



Chairman's Report, Trustees' Report and Statement of Accounts
for the year ended 28 February 2025

MOOR PARK DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Charity Number 1111942

The Arts Society Moor Park

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The Arts Society Moor Park

Chairman's Report for year ended 28 February 2025

Truly an interesting year with membership numbers holding up. At the end of the last financial year the number stood at 225. 30 members did not renew in September. However, 16 new members have joined, to give a membership of 211 at the end of the financial year. Gaining new members is so important.

Many Arts Societies have seen their membership reduce largely as a result of Covid and Long Covid taking their toll. Hopefully, as society becomes healthier, the positive trend of gaining new members will continue. May I thank you for your support and continued co-operation by inviting family, friends and neighbours to attend our lectures and events. A proportion of these visitors go on to become members.

TAS Moor Park offers attractive, interesting and diverse morning and afternoon arts lectures, study days, high quality days out and tour holiday breaks together with an excellent gala concert and dinner. The range of arts activity coupled with considerable social engagement to welcome all at our events, is central to our thinking when planning each year's programme. I hope we have achieved the right balance this year.

Lecture subjects in this financial year included Sri Lanka: Land of the Monkey God, Gainsborough, Jewellery from Elizabeth I to Elizabeth Taylor, the Huguenots, Art of the Pharaohs, William Morris and the Quest for the Holy Grail, Lucy Kemp-Welch: the Painter of Horses, Oleskandr Bohomazov on Ukraine art, Rene Gruau on Dior, Van Eyck to Gauguin, and Opera: the Melting Pot of Culture. Additionally, for light relief, we had lectures on Winnie the Pooh, an International Auction House and the History of Monopoly.

Outside Visits covered the Henry Moore Studios & Garden, Peterborough Cathedral & Elton Hall, the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and a five day tour of Norfolk. Also, we held the special Gala Concert and Dinner in January! Against all the odds, with no kitchen or Dining Room in Moor Park Mansion owing to a collapsed roof, the dinner was prepared by outside caterers. From a mobile kitchen they swiftly fed one hundred guests in the Main Hall.

All this was possible because a number of members gave their time and skills to work together as a Committee to plan, book and run events, with an additional team of dedicated volunteer helpers. Each event has one member from the Committee team leading that function assisted by that helper team, which consists of Anne Bligh, Sue Mansfield, Frances Pickersgill, Michelle Thoumine, Chris Thoumine, Kay Day, Mary Ash, Graham Goldhill and Brenda Cochrane (who re-joined the committee). The winners of this well-oiled human machine are you. That is, the entire membership and their guests who attend our events.

I have three notable charitable items to report. First, our Church Recording Group has completed a three year project recording the artefacts and history of St. Matthew's Church, Oxhey. The formal record book was presented to the Church on 23 February 2025. Our central body, The Arts Society, created Church Recording in 1973 after the challenge from the Victoria & Albert Museum: "Would it be possible for groups of volunteers to acquire the expertise to record and archive the artefacts inside churches to a professional standard?".

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(Continuation of Chairman's Report for year ended 28 February 2025)

The Arts Society decided in 2021 to withdraw from Church Recording. Thereafter, to record any church we had to join The Church Recording Society. Now we have reluctantly closed our group because we no longer have enough volunteers. Thanks are due to Joy Crosbie and her team, Trish Clements, Jennifer Parker, Brenda Cochrane, the late Carrol Scott, John Crosbie, Derek West, Jane McMorro, Jean Dodds, Mary Niven, Gill Cooper, John Rhodes and Peter Leppert for all their work and for finishing the latest record book.

Secondly, our Heritage Guides, led by Susan Bennett, completed 14 guided tours of Moor Park Mansion between April and September 2024. All tickets were sold within 36 hours of going on sale. Thanks also to Alison Wall, Maria Crook-Santner, Monica Gerhold, Urszula Gudians, Claire Fellows, Linda Wells, Margaret O'Connell and Maureen Atkinson for serving as guides. As ever, she is always looking for new guides, training is provided!

