



THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1962

FLEUR DE LIS HERITAGE CENTRE

ESTABLISHED 1977

ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS NUMBER 58 2020

'CHERISH THE PAST, ADORN THE PRESENT, CREATE THE FUTURE'



**The Faversham Society (company limited by guarantee) 10-13 Preston Street,
Faversham ME13 8NS Charity No 1135262, Company No 7112241**

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Richard Oldfield

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Foreword and Introduction by the President

In a year as constrained as 2020 has been for all of us, organisations or individuals, the Faversham Society has battled on indomitably. This report highlights the continual activity of the trustees and several of the committees. Parts of the Society -the museum, the bookshop, the visitor information centre, the archaeological group - have been, as the report describes, on and off throughout the year, inevitably. The Society was not able to do nearly as much adorning of the present as it would like. But the key people, trustees and volunteers, who keep the society going have remained full of vim and ready to resume full speed ahead.

This is a challenging time for Faversham. So much is going on in terms of development that the need for the Society is greater than ever. It remains a remarkable achievement that an organisation with so many activities should be sustained only by volunteers. The Society should be proud of itself and Faversham proud of the Society.

In the coming years the various committees and trustees will have much to consider and contend with. As members we are very fortunate to have such a committed and energetic chair, officers and group of trustees and on behalf of all members I would like to thank them for all that they do, at the same time recognising the tremendous contribution that so many other volunteers make.

The last two years have seen the death of a number of members, including two long-standing ones who have played an especially significant part in the Society's progress: Roger Moate, who died in September 2019, was an energetic and wise supporter of all things Faversham both during his parliamentary career and afterwards, ultimately living in the centre of the town; and Jacqui Hitchcock had been a tour de force from the beginning, always enthusiastic and positive.

The review by the chair covers in detail the events of the last year, and I would just single out, on the minus side, the approval of the solar power station at Cleve Hill despite the powerful campaign led by David Melville; and on the plus side the publication of a new and attractive heritage map and the move of the Doddington library to a more suitable location in the town hall in Market Place.

There will be more campaigns, more maps, more moves, more people in Faversham and, let us hope, more members of the society. There is much to do.

Richard Oldfield President

Faversham Society Annual Report 2020



Chair's Review 2020

2020 was a difficult year for the Society with our activities severely curtailed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Sadly more members and volunteers passed on, many at least in part due to the virus. Their loss has been keenly felt by their friends and colleagues in the Society, as it has by their families and friends. A Society with a large proportion of older volunteers will be particularly hard hit by a virus like Covid-19. We have hosted photographs of *Faversham in the Year of the Plague* on our website and they will be archived in due course as part of our historical record held for the community and researchers. We have lost many volunteers to the virus and because some have found other things to do with their time.

Some areas of our work closed down from March, although some work continued where permitted by the government's Covid regulations. The Fleur Shop/VIC opened when it could and at the year-end we began to make some sales online. Secondhand book sales continued throughout the pandemic online, and the income held up. We are particularly grateful to the managers of our two shops and their teams of volunteers for keeping going and opening when they could following the Covid-19 SOPs. Fleur Hall bookings and Gallery Exhibitions were ceased and the income fell as a result. In common with other retail businesses, we received grant aid from central government which has supported our operating costs through the pandemic.

The museum closed with the first lockdown and did not reopen. The layout of the museum and open display areas precluded compliance with Covid-19 protocols. However, curatorial work continued when possible. The Chart Mill was also closed. We continued to enjoy rent from the flat, although it required some repairs following a leak, the bathroom needed to be refitted. The Faversham Society's Archaeological Research Group remained active within the constraints of the Covid-19 SOPs. We have repaired much of the roof of the Fleur complex and skylights and guttering.

We were able to continue our active engagement with Historic Swale and the Swale Migration Project. Our plans for two new festivals in July 2020 were disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic and the situation remains too uncertain for us to commit to organising them in 2021. If we can find sufficient volunteers to take it on, we may be able to consider running them in 2022.

Our Board met throughout the pandemic using Zoom and continued to exercise oversight of the Society. We held our AGM in September, having postponed it in the hope that we would be able to hold a conventional meeting. Unfortunately, the pandemic was still running in September, and we held our AGM on Zoom. More than 70 attended, some from far away.

The Planning Committee met regularly and advised the Board. The Board reviewed its recommendations and, as with all areas of the Society's activities, determined the Society's public positions. The Museum and Environment Committees met as required on Zoom. The Doddington Library has been relocated to a reading room in the Town Hall and our librarian continues to oversee it there. The PEEP, which manages our newsletter production, publications and education activities, and General Purposes Committee did not meet once Covid restrictions came in.

