

THE ARTS SOCIETY DARTMOOR

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

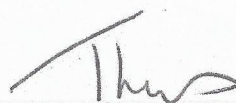
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In accordance with the terms of our engagement we have prepared for your approval the attached financial statements from the accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at icaew.com.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval your financial statements. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than you for our work or for this report.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.



Thomas Westcott
Chartered Accountants
5 West Street
Okehampton
Devon
EX20 1HQ

Date: 23 Aug 2021

Chairman's Report

Last year I began my report for the AGM with the sentence, 'This has been quite a year!' This year has been even more challenging. Through it all however, no chairman could have wanted for a more supportive committee.

Though we have not been able to hold our lectures in the Charter Hall, thanks to Zoom we have been able to receive the full programme of ten lectures. That we have been able to do this is thanks entirely to the commitment of the members of our Zoom Working Party. Judy Lawson, Adrian Wallwork, James McDowall and Julian Farrar mastered the technical wizardry and have ensured that our lecturers have been very happy with the way things have been arranged. I hope that all the members of TAS Dartmoor who have been able to link in have enjoyed the results. As well as rising to the challenge for our own Society, the Zoom Working Party also found time to help three other societies out of hibernation and to seize the opportunity that the Zoom video facility offers. Through it all this small team has also had a lot of fun along the way!

In January we launched a series of virtual coffee mornings. At them members of our Society talked about a number of artworks that they had recently created. They were very brave. Despite my best efforts at reassurance some feared that they would be expected to give a full blown Arts Society lecture, while others were dreading a 'Jeremy Paxman' style interrogation. In the end the opportunity for everyone to see some artworks and share in a relaxed conversation while drinking coffee (and possibly indulging in a chocolate brownie) proved to be a great success. A big thank-you to Jane Leitch, Gaye Martin, Scott Russell, Isabel Lorimore, Virginia Richards and Tahlia Smallwood for accepting the challenge and letting us into some of their artistic secrets.

The changes in the way our programme of lectures has been delivered meant that some members of the committee have had to do far more work than might normally be expected of them. Amongst the most radical changes made, were those to the programme of lectures and the revisions to the contracts that we enter into with lecturers. Alli Gibson our Programme Secretary masterminded all this for us. Cindy Telfer-Smollett, our Membership Secretary and Caroline Taylor, our Treasurer smoothed the way through the amended processes of membership renewal at the end of the year. Judy Lawson has overseen the move of our web-site onto that provided nationally by The Arts Society. This arrangement gives much greater flexibility and ease of use. Through it all Elizabeth Passmore's quiet efficiency as secretary has ensured that all is in order and the chairman has been saved from complications that might otherwise have overwhelmed him.

The 2020 Discovery Day had to be postponed but Adrian Wallwork and the members of the Visits and Discovery Day Working Party have made all the necessary arrangements for this to go ahead on October 20th. Jan Goffey, working with the local primary schools has maintained our commitment to the Summer Exhibition of children's work held in the Museum of Dartmoor Life, while Claire Levey has kept us all fully informed with the monthly newsletters. The other members of the committee have not been idle and their contributions to discussions and decisions made at our Zoom meetings have been invaluable.

Though some Arts Societies have closed altogether and others have lost a significant proportion of their membership, TAS Dartmoor has moved forward with a full membership and a waiting list. Thank you all for your support, commitment and readiness to engage with the necessary changes that have enabled us to get this far. This autumn we have moved to Hybrid Lectures and I hope that at some point in 2022 we may be able to return to the Charter Hall.

With every best wish

Tim Newcombe

Chairman

Membership Secretary's Report

First, I want to thank each of you for continuing your membership with us this past year. We lost only two or three more people than we would in a normal year, which is extremely gratifying. We were able to take on 15 new members in January who, of course, have yet to be able to meet everyone and sample the delights of coffee, chocolate brownies and the lecture in the Charter Hall. There remains a very healthy waiting list with 49 very patient "Waiters", including nine optimists signing up this year despite the pandemic.