Thirdly, our Young Art Programme sponsored art related projects, helping young people with special needs in schools and workshops run by Art Therapists. Our three classical musicians have benefitted from our sponsorship over the years and showed their talents yet again at our Gala Concert in January 2025. Grants were made to Hillingdon Carers Partnership, whose mission is to offer support to unpaid carers of all ages in the London Borough of Hillingdon. Grants were also made to Koestler Arts, which aims to inspire young offenders to take part in fine art, design, music, poetry, film and performance. It does this through its annual Koestler Awards programme and by providing feedback on their work through mentoring.

The Committee has been refreshed with the addition of Jan Harding, as Accountant. Graham Goldhill has volunteered to understudy the Morning Lecture Secretary role. The Marketing group has expanded from one to three with the arrival of Michelle Thoumine and Frances Pickersgill. We still need to build resilience into our projection/zoom group and find that elusive new Treasurer. One amazing item is the transfer of our membership records onto a computer system called MemberMojo – it has been likened to a Microsoft Excel software package tailored specifically for member records and subscription control, but try suggesting that to Susan Thomas, the team member who took on the task, and I might get a flea in my ear! Learning the system and transferring the records was a load of work. Well done Susan.

My three years as Chairman have shot by. They have been most enjoyable, and only you can decide if they were effective. In future you may see me in a different role looking after tour holiday breaks. Finally, do please renew your subscription when asked – my parting request!

Andrew Egan
Chairman

9 May 2025

The Arts Society Moor Park

Trustees' Report for the year ended 28 February 2025

Moor Park Decorative and Fine Arts Society (the Society) was founded in 1968 as an unincorporated association governed by Rules agreed by the membership. New Rules were adopted on 22 June 2005 and the Society was registered as a charity on 4 November 2005. In 2018 it followed NADFAS's decision to adopt the operating name 'The Arts Society', rather than change its legal name. In our Society's case the operating name is 'The Arts Society Moor Park' or TASMP for short.

Under its Rules, the Society is run by a Committee, whose members are usually Trustees of the Charity.

The persons who formed the Committee from the Annual General Meeting held on 19 June 2024 until now, together with their areas of responsibility, are shown below:

Andrew Egan *	Chairman & Overseas Five Day Tours
Brenda Cochrane	Committee Secretary
David Duncan *	Treasurer
Lynn Peters *	UK Five Day Tours
Susan Thomas *	Membership Secretary & Box Office
Jackie O'Rourke #	Publicity
Mary Egan *	Morning Meetings
Maureen Atkinson *	Outside Visits and Heritage Volunteers
Joy Crosbie *	Church Recording & Afternoon Meetings
Angela Stein *	Days of Special Interest and Young Arts
Jan Harding *	Accountant, since 1 October 2024

- * Trustee of the charity
- # not a member of the Committee

Members are expected to put themselves forward for election to the Committee when vacancies arise, in accordance with the Rules.

During the year under review the Committee met ten times.

The President of the Society is Pat Ellis and the Vice President is Lynn Peters.

The Society correspondent registered with the Charity Commission is:-
David Duncan, 19 Eastbury Road, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 3AJ
Email: dduncan969@gmail.com

The website address is www.moorparkdfas.com

The Arts Society Moor Park

(Continuation of Trustees' Report for the year ended 28 February 2025)

The Society's objects are the promotion and advancement of the aesthetic education of the public, the cultivation, appreciation and study of decorative and fine arts, and the giving of aid and expertise for the preservation of the artistic heritage of the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public. The Society is open to any member of the public without discrimination.

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Details of the year's achievements are set out in the Chairman's Report (see page 2).

The accounts of the Society are presented in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and comprise a Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 28 February 2025 together with a Balance Sheet at that date and Notes thereon. The accounts have been drawn up on a full accrual basis, which means that all items of income or expenditure that relate partly or wholly to periods outside the accounting year 1 March 2024 to 28 February 2025 have been allocated on a pro rata basis.

Risk Management is considered by the Committee at its regular meetings. The Society maintains adequate reserves which, in the opinion of the Committee, are sufficient to meet all expected liabilities. We note that, in addition to a further significant increase in the costs of using Winston Churchill Hall, the level of lecture fees and the costs of hiring coaches have increased for a second year running.

However, an intriguing new source of income has arisen, namely, charitable donations received when our members book holidays with Riviera Travel. If our members book directly with Riviera Travel and nominate The Arts Society Moor Park then Riviera are happy to make a donation to The Arts Society Moor Park.