In March, just before the lockdown, we published, with the support of Faversham Town Council, a new Heritage Map of the Town, copies were widely distributed, and one was placed in a new glass case in the car park. This realises one of the aspirations of Faversham Museums Together

In May we received the bitterly disappointing news that the Secretary of State had approved the developer's application to build a solar power station at Cleve Hill. We have continued to support 20's Plenty and maintain a watchful eye on the Local and Neighbourhood Plans. The

Society pushed for Option A on Housing Allocations for the Local Plan, the lowest number and argued for truly affordable housing. A group of Society members assessed all the sites that came forward in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for the Local Plan and we consulted our members in September. This work informed our lobbying on the Local and Neighbourhood Plans. In August, along with many others, we objected to the developer's plans for Ordnance Wharf.

In the autumn we began to campaign for new heritage areas to be recognised at Town Quay and the Engine sheds to the east of Faversham Station, both the have listed buildings worthy of restoration, repurposing and opening to residents and visitors.

Our monthly newsletter now delivered to members and freely available on line (<https://newsletter.favershamsociety.org/>) provides a monthly update on our activities. Our blog (<https://favershamsociety.org/blog/>) provides additional, often more detailed information, on our policies and campaigns. The Society's comments on planning applications which can be found on the Swale Planning Portal.

The Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group has a new, very informative, website, and are to be congratulated on it (<https://www.favershamcommunityarchaeology.org/>)

Our May Newsletter (<https://newsletter.favershamsociety.org/faversham-society-news-may-2020-covid-19-special/>) carried many articles and photos from our members about Faversham in lockdown. We launched videos on our website for people confined by the pandemic (<https://favershamsociety.org/faversham-videos/>) and a gallery of images of Faversham in the Year of the Plague (<https://favershamsociety.org/images-of-faversham-in-the-year-of-the-plague/>) for the historical record.

We have lost significant membership through the pandemic as many members pay in the Fleur shop and many have been self-isolating; we hope that they will rejoin us and re-new their membership.

In 2021 we have reopened the Fleur Shop/VIC and the secondhand bookshop. We held a market stall in the Market Place on the three Saturdays before Christmas, this convinced many of us that we would have more impact if we could secure a retail space on the Market Place. We are discussing with the Faversham Town Council relocating our Shop/VIC to part of the ground floor of the Town Council offices. This opens the opportunity for some reallocation of space in the Fleur complex. With large numbers of new houses being built and Faversham's population growth we hope to deliver a tabloid newsletter to every housing unit in Faversham to raise awareness of the Society and invite people to join in our efforts to *Cherish the Past, Adorn the Present, Create for the Future.* .

Harold Goodwin, Chair

About the Faversham Society

Formed in 1962, the Society is a Registered Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee working to preserve the heritage and fabric of the historic town of Faversham and its surrounding parishes. Created in response to modernisation and the loss of historic buildings in Faversham, the Society aims to ensure that Faversham's individual sense of place and outstanding heritage features are not lost.

The Faversham Society is managed by the Board of Trustees through four committees: General Purposes, Environment, Planning, and Museum.

The Society is also represented on the following bodies:

- Kent History Federation
- Visit Faversham (formerly FATA)
- Historic Swale
- Faversham Historians

The Society's functions and activities are managed and staffed entirely by volunteers without whom none of the Society's activities and achievements would be possible: the Society has no paid staff. Roles range from volunteering professional skills and expertise, to working in the Visitor Information Centre, staffing the Museum, acting as a Town Heritage Walk Guide or attending committee meetings, to name but a few. All volunteers share an interest in promoting and preserving Faversham's historic and cultural heritage and the Society is indebted to them all.

With more volunteers, however, more could be done. The time commitment need not be onerous and existing and new members who have time to volunteer, even for just a few hours each week, would be particularly welcome in the following areas of activity:

- Sitting on the Environment Committee
- Sitting on the Planning Committee
- Being a Guide for the Town Heritage Walks
- Working in the Visitor Information Centre and Museum
- Working in the Fleur Charity Bookshop
- Participating in the Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group - working on digs, including administrative work
- Writing contributions for the Newsletter
- Translating marketing leaflets
- Assisting at the Chart Gunpowder Mills
- Cataloguing and reviewing (i.e. curating) the museum collections and libraries

If you would like to get involved and have time, expertise or both to offer, do get in touch – contact telephone 01795 534542 or drop into the Visitor Information Centre and leave a message or email chair@favershamsociety.org .

Committee Work in 2020

Four principal committees report to the Faversham Society Board of Trustees: Environment, General Purposes, Planning and Museum. This structure enables the Board to take a strategic overview of the work of the Society. For the Environment, Museum and Planning Committees, any recommendations to be made to external bodies are required to be ratified by the Board. The reports of each Committee's activity during 2020 have been prepared by Committee Chairs.

