

THE CAMBRIDGE & COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM
2 Castle Street, Cambridge CB3 0AQ Cambridge 355159

FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

for the period

1st April 1986 to 31st March 1987



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Folk Museum Cambridge Glynn Thomas

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City of Cambridge
South Cambridgeshire District Council
The Area Museums Service for South East England
Cambridgeshire County Museums Advisory Committee

CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM
(A Company limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 1987

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT :

Lord Walston

Mrs. E. Sargent (President)

Mr. F.A. Reeve (Vice-President)

Mr. P. Morton (Vice President & Treasurer)

Mr. E.W. Barrett-Peyton (Vice President)

Mr. M. Stuart (Vice Chairman)

Dr. D.W. Philipson

Cllr. Miss B. Suckling

Cllr. G.W. Clark

Cllr. Lavena Hawes

Cllr. S. Sedgwick-Jell

Hon. Cllr. M. Garner

Mrs. L.J. Bradford

Cllr. J. Durrant

Dr. J. Alexander

Mrs. V. Alford

Douglas Anderson

T.B. Doig (Curator

& Secretary)

SECRETARY :

TOM DOIG

REGISTERED OFFICE :

2-3 CASTLE STREET,
CAMBRIDGE, CB3 0AQ

COMPANY NUMBER :

412005

AUDITORS :

PEAT MARWICK McLINTOCK,
CAMBRIDGE

BANKERS :

LLOYDS BANK PLC

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting 1986

The 51st. Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on 17th. October 1986 in the University Room of the Museum under the chairmanship of Mr.E.W.Barrett-Payton.

Present:
Mr.F.A.Reeve and Mr.P.J.Morton(Vice-Presidents); Mr.E.W.Barrett-Payton
(Chairman); Mr.M.J.Stuart(Vice-Chairman); Mr.T.B.Doig(Curator); Miss
A.I'Ons(Assistant-Curator); Cllr.V.Alford; Cllr.L.Hawes;
Cllr.B.Suckling; Hon.Cllr.M.Garner; Mrs.L.Bradford; Mrs.L.G.Barrett-
Payton; Mr.D.Stubbings; H.Ridout; Mr.J.Goldsmith(County Museums
Officer).

Apologies for absence were received from: Mrs.E.Sargeant(President);
Mrs.M.Basham(Secretary); Mrs.B.May; Mrs.S.Purkiss; Mr.C.Paine (Director
of the Area Museums' Service for South East England); Mr.J.Durrant;
Dr.D.Phillipson.

It was proposed,seconded and passed that the 21 days rule be waived.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 17th. October 1985 were confirmed.

The Audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31/3/86 were received and accepted. The Treasurer brought to the attention of the meeting the problems and solutions as outlined in paragraphs 8 & 9 of his report. A general discussion about the finances of the Museum took place and it was agreed that we should invite a representative of the South Cambridgeshire District Council to join the Council of Management. It was agreed that the Chairman, Treasurer and Mrs.L.Bradford would informally pursue the City Council for more support. It was pointed out that as we are a Public Company we could not continue to remain in debit. A vote of thanks was passed to the Treasurer for all his hard work.

The Chairman's Annual Report was received and adopted.

The Curator's report was received and accepted. Mrs.L.Bradford queried the standard of labelling of the artifacts in the Museum. After a discussion, it was agreed that although there is always room for improvement, the work carried out so far had considerably enhanced the displays and what was needed was a considerable input of time and money. The problems of storage and conservation are to be discussed by the Executive Committee.

The meeting formally accepted the Collecting Policy and agreed its publication.

Appointment of Auditors; It was resolved that Chater and Myhill be re-appointed.

Election of Officers. The following were elected: Patron, Lord Walston; President, Mrs.E.Sargeant; Vice-Presidents, Mr.E.W.Barrett-Payton, Mr.F.A.Reeve; Mr.P.J.Morton; Chairman, Mr.E.W.Barrett-Payton; Vice-Chairman, Mr M.J.Stuart; Treasurer, Mr.P.J.Morton; Executive Committee, Mrs.B.Suckling. Mr.P.Morton stated that he was only able to remain Treasurer until the end of the financial year. It was agreed to make formal approaches to the bank and other appropriate bodies to find a replacement. The meeting unanimously agreed to record its grateful appreciation to him for all his hard work and interest during the 17 years he has been treasurer. The meeting agreed that the Executive Committee could co-opt other interested members on to the committee, and

also invited Mr.J.Goldsmith to attend all meetings. Secretary: The Executive Committee were instructed to invite various bodies to nominate a secretary.

It was proposed and seconded that the admission prices be increased from 1/1/87 and carried with Mr.E.W.Barrett-Payton and Mr.T.Doig voting against. After some discussion it was proposed, seconded and passed that the new fees would be 80p Adults and 40p Children, Mr.T.Doig abstaining. The Executive Committee would look at the matter of concessions.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The fiftieth anniversary of the Museum was celebrated by a Buffet Supper held on the 3rd November. This was attended by a large number of the Museum's supporters, both old and new. An excellent exhibition, showing the history of the Museum, was mounted by the Curator and his team.

During the year we lost the services of Eric Barrett-Payton and Sallie Purkiss from the Council of Management - both of whom will be greatly missed for their hard work. Eric continues as Vice President.

