



THE ARTS
SOCIETY
SOUTH WEST
LONDON

THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH WEST LONDON

**The Trustees' Annual Report and Unaudited Accounts
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

Registered Charity No. 1195700

THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH WEST LONDON
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

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INTRODUCTION

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements of The Arts Society South West London ("TASSWL") for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The Charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 2 September 2021.

GENERAL REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name:	The Arts Society South West London
Registered Charity No.:	1195700
Principal Address:	187 Sheen Lane, London SW14 8LE
Email Address:	theartssocietyswlondon@gmail.com
Website:	www.theartssocietyswlondon.org.uk
Bankers:	HSBC UK, 67 George Street, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1HG
Trustees	Gill Grunwald (Chairman) Gwen Hewitt (Vice Chair) Kate Kirkland (Treasurer) Felicity Irlam (Secretary) (re-elected 13 November 2023) Winefride Bolton Alison Breathnach (appointed 13 November 2023) Jane Crang (re-elected 13 November 2023) Ruth Dover Serrie Meakins (appointed 13 November 2023) Lael Nelson (re-elected 13 November 2023)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity is structured as a CIO (Association model) and its governing document is a CIO constitution. The Charity is governed and managed by a Board of Trustees who receive no payment for their service as Trustees. The Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. Each year one-third of the trustees must resign, but they are eligible for re-election. The Arts Society South West London is an affiliate member of The Arts Society ('TAS'). The Arts Society is the operating name of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS).

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Arts Society South West London are, for the public benefit,

- (i) the promotion and advancement of the education of the public in the cultivation, appreciation and study of the decorative and fine arts.
- (ii) the conservation and preservation of the artistic heritage of the United Kingdom & other countries.
- (iii) the advancement of the arts, culture and heritage, in particular, but without limitation, the decorative and fine arts.

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There are four principal activities that the charity undertakes in relation to these objects: holding lectures on relevant artistic topics; arranging study days to examine particular artistic matters; arranging visits to relevant sites that contain works of art; and making charitable donations to artistic projects.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Trustees have been pleased to see a continued increase in the number of members attending face to face lectures. The figure now ranges from 60 to 100, compared with 50 to 80 in the previous year. On top of this, about 20 – 30 members choose to watch online.

One of our aims last year was to try to increase the profile of the Society in the local area. As well as advertising our lectures in local e-magazines we have, for the first time, placed posters and flyers for the lecture programme in local libraries. As a consequence, the number of non-members attending lectures has shown a significant increase especially when the lecture topic is of local interest. Flyers giving details of the 2025 programme are to be printed and will be distributed again next year.

Each year, a number of members chose not to renew their membership, but the loss has been exceeded by the number of new members. At the start of the accounting year the number of members was 264 but this had increased to 268 by the end of the year and to 272 by September 2024. Flyers are now given to all non-members who attend the lectures, and a number have taken up membership as a result. Word of mouth remains one of the best ways to build membership helped by the offer of reduced rates for those joining mid-year.

We work hard to be seen as a welcoming society and the chance to offer refreshments to attendees gives members and guests the chance to socialise before lectures begin. We feel that the opportunity to mix locally with people of similar interests fulfils an important social function

One source of sadness, this year, has been the difficulties encountered by those watching online. We know that the option to access the lectures at home is highly valued by some members and we are reluctant to discontinue providing them. During the year, we identified two problems and have recently purchased a new microphone for the lecturers to use to improve the sound quality online. This seems to have helped.

Our other problem has been with the stability of the internet connection from the hall. Putney Leisure Centre has neither an ethernet nor a WiFi connection in the Dryburgh Hall and we have been compelled to use a mobile phone SIM card to connect to the internet. On more than one occasion we have asked the Leisure Centre to upgrade their facilities but without success. We have now approached Wandsworth Council to request that an internet connection part of their upgrade programme for 2024 but they have yet to respond. As we near the end of 2024, we are investigating other venues.

The increase in numbers at lectures has been matched by larger numbers of members signing up for visits, tours and study events. Two of our visits had to be duplicated because of numbers: Two dates were offered for the walking tour of City of London Churches and similarly for the guided visit to All Saint's Church on Putney Common. The latter was arranged to mark the 200th anniversary of the building of the church and its links to William Morris and contemporaries made it a hugely popular trip. Over 60 people attended.

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Now that it is harder to organise visits far in advance, we have tried to be more flexible with visits. We were, for instance, able to fit in a last-minute trip to a de Morgan exhibition in January 2024 and some of our visits have required imaginative travel arrangements. A trip to Crossness Pumping Station late in 2023 (involving the Elizabeth Line and a fleet of taxis) might seem a strange destination until you see the magnificent Victorian ironwork used in the building by Sir Joseph Bazalgette and a trip to Rochester for guided tours of Restoration House and the Cathedral required participants to make their own way by train from Victoria Station. Both visits were highly successful.

We are especially grateful to two members of our Society who acted as guides for us; Liz Hamilton, a former Chairman of the Society led the tours to All Saints and Serrie Meakins, our Tours Secretary, held us engrossed with the story of Elizabeth Murray, daughter of the original owner of Ham House during a tour there in February.

The 2024 Tour to Thessaloniki (organised by Travel Editions) took place in September 2024 and was also very successful as was the related Study Afternoon held earlier in the year. Both were so popular that waiting lists had to be created. Likewise, the Awayday to Longford Castle and Breamore House reached maximum capacity with ease.

Given the popularity of the events, a decision was made during 2024 to add another study event and an afternoon in November 2024 has been set aside to consider the topic of The Elgin Marbles (History and Controversy). We expect there to be a good turnout for such a hot topic.

Once again, the Trustees took advantage of The Arts Society Community Grant Scheme to apply for a grant of £250 on behalf of a local group. In this case it was used to augment a grant of £1,000 that TAS SW London made to Linden Lodge School, whose pupils have severe physical impairments. Three of the Trustees were lucky enough to visit the school and to learn about the materials that the Art Therapy teacher had bought for use with the pupils.

In April, a second grant was awarded, this time to the Royal Hospital for Neuro-Disability. We look forward to hearing more from them about the Silk Screen Printing equipment for which the funds were earmarked. Grant applications are considered twice a year, and organisations can now use the forms available on the website.

In summary, grants during the year to 30 June 2024, totalling £2,750 were made as follows:

- £1,000 – Linden Lodge School (specialist materials for the new Art Therapy Department)
- £1,750 – The Royal Hospital for Neuro-Disability (Silk Screen Printing equipment)

The Trustees' aim for 2024/25 is to continue to build membership of the society and encourage more face-to-face participation. Top priorities are:

1. To resolve the hybrid lecture problems
2. To encourage more members to take an active part in attending and assisting with events.
3. To find a volunteer to liaise with the Greater London Area Committee (GLA) and promote Heritage Volunteering Activities
4. To identify more local arts projects that we can support for the benefit the wider community.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 7 and shows a net surplus for the year of £499.

Income for the period amounted to £22,584 (compared to £27,744 for YE June 2023, when income was inflated as two Awaydays) were held. Similarly, without the costs associated with a second Awayday, expenditure was lower in YE June 2024 (£22,085) as opposed to £27,405 in YE June 2023. Since the income in YE June 2024 is less than £25k, there has been no statutory need for the accounts to be independently examined by a third party this year.

RESERVES

At the year end, the reserves were £17,849.

In November 2023, following last year's AGM, the Trustees amended the reserves policy to bring it into line with the recommendations of The Arts Society to which it is affiliated. The aim going forward is now to make sure that the reserves cover the operating costs of a 9-month period (rather than a whole year). Based on outgoings for the year of £22k, the year-end reserves of £18k are more than sufficient to meet the normal costs of the Charity and to allow its smooth running.

The Trustees are pleased to announce that there will be no increase in subscriptions for 2025.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees continue to give careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. They consider that the activities outlined in this report meet the public benefit requirement for charities.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with 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 and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 16 October 2024



Gill Grunwald (Chairman)

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Total YE 30.6.24 £	Total YE 30.6.23 £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Members' subscriptions		12,042	11,951
Donations		945	689
Other income		8,585	14,707
Bank interest		380	147
Community Grant from TAS (RESTRICTED)		<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	(7)	22,202	27,744
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Charitable activities		13,531	18,930
Grants		2,750	2,750
Community Grant (RESTRICTED)		250	250
Support costs		<u>5,172</u>	<u>5,475</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	(8)	21,703	27,405
NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		<u>499</u>	<u>339</u>
Total funds brought forward at 1 July 2023		17,350	17,011
Total funds carried forward at 30 Jun 2024		17,849	17,350

