



# Summary Annual Report and Financial Statements 2007



**Cover:** Shadwell Park, near Brettenham in Norfolk, featured in our endangered buildings campaign in 2007. Unoccupied since the early 1990s, the condition of this Grade I-listed C18 house extended by *Blore*, 1839-42 and again by *Teulon* 1856-60, gave much cause for concern. We understand that necessary repairs are being carried out this year.

**Top left:** St Margaret, Angmering, Sussex, rebuilt by *SS Teulon*, 1852-3. Savour the pretty view because, despite our best efforts at a consistory court, permission was granted for a scheme of re-ordering and extension which aims amongst other things to make the east end less 'unwelcoming'.

**Above:** Members of staff celebrate the Victorian Society's 50th birthday with a chilly lunch on the steps of the Albert Memorial, London, in February 2008.

**Above left:** In 2007 the Society welcomed Dr Colin Cunningham as our new Chairman. His predecessor, Dr Geoff Brandwood, stepped down after six years at the helm.

**Left:** Father Michael Fisher explains some of the finer points of EW Pugin's architecture to Jane Wainwright and Steven Brindle on the *Gothic Revival* in Staffordshire weekend he organised.

**The Victorian Society**  
1 Priory Gardens, Bedford Park, London W4 1TT

**Patron**  
HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG, GCVO

**President**  
Lord Briggs of Lewes

**Trustees**  
Dr Colin Cunningham, Chair  
Dr Geoff Brandwood, Chair (resigned 21 July 2007)  
Dr Sue Berry, Membership  
Jeremy Black, Legal (resigned 21 July 2007)  
Andrew Coleman, Vice Chair, and Finance  
Kate Davey Legal (appointed 21 July 2007)  
Alasdair Glass, Non-executive  
Rosemary Hill, Non-executive  
Stephen Johnston, Fundraising  
Dr David Low, Non-executive  
Ken Moth, Casework  
Roy Williams, Non-executive

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**Great Eastern** John Shaw-Ridler  
**Leicester** Jon Goodall  
**Liverpool** Graham Fisher  
**Manchester** Steve Roman  
**South Wales** Elaine Davey  
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Dr Steven Brindle  
Maya Donelan  
Dr Kathryn Ferry  
Jacqueline Granger-Taylor  
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John Archer  
Jules Brown  
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Merial Evans  
Andy Foster  
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Dr Chris Hammond  
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Dr Timothy Brittain-Catlin  
Humphry Crum Ewing  
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David Evans  
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Alec Forshaw  
Maggie Goodall  
Elain Harwood  
Peter Howell  
Beverley Mogford  
Brian Morton MBE  
Mark Price  
Professor Andrew Saint  
Teresa Sladen

**Staff**  
**Director** Dr Ian Dungavell

**Conservation Advisers**  
Alex Baldwin (from 23 July 2007) Northern England and Wales  
Tim Bridges Birmingham and West Midlands  
Heloise Brown (from 2 June 2007) Southern England and Wales  
Dr Kathryn Ferry (to 30 April 2007)  
David Garrard Historic Churches Adviser  
Edward Kitchen (to 22 June 2007)  
**Community Engagement Officer** Ann Morgan  
**Administrator** Richard Seedhouse  
**Events Administrator** Jane Jephcote

**Bankers**  
Barclays, Hammersmith Business Centre Group,  
London W6 9HY and COIF Charities Funds, 80  
Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

**Auditors**  
Derek Rothera and Company, Units 15&16, 7 Wenlock  
Road, London N1 7SL

**Registered Charity**  
No 1081435

**Company Registration**  
No 3940996

# The Victorian Society

The Victorian Society is the champion for Victorian and Edwardian buildings in England and Wales. Our aims are:

**Conserving:** to save Victorian and Edwardian buildings or groups of buildings of special architectural merit from needless destruction or disfigurement.

**Involving:** to awaken public interest in, and appreciation of, the best of Victorian and Edwardian arts, architecture, crafts and design;

**Educating:** to encourage the study of these and of related social history and to provide advice to owners and public authorities in regard to the preservation and repair of Victorian and Edwardian buildings and the uses to which they can, if necessary, be adapted

The aims are linked, and through involving and educating the public, we can increase the likelihood of conserving buildings.