We all long to be able to meet together before too much longer, but I do hope you have been able to access the Zoom lectures. I think they have worked very well indeed. I applaud our Zoom working party who have been so clever as to be able to work out how to beam these wonderful lectures into each of our own homes, needless to say I wasn't part of this group. I myself have gone on to attend further Zoom lectures with two of this year's speakers, which I have really enjoyed.

Cindy Telfer-Smollet
Membership Secretary

Programme Secretary's Report, June 2020 – May 2021

After learning the technical ins-and-outs of Zoom the Arts Society Dartmoor was very happy to recommence lectures after a three month hiatus due to the Covid pandemic. We began with a welcome 'visit' to London in the 16th and 17th centuries looking at foreigner painters, why they had come to London, and their impact and legacy on British art. We were then fascinated by a lecture on the Borgias which was only slightly marred by internet connection issues at the lecturer's end. Staying on the European mainland we moved to Vienna at the turn of the 19th / 20th centuries. The lecture was judged excellent but again there were a few Zoom-related teething problems, possibly a bit of information overload, and a rather mobile lecturer who some members found distracting as he walked backwards and forwards near his camera. Our first Devon-themed lecture was on Devon Gardens given by a non-AS accredited lecturer. It featured images of gardens that exist today as well as ones no longer extant, including Elizabethan herb gardens, Georgian landscapes and borders from Victorian times. The following lecture on Hieronymous Bosch took most of us from complete ignorance about the artist to a better understanding of his paintings, with some members left keen to visit the Prado Museum and see his paintings for real. We then had an outstanding and vibrantly delivered lecture on Australian art with a strong focus on some spectacular examples of Aboriginal Art. Back on home territory we enjoyed a talk on Inn Insignia which somewhat split opinion, while very interesting and entertaining, it did form rather a long list of pub signs although this meant a large volume of material could be included. We were then treated to an excellent lecture on the development of art at Polperro given by our own Arts Society Dartmoor member, whose Polperro exhibition is now postponed to 2022. And finally we rounded off the Arts Society year with a beautiful presentation detailing the life and work of the Victorian Postman Poet, Devonian Edward Capern, narrated by Liz Shakespeare and augmented with a musical performance by Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll of traditional music of South West England.

In summary, while it was sad not to meet in person due to the pandemic, the Arts Society Dartmoor and our lecturers successfully transferred to an online platform. This enabled all but 10 of our membership (who do not have access to IT) to enjoy a varied programme of talks and feel included in dynamic Arts Society offerings.

The full list of lectures 2020/21:

Speaker:

Foreigners in London 1520-1677	Leslie Primo
The Borgias – The Most Infamous Family in History	Sarah Dunant
The Art and Culture of Fin-de-Siecle Vienna	Gavin Plumley
A Visual History of Devon Gardens	Dr Todd Gray
Beautiful, Beastly, Bizarre: the Art of Hieronymous Bosch	Paula Nutall
Australian Art – from the earliest Aboriginal Art to Colonial Times	Jeni Fraser
Inn Insignia – Pub Signs, the Artwork and the Stories behind their names	John Ericson
Polperro – Cornwall's Forgotten Art Centre	David Tovey
The Postman Poet Show	Liz Shakespeare

Alli Gibson, Programme Secretary

Visits and Discovery Day Report 2020 - 2021

Regrettably no visit or discovery day was possible during this period due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The postponed discovery day "The Cult of Gloriana" by Mark Cottle is currently being planned for October 20th 2021.

The current intention is to reschedule the visits to Prideaux Place and David Tovey's art collection in 2022 with the dates being arranged around the new year.

