



THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1962

FLEUR DE LIS HERITAGE CENTRE

ESTABLISHED 1977

**ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS
NUMBER 62
2024**

‘CHERISH THE PAST, ADORN THE PRESENT, CREATE THE FUTURE’

**The Faversham Society (company limited by guarantee) 10-13 Preston Street,
Faversham ME13 8NS Charity No 1135262, Company No 7112241**

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Richard Oldfield

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Solicitors

Bridger's Law, 1st Floor Office, 2nd Floor, 3 Jubilee Way, Faversham ME13 8GD

Independent Examiners

McCabe Ford Williams, Charlton House, Dour Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1BL

President's Foreword

An amazing breadth of achievement and activity, and all done by volunteers: the Faversham Society remains as remarkable as ever, something to be proud of. It is not surprising that controversies sometimes flare in a place to which people are so devoted and in a Society to which people give their free time and commitment. Sixty-three years ago the Society started in the most controversial of circumstances when the proposals for the demolition of Abbey Street were in the air, something which seems scarcely credible now. Building proposals in Faversham today are as contentious as demolition proposals then. The Society has a part to play in influencing, but deciding exactly how and what to influence will not always be straightforward. All of us who are members of the Society can be grateful for the dedication and thoughtfulness of the trustees. In particular this year we are grateful to Harold Goodwin whose years as chair saw significant progress in a wide range of activity, and to David Melville, vice chair: both stepped down in the early part of the year. We can be grateful too to Ann Furedi who has taken on the chairmanship, and wish her success in keeping the show on the road and, in the same metaphor, navigating around all the obstacles which changes in this lovely town conjure up.

This Report is as usual packed with information about the multifarious activities of the Society. One positive detail to pick out is the growth in the number of members. The coming year will no doubt be as full of incident and event as the last. As always I would like on behalf of all members to thank all who volunteer, in every bit of the Society's vast range of operations.

Richard Oldfield

May, 2025

Chair's Review 2024

I was delighted to be elected to the role at the June 2024 AGM. I believe I have brought to the Board's Executive Team a different set of skills and competences: some gained as CEO of a large health charity, some as director of governance and communication for a Non-Departmental Public Body. This has allowed us to strengthen the Faversham Society's corporate governance, and in particular compliance with our policies and procedures.

While my role is already proving very rewarding, it is always a challenge when a new Chair takes the helm of an organisation, and my intention was to spend some time watching and assessing the 'lay of land'. It was almost inevitable that this would not work out in practice! The plan to keep calm and carry on as usual was scuppered by external events.

The proposal by the Duchy of Cornwall to develop its land in South East Faversham caused some controversy within the Society, as it did in the town more broadly. Some members considered the development to be a benefit to the town potentially bringing social- and affordable- housing; to others it represented a misuse of farmland that should be opposed. Many of us were caught between conflicting views wondering how best to balance 'realpolitik' with principle, especially as the Government had declared itself committed to, "Build, build, build". The different views represented among the Trustees as well as the Members led to lively discussions.

In line with the Board's commitment, at the 2024 AGM, to consult and reflect the views of the membership a packed meeting in the Assembly Room of more than 100 members, on 28th October, heard different perspectives from: Helen Whately MP; FTC Cllr Josh Rowlands; SBC Cllr Julien Speed; Harold Goodwin speaking for Faversham Community Land Trust and Carol Goatham for Farms, Fields & Fresh Air. It was a privilege to chair an informed and reasoned discussion, during which many members contributed verbally, and in writing leaving the Board in no doubt that those who engaged with the issue wished us to pursue an approach that was reflected in a motion passed nem con at a meeting of Trustees the following evening.

"The Society supports the development of affordable homes but remains opposed to all large developments on greenfield sites. When developments are proposed we will engage with stakeholders to minimise the risks and maximise the benefits to our town."

A source of some frustration has been the slow progress in resolving issues with our governance associated with our planning activities, which created temporary problems for the Futures Quadrant. This is why a Futures Quadrant report is not provided in this annual report. Progress is now being made, with a solution we will be able to communicate to members in the near future.

In very positive news, a focus on volunteer recruitment has resulted in more Society members offering their time on a regular basis. We are incredibly grateful to all who contribute to our work in this way. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of the Society – and we wouldn't be able to achieve so much without them. The volunteer spirit and commitment is captured through every level of work: Trustees, managers and those who staff the book shop and Visitor Information Centre, organise activities such as the popular town walks and archaeological digs, study planning applications, submit responses on our behalf, and maintain the museum collections, archives and libraries, and who write edit and produce the newsletters and reports.

The education of Faversham residents and visitors alike about the town's history and traditions remains 'core business'. We achieve this through our Museum - which will continue to benefit from renovation works in the coming year, our outreach activities such as town walks and commemorative days, and regular discussions and talks. The monthly newsletter updates, amuses and reflects the diverse interests of our members. Given the

potential changes to our local landscape as a consequence of proposed largescale developments, and the challenges of retaining our heritage while welcoming new residents in this context, the Society takes seriously it's commitments to engage with and inform public discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of proposals.

Many members of the Board, particularly Harold Goodwin, made instrumental contributions to the Faversham Town Plan ensuring that the Society's priorities and concerns were considered. And, as Chair, I was privileged to facilitate an impressive Members' meeting at which more than 100 participants heard the views of local stakeholders as they sought to reconcile concerns about the environment with concerns about the need for local affordable housing.

The Faversham Society remains a unique institution locally, acknowledging the importance of bridging from our past history, into the future that we are shaping in our present. Our members, volunteers and, in particular those who take on the responsibility for management of the Faversham Society are evidence that in modern society traditional charities have an important place.

Ann Furedi

April 2025

About the Faversham Society

Formed in 1962, the Society is a Registered Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee working to preserve the heritage and fabric of the historic town of Faversham and its surrounding parishes. Created in response to modernisation and the loss of historic buildings in Faversham, the Society aims to ensure that Faversham's individual sense of place and outstanding heritage features are not lost.

The Society's governing body is the Board of Director Trustees, whose members are elected by the members of the Society. Trustees meet quarterly. Any resolutions submitted to a meeting shall be decided by a majority vote of the trustees present at a meeting, but the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Minutes are taken at each meeting, circulated to trustees along with action points and responsibilities, and kept as a record. A subcommittee of the Directors /Trustees meets as regularly as necessary to administer the Society and reports to the Board. All policy decisions and planning interventions are passed by the full Board, by email if necessary.

The Society is managed by the Board of Trustees through our Executive Committee and Management Quadrants. These managements quadrants are:

- Heritage
- Futures
- Outreach
- Resources

The Society owns, maintains and operates a complex of buildings in Preston Street known collectively as the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre. The complex contains:

- A museum - the largest in the Borough of Swale
- A second-hand bookshop that generates income for the Society
- A large reprographic facility to enable in-house publication, for example, of the Society's renowned series of over one hundred "Faversham Papers"
- A comprehensive local history library, built up over many years, used for educational and information purposes
- An attractive walled garden where visitors may see a beautifully restored late Georgian shop-front, once at No 4 Market Place, and recovered by the Society from a museum in Chicago USA.

The Society rents space for its VIC and shop on the ground floor of the Town Hall in the marketplace.

- A Residents and Visitors Information Centre (VIC) for the entire Borough, Swale Borough Council no longer provides financial support.
- A gift shop selling good quality articles, many of them with local interest or content

The Society produces a monthly newsletter that is available to members in hard copy, by email or through the website www.faversham.org

The Society also publishes an annual review of all its activities, compiled from the written reports of those responsible for designated functions and activities. This report is distributed to all members free of charge and is available online.

The Society's functions and activities are managed and staffed entirely by volunteers without whom none of the Society's activities and achievements would be possible: the Society has no paid staff. Roles range from volunteering professional skills and expertise, to working in

the Visitor Information Centre, staffing the Museum, acting as a Town Heritage Walk Guide or attending committee meetings, to name but a few. All volunteers share an interest in promoting and preserving Faversham's historic and cultural heritage and the Society is indebted to them all.

