

**THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**31 DECEMBER 2020**

Registered Charity No.1167717

# THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY

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## THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY

### Legal and administrative Information

#### Charity Number 1167717

#### Trustees who served during the year

Gordon Cummings *Chairman (from 20 January 2020); Secretary*

David Oelman *Chairman (until 20 January 2020)*

Nigel Weaver *Vice Chairman*

Martin Gruselle *Treasurer*

Jennifer Cummings *Membership Secretary*

Frances Haine *Education & Outreach Officer*

Andrew Jenkins *Communications Manager*

Roger Mead (Retired 22 October 2020)

Philip Neale *Public Relations Manager*

Roderick Newton (Appointed 22 October 2020)

Lesley Nolan *Retail Manager*

Keith Nuttall (Retired 22 October 2020)

Jane Pearson (Retired 22 October 2020)

John Ready *Property Development Manager*

Nicola Tyler *Annual Sale Organiser*

Iris Weaver *Collections Manager*

Anthony White (Retired 22 October 2020)

#### Correspondence address

19a Castle Street

Saffron Walden

CB10 1BD

#### Independent Examiner

N. Caton

Millscott Chartered Accountants

Mill End, Mill Lane

Clavering

Saffron Walden

CB11 4RP

#### Solicitors

Tees

68 High Street

Saffron Walden

CB10 1AD

#### Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc

12A Market Place

Saffron Walden

CB10 1HR

CCLA Investment Managers Ltd

85 Queen Victoria Street

London

EC4V 4ET

Virgin Money

Jubilee House

Gosforth

NE3 4PL

## **THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report of The Fry Art Gallery Society ("the Society") for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Society (formed in 1985) was initially registered as a Charitable Trust in 1987. Its status was changed to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20 June 2016.

The Fry Art Gallery premises at 19a Castle Street, Saffron Walden, Essex ("the Gallery") - purchased from the Fry family in December 2015 - houses works of art by artists who, during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries have lived and worked in north west Essex and have made a significant contribution to their field ("the Collection"); these works are held by the North West Essex Collection Trust ("the Collection Trust") with whose trustees the Society works closely on their behalf in day to day management of the Collection.

The Trustees (whose names are set out above) are responsible for managing the affairs of the Society. Trustees Jane Pearson, Keith Nuttall, Roger Mead and Anthony White retired at the AGM of the Society held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, when their long standing service to the Society was acknowledged. Membership of the Society is either by Annual subscription per household or individual Life membership and is open to anyone over the age of 18; at 31 December 2020 there were 973 paid up households, and 255 Life members.

The Trustees meet monthly (by Zoom when necessary) to review upcoming and new activities to take place in the gallery, new acquisitions, the financial and investment performance, and any likely risks and associated matters. Six Trustees are presently required to form a quorum.

New Trustees are appointed either by the members or by the existing Trustees, with a view to ensuring the Trustees have, as a whole, a balance of skills necessary to promote and carry out the objectives of the Society. New Trustees are inducted and trained by existing Trustees, following Charity Commission guidance and the Society's policies and procedures.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The objects of the Society are the advancement of the education of the public in the arts by:

- (i) the promotion of educational and cultural activities in the Gallery and elsewhere including but not limited to exhibitions of oil paintings watercolours prints sculpture wallpapers weaving illustrated books ceramics and other works of art owned by The Collection Trust or loaned to the Society; and
- (ii) the ownership preservation maintenance and use of the Gallery for the purpose of displaying the Collection and other works of art and providing facilities for educational and cultural activities.

The Trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives. The activities undertaken by the Society to carry out its charitable purposes for the public benefit are outlined below.

The Society normally opens the Gallery to the public (free of charge) each afternoon (except Mondays and Wednesdays) - and on Saturday mornings - from the first Sunday in April until the last Sunday in October; however, this was not possible during 2020 due to Government restriction and the Gallery was only open from 31<sup>st</sup> August until 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020. The Trustees are most grateful for the support of the many volunteers who help welcome visitors to the Gallery; the Society has no paid staff. Our marketing and communications were very successful with articles in several national magazines and newspapers throughout the year, bringing us significant publicity and tourists.



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

**Objectives and activities (continued)**

A new themed selection of items from the Collection is hung in the main exhibition space annually. The smaller space ("the Gibson Room") often displays two or three shorter special exhibitions of works by artists represented in the Collection - with items borrowed from other galleries, museums and private collectors supplementing those in the Collection. A variety of books, postcards, greetings cards and other items relevant to the Collection and to the current special exhibitions are available to purchase in the Gallery.