This year we celebrate fifty years since the first meeting of the Victorian Society on 25 February 1958 in the drawing room of Linley Sambourne House, London. Our strength still today is how we unite experts and enthusiasts convinced of the worth of conserving Victorian and Edwardian architecture for the future.

These buildings are irreplaceable, cherished, diverse, beautiful and familiar parts of our everyday lives. They contribute overwhelmingly to the character of places people love and places where people live. They belong to all of us. Their owners are really only custodians for future generations.

When decisions are taken which affect their future, the debate must be open and informed. We need to understand what is special about Victorian and Edwardian buildings and landscapes so that any necessary changes can be incorporated without damaging them forever. We don't want to lose our past through ignorance. That's why campaigning has always gone hand-in-hand with education as a means of widening public support. Collectively we have achieved far more than could have any one person, however influential. As a reservoir of expertise, as energetic campaigners, and as a community organisation bringing together individuals from all round the country, we have helped people save the buildings they value.

Sometimes it has been major national monuments such as the Albert Memorial in London or the Albert Dock in Liverpool, but more often nowadays it is local churches threatened with closure or good houses flattened to make way for undistinguished offices. Our record is a distinguished one which we are celebrating this year in many ways, not the least of which is a touring exhibition starting at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London accompanied by a commemorative publication.

Looking back over the last fifty years it is clear that together we really can save the past for the future.

Dr Colin Cunningham, Chairman  
Dr Ian Dungavell, Director

# Conserving

## Saving from needless destruction or disfigurement Victorian and Edwardian buildings or groups of buildings of special architectural merit

### Saving buildings

Changes to listed buildings must be approved by local planning authorities or denominations that have been exempted from local planning control. We want to help them make better decisions about adapting Victorian and Edwardian buildings to the way we live now, while keeping what is special about them.

To do this, we comment on applications for listed building consent or faculty. We have a formal role in the planning system by virtue of the Secretary of State's direction in *Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications — Notification to National Amenity Societies* (ODPM Circular 09/2005) that we must be notified of all applications for Listed Building Consent that involve an element of demolition. When determining applications, local planning authorities must take our advice into account, but they are not obliged to follow it. We also have a formal role in the various listed building control procedures set up by those Christian denominations which have chosen to retain their exemption from normal listed building regulations.

We do not attempt to comment on every notification received. Instead, we respond when we consider that the proposals are damaging to the historic character of the property concerned, and where our expert input might result in a less destructive outcome. Our responses highlight the historic and architectural importance of each site and explain in what way the proposals are detrimental. We bring the experience of our conservation advisers, our buildings committees and other specialists to bear on each case to deliver considered responses which draw on an exceptional breadth of knowledge.

We employ three full-time conservation advisers based in London, but we rely on volunteers around the country for a great deal of our work. A legacy from Mary Heath, a former member, enables us to employ a Birmingham and West Midlands Conservation Adviser for three days per week to work alongside volunteers in that area. Our regional groups in Birmingham, Leeds and Leicester respond to applications for listed building consent in their areas, buoyed by considerable local knowledge.

During the year our Senior Architectural Adviser, Dr Kathryn Ferry, left us to set up as a freelance writer and consultant and

Edward Kitchen left to become conservation officer at the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. We welcomed Alex Baldwin and Heloise Brown as our new 'Conservation Advisers', the change in job title reflecting more accurately their role.

Local authorities are required to notify us of the decisions they take on listed buildings consent applications. But so few do this that it is impossible for us to compile meaningful statistics on the results of those applications on which we comment. We try to influence proposals before they are submitted through pre-application discussions with developers and parishes and, when opposing a proposal, we try if appropriate to work in partnership with residents and other interested parties. Through publicising our position on individual cases, we hope to increase awareness of the need to work sensitively with historic buildings. Over 90% of applications for listed building consent are approved, so our success is not to be measured by counting the ones that are not; indeed, it may just be the opposite. Our work is best understood by reading the reports on current cases which are published in each issue of our magazine, *The Victorian*.

