and other items was down in the year both on the previous year and on forecast, as already mentioned the museum was closed for over 4½ months due to the unfortunate illness and then subsequent retirement of Miss E. M. Porter. Income from subscription increased, and it is hoped that this trend will continue.

Expenditure on general running costs and overheads followed the pattern of earlier years but despite the increase in Curator's salary, this was substantially less than anticipated for the reasons already stated. Actual expenditure on printing and stationery costs was a great deal higher than anticipated and the Museum now has reasonable stocks of guides and postcards etc. reflected by the increase stock figures now shown in the accounts.

Now that the Museum cottage is unoccupied it is anticipated that this will be used for part office cum storage use with the possibility of one more room in the Museum itself, currently being used for storage purposes being opened to the public. Proper storage racking and office equipment will therefore be needed, and it is for this reason that a new provision has been created for this purpose. However, a great deal more than this sum ought to be spent on storage and also show cases but then expenditure on these items must necessarily be dependant on the cash resources available.

We are of course very grateful to those members and bodies who subscribe to us for the Museum, especially local authorities, without whose help we could not exist. A list of their names appears at the end of this annual report.

CURATOR'S REPORT

Attendance at the Museum in the year ending 31st March, 1977 was 11,487 compared with 15,794 visitors the previous year. 1,332 children attended in organised classes from schools in the City and County, and from Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Essex, London and Kent. These much lower figures were due to Miss E. Porter being taken seriously ill on 7th September, 1976, resulting in the Museum being closed for a period of five months. Due to her continued ill health, she was forced to retire as Curator of the Folk Museum and officially retired in December 1976. Much credit is due to Enid Porter who ran the Museum single-handed for almost 30 years. She expanded the Museum considerably and became a great authority on Cambridgeshire customs and folklore.

A Sub-Committee of the Committee of Management was formed who appointed Mr. R. Wilson as Curator and Mrs. P. Woods as part-time Assistant Curator in December 1976. Both took up their duties on 17th January, 1977 and the Museum was officially re-opened on 1st February, allowing a two-week period for cleaning and dusting the premises and exhibits.

An immediate start was made by introducing a much needed window display in both ground floor windows facing Castle Street. These have had a marked success, as many people who otherwise would have walked past are now attracted to visit the Museum. All cases were emptied of their contents, cleaned, re-lined, displays re-arranged, pictures and samplers re-hung and several exhibits replaced by others thought to be of greater interest. Also, beginning with Room 1, a start has been made on replacing old labels with new ones.

One exhibition was held during the year: Cambridge Property Market.

As usual, a very large number of enquiries made by letter, telephone and in person have been dealt with.

Lord Donaldson, the Minister for the Arts, accompanied by his private secretary Mr. Davies and his public relations officer Miss Fisher, visited the Museum on Friday, 11th March. They were shown around by Councillor Warren, Mrs. Woods and myself. The Minister expressed his interest in the exhibits and spent an enjoyable half-hour in the Museum.

The principal accessions received in the past year are listed at the end of the Annual Report. I am grateful to those who have given us exhibits during the year and who encourage their friends to follow their example.

LIFE MEMBERS 1976-1977

(donors of £10.50 and upwards)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mrs. C. Armstrong | E. B. Haddon |
| J. Bromwich | Homberton College |
| Cambridge Preservation Society | The Leys School |
| B. G. W. Cash | L. F. Newman |
| Christ's College | Pembroke College |
| Clare College | Queen's College |
| Downing College | St. Catherine's College |
| Emmanuel College | Trinity College |
| Gonville & Caius College | Mrs. Dudley Ward |
| Girton College | |
| Professor W. C. Erbach | |

ORDINARY MEMBERS

(annual subscribers of £1 and upwards)

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| A. W. Arundale | King's College |
| Dr. G. H. S. Bushnell | Lloyds Bank Limited |
| B. G. Bowles | Magdalene College |
| Cambridge Antiquarian Society | Mrs. J. Mellanby |
| Christ's College | E. Miller |
| City of Cambridge Teachers Association | Mrs. J. Northcott |
| Mrs. D. M. Clarke | Mrs. Y. Perry |
| T. S. Culver | Peterhouse |
| Emmanuel College | St. John's College |
| W. S. Erbach | Mrs. F. H. Sandbach |
| R. J. Flood | D. A. Stubbings |
| T. N. Gallyon | J. K. Taylor |
| Gonville & Caius College | T. D. Thompson |
| T. P. Horgan | Trinity College |
| S. C. Humphrey | |
| A. E. Jones | |
| Jesus College | |

