

Company Registration Number - 00909018

The Charity Registration Number is :- 254248

The Thomas Hardy Society

Report and Accounts

31 December 2024

The Thomas Hardy Society

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	1
Statement of directors' responsibilities	5
Independent Accountant's Report	7
<i>Funds Statements:-</i>	
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Statement of Financial Activities - Prior Year statement	10
Movements in funds	11
Revenue Funds	11
Income and Expenditure account	12
Summary of funds	12
Balance sheet	13
Notes to the accounts	15

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which also comprises the Directors' Report required by the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- The Thomas Hardy Society.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 254248.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation.

The governing document is dated 9 June 1967 and was last updated 1 July 2021.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association provide that the Society is to be managed by the Council of Management being of a number between 10 and 25 members and may include within that number, representatives from the Dorchester Town Council, the Dorset Council and a "Student Council Member".

By operation of law all, trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

Kingston Maurward College
Kingston Maurward, Dorchester
Dorset, DT2 8PY
Telephone 07934 253060

Email Address info@hardysociety.org Web address www.hardysociety.org

The registered office of the charity for Companies Act purposes is the same as the operating address shown above.

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Mr M D Chutter (Chairperson)
Ms M Woodgate (Secretary)
Ms J A Skelton (Treasurer)
Ms F J Burnet (Membership Secretary)
Mrs S J Clarke (Minutes Secretary)
Mr D C Burnet
Miss R Shipp
Ms L C M Brown
Mr A J O'Brien
Mr A T A Worth

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31 December 2024 :-

The trustees who served as a trustee in the reporting period, and, if applicable, their dates of appointment or resignation during the year were:-.

Name	Appointed	Resigned/Retired
Mr M Chutter		
MS M Woodgate	23/11/2024	
Ms E M E Vause		01/10/2024
Mr A T A Worth		
Dr A C Fincham		01/08/2024
Ms L C M Brown		
Mr D C Burnet		
Ms F J Burnet		
Mr A J O'Brien		
Ms J A Skelton	01/09/2024	
Ms L Kiss		01/02/2024
Mrs S J Clarke		
Miss R Shipp		
Mrs D J Tolfree		

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

At the Annual General Meeting some trustees must retire. The Memorandum & Articles provide that the President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer must retire but can be re-elected and that one third of the above managers must retire (oldest serving first) and can be re-elected. Also that if the retiring managers' places are not filled then these can be deemed as re-elected. The secretary has no fixed term. The council may appoint any member of the Society to fill a vacancy of the Council of Management during the year but any member so appointed remains in office only until the next annual general meeting.

All the trustees are also members of the charity.

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

The Society was established to advance, for the benefit of the public, education in the works of Thomas Hardy by promoting, in every part of the world, appreciation and study of these works.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

The Society is pleased that, during 2024, it was able to hold several study days and lectures relating to William Barnes and Hardy and The Dynasts among others.

In January, all members were invited to mark the annual remembrance of the death of Thomas Hardy in Westminster Abbey. The services includes wreath-laying and poetry reading.

In June the Society held it's annual event to celebrate Thomas Hardy's birthday weekend. Activities held during this event included a parade through Dorchester with wreath-laying at Thomas Hardy's statue and at William Barnes' statue.

In July, the Society held it's biennial International Conference and Festival, including academic lectures, walks, tours and activities, with some bursaries given to participating students.

In December, the Society held it's annual lecture in London and a private tour of Athelhampton House with its connections to Hardy.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

As detailed in the above paragraph, the trust continued to provide study days and workshops for students as well as other events throughout the year. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The contribution of volunteers during the year.

The day to day running and management of the Thomas Hardy Society depends almost entirely on the voluntary contributions of members of the Council and other members of the Society. The average number of volunteers, including trustees, during the year was 16.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

The Society is pleased that it held several events throughout the year as well as hosting stage lectures and study days increasing awareness of the life and works of Thomas Hardy.

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

We are an educational charity and have carried out the events listed in our programme to the benefit of our members and to the wider public, when they have attended.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

We have acted as a source of information for general enquiries about Thomas Hardy and as a spearhead to promote his works and to protect his landscape and his heritage.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Recruitment to the Council of Management is from within our membership.