Some particular themes emerged from our casework during the year which we highlighted through wider campaigns as well as letters on individual buildings. These focused on Victorian and Edwardian swimming pools, schools and seaside resorts, all of which are in the public eye at the moment, and so received great attention in the media. Mere counting of cases on which we have commented does not reveal the true extent of our work, as some cases can be dealt with quickly while others require many meetings and site visits to be resolved. Nevertheless the figures are impressive. In 2007 we received 5,292 notifications of proposals for works to listed buildings (6,232 in 2006). Of these 2,107 related to Victorian or Edwardian buildings (2,179 in 2006), and we gave detailed responses to 346 (343 in 2006).

We receive a grant towards our statutory casework from English Heritage, which has committed funding until March 2009. We will review this programme at the time we reapply for the grant. In 2008 we plan to start investigating ways in which we may better report on the outcomes and impact of our conservation advice.

### Influencing policy

We also try to influence government policies on planning and the historic environment which have an impact on Victorian and Edwardian buildings and conservation areas. We do this through our participation in the Joint Committee of National Amenity Societies and as a member of Heritage Link, as well as through direct engagement when appropriate. We usually respond to government consultations through the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies, where broader policy issues form a major part of the discussions, or through Heritage Link, but if there are particular points we can make which relate specifically to Victorian and Edwardian buildings then we will do so directly. The Society's Director, Dr Ian Dungavell, is also Secretary of the Joint Committee.

Through the Joint Committee we commented on the white paper, *Heritage Protection for the 21st Century*, published in March 2007. Ian Dungavell spoke about the proposals at a sectoral summit organised by the Society of Antiquaries. The draft bill has now been issued and we will monitor its progress.

### Coping with e-planning

We have continued our involvement in shaping the development of 'e-planning'. In this brave new world, we will be notified of applications via email, and our responses will go back electronically. The huge postbag which arrives daily on our doorstep will be a thing of the past. But large drawings do not work easily on a computer screen, and hard copies will still be required for site visits, so document production will be a problem. We can see the many advantages of e-planning, but we worry that planning authorities may swamp us with notifications, now that it will cost them nothing to inform us.

We have been closely involved in the Department of Communities and Local Government e-Consultation Hub Statutory Consultees Group to make sure as best we can that the new system will suit our needs. We provided many suggestions about how it could be improved, and these will be incorporated in the final release of the system due to launch in the middle of 2008. E-planning will still be a challenge for us, but hopefully not unworkable!



**Top:** Easington Colliery School, Easington, County Durham. Soon after opening.

**Above left:** Easington Colliery School, Easington, County Durham. We gave evidence at a public inquiry early in 2007 to make the case for this handsome Edwardian school building by local architect *John Morson*, 1911-15. Permission to demolish the building was refused, but without firm proposals in place the future of the building looks bleak.

**Above:** Easington Colliery School, Easington, County Durham. The senior girls class of 1919. The demolition of this school would be not only a waste of fine, solidly-constructed buildings, but would destroy local distinctiveness and a sense of connection with the past.

**Left:** St Marie's, Widnes, Cheshire. We joined with local campaigners to help save this church by *EW Pugin*, 1864. The Archdiocese of Liverpool had planned to close the church early in 2007 and begin demolition soon after, but a stay of execution was granted once it was belatedly listed at Grade II. But what now?

# Involving

Awakening public interest in, and appreciation of, the best of Victorian and Edwardian arts, architecture, crafts and design

## A focus for special people

The Victorian Society provides a focus for everyone interested in Victorian and Edwardian architecture and related arts. We maintain our loyal base of 3,276 members (3,285 in 2006). While the number of members has remained constant over recent years, with a low 'churn' rate, we are always considering ways to attract more, while retaining the ones we have got.

Engaging the public is about a lot more than just money, but financial contributions are one indicator of support for our work. Many members generously give us additional donations during the year, and sign Gift Aid declarations to maximize the value of their donations and membership subscriptions. In 2007, Gift Aid added £19,340 (£19,283 in 2006) to our funds.