Adrian Wallwork

Chairman of the Visits and Discovery Day Working Party

Young Arts Representative's Report

The Arts Society Dartmoor carried forward from 2020 its support for a series of workshops for pupils at Okehampton Primary School, led by Lena Redhead, artist in residence at the school. The culmination of these workshops was a stunning exhibition during August 2021 at The Museum of Dartmoor Life of canvases by the children. A leaflet about the exhibition, *"Majestic Dartmoor - A Young Artists' Exhibition looking at the enchanted flora and fauna of Dartmoor National Park as portrayed through an Artist's Eye"* was sent to all members early in August. Visitors to the exhibition have been astonished and delighted by the quality of the work from the captivating facial expressions of some of the sheep, the moor as seen in different seasons, wise looking owls and so much more. The support from The Arts Society Dartmoor is much appreciated and thoughts have turned to a possible exciting plan for the future.

Jan Goffey

Young Arts Representative

TREASURER'S REPORT

for the year 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

2020 was an unprecedented year for us all but we are absolutely delighted to tell you that our Arts Society is still up and running. At the end of December we had a surplus of £3,806.

The income from subscriptions totalled £11,161.* This figure includes any refunds made to our members for the reduction in lectures this year. The total of £11,161 was an increase of £200 from the previous year.

Donations from guests attending our lectures totalled £280.

We are also delighted to tell you that, due to the generosity of our members who were happy to forego the subscription refund for 2020, £1,186 has been put into a reserved fund for Children, Young Arts and Vulnerable Adults.

We were able to claim back £132 from The Arts Society HQ for Gift Aid for the year ending 2019. In future, owing to our charitable status, we will be able to claim more from HMRC.

On the expenses side, there was obviously a significant decrease in our hall hire, lecturers' travel expenses, projectionist charges and groceries, the latter being payments for coffee and brownies!

The Arts Society affiliation fee was raised by 40p per person in 2020 to £13.80 per member (previously £13.40). This affiliation fee also covers our insurance and Fares Pool for necessary meetings at The Arts Society HQ in London. The affiliation fee will be reduced in 2021.

At the time of writing (17 August 2021) our bank balance stands at £20,273.13.

Owing to the unwelcome lockdown experiences in the past eighteen months, there were no Trails of Discovery or Young Arts projects but we are now in an excellent position to give financial aid for these in 2021 should interesting projects be put forward to us.

*Subscriptions	£ 6,779
Donations from subscriptions to Young Arts	£ 1,186
Subscription payments for 2021 paid in advance	<u>£ 3,196</u>
TOTAL	<u>£11,161</u>

Caroline Taylor

Treasurer

The Arts Society Dartmoor

THE ARTS SOCIETY DARTMOOR

Minutes of the 9th Annual General Meeting held via Zoom video conference on Wednesday 16th September 2020 at 10.30 am

The Chairman, Canon Tim Newcombe, welcomed members to the delayed 2020 AGM and explained how the meeting would be conducted using the facilities available through "Zoom Meeting", namely the mute button, wavy hand, poll function and break out rooms. The poll facility would be used for all elections.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Kathy Fairchild, Susan Matthews, Jane Leitch
2. **To Elect the Chairman for the ensuing year.** The meeting was handed to the Secretary to chair who referred to the work done by the Chairman over the last year. He has led our Society with good humour and professionalism as we have learned and adapted to the use of video conferencing for committee meetings, our first lecture as a webinar and then the AGM as a meeting. Tim had agreed to stand as Chairman for the ensuing year and had been nominated by Jo Wymer, seconded by Tom Wymer. No other nominations were received. Members voted and Tim Newcombe was elected Chairman nem.con.
3. **To elect the Committee.** The Chairman reported that all the current members of the committee had offered to stand for re-election and individually all had been nominated and seconded by members of the Society who are not members of the committee. Members were invited to vote for the committee as listed and as a block. The following were elected members of the Committee: Dr Elizabeth Passmore; Mrs Caroline Taylor; Mrs Cindy Telfer-Smollet; Mrs Jan Goffey; Mrs Allison Gibson; Mrs Claire Levey; Mrs Kate Newman; Mr Julian Farrar and Mr Adrian Wallwork nem.con.
4. **To approve the Minutes of the 8th Annual General Meeting held on the 12th June 2019.** The Chairman invited any questions about the minutes. There were none. Members then voted and the minutes were approved nem. con.
5. **To receive following reports from: The Chairman; The Membership Secretary; The Programme Secretary; The Chairman of the Visits and Discovery Day Working Party; The Young Arts Representative; the Treasurer, and to adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019.**
 - a. The Chairman introduced his report drawing attention to the content and thanked everyone for the work they have done over the last year. He invited any questions, none were received.
 - b. The Membership Secretary was invited to add any comments to her report and members were invited to ask any questions. There were no additional comments or questions.
 - c. The Chairman noted that it had been an especially challenging year for the Programme Secretary as extra work had been needed to ensure lecturers could present either in person or via video webinar from September onwards and replacements found for those unable to give their lecture as a webinar. The Programme Secretary made had no additional comments and there were no questions.
 - d. The Chairman of the Visits and Discovery Day Working Party reported that the Discovery Day planned for October has been postponed and it will be reinstated in October 2021. There were no questions.