Bankers	Barclays Bank plc, 10 South Street, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1BT
Accountants	Purple Business and Personal Accountants, Armitage House, Victor Jackson Avenue, Poundbury, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 3GY

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2024

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2024 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income	(6,197)	(7,062)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	6,586	6,622
Endowment Revenue Funds	5,600	11,761
Total Endowment funds	5,600	11,761

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Total Funds	12,186	18,383
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Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2024 .

The trustees consider the financial performance by the charity during the year to have been satisfactory.

There have been no significant changes in fixed assets during the year."

Policies on reserves.

The funds retained by the Society were originally set up to cope with the gradual drain on resources caused by the continuing cost of life members. However, life members no longer receive free copies of the Society Journals and hence are no longer a significant drain on resources. The Society continues to hold these reserves but the current policy is to allow these reserves to diminish, primarily through the funding of educational incentives in secondary schools.

Going Concern

The trustees are confident that the charity has sufficient reserves to fund two years of activities.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

D M Hodges ACCA

Member of Member of Chartered Certified Accountants

Purple Business and Personal Accountants

Armitage House

Victor Jackson Avenue

Poundbury, Dorchester

DT1 3GY

Statement of the Directors Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

The Thomas Hardy Society

Company Registration Number - 00909018

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

In particular, the Companies Act 2006 and charity law require the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. 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.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

Method of preparation of accounts - Small company provisions

The financial statements are set out on pages 9 to 30.

The financial statements have been prepared implementing the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 26 November 25



M Chutter, Chairman
Director and Trustee

The Thomas Hardy Society

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charitable company on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charitable company on pages 9 to 30 for the year ended 31 December 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW), and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 15.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 5, you, the charitable company's Trustees, who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the memorandum and articles of the charity for the conducting of an audit, and that the accounts do not require an audit in accordance with Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charitable company and of the accounting systems employed by the charitable company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

The Thomas Hardy Society

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

The accounts of this charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006;

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-


.....

D M Hodges ACCA - Independent Examiner
Member of Chartered Certified Accountants
Purple Business and Personal Accountants
Armitage House
Victor Jackson Avenue
Poundbury, Dorchester
DT1 3GY

This report was signed on 26 Sept 2025

The Thomas Hardy Society - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024, as required by the Companies Act 2006)

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
Income & Endowments from:						
Donations & Legacies	A1	282	-	-	282	442
Charitable activities	A2	39,388	-	-	39,388	29,960
Investments	A4	-	-	352	352	452
Total income	A	39,670	-	352	40,022	30,854
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	B1	22,171	-	-	22,171	16,540
Charitable activities	B2	24,048	-	-	24,048	21,376
Total expenditure	B	46,219	-	-	46,219	37,916
Net income for the year		(6,549)	-	352	(6,197)	(7,062)
Transfers between funds	C	452	-	(452)	-	-
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	(6,097)	-	(100)	(6,197)	(7,062)
Net movement in funds		(6,097)	-	(100)	(6,197)	(7,062)
Reconciliation of funds:-	E					
Total funds brought forward		6,622	-	11,761	18,383	25,445
Total funds carried forward		525	-	11,661	12,186	18,383

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Thomas Hardy Society - Analysis of prior year total funds, as required by paragraph 4.2 of the SORP

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	442	-	-	442
Charitable activities	A2	29,960	-	-	29,960
Other trading activities	A3	-	-	-	-
Investments	A4	221	-	231	452
Other	A5	-	-	-	-
Total income	A	30,623	-	231	30,854
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	B1	16,540	-	-	16,540
Charitable activities	B2	21,376	-	-	21,376
Other	B3	-	-	-	-
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	B3	-	-	-	-
Other taxation	B3	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	B	37,916	-	-	37,916
Net gains on investments	B4	-	-	-	-
Net income for the year		(7,293)	-	231	(7,062)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers		(7,293)	-	231	(7,062)
Net movement in funds		(7,293)	-	231	(7,062)
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward	E	13,684	-	11,761	25,445
Total funds carried forward		6,391	-	11,992	18,383

All activities derive from continuing operations

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Thomas Hardy Society - Resources applied in the year ended 31 December 2024 towards fixed assets for Charity use:-

	2024 £	2023 £
Funds generated in the year as detailed in the SOFA	(6,197)	(7,062)
Net resources available to fund charitable activities	(6,197)	(7,062)

The resources applied on fixed assets for charity use represents the cost of additions less proceeds of any disposals.