Last year we reported that we were a beneficiary, jointly with the Georgian Group, in an art collection bequeathed by Eliot Hodgkin. We are thrilled to report that the subsequent sales of have added £103,000 to the net total of £169,980 received in 2006. This will allow us to stage an exhibition in 2008 at the Royal Institute of British Architects celebrating 50 years of the Victorian Society, which will be accompanied by a commemorative booklet sent to all members. We have also been able to demolish our decaying garage, unusable due to asbestos, and we will replace it with a new archive store designed to the high specification everyone would expect next to our Grade II-listed building and in the Bedford Park Conservation Area. We have been advised that the value it will add to our property will be considerably in excess of the cost of construction, so it will also be a good investment. As well, the bequest will allow us to underwrite the publication of a journal for up to three years without an impact on subscription rates; the first issue is due out in July 2008. We will seek members' views of the journal by 2010 to see if it should continue.

Legacy income is vital to the funding of special projects that would otherwise be unaffordable. That's why we need people to remember us when writing their wills. If you would like to support our work by joining, making a donation, or remembering us in your will, please telephone 020 8747 5890.



## Volunteering

We recognise that individual circumstances may prevent people getting more actively involved in the Society, and are very grateful that they choose to support us financially instead. But donations of time and expertise are very valuable to us. As the expert voice of the community on Victorian and Edwardian architecture, we rely on volunteers around the country for their specialist knowledge and their willingness to help get things done.

Volunteers are central to our work. They contribute their expertise by assessing applications for listed building consent in our buildings committees, they organise our educational programme and as trustees they oversee the strategic direction and day-to-day operation of the Society. They are also invaluable event stewards, letter-stuffers, stamp-fixers and washer-uppers. Thanks to the Hounslow Volunteer Bureau, we have recruited helpers from outside the membership of the Society, some of whom go on to join. Our committee members alone contribute well over 900 hours of free advice a year, and there are many days when the volunteers in the office outnumber the staff. This work, together with those organising events for us, comes to many more hundred hours a year.



**Top:** To encourage more people to use and enjoy Birmingham's historic pubs, in August we organised a pub crawl around some of the best city centre watering holes.

**Above:** We held a 'memory day' at the Miners' Welfare Institute in Easington Colliery to find out what local people felt about the former Easington Colliery school, County Durham, the only listed building in the village, then up for demolition.

**Opposite:** Many people turned out for our 'Heritage Crime Scene' demonstration at Waltham Forest Town Hall to protest about the senseless cuts to the William Morris Gallery, London. We also held a lecture series so that councillors and others could find out more about why Morris is important, but the council went ahead with its foolish plan.

# Community Engagement



## Community Engagement: Supporting local campaigners

As well as our own work, we also want to help people fight their own campaigns to save the buildings they value. In this way, our 'national community' can help support local ones. We do this by providing advice and support through our Community Engagement Project and, where appropriate, we work directly with local people on their campaigns: 'capacity building' in vogueish government parlance. We have helped many local campaigners with media advice, campaigning tips and link-building between their campaigns and other organisations. Some of this is available in the campaign guide on our website, but a lot is done individually. Our 'Heritage Crime Scene' demonstration in support of the William Morris Gallery at Walthamstow, London, drew much media attention and contributed a further fillip to already energetic local campaigners.

In 2007 our website attracted 89,088 individual visitors. We hope to maintain this level of interest, but at the end of March 2008 we were slightly down on last year at 20,111 individual visitors (compared to 25,688 over the same period in 2007). This is nevertheless an impressive total. We completed the redesign of our website late in 2007 and we can now monitor visitors' interests more easily.

## Community Engagement: Contributing a national context

We also try to support local people by helping to put their campaigns for Victorian and Edwardian buildings in a national context. But sometimes they are campaigning against keeping them! It can be difficult for local people to appreciate the potential of run-down old buildings to be brought back into use and act as a catalyst for regeneration. It was with this in mind we held a 'Memory Day' at Easington Colliery Miner's Welfare Scheme to talk to residents about their memories of the derelict school building at the heart of their community, which many wanted to see demolished. It turned out that what people hated the most was the condition the building had got into, and the apparent hopelessness of a solution being found. A public inquiry found that inadequate efforts had been made to market the building. We plan to hold more face-to-face events with local communities where appropriate.