With more volunteers, however, more could be done. The time commitment need not be onerous and existing and new members who have time to volunteer, even for just a few hours each week, would be particularly welcome in the following areas of activity:

- Working in the Visitor Information Centre or Museum
- Working in the Fleur Charity Bookshop
- Being a Guide for the Town Heritage Walks
- Participating in the Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group - working on digs, including administrative work
- Writing contributions for the Newsletter
- Assisting with our events, social media and marketing
- Assisting at the Chart Gunpowder Mills
- Cataloging and reviewing (i.e. curating) the museum collections and libraries

If you would like to get involved and have time, expertise or both to offer, do get in touch – contact telephone 01795 534542 or drop into the Visitor Information Centre at 12 Market Place and leave a message, or email volunteer@favershamsociety.org

Reports of the Management Quadrants - 2024

The Society is managed via four management quadrants. Each quadrant is chaired by a Society Trustee, and these trustees, alongside Katie Begg as covenor, form the Executive Committee that reports to the Board of Trustees. Any recommendations to be made to external bodies are required to be ratified by the Board.

Heritage Quadrant

The Museum and Archive

The museum proved popular in 2024. We have a total of 4358 visitors – 3399 adults and 959 children. We also facilitated seven school visits and four visits with other youth groups. Visitor numbers were down as compared with 2023 (4871), largely due to fewer visitors during Open Faversham - in 2023 we had had a Pirate on site and a display of the newly identified Katherine Parr prayer book. Our most popular days in 2024 were Easter Saturday and the Transport festival weekend, followed by the second Saturday of the Literary Festival and the second Saturday of the Easter holidays.

Following the purchase of a card machine we had an increase in visitor donations over the year. The machine was also used for book sales at Faversham Society talks and as a replacement card machine when the VIC credit card reader failed. Income from the museum was £3,800, a substantial increase on 2023.

The museum reception was rearranged to make it more welcoming, giving more space, better contact with visitors and providing a small sales area. We now hold a selection of Faversham Society books and some leaflets. Book sales have been popular with visitors who might not otherwise have been aware of Faversham Society publications.

A new comments book with a simpler format was provided to encourage visitors to write down their impressions of the museum and encourage them to provide a postcode/home address, so we could gain a better idea of where our visitors are from. We had a massive increase in comments, giving us useful feedback, which we take into consideration in order to improve our visitor experience.

One of the volunteers recruited this year had a passion for the Roman period and her considerable knowledge was put to use refurbishing and expanding the Roman Faversham display. Some old cases from the Long gallery were repurposed as new Roman display cases, so enhancing the museum entrance prior to building works to remove the back wall and in line with our long-term plan for the museum.

Additional display cases were reused in the former kitchen area to make a more coherent experience for our visitors and they have allowed us to create temporary displays of unseen items from our collection.

During the annual closure period our Volunteers from the Museum and other parts of the Society thoroughly cleaned everywhere and some items were rearranged to tell a better story to visitors, including improvements to the explanatory labelling.

The World War 1 and 2 display cases in the upstairs area were reordered and fully relabelled to tell a more coherent story of Faversham at war. Progress was also made with relabelling artefacts all around the museum as many original labels were faded and unreadable.

Redevelopment of the Georgian garden began this year. Overgrown and inappropriate shrubs and trees were pruned or removed, unwanted plants removed and rehomed. A new

planting scheme was drawn up, based on Edward Jacob's *Plantae Favershamienses*, and a start made on planting. Information on our plans for the garden was provided for visitors.

There were three major exhibitions in the museum gallery. The first was a display of photographs and artefacts from the significant prehistoric landscape, including a ring ditch, discovered on the Lees Court estate, and was created in partnership with The Kent Archaeological Society and Lady Sondes. This was followed by "Read all about it", based on our newspaper collection and with activities to appeal to children in the summer months. Finally we had a costume collection exhibition inspired by Shakespeare's "The seven ages of man".

During Open Faversham a map display of our 1:500 maps of Faversham town centre were displayed in the parish church along with an exhibition of William Shakespeare's visit to Faversham.

The Museum window was changed regularly, we won a Rosette from the Town Council for our "Tudor" window. The newly acquired Dolls House looked stunning in December, all ready for Christmas.

A toy collection was created for school visits of Year 1 and 2 classes who study this topic as part of the curriculum. Appropriate toys were selected, boxed and described along with a suggested script for ease of use in future visits.

An Education page was added to the Faversham Society Website with a specific education email address. However enquiries about repeat school visits are usually sent to the person who communicated with the teacher last time and new visit enquiries to the Fleur museum email. We have had more interest from out-of-town schools this year, possibly because we are free and are flexible enough to respond to requests for specific topics.

The reaccreditation application process has started, but because of volume of work required to review all policies and procedures, and the planned building works for early 2025, an extension to June 2025 was granted. We continue slowly.

We have had visits from our Professional Museum Mentor, Helen Brown, and from Museum Development South East, Amy Stone.

The Museum Committee met most months and the Museum Review team met several times to review donations and proposed removals. In all 36 donations were considered. An exceptional number of large donations of Faversham related material was donated from John Coulter, Peter Kennet and the Dawson family.

The "Art" room which once hosted the Marlowe library was refitted with purpose-built racking for framed items, work commenced reviewing, cleaning and moving artworks, prints, maps and photos from the attic.

Volunteers continue to review the material we hold in the collection and a large amount was covered in 2024, helping make everything held in our archive more accessible and improving storage where possible. The Newspaper Archive review continued. As did the scanning of Photographs, both the Museum Collection and the Arthur Percival collection. . We continue to process the large number of Osborne Plaques donated by Alan Swan in 2023. Great inroads have been made into reviewing the material previously stored in Tesco's with a quantity not being relevant to our Collections Policy.

The former Fleur hall is in regular use by our volunteer curators and is also increasingly used for storage, allowing us to accept the large donations offered to us. The large Board table from Tassell's is useful for working with maps and as a meeting table.

The large items on display in the public area of the museum were reviewed for relevance and safety and some were removed from the collection as a result.

Our Tudor prayer book was officially ruled as a previously unrecorded edition by the British Library and was entered on the ESTC (English short title catalogue).

However we continued to clear the Fleur hall of unneeded items. A large quantity of excess Telephone equipment was identified for disposal and sold at the Telephone Heritage Group swap meet in October.

We were fortunate to recruit a volunteer building surveyor in 2024 and he has prepared contracts to address the problems with building damp at ground level, with miscellaneous building problems across the site and with repairs and repainting of the front of the building. He has also applied for listed building consent for the demolition of the wall between the entrance gallery and the old kitchen, which forms an essential part of our museum redevelopment plans.

A general plan of building works has now been created and has identified a significant backlog of maintenance.

The old storage shed in the car park was removed as it had rotted badly. Much of the contents were disposed of, but telephone equipment and associated shelving were relocated in the Fleur de Lis hall. A replacement shed was ordered.

The Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group (FSARG)

During 2024 FSARG had a busy year. Over the course of the year we concentrated on two distinct areas, Throwley and the Millfield Allotments in Faversham.

In the early season we undertook geophysical surveys in Throwley (not much fun in the January snow!) and a small exploratory excavation in our search for evidence of the missing Throwley Manor House. A metal detecting survey was also undertaken, which initially yielded some small finds, especially a rough weight which is similar to those used between Roman to the Middle Ages.

A small excavation was also undertaken at the Millfield Allotments as part of a project of looking at sites on the margins of land that had been cleared for brick earth. An ongoing aspect of this investigation is the collection by allotment holders of objects (pottery, flint etc) found on their individual allotments for later study. This is a long-term exercise being carried out over 2024-2025.

A geophysical survey was also carried out in the Upper St. Annes Road area of Faversham as part of the brick earth marginal lands project.

During the main Summer season we concentrated on further excavations at Millfield as part of the marginal lands project and a small excavation in the Fleur Car Park during Open Faversham. Additionally the FSARG store in Tesco's basement was rationalised and reorganised.