The Society normally arranges an annual series of lectures and (in certain years) a Symposium – on topics relevant to the Collection. The Education and Outreach Officer arranges visits for local schools and other groups who wish to visit the Gallery and – with the assistance of other trustees - gives explanatory talks about the current exhibition, and the history of the Gallery. She also assists in the training of the volunteers who daily staff the Gallery during the open season. The Trustees visit organisations, both locally and nationally to give talks about the Gallery and the Collection.

With a view to maximizing the use of the space available on the Gallery site, in 2021 the Society will embark on a substantial building programme to provide step-free access, additional exhibition and storage space and a dedicated fire escape. In order to provide continuity and storage facilities while construction takes place, the Society is leasing 9B Museum Street, Saffron Walden ("The Fry Art Gallery Too").

**Achievements and Performance**

Due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic the two Galleries were only open from 31 August to 1 November 2020 and - due to the necessity of only permitting 10 visitors per hour to be present in the gallery – was only able to welcome a total of 1,130 visitors, compared with 11,614 in 2019. The following exhibitions were mounted:

*In the main Gallery:*      **"Random Spectacular"**

This presented an unusual mix of works from the Collection, (over half being selected by prominent figures in the Art world who have associations with the gallery) many of which had not recently been seen in public. The exhibition was accompanied by a new illustrated book in the "Random Spectacular" series published by St Jude's, with all profits being donated to the Gallery extension appeal.

*In the Bawden Room* we displayed for the first time our growing collection of studio pottery.

*In the Gibson Room.*      **"Walter Hoyle a versatile artist"**

Walter Hoyle, who lived in Great Bardfield from 1952 until 1974, was an artist whose work spanned a range – from watercolour landscapes to abstracts and experimental prints. We are most grateful to Denise Hoyle, without whose support the exhibition would not have been possible, the Emma Mason Gallery (which represents the Estate of Walter Hoyle) and private collectors who together lent the majority of the 40 works on display.

The programme of events held during the year was restricted by the Coronavirus pandemic to *A drawing workshop* given by Chloe Cheese and *An experimental lino class* run by Curwen Print Studio both held in The Fry Art Gallery Too.

During the year new works continued to be added to the Collection, which at the year-end numbered 3,281 items. The influential contribution made in the 1960's to modern studio pottery by Dan Arbeid and Ian Auld, who both lived in the area was reflected in the purchase of 3 works by Auld.

The Eric Ravilious Estate placed 50 items on long term loan which had featured in the 2019 exhibition.

The following kindly donated works in a variety of media during the year:-

Derbyshire Schools & Library Service (12 items); Sarah Dunton; The Holbourne Museum, Bath; Helen Powell; Alan Powers; Iris Weaver; Nigel Weaver (2 items); Tony White.

The 2020 Annual Sale - arranged for the week of 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November - had to be cancelled on 4<sup>th</sup> November due to a new Lockdown being imposed, thus eliminating one of our major income sources for the year.



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)**

**Appeal to fund the Extension to the Gallery**

Having received a budget estimate from our appointed Architects and Surveyors, Wilby and Burnett, for the cost of building the extension totalling approximately £420,000, an Appeal to members, friends and Charitable Trusts was launched in February 2020 all of which amount had been raised by January 2021.

However, when the Contract was put out to tender in April 2021, the lowest tender and associated fees, VAT and other costs has proved to amount to some £570,000. A further very successful Appeal was made to Members and Charities in early May 2021; at the date of this report all but £45,000 of the amount required has been raised.

This sum will be covered by interest free Loans offered by a small number of members (repayable between 2023 and 2026). The Contractors started work on site on 12 July 2021 and completion is scheduled for late January 2022.

**Public Benefit**

All the activities of the Society are provided solely for the benefit of the public. The Trustees are conscious of the importance of providing public benefit, and are gratified to note this continues to be achieved.

**Financial Review**

The investment portfolio of the charity is held in cash with major banks, as the Society requires ready access to its funds. With interest rates decreasing dramatically in the current year the statement of financial activities shows investment income of £704 against £1,321 for the previous year.

As the Gallery is open free of charge to visitors, the Society is reliant on generating income from membership fees, the sale of books and other items relevant to the artists in the Collection, donations and sponsorship of exhibitions.

