

# **The Friends of Honeywood Museum:**

## **Trustees' Report for 2024/25**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1175789

### **Objectives and Activities**

The objects of The Friends of Honeywood Museum are as follows:

- To advance the heritage and arts within the London Borough of Sutton for public benefit
- To advance education in the heritage of the London Borough of Sutton for public benefit

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

The Friends of Honeywood Museum is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Charities Commission Association model constitution. The Trustees for 2024/5 were:

Sue Kelsall (Chairman, died 14 June 2024)  
John Phillips (Chairman elected 10 July 2024)  
Lucy Kelsall (Secretary)  
Christopher Cartwright (Treasurer)  
Christopher Ford (Membership Secretary)  
Anthony Price (Webmaster)  
Susan Hoskin (Talks Secretary)  
Jeannette Crosier (Merchandise and Shop Sales)  
Jill Whitehead

The Constitution says that there must be between 5 and 12 trustees. Each year a third of our Trustees have to stand down and seek re-election.

The rules adopted by the Trustees allow the co-option up to three non-voting members to the Board. For 2024/25 these have been:

Margo Cartwright  
Elizabeth Price

The Procedural Rules also provide that Sutton Council may appoint a local Councillor to act as their Representative at meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Council's Representative is a non-executive attendee and for 2024/25 has been:

Cllr Jake Short

### **Financial Review**

The 2024/5 accounts are in a separate document. Income for the year was £17,678 and expenditure £16,092. The Friends' income continues to come from subscriptions and donations, our regular talks and events and shop sales. The main items of expenditure newsletters and What's On, the maintenance of the garden, the web site, craft materials for children's events, shop stock, speakers' fees, the Zoom account used for Board meetings and insurance.

Cuts in Council funding are making the position of the museum increasingly precarious, and we have for some years kept a substantial sum in reserve to deal with issues that may arise.

This has been a difficult year. With Sue Kelsall's death on 14 June last year we lost a very energetic and active chairman and trustee of long experience. This at a time when the financial pressures on the Council were putting the Museum under increasing pressure. Previous cuts have meant that there was only two full time equivalent posts and a part time assistant to look after three buildings, Honeywood, Whitehall and Little Holland House. One full time equivalent post was to be deleted.

In late July Jane Howard tripped as she was coming into the scullery and shattering her leg bone just below her knee – a serious and very unlucky injury. The damage needed surgery and her recovery has been slow and was initially very painful. She agreed to take voluntary redundancy at the end of March. Jane has been the main driving force at Honeywood for more than three decades and her departure has left a serious gap. Management organised activities in Honeywood have dropped to almost nothing and it is the Friends events that have kept things alive. The cuts have meant that the Council's publicity has become increasingly ineffective, and we have become more dependent on our web site, social media and leaflets. These have, fortunately, long been the most effective publicity channels. Coverage of the reception desk is now entirely dependent on volunteers. There is no member of staff present on Saturdays and also at times on weekdays.

The Friends evening talks have continued very successfully with a wide variety of subjects. Almost all of them sell out.

The school holiday crafts and trails have also done well and have brought in many new and repeat visitors.

The Friends have continued to maintain the garden beds, pots and baskets and also mow the lawn.

The Friends manage the shop in Honeywood which is an important source of income.

We took part in the EcoFair on August bank holiday and our activities and crafts formed a significant part of the Frost Fair in December. The latter coincided with storm Darragh which meant that attendance was lower than usual but it was still a considerable success.

The Friends have published a new local history book – 100 years of a South London Suburb by Jill Whitehead.

#### **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity Name	The Friends of Honeywood Museum
Registered Charity number	1175789
Charity's Principal Address	Flat 5, 31 Camden Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2SH

John Phillips

Chairman on behalf of the Trustees

# THE FRIENDS OF HONEYWOOD MUSEUM

2023/24			2024/25
Figures £		<b>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2024 -2025</b>	
		<b>INCOME</b>	
1,711		Subscriptions	1,873
1,499		Donations	1,455
600		Gift Aid	460
1,000		Grants received - LBS	1,000
		Contribution fo Grotto Fund	120
7,641	3,238	Sales of Shop stock	3,967
	4,403	SumUp Card Payments	4,315
3,424		Fund raising Talks, activities and fairs	3,850
628		Interest received	638
<u>16,503</u>			<u>17,678</u>
		<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>	
2,175		Postage, printing, advertising and website	4,538
11,375		Purchases for the Honeywood Museum	1,128
		Gifts and Flowers	129
368		Books / Crafts	777
3,895		Shop Stock	5,687
110		Depreciation	158
1,340		Events	1,043
687		Talks	830
518		Insurance & Fees	1,450
132		Bank charges	118
156		Zoom fees	234
<u>20,756</u>			<u>16,092</u>
<u>(4,253)</u>		<b>(LOSS)/SURPLUS ON ACTIVITIES</b>	<u>1,586</u>

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2025

	<b>ASSETS</b>	
36,829	Current & Deposit Bank Holdings	39,155
-	Cash	0
8,300	Dickinson Silver	8,300
1,258	Fixed Assets	1,100
2,455	Stock of books, cards, maps, stationery etc	1,873
-	Sundry debtors	
<u>48,842</u>		<u>50,428</u>
	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
48,410	Friends of Honeywood Museum	49,876
432	Grotto Research Fund	552
-	Sundry creditors	
<u>48,842</u>		<u>50,428</u>

Financial Statement of the Friends' accounts up to 31st March 2025

Christopher Cartwright - Honorary Treasurer.