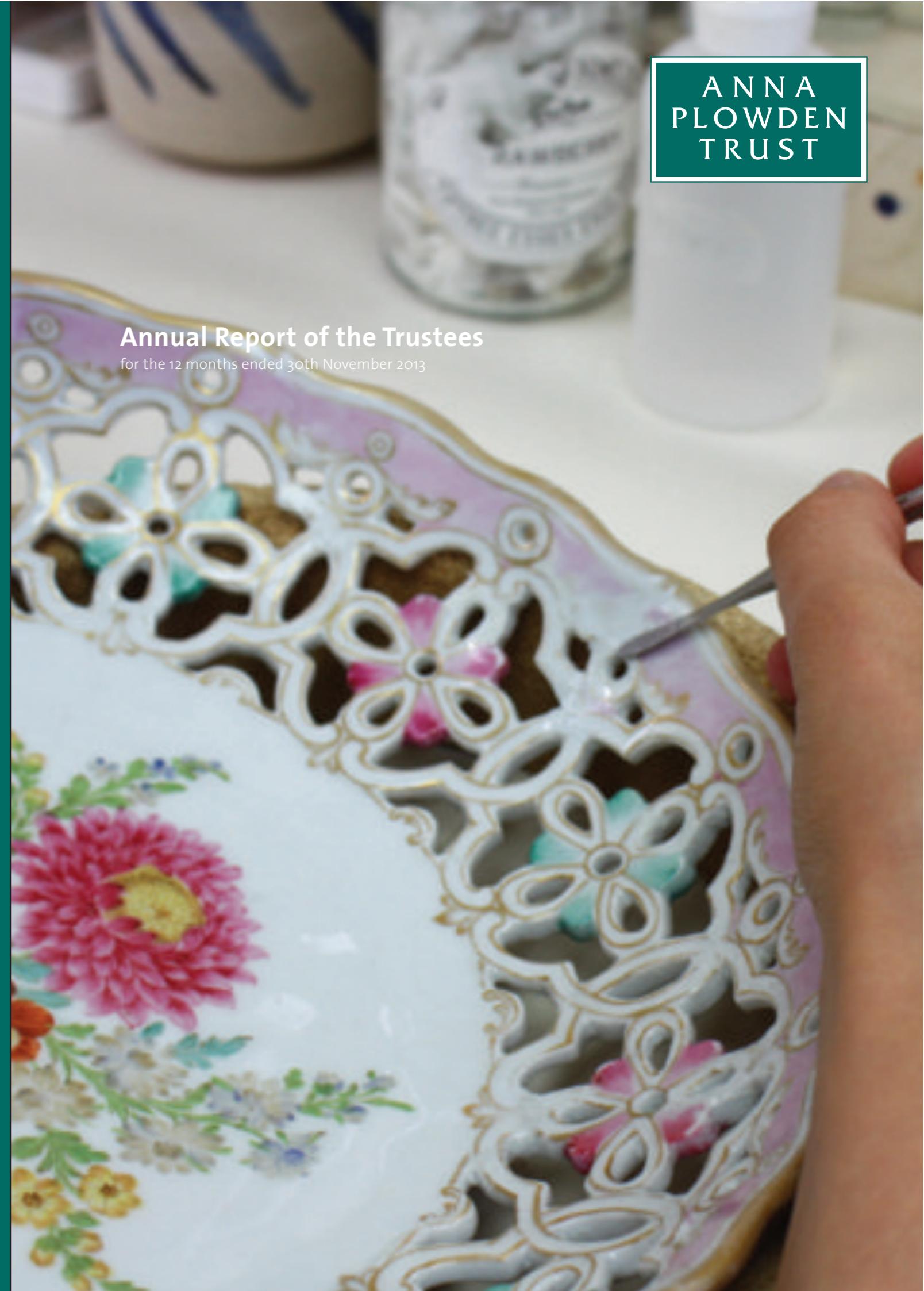


**Annual Report of the Trustees**

for the 12 months ended 30th November 2013



## **Anna Plowden Trust**

Anna Plowden was a pioneering conservator working in private practice over many years until her death in 1997. This Trust was set up to commemorate her life and to continue her work.

Anna would be very proud of the breadth and significance of the contribution this Trust has made, in her name, to the training of new conservators and to the continuing professional development of practising conservators. The Trustees are however acutely aware of the need to do much more.