Library

A volume containing three original Tudor prayer-books bound book together was found in the attic. It comprises the King's Primer, Psalms and Prayers and Meditations bound together and at the front is an inscription, 'Found hidden away in an old chimney'. The King's Primer has dedication to King Edward VI and so dates from around 1547. The books have been seen by Justin Croft, BBC Antiques Roadshow book expert and they were sent to another expert, Dr. Shaw of British Library. They are genuine Tudor books and the King's Primer is a previously unrecorded edition and has been added to the British Library database – English Short Title Catalogue. It is so rare that the British Library does not have it! It has been put on display in the Museum. The Prayers and Meditations was written by Queen Katherine Parr and is the first book in the English language published by a woman

author. Psalms and Prayers was translated by Queen Katherine from Latin and has a prayer for men going into battle and dedication to King Edward VI so it dates from about 1547.

John or Jacke Wilson was born in a house on Court Street and he became composer to Shakespeare's troupe in 1605. He is mentioned by a typographical error in the First Folio of Shakespeare published in 1623. His name was printed instead of his character in Much Ado about Nothing. A display item has been put in the Museum.

Entries in the Faversham archives held in Kent Archives in Maidstone show the visits of Shakespeare's troupe under changing names in 1596, 1597 and 1605. One may be unique and is for the troupe under the name of Lord Hudsdon's Players in 1596. They were only known by this name from July 1596 to March 1597. According to Encyclopaedia Britannica they began touring in 1597 yet here there is evidence of them touring a year earlier in 1596. It had been hoped to display photos of entries in the Museum but Kent Archives have proved obstructive and unhelpful and so the process drags on.

The attic has yielded yet more treasure. Various first editions on novels have been found. They include first editions of Thomas Hardy Return of the Native which has a rare misprint on the title page and so is a first printing, The Hand of Ethelberta.

A Laodicean. There is a first edition Anthony Trollope, Dr Wortle's School, which has the title printed on the back cover leaving the front cover blank. Other first editions have been found. These books were from the Faversham Institute Library as shown by stamps and labels and so will be retained as part of Faversham heritage.

Outreach Quadrant

Over the past year, the publications group has produced one new book. Dr Pat Reid kindly revised an old Faversham Paper and we added lots of new photos (thank you Chris Wootton and Ian Montague) to produce a History of Faversham Parish Church.

Work continues on a couple of new books, due for publication in 2025.

There are now over 50 Faversham Papers available as PDFs from the website. The majority of them are free to download and they are regularly accessed from all across the world. Thanks to the publications team for all their hard work, Pat Reid, Pat Ross, Chris Wootton, Peter Spring and Steve Rayner.

The revised 'education offer' on our website has proved to be very popular and we've had many group visits to the Fleur de Lis Museum, especially from local schools. Thanks to Rachel Baynton, Caroline Clarkstone, John Clarkstone and the other volunteers who have stewarded the enthusiastic children.

Our regular Saturday morning town walks have been very well received, with an especially successful series of group bookings too, under the new leadership of Catherine Lee. This year, the walks programme was also expanded to include a series of 'summer strolls' which ran over six evenings. Additionally, there were five 'ghost walks' which ran from Halloween through November, and they all sold out once again. Thanks to Catherine and her team of guides, Steve Bartholemew, Bob Baxter, Martin Brooks, Nigel Kay, Antony Millett, Jim Ransom, Pat Ross, Graham Sample and Mary Warner.

Our programme of free talks continues to be well attended. In May there was a talk by Kent Archaeological Society to tie in with our museum exhibition relating to the Lees Court dig. In September, a talk to commemorate the four Faversham women hanged as suspected witches was very popular. The archaeologist, who specialises in marks and graffiti, also gave a shortened version at the witches memorial plaque the next day, as part of the Tudor festival, as it was the anniversary of their hanging.

In October the members meeting was held to discuss different opinions regarding the Duchy development. In November, Heather Knight gave a talk about Shakespearean Theatre in London and Shakespeare's visits to Faversham. In January, Graham Upton, who upgraded the railway underpass, gave a talk about some of the street art projects he has been running in Kent. In February, Henry Cleary, who has been using our archives for his research, gave a talk about Pollocks Shipyard during WW2. In March, Jennifer Godfrey gave a talk about Suffragettes in Kent.

Unfortunately, due to insurance issues it was not possible to hold Open Gardens under the Faversham Society banner this year. Going forward, it will be run under the National Garden Scheme, but the Faversham Society will still provide help where we can.

However, Open Faversham was another success. The Fleur de Lis Museum held an exhibition of old newspapers, both local and national. There were related craft activities for the children, the old typewriters in the 'newsroom' were very popular.

Over the week, Christine Rayner gave an entertaining talk about the history of local newspapers and John Owen gave an illustrated talk about Historic Interiors in the town.

There were various other Society led activities including guided walks (Nick Mengham and Jennifer Dinsmore) and a Wikithon (Jane Secker, Chris Wootton and Steve Rayner).

Also, on the final Sunday, there was a collaboration between the town walk guides and the Arden Theatre. They brought some of Faversham's historical characters to life in the Market Place, in splendid costumes.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped over this past, busy, year.

Resources Quadrant

The Resources Quadrant is chaired by Andrew Holden and Jan West and on behalf of the Society's finance committee oversee all expenditure/income plus the Society's investments. Management accounts are drawn up and presented to the board of trustees on a quarterly basis.

Bi-monthly meetings are held with the museum staff to move forward building maintenance issues and during the year we were grateful to Richard Baker for drawing up the specifications for the external repainting of the front of Preston Street complex, the damp proofing works, removal of an internal museum door and other general maintenance works around the complex.

Meetings were also held with both managers of the VIC and the second-hand bookshop to address any issues.

The old shed has been cleared and replaced with a new larger shed which has lighting and power.

Sadly the negotiations with Tesco's, over the lease of their basement areas, continue to drag on.

Our membership numbers have risen through the year and are shown below:

Category	2023	2024
Single Under 60	55	65
Couple Under 60	94	100
Single Over 60	247	252
Couple Over 60	298	308
Life Under 60	3	3

Life Over 60	72	71
Benefits	12	6
Junior	6	12
Student	4	6
Total	791	823

Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Brian Kelsey, Hon. Treasurer.

The Society has had another excellent year thanks to the continued efforts of all of our volunteers, with income from all our diverse resources reaching £120k. Our bookshop raised almost £41k and we collected a little over £5K from donations from visitors to the museum. We continued to benefit from higher interest rates which brought in £30k of bank interest.

Our expenditure was well within budget, so we were able to carry forward a surplus of almost £23k to our reserves. Whilst the expenditure is down for the year much of this “underspend” relates to costs on projects that we will see in 2025 accounts.

The Trustees will continue adhere to the principles of proper budgetary control and financial management in 2025 and future years in order to provide a firm financial basis for the continuance of the conservation and education work of the Society.

The Trustees acknowledge with thanks the legacies, grants and donations to the Society from: the Estate of Mike Henderson dec'd (£5k), Sir John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust and the collaborative financial work with Faversham Town Council.

**The Faversham Society
Summary Accounts
Year to 31st December 2024**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 December
2024**

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Land & buildings, at valuation	481,978	491,034
Office furniture, at cost less depreciation	2,086	3,129
	484,064	494,163
Current Assets		
Bank balances:		
NatWest current accounts	67,614	59,309
Flagstone deposit account	733,200	763,187
	800,814	3,856
Stock	3,758	767,043
	804,572	3
Current Liabilities		
Creditors		
Net Current Assets	804,572	767,043
Net Assets	1,288,636	1,261,206
Represented by:		
Funds		
Restricted Funds	61,393	56,913
Designated Funds	538,632	538,634
Unrestricted Funds	688,611	665,659
Total Funds	1,288,636	1,261,206
Note: These accounts are published subject to Independent Review.		