## Community Engagement: Letting people know what's going on

We know that many people place a high value on the Victorian and Edwardian buildings around them. But they often find out about threats once it's too late to save a building, or they wrongly assume that they're a minority in caring. That's why it's so important to publicise campaigns to save these buildings, whether led by us or other groups. As soon as people hear about the threats to one building, half a dozen similar cases come to light. We have helped many people with advice on gaining media attention and writing press releases, helped by our own experience.

Our top ten endangered buildings campaign provided people with an opportunity to tell us of buildings at risk they were concerned about. Some were already the subject of local campaigns, while others needed our efforts to highlight their plight. This we did very successfully, and already the future of three of them looks much more promising.

In 2007, we issued 117 press releases (70 in 2006), leading to over 392 articles in both national and local newspapers mentioning our campaigns (over 280 in 2006), and we made several appearances on television and radio.

We plan to continue developing our relationships with journalists and working on other ways of attracting public attention to our campaigns. It is much to the credit of English Heritage that they understood the importance of our Community Engagement Project, and we are very pleased that they will contribute half its funding up to a maximum of £17,000 a year until 2009. The project will be reviewed before the grant expires.

# Educating

Encouraging the study of Victorian and Edwardian architecture and of related social history. Advising owners and public authorities about the preservation and repair of Victorian and Edwardian buildings and the uses to which they can, if necessary, be adapted



We believe that the better people understand their Victorian and Edwardian heritage, the more they will value and seek to look after it. Our education programme includes walks, visits, lectures and conferences, many of which are organised by our regional groups, on an astonishing variety of subjects. Unfortunately limitation of space precludes us from mentioning all of them.

## Lectures, conferences and study days

Our winter lecture series was on Edwardian country houses, enormously popular just like the buildings themselves, while in the autumn series the focus was on William Morris and related topics, inspired by our campaign to save the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow, London, from senseless cuts. Michael Hall was very busy with the Bodley Centenary, speaking at St Augustine's Pendlebury for our Manchester Group and later organising a Bodley symposium and series of visits later in the year in London while our Great Eastern Group marked CE Kempe's centenary with a study day and series of visits in Cambridge. Dr Kathryn Ferry organised a study day on polychromy in architecture and the decorative arts, and we also held the second in our symposia on Courts and Capitals, organised jointly with the Society for Court Studies. There were many other lectures too numerous to mention.

## Visits

One of the highlights of the events programme was the annual general meeting weekend in Leicester organised by Dr Geoff Brandwood and our Leicester

Group, many of whose members were involved in leading the tours. Other weekends away included the enormously popular tour led by Dr Kathryn Ferry of Arts and Crafts houses in North Norfolk; Father Michael Fisher's *The Gothic Revival in Staffordshire* tour covered some of the best churches in the whole country while Dr Geoff Brandwood re-ran the weekend in Furness and the South Lakes first organised by David Crellin last year.

Some of the other visits and walks included: New West End Synagogue; Moseley Road Baths, Birmingham; Tenbury Wells; Buckhurst Hill; William White houses in Hampshire; Malvern College; work by William Burges in Yorkshire; Bodley in Herefordshire; Brunel in South Wales; Clevedon Court; Sheffield City Centre; Huddersfield; Holbeck Cemetery; Victoria Baths, Manchester; Noel Park, London; coach trips to Sussex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Bedfordshire and Nottinghamshire; and Burton-upon-Trent. Many of these were organised by our regional groups.

In 2007 the Society held 40 individual lectures, five study days, four weekends away, nine day trips and 49 visits or walks, a total of 107 events or on average more than two events per week around the country.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help expand the range and quality of our events programme. Please contact Jane Jephcote, our Events Administrator, on 020 8747 5895 or email [events@victoriansociety.org.uk](mailto:events@victoriansociety.org.uk).

## Encouraging the next generation

Our network of experts is important to us,

which is why we offer free membership of the Society to students registered for MPhil or PhD degrees on topics related to Victorian and Edwardian architecture. We want to be aware of current research in the field and give new scholars opportunities to disseminate their research to a wider audience. Current or former beneficiaries have lectured for us, organised visits and written articles for our magazine. At the end of 2007 we had 9 students registered under this scheme, many of whom were well advanced in their degrees.

We have also offered free membership for a trial period to students enrolled on the Conservation of the Historic Environment course at the College of Estate Management. By doing this we hope to increase awareness among future professionals about the Victorian Society and what we do.