Those wishing to pursue conservation as a career face increasing challenges to raise the funds they need to study their chosen specialism. This is largely due to the combination of increased undergraduate debt and rising course fees.

The Trustees view the practical conservation experience offered as a part of conservation courses as absolutely essential, even if maintaining this costly to provide practical work means that the course fees increase slightly. The Trustees regard any reduction in the practical elements of these courses as a false economy, since without such experience students are severely disadvantaged when they try to seek posts or further training.

Anna Plowden would be equally concerned. She was quite clear about the importance of high quality conservation training and once said: "an object damaged through poor conservation is lost forever."

It is vital to maintain a highly qualified cadre of conservators for the sake of the extraordinary heritage held in the UK and this is why we must redouble our efforts to increase the funds that the Anna Plowden Trust has available to support aspiring conservators.

**Susan Palmer, OBE**  
Chairman



# Annual Report of the Trustees

for the 12 months ended 30th November 2013

## Background and objectives of the Trust

The Anna Plowden Trust was constituted by Deed of Trust dated 21st August 1998 amended on 7th October 1998 and again on 5th December 2012. It is a registered charity no. 1072236. Its address is: 4, Highbury Road, London SW19 7PR.

The Trustees during the year were:

Susan Palmer OBE, Chairman  
Francis Plowden, Secretary  
Nell Hoare, MBE  
David Leigh  
Jane McAusland  
Frances Plowden  
Penelope Plowden  
David Saunders

The Trust was established to commemorate the life and work of Anna Plowden CBE who worked for many years towards raising the standards of conservation in the UK.

The object of the charity is to contribute to the conservation of items of historic, artistic or scientific interest and to the development of public knowledge and skills in conservation.

In the past year, the Trust has continued its two main programmes aimed at improving conservation skills. These are:

(a) Conservation Bursaries, for those requiring assistance, usually graduates,

towards the cost of obtaining qualifications to enter the conservation profession;

(b) CPD Grants for short, mid-career skills improvement for conservators already working in the field.

Applications for funding are invited through advertisements in the national conservation journals and through the Trust's website: [www.annaplowdentrust.org.uk](http://www.annaplowdentrust.org.uk).

## The work of the Trust

Since the Trust was established in 1998, it has awarded nearly one hundred and sixty Conservation Bursaries and over one hundred and twenty CPD Grants. The Trust has given ten other grants, including four awards for Research and Innovation in Conservation as part of the national Conservation Awards scheme. In total, the Trust has distributed nearly £380,000 towards its principal aims of improving skills in and awareness of conservation, while maintaining its asset base at approximately the same level it was when it was established.

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Trust should undertake.

## Risks and reserves

The Trustees have reviewed the risks to which the Trust is exposed. As a grant making body, these risks are not regarded as critical.

The Trustees have also discussed the reserves policy of the Trust. Although the reserves of the Trust are technically expendable, the Trustees consider that the objects of the Trust will best be served by making regular grants towards the training and work of conservators with money derived from the income of the Trust's investments and other donations.

Accordingly, it is the Trust's policy, for the time being, to attempt to maintain an annual expenditure programme at roughly the same level year on year, while, as far as possible, maintaining the real value of the Trust's reserves.

## Developments at the Anna Plowden Trust

The Trust has financed its activities from income on the investments made when it was first established and some regular donations. Together, these allowed the Trust to operate a funding programme at around £25,000 a year for the first few years and £30,000 more recently. While the Trust has been able to keep its initial capital intact,

the regular donations have come to an end. Investment dividends on their own produce between £11,000 and £15,000 a year – some £10,000 - £15,000 a year less than the desired level of activity.

## Fundraising

During the year the Trustees re-launched their fundraising campaign to ensure, at a minimum, that the Trust continues to have sufficient funds to be able award grants for conservation training at the current level of £30,000 a year. All the funds raised are used to augment our grant programmes. In 2013 we raised over £55,000, bringing the total raised since 2010 to just under £100,000.



## Our Supporters

### Trusts and Foundations

The Trustees are particularly grateful to the Dulverton Trust, which awarded a further grant of £20,000 in June 2013. They were also delighted that the Trust was awarded a major grant of £30,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation in October 2013; this is to be spent over the next two years.