Environment

The Environment Committee met only twice in 2020 in January and February – the March meeting was cancelled due to Covid and the committee did not reconvene. Our planned public meeting about Cleve Hill in St Mary of Charity at the end of March fell victim to Covid. The Society's work on Abbey Fields, Air Quality, Cleve Hill, East Kent Recycling, Listed Buildings, the Local Plan, Rewilding & Natural Heritage, Traffic, 20's Plenty continued with members offering advice directly to Board as and when required. Many of the Environment Committee were part of the group which worked on the site assessments for the Local Plan. Matthew Hatchwell brought together those with a particular interest in Faversham's natural heritage and raised awareness of the eels and elvers working to ensure their conservation.

General Purposes

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Purposes Committee did not meet during 2020. The duties overseen or managed by this Committee were supported by a number of Society volunteers across this very challenging year. Such activities included:

- Managing COVID-safety and regulations for the Society
- Continuing to manage the Society's membership
- Health and safety
- General maintenance
- Communications and marketing

The General Purposes Committee is extremely grateful for all the volunteers who have worked hard over 2020 to keep the Society running, and as open as possible in a safe and responsible way.

Planning

The Committee has continued with its work of interacting with Swale Borough Council and other bodies on matters relating to planning for the Faversham area and in doing so fulfilling the aim of the Faversham Society to promote a high standard of planning and architecture for the town and area.

Meetings were held on the Fleur de Lis premises until March but after the first lockdown because of COVID-19 for the rest of the year by preparation of a paper open for comments for three days before the official meeting date. This was then amended by the Chair and submitted for discussion at the subsequent Board meeting.

All recommendations are required to be ratified by the Board, and their meetings are now set at the last Tuesday in the month which means that the Planning Committee has more difficulty ensuring comments reach Swale Council in good time.

In January, the Society supported the conversion of the former Iceland store in East Street to a set of dental surgeries. This was approved by SBC but has not taken place. We also

supported the conversion of the two listed barns at Queen Court to residential on the basis that this is inevitable but we wished to ensure that any new landscaping included native species. Following upgrading of the listing by Historic England and reduction of the number of units from three to two, this was approved by SBC.

The Society made comments on the Swale Heritage Strategy but most of the suggested amendments were not made. This has now been adopted in March 2020.

In February, we submitted comments opposing the erection of 180 houses at Abbeyfields. This scheme has been amended several times by the applicant and we submitted further comments in spring 2021. The application has still not been determined. We also supported the erection of a two-storey assisted living unit comprising 12 apartments on land east of Love Lane. This has not been determined by SBC. We also commented on the detail of five houses at 25-29 Waterside Close. These were the remaining five houses approved in the scheme from 2000 when the existing development was built. The houses have now been built.

The March meeting was the last in-person meeting held and only two members attended the committee because the lockdown was about to commence. We raised objection to the erection of a house on land at the corner of Seasalter Road and Monkshill Road because it was outside the village boundary and loss of trees. SBC failed to determine the application within 8 weeks and the developer appealed. The appeal was dismissed on sustainability grounds and also that the house was not of an exceptional design as required by the NPPF.

We also supported the erection of a detached building to extend the West Faversham Community Centre to include a restaurant with training kitchen and additional community space. This was approved by SBC. We also supported the demolition of the bungalow, Ashdown in Water Lane and erection of three houses. This was a better design than the previous scheme which had been for five houses. This was approved by SBC.

In April, the Chair was in correspondence with SBC's Conservation Officer with regard to the removal of mathematical tiles at second floor level on the frontage of 2-3 Court Street. Late in 2019, the Georgian Group had also objected to the removal of the mathematical tiles and replacement with render. The works were carried out following advice from the Conservation Officer but the listed building application was never determined. We supported the conversion of 39-40 Preston Street from a barber's shop to a dental laboratory because the use is an employment use and would make a contribution to the economic life of the town centre. This was approved by SBC and works have commenced on the conversion. We also supported the conversion of Flint Barn at 22A Nightingale Road into a dwelling with some minor external works. This was approved by SBC and the proposed alterations have since been reduced in extent deleting some first floor windows. The conditions have also been discharged.

In May, we supported the conversion of 19.5 West Street from one 4-bedroom dwelling to two separate dwellings. The scheme included changing an existing window to a door. This involves works to the mathematical tiling on the front elevation. This was approved by SBC and had been completed on site.

We objected to the erection of extensive extensions to the Gate House at Lees Court, Sheldwich Lees. This was because the Gate House was designed as part of a pair and the proposal would have made what should be a subservient building into a large house. This application was withdrawn and a much smaller scheme of extensions was later approved by SBC which we commented on in June. We also objected to the conversion of the upper floors of 89-90 Preston Street to residential with the erection of an additional storey, removal

of the chimneys and insertion of new windows. It would also include loss of part of the ground floor shop use This was refused by SBC quoting the Society's comments in full.

