

THE ARTS SOCIETY, GORING
Registered Charity No. 1100600
High Trees, Bethesda Street, Upper Basildon, Reading RG8 8NU

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Committee

Chairman	Mrs C Hayes
Vice-Chairman	Mrs I Matthews
Secretary	Mrs P Bomford
Treasurer	Mr R Hayes

Mrs S Beake
Mr S Billyeald
Mrs J Boler
Mrs M Fyne
Mrs R Mortimer
Mrs J Norbury
Mrs J Plumb
Mrs M Richardson
Mrs S Stevens-Wood
Dr D Varian
Mrs S Wicks

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
25 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7HN

Honorary Independent Financial Examiner
Mr A C Strong

The Committee, which constitutes the trustees of The Arts Society, Goring, presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Objectives

The Society's objectives are the appreciation, study and promotion of all the arts, culture and heritage for its members, together with the conservation and preservation of our artistic heritage for the benefit of everyone, if and when requested.

Committee

The governing body of the Charity is the Committee, who are also the Trustees. The maximum number of Committee members is fifteen. Committee members are elected each year by the ordinary members of The Arts Society, Goring. They hold office from one Annual General Meeting to the next, and are eligible for re-election. Committee members are drawn from the membership. This numbers 376 at December 2020 (452 at December 2019) and includes a good diversity of the skills and experience required to run a society of this nature.

Overview of 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 the Society's programme of activities had to be either curtailed, cancelled or postponed. Despite this situation the Committee managed to provide the members with virtual lectures and virtual visits using Zoom technology by the autumn, whereas many other societies went into hibernation and some, sadly, had to close. When the country went into the first nationwide lockdown in March 2020 the Committee had to re-think how the Society could operate under these conditions. A new technical sub-committee was formed, who 'attended' virtual training sessions organised and run by TAS House over the summer months on using the Zoom platform including You Tube software.

The Committee had to organise lecturers, who were willing to learn this new way of operating, some of the pre-booked lectures decided to back out as they did not feel capable of working in this way. By September the Committee felt sufficiently confident to try out the virtual system on the Society's membership. Feed-back from the members has been very positive. The Committee has therefore decided to proceed on this basis until such time as it will be safe to return to Goring Village Hall.

Arts Volunteering Programme

As part of this programme the Society handed out grants totalling £1,400 during 2020. This money was distributed to three local organisations, as follows: Bishopsland Educational Trust, Goring Primary School and Clear Sky Children's Charity. Further charitable giving during the year had to be halted due to the issues with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Management of Risk

The Committee reviews its Risk Assessment annually and has drawn up an action plan to mitigate the principal risks - including for situations such as pandemics. The Committee has published standing instructions for the organisation and stewarding of lectures and other events at its main venue, the Goring Village Hall. The Society participates in the block insurance policy for member societies provided by The Arts Society Head Office, which provides public liability and other essential cover.

Financial Review

The financial results for the year are set out in the attached Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes to the Accounts. Due to the issues with the Covid-19 pandemic the Society's expenditure for 2020 was considerably lower than in previous years. Subscription and donation income was down for the year at £16,371 (2019: £17,015). The cost of the lectures (held in GVH in January and February, followed by virtual lectures delivered by Zoom technology in the autumn) came to £3,571, as compared to the cost of the normal lectures programme held in 2019 costing £8,005. No day visits were possible during 2020 due to the pandemic, but the cost of the special interest day in early March and the annual lunch in January plus the cost of the virtual visits in the autumn came to £5,545 (with a surplus of £92), as compared to the expenditure of £17,632 in 2019 (with a surplus of £289). The annual charges paid to The Arts Society Head Office, and also Wyvern Area, in January each year increased by £178 in 2020 to £6,718. As mentioned above, charitable grants and donations were much lower in 2020 at £1,400, as compared to £3,320 in 2019. Overall, the year made an unexpected surplus of £7,088 as compared to the small loss of £304 in 2019.