The Trustees are indebted to the following trusts and foundations that have supported the Anna Plowden Trust since 2010:

- Carew-Pole Charitable Trust
- William Delafield Trust
- Dulverton Trust
- Ernest Cook Trust
- J. Paul Getty Jr. Charitable Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation

### Companies Operating in the Sector

This year the Trust began a campaign to secure regular annual support from key companies operating in the conservation sector and it is already proving successful.

Our Founder Corporate Supporter is Willard Conservation Ltd.

The seven companies that have already agreed to sponsor the Anna Plowden Trust are:

- Archetype Publications Ltd.
- Conservation by Design
- K Pak Ltd.

Maney Publishing

Momart Ltd.

Richard Rogers Conservation Ltd.

Willard Conservation Ltd.

In addition to annual financial support, Willard has offered students currently in receipt of Conservation Bursaries a discount on Willard's conservation equipment. Maney Publishing has also offered one free journal subscription for each student currently being supported by the Anna Plowden Trust. This increases the 'value' of our support significantly and we are grateful to Willard and Maney.

The Trustees are grateful to these companies for leading the way in supporting the Anna Plowden Trust and look forward to more sponsors joining their ranks over the coming year.

### The Conservation Profession

The Anna Plowden Trust is held in high esteem throughout the profession and increasing numbers of conservators have received the Trust's support either during their primary training or for CPD.

The Trust is building up the numbers of conservators who support it with regular Standing Orders as well as occasional one-off donations. The Trustees would like to record their thanks to all of the conservators who have supported it in this way during the year.

### Willard Conservation Ltd.

One of the world's leading producers of conservation tools and equipment

### Archetype Publications Ltd.

One of the leading publishers in the conservation of art and antiquities and technical art history.

### K PAK Ltd.

K Pak specialises in the care, handling and international transportation of antiques, artwork and high-value items.

### Richard Rogers Conservation Ltd.

We provide the highest quality professional services in fine art object conservation, restoration and object display mounts.

### Momart Ltd.

Established in 1972, Momart Ltd has gained a world-class reputation for providing solutions to complex art transport and installation challenges.

### Maney Publishing Ltd.

Publishing and international dissemination of high quality, peer-reviewed scholarship and research.

### Conservation by Design

The industry's leading provider of high quality conservation storage and display products to museums, libraries, galleries and archives across the world.



**CONSERVATION BY DESIGN**  
A Larson-Juhl Company



## Grants awarded in 2013

### Conservation Training Bursaries

The Trust received sixty applications for Conservation Training Bursaries in 2013, compared to fifty-two in the previous year. Thirteen grants were awarded and twelve were taken up, just over twenty percent of the applications received.

Fees on the conservation courses have increased significantly over the years, so the Trustees decided to award slightly fewer, slightly larger bursaries in 2013. The students benefitting from these bursaries are studying at nine different institutions on eleven different conservation programmes:

Institution	Qualification
Buckinghamshire New University	MA Conservation of Furniture and Decorative Arts
Camberwell College of Art	MA Conservation: Art on Paper
City and Guilds	Postgraduate Diploma in Conservation Studies
Centre for Textile Conservation, University of Glasgow	MPhil Textile Conservation
Courtauld Institute of Art	Postgraduate Diploma in Easel Painting Conservation
University College, London	MSc Archaeology and Museums
University of Lincoln	MA Conservation of Historic Objects
West Dean College	Postgraduate Diploma, Books and Library Materials
West Dean College	Postgraduate Diploma, Furniture Conservation
University of York	MA Stained Glass and Heritage Management





## The Impact of Trust Support

The Trust's support makes an immense difference to conservation students, as these comments from students who are currently receiving our support during the 2013-14 academic year show:

**Puneeta Sharma**  
MA Conservation: Art on Paper,  
– Camberwell College of Art

The bursary from the Anna Plowden Trust means I am able to take time off from my part-time job to focus on my studies, which has helped me immensely during my second year. The pressures of working whilst studying at Masters level can be distressing at times, but the financial support from the Trust has allowed me to focus on my studies. I plan to leave my part-time job soon to focus on my final project, this would have not been possible without the bursary.

**Sally Higgs**  
Postgraduate Diploma in Easel Painting Conservation – Courtauld Institute of Art

I am currently in my second year of the three-year programme. I am currently working on three different paintings: two oil on canvas 18th-century portraits and one 16th-century oil on copper panel. The paintings have very different historical backgrounds, conservation histories and treatment requirements and I am learning a huge amount. I am passionate about what I do and am enjoying the chance to put the theoretical knowledge I gain in lectures and through research into practice.