In June, we commented on the detail of the parking and access issues in respect of a proposed two storey office building at the Beaumont Terrace end of Faversham Station. This scheme was withdrawn and the site currently forms part of an application for a larger residential scheme in place of the approved scheme east of Sidings Close for business units. We supported a scheme for the erection of a rear dormer to provide live-in accommodation for a day nursery at 32 Whitstable Road. This was approved by SBC and has been constructed. We also objected to an amended scheme for the erection of 24 houses at the former Conyer Brickworks. This would have resulted in loss of a significant part of a Local Wildlife Site and part of an Area of High Landscape Value. The site contains many rare species. The scheme also fails to provide any affordable housing. The development would be in a settlement with very few services so is not sustainable development. The application has not been determined by SBC.

In July, we objected to the erection of a part three storey and part two storey building comprising five dwellings and an office and a three-storey building comprising a sailing clubroom and bar and two dwellings. Extensive comments were submitted together with articles in the Faversham Society newsletter. The application has been withdrawn. We also objected to the conversion of the first and second floors of 80A Preston Street to three flats because the units proposed were too small. This was approved by SBC who have their own standards for housing units which are lower than the Nationally Defined Space Standards. We also made submissions on the government's Planning White Paper recommending major changes to the local plan process and the planning gain regime and consequential changes to development management.

In August, we objected to the erection of a conservatory style extension in front of Bell's Forstal Farmhouse at Throwley because it would be harmful to the appearance and setting of the listed building. The conservation officer agreed that the extension was unacceptable and the scheme was refused by SBC. We supported the construction of a wildlife pond in the grounds of Davington Priory because it would improve the biodiversity of the area. KCC Ecological Advice Service have requested an ecological survey as existing which has not been submitted. The application has not been determined by SBC. We objected to the creation of an animal rescue centre involving a single storey dwelling, training facility and animal shelters in countryside at the edge of Dunkirk. This was refused by SBC as unsustainable development.

In September, we objected to the development of a crematorium at Staple Street behind the Dunster shed retail area and adjacent to Faversham Showground. This has been approved because it is an accessible location and there is a need for the facility. The Showground is an activity based on permitted development rights rather than an authorised use. We also supported the erection of an astronomical observatory at Chambers Wharf close to Oyster Bay House. This was recommended for refusal by SBC but the Members called for a site visit. A revised and totally different design was submitted based on a Dovercourt lighthouse, a historic design from Harwich. This scheme was recommended for refusal by SBC on the grounds that it is inappropriate to the character of the area and the setting of the listed building. A Members' site visit was arranged but was cancelled due to COVID lockdown.

In October, we supported a certificate of lawful proposed use for 60-62 Preston Street for a change from a restaurant to a dental surgery. This was one of a large number of uses that had been brought together in the new Class E of the Use Classes Order and no longer requires planning permission. This conversion has taken place and the surgery is in use and its owners have substantially restored the ground floor of the building. We objected to the

conversion of a former stable associated with the White Lion at Selling into an annexe to Luton Cottage, where the building is now in the garden. This was approved by SBC. We supported the development of phase 2a of the housing scheme at Faversham Lakes in principle and on the level of affordable housing. This has been the subject of two sets of amendments requested by the Swale design team and the conservation officer is still not happy about the design or variety of the houses.

In November, we commented that there was not adequate evidence to support a certificate of lawful existing use for use of part of Ham Farm for the siting of haulage trailers. The applicant had not shown where the trailers are kept and had not signed the Statutory Declarations. The applicants subsequently submitted a part plan showing the location and signed the declarations and SBC approved the application.

In December, we objected to installation of upvc windows on a building covered by an article IV direction in the Faversham Conservation Area at 126 Ospringle Road. These were original sash windows. However, other non-original sash windows and more often aluminium windows have been allowed to be replaced. This was refused by SBC. This is where there would be a demonstrably detrimental effect on the appearance of the building and the conservation area. This approach is slightly unfortunate as it means that only if the windows are original can it be justified to keep them and the character of the conservation area is gradually eroded. However, it is a pragmatic approach which allows for some change where there is at least a slight improvement. We also objected to the erection of a large two storey extension to a modern house at Lammas Gate replacing an existing conservatory. This was because of harm to the view of the building as viewed from an adjacent public footpath. This was refused by SBC and the owners have subsequently sold the house.

Online meetings in the circulated paper then minutes format have been continuing into 2021.