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2024

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last year Total Funds 2023 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	6,622	-	11,761	18,383	25,445
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	(6,549)	-	352	(6,197)	(7,062)
	73	-	12,113	12,186	18,383
(From)/To unrestricted revenue funds	6,513	-	(6,513)	-	-
Closing revenue funds	6,586	-	5,600	12,186	18,383

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last Year Total Funds 2023 £
Revenue accumulated funds	6,586	-	5,600	12,186	18,383

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

**The Thomas Hardy Society
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the Companies Act 2006**

	2024 £	2023 £
Income		
Income from operations	39,670	30,402
Investment income		
Interest receivable	352	452
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	40,022	30,854
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	40,022	30,854
Expenditure		
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	24,048	21,376
Fundraising costs	22,171	16,540
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-	-
Total expenditure in the year	46,219	37,916
Net income before tax in the financial year	(6,197)	(7,062)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	(6,197)	(7,062)
Retained surplus for the financial year	(6,197)	(7,062)
All activities derive from continuing operations		

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society - Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	SORP		2024	2023
	Note	Ref	£	£
Fixed assets	A			
Heritage assets	7	A3	5,900	5,900
Current assets	B			
Stocks		B1	3,200	6,909
Debtors	10	B2	6	175
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	8,146	11,820
Total current assets			11,352	18,904
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	C1	(5,066)	(6,421)
Net current assets			6,286	12,483
The total net assets of the charity			12,186	18,383

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Endowment funds				
Endowment Revenue Funds	18	D1	5,600	11,761
			5,600	11,761
Restricted funds			-	-
Unrestricted Funds				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	18	D3	6,586	6,622
			6,586	6,622
Designated Funds				
Total charity funds			12,186	18,383

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society - Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 8.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.



M Chutter, Chairman

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 26th September 25

The notes attached on pages 15 to 30 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW), effective January 2016, and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing subscriptions and donations. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. The Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. The Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Income represents the invoiced value of members' subscriptions, life memberships subscriptions, sales of publications, conference receipts, event receipts and journal advertising, and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Membership subscriptions

The income and any associated Gift Aid or other tax refund from a membership subscription received by the charity in the nature of a gift, is accounted for on the same basis as a donation.

The income from a membership subscription received by the charity where the subscription purchases the right to services or benefits is recognised as income from charitable activities.

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity.

However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets to their anticipated residual value over their estimated useful lives.

The Three Marys painting	No depreciation provided
Office equipment	25 % straight line
Fixtures & fittings	20 % straight line

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

A regular annual review of the likelihood of asset impairment is undertaken.

Accounting for capital grants and fixed asset funds.

Gifts of tangible fixed assets or grants of a capital nature, given for the purposes of acquiring specific assets to be fully utilised in the furtherance of the objects of the charity, are credited to fixed asset funds after the donated asset has been received or sums have been properly expended on the restricted purpose.

Where the terms of the gift require the charity to hold the asset on an ongoing basis for a specific purpose, then the fixed asset fund so created is categorised as a restricted fixed asset fund, and the relevant restrictions are noted in the fixed asset note 8.

Where the terms of the gift are met once the asset is acquired, so allowing the charity to use the asset on an unrestricted basis, including the right to receive the proceeds of any future sale of the asset on an unrestricted basis, then the fixed asset fund so created is categorised as a designated fixed asset fund.

When assets are acquired for the furtherance of the charity's objects, utilising the charity's own unrestricted funds, a transfer is made from unrestricted funds to a designated fixed asset fund.

Whether acquired with unrestricted or restricted funds, the asset acquired is initially shown in the balance sheet at the full cost of acquisition or subsequent revaluation.

