Winchester Excavations Committee

Annual Report and Accounts for 2025/26

Company 12175988

Registered Charity 1185865

Registered Office:

49 Marshfield Way

Bath

BA1 6HD

Winchester Excavations Committee

This is a Private Company limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. The purposes and administration of the Company/Charity are regulated by its Articles of Association.

The Company was set up to replace an unincorporated charity of the same name (210455) in 2019 and was registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 17th October 2019 but was only able to start trading late in 2022. This is the fourth Annual Report of the Trustees

On 2nd July 2026 this set of accounts was approved by the trustees after submission to the Independent Examiner for onward transmission to Companies House and the Charities Commission.

Susanne Haselgrove
Honorary Secretary and Company Secretary

Bankers:
National Westminster Bank plc,
Winchester Old Bank Branch,
105 High Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire,
SO23 9AW

Independent Examiner:
Ms June Harrison
Bossington Close
Rownhams
Hampshire
SO16 8DW
This Report and Accounts relate to the period from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.

Report of the activities of the Charity during the period from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026

Our archive is located within the Winchester store of the Hampshire Cultural Trust at Bar End in Winchester where our archaeological finds, excavations records and research material are now held. The publications process is supported by a team of specialist consultants and volunteers, including our Associate Director. We have one part-time assistant.

During the year we once again hosted research visits by scholars and students, and we were able to respond to a range of enquiries which included providing assistance to visiting researchers as well as supplying copies of images of excavated finds. We have continued to publicise the results of the 1961-72 excavations both through scholarly publications now available online and to non-specialist audiences through lectures and podcasts.

The Trustees met regularly on a quarterly basis during the year.

During this period work continued on the production of five volumes within the Winchester Studies series:

Winchester Studies WS 4.i *The Anglo-Saxon Minsters of Winchester*
This vast publication consists of more than 1700 pages of text with tables and illustrations comprising three print volumes, so getting the text to print was a massive task. Work on the proofs, cross-referencing and index formed the main focus for the WEC team for this period and the final version was submitted to Archaeopress in March 2026 with a launch event in Winchester Cathedral planned for April.

Winchester Studies WS 5 *The Brooks and Town Sites of Medieval Winchester*
The team has worked on the prelims, concordances and index of contexts. Dr Patrick Ottaway reviewed the draft text, working towards a final version suitable for peer review.

Winchester Studies WS 6.i *Winchester Castle, Fortress, Palace and Garrison*
Drs. Beatrice Clayre and Robert Peberdy continued to work on the text; illustrations and plates are being checked so that the necessary permissions for reproduction can be obtained. Team members responded to queries from the copy editing process.

Winchester Studies WS 6.ii *Wolvesey Palace*
Historic England has been funding the production of this volume by Dr Patrick Ottaway presenting the excavations at Wolvesey in 1963–71 and 1974 as well as documentary sources. The text was submitted to Historic England in February 2026, for the next stage, review by an external reader.

Winchester Studies WS 9.ii *The Animals of Early Winchester*
Professor Maltby of Bournemouth University is undertaking the analysis of the fish, bird and animal bones from all the Winchester Excavations Committee's sites. He continued with the summary tables for all animal species. He drafted Chapter 2 'The Iron Age and Roman assemblages from the WEC sites', covering mammals, summarising species counts with comments on unusual groups, and completed 10 accompanying tables. All the bird records from the original printouts created by Jenny Coy are being transferred to a relational database, which will allow chronological and inter-site analysis to take place This is one of the largest bird bone assemblages to have been collected from Britain.

Digitisation

Our publisher, Archaeopress established a partnership with us to produce in digital form and Open Access the out-of-print volumes previously published by Oxford University Press. This programme has been supported by a generous grant by the Hampshire Archives Trust so that these significant insights into Winchester's past are available free of charge worldwide. They remain very popular.

Title	Print qty	Digital qty	Open Access
Venta Belgarum: Prehistoric, Roman, and Post-Roman Winchester	96	55	
The Roman Cemetery at Lankhills	13	Open Access	2379
Environment and Agriculture of Early Winchester	112	22	
The People of Early Winchester	9	Open Access	690
Winchester in the Early Middle Ages	5	Open Access	801
The Cult of St Swithun	24	Open Access	1520
Object and Economy in Medieval Winchester	14	Open Access	1544
Property and Piety in Early Medieval Winchester	7	Open Access	663
The Winchester Mint and Coins and Related Finds from the Excavations of 1961–71	13	Open Access	1098
		Total	8695

Winchester: City of Kings

Drawing on outcomes from the Winchester Studies publications and a range of other sources WEC's Honorary Secretary, Susanne Haselgrove and Associate Director, Katherine Barclay published in Bloomsbury's Archaeological Histories series '*Winchester: City of Kings*'. The only series volume based on a living city, it was launched in Winchester in October 2025 and traces the archaeology and history of the city from the prehistoric period to the 21st century. The book received a favourable review in Current Archaeology, was described as 'a gem' in an Amazon review (it is available as a Kindle Book).