**Jon Slight**  
MA Conservation of Furniture (part-time)  
University of Buckingham

I have worked in the conservation workshops of the Tate for the past 5 years. The funding from the Anna Plowden Trust has helped me study the MA Conservation of Furniture and Decorative Arts as a part-time student. Through the course I have expanded my knowledge of conservation principles and techniques across a wider range of objects. This is helping me fulfill my current role of Conservation Technician at Tate with greater understanding and in the long term will help me to progress to a position as a conservator working with furniture and decorative surfaces in the museum and gallery sector.

**Kate Clive-Powell**  
MPhil Textile Conservation, Centre for Textile Conservation – University of Glasgow

The MPhil is giving me the framework of theoretical knowledge and a range of practical experience that will enable me to contribute to the understanding and preservation of culturally significant textile artefacts. During the first year we have been learning about conservation science and the practical skills used in textile conservation as well as the technological, cultural, historic and aesthetic contexts of textile artefacts. I have particularly enjoyed being able to work on a variety of historic textiles during the year. I have now gained enough knowledge to begin to spot signs of deterioration on textiles, identify their causes and then consider possible treatments. This is an exciting and privileged position for me.





## Continuing Professional Development Grants

As a professional conservator, Anna Plowden felt strongly that CPD was extremely important in order that practising conservators should keep up with new techniques and developments. However, at a time of increasing cuts the staff-training budget is often one of the first to be reduced or cut completely, yet conservators must maintain their skills as a requirement of their professional accreditation. Very few funders will consider supporting conservators' CPD, so the Anna Plowden Trust's contribution in this area is significant.

As Will Murray (who received a CPD bursary in 2012) put it: "I would just like to say how grateful we are ("we" being the professional conservation community in Scotland) for the support the Anna Plowden Trust gives towards the... onerous costs involved in keeping up our CPD."

During 2013, the Trust supported eleven conservators, or almost all of the eligible CPD applications. However, as in previous years, the Trust was only able to offer grants representing less than half the amounts requested.

The conservators awarded CPD Grants in 2013 work at ten different museums, institutions and private practices including the Tate, V&A, Ashmolean Museum, Bodleian Library and Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre. They attended seven different courses or conferences. As the Institute of Conservation's (Icon) triennial conference took place in 2013, the Trustees decided to allocate five of the CPD bursaries to conservators wishing to attend this important national event, one of the

recipients describing it as a "truly enriching experience".

On the 'Conserving Outdoor Painted Sculpture' meeting, Carla Flack reported that: "in addition to the practical knowledge gained, this meeting was an excellent opportunity to create and reaffirm relationships with the conservation community".

Catherine Couiegnoux found the 'Asian Lacquer Symposium' "extremely informative and useful, and I came away with more new knowledge than I could have expected".

A conservator who attended the 'Metals 2013' conference with the Trust's support, wrote "I found (it) extremely interesting and informative... This was a once in three years' opportunity to discuss issues in an international forum and find out what current trends in practice are across the world".

At a course on cleaning textiles, Sarah Foskett said: "having learnt the theory behind these (new) methods and prepared, modified and used them I feel confident in both using them myself and disseminating them to colleagues and the students at the Centre for Textile Conservation... I am very grateful to the Anna Plowden Trust for supporting my attendance at this valuable workshop".

During 2012 and 2013, twenty-five conservators from twenty different institutions or private practices benefitted from the Trust's CPD Grants, enabling them to attend seventeen different courses and conferences in the UK and abroad.



## Anna Plowden Trust Alumni

The Trustees like to keep in touch with the students to whom they have awarded bursaries the past (our 'alumni') and are gratified to learn of their successes as they establish their careers in conservation.

Many of those who received support in the 2012-13 academic year are still completing their courses of two years or more. Those who have graduated are now working or undertaking internships in such institutions as the Historic Royal Palaces, National Maritime Museum, Sainsbury Centre, Cambridge University Library and Churchill Archive.