Reserves Policy

At the year-end the General Reserve stood at £25,578. The policy of the Arts Society Head Office is that each individual Arts Society should have a suggested minimum level of General Reserve equivalent to 50% of its annual expenditure at the end of each financial year in order to maintain financial stability. For 2019 this equated to £19,245 (50% of £38,490). Due to the lower expenditure incurred in 2020 caused by the lockdowns, this figure reduced to £8,990 (50% of £17,981). The Equipment Reserve remains at £2,000. A sum of £830 was left over from a previously allocated amount of money some years ago for Church Recording activities and this was put into a separate reserve called Heritage Volunteers Reserve, which has been re-badged nationally by TAS House from what used to be called Church Recording.

Future Plans

As before, members of the Committee recognise the need to continue to provide a high quality lecture programme to attract and retain members. In addition they will continue to make grants, which are likely to remain centred on the Arts Volunteering Programme (re-badged by TAS House for what used to be called Young Arts).

The Committee has decided to hold the membership subscription for 2021/22 at £38.



Mrs C Hayes
Chairman
15 March 2021

THE ARTS SOCIETY, GORING
(formerly GORING DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY)

Registered charity number 1100600

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<u>Notes</u>	2020 £	2019 £
<i>Incoming Resources</i>			
Subscriptions and donations	2	16,371	17,015
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects:			
Day visits, Special Interest Days and other events	3	5,637	17,921
Gift Aid tax relief		3,057	3,174
Bank interest		4	6
Charitable donation		0	70
<i>Total Incoming Resources</i>		<u>25,069</u>	<u>38,186</u>
<i>Charitable Expenditure</i>			
Grants and donations	4, 11	1,400	3,220
Cost of activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity:			
Lectures - fees and associated expenses	5	3,571	8,005
Day visits, special interest days and other events	3	5,545	17,632
Heritage Volunteers		0	0
Church Recorders		0	0
TAS charges (National plus Area)		6,718	6,540
Management and administration	6	747	3,093
<i>Total Resources Expended</i>		<u>17,981</u>	<u>38,490</u>
<i>Net Incoming - Outgoing Resources = Surplus/Deficit</i>		7,088	(304)
General Reserve brought forward at 1 January 2020		18,490	18,794
Fund balance carried forward at 31 December 2020		<u>25,578</u>	<u>18,490</u>

THE ARTS SOCIETY, GORING
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<u>Notes</u>	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed Assets			
Projector and laptop computer, microphones at cost		2,116	2,116
less accumulated depreciation		(2,116)	(2,116)
	7	0	0
Current Assets			
Cash at bank (31/12/2020)		35,425	31,637
Debtors and Prepaid Expenses	8	2,509	1,197
		37,934	32,834
Current Liabilities			
Deferred income	9	9,526	11,469
Creditors		0	45
		9,526	11,514
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		28,408	21,320
Reserves			
General Reserve		25,578	18,490
Equipment Reserve		2,000	2,000
Heritage Volunteers Reserve	1(b)	830	830
		28,408	21,320

Approved by the Committee on 15 March 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Cornelia Hayes

Rodney Hayes

Chairman

Treasurer

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/members of The Arts Society, Goring on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

to keep the accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met.

Signed

Date 16 March 2021

Name A C Strong

Address 3 Penny Piece, Goring

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared on a full accruals basis, and under the historical cost convention. They have been drawn up in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (2005) under the provisions for smaller charities.

(b) FUNDS ACCOUNTING

The General Fund is available for use at the discretion of the Committee in furtherance of the general charitable objectives of THE ARTS SOCIETY, GORING. Within the General Fund the Committee has established an Equipment Reserve for the purpose of ensuring that the future need to replace equipment is recognised and that cash is available for that purpose, similarly with unspent funds previously allocated for Church Recording some years ago. In 2020 TAS House abolished Church Recording as a separate category but kept Heritage Volunteers. Hence the unspent funds in the Church Recording Reserve has now been renamed as the Heritage Volunteers Reserve in these accounts, should the Society wish to allocate this money for this purpose in the future.

