

SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 274838

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2025

Trustees

Charles Cator
Martin Drury C.B.E., F.S.A. (*Joint Secretary*)
Sir Hugh Roberts G.C.V.O., F.S.A.
Charles Sebag-Montefiore C.B.E., F.S.A. (*Joint Secretary*)

Address for correspondence

Mrs Alexandra Callaway
7 Whimbrel Close
Sanderstead
Surrey CR2 0RW

Independent examiner

Knox Cropper LLP, Chartered Accountants
65 Leadenhall Street
London EC3A 2AD

Investment advisers

Rathbone Investment Management Limited
30 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7QN

Bankers

Coutts & Co.
440 Strand
London WC2R 0QS

SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

CONSTITUTION, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28th November 1977 and is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 274838.

The Trustees of the Charity are the two Joint Secretaries *ex officio* and two other members of the Society. Potential new Trustees are proposed by the Trustees from the membership of the Society of Dilettanti who are knowledgeable in the area of the Charity's activities and who can help the Charity to achieve its objectives. All four Trustees served throughout the year and were the Trustees at the date of this report.

No formal procedures have been put in place for the induction or training of Trustees: these have not been considered necessary, having regard to the criteria exercised in the selection of Trustees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Charity are to apply its funds for such charitable purposes and in such manner as a majority of the members of the Society of Dilettanti present and voting at any meeting of the Society shall direct, and in default of such direction, as the Trustees shall direct. In practice the Charity helps museums, libraries and the National Trust to acquire relevant works of art and archives: it also makes grants towards the conservation of historic buildings, archives and other artefacts and supports relevant academic publications. The Trustees usually look for an historic connection with the Society of Dilettanti, founded in 1732.

In meeting the objectives, the Trustees carefully consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Grants from the Charity have enabled institutions such as the British Museum, the National Gallery, the National Trust, the John Rylands University Library in Manchester, Norwich Castle Museum, the Beckford Tower Trust in Bath and Towneley Hall Art Gallery in Burnley to acquire classical antiquities, sculpture, paintings, other works of art and archives. Grants for conservation and restoration have been given to the National Trust, the Sir John Soane Museum, the John Soane Monuments Trust, Wrexham Parish Church and to the Mausolea and Monuments Trust (for the excavation and restoration of the Hope Mausoleum, near Dorking, built by Thomas Hope in 1818). All museums, galleries and National Trust houses which receive grants are open to the public. Researchers and historians can use the archives, printed books and manuscripts acquired with the help of grants from the Charity.

Through the generosity of the late 4th Marquess of Normanby, a separate fund of the Charitable Trust was created in 1984, which comes much closer to the original spirit of the Dilettanti Society than any of the usual causes supported by our Charitable Trust. The object of the Normanby Fund is to assist those who, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, would be most likely to benefit from visiting classical sites and museums in Greece, Italy or the Eastern Mediterranean, and who could not do so without financial help. The intention is that this should provide an opportunity for the aesthetic appreciation at first hand of works of classical art and architecture, so that the eyes of the successful candidate become trained by looking at the best in classical art. The object is not just to further an academic study or to advance a specific line of research, and the award does not support attendance at summer schools or special courses.

Grant-making policies

In the case of the General Fund, grants are usually given to museums and galleries, the National Trust and other registered charities. The main criteria when awarding grants for acquisitions are the artistic, historical, literary, architectural or other qualities of the proposed acquisition or conservation project. Usually the Trustees look for an historical connection with the Society of Dilettanti. Price, condition and provenance are also taken into account.

In the case of the Normanby Fund, the Trustees rely on the advice of the Advisory Committee, which consists of Professor Katherine Harloe (Director of the Institute of Classical Studies, University of London), Dr Lesley Fitton (recently Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum) and Lady Lepel Kornicki (daughter of Lord Normanby).

Main objective for 2024/25

The Charity's main objective for the year ended 31st March 2025 was to make further grants from the General Fund of around £20,000, unless significant legacies or donations were received and to award grants from the Normanby Fund of at least £5,000.

Achievements and performance (General Fund)

Two grants were awarded from the General Fund, amounting to £30,000. In the previous year four grants were awarded amounting to £20,940, but one grant of £10,000 awarded in 2022 was no longer required, so the net charge for the previous year was £10,940. The two 2025 grants were:

- (i) **The British School at Rome** – £20,000 was given towards the cost of a much-needed programme to upgrade and reorganise the library accommodation for special collections, originally designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in the early years of the 20th century. Most of the cost of the project had been raised, but the British School requested help specifically towards the acquisition of drawer cabinets to be used to store the collection of prints, architectural and archaeological plans and drawings. They were inadequately stored, and included in particular a large collection of prints by Piranesi, drawings by Lutyens, archaeological surveys and maps.
- (ii) **The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford** – £10,000 was given towards the cost of acquiring Fra Angelico's *Crucifixion*. The picture was painted in the 1420s and had been in a British private collection for over two centuries. Sold abroad, the picture was export stopped and offered to the Ashmolean for a price of £4.5 million, net of tax remission. The Trustees agreed that the *Crucifixion* would fit perfectly into the Ashmolean's collection. When the pledge was made, the Ashmolean was within about £600,000 of its target, with only a few weeks before the export stop expired.

