

Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire

A R C H I V E S

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2022 – March 2023



Introduction

Following the upheaval and disruption associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, 2022-23 was a year when the Archive and its staff enjoyed a return to the positive experiences of engaging with audiences and users of the service on a face-to-face basis.

Although valuable skills associated with online presentation were learned and developed during lockdown, it has been a delight to be fully immersed in “real life” once again. Collaboration with colleagues at Aberdeen Art Gallery on popular exhibitions relating to the Book of Deer, Aberdeen Harbour Board and the recently acquired Alexander Jaffray manuscript have illustrated the appeal of original records to the public. Similarly, working with Aberdeen Performing Arts to deliver another hugely successful Granite Noir was proof, yet again, that true historical crime can be a big draw within a festival devoted to crime fiction.

The publication in November 2022 of “The Written Record: 50 Treasures from Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Archives” was worth the wait, with the finished book being very attractive and warmly received by its readership.

Public engagement, whether by book, newspaper, social media, podcast or in-person is but one aspect of the work of the Archive. Indeed, interaction with the public is just the end-result of much intensive work behind the scenes. Over the past year this has included the roll out of our digital repository, Preservica, and a review of the service level agreement with Aberdeenshire Council. A new contract, and therefore a fresh income stream, has been entered into with Ancestry which sees images of school records, amongst others, licensed to the genealogical website and made available to a global audience.

The vital work of accessioning new collections and cataloguing existing ones ensures that the Archive continues to grow and remain accessible. With this growth comes increasing pressure on space, so the award in early 2023 of UK Shared Prosperity Funding to help conduct a feasibility study into the options for new accommodation was a very positive development and a crucial first step for the future of the service.

The enthusiasm and dedication of the staff has, again, been one of the hallmarks of the service. At a time of ever-tightening budgets, the team have shown great creativity, commitment and resilience. Our Archive Assistant, Ashleigh, even managed to squeeze in a PhD...well done Dr. Black!

Phil Astley, City Archivist
May 2023

2022/23 in numbers



108,484

entries in the cataloguing database by April 2023



417

researcher visits



1426

Number of items scanned by Ancestry in March 2023



678

enquiries responded to by the team



11,996

social media followers by March 2023



84

new collections received



28

Talks, exhibitions and school outreach sessions delivered



13,022

Visits to the Archive's blogs



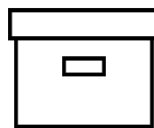
38,681

visits to our website's homepage



88,688

items searchable in the online catalogue by April 2023



6076

items produced for researchers in 2022/23



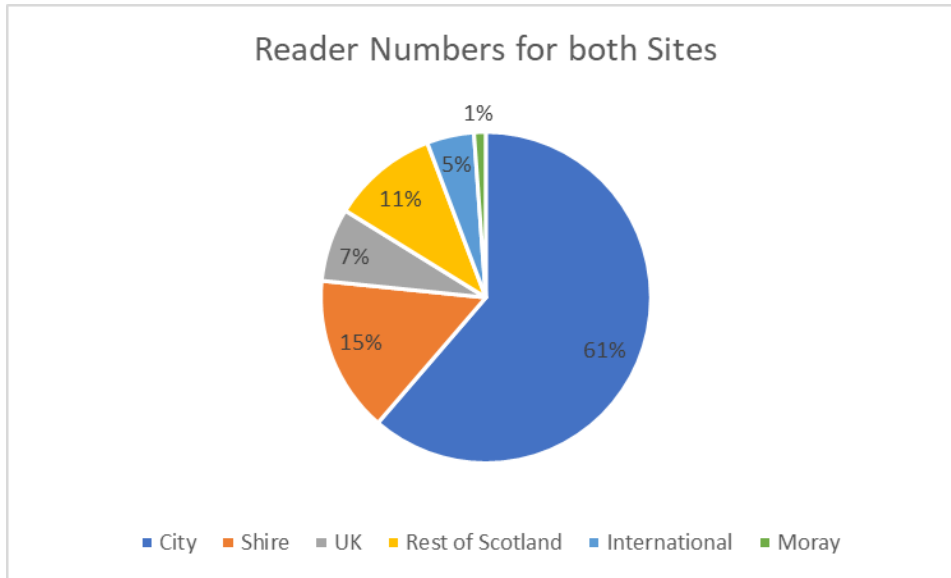
7250

Entries from the Aberdeen School Board Register of Defaulters indexed by volunteer Sandy W.