(c) INCOMING RESOURCES

Incoming resources comprise members' subscriptions, payments by participants for special interest days, visits and other events, Gift Aid tax relief, visitors' donations, bank interest and other income. Subscriptions are apportioned on the basis of the number of lectures in the normal nine-month lecture season, which fall into each financial year. Accordingly, two thirds of subscriptions are carried forward as Deferred Income to the next financial year. The same apportionment is applied to Gift Aid receivable.

(d) RESOURCES EXPENDED

Charitable expenditure comprises grants and donations, including contributions to grants paid by the Wyvern Area Committee of THE ARTS SOCIETY, expenditure directly attributable to meeting the objects of the charity and management and administration costs. Payments to artists in residence working in schools are treated as grants to the schools. Management and administration costs are categorised as those, which cannot be directly attributed to any specific activity, but are essential to the running of the charity.

(e) FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. The digital projector and lap top computer were written down to zero over a period of 4 years. New microphones were purchased during 2019 compatible with the new GVH sound system, the old/redundant ones were then discarded. No purchases were made during 2020.

2 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Brought forward from previous year	11,469	10,983
Subscriptions received during year	14,388	17,326
Deduct proportion relating to following year (see Note 1 (c))	(9,526)	(11,469)
Subscriptions taken to credit in year	16,331	16,840
Donations	40	175
<u>Total subscriptions and donations</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>17,015</u>

3 SPECIAL INTEREST DAYS, VISITS AND OTHER EVENTS

	Income	Expenditure	Net
	£	£	£
Annual Lunch	2,673	2,725	(52)
March Study Day	2,964	2,325	639
Knole (cancelled due to Covid-19 lockdown, deposit returned)	-	-	-
Madresfield (cancelled due to Covid-19 lockdown, deposit returned)	-	-	-
Virtual Tour of Venice (organised by Richmond Arts Society)	-	120	(120)
Virtual Christmas Extravaganza	-	375	(375)

Total 2020

5,637 5,545 92

4 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
Grants to schools for art materials and artists in residence	1,400	2,920
Contribution to The Arts Society Wyvern Area charity	0	300
	<u>1,400</u>	<u>3,220</u>

5 LECTURES – FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

Lecture fees	2,863	4,790
Lecture expenses	265	1,073
Hire of hall	443	2,142
<u>Total</u>	<u>3,571</u>	<u>8,005</u>

6 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Printing, stationery and postage	275	830
Committee members' expenses (travel, tel. etc)	0	111
Miscellaneous expenditure (eg Web-site, computer virus software, Zoom licence, sympathy cards to deceased members etc)	472	2,152
Creditors	0	0
<u>Total</u>	<u>747</u>	<u>3,093</u>

7 FIXED ASSETS

<u>At cost</u>	£	£
Brought forward at 1 January 2020	2,116	2,222
Old items reduced to nil financial value	0	(250)
Nothing purchased in the year	0	144
Carried forward at 31 December 2020	<u>2,116</u>	<u>2,116</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>		
Brought forward at 1 January 2020	2,116	2,222
Net adjustment for the year	0	(106)
Carried forward at 31 December 2020	<u>2,116</u>	<u>2,116</u>
<u>Net Book Value at 31 December 2020</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

8 DEBTORS AND PREPAID EXPENSES

New year lunch costs/deposit paid in advance	0	125
Other events costs paid in advance	1,597	0
Gift Aid claim outstanding (See Note 1 (c))	912	1,072
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,509</u>	<u>1,197</u>

9 DEFERRED INCOME

Unearned portion of subscriptions paid in advance (see Note 2)	9,526	11,469
Moneys received in advance for events	0	0
	<u>9,526</u>	<u>11,469</u>

10 REIMBURSEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXPENSES

No reimbursement of expenses was paid to any member of the committee (2019: £111 – 2 members) for travel, subsistence, telephone and similar expenses. No member of the committee received any remuneration.

11 DEFERRED EXPENDITURE – CHARITABLE GRANTS EXPENDITURE

£1,400 out of a budget of £3,000 could only be awarded during the year due to the problems with the Covid-19 pandemic. The Committee agreed to defer the balance to 2021. This is being held in the General Reserve.