## The Victorian

We published three issues of our magazine, *The Victorian*, in 2007, edited by Liz Robinson. In March we looked at Victorian schools, coinciding with the public inquiry to consider the future of Easington Colliery School, County Durham. In July, we featured several of our recent campaigns in our 'Heritage crime scene' issue, prompted by the shameful decision of the London Borough of Waltham Forest to cut funding and opening hours at the William Morris Gallery. In November we looked at the problems facing redundant churches and those looking after them.

## Advice to homeowners

We provide information to owners of Victorian and Edwardian houses about how they can better look after them through our publications, the *Care for Victorian Houses* series of booklets and the *Victorian Society Book of the Victorian House*. In 2007, we sold 1,974 booklets (892 in 2006) and 39 copies of the book (513 in 2006). In 2007 we reduced substantially the price of the complete set of 9 booklets, which led to increased sales as did the fact that the *Victorian Society Book of the Victorian House* was out of print for most of the year; it has now been republished in paperback.

**Top left:** AWN Pugin's magnificent church of St Giles, Cheadle, was one of the many great buildings we explored on the *Gothic Revival in Staffordshire* weekend.

# Structure, governance and management



**Left:** 'A supreme monument to Lancashire Catholicism', JA Hansom's St Walburge's, Preston (1850-67) was felt to be surplus to requirements by the local diocese, catering to a fraction of its intended congregation. After featuring in our 2007 endangered buildings campaign, a repair grant from English Heritage may help change minds.

**Below:** Plaudits to Camden Council for their bold decision to refurbish the Grade II-listed baths at Kentish Town, London, (Thomas Aldwinckle, 1901) following our campaign. Too often such buildings are neglected then closed, but local people are thrilled that this building will reopen in 2010 providing state of the art swimming and sports facilities.

**Bottom:** There was great concern for the future of the Grade II-listed Woodman Public House, Albert Street, Birmingham of 1896 as rumours suggested it was to be swept away to create open space in front of Birmingham's Curzon Street Station. No plans have yet been formally submitted.



## Structure

The Victorian Society is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association.

## Governance

The Society is managed by a Board of Trustees. The trustees are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act. Each Trustee has a designated executive or non-executive role. All trustees are required to be members of the Society. Trustees are recruited on the basis of skills needs identified by the Board of Trustees. A variety of methods is used to identify suitable candidates. Trustees are elected by the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting normally for a

term of office of 3 years. Trustees are automatically eligible for re-election for one further consecutive term and, if the Board of Trustees so approves their candidature, are eligible for re-election to further consecutive terms of office. The Board of Trustees has the power to co-opt members during the year but these members must stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

Trustees are given an induction pack on joining the Board and are encouraged to identify gaps in their knowledge, which are then addressed by briefings or other training delivered to some or all of the trustees as appropriate. The role of each trustee is defined in a job description.

## Management

The Board of Trustees comprises 10

members and meets formally six times a year. Members of the Board individually or in small groups also act to take forward the Society's plans. Day to day management of the Society is delegated to the Director who attends meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Society benefits from a Northern and a Southern Buildings Committee of experts who meet to advise the Society on architectural and casework matters.

## Risk management

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed during the year and the trustees are satisfied that systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

# Financial review

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Incoming resources	2007	2006	
	£,000	£,000	
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>Total income up by 0.5%</b>
<i>Principal components:</i>			
Subscription income	96	89	Increase 8.0%
Grants	64	57	Increase 11.5%
Investment income	45	33	Increase 36.4%
Educational events and publications	111	107	Increase 3.7%
Donations	22	29	Decrease 24.1%
Legacies	153	170	Decrease 10.0%

The increase in subscription income was largely due to an increase in subscription rates to recoup the cumulative effect of inflation. The increase in grant income reflected the first full year of the 2006 triennial review from English Heritage. Investment income increased as a result both of larger cash balances (derived from legacies) and higher interest rates. Educational events and publications continued at a very high level of activity as a result of the continued enthusiasm of our team of volunteers who continue to come up with interesting events for members. Donations in 2007 include £17,000 from the Society's first Annual Fund Appeal, a most generous response from our members to provide funds to cover the Society's deficit on its day to day running costs. Donations in 2006 largely reflected the Society's appeal for funds to cover the refurbishment of its headquarters at 1 Priory Gardens. Legacies are very important to the Society providing the funding for opportunities that would be simply unaffordable out of recurring income. Legacy income in 2007 comprised a further £103,000 from the Hodgkin Bequest and £50,000 from the estate of the late Richard Holder – formerly Senior Architectural Adviser to the Society.

