**Title Picture - TrustNews March 2009**



former army camp located on the left of this picture near the skyline

---

**Chairman's Miscellany - TrustNews Mar 09**

Just before Christmas, I felt that Trust life might be entering a calm period. Pure wishful thinking, of course. The future of Barton Farm, which seemed to have been pushed back, sprang to life with reports of the City Council returning to housing numbers there as it worked on the Local Development Framework. I can offer no enlightenment - it may be that the position has not changed but is appearing in a different context. Possibly more worrying is the suggestion that the site of Bushfield

Camp could become some sort of “Science Park”. The sense of that escapes me but the impact of building on that small but prominent part of Winchester’s setting would be disastrous. It would also lead, inevitably, to infilling between there and Badger Farm. Let us hope that reason will prevail.

Better news of this winter’s evening talks at the Heritage Centre. At the first, Professor Christopher Mulvey brought us up to date on progress with the English Project. It is shaping up well and gaining momentum. We also heard of the development of our language and especially of dialects, of which Professor Mulvey is a polished performer. The second talk, “Winchester’s Historic Environment”, was a joint presentation by Councillor Patricia Stallard, Porfolio holder for and Champion for the Historic Environment and Alison Davidson, Historic Environment Manager. They gave us a most encouraging view of the City Council’s drive to strengthen its activities in this field. No one in the large audience could have left without feeling that this difficult field is in positive and enthusiastic hands. I look forward to the two remaining talks and encourage you to attend. Details elsewhere.

Lastly, the ill-fated tree in Sparkford Close. As so often, the facts are not as simple as the first news may have seemed. Surprisingly, this is the only tree in its immediate locality which was excluded from earlier Tree Preservation Orders and it can hardly have been overlooked by the surveyors. The 11th hour decision to make it subject of an Order was undermined by unimaginable problems with service of the Order, involving both the City and the Post Office, so the Order did not reach the owners until after the “girdling” was done. So, however one may judge that action, no criminal offence was committed. “A wanton act” said members of the Planning Committee. “An unavoidable act” say the owners, with some justification. So what follows? The owners very much regret the concerns caused to many (and themselves) and intend to plant a mature and substantial tree on the site. The Council has tightened p its procedures of internal information and for service of notices. Can the Trust do anything? We are endeavouring to update and print the comprehensive tree survey carried out by the late Gillian Bauer which would reduce the possibility of this sort of problem. This has been welcomed by the City and by developers. It is a considerable task. Could you help?

Iain Patton

---

**Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Mar 09**

The number of appeals going through the system gives the impression that developers are keeping themselves busy during the hiatus in their flow of work by trying to overturn the previous refusals of their applications.

The developers of two schemes reported as being refused in the August TrustNews have both gone to appeal. The proposed residential development at the **Winchester Laundry, Hyde Abbey Road**, is to be decided at a Public Inquiry, and we have a written a letter supporting the refusal, and the apartment block and four town houses on the site of **West Hayes Lodge, Sarum Road**, is to have an Informal Hearing. We would have written supporting this refusal, but unfortunately did not receive our usual

notification of the event. Our reasons for objecting to these schemes are given in the June TrustNews.

We have also written in support of the refusals of two other schemes, both of which have gone to appeal by Written Representation. The most important of these is the proposal to build 14 dwellings on land adjacent to **St John's Croft, Blue Ball Hill**, which we felt would be detrimental to the locality, for the reasons set out in the August TrustNews. In comparison with this, the other scheme for a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension at **38 Milverton Road**, might seem somewhat inconsequential, but this is an important corner site that can be seen from both Milverton Road and Fordington Avenue. While the Trust welcomes contemporary designs that are appropriate for their surroundings, this did not seem to be the case here, because the design of the extensions seemed to be based on the architect's 'in-house' view of style rather than on how it would relate to either the existing house or its prominent corner position.

The Public Inquiry considering the refusal of the development at **Chestnut Mead, Kingsgate Road**, has been withdrawn,while the decision on the Public Inquiry into the Aldi proposal for the site at **The Chimneys and 1 Burnett Close** is still awaited. The appeal to allow the conversion of **1 Westman Close** and build a 3-bedroom house on this restricted corner site has been dismissed. We also attended the Informal Hearing of the proposed residential development following the demolition of **Kirtling House, 52 Chilbolton Avenue**, for which a decision has still to be made.

