



## Museum Management Working Group

Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

### Museum Society Chairman's Report

We understand that good progress is being made with the packing of the Newport Store. The Volunteers for the move from Newport received training in November/December. Racking for the Natural History Store in the new store is complete and the remainder is in progress. The Society is grateful for the time being given by volunteers and there is a long way to go at present.

The proceeds of the sale of 40 Castle Street have been invested and the Board have agreed a contribution to the Council to compensate for the rental that had been planned for the letting of 40 Castle Street. The Board have appointed a Development Committee to consider with the Council the options available to improve the Museum both for visitors and for staff. With the proceeds from the sale now in hand, we have a provisional budget to work with.

The Board has seen a change of officers in that, from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2015, Andrew Penman has taken up the role of Treasurer from David Laing, who continues as Company Secretary for the remainder of his term on the Board. David has filled the role as Treasurer since before the creation of the Society as a limited Company and was largely responsible for the registrations at the Charity Commission and Companies House some years ago. The Museum Support Committee has completed the update of the Society's website and this is now live. We understand the improvements to the Museum's web site have been agreed and are being implemented; the Society is very grateful for all the work Tony Morton has done in preparing these revisions. The Society Administration Committee have organised a private view of the new exhibition 'Visions of the World' which opens on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, and there will be a further private view of the next exhibition later this year.

The main event of the autumn was the Christmas party held on 8<sup>th</sup> December. As a change from the usual quiz, we invited Alexandra Jones to entertain us with songs relevant to the season. Those present joined in with hearty voice and made a good attempt to life of the roof of the Great Hall! By the time you read this Newsletter we will have had the first two monthly talks of 2015. There was a large audience for Chris South with his talk on 'Grunty Fen'. I anticipate, as I shall be away, that there will be a similar support of our member Douglas Kent for his talk on Historic Buildings.

*Tony Watson*  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2015

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