Excluding government grants and insurance claims relating to Covid-19 of £34,830, total general income amounted to £27,917 (2019 - £94,313) the decrease being accounted for by the substantial reduction in visitor numbers resulting in low levels of sales of books etc. and the cancellation of the Annual Sale. Donations to the Gallery Development (Restricted) fund amounted to £199,705.

The costs incurred during the year charged to Unrestricted Funds amounted to £63,490 (2019 - £104,561) the majority of the reduction relating to the lower level of cost of books purchased for sale. Expenditure out of the Designated and Restricted Funds re the Extension to the Gallery during 2020 amounted to £3,293 (2019 - £16,857).

During the year there was a reduction in the Unrestricted funds of £743 and an increase of £196,412 in the Restricted funds.

The total net assets of the Society at 31 December 2020 amounted to £614,664 – including the £200,000 cost of the freehold of the Gallery. The Unrestricted funds totalled £204,303 - (General fund £88,707; Designated building maintenance fund £82,508; Designated picture purchase fund £33,088) while the Restricted Gallery Development funds were £210,361.

**Reserves Policy**

It is the policy of the Society to maintain unrestricted, undesignated funds, which are free reserves, at a level which equates approximately to one year's expenditure. The General Reserve fund is at a level which meets this policy.

**Risk Assessment**

The Trustees have prepared and agreed formal risk assessments as required to maintain the status of an Accredited Museum with Arts Council England, which are reviewed and updated as and when necessary. Museum accreditation with the Arts Council England was renewed early in 2017.

The Trustees are satisfied that all major risks have been identified and assessed and that satisfactory controls are in place to mitigate those risks. In particular, the Child and Vulnerable Adults policy was reviewed and revised during the year.



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)**

**Website**

The Trustees maintain a website giving details of the Society and its current activities. This is reviewed and updated on a regular basis to inform and encourage enquiries from potential visitors and researchers. There is a regular 'Blog' about current exhibitions, trustees maintain regular social media updates through Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. There is always a constant flow of emails, telephone messages and even letters to be answered.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:-

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under Section 132 of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charity's Independent Examiner is not aware, and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that he is aware of that information.

The report and financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021



G.I. Cummings  
Trustee  
Chairman

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY**

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on the attached pages.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Society's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Society's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*N. S. Caton*

N. Caton FCA  
Millscott Chartered Accountants  
Mill End, Mill Lane  
Clavering  
Saffron Walden  
CB11 4RP

7 July 2021



**THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 1167717**  
**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>Income from:</b>	2				
Grants, Donations and Membership fees,		13,481	0	13,481	40,914
Donations re Gallery Expansion (see Note 1b)		0	199,705	199,705	0
COVID-19 Grants and Insurance Claim		34,830	0	34,830	0
Charitable Activities		11,395	0	11,395	43,866
Other trading activities		2,336	0	2,336	24,126
Investment income		704	0	704	1,321
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>62,747</u>	<u>199,705</u>	<u>262,451</u>	<u>110,226</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	3				
Raising funds		15,002		15,002	15,380
Charitable expenditure		<u>48,488</u>	<u>3,293</u>	<u>51,780</u>	<u>165,398</u>
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>		<u>63,490</u>	<u>3,293</u>	<u>66,783</u>	<u>180,779</u>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		(743)	196,412	195,669	(70,552)
Fund balances brought forward					
At 1 January 2020		405,047	13,948	418,995	489,547
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2020</b>		<u>404,303</u>	<u>210,361</u>	<u>614,664</u>	<u>418,995</u>

All amounts relate to continuing activities

**THE FRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 1167717**  
**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Freehold Property	1	200,000		200,000	200,000
<b>Current assets</b>					
Sundry Debtors	4	17,003		17,003	2,667
Cash at bank and in hand		194,049	210,361	404,409	222,367
		<u>411,051</u>	<u>210,361</u>	<u>621,412</u>	<u>425,033</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		6,748		6,748	6,039
Donations re Gallery Expansion received in advance	5		0	0	
		<u>404,303</u>	<u>210,361</u>	<u>614,664</u>	<u>418,995</u>
<b>Net assets</b>					
<b>Represented by:</b>					
<b>Income funds</b>	6				
Unrestricted Funds		404,303		404,303	405,047
Restricted funds			210,361	210,361	13,948
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>404,303</u>	<u>210,361</u>	<u>614,664</u>	<u>418,995</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 July 2021

G. I. Cummings  
Trustee

The notes following form part of these financial statements



Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Accounting policies

a) *Basis of accounting*

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 and the Charities Act 2011

b) *Incoming resources*

Incoming resources comprises income receivable in respect of the accounting period from members subscriptions, sales of pictures and other art related items, events and royalties.