The proposals to install kiosks combining public phones and ByBox storage facilities at the **corner of Jewry Street and St George's Street** and at the **Market Entrance, Andover Road**, have both been refused.

Decisions have been made on two developments on **Sleepers Hill**: the plan to develop four dwellings on the site adjoining **Sleepers Hill House**, which we felt could be acceptable, was refused; whereas the large block of flats on the site adjoining the **Day House**, which we considered inappropriate for the character of the road, for the reasons given in the December TrustNews, was granted. The business park proposed for the site of **Pilot Clothing, Chilcomb Lane**, has also been approved.

It seems that permission for the development on the Greenacres site has been seized upon as a precedent for other high-density schemes on the Andover Road. We objected to a proposal to build a block incorporating a 3-bedroom house and two 2-bedroom flats at **109 Andover Road**, because it would have a density of 47.3dph that would result in overdevelopment of the site (we also felt that the description given was misleading). The application was withdrawn in November, but another proposal will no doubt be put forward for this site.

The most recent application along the road is to demolish **79 Andover Road**, a house of no great architectural merit, for a block housing a mixture of 1- and 2-bedroom accommodation that would result in a density of 73dph, which we felt would be uncharacteristic of the area. We strongly objected to the structure as being too large in height and mass and having a so-called traditional design that lacked the incident on the roofline that would be expected, such as chimneys. The site is not in

a Conservation Area, where felling trees requires planning permission, and it is very much to be regretted that at least half a dozen trees have already been felled to make way for development.

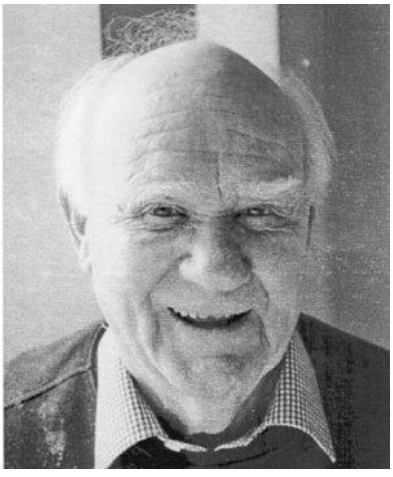
In past years the Trust has urged the City to produce plans for areas under threat of development, such as Chilbolton Avenue. Sadly, the local development consultations needed here were undertaken rather too late, after the proverbial horse had escaped through the stable door and the character of the road was irrevocably changed. The signs are that the **Andover Road** is another perceived honeypot for developers, as **Stoney Lane** could also be, where a developer is already making enquiries about the availability of suitable plots for redevelopment along the road. This comes as no surprise to the Trust, which has previously raised this possibility with the Planning Department because the low density of the bungalows along Stoney Lane makes the area a clear candidate for development. We therefore urge that the requisite consultations are undertaken without delay, so that well-considered area plans for the developments will result, rather than the collection of haphazard schemes that are evident in Chilbolton Avenue.

The number of applications wending their way through the system is much smaller than in the past, but many people still want to extend and alter their properties, unsurprisingly considering the miniscule storage space provided in most new developments. Others wish to make a profit from building in their gardens, with or without the existing house. Some of these schemes are acceptable, but others are not, usually because it is proposed that too much is to be crammed onto the site. The sad thing about all too many schemes is the standard of their design: most are bog standard traditional, but lack the detailing that would make them satisfactory, while others use the description ‘contemporary’ to produce an architecturally trendy design that has nothing in common with its surroundings in either style or use of materials. Very few have a design that is both contemporary and respectful of its position in the existing neighbourhood.

Shione Carden

---

**David Seton Middleditch - TrustNews Mar 2009**



Trust Chairman 1986 - 1992

David was born in Darlington on 18th August 1923. His father was an officer in The Green Howards (1914 – 1936). After Winchester and Trinity College, Cambridge, he joined the Army in 1942 and was commissioned into the XII Royal Lancers, an armoured reconnaissance regiment, in which he served in North Africa and subsequently in Italy. He was slightly wounded twice and once more seriously, which resulted in the loss of the lower part of his left leg. He was mentioned in despatches. Having recovered from his wounds, he was appointed ADC to General Sir Brian Robertson who was then the Deputy Military Governor of the British Zone of Germany.