Achievements and performance (Normanby Fund)

The Advisory Committee for the Normanby Fund (whose names appear above) advertises the Normanby Classical Travel Award, receives the applications, reviews the referees' reports and selects the successful candidates. The Advisory Committee recommended awards in March 2025 to seven winners at an aggregate cost of £7,000. In the previous year ended 31 March 2024, the Advisory Committee recommended ten winners, who received the aggregate sum of £9,707. All winners travel during the summer of the year of award in order to enrich their understanding of the Classical world.

Main objectives for 2025/26

The Charity's main objective for the year ending 31st March 2026 is to make further grants from the General Fund of around £20,000, unless significant legacies or donations are received, and grants from the Normanby Fund of at least £5,000.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The General Fund (unrestricted)

The General Fund received its income from the sources stated below:

	<i>Year ended</i>	<i>March 2025 (£)</i>	<i>March 2024 (£)</i>
Investment income		19,924	19,086
Donations from members		6,324	7,250
Other donations		-	-
Total income		26,248	26,336

In the year to 31st March 2025, aggregate income received by the General Fund rose to £26,248 (2024: £26,336). Investment income increased to £19,924 (2024: £19,086). Donations fell to £6,324 (2024: £7,250).

Charitable grants from the unrestricted General Fund were £30,000 (2024: £10,940 net of a credit of £10,000 for a grant made in 2022 which was no longer required). Support costs were incurred of £3,010 (2024: £3,008) comprising all administration costs, the independent examination fee and bank charges. The cost of raising funds of £6,713 (2024: £6,213) represents Cazenove's investment management fees. The net operating deficit before unrealised investment gains and losses was £13,475 (2024: surplus of £6,175).

After realised investment gains of £1,254 (2024: losses of £470) and unrealised losses of £6,201 (2024: gains of £79,668), the net deficit for the year was £18,422 (2024: surplus of £85,373). The General Fund balance carried forward as at 31st March 2025 was £933,042 (2024: £951,464).

The Normanby Fund (restricted)

The income of the Normanby Fund reached £7,528 (2024: £7,177). Seven grants were paid in March 2025 for travel in the summer of 2025 amounting to £7,000 (2024: ten grants amounting to £9,707). The investment adviser's fee was £2,789 and the Normanby Fund's share of the charity's costs was £1,090. After net investment gains of £3,404, the net movement in funds was a surplus of £53 (2024: £37,167). The Fund balance carried forward was £380,614 (2024: £380,561).

The Balance Sheet

The balance sheet at 31st March 2025 showed net assets of £1,313,656 (2024: £1,332,025) consisting of the

- investment portfolio at its year end market value of £1,270,452 (2024: £1,281,410); and
- net current assets (cash, less creditors) of £43,204 (2024: £50,615).

Policies on reserves

Save for the restricted Normanby Fund, all the Charity's reserves are regarded as an expendable endowment fund. Both the General Fund and the Normanby Fund are represented by investments in order to produce a reasonably predictable and regular level of income. The Trustees regard this as necessary to maintain and support the Charity's operation.

Donations from members

Under the Rules of the Society, Members of the Society of Dilettanti make annual donations to the Charitable Trust at least equivalent to the annual subscription. The Trustees are particularly grateful to those Members who make contributions above the minimum amount.

Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for managing the affairs of the Charity and administering its funds and assets within the framework of any general policies agreed at an annual general meeting.

The Trustees are required to prepare annual financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards. In preparing those statements, the Trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates which are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed – subject to any material departures that are disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose the financial transactions and the assets and liabilities of the Charity with reasonable accuracy. 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.

Risk management

The Trustees have identified the principal risks that might have an effect on the Charity and believe that appropriate action has been taken to manage them. The Trustees will continue to keep under review the adequacy of the procedures in place.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 June 2025 and signed on their behalf.

CHARLES SEBAG-MONTEFIORE

MARTIN DRURY

Ex officio Trustees for all the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO
THE SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Society of Dilettanti Charitable Trust for the year ended 31st March 2025. This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. My work has been undertaken so that I might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITY AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

65 Leadenhall Street
London EC3A 2AD

Greg Stevenson, F.C.A.
Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants

Date: 26 June 2025

SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025			2024		
		General Fund (unrestricted) £	Normanby Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £	General Fund (unrestricted) £	Normanby Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £
Income from							
Donations and legacies	2	6,324	-	6,324	7,250	-	7,250
Investments	3	19,924	7,528	27,452	19,086	7,177	26,263
Total income		26,248	7,528	33,776	26,336	7,177	33,513
Expenditure on							
Raising funds	4	6,713	2,789	9,502	6,213	2,446	8,659
Charitable activities	4	33,010	8,090	41,100	13,948	10,818	24,766
Total expenditure		39,723	10,879	50,602	20,161	13,264	33,425
Operating result before investment gains/(losses)		(13,475)	(3,351)	(16,826)	6,175	(6,087)	88
Net gains/(losses)/ on investments	7	(4,947)	3,404	(1,543)	79,198	43,254	122,452
Net movement in funds		(18,422)	53	(18,369)	85,373	37,167	122,540
Total funds brought forward		951,464	380,561	1,332,025	866,091	343,394	1,209,485
Total funds carried forward		933,042	380,614	1,313,656	951,464	380,561	1,332,025