As the related assets are depreciated, in accordance with the depreciation policy, in order to reflect the diminution in the asset, a transfer is made from the relevant fixed asset funds to either unrestricted or restricted revenue funds, as appropriate to the terms of the original gift, if any.

The effect of this policy is that the aggregate of all fixed asset funds shall equate to the net book value of fixed assets.

In the first year that this policy was adopted, a transfer to fixed asset funds was made equivalent to the net book value of the assets.

Any residual liability to the donor arising from, for example, the asset's future sale, is disclosed as a contingent liability unless the event that would trigger repayment of the grant becomes probable in which case a liability for repayment is recognised.

Insofar as this policy relates to Government grants and to the extent that it may be a departure from the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), such departure is justified on the basis that it is in order to comply with the SORP.

Heritage assets

All heritage assets are reported at cost.

Stocks and work in progress

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Financial instruments including cash and bank balances

Cash held by the charity is included at the amount actually held and counted at the year end. Bank balances, whether in credit or overdrawn, are shown at the amounts properly reconciled to the bank statements.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remains any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Significance of financial instruments to the charity's position

There are no significant implications to the charity's position relating to the financial instruments.

5 The contribution of volunteers

The charity depends on the support of its volunteers, which is much appreciated. The charity had 16 volunteers who donated approximately 1,300 hours of their time. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value precisely in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

6 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

7 Heritage assets included in the accounts

	At cost	At valuation	Total of valuation and cost	Total of valuation and cost
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	5,900	-	5,900	5,900
 At 31 December 2024	<u>5,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,900</u>	<u>5,900</u>
Depreciation				
 At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
 Net book value	<u>5,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,900</u>	<u>5,900</u>

The Three Marys painting represents a heritage asset as it has a historical quality and is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

The painting was once owned by Thomas Hardy and was acquired in 2008 at a cost of £5,000 after a fund (The Thomas Hardy Picture Fund) was set up to enable its acquisition.

The painting is on permanent loan to Max Gate, a former home of Thomas Hardy, on the outskirts of Dorchester, Dorset.

The Thomas Hardy letter to Sir Clifford Albutt represents a heritage asset as it has historical quality and is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

The letter was acquired for £1,800, which The Thomas Hardy Society contributed £900: the letter was acquired jointly by The Thomas Hardy Society and The Dorset History Centre.

The letter is displayed at The Dorset History Centre.

8 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Fixtures & fittings	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	-	645	4,027	4,672
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>4,027</u>	<u>4,672</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	-	645	4,027	4,672
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>4,027</u>	<u>4,672</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

<i>Prior Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Fixtures & fittings	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
01 January 2023	-	645	4,027	4,672
01 January 2024	-	645	4,027	4,672
Depreciation				
01 January 2023	-	645	4,027	4,672
01 January 2024	-	645	4,027	4,672
	-	645	4,027	4,672
Net book value				
01 January 2024	-	-	-	-
01 January 2023	-	-	-	-

9 Stocks & Work in Progress

	2024	2023
	£	£
Stocks before write downs	3,200	6,909
	3,200	6,909

Analysis of the carrying value of stocks and work in progress by activities

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Work in Progress</i>		<i>Stocks</i>	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Promoting the life and works of Thomas Hardy			3,200	6,909
	-	-	-	-

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	27
Prepayments and accrued income	6	6
Other debtors	-	142

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

	6	175
11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,137	3,496
Accruals	2,918	2,925
Trade debtors	11	-
	5,066	6,421

12 Loans to trustees included in debtors

There are no loans to trustees included in debtors.

13 Guarantees made by the charity on behalf of trustees

No guarantees have been made by the charity on behalf of trustees.

14 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2024	2023
	£	£
At 1 January 2024	18,383	25,445
Surplus after tax for the year	(6,197)	(7,062)
At 31 December 2024	12,186	18,383

15 Post balance sheet events

There were no post balance sheet events.

16 No related party transactions

There were no transactions with related parties in the year.