Museum

2020 started quite positively and for the first 10 weeks we had 319 visitors to the Museum and in January we had cleaned the whole of the Museum. Then the Museum was closed from Mid-March to August and from November to the end of the year. A weekly check of premises was carried out during those times which included the monitoring of the environment to ensure our stored and displayed artefacts and archives are kept in good condition.

From September to November, although the Museum remained closed, we were open for limited activities by our Curators, Librarians, Archivists, Enquiry researcher, etc on specific days with a limit on how many could be in.

The Museum team have now become used to social distancing within the small confines of many of our rooms and corridors and following the Safe Operating Procedures... Cleaning desks and hands before we start activities seems normal!

Notwithstanding the necessary closures the 4 strong team processing the Arthur Percival Photographic Archive have continued. The Scanning of the Museum's Photographs also continues as does the cataloguing of the Map Collection.

Our Window displays are changed every few months however no changes have been made to Museum displays this year.

We had no new volunteers in 2020 which is not surprising given the Pandemic.

Compared with previous years we were only offered 10 items as donations (42 in 2019), however these include some valuable assets such as "Arden of Faversham" edited by George Lillo, 1762.

Fewer Enquiries (from the Web site and on enquiry forms) were received, only 44 compared with over 100 in 2019. These may take a short time to process or several days.

The Society is part of Historic Swale and our representative has attended several "Zoom" meetings and we started working with them on a Lottery funded Project called "Swale Migration Stories" (see their website for details) mostly by emails but they visited also.

Additionally Justin Croft visited to observe and photograph our Abbey Oyster shells with pigment (part of our Archaeological collection) which he used in an article for Faversham Life.

The Museum Committee continued to meet monthly although for 2020 most of our meetings were online using "Zoom".

Society Activity in 2020

Visitor Information Centre

Looking back it is hard to believe that 2020 started well with January and February showing more visitors than in the previous year (632 in January and 746 in February). By the start of March and before the official lockdown on 20th volunteers, most of whom were over 70, were becoming nervous about the shop remaining open and the Society was taking steps to deal with that before the decision was then taken out of its hands.

When it was announced that we could re-open at the beginning of July several volunteers were, understandably, reluctant to return so it wasn't until 24th of July and only after Covid-19 protection measures had been put in place that we gradually opened to the point where we were able to provide a service on seven mornings a week plus afternoons on Friday and Saturday. We continued thus but visitors were few and then we had to close again in the second week of November, re-opening in the same format on 6th December until the next enforced closure on 19th.

However, every cloud has a silver lining and during one of the opening periods the long-awaited Heritage Map was produced with support from Faversham Town Council and Swale Borough Council. The map has been well received and is available from the VIC, the Society's website and Visit Swale.

Fleur Charity Bookshop

The bookshop like many places in 2020 was on and off, open or shut, according to the varying lockdown rules.

We tried to open as much as we could to carry on as normal and just had enough staff to make that possible. Customers and sales were definitely down but are slowly picking up now.

In the lockdown weeks a few of us went in regularly to tidy up, re-evaluate the stock and to search out a few treasures for eBay - we continued the online sales throughout and that income remained stable.

Meanwhile quite a few people continued to contact us with donations so there were often books to research and process.

We look forward to expanding our stock and display areas as well as a larger bric à brac/ gift section when we move to bigger premises at the end of the year.

Thank you for all your generous donations which are always gratefully received.

Faversham Town Heritage Walks

At the time of the first lockdown, we had 10 groups booked in for walks and had already completed 2 walks. We were looking good for another successful year. Sadly, it was not to be.

During the year we were unable to either recruit or to train, just as serious as any loss of revenue! We will, however, be starting 2021 with renewed hope, but without the following members whose circumstances now mean that they have been unable to commit: Barbara Babbage, Nuala Brenchley-Sayers, Mike Taylor, Anne Wilkinson, Claire Cardy and Karl Trevor. Our thanks to all of them for their support.

We will continue to require more volunteers and promise you that it is not as daunting as it seems and is very enjoyable. We do not follow a set script but rather we bring an individual approach to our walk. We have our own particular interests that illustrate the walk, whether it is from a literary, architectural or people direction. The history of our town changes slowly and there is only so much that can be accommodated in a 1½ hour walk, so there are not masses of facts to learn. If you have the enthusiasm for Faversham and a love of history, please join walks with different guides and you will soon begin to feel confident about leading a group and describing things in your own way. Our Society Needs You! (Please contact me, Antony Millett at: favershamtownwalks@gmail.com , Mob: 07771184441, Tel: 01795-483289, or talk with any of our guides

Libraries

FAVERSHAM SOCIETY LIBRARY

The library has had a donation of an original Arden of Feversham published 1762. The play was revived George Lillo who shortened it and revised the original play and performed it at the Drury Lane Theatre in London. It is in good condition but has been restored with a half leather binding.