Here are some examples of the achievements of those who received our support in previous years:

### **Tristram Bainbridge**

Shortly after graduating from West Dean College in 2011, I was offered a short-term contract in the furniture conservation department at the V&A to work on the new Furniture Galleries. I am still working at the V&A and am contracted until the opening of the new European Gallery at the end of 2014. In this time I have also been teaching conservation of furniture and wooden objects at various institutions. I became the associate tutor in furniture conservation at West Dean College in 2012, I am a visiting lecturer at City and Guilds of London Art School and have taught conservation science at Camberwell College of Arts. I have also started a conservation business, Bainbridge Conservation, with my wife Abigail. Together we conserve furniture, decorative objects, books and paper for private clients.

### **Felix Thornton Jones**

Since receiving the Anna Plowden Trust scholarship, which part funded the study for an MA in Conservation in Xi'an China (2007), I returned to London to open my own conservation/restoration company Thornton-Jones Restoration Ltd. (2008).

Since the inception of the studio of Thornton-Jones Restoration six years ago, the scope of work and client base has continued to steadily grow. The studio comprises myself and one or two assistants, and is commissioned to undertake major conservation/restoration projects for the fine art market based around Mayfair and St. James's, London. Clients include the leading auction houses, sculpture dealers and private collectors and collections in London, around the UK and Europe. The studio also carries out conservation work on sculpture collections in-situ for private collectors in the UK.

The studio specialises and focuses on the conservation and restoration of the finest quality collectable sculpture ranging from Antiquity, such as ancient Egyptian statues, through to contemporary pieces by Rodin, Moore etc. Many of the objects conserved by the studio are to be found in the best private collections or often ultimately loaned to or acquired by the major national collections around the globe.

### **Carol Peacock**

I secured the permanent post of Conservator of Chinese Paintings at the British Museum, after a Conservation Training Bursary from the Trust enabled me to complete the MA Conservation course at Camberwell College of Arts.

My work at the Museum is unique, as aside from the more regular jobs of preparing objects for storage, loan or exhibition, I am also engaged in a system of traditional Chinese scroll-mounter training, working under my Teacher Mrs Qiu Jin Xian, who has over 40 years' experience. I am privileged to observe and assist her in her practical work on a day-to-day basis, where she carries out techniques that have been developed over centuries with great skill. Working within the Museum's Hirayama Studio means that as well as working on Chinese paintings, I also occasionally get to work on other Asian material, from Japanese printed books to Indian miniatures.

Traditionally, it takes around ten years to train as a scroll-mounter, so to be able to participate in this training system whilst working in such an iconic British institution on such a wonderful collection is a unique and fascinating experience.

### **Rosamund Weatherall**

On completion of the MA Textile Conservation at the Textile Conservation Centre in 2006, I joined the National Trust Textile Conservation Studio in Norfolk. I began as an Assistant Textile Conservator, in 2010 was promoted to Senior Textile Conservator and have since also become an Accredited Conservator (ACR).

My work at the National Trust has given me the opportunity to work with rare historic costume, tapestry and furnishing textiles from private clients and National Trust properties such as Hardwick Hall, Knole and Snowhill Manor. I carry out remedial conservation, surveys and give support to property staff and Regional Conservators. I also supervise student placements and interns and line-manage a junior member of staff. I have conserved several rare pieces of 17th-century costume of the Verney family from Claydon House in Buckinghamshire, the James II Bed from Knole in Kent, and I have recently begun work on the complex treatment of the Spangled Bed c.1630, also from Knole.

Anna Plowden Trust

## Statement of Financial Affairs

for year ended 30th November 2013

	Note	£ 2013	£ 2012
<b>Income</b>			
Grants		55,800.00	12,282.00
Donations		1,437.50	4,081.25
Covenants/Standing Orders		1,481.25	1,937.50
		58,718.75	18,300.75
Bank Interest		305.00	362.18
Investment Income		15,144.12	9,973.58
Other		80.77	144.00
		15,529.89	10,479.76
Total Income		74,248.64	28,780.51
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Grants made		(25,092.00)	(26,394.00)
Management and administration			
Trustee expenses		(430.90)	(962.40)
Fundraising and related expenses		(7,448.66)	(11,591.13)
Other expenses		(280.20)	(115.20)
		(8,159.76)	(12,668.73)
Total expenditure		(33,251.76)	(39,062.73)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		40,996.88	(10,282.22)
Surplus/(loss) on revaluation of investments		45,393.13	43,613.28
Net movement in funds		86,390.01	33,331.06
Total funds bfwd		452,349.88	419,018.82
Total funds cfwd		£538,739.89	£452,349.88