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BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Equipment & accessories at cost less depreciation	(3)	964	965
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at Bank		21,119	20,510
Cash in hand		40	40
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	(4)	2,196	2,192
CURRENT LIABILITIES	(5)		
Accrued expenses		63	410
Sundry Creditors		312	0
Annual subscriptions prepaid (Jul – Dec 2024)		6,095	5,947
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u>17,849</u>	<u>17,350</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	(6)	<u>17,849</u>	<u>17,350</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 16 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Gill Grunwald (Chairman)

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

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1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) **Basis of Accounting:** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011. The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going Concern: The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have concluded that there are no foreseeable events or conditions that might cast doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of the approval of the financial statements considering, in particular, the level of reserves held by the Charity and future financial plans and forecasts. The Trustees are assured that there are adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

- b) **Income:** Income is recognised when there is entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received. Bank interest is accounted for on an accruals basis.
- c) **Resources Expended:** Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. The following accounting policies are applied to the different categories of expenditure:
- **Charitable activities:** These are costs that relate to charitable activities and are recognised when they are incurred.
 - **Support costs** are made up of professional fees, administrative and governance costs. Governance costs are incurred to ensure good public accountability and compliance with regulation and good practice.
- d) **Fixed Assets:** These consist of equipment for lectures and are depreciated over 10 years on a straight-line basis.
- e) **Cash and cash equivalents:** These consist of cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.
- f) **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgements:** In the view of the trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

2. TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

No remuneration or expenses were paid to any trustee, or to any person known to be connected to them, during the year.

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3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Fittings £	PA & IT Equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 July 2023	354	2,010	2,364
Additions	0	261	261
Disposals	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
At 30 June 2024	<u>354</u>	<u>2,271</u>	<u>2,625</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 July 2023	214	1,185	1,399
Disposals	0	0	0
Charge for year	<u>35</u>	<u>227</u>	<u>262</u>
At 30 June 2024	<u>249</u>	<u>1,412</u>	<u>1,661</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 30 June 2024	<u>105</u>	<u>859</u>	<u>964</u>
At 30 June 2023	<u>140</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>965</u>

Total
YE 30.6.24
£

Total
YE 30.6.23
£

4. SUNDRY DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

Annual capitation fees & insurance prepaid	2,196	2,192
Other prepayments	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u>2,196</u>	<u>2,192</u>

5. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

Accrued	63	410
Income received in advance	312	0
Annual subscriptions received for the period July – December	<u>6,095</u>	<u>5,947</u>
TOTAL	<u>6,470</u>	<u>6,357</u>

6. MOVEMENT OF RESERVES

Balance brought forward at beginning of year	17,350	17,011
Incoming resources for the year	22,202	27,744
Outgoing resources for the year	<u>(21,703)</u>	<u>(27,405)</u>
Movement	<u>499</u>	<u>339</u>
Balance carried forward	<u>17,849</u>	<u>17,350</u>

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	Note	Total YE 30.6.24 £	Total YE 30.6.23 £
7. INCOME			
Subscriptions		12,042	11,951
Donations from visitors		493	279
Other donations		452	410
Visits		5,334	8,838
Study days		1,200	1,056
Gift Aid		2,051	1,840
50 th Anniversary		0	2,973
Bank interest		380	147
Community Grant from TAS (RESTRICTED)		<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>22,202</u>	<u>27,744</u>
8. EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities			
Lecturers' fees & expenses		3,756	3,607
Hire of Hall		1,557	1,289
Technical assistance & Wi-Fi costs		847	483
Zoom licence		125	120
Visits		4,594	8,385
Study days		676	856
Membership cards & newsletters		974	768
Refreshments		1,002	500
50 th Anniversary		0	2,922
Grants		2,750	2,750
Community Grant (RESTRICTED)		<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Support costs			
The Arts Society capitation fee, fare pool, etc		4,208	4,031
Postage, stationery & computer services		451	509
Insurance		180	157
Bank charges		71	68
Miscellaneous		0	115
Accountancy		0	360
Depreciation		<u>262</u>	<u>235</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>21,703</u>	<u>27,405</u>