- e. The report of the Young Arts Representative included two images of work by children at Okehampton Primary School. A presentation was given showing many more of the children's pictures which had impressed and delighted those who saw the full exhibition in 2019 and were again much appreciated by members attending the AGM. There were no questions.
 - f. Questions were invited about the Treasurer's report; there were none. The Treasurer added that the 'gifts and donations' under 'income' covered the donation from guests at lectures, a refund from Headquarters and any donation that might have been made. There were no questions about expenditure or the balances. The motion to adopt the accounts was proposed by Jenny Reynolds and seconded by Tom Wymer. Members voted to adopt the accounts nem. con.
6. **To appoint an Auditor.** The Treasurer reported that Sarah Watt of Thomas Westcott had been very helpful to her in her first year as treasurer. Pauline Houban proposed that the auditor be re-appointed, seconded by Tom Wymer. Members voted to appoint Thomas Westcott as auditor nem. con.
- a. A power point presentation was then given concerning the affiliation fee and the benefits it provides for our society.
 - b. Taking into account the effect on the provision for members of the Covid-19 pandemic, and costs that have not been incurred, the committee has decided to offer members a refund of £12. At the time of renewal of membership for 2021, members will be offered this refund for which an application form will be available that must be completed to ensure that there is an audit trail in relation to membership fees for 2020 and separately the fee that will be due for 2021. An equivalent sum for each member who does not request a refund will be put into a reserved fund that will be used for work with Young Arts and vulnerable adults. The powerpoint presentation about the affiliation fee and the membership fee refund will be made available.
7. **To consider any motions of which due notice has been given.** None was received by the specified date.
8. **To consider any other business.** No items of any other business had been received.

The meeting ended at 11.00 and was followed by a short time using the break out facility to enable members to talk together in small groups.

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TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Subscriptions	6,779		10,961	
Events and study days	-		7,390	
Gift Aid claim	132		-	
Donations	280		847	
Donations - Young Arts fund	1,186		-	
Waiting list fees	85		-	
Books sold	15		977	
		8,477		20,175
Expenses				
NADFAS affiliation fee	3,270		3,133	
Zoom licence and web services	190		-	
Hall hire and projectionist charges	174		1,902	
Lecturers' fees	3,075		3,540	
Lecturers' expenses	377		834	
Events and study day expenses	-		7,184	
Printing, postage, stationery and computer costs	281		460	
Committee expenses	-		712	
Sundry expenses	58		495	
Young Arts	202		210	
Trails of Discovery	-		53	
Accountancy	240		120	
Goods for resale	-		396	
Difference on opening bank balance	-		(788)	
		(7,867)		(18,251)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		610		1,924
Opening balance at 1 January		15,037		13,113
Net income for year as above		610		1,924
		15,647		15,037
Being closing balances at 31 December				
Bank	18,827		11,703	
Cash	16		128	
Income received in advance	(3,196)			
Prepaid affiliation fee	-		3,206	
		15,647		15,037