

# Friends of the Victoria Art Gallery

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31st March 2025**

**Charity registration number: 1108344**

## **Objectives and Activities**

The purpose of the charity as set out in its Governing Document is to educate the public by the promotion, support, assistance and improvement of the Victoria Art Gallery, Bath.

This is achieved by raising funds for the charity by: -

Identifying and inviting speakers of interest and of relevance to the Gallery collection.

Arranging visits to collections outside Bath.

Attracting new members so to increase income for the charity by subscriptions.

Publicising Gallery and Friends activities on the Friend's independent website.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in arranging all activities.

The Trustees have taken outside advice on fundraising and recruitment and survey of members opinions.

The Trustees are actively engaged in a full risk assessment process because of changes in Local Authority and Gallery management. They have actively reduced risk in some areas of activity and have addressed succession planning. The Trustees constantly review their skills mix and have recruited another new member to become a Trustee at the next AGM.

## **Achievements and Performance**

Income levels have been well maintained despite closure of the permanent collection main gallery for major structural repairs. This major alteration has subsequently been completed followed by public reopening and FOVAG members' celebrations.

Membership numbers fluctuate but the overall trend has been upwards with increasing attendances at lectures. Grants have been made towards purchases for the collection.

A substantial sum from the capital fund has been expended on the refurbishment, for educational purposes, of a large redundant space, which is now open to the public including families from April 2025. A large additional gift towards that scheme from a Friend has been attracted and is eligible for Gift Aid.

Lectures in a temporary facility off site have attracted interest from numbers of people with whom the charity had no previous contact.

## **Financial Review**

### **Treasurer's Report - Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025**

Copies of the Annual Accounts have been circulated to all Members with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. They have been checked by Carolyn Bruce-Jones our Independent Examiner as required by the Charity Commission.

We are as always extremely grateful to the various donors who have supported us during the year in different ways including a donation of £5500 towards the cost of installing extra equipment in the Modelling Room and three anonymous donations – one of £2500 and two of £2000 each.

A very successful appeal for contributions towards the cost of conserving the painting of Henry VIII raised almost £4000 towards the final cost of £8732.

We continue to benefit from the Gift Aid scheme and claimed the very useful contribution of £4543.43 on this year's donations and subscriptions.

As a result of these generous donations and including the large amount received last year, we have been able to make grants in this financial year of £105,894. The largest payment was £85000 for our contribution to the cost of refurbishing the Modelling Room.

Other grants included a donation £6178.16 for the cost of audio-visual equipment and a hearing loop in the Modelling Room. Our purchase of picture framing equipment for £3433.50 was put to good use in the preparation and framing of the prints for the Mirror of Mirth exhibition enabling a substantial saving on costs of picture framing and allowing more pictures to be exhibited for public benefit than could otherwise have been afforded – a benefit which will be of use for many years to come. In February we contributed £1134.00 towards the purchase at auction of a painting of a former Mayor of Bath, Simon Crook. A full list of grants appears in the accounts.

We thank all our members and contributors for their support enabling us to continue to assist with improvements to the Gallery and its holdings and educational facilities.

Our excursions and regular talks organised by the Events sub-committee have been very successful and contributed over £2500 towards our funds after expenses.

The donations box on the stairs in the Gallery has contributed £276 although this is less than previously, hopefully it will soon improve now that Upper Gallery is reopened. Our membership income has increased slightly in the year,

and we have just under 400 members or almost 500 if counting individual members in joint memberships. The Gallery staff are very helpful in recruiting new members and we have a steady stream joining us throughout the year. Whilst our funds in hand at the end of the year are considerably less than the previous year end due partly to the advance payment of the contribution towards the refurbishment of the modelling room, we continue to hold sufficient funds to meet our ongoing costs and likely requests for assistance from the Gallery staff. All funds held by the Charity are unrestricted. However, the Trustees have allocated funds for future grants as follows. Provision for future Gallery extension – balance of Haber legacy (including accrued interest)  
£87408.00

### Governance and Management

The Charity is a Charitable Unincorporated Association governed by a constitution dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2005 and registered with the Charity Commission.