In 1947 he joined Jardine Matheson and Co. Ltd. and served in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Tientsin until 1951. In 1952 he joined the Consolidated Zinc Corporation now called Rio Tinto Zinc, and in 1962 became a Director of Matheson and Co. Ltd, a post that he held until retirement in 1984.

In 1957 David and Celia were married, since when the family has grown to include their children Matthew and Harriet, their spouses and their seven grandchildren. The family moved to Winchester 30 years ago.

In 1991 he became a member the Committee of the Southampton and Winchester Branch of the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association (BLESMA) and was very active in visiting and talking to fellow amputees in the Winchester area, and assisting them with their welfare problems.

He was also a stalwart and very active member of the Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group for Refugees, who believe that every asylum seeker deserves respect and compassion, and that their applications to stay in the UK should be given a fair and proper hearing. The group give practical support to those in the Southampton area who are in difficulties, and may need help in contacting a solicitor, finding accommodation or getting access to medical treatment.

He was an accomplished croquet player and played at the Winchester Tennis and Squash Club for many years, becoming a very effective Chairman of the Croquet group from 1991 to 2002.

**His time with the Trust**

David was induced at short notice to become chairman of the Trust in 1986 when Antony Skinner's commitments changed, meaning that he could not take up the post as had been expected. This was a generous and public spirited action on David's part as he had only joined the Trust in 1984. However, helped by Gill Graham, then the Hon Secretary, he quickly mastered his role, deftly guiding the Trust's activities for the next six years.

During David's time all the regular activities of the Trust improved in scope and efficiency, and the Trust prospered: amongst many other things Sir Peter Ramsbotham became President; the first formal lease of the Heritage Centre was secured; the first stage of our work on the Eastgate Street terrace was completed;

the Trust's lobbying helped lead to the adoption of a Park and Ride policy instead of more multi-storey car parks; and on Gill's retirement, David initiated the pattern for the future by introducing the Trust's first paid secretary.

But there were difficult challenges too: the Trust objected to all the schemes put forward for the Brooks Centre but despite every effort was unable to influence the outcome; as the chairing member of the M3 Joint Action Group and participant in the third Inquiry, the Trust was able to rejoice when the group was victorious in preventing the motorway running through the water meadows, but disappointed when the tunnel scheme was rejected; and controversial proposals for redevelopment of the Barracks caused great concern, though prolonged negotiations and ownership problems delayed matters into the recession of the early '90s, opening the way for the successful conservation approach.

Throughout all this activity David was always ready both to take advice and to give it, remaining unfailingly good humoured and encouraging. His was a well earned sigh of relief when Antony's commitments allowed him to take over at the AGM in 1992 – David had not expected to be in post for quite so long!

David was a man of great humour and compassion, a wonderful friend to all and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

---

**Winchester: Heart of a City - TrustNews Mar 09**

In June the Trust will be publishing an important new book by Andrew Rutter. Winchester was one of the first in Britain to create a conservation area following the destruction of parts of its fabric during the 1950s and 60s. As the Cities Conservation Officer for over 25 years, Andrew Rutter is well placed both to reflect on the successes and failures of the area and to highlight the principles that should drive planning and development in historically sensitive towns and cities. The book is extensively illustrated with newly commissioned artwork as well as a street by street analysis of how Winchesters Conservation Area has responded to the constant needs of development. It reveals that what happens at the margins of a city has a huge impact on the centre. The book also shows that preservation and development are two sides of the same coin- that a commitment to imaginative, well designed development can respect its historical context while breathing new life into the HEART OF THE CITY.