Excluding legacy income, which the trustees allocate for project funding, and after adjusting for one-off items, income on a recurring basis for 2007 was £321,000, an increase of 8.0% on 2006 principally as a result of the increases in subscription income, grant income and investment income.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Outgoing resources	2007	2006	
	£,000	£,000	
<b>Total outgoing resources</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>Total expenses up by 6.8%</b>
<i>Principal components:</i>			
Architectural conservation	187	170	Increase 10.0%
Educational activities	138	134	Increase 3.0%
Fund raising and governance	12	11	Increase 9.0%

Expenditure on the Society's charitable activities of architectural conservation and education amounted to 96% of total expenditure for the year. The increase in expenditure on architectural conservation largely reflected an increase in staff costs of 8% - well above the level of the pay award for the year as a result of the impact of staff changes in 2006 and in 2007. The increase in expenditure on educational activities was lower than the rate of inflation but year on year comparison is difficult because the mix of events organised will have an impact on the financial outcome.

Adjusting for one-off factors, expenditure on a recurring basis for 2007 was £328,000, an increase of 4.9% on 2006

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Net movement in resources	2007	2006	
	£,000	£,000	
Net surplus in resources before valuation adjustments	155	174	Net movement down by 10.4%

Taking into account income and expenditure, the Society realised a surplus of £155,000 for the year before unrealised gains in investments.

On a like for like basis and excluding legacy income and one-off items for consistency, the Society showed a deficit of £7,000 in comparison with a deficit of £15,000 in 2006. Including the results of the Annual Fund Appeal in 2007, the Society showed a surplus of £10,000 which will be carried forward to future years. This shows how important the Annual Fund Appeal is to balancing the Society's books.

## BALANCE SHEET

Net assets	2007	2006	
	£,000	£,000	
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>Total net assets up by 19.7%</b>
<i>Principal components:</i>			
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	113	114	Decrease 0.9%
Short term deposits	333	307	Increase 8.5%
Other net assets	162	27	Increase 500.0%
<b>Restricted and endowment fund</b>			
Investments and short term deposits	339	343	Decrease 1.2%

The increase in net assets year on year is principally attributable due to legacy income.

## Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds represent the Society's day to day operating finances. The increase in short term deposits year on year reflects favourable cash flow as well as interest income reinvested. The increase in other net assets year on year is attributable to a debtor of £153,000 for legacy income recognised in 2007 for which the money will be received in 2008. Tangible fixed assets include the cost of the Society's freehold headquarters at 1 Priory Gardens. The market value of this property is estimated to exceed the cost by a substantial amount. No formal valuation has been obtained because this would incur expenditure out of proportion to its benefit.

For the Society to function successfully, it must maintain an adequate level of unrestricted reserves that can be used to finance the Society's day to day operations and provide a precautionary reserve in case of fluctuations in the future level of income. The Trustees consider it prudent that the level of precautionary reserve should not be less than six months' expected future expenditure plus an allowance for property refurbishment. At 31 December 2007, and excluding the proceeds of legacies earmarked for future projects, the Society's cash and short term reserves were £55,000 in excess of this level (2006: £17,000). The excess fluctuates from time to time and the Trustees are presently satisfied that no further action is necessary.

**Below:** This unlisted mid-nineteenth century schoolhouse in Wideopen, North Tyneside, was up for demolition, having long been abandoned. Our schools campaign aims to encourage local authorities to understand what is important about historic school buildings: better to alter and adapt than abandon. The local council took the bold step of designating a small conservation area to help save the building.  
**Bottom:** Wideopen schoolhouse after an arson attack in March 2007. The council hoped that the building could be saved. A year on, it is still in a dilapidated state.