Income & Expenditure Account - Year to 31 December 2024		
	£	£
INCOME	2024	2023
Charitable activities:		
Publication & gift sales	17,813	19,114
Secondhand book sales	40,874	41,823
Museum income	5,017	2,501
Open gardens		4,845
Walks, events etc	3,434	3,717
	67,138	72,000
Rents received	9,167	8,237
Member subscriptions	8,937	9,539
Interest received	30,467	21,321
Grants & donations	4,454	6,880
	120,163	117,977
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities:		
Publications & gifts	13,137	12,685
Museum conservation	2,796	4,146
Open Faversham	1,936	
Archeology	1,397	
Advertising & promotion	2,232	1,905
Development appeal costs	3,540	6,582
Outreach work	3,972	4,022
	29,010	29,340
Overhead costs:		
Rent & rates	4,805	5,609
Insurance	13,933	13,299
Light & heat	11,202	9,213
Repairs, maintenance & security	17,103	18,469
Printing, stationery & postage	4,567	2,809
Telephone & computer costs	3,057	2,697
Legal costs	795	1,050
Bank charges	1,100	2,152
Governance costs	1,542	1,380
	87,114	86,018
Cash Surplus for year	33,049	31,959
Less: Depreciation	10,099	10,099
Transfer to Designated Premises Fund		20,000
Trading Surplus for the year	22,950	1,860

Restricted & Designated funds 2024

Projects	31/12/2023	Funds in	Expenditure	Trans- fers	31/12/2024
Land Fund	46,075		-		46,075
Ardens House	371			5,000	5,371
Arthur Percival Memo- rial	520		520	-	-
Museum Fund	9,947			-	9,947
Restricted funds	56,913	-	520	-	61,393
Designated funds:					
Property mainte- nance	67,208				67,208
Legacies Fund	471,426	5,000		- 5,000	471,426
	595,547	5,000	520	-	600,027

Who's Who – 2024

Environment and Planning Committee	Steve Akins, Claire Belsom, Jonathan Carey, Harold Goodwin, Ray Harrison, Matthew Hatchwell, Mike Henderson, Gulliver Immink, Tim Ingram, Simon macLachlan, Laurie McMahon, Graham Setterfield Tim Stonor, Christopher Wright
Finance Committee	Harold Goodwin, Alistair Mackay-Miller (Chair), Brian Kelsey, Jan West, Katie Begg, Andrew Holden, Leigh Allison and Jonathan Carey.
Museum Committee	Heather Wootton (chair), Jennifer Shipman, Paul Moorbath, David Slarks, Rachel Baynton, Rod Morley, Gill Pinder, Sue Gower, Moyra Haslet, Caroline Clarkstone, John Clarkstone. Leigh Allison and Ann Wilkinson (Advisor Maison Dieu).
Publications, Education, Events and Print Committee	Leigh Allison (Chair), Pat Reid, Pat Ross, Chris Wootton, Nigel Morgan, Simon Levack. Peter Spring, Jane Secker and Steve Rayner
Building Maintenance and Health and Safety	Jonathan Carey, Andrew Holden, Paul Jesset and Giles Guthrie
Manager, Fleur de Lis VIC	Christine Smith
Editor, Newsletter	Stephen Rayner
Membership Secretary	Leigh Allison
Annual Report Editor	Katie Begg
Faversham Society Archaeological Group	Current Committee - Nick Wilkinson (Chair), Lesley Shea (Vice Chair), Lizzie Eyre (Treasurer & Membership), Maureen Wale (Finds Coordinator), Mike Tilman (Site Coordinator), Chris Wootton (Website), Nigel Mannouch, Heather Wootton, Keith Robinson (Committee Members)
Printing	Yvonne Willis, Noaj Laurance
Libraries	Librarian (including Doddington Parochial Library): Paul Moorbath Assistant librarian: Valerie Gidlow.
Museum Visitor Engagement Staff	Co-ordinator: John Clarkstone. Volunteers: Helen Albery, Antony Millett, Rod Morley, David Slarks, Mary Mallett, Heather Wootton, Yvonne Wills, John Thorp, Jennifer Shipman, Caroline Clarkstone, Glynis Rumney, Francine Burden, Lynn Koosey, Gill Pinder, Nigel Mannouch, Mary Warner, Lyn Jardine, Petra Luck.
Museum, Archive and Library Staff	Museum Mentor (Professional Advisor) Helen Brown Review Panel: Jennifer Shipman, Paul Moorbath, Marion Brown, Heather Wootton

	<p>Librarian: Paul Moor bath</p> <p>Library Assistant: Valerie Gidlow</p> <p>Costumes: Jennifer Shiman & Sue Gower</p> <p>Archives & Computer data: Heather Wootton & Linda Parker</p> <p>Archives: Moyra Haslet, Tony Lording, Helen Collins, Linda Carden, Sue Davidson, Julie Miller, Leigh Allison, Antonia Marsden, Helen Golesworthy, Emily Mullender, Gus Redman, Linda Thomas, Ruth Jones, Maria Meneer, Jacqueline Spencer</p> <p>Artefacts: John Clarkstone, Brian Thomas, Ben Hayward, Mo Wickham</p> <p>Enquiries: Rod Morley & Linda Parker</p> <p>Chart Mills: Rod Morley, John Breeze & Richard Paris-Piper</p> <p>Photographic Archive: Gill Pinder</p> <p>Telephone Engineer: David Slarks</p> <p>Maps: John and Caroline Clarkstone</p> <p>Displays/ exhibitions: Rachel Baynton, Jennifer Shipman, Sue Gower & Jo Fincham</p> <p>Handy Person: Barney Stay</p> <p>Building Surveying & Project Management: Richard Baker</p> <p>Arthur Percival Photo & Document Archive project: Chris Wootton, Ian Montague, Paul Jessett, Liz Cameron, Marion Brown, Dave Hughes</p>
VIC volunteers	<p>Eileen Allen, Leigh Allison, Wilna Bing, Sheila Breeze, Frances Bish, Jean Bushell, Caroline Clarkstone, John Clarkstone, Martin Collins, Jackie Davidson, Daphne Dean, Dawn Drury, Sally Fancourt, Nic Frost, Sheila Gibbins, Linda Hird, Andrew Holden, Sheila Hulks, Dawn Kelle, Noaj Laurence, Nigel Mannouch, Antony Millett, Angela Mitchell, Penny Newell, Jenny Partington, Mary Ransom, Pat Ross, Josephine Ruffels, Christine Smith, Scott Smith, Sue Taylor, Carol Upton, Jan West, Maureen Wickham, Yvonne Wills.</p>
Fleur Charity Bookshop volunteers	<p>Paul Barton, Mischa Bellwood, John Bisbrown, Denice Blades, Christine Chaffin, Cecile Chawla, Andrew Clarke, Wendy Clarke, George Couchman, Jackie Davidson, Jeremy Day, Willemien deKoning. Aygen Dickson, Elizabeth Dickson, Isobel Downie, Genevieve Ellis, Ann Finn, Tim Fletcher, Steve Foulger, Ann Furedi, Mark Grainger, Antoinette Heywood, Liz Heritage, Linda Ireland, Geraldine Knight, Leonard Lake, Keith</p>

	Langfird, Mark Lewisohn, Evelyn Malcom, Ian Newman, Linda Nolan, Richard Paris-Piper, Stephen Parsons, Jan Quince, Peter Quince, Julie Rains, Astrid Ryans, Diane Skinner, Chris Swan, Joe Travers, Julia Vellam, Rob Walker, Nigel Wakeham, Rachael Wakeham
Faversham Town Guides	Martin Brooks, Antony Millett, Steve Bartholomew, Bob Baxter, Nigel Kaye, Catherine Lee, Jim Ransom, Pat Ross, Graham Sample, Mary Warner.

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07112241 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135262

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

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THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purpose in the area comprising Faversham and its surroundings, referred to as the "area of benefit".

- i) to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit.
- ii) to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.
- iii) to preserve for the people of the area and of the nation, the historic architecture and constructional heritage that may exist in the area of benefit in buildings (including any building defined in Section 336 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990) of particular beauty or historical, architectural or constructional interest.
- iv) to promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit.