Access and Enquiries

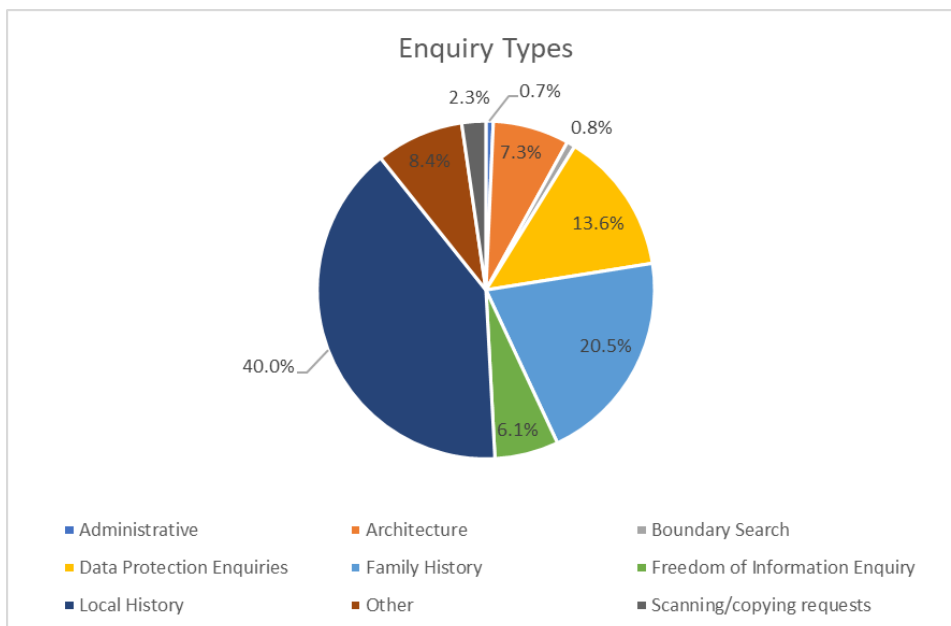
Visitors, Productions and Enquiries

The users of the service come not only from the North East of Scotland, but from further afield in Scotland, England and abroad, and from within the two local authorities that fund the service.



The number of enquiries has bounced back to pre-pandemic levels and remains consistent with previous years (see appendix for full details). The number of in-person visitors has also recovered although the long-term trend is slightly downwards: this may be explained in-part by the increased availability of digitised

material online through our partnership with Ancestry. Additionally, new Data Protection legislation, which came in in 2018, has reduced the amount of access we can provide to school records, one of our most popular collections. Aberdeen City remains the highest source of visitors to the search rooms, although the downward trend noted in the last report has continued. There has also been a slight increase in international visitors owing to the relaxation of travel restrictions following the pandemic.



Family history continues to be a significant source of enquiries to the service, but this has been reduced proportionately since the last report and was overtaken by local history enquiries. This may in some cases be related to new data protection legislation. The increase in local history and architectural enquiries (the latter mainly relate to people investigating the history of their house or architectural students researching a particular building) was significant across this period. The service has continued to contribute to both Councils' responses to the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry, providing advice to colleagues and conducting research in records relating to past practices and the care of specific individuals.

Remote Access

Website

We are always adding indexes and transcriptions to our website as our volunteers and staff members create them, as well as enhancing the information we provide to our researchers more generally. This year, we've added the following indexes:

- Name index of patients for Mounthooly Smallpox Hospital (C/1/D1/R/72), with a map plotting the location of cases
- Name indexes of orphans and staff members at the Aberdeen Female Orphan Asylum (AET/AFOA/1/1-3)
- Indexes for Aberdeenshire Parochial Board Minutes (where applications and general registers of the poor no longer exist), including Alford, Fordyce, Fettercairn and Garvock.
- Factory Inspection Register for Leslie & Russell Printers 1868-1891 (DD7)
- Aberdeen County Militia Muster Roll 1798-1801 (AS/AMil/3/3)
- Banchory and Ellon Police Court Registers (AS/Aeln/7/1/1 and AS/Kban/5/1)
- Peterhead Assessment roll 1820-1 (AS/Aphd/2/7)
- School Board censuses for Banchory Devenick, Fetteresso & Rickarton and Maryculter (AS/KS/bdv/32 and 54, AS/KS/myc/11 and AS/KS/fes/16)
- Aberdeen School Board Register of Defaulters (CA/25/4/3/1) – 7250 entries

We have also improved information on our 'Maritime Records' page so that it provides greater detail about these types of records and the collections we hold, including the Aberdeen Harbour Board (now known as the Port of Aberdeen), Hall Russell, Aberdeen Steam Fishers Provident Society, Aberdeen Steam Fishing Vessels Owners' Association Ltd., Scottish Salmon and White Fish Company Ltd., Nairn Fishing Co. Ltd., Sellars Salmon Fishers and Richard Irvin & Sons.