### Restricted and endowment funds

The restricted and endowment funds are invested so as to reflect the Society's obligations under each of the funds, as well as the requirements of liquidity management and wishing to accept limited financial risk. The endowment funds are invested in a balanced managed fund which should, over time, generate both a steady income and some capital growth. The restricted funds are invested in cash deposits. The small decrease in the total of restricted and endowment funds during the year is a result of expenditure on restricted funds exceeding income for the year by £5,000.

### Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

Legal regulations require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities for the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees confirm that, as far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware and that each trustee has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

A resolution proposing that Derek Rothera & Company be re-appointed as auditors will be put to the annual general meeting.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 26 April 2008 and signed on its behalf by Dr Colin Cunningham, Chair



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007**

	Total 2007	Total 2006
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
<b>From generated funds</b>		
<b>Voluntary income</b>		
Subscriptions	96,140	89,023
Donations	21,993	29,479
Grants	63,742	57,177
Legacies	153,000	169,980
<b>Investment income</b>		
Dividends	2,105	2,014
Rental income	9,000	9,000
Interest	33,904	22,066
<b>From charitable activities</b>		
Educational events and publications	110,979	106,648
Other	868	3,928
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>491,731</b>	<b>489,315</b>
<b>EXPENDED RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Costs of generating voluntary income</b>		
Fundraising costs	6,142	5,900
<b>Cost of charitable activities</b>		
Architectural conservation	186,768	169,945
Education	137,757	134,244
<b>Governance costs</b>	<b>6,191</b>	<b>5,322</b>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>336,858</b>	<b>315,411</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfer</b>	<b>154,873</b>	<b>173,904</b>
Transfers	-	-
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	1,025	6,143
<b>Net movement of funds</b>	<b>155,898</b>	<b>180,047</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>		
Balance brought forward 1 January	791,405	611,358
<b>Balance carried forward 31 December</b>	<b>£947,303</b>	<b>£791,405</b>

**BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 DECEMBER 2007**

	Total 2007	Total 2006
<b>TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</b>		
	112,597	118,214
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
	68,062	67,037
	<u>180,659</u>	<u>185,251</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stock of publications	9,176	9,726
Debtors	200,607	19,638
Investments	603,292	575,316
Cash in bank and in hand	29,711	60,838
	<u>842,786</u>	<u>665,518</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year:	69,427	51,844
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>773,359</b>	<b>613,674</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		
<b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>954,018</b>	<b>798,925</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Amounts falling due after one year	6,715	7,520
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£947,303</b>	<b>£791,405</b>
Represented by:		
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Unrestricted	608,364	448,022
Restricted	270,877	276,346
Endowment	68,062	67,037
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>£947,303</b>	<b>£791,405</b>

**Trustees' Statement**

We confirm that the information contained in the summary financial statement on page 12 is taken from the audited annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2007 and includes details relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet.

The audited accounts were approved by the trustees on 26 April 2008 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and filed at Companies House. The summarised statement may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Victorian Society.

For further information, the full accounts, the relevant auditors' report and the trustees' report should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from the Victorian Society, 1 Priory Gardens, Bedford Park, London W4 1TT (please send £1 donation towards postage and printing costs) or [www.victoriansociety.org.uk](http://www.victoriansociety.org.uk).

Dr Colin Cunningham (Chair)  
Andrew Coleman (Finance Trustee)  
26 April 2008

**Auditors' Statement on Summary Financial Information for the Victorian Society**

We have examined the summary financial statement of the Victorian Society on page 12. This statement is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with section 251 of the Companies Act 1985. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in such a statement and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our work, for this statement, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditors**

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Victorian Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement with the full annual financial statements, and its compliance with the relevant requirements of section 251 of the Companies Act 1985 and the regulations made thereunder. We also read the other information contained in the Trustees' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement.

**Basis of opinion**

We conducted our examination in accordance with 'The auditors statement on the summary financial statement' issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom. Our report on the charity's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our audit opinion on those financial statements.

**Opinion**

In our opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual financial statements of The Victorian Society for the year ended 31 December 2007 and complies with the applicable requirements of section 251 of the Companies Act 1985 and the regulations made thereunder.

Derek Rothera & Co  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
Units 15&16, 7 Wenlock Road, London N1 7SL  
Date: 26 April 2008