It is being printed by the Sarsen Press as a hardback in a landscape format, priced at £35. A 'flier' containing an order form is in preparation. Meanwhile Matthew Huntley has started a list at Wells Bookshop of anyone wishing to reserve a copy straightaway. Telephone 01962 852016 or email pgwells@btconnect.com

---

**Summer Walks 09 - TrustNews Mar 09**

All walks on a Thursday
Meet at 6.15pm. Walks start at 6.30pm.
Starting point Heritage Centre Upper Brook Street unless otherwise indicated.
Non members very welcome. Suggested donation £2

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4th June | **Victorian Winchester** | **Elizabeth Proudman**<br>City Guide |
| 11th June | **Popular Pubs of Winchester** | **Phil Yates**<br>Author and Trust member |
| 25th June | **The Semi detached House**<br>(meet by fountain in Peninsular Square) | **George Saumarez Smith**<br>Director Robert Adam Architects |
| 2nd July | **The Western suburb of St Paul's**<br>(meet by the Westgate) | **Richard Baker**<br>Retired Architect and Planner |
| 9th July | **Ashburton Court Far and Near**<br>(meet at viewpoint on St Giles Hill) | **Andrew Rutter**<br>Retired conservation officer |
| 16th July | **Wolvesey - the two palaces**<br>(meet 6.30pm outside entrance gates of Wolvesey) | **Michael Carden MBE**<br>CWT Vice Chairman |
| 23rd July | **Development opportunities for Winchester** | **Keith Leaman**<br>Architect |
| 30th July | **Owen Browne Carter's Winchester** | **Robin Freeman**<br>Architectural Historian |
| 6th August | **Colebrook Street then and now**<br>(meet in Abbey Gardens) | **Tony Humphrys**<br>City Guide |
| 13th August | **St Cross Park Excavations**<br>(meet at Porter's Lodge, St Cross) | **WARG Members** |
| 20th August | **1000 years of bellringing at the Cathedral**<br>(meet outside West door of Cathedral) | **Colin Cook**<br>City Guide |
| 27th August | **A biography of Southgate Street** | **Graham Scobie**<br>Historic information officer<br>Winchester Museum service |
| 3rd September | **University of Winchester plans for next 10 years**<br>(meet at West Downs Main entrance) | **Mr Tommy Geddes**<br>Deputy Vice Chancellor |

Please note one or two walks towards the end of the season are subject to confirmation. Any changes will be notified in the June edition of the Trust News

---

**Trust People - TrustNews Mar 2009**

*The second of a series of articles about people who work behind the scenes for the Trust.*

Nick Hirst, keeper of the Trust archives



I joined the Trust in 2006 after seeing a promotional display in the town centre, and shortly after was asked by Pat Edwards if I would like to look after the Trust archives.

Up until 5 years ago I lived in Cumbria where I brought up my family and went to Newton Rigg College and Lancaster University as a mature student. I studied Land Management and Ecology there respectively and subsequently worked as a research project manager, recruitment officer for a wildlife charity, and as the secretary for a red squirrel conservation organisation. I have always had an interest in conservation and wildlife, but having seen the uncontrolled development of the Costa Del Sol from 1963 to the present, (my grandparents retired there), I realise what an important job organisations like CWT do. Not just ‘putting the brakes’ on unfettered development, but saving important wildlife sites too.

When I agreed to take on the archives I realised that an electronic catalogue with a digital search facility would be essential. I discussed this with Pat who promptly invested in a laptop computer with the Microsoft database program ‘Access’. My time is voluntary and I spend a few hours a week on the Archives as and when I can.

The Trust Archives consist of correspondence, official documents, booklets, cuttings, pictures and other material that has been accumulated by the Trust over the past 50 years.

I started the construction of a database, entering the contents of each archival box [there are 128 boxes] in a methodical fashion, and now two years later I have completed this task. My next task is to go through each box in turn again and ensure that everything in that box should not be elsewhere and editing the database accordingly as things are relocated. Each box has a theme that has been inherited by me and these themes seem to categorise the archive materials logically. It is the relationship between these themes and the contents of the boxes that I will be examining over the next few months.

This task will be time consuming, but should not involve much expenditure. However we do have some black and white photographic slides that in my opinion should be printed on photographic paper and properly stored in the archive room. We have a large collection of negatives of the Brooks prior to demolition and also a bequest of slides of Winchester going back to the early 1900s. We now plan to digitise these slides so that they can be better preserved, viewed on computers and used in displays. This will make them much more available for anyone interested.

We do have a collection of photographs of Winchester that we do not have the copyright to and also a collection by Salmon. It is my intention to build another database of all the images mentioned above and also any photographs not kept in archival boxes. This may be built up of scanned images, or descriptive text only. I hope that you will soon be able to see the archive database/s on the website, with a search facility, so that visitors to the site can see what we have without having to contact me first.