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

(donors of 50p and upwards)

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Miss J. M. Burton | S. A. Rolfe |
| Miss J. Farley | E. Rosenthal |
| B. E. Eldridge | C. C. Scott |
| P. J. Ibbotson | P. J. Rosenthal |
| Mrs. C. Kynacon | B. Smith |
| B. J. Matthew | Mrs. J. V. Treherne |
| Dr. & Mrs. Nakashima | |
| Miss S. Raynes | |

GRANTS

Cambridge Corporation
Cambridgeshire County Council
South Cambridgeshire District Council

DONATIONS

W. Heffer & Sons Limited

LIST OF PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS

1st February to 31st March, 1977

- CHILD'S COTTON PETTICOAT, hand made, c. 1880. Mrs. E. Woodley.
- CHRISTENING ROBE, cellanese and lace, c. 1920. Mrs. E. Woodley.
- JUBILEE ALBUM, "King Emperor's Jubilee 1910-1935". Mrs. E. Woodley.
- BOOK, "Party Songs and Nursery Rhymes for Little People", c. 1925. Mrs. V. Merryweather.
- PAIR BELLOWS, foot-operated, from a blacksmith's shop in Bridge Street, now demolished, c. 1850. The Curator.
- LEAFLET, "The Chatteris Chatterbox", dated 31.1.1852. Colchester and Essex Museum.
- LEAFLET, "Correspondence between the Reverend Mr. Gathercole and Thomas Skeels Fryer, Esq." dated 12.12.1847. Colchester and Essex Museum.
- LARGE DOLL, china head, papier maché body and limbs, c. 1905. Miss R. H. Chivers.
- SMALL DOLL, china head, papier maché body and limbs, c. 1915. Miss R. H. Chivers.
- LARGE DOLL, china head, linen covered body and limbs stuffed with kapok, celluloid hands, c. 1920. Miss R. H. Chivers.
- GLOVE BOX, pine with walnut veneer, c. 1890. Miss R. H. Chivers.
- WORK BASKET, lacquered wicker, outside covered with red satin, c. 1870. Miss R. H. Chivers.
- CHILD'S MANGLE, metal frame on 4 cast-iron wheels with 2 wooden rollers and shelves, c. 1930. The Headmaster of Abbington Village School.
- CHILD'S WASHING-TUB, galvanised steel, metal handle each end, c. 1930. The Headmaster of Abbington Village School.
- MAUL, large wooden mallet used for driving in hedge posts, c. 1900. Mrs. J. Jarvis.
- LADY'S CAPE, black taffeta and lace, c. 1880. Mrs. J. Jarvis.
- HAT BOX, all metal, hinged lid painted brown, c. 1880. Mrs. J. Jarvis.
- DIARY, hand-written, covering 226 pages and written by Mr. William Farrington, dated 1858-1861. Miss G. Maynard Farrington.
- THE FAMILY JOURNAL, a weekly paper for the household, dated 23rd October, 1909. Mrs. J. Jarvis.

- COFFEE POT, silver plated, made by D. Munsey, a Cambridge goldsmith. Won by Mr. S. Palmer or Corpus Christi College in November 1877 at the 120yds. Hurdle Handicap, dated 20th December 1876. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College for the long jump 21'3½", date 1878. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College, Champion 120yds. Hurdles, date 1882. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College, Champion 120yds. Hurdles, date 1883. Mrs. S. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College, for 100yds. race, date 1877. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College, Champion 120yds. Hurdles, date 1878. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- MEDAL, silver. Won by Mr. S. Palmer of Corpus Christi College, Champion 120yds. Hurdles, date 1879. Mrs. B. Palmer.
- FOOTSTOOL, pinewood box with embroidered top, c. 1870. Miss N. Lofts.
- SAMPLER, in oak frame, made by Rhoda Wilshir, aged 9 years, dated 1835. Miss N. Lofts.
- CROCHET MATS, circular and star shaped, c. 1920. Miss N. Lofts.
- PAIR OF BOOT-TREES, 4 interlocking wooden parts, c. 1910. Miss M. D. Craister.
- NEWSPAPER, "Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal" 'Isle of Ely Herald and Huntingdonshire Gazette', dated 2nd May, 1857. Mrs. J. Jarvis.
- "RUDGE" BICYCLE, owned by former head groundsman at Duxford Aerodrome and purchased in 1911. Miss Skeates.
- NEWSPAPERS "DAILY MAIL" (3) dated 21, 28 and 29 January, 1936 covering the death of King George V. Mrs. Crack.
- DRAPER'S MEASURING MACHINE, wooden framework with mounted gauge for measuring number of yards of cloth sold - Nash Patent 7076, 1897. Used by Mr. Nash between 1897 and 1934 in his Mill Road draper's shop. Miss V. Nash.

CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM
(Incorporated 5th June 1946)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For the Year Ended 31st March 1977

| 1975 | £ | £ | INCOME | £ | £ | £ |
|------|---------------|---------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | 85 | Ordinary Subscriptions | 122.78 | | |
| | 98 | 13 | Associate Subscriptions | 5.11 | | |
| | 114 | <u> </u> | Donations | <u>35.00</u> | 162.89 | |
| | | | Grants:— | | | |
| | | 400 | Cambs. & County Council .. | 440.00 | | |
| | | 2,887 | City of Cambridge | 4,700.00 | | |
| | 3,337 | <u> 50</u> | South Cambs. R.D.C. | <u> 50.00</u> | 5,190.00 | |
| | 1,134 | | Admission Fees, Guides, Postcards, and Donations to Museum Box | | 1,057.30 | |
| | <u> 56</u> | | Interest on Lloyds Bank Deposit A/c | | <u> 81.08</u> | 6,491.27 |
| | 4,739 | | | | | |
| | | | Less Expenses:— | | | |
| | 930 | | Rents, Rates, Insurances .. | 753.90 | | |
| | 448 | | Light, Heat and Water | 397.64 | | |
| | 392 | | Repairs and General Maintenance | 738.09 | | |
| | 58 | | Cleaning and Cleaner's Wages | <u> 83.00</u> | 1,972.63 | |
| | 2,678 | | Curator's Salary | 2,937.99 | | |
| | 144 | | National Insurance and Graduates Pension | 256.20 | | |
| | 50 | | Honorarium to Treasurer | 50.00 | | |
| | 411 | | Printing, Postage, Stationery, Telephone and Sundry Expenses | 416.25 | | |
| | 32 | | Audit and Accountancy | <u> 54.00</u> | 3,714.44 | |
| | 30 | | Museum Purchases | 15.10 | | |
| | <u>5,281</u> | 108 | Museum Guides and Postcards | <u>202.70</u> | 217.80 | 5,904.87 |
| | <u>£(542)</u> | | | | | <u>£586.40</u> |
| | | | <u>Net Profit for the Year</u> | | | <u>£586.40</u> |

CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM
(Incorporated 5th June 1946)

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st March 1977

| 1975 | £ | £ | EMPLOYMENT OF CAPITAL | £ | £ |
|---------------|-------|---|--|----------|----------------|
| | | | Fixed Assets:- | | |
| | | | Investments: | | |
| | | | Commercial Union Insurance | | |
| | | | Deferred Annuity Pension (Curator) | 2,250.00 | |
| 2,250 | | | Less: Written off to Pension Reserve | 2,250.00 | - |
| | | | | | |
| | | | Current Assets:- | | |
| 2 | | | Balance at Bank – Current A/c No. 2 | | 1.64 |
| 61 | | | Deposit A/c | | 3.23 |
| 5 | | | Cash in Hand | | 8.40 |
| 139 | | | Sundry Debtors and Payments in Advance | | 636.89 |
| 216 | | | Stock – Museum Guides etc. | | 610.00 |
| 2,673 | | | | | 1,260.16 |
| | | | Liabilities:- | | |
| | 2,250 | | Reserve for Pension | | - |
| | 100 | | Reserve for Future Repairs | 500.00 | |
| | 70 | | Sundry Creditors | 80.48 | |
| 3,090 | 670 | | Overdraft at Bank – Current A/c No. 1 | 510.93 | 1,091.41 |
| <u>£(417)</u> | | | <i>Net Capital Employed</i> | | <u>£168.75</u> |
| | | | Represented by:- | | |
| 125 | | | General Fund at 1st April 1976 | | (417.65) |
| (542) | | | Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure | | 586.40 |
| <u>£(417)</u> | | | | | <u>£168.75</u> |

In our opinion the Accounts set out herewith give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs at 31st March 1977, and of its Profit for the year ended on that date and comply with the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967.

CHATER AND MYHILL

CAMBRIDGE
28.3.77.
DMC/SDS/DPC

ACCOUNTANTS
Sussex House
Hobson Street