Friends of Winchester Studies

We continued to involve the (mainly) local community through the Friends of Winchester Studies (FoWS) who support the work of the Trustees and help raise awareness of our work as well as receiving invitations to events we organise and discounts on our publications. Two newsletters were produced to keep them (and other stakeholders) up to date with what WEC and other local archaeological groups are doing.

Outreach

Lynne Keeble, volunteer, proof-read the draft digitised version of WS 2 Survey of Medieval Winchester prepared by Archaeopress for Open Access. There were some technical issues with the very large base maps which have now been resolved

Prof Maltby gave a presentation on current research on animal bones in Winchester at the Southampton Archaeology Study Day on 14 June 25.

Since Autumn 2025 WEC has been supporting a postgraduate student from the University of Cambridge, Alice Wright who is reviewing the role of volunteering in archaeology in Winchester, including providing her with contacts with key local stakeholders. She has also been liaising with Beatrice Clayre to produce for her architectural thesis a design for the approach to the Great Hall taking account of the archaeological evidence to be published in WS6.1 on Winchester Castle.

In January Susanne Haselgrove delivered a lecture to the Bath and Counties Archaeological Society on 'Roman and Early Medieval Winchester' and was then asked to repeat it in March for the staff and volunteers of Bath Heritage Services.

Funding

A major continuing preoccupation of the Trustees during the period was the raising of further funds to enable the work of publishing Winchester Studies to be completed. The fundraising subcommittee has continued to be active and has generated some funds from new sources.

The main sources of income during the period were grants from the William Guiness Trust and Historic England. Significant donations were also made by a number of other supporters together with smaller contributions from the Friends of Winchester Studies. WEC reclaimed Gift Aid tax relief on those donations where appropriate.

The total sum raised by the Charity during the period was £58,569.63 which was used to cover the cost of research, copy editing, drawings, publication and the office costs for and staff in Winchester.

The Winchester Excavations Committee is independent of any other body and has no regular source of income other than that raised through its own efforts.

Signed *Susanne Haselgrove*

Susanne Haselgrove, Company Secretary approved by the Trustees on 31st August 2026

Winchester Excavations Committee

Financial Statements for the period ended 31 March 2026

Report of the Independent Examiner

This report on the accounts of the Winchester Excavations Committee for the period ended 31st March 2026 is in respect of an examination under S.43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Acts 1993 and 2011 ("the Acts"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(3) of the Charities Act 1993 and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act and section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act);
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements have not been met:
2 To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and
3 To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with section 130 of the 2011 Act.
or

1. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: June Gwenda Harrison 31st May 2026

Address: Bossington Close, Rownhams, Hampshire, SO16 8DW.

Winchester Excavations Committee

Revenue Account for the year ended 31st March 2026

	25/26	24/25
Expenditure	£	£
Technical Support	0.00	0.00
Business Support	20,004.44	28,858.60
Digitisation	0.00	2,336.59
Telecoms & Postage	0.00	224.80
Rent, Rates, Utilities & Maintenance	0.00	0.00
Travel & Subsistence	2,972.61	0.00
Printing & Copying	0.00	214.72
Insurance	535.80	495.17
Other	1,482.00	0.00
Supplies & Services		
Editing & Drawing	31,432.50	56,693.50
Computer Expenses & Website	602.19	832.18
Miscellaneous office	47.00	1,567.31
Friends of Winchester Studies		
Events and Activities	0.00	0.00
Surplus for year		
	57,076.54	91,222.87
Income		
Grants and Donations		
G Clarke	2,900.00	8,400.00
R Cotton	5,000.00	0.00
R Nabarro	5,000.00	0.00
S. Biddle	2,000.00	0.00
K Barclay	3,272.61	0.00
Dr Richard Wm Greaves	998.00	0.00
A.Lovell	2,000.00	0.00
S Haselgrove	1,000.00	0.00
B Bryant	1,000.00	0.00
Guinness Trust	10,000.00	0.00
Hywood Investments	1,000.00	0.00
Historic England	21,611.00	34,000.00
Hampshire County Council	0.00	34,000.00
other donations	0.00	2,550.00
Gift Aid	2,439.15	346.74
Reproduction Fees & Royalties	57.00	0.00
Friends of Winchester Studies		
Subscriptions	230.00	1,250.00
Events and Activities	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	61.87	668.91
Deficit for year		10,007.22
	58,569.63	91,222.87