Last year's higher level of annual subscriptions coupled with the donations received from Riviera Travel mean that subscriptions will not be increased for 2025-26.

The Trustees declare that they have approved this report.

Signed, on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Andrew Egan
Chairman

David Duncan
Treasurer

9 May 2025

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Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 28 February 2025

		2025	2024
		£	£
Incoming resources			
Subscriptions	(Note 1)	12,717	10,933
Donations		934	3,273
Income from Society Activities	(Note 2)	36,163	25,863
Bank Interest	(Note 3)	326	216
Gift Aid	(Notes 4 & 7)	2,522	3,174
Other income		2,316	603
		54,978	44,062
Resources expended			
Costs of Society Activities	(Note 2)	42,641	35,376
Publications	(Note 5)	1,805	1,689
Amounts payable to The Arts Society	(Note 6)	3,506	3,547
Administration and bank charges		2,237	1,972
Other overheads		0	0
Insurance	(Note 6)	185	177
Miscellaneous expenditure		485	163
		50,859	42,924
Surplus for the Year		4,119	1,138

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Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current Assets		
Deposit at bank	16,106	13,791
Current Accounts	4,117	2,668
Cash in Hand	774	1,586
Sub-total of cash and bank balances	20,997	18,045
Payments in advance and amounts due to the Society	3,858	3,902
	<u>24,855</u>	<u>21,947</u>
Current Liabilities		
Income received in advance (Note 7)	12,659	13,870
Amounts owed by the Society	0	0
	<u>12,659</u>	<u>13,870</u>
Net Assets	<u>12,196</u>	<u>8,077</u>
General Fund		
incorporating Young Arts Fund (Note 8)		
Balance brought forward	8,077	6,939
Surplus for the year	4,119	1,138
Total Funds	<u>12,196</u>	<u>8,077</u>

Andrew Egan
Chairman

David Duncan
Treasurer

9 May 2025

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Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 28 February 2025

- 1 Subscriptions of £13,180 were received during the year. £6,067 was brought forward from the previous year and £6,530 has been carried forward to next year, resulting in £12,717 being credited to this year. The membership at year end was 211 (225).

2 Society Activities

	Receipts	Costs	Surplus/(Deficit)	2024
	£	£	£	£
Morning Meetings	0	8,003	(8,003)	(7,772)
Evening Meetings	1,468	1,120	348	(522)
Special Interest Days	10,263	10,107	156	(977)
Outside Visits	6,310	5,297	1,013	758
Five Day Tours	7,953	6,504	1,449	792
Special Functions	6,737	7,180	(443)	(542)
Young Arts	1,000	2,290	(1,290)	(1,236)
Heritage Volunteers	2,432	2,140	292	(14)
	36,163	42,641	(6,478)	(9,513)

- 3 Bank interest is stated gross.
- 4 Gift Aid is reclaimed on subscriptions of tax-paying members who submitted a Gift Aid Form and on donations. Gift Aid of £2,563 was received during the year. £1,901 was brought forward from previous year and £1,942 was carried forward to the following year, resulting in £2,522 being credited to this year.
- 5 Publications include the costs of programme cards, newsletters, '50 Treasures' books, postage and website maintenance and the revenues from sales of '50 Treasures' books.
- 6 The amount paid to The Arts Society was £3,103. £2,989 was brought forward from the previous year and £2,586 has been carried forward, leaving chargeable £3,506. An insurance premium of £191 was paid via The Arts Society, with £153 brought forward and £159 carried forward, leaving £185 to be debited to this year.
- 7 Included in this figure of £12,659 are subscriptions of £6,530 and gift aid of £1,942 which have been apportioned to the following year (see Notes 1 and 4).
- 8 Reserves of £1,290 have been brought forward and allocated to Young Arts. External grants of £1,000 were received. Expenditure of £2,290 was incurred in the year. No allocation is to be carried forward. A new allocation to Young Arts has been made for 2025-26.
- 9 The Trustees receive no remuneration.

The Arts Society Moor Park

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees on the Accounts for the year ended 28 February 2025 shown on pages 6 to 8

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the Trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Christopher M C Rogers, FCA
11 Gatehill Road
Northwood, HA6 3QF

9 May 2025

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