

NOTICE OF  
Annual General Meeting

To be held on Saturday, 29th May, 1954, at 4.30 p.m.  
at the Zoological Gardens, Upton-by-Chester.

**PROCEDURE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

- (a) The reading of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The appointment of Scrutineers and the opening of the Ballot for the election of members of the Council.
- (c) Presentation of the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (d) Discussion of the Auditor's Report.
- (e) Presentation of the Council's Report.
- (f) Discussion of the Council's Report.
- (g) Receiving the Report of the Scrutineers on the result of the Ballot.

**MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL—1953.**

G. B. GROUNSELL (CHAIRMAN).  
MISS G. M. RUSSELL-ALLEN.  
W. P. BLAND.  
MISS A. L. BULLEY.  
H. E. EVANS.  
A. F. HOLDEN.  
A. C. JOHNSON.  
F. MOSFORD.  
H. F. PARKER.  
DR. J. F. WILKINSON, M.Sc., Th.D., M.D.,  
S.R.C.P., F.R.I.C.  
A. A. W. WATERS.  
LT. COL. A. C. ALAN-WILLIAMS.  
DR. J. A. KILPATRICK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.

**DIRECTOR-SECRETARY.**

G. S. MOTTERSHEAD.

## COUNCIL'S REPORT.

Saturday, 24th April, 1954.

1953 was in many respects a disappointing year, because it was generally thought that the Coronation would have stimulated the holiday spirit. But this was not so, not as far as entertainments outside the Coronation were concerned. This, coupled with the bad weather, meant a reduction in our attendances of 8,721, but despite this decrease in visitors, we had a cash increase of £9,662. This was accounted for by the fact that in July last year the Council realised that it was necessary to increase admission charges to meet the extra costs. Much has been done within the last twelve months, and perhaps the most important job was the construction of the Coronation Hall, to cope with the large parties which we were now receiving. This Hall is capable of seating 800 at one sitting, and will prove a great asset in the future.

As will be seen from the Profit and Loss Account, our Catering receipts advanced by something like £2,000, but the main point stressed this year has been to improve the standard of catering, and this we feel has been done very successfully. To improve the facilities in this direction, modern Toilet accommodation is being constructed in the basement of the house, where the old Aquarium used to be, but it will be Whitsuntide before this will be completed.

Regarding outside development on the zoological side, most emphasis has been laid on improving the Gardens, but two new enclosures have also been completed: one for the Beavers, and another for the Pandas, and the old part of the Orchard, which has always been wasted, has been turned into an enclosure for the Wapiti. The most outstanding development, of course, has been the extension of the waterways. Our lakes and canal system have been more than doubled, and in the course of time these waterways, when properly established, will be of immense value, not only as an attraction, but as a remunerative asset to the Gardens, as well as providing additional accommodation for a varied collection of Water Fowl.

The Council feel that we have now reached a stage where we must do more consolidating of our position, and the Balance Sheet shows that a small start has been made in 1953, and the momentum of this consolidation should increase as the years go by. The only large development which is foreshadowed, is the construction of the Tropical and Ape Houses, both of which will be combined as one structure. Necessity compels us to proceed with this, as our Collection of Apes is growing far beyond their present accommodation, and it is in the interests of public safety that we do something in the next twelve months in this direction.

Despite the fact that we had various set-backs in 1953, the Council are very pleased to be able to report an increase in Nett Surplus.

The Council feel that in addition to the Zoological Collection the development of the Botanical side is of great importance, and much has been done already, and many improvements are foreshadowed for the future in this direction.

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### THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY on 31st DECEMBER, 1953, was made up as follows:

PATRONS	—	—	—	—	8
LIFE MEMBERS	—	—	—	—	11
ANNUAL MEMBERS	—	—	—	—	210
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	—	—	—	—	23
HONORARY FELLOW	—	—	—	—	1
CORRESPONDING MEMBER	—	—	—	—	1
				Total	254

The following table shows the number of visitors to the Gardens during the last two years.

	1952	1953
VISITORS TO THE GARDENS	458,565	449,844
VISITORS TO THE REPTILE HOUSE	101,274	107,936
VISITORS TO THE AQUARIUM	52,790	78,046

# The North of England Zoological Society.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

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## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

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To the Members of the North of England Zoological Society.

We hereby report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of those books. We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the accounts give the information required by the Companies Act, 1948, in the manner so required. The Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs on the 31st day of December, 1953, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the surplus for the year ended that date.

22nd April, 1954.

N. T. AFFORD & CO., Chartered Accountants, Nantwich.

## SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS ANNEXED TO BALANCE SHEET DATED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

	Written down value at		Additions at Cost.		Total	Depreciation.		Total Depreciation.	Balance 31st Dec., 1953
	30th April, 1948.	31/12/52.	From 1/5/48 to 31/12/52.	Year ended 31/12/53		From 1/5/48 to 31/12/52	Year ended 31/12/53		
Fixtures, Fittings, Cages and Accessories.									
Special Buildings and Open Air Enclosures	15940 0 0	34021 15 3	8677 16 4	58639 11 7	16626 17 0	4201 5 7	20828 2 7	37811 9 0	
Office and Cafe Furniture	606 3 0	3520 5 7	2593 16 3	6720 4 10	777 5 7	594 5 11	1371 11 6	5348 13 4	
Frigidaire Cold Room	— — —	575 10 0	— — —	575 10 0	176 19 0	39 17 0	216 16 0	358 14 0	
Washing Machines for Clothes and Dishes	— — —	421 15 6	499 8 7	921 4 1	196 12 6	144 18 7	341 11 1	579 13 0	
Cafe Equipment, Crockery and Table Utensils	457 3 6	3016 9 3	1996 12 11	5470 5 8	523 4 0	494 14 2	1017 18 2	4452 7 6	
Tools and Utensils, including Garden Tools, Machines and Equipment	456 10 0	753 5 0	274 18 10	1484 13 10	346 13 6	113 16 0	460 9 6	1024 4 4	
Machinery—Bulldozer and Roller	— — —	1444 1 8	— — —	1444 1 8	771 17 8	151 5 0	923 2 8	520 19 0	
Motor Vehicles—Lorry, Van and Car	232 10 0	2755 0 0	— — —	2987 10 0	1050 12 0	387 8 0	1438 0 0	1549 10 0	
Motor Boats	— — —	785 0 0	— — —	785 0 0	405 3 0	75 19 0	481 2 0	303 18 0	
Children's Push Chairs	— — —	485 15 0	— — —	485 15 0	193 6 0	58 10 0	251 16 0	233 19 0	
	17692 6 6	47778 17 3	14042 12 11	79513 16 8	21068 10 3	6261 19 3	27330 9 6	52183 7 2	