Photograph and launch menu for the "Annie W. Lewis" dredger (AHB/1/1/12)



Blogs

We have regularly posted on our blog sites to share additional information covering a range of topics, such as crime and punishment, charities and orphan asylums, fishing, WW1, small business collections and archival processes (appraisal and cataloguing).

Below is a table showing the number of views to date for our blogs April 2022 – March 2023:

Blog	Date	Views
Navigating the Aberdeen Harbour Board Collection	May 2022	208
Highlights from the Kincardine and Banff County Council Collection	May 2022	170
Celebrations in the Shire: Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation, 1953	June 2022	13
Alexander Horne: Bootmaker, Shoemaker, And Newsagent of New Deer	August 2022	100
Records of the Aberdeen & NE Deaf Society	September 2022	53
The Clydesdales of Duthie Park	October 2022	72
Thomas Corall, Baker of Aberdeen	October 2022	46
Should I keep my receipts? Archives, Appraisal and 18 th Century Stonehaven	November 2022	186
Remembrance Day: Ellon During World War 1	November 2022	46
Inside the Aberdeen Female Orphan Asylum	January 2023	1131
Aberdeen Steam Fishers' Provident Society	February 2023	80
Crime and Punishment in Fraserburgh	March 2023	162

Online Catalogue

In 2021 we updated our public catalogue, allowing researchers to search more easily across our collections for records they want to access in our search rooms. The re-vamped site provides access to our YouTube video explaining more about the collections (402 views) and additional collections' information.

Conservation & Preservation



Items post conservation treatment

Conservator Emma Fraser (Dundee) was commissioned to carry out repair work on several items and we're really pleased these have now returned to the service in a much better condition. Emma has diligently worked on several Aberdeenshire school registers where the binding was compromised and pages were loose, a burial yard plan for Crathie, a Stonehaven shore dues table and a damaged guard book containing over 200 documents about prisons and juvenile delinquency in the North East. In total, Emma spent 214.5 hours on this material. Here are some photographs of the Guard Book before and after conservation treatment:



Damaged guard book prior to conservation treatment.



Post treatment, removed from guards, cleaned and repaired, then rehoused in a box.

In addition to our outsourced and planned conservation for the year, we have also been updating our priority list for future conservation requirements and completing daily repackaging tasks during our wider cataloguing work - we've used almost 150 new boxes throughout the year!

Management of Archives

New Accessions

We have accepted 84 new accessions into our collections this year. During this period, we have implemented a new and improved process for accepting collections, whereby they are recommended to an acquisitions and disposals panel (for the relevant council body) before approval. This means acquisitions have been more focused and align more appropriately with our collecting policies and those of the wider cultural and heritage sector in North East Scotland.

Notable accessions have included an apprenticeship indenture for Gardenshillock (accession 3230, see image on right), the papers of Aberdeenshire councillor Martin Ford (3240), the archives of the Aberdeen Steam Fishers Provident Society (3223), Visitors Book for the Aberdeen Coronation Club (3272), the papers of the artist and silversmith Norman Grant (3237), plans of Aberdeen Comb Works (3296) and a Lockdown Cook Book from St Fergus School (3201). The records of the Aberdeen Steam Fishing Vessels Owners' Association Ltd were also transferred to us by our colleagues in the City Museums team (3295). We also received material relating to the death of Queen Elizabeth II, including the order of service and papers received by the Lord Provost of the City of Aberdeen at the state funeral (3242 and 3303).



We also received digital accessions from Aberdeen City Council's planning department and Integrated Children and Family Services Department, which can be managed through our Preservica digital repository.

Cataloguing

Catalogues are created on our cataloguing database **CALM**, and in most cases made available to the public to view in the online catalogue.¹ This year we have added **4,594** catalogue records to CALM and **4,700** catalogue records to the online catalogue. There are now **772** collections searchable in the online catalogue, **88,688** catalogue records in the online catalogue and **108,484** in total in CALM.