During the year a proposal was developed by Trustees for approval by the members at the AGM to change the structure of the Friends to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. At the June 2025 AGM the Trustees were authorised to undertake the necessary steps to achieve this.

### Trustee selection methods.

Where people with required skills are identified, they are invited to attend Trustees meetings to observe how business is conducted and allow them to continue towards election as a trustee if they so wish. One such person is now attending meetings. When at Trustees' meetings they attend as observers and do not have voting rights.

If wishing to be elected as a Trustee a CV is circulated to all members before the next AGM and a free vote by members conducted at the AGM. The AGM papers circulated in advance include the invitation for any member to stand for election as a Trustee by submitting a CV. Existing members are actively encouraged to recruit new members and to propose anyone interested in becoming a member and Trustee.

### Reference and Administrative details

The Name of the Charity is **The Friends of the Victoria Art Gallery**

Registered Charity Number is 1108344

The Charity's principal address is Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath BA2 4AT

The Trustees during the year were: -

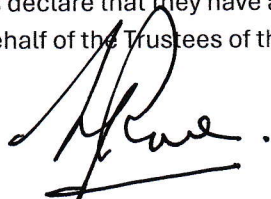
Dr Michel Rowe	Chairman
Mr John Ennor	Treasurer
Mrs Lucia Grimshaw	
Mrs Sandra Le Marchant	
Mrs Marian McNeir	
Mr David Metcalfe	
Dr Cathryn Spence	
Mrs Candida Thring	Appointed 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Mrs Pam Twohig	
Mrs Vivien Womersley	Retired 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of the Charity

Signature

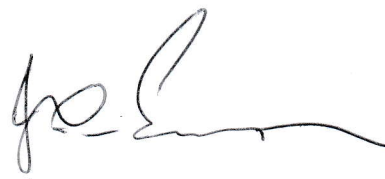


Full Name Michael John Rowe

Position Chairman

Date

28/7/25



John William Ennor

Treasurer

28/7/2025





**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of the Victoria Art Gallery		Charity No (if any)	1108344
Annual accounts for the period			
Period start date	01-Apr-24	To	Period end date 31-Mar-25



## Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
<b>Incoming resources (Note 3)</b>						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	18,235	-	-	18,235	60,491
Charitable activities	S02	18,097	-	-	18,097	5,907
Other trading activities	S03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	S04	5,291	-	-	5,291	4,728
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	S07	41,623	-	-	41,623	71,126
<b>Resources expended (Note 6)</b>						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	4,163	-	-	4,163	4,581
Charitable activities	S09	105,894	-	-	105,894	5,540
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	S12	110,057	-	-	110,057	10,121
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)</b>						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	- 68,434	-	-	- 68,434	61,005
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	S14	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Extraordinary items</b>	S15	- 68,434	-	-	- 68,434	61,005
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	S16	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	S20	- 68,434	-	-	- 68,434	61,005
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	S21	213,029	-	-	213,029	152,024
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	S22	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029

## Section B Balance sheet

	Guidance Notes	Restricted				
		Unrestricted funds	income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
		£	£	£	£	£
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Intangible assets (Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets (Note 14)	B02	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets (Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	B05	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>						
Stocks (Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	260
Debtors (Note 19)	B07	248	-	-	248	248
Investments (Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	B09	147,037	-	-	147,037	215,271
<b>Total current assets</b>	B10	147,285	-	-	147,285	215,779
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> (Note 20)	B11	2,690	-	-	2,690	2,750
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	B12	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	B13	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b> (Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisions for liabilities</b>	B15	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	B16	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>						
Endowment funds (Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	B18	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	B19	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029
Revaluation reserve	B20	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	B21	144,595	-	-	144,595	213,029

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
	M. J. ROWE	03/04/2015
	J. W. ENNO OR	03/04/2015





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

#### Report to the trustees

Charity Name  
Friends of the Victoria Art Gallery

#### On accounts for the year ended

31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1108344

#### Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: C.L. Bruce-Jones

Date: 12/5/25

Name: CAROLYN BRUCE-JONES

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

A.C.A.

Address: COLE STYLE FARM, COLE, BRITON  
BAID OPJ