

Treasurer's Report and Account for 2013

The 2013 accounts of the Trust show a small excess of payments over receipts of £1,246 on total receipts of £28,980. This compares with the results for 2012 where, on total receipts of \pounds 30,770, there was an excess of receipts over payments of £3,140.

The greater part of the Trust's income was made up of subscriptions. Founder (silver) members contributed £6,750, the small decrease compared with the previous year being one of timing. Members' (bronze) subscriptions were also slightly lower while societies' contributed the same as last year. The Trust is again immensely grateful to the CWAAS which agreed in 2010 to make five annual subscriptions of £10,000; this has been a vital and guaranteed income enabling the Trust to make financial commitments that would otherwise have been very difficult.

The Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) grant, which focussed on training of volunteers, came to an end during the year. This contributed 80% of the training costs up to a maximum grant total of \pounds 6,400; at total of \pounds 6,378 was claimed over the grant period.

On the expenditure side the major item (\pounds 23,174 out of a total expenditure of \pounds 30,226) related to salary and supervision cost of the academic support based at Lancaster University. Of the expenditure on the website, \pounds 2,000 was contributed by Lancaster University and appears under the Corporate grants heading on the income side of the accounts.

The 1-year savings bond held with the Cumberland Building Society earns 1.5% gross and matures in December 2014.

The budget adopted by the Trustees for 2014 shows a similar picture to the 2013 out-turn and aims to achieve a balanced budget.

Most individual members pay their subscription by standing order and agreed to an initial commitment of 5 years. For most, the 2014 subscription will correspond to the fifth such payment. In order for the Trust to continue its work, which has been so successful to date, it is vital that its membership, and hence income, is maintained. Over the coming months therefore the trustees will be writing to all members seeking their continuing commitment.

John Garside

26th February 2014