We were able to meet the following targets from our cataloguing plan at Old Aberdeen this year:

- Making progress on the classification and accessioning of unaccessioned material;
- Complete cataloguing work on additions to the school collections;
- Adding descriptions for two series of Peterhead building warrants to the catalogue;

¹ The exceptions are: catalogue entries which contain personal information about living individuals, which cannot be made publicly accessible; entries relating to Moray's archives (returned to them in 2017 but retained in CALM for reference); and work in progress.

- Adding descriptions for Stonehaven Burgh collections to the catalogue.

At the Town House, our focus has been the appraisal of a large accession of plans received from the City Planning Department in 2019. We have also prepared a cataloguing plan for the Town House to run from 2022-2025.

Notable collections added to the online catalogue in 2022/23 include:

Ref_No	Title	Date	Extent	Site
AS/Aphd	Peterhead Burgh additional records, including harbour records and two series of building warrants	19 th -20 th century	1095 catalogue entries	OAH
AS/Bmcd	Macduff Burgh minute books, ledgers, letter books and Duke of Fife's cartulary	1726-1975	162 volumes, 5 files	OAH
AS/Kstn	Stonehaven Burgh additional records, including letter books, financial records, harbour records, housing records, bundles of early 18 th century records, meeting papers, Lieutenancy of Kincardineshire Relief of Distress Fund records, Stonehaven Town Band records, and records of town's trusts and funds	17 th -20 th century	1287 catalogue entries	OAH
ASActy/9/5	Aberdeen County Planning Registers	1946-1982	28 volumes	OAH
DD1/154	Papers relating to the State Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II	2022	5 items	TH
DD1816	Craigens, solicitors, Aberdeen: Chartularies & Feu Records	1825-1961	34 vols	TH
DD1897	Records of the Aberdeen Waldorf School	1977-2014	6 archive boxes + digital images	OAH
DD2557	Boddam Estate Factor's Papers	1817-1959	11 Archive Boxes	OAH
DD2385/A	Business and Personal Papers of Alexander Horne	1902 - 1976	5 volumes, 1 bundle, 9 items	OAH
DD2385/B	Cruden Bay Ladies' Bridge and Amenities Committee	1934-1985	3 volumes, 3 files	OAH
DD2385/C	William Miller and Co., Fishcurers, Fraserburgh	1906-1917	1 volume, 1 file, 2 bundles, 4 items	OAH
DD2488/FRT	Records of Fraserburgh and District Round Table (No. 677)	1960-2000	1 folder	OAH
DD2488/PCS	Records of the Peterhead Female Clothing Society	1920-1979	3 volumes, 10 files, 2 bundles, 3 items	OAH
DD2765	Records of Sunnyside Ladies Bowling Club	1937-2010	2 archive boxes	OAH
DD3026	Papers of Thomas Corall, baker and member of the Aberdeen Parliament	20 th century	3 folders, 6 notebooks, 1 volume	OAH

DD3170	Manuscript containing copies of the works of Alexander Jaffray, Scottish Politician and Quaker.	1670s	1 volume	TH
DD3204	Records of Evan Street Water Supply Company and Fetteresso Local Authority, Stonehaven	1848-1897	3 archive boxes	OAH
DD3223	Aberdeen Steam Fishers' Provident Society	1900-1998	3 archive boxes, 12 volumes	OAH
DD3237	Papers of Norman Grant, jewellery designer	1965-2019	5 boxes, 1 folder of drawings	TH
DD3295	Records of Aberdeen Steam Fishing Vessels Owners' Association Ltd	1902-1990	32 volumes, 98 documents, 1 file, 15 boxes	OAH
ED	Additional records for 44 schools across the City and Shire	1919-2017	550 catalogue entries	OAH
ER/101	Grampian Valuation Joint Board Electoral Rolls	2022	16 volumes	OAH
GRC/T	Grampian Regional Public Transport Department Records	1975-1980	5 volumes	OAH

Closed Fortnight

In November 2022 we had our annual closed fortnight so staff members could complete large-scale projects, stocktaking and cleaning.

Old Aberdeen

- Appraising and cataloguing school collections, creating additional space and improving the level of detail in our catalogues.
- Accessioning collections that had not been accessioned or lacked important details regarding provenance. Our backlog of unaccessioned items has been greatly reduced, meaning we have improved our collections' knowledge for both staff and researchers.
- Cleaning our biggest storeroom, including the tops of the shelves! Who says cleaning only needs to be done in the Spring?

Town House

- Stocktaking in one of our store rooms, updating location records and identifying unaccessioned material.
- Organising and shelving of material in a new storeroom.
- Cataloguing DD1816/6 which provides title deeds for properties located in the city centre from the early nineteenth century to the mid twentieth century.