17 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Heritage Assets	900	-	5,000	-	5,900
Current Assets	10,752	-	600	-	11,352
Current Liabilities	(5,066)	-	-	-	(5,066)
	6,586	-	5,600	-	12,186

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

At 1 January 2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Heritage Assets	-	-	5,900	-	5,900
Current Assets	7,143	-	11,761	-	18,904
Current Liabilities	(6,421)	-	-	-	(6,421)
	<u>722</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,383</u>

18 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 17 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2023	Movement in funds in 2024	Transfers between funds in 2024	Funds carried forward to 2025
	£	See Note 19 £	See Note 20 £	£
<i>Unrestricted and designated funds:-</i>				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	6,622	(6,549)	6,513	6,586
Total unrestricted and designated funds	<u>6,622</u>	<u>(6,549)</u>	<u>6,513</u>	<u>6,586</u>
<i>Endowment funds:-</i>				
Endowment Fixed Asset Funds (Hardy Picture Fund)	5,000	-	-	5,000
Endowment Revenue Fund (Window Appeal Fund)	6,761	352	(6,513)	600
Total endowment funds	<u>11,661</u>	<u>352</u>	<u>(6,513)</u>	<u>5,600</u>
Total charity funds	<u>18,283</u>	<u>(6,197)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,186</u>

19 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 18

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
<i>Unrestricted and designated funds:-</i>				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	39,670	(46,219)	-	(6,549)
<i>Endowment funds:-</i>				
Endowment Revenue Fund (Window Appeal Fund)	352	-	-	352
	<u>40,022</u>	<u>(46,219)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,197)</u>

The Thomas Hardy Society

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

20 Details of transfers between funds

The transfers shown in note 18 above are:-

	2024
	£
To/(from) Unrestricted Revenue Funds in accordance with the accounting policy 'Accounting for capital grants and fixed asset funds'.	6,513
To/(from) Endowment Revenue Funds	(6,513)
Net transfers	-

21 The purposes for which the funds as

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Restricted funds:-

Endowment funds:-

Endowment Revenue Fund (Window Appeal Fund) This fund represents the restricted surplus relating to endowment funds arising on the revaluation of the charity's assets.

22 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity is obliged to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

23 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions as donations	282	-	-	282	442

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	282	-	-	282	442
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24 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

Current year

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose and ancillary trading					
Sale of goods promoting the works of Thomas Hardy	1,083	-	-	1,083	1,509
Lecture and event receipts	3,546	-	-	3,546	8,939
Conference fees and ticket sales	14,470	-	-	14,470	-
Subscriptions	20,289	-	-	20,289	19,512
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	39,388	-	-	39,388	29,960

25 Total Income from charitable activities

<i>Current year</i>		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total income from charitable trading		39,388	-	-	39,388	29,960
Total from charitable activities		A2	39,388	-	39,388	29,960

The Thomas Hardy Society

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

26 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Receivable	-	-	352	352	452
Total investment income	A4 -	-	352	352	452

All the income in the prior year was unrestricted.

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	221	-	231	452

27 Support costs for charitable activities

Current Year	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Volunteer costs					
Travel and subsistence - volunteers	1,193	-	-	1,193	2,134
Premises Expenses					
Rent payable under operating leases	4,250	-	-	4,250	4,250
Administrative overheads					
Postage	166	-	-	166	560
Stationery and printing	64	-	-	64	477
Information and publications	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions to periodicals	583	-	-	583	-
Website fees	10,577	-	-	10,577	4,511
Advertising and marketing	351	-	-	351	1,147
Liability and contents insurance	696	-	-	696	654
Sundry expenses	1,095	-	-	1,095	248
Bursary	420	-	-	420	300
Equipment, repairs, expenses and maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Eventbrite fees	-	-	-	-	735
Prizes	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable donations	350	-	-	350	400
Bank charges	478	-	-	478	309
Bank charges - erroneous fee refund	-	-	-	-	-

The Thomas Hardy Society

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

Professional fees paid to the Auditor or Independent Examiner in addition to audit and examination fees

As detailed in Note 28	3,825	-	-	3,825	5,651
Support costs before reallocation	24,048	-	-	24,048	21,376
Total support costs - Current Year	24,048	-	-	24,048	21,376

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

Professional fees paid to the Auditor or Independent Examiner in addition to audit and examination fees

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

28 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

Professional fees paid to the Auditor or Independent Examiner in addition to audit and examination fees