We have had a donation of The Graveney boat : a tenth-century find from Kent. British Archaeological Reports, 1978 by Valerie Fenwick. Out of print and scarce.

Before lockdown there was a display of seventeenth and eighteenth century books on the history of Faversham to support the Literary Festival. It included the first history Faversham - William Lambarde Perambulation of Kent published 1592 and an account of the trial and hanging of three women accused of witchcraft by the Guildhall in 1645.

DODDINGTON LIBRARY

The Doddington Library which was in the attic of the Fleur has been packed up and removed to a new reading room in the Town Hall. The original Georgian bookcase which housed part of the collection has also been transferred. The collection is now placed in the new reading room with some extra shelving to accommodate all the books. The collection is of pre-1800 books, mainly religious and includes a number of items not in the British library. It includes a Geneva Bible of 1560 -- a 'Breeches Bible'. So called because in Genesis when Adam and Eve knew they were naked they made beeches to wear.

The collection has been catalogued and there is a data base and the collection has been placed online on the English Short Title Catalogue of the British Library (the ESTC) which lists pre-1800 books.

ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

The Doddington library has been visited by a lecturer from the University of Kent at Canterbury and we are hoping to have discussion about access for post-graduate students and possibly also access to the Faversham Society library for students and possibly even hosting some seminars.

Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group

Members of the Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group (FSARG) were unable to do any digging or surveying in 2020. Apart from catching up on report-writing and internet-based research, their normal work was on hold. In May John Clarkstone reported in the Newsletter on some of the finds they had made on the allotment at Stonebridge Pond.

The most obvious things we spot when digging are white fabric, glazed pottery and clay tobacco pipes, plant pots, glass and building materials.



Clay tobacco pipes from the 17th to 19th century, glazed pottery and redware pottery, glass, Kent peg tile, slate, transfer-decorated blue and white (from the 18th-19th century) and 20th-century blue and white

"From the map we can see that in 1865 the site was a formal garden, and it is likely that the clay tobacco pipes and plant pots come from that period. Some pottery dates from this period, but most of it is earlier so there must have been a house near the site from at least medieval times. Looking at our map we can see that there is a large house at the top of Brent Hill above the allotment. This is Ravenscourt, built in the 15th century and still there – the dumping of the midden from this house and the surrounding cottages would explain some of the pottery.

The Tyler Hill pottery, 13th to 14th century, predates the current house, and there is a great deal of it. The sherds may have come from the 12th-century Davington Priory or an older house or settlement at the top of the ridge. It is noticeable that the pottery edges are still well defined: this would not be the case if the soil had been ploughed or dug for hundreds of years. The midden would be used to fertilise the soil, not dumped on unused land, so the land is likely to have been used for agriculture for a brief time in this period.

The complete lack of Iron Age pottery is a little surprising. There are many Iron Age pottery fragments on the other side of Dark Hill." There is a fuller account in the newsletter (<https://newsletter.favershamsociety.org/faversham-society-news-july-2020/>)

Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Society suffered a significant loss of income from all sources in 2020 due to the Covid-19 restrictions, and but for the generous grants via Swale Borough Council would have sustained a deficit of £22k. These grants amounting to £42k, plus legacies of £7k enabled the Society to make a small surplus of £2k after a transfer of £25k to the Designated fund.

The Designated fund, set up specifically for a rolling 10-year programme to restore the integrity of all the premises at Preston Street, was used last year to renovate the roof of 12 Preston Street at a cost of £48k. The balance to carry forward on this fund is now £52k to finance the next stage of the programme.

The trustees propose to adhere to the principles of proper budgetary control and financial management in 2021 and future years in order to provide a firm financial basis for the continuance of the conservation and education work of the Society.

The trustees acknowledge with thanks the legacies, grants and donations to the Society from: the Estate of Hilary Whelan dec'd, the Estate of Jean Duchin dec'd, John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust, Swale Borough Council and the collaborative financial work with Faversham Town Council.

Brian Kelsey, Hon. Treasurer.

**The Faversham Society
(Limited by Guarantee)
Summary Accounts
Year to 31st December 2020**

<u>Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020</u>		
	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Land & buildings, at valuation	518,202	527,259
Current Assets		
Bank balances:		
Restricted funds	47,454	54,655
Designated funds	52,478	75,000
Unrestricted funds	144,236	124,363
	<u>244,168</u>	<u>254,018</u>
Stock	<u>7,324</u>	<u>8,138</u>
	251,492	262,156
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	9,660	1,778
Net Current Assets	<u>241,832</u>	<u>260,378</u>
Net Assets	<u>760,034</u>	<u>787,637</u>
Represented by:		
Funds		
Restricted Funds	47,454	54,655
Designated Fund	52,478	75,000
Unrestricted Funds	<u>660,102</u>	<u>657,982</u>
Total Funds	<u>760,034</u>	<u>787,637</u>
Note: These accounts are published subject to Independent Review.		

