

**The John Hampden
Society**
Annual Report and Financial
Statements for the year
ended 31 December 2019

Registered charity 1098314

Foreword

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2019.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year are shown below.

Roy Bailey, Chairman
Anthea Coles, Honorary Secretary
Sam Hearn, Honorary Treasurer
Phillip Broomfield, Membership Secretary

Structure, Governance & Management

The Society has been a registered charity since 2003. The structure, governance and management are set out in its constitution agreed by the membership in 2003.

The objects of the charity are to;

- Make the character and achievements of John Hampden better known to the general public.
- Provide a library and archive of materials for research into Hampden's life and works.
- Preserve and conserve and erect monuments and artefacts associated with John Hampden.

Day-to-day responsibility for both restricted and unrestricted funds is delegated to the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

Bankers The Coop Bank plc Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	Registered Office 134 Park Road Chiswick W4 3HP
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The Chairman's Annual Report - 2019

General

The aims and objectives of the Society are set out in the Society's constitution which is accessible to members on the website. In planning the Society's activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Accounts

It is the responsibility of the Trustees to ensure proper accounting records are maintained which are able, with reasonable accuracy, to provide the financial position and statements of the charitable company in compliance with the 1993 Charities Act and 1985 Companies Act. The Trustees are also responsible for the safe keeping of all of the Society's assets and for taking all reasonable steps to detect and prevent any fraudulent or other irregular activities.

Funds

There are currently no restricted funds within the Society, and the funds under the Trustees' control can therefore be used to further any of the Society's aims and objectives.

Activities

Last year's AGM in the splendid surroundings of Hartwell House was described later by one member as 'the best AGM yet'. There was a good turnout of members; the food was excellent; and we were entertained by an enthralling talk on John Hampden and the theatre by our member Bruce Alexander, who is a well-known actor. The formal business generated some debate, which was good. We were pleased and honoured to meet Sir John Hobart, Bt, heir to the Buckinghamshire earldom, and his wife Kate, who had travelled from the Isle of Wight and who both joined the Society. Sadly Lord and Lady Buckinghamshire were unable to attend because of ill health.

Following a suggestion by member Elizabeth Rodda, we decided to donate copies of Professor John Adair's biography (of which we have a large number) to local libraries, and a special bookplate was produced for insertion into each copy. These donations are progressing steadily.

Like all our publications, this book is on sale through the Bucks Family History Society online shop.

In July we organised an illustrated talk at the Bucks County Museum in Aylesbury, entitled 'The Military Historian's Civil War' by Professor Ian Beckett, a well-known historian and a vice-president of the Society. The numbers attending were disappointing given the high quality of the talk. One unknown couple turned up out of the blue after hearing Sam and me discussing the event in *The King's Head* over lunch! However, the talk was fascinating and informative, and now forms an important part of the Society's online archive.

Other talks were the ones I have given; in October to the Greater Thame University of the Third Age (U3A) at Thame, that was extremely well-attended, and more recently on the Battle of Chalgrove Field to the Military History group of Newbury U3A. Sam Hearn gave a talk in March to the History Section of the Croxley Green U3A about the life and times of John Hampden. He followed this up in October with a talk to the same group about Hampden's ancestress Sybil Penn. In the same month Charles Harvey and Sam Hearn manned a Society stand at the Bucks Local History Fair in Aylesbury. Lord Buckinghamshire gave a talk at Steeple Claydon Local History Society in February 2020. These talks and events not only promote John Hampden and the Society, but they also result in book sales and occasionally new members. Most organisations pay us a fee, which is gratefully received!

In September a Government body, Homes England, announced that it had purchased land for development covering some of the battlefield area next to Chalgrove Airfield. The Battlefields Trust and other interested bodies indicated their intention to object, and we announced our support for any campaign. We have heard nothing further.

Our contacts with two of our affiliated organisations changed in the year. At the Hampden (Maine) Historical Society Bob Hawes replaced his wife, and James Addy took over from Jonathan Taylor

at the English Civil War Society. Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the new Speaker of the House of Commons has agreed to take John Bercow's place as one of our Vice Presidents.

The Executive Committee decided to change its meeting place last year. Not only was the room we were allocated at the *Shillingford Bridge Hotel* not always available and the power supply not reliable, but the hotel had started to charge customers for parking. So we looked around for alternatives and settled on two; *The Swan* at Three Mile Cross, near Reading, and *The Red Lion* at Chalgrove. So far we have had one meeting at each, and will probably alternate between them. *The Swan* is geographically very central; *The Red Lion* contains a John Hampden display.

In November our Hon. Secretary Anthea Coles received a newsletter that had been returned because the recipient, Olive Entwistle had died – in June 2017! There is no explanation as to why no previous newsletters had been returned over the previous 2 years, and we knew nothing about Mrs Entwistle. However, research by our member John Seal produced a good deal of information, revealing that Mrs Entwistle had been the sort of person who embraced a wide range of interests.