Since I took over the archives I have had 11 queries from both members and non members and have been able to help by either loaning to members or photocopying to non-members and where we do not hold what they request I have been able to redirect them to alternative sources.

If you would like further information on the archives please contact me at Nickhirst@aol.com or leave a message at the Heritage Centre on 01962 851664.

---

**20's Plenty for 2009 - TrustNews Mar 09**

At the start of 2008 there was only one local authority in England that had decided that the 30 mph default speed limit for built-up roads was no longer appropriate for the streets where people lived. Portsmouth was the first and then only local authority to implement an authority-wide 20 mph speed limit on all but arterial and main roads. This had been phased in over 6 sectors of the city and the last sector was completed in March 2008.

Subsequent to that, the 197,700 inhabitants of Portsmouth have been joined by another 765,000 people living in Norwich, Oxford, Newcastle and Leicester who have decided that the 74 year old 30 mph default speed limit set in 1934 when there were just 2m motor vehicles on the roads, is no longer appropriate when this has now increased to 33m.

And this developing quest for a more civil way of sharing our public spaces we call roads is being considered in town halls up and down the country as they respond to community wishes to create an environment that provides far great equity and safety for those who wish to walk or cycle on our roads, or even simply pass the time of day chatting on the pavement.




People throughout the country have started to recognise that we are getting our transport priorities wrong. 20 mph for residential roads is seen as the key catalyst in the debate on how we use our roads. For if we dare not set a responsible speed limit for the roads where people live then how can call ourselves a civil society if those who wish to walk or cycle feel threatened by high traffic speeds. And yes, the reality is that whilst 30 mph may "feel" slow from the inside of a motor car with seat belts, airbags and up to 2 ton of metal designed primarily to protect the occupants, 30 mph is too fast when you are a child, or infirm and just inches away from the edge of the pavement. We need to widen the number of communities who have taken the decision that 20 mph is the right speed where people live and that they should only "speed up" to 30 mph where its safe to do so.

The aspiration for a more civilised sharing of the roads is the sign of a culture which has already changed. Of course there are a vocal minority of Mr Toad's who want everyone to get out of their way, and the "slow to change" local authority establishment who find it easier to say "why they can't" rather than "how they can". But mainstream opinion, including 70% of drivers, is that 20mph is the correct speed limit for residential roads. It's time, after 75 years, to dump the 30mph default speed limit set in 1934 and set a new default of 20 mph for all non-arterial roads in our towns and cities.

- A limit that is in tune with community aspirations for a more equitable sharing of roads.
- A limit that encourages modal shift to walking and cycling.
- A limit that protects the young, the walker, the cyclist, the elderly, the disabled, and enables them their rightful mobility.
- A limit that reduces pollution through calmer driving without constant acceleration and braking.
- A limit that reduces noise.
- A limit that provides a calmer living environment for all residents.

**(Extracted by John Edwards from a message posted on Internet discussion group forums in December 2008 by: Rod King, 20's Plenty For Us, www.20splentyforus.org.uk )**

**The views expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the Trust. What do you think?**

## Trustees 2008/9 - TrustNews Mar 09

| | |
|---|---|
| **Patron** | The Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham GCMG GCVO DL |
| **President** | His Honour Christopher Clarke QC |
| **Vice President** | Lord Ashburton KG KCVO DL |
| **Vice President** | Donald Insall CBE FSA RWA FRIBA FRTPI SP dipl (Hons) |
| **Vice President** | D J Smith FRICS |

| **Trustees 2008/09** | |
|---|---|
| **Chairman** | Iain Patton |
| **Vice Chairman/Policy Group** | Michael Carden MBE AAdip RIBA |
| **Vice Chairman** | Robin Merton |
| **Chair Planning Appraisal Group** | Shione Carden BA |
| **Chair Policy Group** | Patrick Davies |
| | Keith Leaman |
| | Barry Lipscomb |
| | Nick McPherson BArch RIBA MA |
| **Newsletter coordinator** | David Marklew BSc CEng MICE |
| | Judith Martin MSc |
| **Planning Appraisal** | Antony Proudman MA CEng FBCS |
| **Hon Treasurer** | Peter Radcliffe FCA |
| | Antony Skinner |
| | John Stanning BA |
| | Alex Trimmer OBE |

| | |
|---|---|
| **TrustNews Editor** | David Marklew/Matthew Huntley |
| **TrustNews Printer** | ADH Printing, Kingsworthy |

## Interesting Photographs - TrustNews Mar 2009

We are coming across many interesting photographs in the Archive which we know little or nothing about. With your help we hope to add more details. These three pictures were amongst a set of local photographs given to the Trust by a Mr Hawkins. Can you help identify them? If you know anything about these pictures or want to help identifying more of our collection, please get in touch. Ring the Heritage Centre on 01962851664. If we are not here, leave a message and we'll get back to you - or email us on secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk.