<u>Income & Expenditure Account</u>		
Year to 31 December 2020	2020	2019
	£	£
INCOME		
Member subscriptions	10,774	11,912
Rents received	8,130	13,869
Interest receivable	582	887
Museum entry & sales	1,256	6,773
<i>TIC & shops:</i>		
New books & publications	5,299	15,064
Gifts, cards etc	4,946	9,299
Secondhand books	18,530	23,051
<i>Fundraising (net)</i>		
Open houses	-	4,083
Secret gardens	-	5,265
Walks, events etc	565	2,795
Swale grants	41,934	3,600
Donations	2,481	3,959
<i>Legacies received with thanks from:</i>		
Hilary Whelan dec'd	6,551	
Jean Duchin dec'd	435	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	101,483	100,557
EXPENDITURE:		
<i>Premises costs:</i>		
Rent & rates	5,418	6,258
Insurance	10,130	10,598
Light & heat	6,612	8,278
Repairs & maintenance	19,331	14,349
Security	3,627	2,927
Museum costs	839	737

TIC & shops:		
New books & publications	3,098	6,466
Gifts, cards etc	2,216	5,220
Overheads:		
Printing & photocopier rental	1,856	2,643
Telephone & postage	4,673	4,080
Computer costs	215	139
Advertising & promotion	4,905	6,847
Faversham outreach	710	4,163
Legal costs		- 1,397
Independent review	1,200	1,338
Finance costs:		
Bank charges	476	744
	<u>65,306</u>	<u>76,184</u>
CASH SURPLUS	36,177	24,373
Less – Depreciation	9,056	10,794
- Transfer to Designated fund	25,000	-
TRADING SURPLUS of General Funds	<u>2,121</u>	<u>13,579</u>

Restricted & Designated funds 2020					
Projects	31/12/2019	Funds in	Expendi- ture	Trans- fers	31/12/2020
Land Fund	46,075		-	-	46,075
Ardens House	371			-	371
Arthur Percival Memorial	1,280		272	-	1,008
Museum fund	750		750	-	-
No. 12 Project	4,994		4,994	-	-
IT fund	1,185		1,185		-
Restricted funds	54,655	-	7,201	-	47,454
Designated fund	75,000	25,000	47,522		52,478
	129,655	25,000	54,723	-	99,932

Who's Who – 2020

Environment Committee	Yusuf Aswat, Claire Belsom, Jonathan Carey, Harold Goodwin (Chair), Ray Harrison, Matthew Hatchwell, Mike Henderson, Gulliver Immink, Tim Ingram, Simon macLachlan, Laurie McMahon, Chris Oswald-Jones, Tim Stonor, Mike Wilkins, Christopher Wright
Finance Committee	Harold Goodwin, Alistair Mackay-Miller (Chair), Brian Kelsey, Jan West, Andrew Holden and Jonathan Carey
Planning Committee	Anne Salmon (Chair), Maria Newman, Nigel Mannouch, Chris Oswald Jones. Mike Henderson, Jonathan Carey, Patsy Rogers, Guy Felton
Museum Committee	Heather Wootton (Chair), Catherine Turner (Vice chair), Jennifer Shipman (Vice chair), Paul Moorbath (Librarian), Mike Frohnsdorff, Caroline Clarkstone, John Clarkstone, Gill Pinder, David Slarks, Rachel Baynton, Joanne Wintle-Smith, Rod Morley and Ann Wilkinson (Curator Maison Dieu).
Building Maintenance and Health and Safety	Jonathan Carey, Andrew Holden, Paul Jesset and Giles Guthrie
Manager, Fleur de Lis VIC	Christine Smith
Editor, Newsletter	Stephen Rayner
Membership Secretary	Maria Newman
Annual Report Editor	Katie Begg
Faversham Society Archaeological Group	John Clarkstone (Chair), Dr. Patricia Reid (Director), Lizzie Eyre (Treasurer), Nick Wilkinson (Membership), Mike Tillman (Website), Maureen Wale (Finds Coordinator), Keith Robinson (Committee Member), Nigel Mannouch (Committee Member), Chris Wootton (Committee Member), Heather Wootton (Committee Member)
Print Room Manager	Patsy Rogers
Warden, Stone Chapel	Jan West
Gardeners	Chris Oswald-Jones, Sue Davidson
Libraries	Librarian (including Doddington Parochial Library): Paul Moorbath Assistant librarian: Valerie Gidlow.
Museum, Archive and Library Staff	Museum Mentor (curatorial adviser): Amy Welsh, AMA Costumes: Jennifer Shipman. Archives and computer data: Heather Wootton, Linda Parker and Ruth Williams. Archives: Catherine Turner. Assistant Archivist: Marnie Stanley. Artefacts: Richard Adkins, Ben McLoughlin & John Robertson. Archive researchers Linda Parker, Ashley Saywell & John Breeze. Enquiries: Rod Morley and Linda Parker. Archaeology: Dr Pat Reid & John Clarkstone. Historians link: Mike Frohnsdorff Chart Mills: Rod Morley and volunteers. Photographic archive: Gill Pinder. Telephone engineer: David Slarks. Maps: Caroline & John Clarkstone. Displays/exhibitions: Rachel Baynton & Jennifer Shipman. Museum Volunteers Co-ordinator: Joanne Wintle-Smith. Arthur