We were saddened to learn of the death in September of member Hugues Motteux, husband of Lady Helen Mottuex and brother-in-law to Lord Buckinghamshire. Some members will remember Hugues and Helen from our visit to Grampound in 2001.

We were also sorry that Steve Barriff, having re-joined the committee last year after a bout of illness, felt obliged to stand down again and hand over the post of Webmaster to Sam Hearn.

Future events: We are looking into the possibilities of erecting a memorial plaque to John Hampden in Great Hampden church. Despite all the memorials there, there is nothing to indicate that this is his burial place. This will require the agreement of various ecclesiastical bodies.

Another pet project of mine is to hold the 2021 AGM in Carisbrooke Castle on the IOW. The reasoning behind this has been aired in *The Patriot* on a couple of occasions.

Jim Rodda is working on a script of a re-enactment of the Ship Money Trial, which he is hoping could be staged by the History, Politics and Drama students at the John Hampden Grammar School, High Wycombe. The committee is watching the progress of this with interest as it will make a very suitable winter event.

One definite booking is for the Thame History Festival in the Town Hall on Sunday 7th June. The Society has been asked to participate, so we will be looking for volunteers.

As reported last year we use modern technology where appropriate. *The Patriot* is now published online, but a few printed copies are still produced to hand out and for those who prefer life offline.

As before, I must pay tribute to the hard work and support of Hon. Secretary Anthea Coles, Hon. Treasurer Sam Hearn and Membership Secretary Phil Broomfield. Without them, the Society would fold up. What we do requires considerable commitment and we have become experts at multi-tasking. Three out of the four of us have been involved with running the Society since its earliest days, and would appreciate a lessening of the workload - or even stepping down altogether.

So members should give some consideration becoming more actively involved with the Society possibly even becoming a member of the Executive Committee in some capacity. There are a variety of skills that are useful, such as writing, publicity, desktop publishing, graphic design, IT, etc., and with technology such as Skype there is no need to travel long distances to attend meetings.

Finally, in line with my previous comment about lessening the load, although I am a candidate for the post of Chairman for the coming year, I will not be standing for any executive position in 2021. As most members are aware, I was one of the founders of the Society in 1992, and I have been involved with the running of it in some capacity ever since. I stood down from the committee in 2016, but the very poor turnout at the 2017 AGM in Amersham and the possibility of the Society folding up persuaded me to do my best to ensure its continuance by becoming Chairman. I hope I have succeeded in some small way.

Roy Bailey – Chairman

THE JOHN HAMPDEN SOCIETY
DRAFT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
Income			
Members Subscriptions (incl gift aid £198)		1,148	1,105
Fees for talks		130	60
Other donations		0	55
Goods Sold		218	10
Interest earned		2	0
Hartwell House Lunch		468	0
		<u>1,966</u>	<u>1,230</u>
Expenditure			
Postage	1	-84	120
Travel and meetings	2	435	85
Bucks County Museum Event		235	0
AGM at Hartwell House (room hire, meals etc)		729	80
Insurance		75	65
Wreath		0	50
Printing		257	28
Stationery	3	-10	15
Bank charges & adjustments		1	4
Website related expenses		112	0
		<u>1,750</u>	<u>447</u>
Net surplus / (loss) for the year		216	783
		0	
Opening Stamp Stock		510	533
Opening accruals		-117	-246
Opening debtors		0	30
Closing Stamp Stock		-556	-510
Closing accruals		415	117
Closing debtors		-65	0
In year adjustment for dormant bank account	4	395	0
Opening bank balance		6,273	5,566
Closing bank balance – 31.12.2019 (2018)		<u>7,071</u>	<u>6,273</u>

THE JOHN HAMPDEN SOCIETY
Registered Charity 1098314

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
Tangible assets	5 & 6	0	0
Total fixed assets		0	0
Stock of stamps	7	556	510
Debtors		65	0
Cash		7,071	6,273
Total current assets		7,692	6,783
Creditors		0 -415	-117
Net assets		7,277	6,666
Unrestricted funds		7,277	6,666
Total charity funds		7,277	6,666

Notes & Policies

1. The negative expenditure on stamps is the result of the reversal of an over accrual in 2018 and the revaluation of the stamp stock to reflect the current prices of postage stamps.
2. Travel costs all relate to mileage expenses incurred by trustees travelling to meetings.
3. The negative expenditure on stationery is the result of an over accrual in 2018.
4. The increase in printing costs relates to the printing of leaflets and
5. During the year the Treasurer was advised by Lloyds Bank of a balance on a long dormant account.
6. The Society owns a medallion sculpture of John Hampden. It is on permanent loan to Thame Museum. This asset is not for sale and would be hard to value.
7. The Society maintains a reference Library. These books are not held for resale and no value has therefore been placed upon them. The catalogue can be viewed at www.johnhampden.org
8. The stock of postage stamps held at year end are valued at current prices.
9. Books etc bought for re-sale are written-off in year of purchase.