Significant activities

The Society owns, maintains and operates a complex of buildings in Preston Street known collectively as the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre. The complex contains:

- a museum - the largest in the Borough of Swale
- a gallery for temporary exhibitions, organised by the Society
- a second-hand bookshop that generates income for the Society
- a large reprographic facility to enable in-house publication, for example, of the Society's renowned series of over one hundred "Faversham Papers"
- a comprehensive local history library, built up over many years, used for educational and information purposes
- well-equipped offices for the use of Council and Committee members to conduct the Society's affairs in a professional manner
- an attractive walled garden where visitors may see a beautifully restored late Georgian shop-front, once at No 4 Market Place, and recovered by the Society from a museum in Chicago USA.
- The Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group (FSARG) digs in a different place each year and displays, and publishes on, its find.

The Society rents space for its VIC and shop on the ground floor of the Town Hall in the marketplace.

- a Residents and Visitors Information Centre (VIC) for the entire Borough, Swale Borough Council no longer provides financial support.
- a gift shop selling good quality articles, many of them with local interest or content

The Society produces a monthly newsletter that is available to members in hard copy, by email or through the website www.faversham.org

The Society also publishes an annual review of all its activities, compiled from the written reports of those responsible for designated functions and activities, e.g. the well regarded "Secret Garden" scheme, the Town Walks, the Museum, the work of the "Faversham Historians" and the Environment and Planning committee. This report is distributed to all members free of charge and is available online.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The Society is one of the largest and most active of its kind. The Society continues to pursue the wide range of activities of earlier years, including the provision of help, advice and information to the general public

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 in having due regard for the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Volunteers

The Society has no paid staff, and relies upon a large number of volunteers, who give generously of their time to enable the Society to achieve its aims and objectives.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities and future plans

We have carried out activities in line with our objectives this year. In accordance with the Board's commitment, at the 2024 AGM, to consult and reflect the views of the membership a packed meeting in the Assembly Room of more than 100 members, on 28th October, heard different perspectives from: Helen Whately MP; FTC Cllr Josh Rowlands; SBC Cllr Julien Speed; Harold Goodwin speaking for Faversham Community Land Trust and Carol Goatham for Farms, Fields & Fresh Air. It was an informed and reasoned discussion, during which many members contributed verbally, and in writing leaving the Board in no doubt that those who engaged with the issue wished us to pursue an approach that was reflected in a motion passed nem con at a meeting of Trustees the following evening.

"The Society supports the development of affordable homes but remains opposed to all large developments on greenfield sites. When developments are proposed we will engage with stakeholders to minimise the risks and maximise the benefits to our town."

In very positive news, a focus on volunteer recruitment has resulted in a more society members offering their time on a regular basis. We are incredibly grateful to all who contribute to our work in this way. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of the Society - and we wouldn't be able to achieve so much without them. The volunteer spirit and commitment is captured through every level of work: Trustees, managers and those who staff the book shop and Visitor Information Centre, organise activities such as the popular town walks and archaeological digs, study planning applications, submit responses on our behalf, and maintain the museum collections, archives and libraries, and who write edit and produce the newsletters and reports.

The education of Faversham residents and visitors alike about the town's history and traditions remains 'core business'. We achieve this through our Museum - which will continue to benefit from renovation works in the coming year, our outreach activities such as town walks and commemorative days, and regular discussions and talks. The monthly newsletter updates, amuses and reflects the diverse interests of our members. Given the potential changes to our local landscape as a consequence of proposed largescale developments, and the challenges of retaining our heritage while welcoming new residents in this context, the Society takes seriously it's commitments to engage with and inform public discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of proposals.

Finally, many members of the Board, particularly Harold Goodwin, made instrumental contributions to the Faversham Town Plan ensuring that the Society's priorities and concerns were considered.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The Society has had another excellent year thanks to the continued efforts of all of our volunteers, with income from all our diverse resources reaching £125k. Our bookshop raised almost £41k and we collected a little over £5k from donations from visitors to the museum. We continued to benefit from higher interest rates which brought in £30k of bank interest.

Our expenditure was well within budget, so we were able to carry forward a surplus of just over £27k to our reserves. Whilst the expenditure is down for the year much of this "underspend" relates to costs on projects that we will see in 2025 accounts.

The Trustees will continue adhere to the principles of proper budgetary control and financial management in 2025 and future years in order to provide a firm financial basis for the continuance of the conservation and education work of the Society.

The Trustees acknowledge with thanks the legacies, grants and donations to the Society from: the Estate of Mike Henderson dec'd (£5k), Sir John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust and the collaborative financial work with Faversham Town Council.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that an appropriate minimum level of free reserves should be an amount representing six months core expenditure. This allows some flexibility for the Society to deal with delays or withdrawal of funding, or unexpected additional costs. The level of free reserves (net current assets) at the balance sheet date is £804,572 (2023 - £767,043) exceed the minimum requirement, providing financial stability to enable the Society to carry out its aims and objectives.

Free reserves included £56,393 (2023 - £56,913) held for restricted purposes.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. Its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 23 December 2009, as agreed by Special Resolutions on 24 February 2010 and amended by Special Resolution on 23 April 2014 and 13 April 2016.

The charitable company has no share capital, but under the terms of the Memorandum of Association, every member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £10 in the event of the company being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Society typically circulates an invitation to all members to nominate trustees prior to the AGM, advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. From time to time, the Board also reviews whether there are any additional or specialist skills that would be beneficial to have on the Board; it then seeks to identify potential new trustees who will bring those skills and the Board may then appoint new trustees. New trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Society.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The Society's governing body is the Board of Directors and Trustees, whose members are elected by the members of the Society. Trustees meet quarterly. Any resolutions submitted to a meeting shall be decided by a majority vote of the trustees present at a meeting, but the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Minutes are taken at each meeting, circulated to trustees along with action points and responsibilities, and kept as a record.

A subcommittee of the Directors and Trustees meets as regularly as necessary to conduct the administration of the Society and reports to the Board. All policy decisions and planning interventions are passed by the full Board, by email if necessary.

Risk review

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review risks to which the Society is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The following are the key risks deemed by the trustees to be facing the Society:

- A major impairment of the freehold properties, involving substantial costs.
- The effect of increased competition on future income from the shops and the hall.
- The possibility that the required number of volunteers may not be met.
- Future government legislation in respect of taxes on charity income and rates relief.

All risks are managed by monitoring by the trustees. Financial risk is monitored via the finance committee by means of a simplified presentation of management accounts for easier understanding by the Board.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07112241 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1135262

Registered office

10-13 Preston Street
FAVERSHAM
Kent
ME13 8NS

Trustees

K Begg
J R Carey
H Goodwin
A J Holden
B Kelsey
L McMahon
A L Salmon
T D Stonor
J West
H Wootton
M Hatchwell
J Davidson
J L Secker
L Allison
A M Furedi (appointed 30.4.24)
D Melville (resigned 30.4.24)

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Jonathan Fullarton BSc (Hons) FCA
McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

01/06/2025

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A M Furedi - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Faversham Society ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Jonathan Fullarton BSc (Hons) FCA

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

Date: 2/6/25

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	21,825	-	21,825	22,576
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		23,310	-	23,310	22,135
Other trading activities	4	40,874	-	40,874	45,423
Investment income	5	39,154	-	39,154	29,038
Total		<u>125,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>125,163</u>	<u>119,172</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	7				
Charitable activities		<u>97,213</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>97,733</u>	<u>96,335</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		27,950	(520)	27,430	22,837
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		1,204,293	56,913	1,261,206	1,238,369
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>1,232,243</u></u>	<u><u>56,393</u></u>	<u><u>1,288,636</u></u>	<u><u>1,261,206</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	14	484,064	494,163
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	15	3,758	3,856
Cash at bank		800,814	763,187
		<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>
FUNDS	17		
Unrestricted funds		1,232,243	1,204,293
Restricted funds		56,393	56,913
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 01/06/2025..... and were signed on its behalf by:



A M Furedi - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Faversham Society is a company limited by guarantee in England & Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the Report of the Trustees of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture in the Faversham and surrounding areas.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement on the basis that FRS 102 Section 1A is being applied.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

The trustees are of the view that the charity holds sufficient reserves to fund activities for several years in the absence of any income, and so the going concern basis is appropriate.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

All grants, donations and legacies are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income from other charitable activities are accounted for when earned.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Report of the Trustees.