Donations and grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when they are received, The conditions attaching to performance related grants offered to the charity totalling £95,500 had not been met at the year end year end. These are shown as contingent assets

c) *Resources expended*

All expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been classified under the relevant type of expenditure.

All additions to the permanent collection have been donated to The North West Essex Collection Trust. Additions to Freehold Property are shown at cost.

d) *Funds*

The charity maintains the following funds:

Unrestricted - general funds for the use by the charity in pursuance of its charitable objectives.

Designated - unrestricted funds that have been designated by the trustees for a particular purpose, namely building maintenance fund (£82,508) and picture purchase fund (£33,089).

The amount held in the building maintenance fund will be used for the Gallery Extension.

Restricted - namely gallery development fund (£210,361) being income received specifically for development of the Gallery less amounts spent.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Grants, Donations and Membership fees,				
Membership subscriptions and donations	12,981		12,981	21,401
HLF Collecting Cultures and other grants	500	0	500	13,113
Sponsorship of Exhibitions	0		0	6,000
Equipment Grant	0		0	400
	<u>13,481</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,481</u>	<u>40,914</u>
Donations re gallery Expansion				
Members and General public		199,705	199,705	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>199,705</u>	<u>199,705</u>	<u>0</u>
COVID-19 Grants & Insurance Claim				
Gov. Covid-19 Grants	24,830	0	24,830	0
Covid-19 Loss of Income Insurance claim	10,000	0	10,000	0
	<u>34,830</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,830</u>	<u>0</u>
Charitable activities				
Income from Gallery sales	11,135		11,135	42,446
Sale of donated pictures	260		260	1,420
	<u>11,395</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,395</u>	<u>43,866</u>
Other trading activities				
Commission from selling exhibitions	1,200		1,200	15,041
Events, fees and royalties etc	1,136	0	1,136	9,085
	<u>2,336</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,336</u>	<u>24,126</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Raising Funds				
Membership costs	3,820		3,820	3,231
Publicity	1,799		1,799	2,622
Display and Selling exhibition expenses	6,226		6,226	7,474
Fundraising costs	3,157		3,157	2,054
	<u>15,002</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,002</u>	<u>15,380</u>
Charitable activities				
Additions to Permanent Collection				
donated to NWECT	4,276	0	4,276	57,542
Other Collecting Cultures expenditure	71	0	71	11,429
Conservation and Curatorial	4,616	0	4,616	14,894
Gallery management	14,219		14,219	12,583
Gallery "Too" management	18,970		18,970	18,419
Cost of Gallery sales	4,850		4,850	30,913
Support Costs	1,486		1,486	2,762
Gallery Development fees	0	3,293	3,293	16,857
	<u>48,488</u>	<u>3,293</u>	<u>51,780</u>	<u>165,398</u>



### Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

No expenses were re-imbursed to Trustees (2019: £307).

Debtors	2020 £	2019 £		
Debtors and payments in advance	<u>17,003</u>	<u>2,667</u>		
<b>Creditors</b>	2020 £	2019 £	2020 £	2019 £
	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>6,748</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

### Statement of Funds

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2020 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Gallery Acquisition & Development	13,948	199,705	3,293	210,361
Transfer from General Fund				0
Total Restricted funds	<u>13,948</u>	<u>199,705</u>	<u>3,293</u>	<u>210,361</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds	88,767	62,180	63,490	87,457
Transfer from New Purchase Fund		1,250		1,250
Transfer to Gallery Development Fund				0
Sub Total	<u>88,767</u>	<u>63,430</u>	<u>63,490</u>	<u>88,707</u>
Fixed Asset - Fry Art Gallery	200,000			200,000
Designated Fund - New Purchases Fund	34,176	162	1,250	33,088
Designated Fund - Building Development Fund	82,103	405		82,508
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>405,047</u>	<u>63,997</u>	<u>64,740</u>	<u>404,303</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>418,995</u>	<u>263,701</u>	<u>68,033</u>	<u>614,664</u>

### Analysis of net assets between funds

	assets £	liabilities £	Total £
<b>Restricted funds</b>	210,361		210,361
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>411,051</u>	<u>6,748</u>	<u>404,303</u>
	<u>621,412</u>	<u>6,748</u>	<u>614,664</u>

### Contingent Assets

The performance conditions attached to grants offered to the charity by 3 Charitable Trusts totalling £90,000 had not been met at the year end.