	Percival Photo & Document Archive project: Margaret Harding, Chris Wootton, Ian Montague, Paul Jessett, Liz Cameron & Peter Bullard.
Museum and Gallery volunteers	Co-ordinator and Team Leader: Joanne Wintle-Smith. Volunteers: Helen Albery, Pietro Bartolini, John Begg, Sam Blair, Sheila Breeze, John Breeze, Rob Brewer, Carolynne Brightman, Fliss Carlton, Ray Churnside, Jules Cowgill, Gill Connolly, Isobel Downie, Jean Duchin, Glennys Evans, Clive Foreman, Jean Foreman, Martyn Fuller, Paul Harvey, Linda Ireland, Jim Kilcoyne, Mik Larkin, June McIntyre, Antony Millett, Hilary Morley, Rod Morley, Ian Newman, David Palmer, Beryl Pleasance, Jay Scaggs, Ted Seal, Jennifer Shipman, David Slarks, Dianne Skinner, Alan Swan, Julia Vellam, Chris Warburton, Graham Warner, Susan White, Gill Winters, Joanne Wintle-Smith.
VIC volunteers	Wilna Bing, Pat Blackford, Pam Boorman, Rob Brewer, Christopher Brooke-Taylor, Jean Bushell, Judith Clarke, Martin Collins, Jackie Davidson, Sue Davidson, Dawn Drury, Sally Fancourt, Sheila Gibbins, Val Golding, Andrew Holden, Linda Hird, Sheila Hulks, Anne Jones, Dawn Kelle, Janet Killian, Sarah Lipscombe, Pam McLean, Angela Mitchell, Ann Morgan, Penny Newell, Mary Ransom, Patsy Rogers, Patricia Ross, Audrey Sanderson, Christine Smith (Manager), Judy Smith, Rene Stringer, Sue Taylor, Denise Turner
Fleur Charity Bookshop volunteers	Wendy Clarke, Geneviève Ellis, Diane Skinner, Jackie Davidson, Tim Fletcher, Julia Vellam, Colin Simmonds, Joyce Lawless, Ian Newman, Isobel Downie, Sandra Goodwin, John Bisbrown, George Couchman, Siobhan Henderson, Peter Quince, Leonard Lake, Willemien de Koning, Liz Melville, Declan McDaid, Richard Paris-Piper, Chris Parker, Stephen Vellam, Gill Winters, Ann Furedi, Geraldine Knight, Kayleigh Denver.
Faversham Town Guides	Colin Alderman, Barbara Babbage, Bob Baxter, Steve Bartholomew, Nuala Brenchley-Sayers, Peter Lock, Antony Millett, Jim Ransom, Pat Ross, Mike Taylor, Anne Wilkinson. Guides under training: Claire Cardy and Karl Trevor Colin Alderman, Barbara Babbage, Bob Baxter, Steve Bartholomew, Nuala Brenchley-Sayers, Peter Lock, Antony Millett, Jim Ransom, Pat Ross, Mike Taylor, Anne Wilkinson. Guides under training: Claire Cardy and Karl Trevor
Chart Mills	Rod Morley (rota organiser), Richard Meade, Peter Landon, Richard Paris-Piper, David Palmer, Nigel Winters, John Breeze (family history), Chris Wootton (maintenance), John Stockley, Tony Golding, John Begg, Phil Tooker
Newsletter Delivery Team	Audrey Sanderson, Chris Warburton, Colin Simmonds, David Iron, Fran Ward, Penny Newell, Caroline Clarkstone, Julia Frith, Marilyn Spice, Genevieve Ellis, Janet Killian, Janet Turner, Jean Bushell, Linda Cronk, Linda Ireland, Marian McCann, Martin Collins, Martin

	Nicholls, Mary Clark, Mike and Kate Taylor, Mike Frohnsdorff, Mike Nicholls, Nigel Mannouch, Pamela Willison, Pat Ross, Paul Harvey, Penny Fenton, Pippa Poulteney, Ray Godfrey, Rod Morley, Walter Waller
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