Expenditure and creditors

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the cost of preparing the annual accounts and independent examiners fee.

Creditors with no stated interest rate and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

- Land and buildings - 2% on cost (buildings) and nil (land)
Office equipment - 20% on cost

Stocks

Stock consists of publications and memorabilia and is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No account has been taken of donated second hand book stocks at the year end.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Heritage assets

The Society holds a number of heritage assets which are not included on the balance sheet, being items held on display in the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre. The trustees consider that the cost of valuing the assets would be onerous compared to the benefits. They are held for the benefit of the charity and are not likely to be realised for cash.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and gifts	9,454	4,475
Members subscriptions	8,937	9,539
Fundraising activities	3,434	8,562
	<u>21,825</u>	<u>22,576</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	40,874	41,823
Visitors Information Centre	-	3,600
	<u>40,874</u>	<u>45,423</u>

During the year the charitable company received £NIL (2023 - £3,600) in local government grants.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rents received	8,687	7,717
Deposit account interest	30,467	21,321
	<u>39,154</u>	<u>29,038</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2024	2023
	Activity	£	£
Shop sales and commission	Charitable activities	17,813	19,114
Museum admissions	Charitable activities	5,017	2,501
Hall hire and car park rental	Charitable activities	480	520
		<u>23,310</u>	<u>22,135</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 8)	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	<u>84,197</u>	<u>13,536</u>	<u>97,733</u>

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Water rates	4,805	5,609
Insurance	13,933	13,299
Electricity and gas	11,202	9,213
Photocopying and stationery	4,567	2,809
Postage and telephone	3,057	2,697
Advertising and promotions	2,232	1,905
Repairs and maintenance	17,623	15,528
Books, gifts, etc	13,137	12,685
Conservation and acquisition	2,796	4,146
Safety and security	-	3,158
Faversham outreach	3,972	10,604
Open Faversham	1,936	-
Archaeology	1,397	-
Development appeal costs	3,540	-
	<u>84,197</u>	<u>81,653</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Other	Governance	Totals
	£	£	costs	£
Charitable activities	1,100	10,099	2,337	13,536
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. OTHER

	2024	2023
	£	£
Support costs	13,536	14,682
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	10,099	10,099
Independent examiners fee	1,542	1,380
Legal fees	795	1,050
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	22,576	-	22,576
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	22,135	-	22,135
Other trading activities	45,423	-	45,423
Investment income	29,038	-	29,038
Total	<u>119,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,172</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	96,118	217	96,335
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	23,054	(217)	22,837

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	1,181,239	57,130	1,238,369
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>1,204,293</u>	<u>56,913</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £	Office equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>617,827</u>	<u>14,249</u>	<u>632,076</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2024	126,793	11,120	137,913
Charge for year	<u>9,056</u>	<u>1,043</u>	<u>10,099</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>135,849</u>	<u>12,163</u>	<u>148,012</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>481,978</u>	<u>2,086</u>	<u>484,064</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>491,034</u>	<u>3,129</u>	<u>494,163</u>

Land with a market value of £165,000 is not depreciated.

Property held for investment purposes forms part of the building capitalised and held for charitable purposes. The investment property component has not been shown separately as the fair value of the component cannot be measured reliably without undue cost or effort.

15. STOCKS

	2024 £	2023 £
Stocks	<u>3,758</u>	<u>3,856</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	484,064	-	484,064	494,163
Current assets	<u>748,179</u>	<u>56,393</u>	<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
	<u>1,232,243</u>	<u>56,393</u>	<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	665,661	22,950	-	688,611
Property Restoration fund	67,208	-	-	67,208
Legacies fund	471,424	5,000	(5,000)	471,424
Arden's House	-	-	5,000	5,000
	<u>1,204,293</u>	<u>27,950</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,232,243</u>
Restricted funds				
Arden's House	371	-	-	371
Land Fund	46,075	-	-	46,075
Arthur Percival Memorial	520	(520)	-	-
Museum Fund	9,947	-	-	9,947
	<u>56,913</u>	<u>(520)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,393</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,261,206</u>	<u>27,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,288,636</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	120,163	(97,213)	22,950
Legacies fund	5,000	-	5,000
	<u>125,163</u>	<u>(97,213)</u>	<u>27,950</u>
Restricted funds			
Arthur Percival Memorial	-	(520)	(520)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>125,163</u>	<u>(97,733)</u>	<u>27,430</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	663,802	21,859	(20,000)	665,661
Property Restoration fund	47,208	-	20,000	67,208
Legacies fund	470,229	1,195	-	471,424
	<u>1,181,239</u>	<u>23,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,204,293</u>
Restricted funds				
Arden's House	371	-	-	371
Land Fund	46,075	-	-	46,075
Arthur Percival Memorial	737	(217)	-	520
Museum Fund	9,947	-	-	9,947
	<u>57,130</u>	<u>(217)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,913</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,238,369</u>	<u>22,837</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	117,977	(96,118)	21,859
Legacies fund	1,195	-	1,195
	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,118)</u>	<u>23,054</u>
Restricted funds			
Arthur Percival Memorial	-	(217)	(217)
	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,335)</u>	<u>22,837</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,335)</u>	<u>22,837</u>

Restricted funds

The Arden's House fund was set up to provide for the prevention of deterioration to the fabric of Arden's House.

The Land fund was set up to preserve for posterity selected sites within the Faversham area.

The Arthur Percival Memorial fund is a fund set up in memory of the late Arthur Percival, to preserve the archives of the late Arthur Percival for active use in the Society's educational programme.

The Museum Fund comprises of a legacy received in the year and will be used for the preservation and display of the Osborn plaque collection and to preserve free entry to the museum with donation boxes for visitors.

Designated funds

Property maintenance fund is to prevent the deterioration of the properties.

The Legacies fund comprises legacies received by the charity which are designated by the trustees for a particular purpose. During the year £5,000 was designated to be used for the prevention of deterioration to the fabric of Arden's House.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	9,454	4,475
Members subscriptions	8,937	9,539
Fundraising activities	3,434	8,562
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,825	22,576
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	40,874	41,823
Visitors Information Centre	-	3,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	40,874	45,423
Investment income		
Rents received	8,687	7,717
Deposit account interest	30,467	21,321
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,154	29,038
Charitable activities		
Shop sales and commission	17,813	19,114
Museum admissions	5,017	2,501
Hall hire and car park rental	480	520
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,310	22,135
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	125,163	119,172
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Water rates	4,805	5,609
Insurance	13,933	13,299
Electricity and gas	11,202	9,213
Photocopying and stationery	4,567	2,809
Postage and telephone	3,057	2,697
Advertising and promotions	2,232	1,905
Repairs and maintenance	17,623	15,528
Books, gifts, etc	13,137	12,685
Conservation and acquisition	2,796	4,146
Safety and security	-	3,158
Faversham outreach	3,972	10,604
Open Faversham	1,936	-
Archaeology	1,397	-
Development appeal costs	3,540	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	84,197	81,653

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	1,100	2,153
Other		
Buildings depreciation	9,056	9,056
Office equipment depreciation	1,043	1,043
	<hr/> 10,099	<hr/> 10,099
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fees	1,542	1,380
Legal fees	795	1,050
	<hr/> 2,337	<hr/> 2,430
Total resources expended	<hr/> 97,733	<hr/> 96,335
Net income	<hr/> <hr/> 27,430	<hr/> <hr/> 22,837

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07112241 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135262

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purpose in the area comprising Faversham and its surroundings, referred to as the "area of benefit".

- i) to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit.
- ii) to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.
- iii) to preserve for the people of the area and of the nation, the historic architecture and constructional heritage that may exist in the area of benefit in buildings (including any building defined in Section 336 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990) of particular beauty or historical, architectural or constructional interest.
- iv) to promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit.