Anna Plowden Trust

## Balance Sheet

at 30th November 2013

	Notes	£ 2013	£ 2012
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	1	1,739.29	1,155.54
Cash at bank		81,331.34	40,128.21
		83,070.63	41,283.75
<b>Investments</b>			
F&C Ethical Bond Fund	2	167,896.29	152,461.06
F&C Stewardship Income Fund		295,772.97	265,815.07
		463,669.26	418,276.13
Total Assets		546,739.89	459,559.88
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Grants committed but unpaid		(8,000.00)	(7,210.00)
<b>Net Assets</b>			
General Purpose Fund		£538,739.89	£452,349.88
<b>Susan Palmer</b>			
Chairman			
<b>Francis Plowden</b>			
Treasurer			

## Notes to the Accounts

for year ended 30th November 2013

1. Tax recoverable from the Inland Revenue in respect of covenants and donations through Gift Aid.

2. Investments	£	£	£
	Equity Fund	Bond Income	Total
Value at 30/11/12	265,815.07	152,461.06	418,276.13
Value of F&C Funds at 30/11/13		463,669.26	
Revaluation surplus		45,393.13	

During the year, following a review of investment performance, the investments in the CAF Funds were sold and the proceeds re-invested in the F&C Ethical Bond Fund and the F&C Stewardship Income Fund in approximately the same proportions as the equivalent CAF Funds.

## Image captions and credits

### Cover

MA Conservation of Ceramics and Related Materials, West Dean College.

*Image courtesy of West Dean College, part of the Edward James Foundation.*

### Pages 2 & 3

Images of students on the conservation programmes at West Dean College.

*Left to right: Metalwork Conservation; Metalwork Conservation; Conservation and Restoration of Clocks; Conservation of Furniture; Conservation of Books and Library Materials.*

*Image courtesy of West Dean College, part of the Edward James Foundation.*

### Pages 4 & 5

Students of the MSc Archaeology and Museums at the Institute of Archaeology, University College, London. Students pictured include Veronica Ford (2nd from left) recipient of an APT Bursary in 2013-14.

*Images courtesy of UCL Institute of Archaeology.*

Far right image shows student conserving a 16th century Turkish chain mail jacket.

*Image courtesy of Cardiff University.*

### Pages 6 & 7

MPhil Textile Conservation students at the Centre for Textile Conservation, University of Glasgow.

The full-page image shows Anna Plowden Trust alumna Zoë Lanceley who graduated in 2013 and is now working at Historic Royal Palaces.

*Images courtesy of University of Glasgow.*

### Pages 8 & 9

Puneeta Sharma working on site at 575 Wandsworth Road, The National Trust.

*Image © National Trust and Puneeta Sharma.*

Jon Slight conserving one of a pair of giltwood console tables, from the Great Gallery at the Wallace Collection, London.

*Image courtesy Buckinghamshire New University.*

Kate Clive-Powell providing stitched support to an historic textile fragment.

*Image courtesy of University of Glasgow.*

Sally Higgs examining an oil on copper panel.

*Image courtesy of Courtauld Institute of Art.*

### Pages 10 & 11

The logo for the Professional Accreditation of Conservator-Restorers (PACR).

Students on a Continuing Professional Development short course at West Dean College.

*Image courtesy of West Dean College, part of the Edward James Foundation*

The Trust helped five practising conservators to attend Icom 2013: Positive Futures in an Uncertain World.

*Image courtesy of Institute of Conservation.*

Main image: Detail of APT Conservation Bursary holder, Catherine Silverman, at work on the Postgraduate Diploma in Furniture and Related Objects.

*Image courtesy of West Dean College, part of the Edward James Foundation*

### Pages 12 & 13

*Left to right: Tristram Bainbridge working on a japanned cabinet from the V&A.*

*Image courtesy of the V&A and Tristram Bainbridge.*

Felix Thornton-Jones working on a marble relief sculpted by John Deare in 1796 and which is now in the collections of the V&A.

*Image courtesy of Felix Thornton-Jones.*

Carol Peacock and her Teacher Mrs Qiu; a mounted scroll prepared by Carol as part of her training.

*Images © Trustees of the British Museum.*

Suit of Edmund Verney in c.1662-63, from Claydon House in Buckinghamshire, the conservation of which was managed by Rosamund Weatherall

Rosamund cleaning bed hangings from the James II bed from Knole, Kent.

*Images © National Trust and the Textile Conservation Studio*