

Annual report Friends of the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Charity no 1196908) for period ended 31 March 2023

The new charity set up on Dec 2021 is fully functioning and we look forward to our AGM on the 1st June. This will be earlier than the usual date due to having to have it within 18 months of the charity's set up. We have a talk after the AGM on Exeter Cathedral's manuscripts and their role in the Bodleian Library with the exhibition of the loaned manuscripts opening on June 3rd which should guarantee a good attendance. Owing to the excellent events we have put on (most fully booked or near capacity) we have seen an encouraging number of new members and we are optimistic this trend will continue. The key to this is to attract non-members to events and encourage them to join. The Exe Island day (in conjunction with the Devonshire Association) and the Vaughan Williams talk were good examples of this.

The new RAMM web-site is working well and making bookings for events much simpler as well as easing the burden on our secretary with respect to registering members and their subscriptions. We are grateful for the support of RAMM staff particularly Claire Bailey and Stephanie Cherrett.

The continued support for RAMM by the Arts Council and the matched funding from Exeter City Council is welcomed but we are aware this there is no inflationary increase which will mean significant financial challenges for the museum.

Gallery 20 will not be available for our larger events until mid 2024 due to roof repairs to the original building but we are very grateful to Exeter Central library who have given us free access to their meeting room.

The Charity's funds remain satisfactory with a surplus during the period of £933 after making grants totalling £8,380. Funds at 31 March 2023 were £112,993.

Finally we are delighted that Helen Honeyball has taken over from Izzy Birch as the secretary and I would like to thank her as well as all the other trustees, she and Chris Hampton having joined the Trustees at the last AGM, where all the previous Trustees were re-elected.

Activities

2022/3 saw a return to our full-blown activity programme, after a successful but distancing couple of years of Zoom talks. There were talks from Susan Derges on her photography practice, Gary Bridge, on reconstructing Axminster carpets, RAMM's Head of Conservation Alison Hopper Bishop. John Allan collaborated with curator Tony Eccles on RAMM's Polynesian collections and with Professor Henry French on Bampfylde House.

Out in the town John Allan led the latest in his series of town walks, while further afield we visited Powderham Castle with the Earl of Devon.

Social events with a museum twist included the first in a series sponsored by Bonhams, which focused on Chinese Art and Porcelain, and a successful Christmas coffee morning with a talk on the unusual aspects of theatre history in Exeter.

We were not called on often in this year to support RAMM's work financially, but the Friends did purchase a Francis Nicholson watercolour of the cathedral – a companion piece to last year's acquisition of Girtin's work of similar date. We also contributed to commissions of work by Joy Gregory whose first textile work, *The Sweetest Thing*, celebrated the *In Plain Sight* exhibition and by Amy Shelton, who's *Biophilia: An Exeter Florilegium* was made for the exhibition of the same name.

Richard Pocock April 29th 2023

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Registered Charity No 1196908

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Friends of RAMM 2023		F.E.M.A.G 2022	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Subscriptions				
Annual	4,180		4,476	
Life	<u>200</u>	4,380	<u>500</u>	4,976
Gift Aid		810		2,253
Events:				
Zoom	-		3,552	
Other	<u>4,337</u>	4,337	<u>-</u>	3,552
London trip March		-		2,650
Donations - unrestricted		681		514
Royalties - J Trusted Legacy		229		156
Other legacies:				
Unrestricted	-		7,732	
Restricted	<u>-</u>	-	<u>1,030</u>	8,762
Interest on deposit		1,722		37
Total Income		<u>12,159</u>		<u>22,900</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Cost of Activities:				
Events	753		400	
London trip	<u>1,161</u>	1,914	<u>556</u>	956
Printing, postage and stationery		464		230
Insurances		416		416
Gifts		<u>52</u>		<u>70</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>2,846</u>		<u>1,672</u>
Net Income before Grants		9,313		21,228
Grants made* unrestricted	8,380		18,794	
restricted	<u>-</u>	8,380	<u>1,030</u>	19,824
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>933</u>		<u>1,404</u>
*Total grants made towards:		£		£
Acquisition: 'The Sweetest Thing' by Joy Gregory		3,000		-
Acquisition: 'Exeter Cathedral' early 19th century watercolour		380		-
Project: Gatekeepers to Heaven		5,000		-
Acquisition: Girtin water colour				3,518
Project: Museum at Large				8,750
Acquisition: Bampfylde Stained Glass 1590-1600				526
Acquisition: Biophilia				6,000
Tiles - Bequest of Cynthia A Cramp				<u>1,030</u>
		<u>8,380</u>		<u>19,824</u>

The figures for 2022 are in respect of the previous charity, Friends of Exeter Museums and Art Gallery Trust, registered charity No. 306649, and are shown for comparative purposes only.

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Registered charity No. 1196908

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2023

	31.03.2023
CURRENT ASSETS	£
Bank Current account	3,493
COIF Deposit account	109,500
Total net assets	<u>112,993</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	
Funds brought Forward	-
Net surplus for the year	933
Transferred from Friends of Exeter Museums and Art Gallery Trust (see note)	112,060
Total Funds	<u>112,993</u>
ANALYSIS OF FUNDS	
Unrestricted	112,843
Restricted	150
	<u>112,993</u>

Note: This Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), named Friends of The Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, abbreviated to Friends of RAMM, was incorporated on 3rd December 2021 and commenced its activities on 1st April 2022. These accounts are for the period 3rd December 2021 to 31st March 2023.

As explained in the Trustees Report, this Charity's activities have been transferred from the Charity, Friends of Exeter Museums and Art Gallery Trust that ceased all its operations on 31st March 2022 and has transferred all its assets to this new charity, Friends of RAMM.

This change of structure has been implemented in line with Charity Commission Guidance.

Approval of the Accounts

On behalf of the Management Committee, I confirm approval of these accounts

Signed:

Dated: 16th May 2023

Richard Pocock

Chairman of the Committee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Friends of RAMM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Charity for the period 3rd December 2021 to 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect: (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of The Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or (2) the accounts do not accord with those records. 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.

Signed:

Dated: 16th May 2023

John Hughes FCA