Significant activities

The Society owns, maintains and operates a complex of buildings in Preston Street known collectively as the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre. The complex contains:

- a museum - the largest in the Borough of Swale
- a gallery for temporary exhibitions, organised by the Society
- a second-hand bookshop that generates income for the Society
- a large reprographic facility to enable in-house publication, for example, of the Society's renowned series of over one hundred "Faversham Papers"
- a comprehensive local history library, built up over many years, used for educational and information purposes
- well-equipped offices for the use of Council and Committee members to conduct the Society's affairs in a professional manner
- an attractive walled garden where visitors may see a beautifully restored late Georgian shop-front, once at No 4 Market Place, and recovered by the Society from a museum in Chicago USA.
- The Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group (FSARG) digs in a different place each year and displays, and publishes on, its find.

The Society rents space for its VIC and shop on the ground floor of the Town Hall in the marketplace.

- a Residents and Visitors Information Centre (VIC) for the entire Borough, Swale Borough Council no longer provides financial support.
- a gift shop selling good quality articles, many of them with local interest or content

The Society produces a monthly newsletter that is available to members in hard copy, by email or through the website www.faversham.org

The Society also publishes an annual review of all its activities, compiled from the written reports of those responsible for designated functions and activities, e.g. the well regarded "Secret Garden" scheme, the Town Walks, the Museum, the work of the "Faversham Historians" and the Environment and Planning committee. This report is distributed to all members free of charge and is available online.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The Society is one of the largest and most active of its kind. The Society continues to pursue the wide range of activities of earlier years, including the provision of help, advice and information to the general public

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 in having due regard for the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Volunteers

The Society has no paid staff, and relies upon a large number of volunteers, who give generously of their time to enable the Society to achieve its aims and objectives.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities and future plans

We have carried out activities in line with our objectives this year. In accordance with the Board's commitment, at the 2024 AGM, to consult and reflect the views of the membership a packed meeting in the Assembly Room of more than 100 members, on 28th October, heard different perspectives from: Helen Whately MP; FTC Cllr Josh Rowlands; SBC Cllr Julien Speed; Harold Goodwin speaking for Faversham Community Land Trust and Carol Goatham for Farms, Fields & Fresh Air. It was an informed and reasoned discussion, during which many members contributed verbally, and in writing leaving the Board in no doubt that those who engaged with the issue wished us to pursue an approach that was reflected in a motion passed nem con at a meeting of Trustees the following evening.

"The Society supports the development of affordable homes but remains opposed to all large developments on greenfield sites. When developments are proposed we will engage with stakeholders to minimise the risks and maximise the benefits to our town."

In very positive news, a focus on volunteer recruitment has resulted in a more society members offering their time on a regular basis. We are incredibly grateful to all who contribute to our work in this way. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of the Society - and we wouldn't be able to achieve so much without them. The volunteer spirit and commitment is captured through every level of work: Trustees, managers and those who staff the book shop and Visitor Information Centre, organise activities such as the popular town walks and archaeological digs, study planning applications, submit responses on our behalf, and maintain the museum collections, archives and libraries, and who write edit and produce the newsletters and reports.

The education of Faversham residents and visitors alike about the town's history and traditions remains 'core business'. We achieve this through our Museum - which will continue to benefit from renovation works in the coming year, our outreach activities such as town walks and commemorative days, and regular discussions and talks. The monthly newsletter updates, amuses and reflects the diverse interests of our members. Given the potential changes to our local landscape as a consequence of proposed largescale developments, and the challenges of retaining our heritage while welcoming new residents in this context, the Society takes seriously it's commitments to engage with and inform public discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of proposals.

Finally, many members of the Board, particularly Harold Goodwin, made instrumental contributions to the Faversham Town Plan ensuring that the Society's priorities and concerns were considered.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The Society has had another excellent year thanks to the continued efforts of all of our volunteers, with income from all our diverse resources reaching £125k. Our bookshop raised almost £41k and we collected a little over £5k from donations from visitors to the museum. We continued to benefit from higher interest rates which brought in £30k of bank interest.

Our expenditure was well within budget, so we were able to carry forward a surplus of just over £27k to our reserves. Whilst the expenditure is down for the year much of this "underspend" relates to costs on projects that we will see in 2025 accounts.

The Trustees will continue adhere to the principles of proper budgetary control and financial management in 2025 and future years in order to provide a firm financial basis for the continuance of the conservation and education work of the Society.

The Trustees acknowledge with thanks the legacies, grants and donations to the Society from: the Estate of Mike Henderson dec'd (£5k), Sir John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust and the collaborative financial work with Faversham Town Council.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that an appropriate minimum level of free reserves should be an amount representing six months core expenditure. This allows some flexibility for the Society to deal with delays or withdrawal of funding, or unexpected additional costs. The level of free reserves (net current assets) at the balance sheet date is £804,572 (2023 - £767,043) exceed the minimum requirement, providing financial stability to enable the Society to carry out its aims and objectives.

Free reserves included £56,393 (2023 - £56,913) held for restricted purposes.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. Its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 23 December 2009, as agreed by Special Resolutions on 24 February 2010 and amended by Special Resolution on 23 April 2014 and 13 April 2016.

The charitable company has no share capital, but under the terms of the Memorandum of Association, every member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £10 in the event of the company being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Society typically circulates an invitation to all members to nominate trustees prior to the AGM, advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. From time to time, the Board also reviews whether there are any additional or specialist skills that would be beneficial to have on the Board; it then seeks to identify potential new trustees who will bring those skills and the Board may then appoint new trustees. New trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Society.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The Society's governing body is the Board of Directors and Trustees, whose members are elected by the members of the Society. Trustees meet quarterly. Any resolutions submitted to a meeting shall be decided by a majority vote of the trustees present at a meeting, but the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Minutes are taken at each meeting, circulated to trustees along with action points and responsibilities, and kept as a record.

A subcommittee of the Directors and Trustees meets as regularly as necessary to conduct the administration of the Society and reports to the Board. All policy decisions and planning interventions are passed by the full Board, by email if necessary.

Risk review

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review risks to which the Society is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The following are the key risks deemed by the trustees to be facing the Society:

- A major impairment of the freehold properties, involving substantial costs.
- The effect of increased competition on future income from the shops and the hall.
- The possibility that the required number of volunteers may not be met.
- Future government legislation in respect of taxes on charity income and rates relief.

All risks are managed by monitoring by the trustees. Financial risk is monitored via the finance committee by means of a simplified presentation of management accounts for easier understanding by the Board.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07112241 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1135262

Registered office

10-13 Preston Street
FAVERSHAM
Kent
ME13 8NS

Trustees

K Begg
J R Carey
H Goodwin
A J Holden
B Kelsey
L McMahon
A L Salmon
T D Stonor
J West
H Wootton
M Hatchwell
J Davidson
J L Secker
L Allison
A M Furedi (appointed 30.4.24)
D Melville (resigned 30.4.24)

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Jonathan Fullarton BSc (Hons) FCA
McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

01/06/2025

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A M Furedi - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Faversham Society ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Jonathan Fullarton BSc (Hons) FCA

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

Date: 2/6/25

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	21,825	-	21,825	22,576
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		23,310	-	23,310	22,135
Other trading activities	4	40,874	-	40,874	45,423
Investment income	5	39,154	-	39,154	29,038
Total		<u>125,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>125,163</u>	<u>119,172</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	7				
Charitable activities		<u>97,213</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>97,733</u>	<u>96,335</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		27,950	(520)	27,430	22,837
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		1,204,293	56,913	1,261,206	1,238,369
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>1,232,243</u></u>	<u><u>56,393</u></u>	<u><u>1,288,636</u></u>	<u><u>1,261,206</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	14	484,064	494,163
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	15	3,758	3,856
Cash at bank		800,814	763,187
		<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>
FUNDS	17		
Unrestricted funds		1,232,243	1,204,293
Restricted funds		56,393	56,913
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 01/06/2025..... and were signed on its behalf by:



A M Furedi - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Faversham Society is a company limited by guarantee in England & Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the Report of the Trustees of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture in the Faversham and surrounding areas.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement on the basis that FRS 102 Section 1A is being applied.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

The trustees are of the view that the charity holds sufficient reserves to fund activities for several years in the absence of any income, and so the going concern basis is appropriate.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

All grants, donations and legacies are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income from other charitable activities are accounted for when earned.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Report of the Trustees.