Digital Archives

Our digital collections have been consistently increasing - 37 of our accessions for this year were digital records, consisting of 4893MB (48GB).

Digital material for the Aberdeen City collections has been uploaded into our digital repository Preservica. In the last year we completed 72 ingests of 21,129 files, amounting to **89.18GB** of material (this includes digital records received and accessioned prior to April 2022) added to Preservica for long term preservation. Digital records from our Aberdeenshire collections will begin to be stored this way in the future as well.

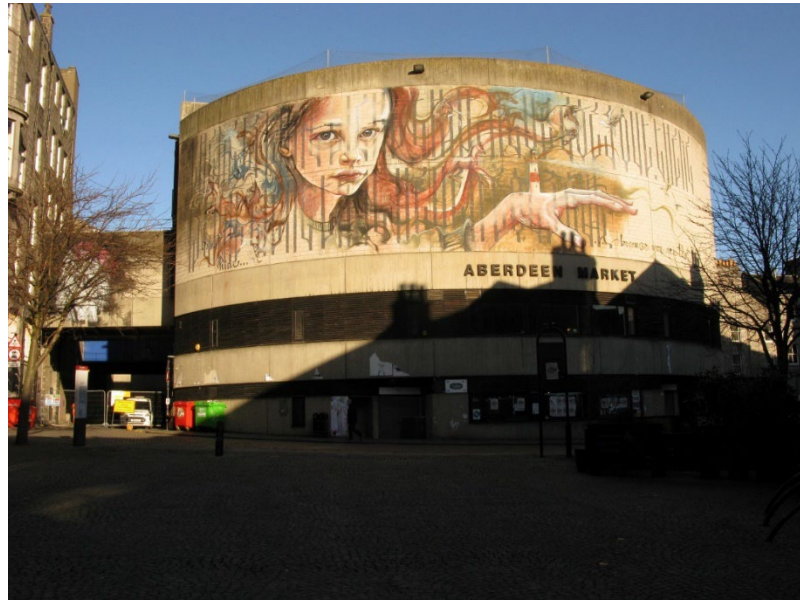


Image of Aberdeen Market prior to demolition, transferred to the Archives department from the Planning department as part of a digital transfer

Outreach and Promotion

Exhibitions, Events, Talks & Visits

The programme of events has been extremely varied this year. The service contributed several of the older burgh registers featuring illustrations as part of the very popular Book of Deer exhibition at Aberdeen Art Gallery. The same venue also hosted an exhibition based around the Alexander Jaffray manuscript acquired by the Archive in 2022 as well as a separate exhibition of photographs from the Aberdeen Harbour Board collection.



“Navigating the Aberdeen Harbour Board Archive” exhibition at Aberdeen Art Gallery, autumn 2022

Engagement with schools has included sessions at Fernielea Primary School, Seaton Primary School and Cults Primary School, where pupils brought fantastic enthusiasm to the topics they were learning about, with lots of questions.

Classes from the University of Aberdeen have included the MSC Cultural Heritage students studying the Aberdeen Female Orphan Asylum records at our Old Aberdeen House site, and regular group visits from third year History undergraduates and from the Elphinstone Institute.



Programme listing for the Archive exhibition, Granite Noir, 2023.

The programme of talks included events at Stonehaven Library, and at Aberdeen Art Gallery as part of the Book of Deer exhibition and Granite Noir. The service also contributed two episodes relating to the “Gather Round” series of podcasts (which between them have been downloaded over 530 times) as well as 18 articles to the weekly “Our Aberdeen” feature in the Evening Express.

Below are a list of these events and the number of attendees for each:

Outreach/Event	Month/Year	Number of attendees
1. Visit & display for Look Again Artists Group	April 2022	3
2. Visit & display for Look Again Curators	April 2022	2
3. Talk for St Fittick’s Rotary Club	April 2022	25
4. School session at Fernielea Primary School (3 sessions)	June 2022	54
5. Display of Banff Charter at Banff Museum	July-Sept 2022	Unknown
6. Display of Peterhead Harbour material, Peterhead	July 2022	Unknown
7. Talk on Archives – Book of Deer programme	August 2022	60
8. Visit & display for SHMU group	August 2022	7
9. Visit & display for Elphinstone Institute group	October 2022	5
10. Visit & display for PATH group	November 2022	7
11. School session at Seaton School	November 2022	100
12. Tour of Charter Room for Councillor Stewart	November 2022	3
13. Visit & display for PATH group	January 2023	2

14. Aberdeen Harbour Board Exhibition at Aberdeen Art Gallery	Sept 2022– Jan 2023	Unknown
15. Talk at Stonehaven Library	February 2023	34
16. Granite Noir Exhibition	February 2023	3500
17. Granite Noir talk	February 2023	215
18. Visit & display for University of Aberdeen Cultural Heritage students	February 2023	10
19. Visit & display for University of Aberdeen students	February 2023	13
20. Granite Noir - Skene Square School session	March 2023	60
21. Granite Noir - Cults Primary School session (3 sessions)	March 2023	200
22. Granite Noir - Hanover Street School session	March 2023	30
23. Talk at Mintlaw Library	March 2023	15
24. Talk at Banchory Heritage group	March 2023	12
Total		4357

Aberdeen Archives,
Gallery & Museums

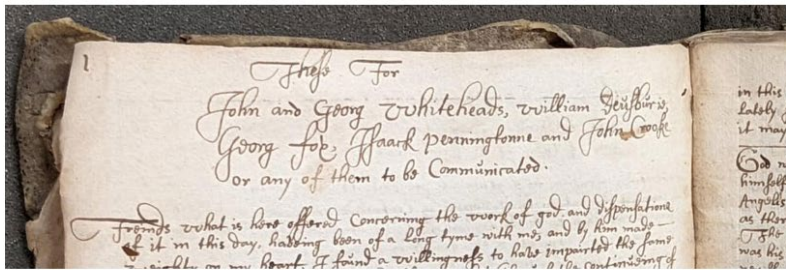
Accessibility Tools

Search Q

What's On ▾
Plan Your Visit ▾
Learn ▾
Collections ▾
Support Us ▾
Venue Hire ▾
Museum From Home ▾

Home / Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums / What's On / The Testament of Alexander Jaffray

The Testament of Alexander Jaffray



2023 marks the 350th anniversary of the death of Alexander Jaffray. Born in 1614 to a prominent Aberdeen family, Jaffray was twice Provost of Aberdeen and representative of the burgh in the Scottish Parliament. The manuscript, which was acquired in 2022 by Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Archives with support from the National Fund for Acquisitions and the Friends of the National Libraries, is thought to have been transcribed in 1673, shortly after Jaffray's death. This rare and important document provides a fascinating insight into Jaffray's faith following his conversion to Quakerism, at a time of religious persecution and political upheaval.

Exhibition curated by Phil Astley, Team Leader – Archives.

Saturday 4 March 2023 -
Sunday 3 September 2023

Aberdeen Art Gallery

Free

Gallery 2

ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

About Us
Local History
Archives
Contact Us

Snapchat: abdnartmuseums

Information about the "Testament of Alexander Jaffray" exhibition at Aberdeen Art Gallery, March-September 2023.

The Written Record: 50 Treasures

One of our achievements for the year was publishing 'The Written Record; 50 Treasures from Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Archives' in November 2022. Included in the book are images and articles on 50 records and collections that the Archive team felt should be publicised further. These include Aberdeen City's oldest Charter c. 1179, Aberdeenshire's oldest record – King Robert II's Charter to the Burgh of Banff 1371, the Stocket Charter 1319, the Register of Returned Convicts, Thain's School records, Henriette Smart's scrapbook and the records of NORCO. Available in the Aberdeen Art Gallery shop and by post via the Archives team, we have sold 254 copies.



Partnerships

Ancestry

Our service has a contract with the website Ancestry, where digitised records from our collections are made accessible and searchable online (free in our search rooms and most local libraries). In the last



View of Old Aberdeen House search room during digitization by the Ancestry team

year, there have been **281,395** views of records from the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archive collection of electoral registers.

Ancestry's digitisation team visited our Old Aberdeen House and Town House sites to digitise additional records for inclusion online.

The Archives team facilitated this by retrieving a massive **1501** items across 5 days! **64,492** images were generated from these records and are being prepared for upload to the website so our remote researchers can search for their ancestors more easily online!