As the year progressed it became increasingly clear that, despite admission charges being raised to 80p for adults and 40p for children, the Museum was running further towards insolvency. A strong case was made to Cambridge City Council to improve their revenue grant. After considerable hard work by Peter Morton, Tom Doig and John Goldsmith (County Museums' Officer), the City agreed to our requests. Although we are still not fully sure of the financial future, the outlook certainly looks better.

Finally, I would like to express my personal thanks for the tremendous amount of dedicated work given to the Museum by Tom Doig and Alison I'Ons (past Assistant Curator) and also to Peter Morton, John Goldsmith and all the many friends and helpers who have made this our anniversary year such a success.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Museum has a deficit of £3430 in the year to 31st March 1987 compared with a deficit of £2242 the previous year.

In many respects this has been a difficult year for the Museum, and faced with another deficit, and lack of operating capital, the future of the Museum was discussed in great detail. Without the benefit of adequate staffing levels and a more realistic budget, involving a substantial increase in grant funding, it was possible that the Museum would have to close. However, after representation to the City of Cambridge, we are grateful that they have come to our assistance and voted for increased grant funding for 1987/88. This commitment has ensured the future, albeit short term, of the Museum.

On the income side, takings were up by over £1000 on the previous year, particularly due to increased admission prices effective from 1st January 1987. Sales income also showed an improvement.

Expenditure in many respects followed anticipated trends. Salaries were up but still not fully reflective of what they could have been.

During the year the Museum purchased a much needed computer at the cost of £510 including disks. Racking and additional storage facilities were also purchased.

Our accountants, Messers Chater & Myhill are now part of Peat Marwick McLintock. To bring the Museum into line with Company law requirements, the accounts this year have been produced in a revised form.

We are indebted to the individuals and bodies who generally subscribe to the Museum, and to local authorities, particularly the City of Cambridge, who give grant funding. A list of those who have helped the Museum to function during the year can be found at the front of this report.

CURATOR'S REPORT

During the year ending 31st March 1987, 21834 visitors (including 8800 paying children) came to the Museum - a reduction of 532 over the same period in the previous year. A combination of unrest in the teaching profession, poor weather and a drastic reduction in the number of visitors to Britain were joint factors and it is hoped that 1987-8 will prove to be more settled.

The Community Programme projects have progressed well during the year, Marcelle Johnson being replaced by Joy Forbes and Paul Hoppit by Carolyn Koehler. Sarah Cooper completed her 'Graphic Design' project. All moved on to employment or further education at the completion of their projects while Sophia Wilson instituted a new project early in the year. Alison I'Ons confirmed her intention to move to Leicester early in 1987 but stayed with the Museum until a replacement could be found. Sophia Wilson was temporarily appointed in her place pending, in turn, her move to Derby. A complicated year where, fortunately, the staff changes progressed according to plan. During the year, the Museum was visited by Ennid Tillson, Marcus Miller and Katherine Brown - all ex-staff who were checking on the fruits of their labour. The staff, again, have worked miracles during the year and my special thanks go to Alison and Sophia for their patience and loyalty.

The army of volunteers have continued to promote the Museum in so many ways - the gardeners have produced an attraction for visitors and 'lunch-eating' staff, the desk staff have shown a remarkable patience and the education team published reams of work-sheets and trails. Thank you for coming back for more!

A special note of thanks must go to Shawn Reilly who prepared a new listing of the Museum's photograph collection. Shawn worked a three-month secondment from Lake Erie College during one of the busiest periods of the year and always maintained a cheerful presence at the Reception Desk. Most of all she renewed our respect of ex-Colonials although at times we did have a little difficulty in understanding her pronunciation. Thank you, Shawn.

Temporary exhibitions during the year have included 'Mod Cons' - a display of domestic equipment, 'Post Haste' - a history of the Postal Service produced by AMSSEE and a Christmas Toy Shop. The regular display of 'Model Railways' and 'Doll's Houses' were particularly successful. There have been thirty one 'after hours' visits to the Museum and the Curator has given fifteen talks to societies and groups. The staff have taken part in nine radio and three television programmes.

The collection has grown during the year and among the very interesting range of items donated, a short selection is listed below:

Sausage Making Machine	c1914	Mr R Sanson, Cambridge
Hoover Vacuum Cleaner	c1938	Mr D Emson, Cambridge
Set of Dentist's Tools	c1914	Mrs A M Wilkin, Cambridge
New Testament Bible	1880	Mrs S Jeeps, Histon
Magic Lantern	c1914	Mr D C Perny, Cottenham
Doll's House	c1937	Dr N Pillai, Cambridge
Cased Midwives Kit	c1914	Mrs A Schreiber, Camb.
Christening Robe	1895	Miss Garden, St Neots
Printing Press	1920s?	Miss R Gilderstern, Comb.
Clothes Ration Book	1945	Miss J D Waller, Camb.
Postcard: Trinity Bridge	1925	Mr S Lace, Walthamstow
Copper Electric Kettle	c1925	Lady Hamilton, Cambridge
Slazenger Raquet Press	c1925	Long Road 6th Fm. College
City & University Leaflet	1987	The Leys School



The Kitchen Fireplace in Room 2