PROPERTY

The Property Committee under the convernership of Mr David Stobie is responsible for maintaining not only the buildings used for the Trust's own purposes - their headquarters at Abbey Park House, The Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum - but also some houses let to private tenants and a building let commercially as an office. In addition, it advises the Trust on matters which may arise in connection with properties no longer under the administration of the Trustees but where they retain certain rights of consultation or reversion, e.g. Pittencrieff Park, Pitreavie Playing Fields, The Dunfermline Museum and Carnegie Hall.

The year opened with the lowest temperatures recorded for decades. Not surprisingly some burst pipes were reported in Trust property. Three Trust properties remained vacant throughout the year. Burn Cottage at Crossford and a tenement property in Kirkgate, Dunfermline, are currently being marketed through the Trust's property advisors, Hardies, with interest currently noted. The basement of Abbey Park House, formerly occupied by a caretaker, was offered at a modest rental to two tenants, each holding charitable status: Crossroads and the Dunfermline Volunteer Bureau.

Crossroads aims to provide respite care for the carers of the elderly, the chronically ill and the mentally and physically handicapped of all ages. This branch of the charity was begun in Dunfermline in 1981 with finance given by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust. The Dunfermline Volunteer Bureau exists to recruit, interview and place volunteers with local voluntary and statutory agencies; to collect information on local voluntary opportunities, to provide voluntary work to the general public and advise, support and train volunteers. Both charities will take occupancy at the start of 1997.

Replacement of the steel beams in the cellars holding up the roadway within the grounds of Abbey Park House, commenced during the year. This project, supervised by a local firm of civil engineers, will be completed in 1997. The present beams, which may date to the early part of the century, were becoming badly corroded.

The Property Committee's accounts for 1996 (Admin and Advisory Services) show the usual costs of repairs, professional fees and a provision against major repairs in the future.

TRUSTEES AND STAFF

In constituting the Trust at the beginning of the century, Mr Carnegie nominated 16 Life Trustees. He also provided that the then Dunfermline Burgh Council and the Dunfermline School Board, at that time the Local Education Authority, should appoint from their members a further six and three representative Trustees respectively, who would serve as Trustees only as long as they remained members of their respective authorities. In addition, there was provision for the conferment of Honorary Trusteeship on former Trustees who had rendered especially long or valuable service: Honorary Trustees might attend the ordinary monthly meetings of the Trustees but had no vote and might speak only if invited to comment.

The present situation is that the successors of the 16 original Life Trustees, although still accorded the title of Life Trustees, by convention retire aged 70. The present Board of Trustees consists of 16 Life Trustees, 5 Honorary Trustees and three representative Trustees appointed by Fife Council, which became the new unitary local government authority for Fife on 1st April 1996.

As a result of local government reorganisation during 1996, therefore, a number of significant changes occurred in the membership and constitution of the Trust. Dunfermline District Council and Fife Regional Council ceased to exist on 31st March 1996 and the respective Councillors demitted office on that date and so ceased to be Trustees. They included Ms Maggie Dempster; Mrs Avril A Hughes, JP; Mr Philip Hughes; Mr Gerard Murray, JP; Mrs Margaret Logan, JP and Provost Mrs Margaret A Millar, JP from Dunfermline District Council and Mr Charles Logan and Mr Alexander Rowley from Fife Regional Council. In anticipation of the impending changes in local government, the vacancy caused by the Regional Councillor representative, Mrs Elizabeth H Grant, JP in November, 1995 had not been filled.

From 1st April three Councillors were appointed by the new Fife Council to serve as representative Trustees. Two of them, Mrs Margaret Logan, JP and Mr Gerard Murray, JP had served previously in this role and the third appointee was Mrs Elizabeth Harris, BA, DCE, JP.

There were changes also in the Life Trustees during 1996. In January Mr George Y Adamson resigned on reaching age 70. He had been assumed a Life Trustee in November 1970 and served as Convener of several of the main Trust Sub-Committees, as Vice-Chairman from 1983-86 and as Chairman from 1986-89. Paying warm tribute to over a quarter of a century of service, the present Chairman, Mrs Linda P Brown, referred to Mr Adamson as an industrious, loyal and mannerly Trustee, much



Mr George Y Adamson

TRUSTEES

Chairman of Trustees MRSLINDA PBROWN

Vice-Chairman DR ALEXANDER A H LAWSON MD FRCPE

Life Trustees

GEORGE R ATKINSON FCCA

BILL LIVINGSTONE

Mrs LINDA P BROWN SANDY SADDLER FTCL Sheriff J STUART FORBES MA LLBJ DOUGLAS SCOTT BA

DAVID M FRASER MB ChB FRCPE

DAVID B B SMITH OBE MA LLB NP

ANGUS M HOGG MCIPS Mrs JESSIE T R SPITTAL
WALTED HUTCHISON MRE CA DAVID I STOBIE MCIBS

WALTER HUTCHISON MBE CA

Mrs. 10 V K INNA

DAVID J STOBIE MCIBS

ROBIN W WATSON RIBA ARIAS

Mrs JOY KINNA ROBIN W WATSON RIBA ARIA
ALEXANDER A H LAWSON MD FRCPE C. ROY WOODROW

Trustees appointed by Fife Council

Cllr Mrs MARGARET LOGAN JP Cllr GERARD MURRAY JP Cllr ELIZABETH B A HARRIS BA Hons JP DCE

Honorary Trustees
GEORGE Y ADAMSON
ROBERT F FARROW CA
ARTHUR D ROBERTSON DL JP
JOHN A ROMANES
JAMES I SCOTT

Secretary and Treasurer - WILLIAM C RUNCIMAN LLB

Personal Secretary - Mrs WILMA RIPLEY

Museum Curator - DERRICK J BARCLAY BSC

Secretarial Staff - Mrs LYNN ALLAN

- Mrs MARGARET IRVINE

- Mrs HELEN MACDONALD

- Miss DONNA ELAM

Book-Keeper - ANDREW NELSON
Gardener - HOWARD SKEET
4 uditors - HUTTON & PHILP

Auditors - HUTTON & PHILP
Bankers - ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

Investment Advisers - STEWART IVORY & COLTD
Legal Advisers - JR STEVENSON & MARSHALL

The Charity obtained a Royal Charter in 1919 Scottish Charity Number - SCO 15710