Burgh Records Project with the University of Aberdeen

This series of projects the purpose of which has been to increase access to, and understanding of, the UNESCO-recognised Aberdeen Burgh Registers spanning 1398-1511 has now been running for over a decade. Following the creation of a searchable digital transcription of all eight volumes by the “Law in the Aberdeen Council Registers” project which ran between 2016 and 2019, “Finance, Law and the Language of Governmental Practice in Late Medieval Towns: Aberdeen and Augsburg in Comparison” (FLAG) which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the German Research Foundation, is a collaborative project between the universities of Aberdeen and Mainz and Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Archives to compare and contrast the legal systems evident in the Aberdeen records with those in the records of Augsburg in Germany. The FLAG project which commenced in 2020, and which was due to finish in March 2023, has now been extended to August of this year. Among the outputs will be the following papers:

- Joint article by Rogge and Armstrong, “On Comparing the Language of Governmental Practice in Augsburg and Aberdeen in the later Middle Ages” (journal tbc)
- Book by Hepburn, working title: “The Language and Ideology of Urban Government: Aberdeen, 1398-1511” (publisher tbc)

Membership of External Bodies

Over the past year the Team Leader for Archives and Senior Archivist have represented the Council or held posts on the following bodies:

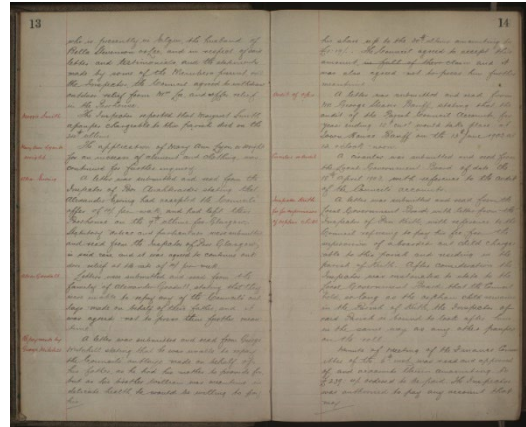
- Archivists of Scottish Local Authorities Working Group
- Trustee of the Scottish Council on Archives
- Ordinary Board Member of the Scottish Records Association

We have also participated in the Capturing the Energy steering group and the PATH (Prejudice & solidarity Archived Throughout History) project. PATH is a community-led heritage project run by Four Pillars & the Grampian Regional Equality Council, exploring ethnic minority and queer community history in Aberdeen and surrounding areas. In addition to recording communities experiences, the project has been exploring the stories held in the heritage collections of Aberdeen City Council and the University of Aberdeen.

Volunteers

Since April 2022, we have recruited 3 new volunteers to the service. This brings our total number of volunteers to 6 over the last year (2 have since moved on; one to full time employment and the other to begin the Archives and Records Management course at Dundee University!). This year our on-site volunteers have given c. 235 hours of their time to our service, for which we are very grateful, and they have contributed the following work:

- Cataloguing of small collections such as: the Peterhead Female Clothing Society; Records of Alexander Horne; Cruden Bay Women’s Association; Sunnyside Bowling Club; May Family Papers; ‘Craigie Park Estate’ records (item/box listing before inputting to CALM).
- Transcribing – Sapper Robert Stephen’s WW1 Diaries.
- Improving catalogue descriptions – Aberdeen Steam Fishers Provident Society.
- Indexing – Peterhead Police Court Registers and Kincardine Prison Board Minutes.
- Labelling - Peterhead Building Warrants.



Example of Parochial Board minutes, which are being indexed by volunteers from the comfort of their homes

We also have 2 remote volunteers working hard from home on our Aberdeenshire Parochial Board Indexing project (started during lockdown in 2021). Our remote volunteers have indexed a fantastic 754 pages in the last year.

Social Media

Followers for our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram account have grown throughout the year:

	April 2020	April 2021	April 2022	April 2023	Increase
Facebook	6590	6978	7810	8195	385
Twitter	2380	2609	2665	2669	4
Instagram	N/A	609	920	1070	150

Our social media sites have been running successfully throughout 2022 and the start of 2023 – we hope you’ve enjoyed seeing us join in on various campaigns with interesting content, including #Archive30 (April 2022), Explore Your Archive (November 2022) and #12DaysOfArchives (December 2022). Some of the more popular posts from these were:

#ExploreYourArchive



Post for #EYAThrowback, receiving 356 reactions on Facebook



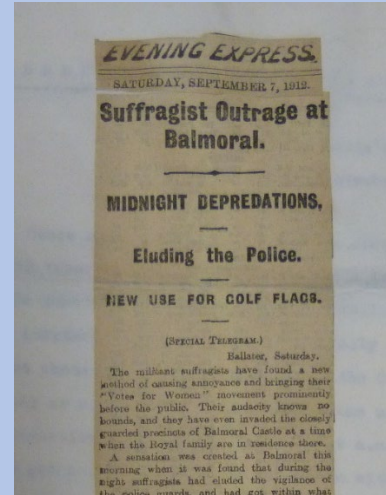
Post for #EYABeards, receiving 97 reactions on Facebook

