

The Cromwell Association – registered charity no. 1132954

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2012

1. Introduction

1.1 This is the fourth annual report of the trustees (the Council) of The Cromwell Association, which was registered as a charity on 25th November 2009 following the decision of the 2009 annual general meeting (AGM) to proceed with registration.

1.2 The report is for calendar year 2012, which is consistent with the charity's financial year.

2. Administrative details

2.1 The trustees who served during the year were:

the officers, elected at the AGM held on 21 April 2012,

Dr Patrick Little	Chairman
Professor Peter Gaunt	President
Mr John Newland	Secretary
Mr David Hall	Treasurer
Mr John Goldsmith	Press Officer
Dr Maxine Forshaw	Editor of Journal.

ordinary trustees, non-office holding,

Mr David Snowden	(elected 2009, retired 2012)
Mr Geoffrey Bush	(elected at the 2010 AGM)
Mrs Jane Mills	(elected at the 2011 AGM)
Mr M Mehaffey	(elected at the 2012 AGM)
Dr D L Smith	(elected at the 2012 AGM).

2.2 For the purposes of charitable registration the Press Officer is also the charity correspondent and his home address is the contact address used by the Charity Commission.

2.3 The governing document is the constitution formally adopted by the Association at the AGM held on 25th April 2009 at Naseby Village Hall.

3 Financial review

The Association had an overall surplus for the year 2012 of £3171, compared to a surplus of £1081 in 2011.

Renewal Subscriptions were much the same as in 2011 whilst income from new members was up by £180. Donations were up by £677 due to the good response to the 75th Anniversary Appeal which raised £1751 in the year. A successful study day in October contributed a profit of £432.

The cost of providing Member Services was £4950, £124 less than last year due mainly to the lack of any expenditure on promotional materials this year more than offsetting the increases in printing and postage.

The programme of maintenance of the various monuments for which The Association is responsible was continued with £932 being spent on the restoration of the Cromwell Trail in Huntingdon.

£750 was spent during 2012 on the Biographical Dictionary of Parliamentary Officers work, leaving £2000 still set aside for this project, which should be completed in 2013.

The membership figures for 2012 are as follows:

As at 1st January 2012	452
New members in the year	46
Deletions	<u>(43)</u>
As at 31 st December 2012	<u>455</u>

The Association is in a good financial position and remains well placed to deal with the continuation of the programme of maintenance of monuments and to undertake other projects such as the placing of new commemorative plaques and the special 75th Anniversary publication, whilst continuing to hold membership fees at their present rates.

4 Public benefit statement

The trustees have complied with the guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit.

5 Objectives and activities

5.1 The object of the charity is to advance the education of the public in both the life and legacy of Oliver Cromwell (1599-1658), politician, soldier and statesman, and the wider history of the seventeenth century.

5.2 The trust has undertaken to carry out the following activities for the benefit of the public:
To campaign for the preservation and conservation of buildings, sites and relevant to Cromwell

To commission, on behalf of the Association or in collaboration with others, plaques, panels and monuments at sites associated with Cromwell.

To support and encourage the Cromwell Museum and Cromwell Collection library in Huntingdon.

To provide, within the competence of the Association, advice to television, radio, press and other media on all matters relating to the period.

To encourage interest in the period in all phases of formal education by the publication of reading lists, information and teachers' guidance.

To publish news and information about the period, including an annual journal and regular newsletters

To organise an annual memorial service, day schools, conferences, lectures, exhibitions and other educational events.

To provide an Internet resource for researchers in the period including school students, genealogists and interested parties.

To offer, from time to time, grants, awards and prizes to individuals and organisations working towards the objectives stated above.

6 Review of achievements during the year

6.1 The Association continues to prosper. The council (trustees) met four times during the year, on 18th January, 14th March, 13th June and 10th October. All meetings took place at The City Temple, Holborn.

6.2 Members were sent two copies of The Protector's Pen, one with the spring mailing edited and produced by David Snowden, and one with the summer mailing edited by the Chairman and produced by Mr Simon Blake. The change of production and mailing house enabled a switch to colour production at no significant increase in cost. Member's comments have been very positive about the change, and thanks are due to Messrs' Snowden and Blake.

6.3 The journal *Cromwelliana* edited by Dr Forshaw was distributed with the summer mailing. The articles included the papers given at the previous year's study day on Cromwell's early life, and the 2011 Cromwell Day address by Dr Laura Stewart.

Work has continued on the *Biographical dictionary of parliamentary officers* which is due to be published later in 2013.

6.4 The Annual General Meeting was held in Ely, courtesy of East Cambridgeshire District Council, and was organised very effectively by Mark Mehaffey. The meeting was well attended. Professor John Morrill gave a talk about the current major project on Cromwell's Letters and Speeches. After lunch there was a walking tour of Ely, which included a visit to Cromwell House, organised by the tourist office based there.

- 6.5 The annual Cromwell Day Service was held in the side chapel of Methodist Central Hall Westminster, after the traditional wreath laying by the Cromwell statue, courtesy of Mr Speaker. The morning event was a visit to St Mary's, Putney, and the scene of the Putney Debates. The address at the afternoon service was given by Professor Blair Worden, one of the Association's vice-presidents.
- 6.6 The Annual Study Day was held in October at The City Temple on the theme of *Cromwell and the historians*. The event was well attended and successful both in terms of content and financially. It is intended that the papers given will be published in a future edition of *Cromwelliana*.
- 6.7 As a consequence of the successful financial appeal, to which members generously gave, it has been possible to restore the plaques in the Cromwell trail in Huntingdon, which was part-funded by the Association as part of the quatercentenary celebrations in 1999.
- 6.8 The Association has continued to promote its work and interests through the web site www.olivercromwell.org which it does jointly with the Cromwell Museum in Huntingdon.

7 Chairman's conclusion

The year has seen a number of activities of a high standard, and the work of the Association continues to develop. As a consequence of the admirable stewardship of our funds by our Treasurer, we have been able to carry out more than we had perhaps thought possible. I am grateful to all the Trustees for their work and commitment on behalf of the Association, and to the membership who have supported our endeavours.

8 Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:-

Signature

Full name Dr Patrick Little, Chairman

Signature

Full name

Position

Date