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Fees paid to the examiner's firm	3,825	-	-	3,825	5,651
Total additional fees included in support costs at Note 27	3,825	-	-	3,825	5,651

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

29 Total Charitable expenditure

<i>Current Year</i>		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total support costs	B2d	24,048	-	-	24,048	21,376
Total charitable expenditure	B2	24,048	-	-	24,048	21,376

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

		Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds	Funds	
		2023	2023	2023	2023
<i>Prior Year</i>		£	£	£	£
Total support costs	B2d	21,376	-	-	21,376
Total charitable expenditure	B2	<u>21,376</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,376</u>

30 Expenditure on raising funds and costs of investment management

		Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds	Funds		
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
<i>Current Year</i>		£	£	£	£	£
Journal expenses		5,125	-	-	5,125	11,223
Events - catering		4,226	-	-	4,226	2,448
Events - entertainment		1,752	-	-	1,752	850
Costs of charity shop selling goods		4,084	-	-	4,084	287
Events - lecture fees		892	-	-	892	550
Events - travel and mileage		3,510	-	-	3,510	-
Events - venue hire		2,409	-	-	2,409	757
Events - other		173	-	-	173	425
Total fundraising costs	B1	<u>22,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,171</u>	<u>16,540</u>

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

The Thomas Hardy Society

Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the for the year ended 31 December 2024

This analysis is classssified by activity and not by conventional nominal descriptions.

31 Analysis of income by activity

	SOFA ref	2024 £	2023 -
Activity			
Income from charitable activities			
Promoting the life and works of Thomas Hardy		29,960	39,286
Summary of Total Income, including the items above			
Charitable activities	A2	39,388	29,960
Donations & Legacies	A1	282	442
Investment income	A4	352	452
Total income as shown in the SOFA	A	40,022	30,854
Categories of income			
Income from exchange transactions		40,022	30,854

32 Analysis of charitable expenditure by activity

Activity					
	Direct costs	Support costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Membership fees					
Administrative overheads	-	12,485	-	12,485	5,796
Lecture and event fees					
	Direct costs	Support costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Administrative overheads	-	-	-	-	735

The Thomas Hardy Society

Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Direct costs	Support costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Conference fees and ticket sales</i>					
Administrative overheads	-	420	-	420	300

	Direct costs	Support costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Other charitable activities</i>					
Administrative overheads	-	1,875	-	1,875	2,510
Professional fees	-	3,825	-	3,825	5,651
Total Other charitable activities	-	5,700	-	5,700	8,161

Summary of charitable costs by activity

	Direct costs	Support costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Membership fees	-	12,485	-	12,485	5,796
Total Lecture and event fees	-	-	-	-	735
Total Conference fees and ticket sales	-	420	-	420	300
Total Other charitable activities	-	5,700	-	5,700	8,161
Total charitable expenditure	-	18,605	-	18,605	14,992

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

The breakdown of this expenditure by type of spending (ie nominal classification) is detailed in note 29

The Thomas Hardy Society

Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the for the year ended 31 December 2024

Analysis of support and governance costs by charitable activities

Activity	Governance	Finance	Human Resources	Other Overheads	Total
Membership fees	-	-	1,193	11,292	12,485
Lecture and event fees	-	-	-	-	-
Conference fees and ticket sales	-	-	-	420	420
Other charitable activities	3,825	-	-	1,875	5,700
Grand Total	3,825	-	1,193	13,587	18,605

33 Analysis of non charitable expenditure by activity

Activity

<i>Fundraising activities</i>	Fundraising activities 2024 £	Fundraising activities 2023 £
Direct fundraising costs	22,171	16,540
Indirect fundraising costs:-		
Volunteer costs	1,193	2,134
Premises expenses	4,250	4,250
Administrative overheads	18,605	14,992
Total costs of Fundraising activities	46,219	37,916
<i>Total non charitable expenditure</i>	2024 £	2023 £
Total costs of Fundraising activities	46,219	37,916
Total non charitable expenditure	46,219	37,916

34 Carrying value of work in progress analysed between activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Promoting the life and works of Thomas Hardy	3,200	6,909