#12Days of Archives



Post for #Snow, receiving 51 reactions on Facebook

#Archive30



Post for #ArchiveMystery, receiving 184 reactions on Facebook

Appendix: Statistics

Total Statistics for TH and OAH

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 ²	2019/20 ³	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Enquiries	761	645	568	592	435	658	678
Visits	673	573	489	254	0	188	417
Productions of items	6679	6315	3735	2263	225	4018	9140

Town House (TH) Statistics

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 ⁴	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Enquiries	266	200	121	144	83	89	99
Visits	321	256	207	Not recorded	0	58	202
Productions of items	3281	3538	674	Not recorded	11	1132	3064

Old Aberdeen House * (OAH) Statistics

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Enquiries	495	451	447	444	338	569	573
Visits	352	317	282	254	0	230	215
Productions of items	3398	2777	3056	2263	211	2886	6076

* Aberdeenshire Council statistics at Old Aberdeen House are as follows:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Enquiries	304	337	249	203	206	270	291
Productions of items	1001	841	936	1111	30	608	1594

Cataloguing

² Visits and Productions: TH to Dec only,

³ Visits and Productions OAH only

⁴ Visits and Productions to December only.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	+
Total CALM Entries	80,251	86,711	96,480	103,890 ⁵	108,484	4,594
Entries viewable in the online catalogue	57,307	63,168	c. 76,794	83,988	88,688 ⁶	4,700
Total collections in the online catalogue at April ⁷	473	655	Not recorded	734	772	38

New accessions⁸

Authority Area	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/1	2021/2	2022/23
Aberdeen City	32	14	24	15	8	18	26
Aberdeenshire	67	83	155	120	40	69	57
Grampian Valuation Joint Board	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total	101	98	180	135	48	80	84

Searchroom visitors

Year	Aberdeen		Aberdeenshire		Rest of Scotland including Moray		UK outwith Scotland		International	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
2016/17	491	72.9%	68	10.1%	52	7.7%	35	5.2%	27	4%
2017/18	360	62.8%	107	18.7%	40	7.0%	40	7.0%	26	4.5%
2018/19	301	61.6%	67	13.7%	51	10.6%	25	5.1%	45	9.2%
2019/20	108	42.5%	88	34.6%	30	11.8%	7	2.8%	21	8.3%
2020/21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2021/22 ⁹	46	51%	23	25%	6	7%	8	9%	7	8%
2022/23		61%		15%		12%		7%		5%

Enquiries

⁵ Discrepancy between difference between these figures and totals for 2020/1 & 2021/22 is due to deletion of duplicate catalogue entries in 2020-2022.

⁶ 10 collections (811 catalogue entries) for Episcopal collections removed from OPAC ahead of planned deaccessioning later in 2023.

⁷ Doesn't include collections for 119 School Boards, 106 Parochial Boards or 520 individual schools.

⁸ Note: these figures include Aberdeenshire Council agendas and papers received, but not Aberdeen City. As of the end of 2019, these Aberdeenshire agendas have been processed on a monthly basis, rather than individually.

⁹ Total based on those completing online booking form (90 out of 188 visitors, so under half): repeat visitors or in person bookings will be missed from these figures.

Type of Enquiry	2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
Administrative	32	5.1%	26	4.5%	13	2.7%	8	28%	10	1%		0.7%
Architecture	48	7.7%	71	12.2%	57	11.9%	45	9%	49	8%		7.3%
Boundary Search	6	1.0%	4	0.7%	3	0.6%	0	0	5	1%		0.8%
Data Protection	37	5.9%	38	6.5%	50	10.5%	51	10%	70	11%		13.6%
Family History	223	35.7%	194	33.3%	146	30.5%	191	39%	192	30%		20.5%
FOISA	2	0.3%	2	0.3%	4	0.8%	2	1%	13	2%		6.1%
Local History	160	25.6%	153	26.3%	171	35.8%	139	28%	233	37%		40%
Other	68	10.9%	50	8.6%	18	3.8%	45	9%	44	7%		
Other history	48	7.7%	44	7.6%	16	3.3%	10	2%	10	2%		
Paid Research							1	0	0	0		2.3%
Copy request							1	2%	7	1%		8.4%