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	7		1,270,452		1,281,410
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash	8	44,267		67,415	
Debtors		737		-	
		<u>45,004</u>		<u>67,415</u>	
CREDITORS:					
Amount falling due within one year	9	(1,800)		(16,800)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			43,204		50,615
NET ASSETS			<u>1,313,656</u>		<u>1,332,025</u>
Represented by:					
GENERAL FUND					
(Unrestricted)			933,042		951,464
NORMANBY FUND					
(Restricted)			380,614		380,561
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>1,313,656</u>		<u>1,332,025</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 24 June 2025 and signed on their behalf.

Charles Sebag-Montefiore – Trustee and Honorary Treasurer

SOCIETY OF DILETTANTI CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption not to prepare a cash flow statement.

The functional currency of the Charity is the £ Sterling.

b) Funds

General funds represent the funds of the Charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the Charity. The Normanby Fund is a restricted fund which is used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

c) Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies are recognised when banked by or on behalf of the Charity.

Dividends and interest income are accounted for when received, together with any income tax recoverable on such income.

d) Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

e) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

f) Current Assets and Liabilities

All known current assets are brought into the accounts at the amounts which they are expected to realise. All known liabilities are brought into the accounts at their expected cost.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025			2024
	General Fund (unrestricted)	Normanby Fund (restricted)	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations from members	5,085	-	5,085	5,950
Gift Aid	1,239	-	1,239	1,300
	<u>6,324</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,324</u>	<u>7,250</u>
Prior year 2024	<u>7,250</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,250</u>	

3. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

Dividends and interest on loan stock	19,924	7,528	27,452	26,263
Bank interest receivable	-	-	-	-
	<u>19,924</u>	<u>7,528</u>	<u>27,452</u>	<u>26,263</u>
Prior year 2024	<u>19,086</u>	<u>7,177</u>	<u>26,263</u>	

4. EXPENDITURE ON

	2025			2024
	General Fund (unrestricted)	Normanby Fund (restricted)	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
RAISING FUNDS				
Investment Manager's Fees	6,713	2,789	9,502	8,659
Prior year 2024	6,213	2,446	8,659	
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Grants				
Grants to organisations	30,000	-	30,000	18,000
Grants to individuals	-	7,000	7,000	12,647
Grant no longer required	-	-	-	(10,000)
	30,000	7,000	37,000	20,647
Support Costs				
Operating expenses	1,696	604	2,300	2,319
Independent examination	1,314	486	1,800	1,800
	3,010	1,090	4,100	4,119
	33,010	8,090	41,100	24,766
Prior year 2024	13,948	10,818	24,766	

No Trustee received any remuneration. The Independent Examination fee charged to the accounts was £1,800 including VAT (2024: £1,800).

5. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Key Management Personnel is defined as the Trustees.

None of the Trustees received any emoluments or reimbursement of expenses (2024: none).

6. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

There were no employees and no employee benefits were paid (2024: none). The average weekly number of persons employed during the year was zero (2024: zero).

7. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2025			2024
	General Fund (unrestricted)	Normanby Fund (restricted)	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
QUOTED INVESTMENTS				
Market Value at 1st April 2024	928,075	353,335	1,281,410	1,187,124
Additions	66,010	22,635	88,645	86,950
Proceeds of sale	(73,554)	(24,506)	(98,060)	(115,116)
Realised (losses)/gains	1,253	2,693	3,946	2,142
Unrealised (losses)/gains	(6,200)	711	(5,489)	120,310
Market Value at 31st March 2025	915,584	354,868	1,270,452	1,281,410

8. CASH

	2025 £	2024 £
General fund	19,184	40,229
Normanby fund	25,083	27,186
	<u>44,267</u>	<u>67,415</u>

9. CREDITORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Grants approved but not yet paid	-	15,000
Accruals	1,800	1,800
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>16,800</u>

10. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2025	General Fund (unrestricted) £	Normanby Fund (restricted) £	Total £
Quoted investments	915,584	354,868	1,270,452
Current assets	19,258	25,746	45,004
Creditors	(1,800)	-	(1,800)
	<u>933,042</u>	<u>380,614</u>	<u>1,313,656</u>
2024	General Fund (unrestricted) £	Normanby Fund (restricted) £	Total £
Quoted investments	928,075	353,335	1,281,410
Current assets	40,189	27,226	67,415
Creditors	(16,800)	-	(16,800)
	<u>951,464</u>	<u>380,561</u>	<u>1,332,025</u>

11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2025, there were no known contingent liabilities.

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Other than donations from Members, there are no related party transactions.