Where is this Railway Bridge?

Why is it being demolished?

When was the picture taken?



This picture was captioned “Stanmore Primary School” but the sign says “Stanmore Grammar School”

What is the occasion?

When was it taken?

Was there a Grammar School here?




This photo is of the Cooperative Butchery in Jewry Street, now part of the Brasserie Blanc.

Some of the Butchery fittings can still be seen on the walls of the Restaurant.

When was this picture taken?

---

**Christmas Cards - TrustNews Mar 2009**

The Trust sells its Christmas cards each year mainly through the Charity Christmas cards shop run by volunteers from the Courtyard café at the rear of the Guildhall. We are most grateful to the organising committee which this Christmas enabled 43 charities to market their cards.

The Trust has recently commissioned two new cards a year with the aim of each new card spanning two Christmases. Thus there is often the opportunity for supporters to have a choice of four Trust cards to buy. We have been pleased with the response, since over £1,800 of sales have been achieved in both 2007 and 2008. Perhaps especially gratifying has been the quality of the artwork and the printing. We have Keith Leaman to thank for his 2007 painting of Cheyney Court, originally a presentational work for Pat Edwards on her retirement from the chairmanship of the Trust. Tricia Spink painted the imaginative Winchester Setting for us in 2007 and then the dramatic and imposing North transept of the Cathedral in 2008. The other card in 2008 was of a digital print from an original painting by N.E.Green of the Westgate (1889). Our founder member and vice president Jeffrey Smith has presented this painting to the Trust in memory of Pat Edwards. We thank most warmly the artists, the donor and Sarsen Press, the printers of our cards.

---

**Alternative Energy Sources - TrustNews Mar 09**

This is a very relevant subject today and particularly so if the sources have a low carbon signature. Some of you may not be aware that Southampton has the UK's first and largest geothermal and combined heat and power district energy scheme. A

geothermal well, more than a mile deep, taps into a source of water heated to 76 degrees C by rocks deep within the earth. It has been operating for some 21 years.

The hot water is channelled through 11 kilometres of buried pipes to provide low cost, efficient electrical power, central heating hot water and chilled water for air conditioning for local residents and businesses, including the Civic Centre, West Quay shopping centre, the de Vere Hotel and Southampton Solent University.

Conventional power stations typically operate at 25-35% efficieny; the Southampton plant operates at 70-85%. To learn more about this scheme, some of the Trust's Council members will be visiting the plant later in the year. Sadly we cannot open this up to the membership as the plant can only accept up to nine visitors at a time. We will report on the visit later in the year.

---

**Something to look forward to - TrustNews Mar 09**

The Trust has booked a visit to the Prince of Wales' garden at Highgrove. There is a long waiting list and the Trust's visit is unlikely to take place before 2011 or 2012! The guided tour of the garden caters for groups of 25 people. Details will be circulated when the date of the tour is confirmed.

---

**Winter Talks — Uncovering and Presenting Winchester's Past - TrustNews Mar 09**

Thursday 12th March 2009

Excavations at St Cross, Summer 2008 By Dick Selwood, WARG

Thursday, April 9th 2009

The Leper Hospital Excavations, Simon Rofey and Dr Phil Marter, Winchester University

---

**Receive TrustNews by Email - TrustNews Mar 09**

Did you know you can get TrustNews by email or look at it on our website?

Why not cut down on paper consumption, get our news first and reduce costs?

Every year we post over 2,500 newsletters: thats 7500 sheets of paper and £500 in stamps

Request a paperless TrustNews:

send an email with the heading “Paperless TrustNews” to
secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

We won’t bombard you with junk mail and we certainly won’t pass your address to third parties.