Expenditure and creditors

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the cost of preparing the annual accounts and independent examiners fee.

Creditors with no stated interest rate and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

- Land and buildings - 2% on cost (buildings) and nil (land)
Office equipment - 20% on cost

Stocks

Stock consists of publications and memorabilia and is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No account has been taken of donated second hand book stocks at the year end.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Heritage assets

The Society holds a number of heritage assets which are not included on the balance sheet, being items held on display in the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre. The trustees consider that the cost of valuing the assets would be onerous compared to the benefits. They are held for the benefit of the charity and are not likely to be realised for cash.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and gifts	9,454	4,475
Members subscriptions	8,937	9,539
Fundraising activities	3,434	8,562
	<u>21,825</u>	<u>22,576</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	40,874	41,823
Visitors Information Centre	-	3,600
	<u>40,874</u>	<u>45,423</u>

During the year the charitable company received £NIL (2023 - £3,600) in local government grants.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rents received	8,687	7,717
Deposit account interest	30,467	21,321
	<u>39,154</u>	<u>29,038</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2024	2023
	Activity	£	£
Shop sales and commission	Charitable activities	17,813	19,114
Museum admissions	Charitable activities	5,017	2,501
Hall hire and car park rental	Charitable activities	480	520
		<u>23,310</u>	<u>22,135</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 8)	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	<u>84,197</u>	<u>13,536</u>	<u>97,733</u>

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Water rates	4,805	5,609
Insurance	13,933	13,299
Electricity and gas	11,202	9,213
Photocopying and stationery	4,567	2,809
Postage and telephone	3,057	2,697
Advertising and promotions	2,232	1,905
Repairs and maintenance	17,623	15,528
Books, gifts, etc	13,137	12,685
Conservation and acquisition	2,796	4,146
Safety and security	-	3,158
Faversham outreach	3,972	10,604
Open Faversham	1,936	-
Archaeology	1,397	-
Development appeal costs	3,540	-
	<u>84,197</u>	<u>81,653</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Other	Governance	Totals
	£	£	costs	£
Charitable activities	1,100	10,099	2,337	13,536

10. OTHER

	2024	2023
	£	£
Support costs	13,536	14,682

11. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	10,099	10,099
Independent examiners fee	1,542	1,380
Legal fees	795	1,050

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	22,576	-	22,576
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	22,135	-	22,135
Other trading activities	45,423	-	45,423
Investment income	29,038	-	29,038
Total	119,172	-	119,172
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	96,118	217	96,335
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	23,054	(217)	22,837

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	1,181,239	57,130	1,238,369
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>1,204,293</u>	<u>56,913</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £	Office equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>617,827</u>	<u>14,249</u>	<u>632,076</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2024	126,793	11,120	137,913
Charge for year	<u>9,056</u>	<u>1,043</u>	<u>10,099</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>135,849</u>	<u>12,163</u>	<u>148,012</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>481,978</u>	<u>2,086</u>	<u>484,064</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>491,034</u>	<u>3,129</u>	<u>494,163</u>

Land with a market value of £165,000 is not depreciated.

Property held for investment purposes forms part of the building capitalised and held for charitable purposes. The investment property component has not been shown separately as the fair value of the component cannot be measured reliably without undue cost or effort.

15. STOCKS

	2024 £	2023 £
Stocks	<u>3,758</u>	<u>3,856</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	484,064	-	484,064	494,163
Current assets	<u>748,179</u>	<u>56,393</u>	<u>804,572</u>	<u>767,043</u>
	<u>1,232,243</u>	<u>56,393</u>	<u>1,288,636</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	665,661	22,950	-	688,611
Property Restoration fund	67,208	-	-	67,208
Legacies fund	471,424	5,000	(5,000)	471,424
Arden's House	-	-	5,000	5,000
	<u>1,204,293</u>	<u>27,950</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,232,243</u>
Restricted funds				
Arden's House	371	-	-	371
Land Fund	46,075	-	-	46,075
Arthur Percival Memorial	520	(520)	-	-
Museum Fund	9,947	-	-	9,947
	<u>56,913</u>	<u>(520)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,393</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,261,206</u>	<u>27,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,288,636</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	120,163	(97,213)	22,950
Legacies fund	5,000	-	5,000
	<u>125,163</u>	<u>(97,213)</u>	<u>27,950</u>
Restricted funds			
Arthur Percival Memorial	-	(520)	(520)
	<u>125,163</u>	<u>(97,733)</u>	<u>27,430</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>125,163</u>	<u>(97,733)</u>	<u>27,430</u>

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	663,802	21,859	(20,000)	665,661
Property Restoration fund	47,208	-	20,000	67,208
Legacies fund	470,229	1,195	-	471,424
	<u>1,181,239</u>	<u>23,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,204,293</u>
Restricted funds				
Arden's House	371	-	-	371
Land Fund	46,075	-	-	46,075
Arthur Percival Memorial	737	(217)	-	520
Museum Fund	9,947	-	-	9,947
	<u>57,130</u>	<u>(217)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,913</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,238,369</u>	<u>22,837</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,261,206</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	117,977	(96,118)	21,859
Legacies fund	1,195	-	1,195
	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,118)</u>	<u>23,054</u>
Restricted funds			
Arthur Percival Memorial	-	(217)	(217)
	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,335)</u>	<u>22,837</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,172</u>	<u>(96,335)</u>	<u>22,837</u>

Restricted funds

The Arden's House fund was set up to provide for the prevention of deterioration to the fabric of Arden's House.

The Land fund was set up to preserve for posterity selected sites within the Faversham area.

The Arthur Percival Memorial fund is a fund set up in memory of the late Arthur Percival, to preserve the archives of the late Arthur Percival for active use in the Society's educational programme.

The Museum Fund comprises of a legacy received in the year and will be used for the preservation and display of the Osborn plaque collection and to preserve free entry to the museum with donation boxes for visitors.

Designated funds

Property maintenance fund is to prevent the deterioration of the properties.

The Legacies fund comprises legacies received by the charity which are designated by the trustees for a particular purpose. During the year £5,000 was designated to be used for the prevention of deterioration to the fabric of Arden's House.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	9,454	4,475
Members subscriptions	8,937	9,539
Fundraising activities	3,434	8,562
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,825	22,576
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	40,874	41,823
Visitors Information Centre	-	3,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	40,874	45,423
Investment income		
Rents received	8,687	7,717
Deposit account interest	30,467	21,321
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,154	29,038
Charitable activities		
Shop sales and commission	17,813	19,114
Museum admissions	5,017	2,501
Hall hire and car park rental	480	520
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,310	22,135
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	125,163	119,172
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Water rates	4,805	5,609
Insurance	13,933	13,299
Electricity and gas	11,202	9,213
Photocopying and stationery	4,567	2,809
Postage and telephone	3,057	2,697
Advertising and promotions	2,232	1,905
Repairs and maintenance	17,623	15,528
Books, gifts, etc	13,137	12,685
Conservation and acquisition	2,796	4,146
Safety and security	-	3,158
Faversham outreach	3,972	10,604
Open Faversham	1,936	-
Archaeology	1,397	-
Development appeal costs	3,540	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	84,197	81,653

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	1,100	2,153
Other		
Buildings depreciation	9,056	9,056
Office equipment depreciation	1,043	1,043
	<hr/> 10,099	<hr/> 10,099
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fees	1,542	1,380
Legal fees	795	1,050
	<hr/> 2,337	<hr/> 2,430
Total resources expended	<hr/> 97,733	<hr/> 96,335
Net income	<hr/> <hr/> 27,430	<hr/> <hr/> 22,837

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements