

# FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES

England & Wales · Charity number 276777

## Details

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Other names	FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES, THE BRISTOL MAGPIES
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1978-11-16
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	Bristol City Council CITY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY Queens Road Clifton Bristol BS8 1RL
Phone	0117 922 3571
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@friendsofbmga.org.uk">secretary@friendsofbmga.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk">www.friendsofbmga.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY PROMOTION, SUPPORT, ASSISTANCE AND IMPROVING OF THE BRISTOL CITY MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES THROUGH THE ACTIVITY OF A GROUP OF SUPPORTERS. (FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE GOVERNING DOCUMENT)

**Activities:** The education of the public by promoting, supporting, assisting and improving Bristol's Museums, Galleries & Archives through the activity of a group of supporters.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BRISTOL
- Bristol City

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£165,207	£80,473	-	-
2024-06-30	£249,298	£81,229	-	-
2023-06-30	£47,710	£86,388	-	-
2022-06-30	£91,793	£44,873	-	-
2021-06-30	£73,977	£68,705	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>SUE THURLOW</b>	Chair	
CAROL LEAR		2018-09-25
CLIVE BURLTON		2017-09-19
KATHERINE MARTIN		2014-09-23
Mary Bailey		2020-09-24
Raymond Barnett		2024-10-19
Richard Maurice Avery		2020-09-24
Robert Stephen John Sparks		2023-01-10
Susan Hibberd		2021-09-25
TOBY PINN		2018-09-25

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES**

England & Wales - Charity number 276777

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2024-2025**

**Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives**  
**Registered charity no.276777**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

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**Friends of BMGA, c/o The Chair, 37 The Mill House.  
Ferry Street, Bristol BS1 6HH**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

## **Chair's Report**

The Friends continue to be in a very strong position financially, thanks largely to the kindness of some late members who remembered us in their wills. This year we have received a substantial bequest from Brian Toms. These additional funds mean that we are even better placed to support the museum. For members to remember us when they write their wills is an affirmation of what we and the museum are doing, and of the real sense of friendship and belonging that they found in the many events we run.

In January, as agreed at our 2024 AGM, we increased subscription rates from £22 to £30 for single membership and from £32 to £40 for family membership. Going some way to offset the increased cost for members, discussions with the museum led to the issue of a discount voucher – at no cost to the Friends - which we sent out with the June newsletter. The discount has to be limited to comply with Gift Aid rules but if this year's trial is successful we hope to repeat it in future years.

Our most significant challenge remains that those of us currently taking responsibility for one or more the many roles needed for an effective organisation will sooner or later move on and there are currently not enough members expressing an interest in taking on those roles either now or in the future.

Despite this, we have run a varied and interesting programme raising an impressive total of very nearly £20,000. Without the Events Group, led by Mary Bailey, the Friends would be unrecognisable as the organisation we all know and love, so I cannot thank them enough. Please let Mary know if you would like to learn what might be involved if you joined the Group, or even just helped support one or two events a year.

The Treasurer's Report lists the ways in which some of our funds have been used this year to support the work of Bristol Museums Galleries & Archives: many of them have been highlighted in more detail in our newsletter and on our website or have been the subject of one of our Saturday talks.

## **Newsletter and communications**

Our newsletter continues to be vital in keeping us connected with all our members, not just those who join us for events. In October 2024 it was Highly Commended in the national Newsletter Awards run by BAFM, the British Association of Friends of Museums. Editors Tim and Ann Wood do a wonderful job of putting together each fully-illustrated edition and making it so enjoyable to read; many thanks to them both for their skill and hard work, to our many contributors of articles and photographs, and to Mary Bailey and Richard Avery who are responsible for printing, enveloping and dispatch. We are investigating the practicalities of making the newsletter available electronically to those members who actively choose that approach. That would reduce our costs, particularly postage, and allow us to use more of our funds to support the museums service. The print version of the newsletter would continue to be produced and posted to all other members.

## **Working with the museums service**

Our relationship with the whole of the museum team continues to be key to what we do as Friends, and we are grateful to staff across the service for their continued enthusiastic support. I know that in return they appreciate not just our financial and practical contribution but also our "moral support". When in January Bristol City Council proposed reducing the public opening of the Archives search room by one day to three days a week to reduce

costs we issued a media release highlighting the negative impact this would have on researchers and members of the public. The proposal was approved by Full Council despite concerns expressed by us and others, but we helped to raise the issues in the public consciousness.

Beth Cutter and Caroline Booth-Morris, who job-share the role of Development Manager, have remained our primary touch-point with the museum this year and one (or occasionally both) of them have come to all our committee meetings. They have been supportive in all sorts of ways and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

Our financial contribution continues to be valued by the Service, and we are able to help with minimal bureaucracy. For larger amounts, our seed funding can unlock national funds from, for example, the Art Fund, the V&A, and private trusts, often more than doubling the value of our contribution. The availability of our funds therefore makes a very real difference to the Service and to the individual members of staff we support.

This was certainly the case when, in mid-June, it was announced by Sotheby's that JMW Turner's first exhibited oil painting, long lost, had been re-discovered and was of Hotwells. At the museum's request the Friends promised up to £300k towards the cost of bidding to acquire it, which along with the £109k raised by the museum's "Bring Turner Home" crowdfunder campaign unlocked very significant commitments from national funders and meant the museum was able to put together a serious bid several times higher than the auctioneers' top estimate. Sadly the museum were still outbid, but the generous bequests we have received over the last few years enabled us to commit sufficient funds for our pledge to be pivotal in enabling the museum to put together a credible bid.

## **The Executive Committee**

I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes. Special appreciation is due to our officers: Katherine Martin our Secretary; Robert Walters our Treasurer; and Richard Avery our Membership Secretary. Also to Steve Sparks, who has been shadowing Robert's role as treasurer so we now have effective back-up, and Clive Burlton who is taking the lead in investing our growing funds. The committee (with the exception of Robert) have met monthly in person throughout the year. Thanks, too, to all the volunteers who are not part of the committee or the Events Group but whose work is vital to our success.

## **Managing our Reserves**

Prompted by our growing funds, the Executive Committee have reviewed the Reserves Policy and approved amendments to it. The changes included the appointment of an Investment Lead (Clive Burlton) from within the Committee to oversee the Trust's investments which may now include equities if appropriate.

In order to improve and simplify administration, and give a greater choice of products, fixed-term and fixed interest deposits will be made under the CAF (Charities Aid Foundation) Deposit Platform operated by Flagstone Group Ltd. Investments in any one institution will not exceed £85,000, which is the maximum amount that can be protected under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

## **The Future**

We are in a stronger position financially than we have ever been. Thanks to our loyal membership and to all our officers, committee & Events Group members and other

volunteers, – and supportive staff from the museums service – I am confident we shall continue to thrive in the coming year.

Online booking has grown in popularity with members, and further development is in hand to make it even more effective, and in particular to make it less onerous for our already stretched volunteers to administer. To maintain and grow our activities we need to recruit new members to the Events Group and volunteers interested in shadowing and later taking on all the key roles essential to our success. If you think you might be able to help, while at the same time extending your social circle and having the satisfaction of supporting such a good cause, please let me know in person or by email.

**Sue Thurlow**  
**Chair**

### **Treasurer's Report**

This has been a successful year. Total subscriptions have increased in spite of an increase in the subscription rate and we are grateful to Richard Avery for his assiduous work in collecting them. Thanks, too, to Peter Newley for claiming the gift aid and to Geoffrey Clements for reviewing our accounts.

Mary Bailey's events team have provided a varied series of outings and lectures and increased our funds by £20,000.

We were asked by the Museum to provide £300,000 towards Bristol's bid for the early JMW Turner painting of Hotwells. We had this ready on 30 June for the auction on 2 July, which explains the large amount of liquid assets in our Balance Sheet. In the event the Museum was outbid.

We received a generous donation from our Patron Max Hebditch and a legacy from the late Brian Toms of £108,416, for which we are most grateful. Other sundry donations were also received.

The Executive Committee has adopted a revised Reserves policy. Details are in the Chair’s Report.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MUSEUMS 2024/25      £**

Contribution to Sounds of the South West project	2,355
Half funding of photographic print <i>Wistman’s Wood, Dartmoor</i> by Nancy Holt	9,250
Port of Bristol Authority Rules for Crane Drivers	372
Orangutan death mask from Bristol Zoo	451
<i>Pyronaut</i> repairs	16,406
Seed funding for video art: <i>The Neon Hieroglyph</i> by Tai Shani	5,500
Kings Weston Roman villa (interpretation resources)	3,320
2,000 copies of children’s book <i>Is That Doris?</i>	3,665
Winter lectures 2024/25	2,516
Transcription of Robert Long manuscript on wildlife of Jamaica	5,146
Two contemporary Native North American glass sculptures	18,832
Clayfield-Ireland family daguerreotypes	1,344
Ten drawings from Rachel Hemming Bray residency	<u>1,000</u>
Total	<u>70,158</u>

## COMMITMENTS TO FUTURE CONTRIBUTIONS £

Video art	5,954
Facsimiles of documents for display at M Shed	1,344
Contribution to Sounds of the South West project	7,646
<i>Pyronaut</i> repairs (balance remaining)	13,594
Kings Weston Roman villa (interpretation Resources - balance remaining)	4,480
Glass Gallery redisplay	25,000
Photographic prints by Hashem Shakeri	6,990
Wickwar Hoards	9,000
Contribution to purchase of <i>The Rising Squall, Hotwells</i> , by JMW Turner	300,000

## SUMMARY ACCOUNTS FOR 2024/25

<b>INCOME</b>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>
Donations and legacies	110	
Activities for generating funds	20	
Bank interest	18	
Subscriptions	15	
Other	<u>2</u>	
	165	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>£000</u>	
Grants to museum	70	
Administration	<u>10</u>	
	80	
SURPLUS for year		85
SURPLUS brought forward from 2024/5		<u>473</u>
SURPLUS carried forward		<u>558</u>

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	<u>£000</u>
Bank Term Deposits	216
Deposit account	239
Current account	100
Other	<u>3</u>
	<u>558</u>

Full accounts are available on the website.

**Robert Walters**

Treasurer

**Membership Secretary’s Report**

Membership numbers have fallen again this year and as at 30 June 2025 we had 312 single members (323 last year) and 250 (300) joint members. In part this was the effect of our increasing the cost of membership in January. Also, with our membership skewed towards the older age bracket, it is inevitable that some will not continue in membership for a variety of reasons. It is encouraging to note that we have seen 27 new memberships (35 members) in the year.

84% of the current membership have completed Gift Aid declarations, enabling us to boost our income, and our thanks are due to Peter Newley for processing our claims.

**Richard Avery**

Membership Secretary

## **Events Group Report**

First, I must express our sadness at the death of Gary Gostelow in May this year. He was a pivotal member of the Events Group for so many years until his illness prevented him from taking part any further, and his contribution to the success of the Group was huge. He is much missed.

This has been a year of successes (mostly) and failures (a few). On the plus side there has been a good response for our Behind the Scenes visits, with Carol Ouvry and Sally Dore working hard to arrange extra visits to cope with demand. A couple of our talks have been a sell-out, as have a couple of our coach trips. However, we had to cancel two talks at the behest of the speakers concerned - but were able to re-schedule them - and also had to cancel a trip - to Nature in Art at Twigworth - because there was not enough interest. Some of our other trips have had low numbers, making them only just viable, and our spring lecture and lunch with Fran Coles had a very disappointing response, so we shall discontinue those. The challenge, as always, is to provide a programme which appeals to as wide a range of interests as possible. Carol Lear and Richard Avery have undertaken all the organisation of the coach trips, while Catherine Dixon has carried out the administration of the talks with her usual efficiency. Our thanks go to all the Group members for giving up their time to arrange the programme of events, a full list of which is given below.

We welcome suggestions and feedback on the programme and also any offers of help in organising events. Please do get in touch with me if you have comments or think you would like to be part of the organising team:  
events@friendsofbmga.org.uk or 07779 244308.

## **List of events**

### **1 Holiday**

Visit to Glasgow

### **11 Trips**

Stanway House, Gloucestershire

Chavenage House, Tetbury

American Museum in Bath

Museum of Royal Worcester Porcelain

Salisbury Museum

Cardiff Castle

The Wilson, Cheltenham

Herbert Art Gallery, Coventry

Court Barn Museum, Chipping Campden

Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

Lydiard Park, Swindon

### **15 Behind the Scenes Visits**

Blaise House and Hamlet – two visits

Gallery tour of 'Truth In Nature'

Sparks Bristol, Broadmead

Tour of Bristol Beacon

University of Bristol Theatre Collection – two visits

The New Room, Broadmead

The Lord Mayor's Chapel – two visits

Underfall Yard – two visits

Trymwood Studios

Limbs and Things

The Observatory, Clifton

### **7 Talks**

Dyrham's Shakespeare Folio

Purchases in Japan for the Eastern Art collection

The Cossins family of Redland Court

Maps of Bristol

Pioneers – the First Policewomen of Bristol

Bristol Tramways 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary

James Cowles Prichard of The Red Lodge

## **2 Lectures and Lunch**

Summer lecture and lunch, Trinity College – Lucy Bailey

Spring lecture and lunch, M Shed – Fran Coles

## **4 Public events**

Bristol Harbour Festival – jigsaws, cakes and preserves sale

Bristol Archaeology Festival

Docks Heritage weekend – cake sale

Concert to celebrate 100 years of Bristol Archives

## **Mary Bailey**

Chair, Events Group

## **Volunteering Report**

Once again our volunteers came out in force with jigsaws, cakes and preserves for our stall in L Shed at the Harbour Festival in July 2024. We no longer sell books as it has become too burdensome to organise their transport but the quantity of jigsaws and cakes almost made up for it. The final sales figure was £845 – an excellent result.

Bristol Archaeology Festival at Blaise took place in mid-July 2024, master-minded efficiently as always by Kate Iles. We had a stall displaying food eaten by the Romano-British people during the period when Kingsweston Roman Villa was built (late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD). There was much interest from families in the rustic bread, pungent garlic cheese, cabbage salad and honey cake on display with other items consumed at that time. Thanks are due to Sue Pears, Sue Pettit and Richard Avery for their time helping on the stall and to Sue Thurlow, who took up her usual position on the welcome desk for the whole day. If anyone is interested in joining the cooks in the Archaeology Food Group do let Kate Iles know: [kate.iles@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:kate.iles@bristol.gov.uk). It is interesting and

good fun exploring recipes from different ages and trying them out for this event.

A further baking opportunity occurred in October for Docks Heritage Weekend, when the dockside is transformed with re-enactments of cargoes being unloaded by the cranes on to trucks on the quay. Our volunteers got busy again and we had plenty of cakes to sell, making a surplus of just over £640. Our grateful thanks go to everyone who baked and helped on the stall.

## **Mary Bailey**

### **Harbourside Working Exhibits Report**

What a year it has been and our team of volunteers still continue to pull out all the stops.

But first I have to thank Rodney, a stalwart of the team, who has had to step down due to ill health. We miss his constant but unnoticed attention to keeping on top of all the mundane jobs: from checking vehicle and lamp batteries to the servicing of scissor-lifts, to ticket-producing. We have had to find many volunteers to cover his role. Our grateful thanks for his years of toil go to Rodney, and we know he is on the end of a phone for answers.

Moving on, *Henbury* is struggling with the coal issue that affects the whole steam heritage sector. Having suffered severely damaged firebars, *Henbury* needs them replaced in order to continue operating. The smoke issue is also a problem and we are about to try a new product that, hopefully, will see us survive in the future.

A better future is on the cards as we have started work at A Bond to reinstate the railway, which last ran to Butterfly

Junction in 2015. This, of course, was displaced for the Metro bus scheme and then the chocolate path subsided. We still have Vauxhall Bridge work in progress, and many hundreds of new sleepers have arrived for the reinstatement of the line for public operating.

*Mayflower* has had its bottom repaired and painted but we are not quite ready with the boiler; perhaps a Christmas steaming. Meanwhile *John King* and *Pyronaut* continue to operate our boat programme for the public.

The steam crane is on the back burner at present requiring the time to remove the boiler for major repairs.

Electric cranes: new shock-absorbing rubbers for the jibs are on the menu to replace the existing ones, which have reached the end of their shelf life. Good news is that crane 29, for the first time since 1975, has moved the jib under its own power. This just leaves the hoist motor to lift the hook up and down to bring the crane back to operation. However, there is still much to be done before it can join the other cranes as a fully-functioning exhibit.

For those who frequent our ticket office, we now have lights in readiness for the darker days of autumn.

Thanks again to the Friends for all the help you continue to give in support of the Working Exhibits.

**Chris Ecclestone**

Working Exhibits Manager

# **Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives Committees**

2024-2025

## **Executive Committee**

### **Officers:**

Sue Thurlow – Chair

Katherine Martin – Secretary

Robert Walters – Treasurer

Richard Avery – Membership Secretary

### **Elected Members:**

Lucy Bailey

Mary Bailey

Ray Barnett

Clive Burlton

Susan Hibberd

Carol Lear

Toby Pinn

Sir Stephen Sparks

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives' Representatives:**

Beth Cutter/Caroline Booth Morris – Joint Development Managers

## **Events Group**

Mary Bailey – Chair

Richard Avery

Catherine Dixon

Sally Dore

Carol Lear

Carol Ouvry

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025**

<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Subscriptions	14,768	11,931
Donations and legacies	109,547	206,030
Gift Aid	3,261	2,667
Activities for generating funds	19,891	19,633
Bank interest	17,741	9,037
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>165,207</b>	<b>249,298</b>

<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>		
Newsletter and AGM	4,090	5,038
Postage	4,125	4,290
Sundry Expenses	1,331	177
Bank charges	626	535
Website	144	158
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	<b>10,315</b>	<b>10,198</b>

<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>154,892</b>	<b>239,100</b>
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<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Grants to BMGA (see over for breakdown)	70,158	71,031
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>70,158</b>	<b>71,031</b>

<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN FUNDS</b>	<b>84,735</b>	<b>168,070</b>
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<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>473,201</b>	<b>305,131</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>557,936</b>	<b>473,201</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2025**

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stamps, debtors and payments in advance	5,293	5,907
Current account	99,735	6,028
Deposit account	238,740	139,570
United Trust Bank	0	87,099
Cambridge and Counties Bank	85,000	81,209
Redwood Bank	50,969	80,750
Virgin Money	0	80,000
Reliance Bank	80,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>559,737</b>	<b>480,563</b>

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Receipts in hand per future events and creditors	1,801	7,362

<b>ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>557,936</b>	<b>473,201</b>
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## BREAKDOWN OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

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Two contemporary Native North American glass sculptures	18,832
Clayfield-Ireland family daguerreotypes	1,344
Ten drawings from Rachel Hemming Bray residency	1,000
Total	<hr/> 70,158 <hr/>

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2025 set out above.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 130 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Geoffrey Clements August 2025

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
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Ten drawings from Rachel Hemming Bray residency	1,000
Total	<hr/> 70,158 <hr/>

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2025 set out above.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 130 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Geoffrey Clements August 2025

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES**

England & Wales - Charity number 276777

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2023-2024**

**Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives**  
**Registered charity no.276777**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

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**Friends of BMGA, c/o Bristol Museum & Art Gallery,  
Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

## **Chair's Report**

The Friends are in a very strong position financially, thanks largely to the kindness of some late members who remembered us in their wills. The decline in membership numbers has markedly slowed to 3%, an improvement on last year's drop of 8%.

Our most significant challenge remains that those of us currently taking responsibility for one or more the many roles needed for an effective organisation will sooner or later move on, whether by choice or otherwise, and there are currently not enough members expressing an interest in taking on those roles either now or in the future.

The most immediate need for additional volunteers is in the Events Group, but despite limited resources they have run a varied and interesting programme raising an impressive total of over £19,000. Compared to last year we have been more successful in attracting members to sign up to our events, so they have each become more effective at generating funds. Without the Events Group, led by Mary Bailey, the Friends would be unrecognisable as the organisation we all know and love, so I cannot thank them enough. Please let Mary know if you would consider joining the Group, or even just helping support one or two events a year.

This year we have received, or are very soon due to receive, significant bequests from Daphne Smith, Ros Rome, Martin Davies and Brian Toms. These additional funds mean that we are even better able to support the museum. Our thanks go not just to the benefactors but also to their friends and family who might otherwise have benefited. For members to remember us when they write their wills is an affirmation of what we and the museum are

doing, and of the real sense of friendship and belonging that they found in the many events we run.

The Treasurer's report lists the ways in which some of our funds have been used this year to support the work of Bristol Museums Galleries & Archives: many of them have been highlighted in more detail in our newsletter and on our website or have been the subject of one of our Saturday talks.

### **Newsletter and communications**

Our newsletter has continued to be vital in keeping us connected with all our members, not just those who join us for events, and the museum team have contributed some fascinating and well-received articles to complement reports of our own events and trips. In October it was awarded Joint Runner-up in the national Newsletter Awards run by BAFM, the British Association of Friends of Museums. Editors Tim and Ann Wood do a wonderful job of putting together each fully illustrated edition and making it so enjoyable to read: many thanks to them both for their skill and hard work, to our many contributors of both articles and photographs, and to Mary Bailey and Richard Avery who are responsible for printing, enveloping and dispatch.

### **Working with the museums service**

Our relationship with the museum team continues to be key to what we do as Friends, and we are grateful to staff across the service for their continued enthusiastic support. I know that in return they appreciate not just our financial and practical contribution but also our "moral support" and the genuine friendliness of our committees and volunteers when we work with them in organising and running events and other activities. In the spring the museum team welcomed a new permanent Head of Culture & Creative Industries, Philip Walker. Phil's most recent role was

running the Culture team in Gloucester but he is to many of us a familiar face as he was part of the Bristol Culture Team's then Senior Leadership Team until 2019 and prior to that was for a couple of years the Museum Friends' committee's main point of contact with the museum. There have been too many other staff changes to mention in detail, but as far as possible they have been reported in the newsletter. We wish all the staff who have left the best for the future.

Beth Cutter and Caroline Booth-Morris, who job-share the role of Development Manager, have remained our primary contact with the museum this year and one (or occasionally both) of them have come to all our committee meetings. They have been tirelessly supportive in all sorts of ways and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

Our financial contribution continues to be valued by the Service, and we are able to help with minimal bureaucracy. For larger amounts, our seed funding can unlock national funds from, for example, the Science Museum, the V&A, and private trusts, often more than doubling the value of our contribution. The availability of our funds therefore makes a very real difference to the Service and to the individual members of staff we support.

### **The Executive Committee**

I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes. Special appreciation is due to our officers: Katherine Martin our Secretary; Robert Walters our Treasurer; and Richard Avery our Membership Secretary. Also to Steve Sparks who has been shadowing Robert's role as treasurer so we now have effective back-up, and Clive Burlton who has taken the lead in investigating how best to invest our growing funds. The committee have met monthly

in person throughout the year, and thanks also go to Giles Woodward (an attendee at our meetings but not a trustee) for taking on the task of drafting the minutes. Thanks, too, to the volunteers who are not part of the committee or the Events Group but whose work is vital to our success, including Peter Newley who collates and submits our valuable gift aid claim.

## **The Future**

With the benefit of recent bequests we are in the strongest position financially that we have ever been and, thanks to our loyal membership and to all our officers, committee & Events Group members and other volunteers – and supportive staff from the museums service – I am confident we shall continue to thrive in the coming year. Online booking has been a step forward, but further fine-tuning is in hand to make it even more effective. To maintain and grow our activities we need to recruit new members to the Events Group and volunteers interested in shadowing and later taking on all the key roles essential to our success. If you think you might be able to help, while at the same time extending your social circle and having the satisfaction of supporting such a good cause, please let me know in person or by email.

## **Sue Thurlow**

### **Treasurer's Report**

This has been an excellent financial year for the Friends. Due to the generosity of Friends through substantial legacies we have never had so much money. Mary Bailey's hard-working Events Group has produced an improved profit compared to last year. Applications for trips are rising so that now some trips have waiting lists. This is the first

year we have tried booking events online using PayPal. It has been very successful.

The strong financial position enables the Friends to make generous donations to the museums. Further legacy income is expected in 2024/25, allowing us to continue making more donations.

Most of our funds are invested in short-term (mainly one year) fixed bonds with high rates of interest. Onerous regulations for opening new accounts have meant that it can take months to open an account, to the frustration of the signatories to the Friends accounts.

We are grateful to Richard Avery, our Membership Secretary, for managing the subscriptions and to Peter Newley for recovering the gift aid from HMRC. Geoffrey Clements has, again, expeditiously reviewed our accounts.

We are in an excellent position to start a new year.

<b>Grants made in 2023-2024</b>	<b>£</b>
Reprinting of Bristol Region Geology book	1,000
Woodblock print of Gioji Temple, Kyoto, Japan	550
Benjamin Lund porcelain sauce boat	5,000
Image of Artistic interpretation of Palaeolithic dragonfly	200
Archival boxes for Asian textiles	935
5 17 <sup>th</sup> century Japanese porcelain dishes	4,965
4 drinking glasses from Lazarus Collection	4,658

Sound Archives	2,000
Contribution to building plans conservation project	1,500
Artistic interpretation of ancient cockroach fossil	200
17 <sup>th</sup> century porcelain coffee can	2,100
Payment to Steph Kempson for Family storytelling re Mary Anning	5,500
Contribution towards new Protest display, including Edward Colston statue	30,000
Coombs 'china burned' octagonal dish	100
William Watt lead weight	120
Grant to Lisa Graves for attending a conference in New Zealand	450
Edward Godwin plans of Assize Court	5,008
1831 Bristol Riots police truncheon	2,250
Transfer of 16 <sup>th</sup> century carved wooden beam	570
Kate Newnham's purchases for the Japanese collection	2,982
Winter lectures and summer walks	943
	<hr/>
	<b>70,088</b>
	<hr/>

<b>Grants approved for 2024-2025</b>	<b>£</b>
Video art	5,954
Facsimiles of documents for display at M Shed	1,344
Contribution to Sounds of South West	10,000
Nancy Holt photo works "Wistman's Wood, Dartmoor"	9,250
Pyronaut repairs	30,000
Whitchurch Roman hoard	100
Tai Shani video art <i>Neon Hieroglyph</i>	5,500
Port of Bristol instructions for crane drivers	600
Kings Weston Roman Villa interpretation and conservation	7,800
	<b>70,548</b>

**Robert Walters**  
Treasurer

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership numbers fell again and at the end of our reporting year (30 June) we had 323 single members (330 last year) and 300 (310) joint members. With our membership skewed towards the older age bracket, each year there will inevitably be those who cannot continue in

membership for a variety of reasons. It is encouraging to note that we have seen 29 new memberships for 2024.

84% of the current membership have completed Gift Aid declarations, enabling us to boost our income, and our thanks are due to Peter Newley for processing the year's claim.

**Richard Avery**

Membership Secretary

**Events Group Report**

We have welcomed Sally Dore as a new member to the group; she has already taken on responsibility for organising visits – and also bakes cakes (a much-appreciated attribute).

We took the plunge and introduced online booking for all events, using PayPal as the payment method. This has been largely very successful with a few minor hiccups as we fine tune the system to suit our requirements. It does, however, generate extra admin in reconciling the accounts.

Bookings for our events have been unpredictable – some only just viable and others oversubscribed. This may be due partly to our increased charges but we do our best to keep costs to a minimum. We cannot, however, avoid the huge increase in coach hire, which is the main reason for the higher prices of trips.

As a group we try to provide a varied programme to appeal to as many members as possible; the result is a bit hit and miss in terms of popularity. Behind the Scenes events, however, are always well supported and special thanks are

due to Carol Ouvry for organising these. Richard Avery and Carol Lear have worked really hard to provide interesting trips to destinations outside Bristol and deserve our thanks too. The full list of our events is given below.

Some of our talks at the Studio at M Shed have encountered technological problems, leading in the worst case to a talk being abandoned. We are working with the staff at M Shed to ensure that this does not occur in the future.

We welcome suggestions for and feedback on the programme and also any offers of help in organising events. Please do get in touch with me if you have comments or think you would like to be part of the organising team: [events@friendsofbmga.org.uk](mailto:events@friendsofbmga.org.uk) or 0117 942 1944/ 07779 244308.

## **List of events**

### **1 Holiday**

Visit to London Docklands

### **13 Trips**

Geology and wildlife of Clevedon Beach

National Waterways Museum, Gloucester

Compton Verney and the Audubon exhibition

Croft Castle

Nantgarw China Works and Museum

Killerton House at Christmas

Ashmolean Museum: *Colour Revolution – Victorian art, fashion and design* exhibition

Painswick Rococo Garden

Museum of Somerset, Taunton: *Journeys in Art* exhibition

STEAM, Swindon

Winterbourne House, Edgbaston  
Dyrham Park with travel by Royal Blue heritage coach  
Quenington – *Fresh Air* exhibition

### **18 Behind the Scenes Visits**

Bristol Harbour Working Exhibits  
Circomedia  
Corn Exchange & St Nicholas Market – 3 groups  
The Mount Without  
M Shed Stores tour – 2 groups  
The Puppet Place – 2 groups  
Tour of Jade Gallery – 3 groups  
Tour of *Opulent Origins* exhibition – 2 groups  
Tour of *Hay Wain* exhibition 'Truth in Nature' – 2 groups  
Tour of *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition with  
Roz Kidman Cox

### **1 Walk**

*Blood and Butchery in Bedminster* with Sheila Hannon

### **8 Talks**

Angelica Kauffman – Dr Jan Cox  
Bristol on the Box - David Parker  
Clifton Observatory - Mary Coward  
Communicating Christmas - Clive Burlton  
Fascinating Spiders – Mark Pajak  
Il Duchetto - who is he? - Robert Walters  
Paintings: Ways of Looking, Ways of Seeing - Maud Rowell  
Three Archaeological Finds – Kurt Adam

### **2 Lectures and Lunch**

Summer lecture & lunch, Trinity College – Augustus John  
Spring lecture and lunch, M Shed – Chinese glass

### **2 Public events**

Bristol Harbour Festival – books, jigsaws and cakes sale

Pyronaut's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday weekend – cake sale

**Mary Bailey**

Chair, Events Group

## **Volunteering Report**

Baking cakes was top of the agenda for volunteers this year. The Harbour Festival was busy as usual in July so, with a bumper display in L Shed of books and jigsaws as well as cakes and preserves, we made a surplus of £1,230 – an excellent result. We could not have achieved this without the help of all the volunteers who gave up their time to bake cakes, provide books and jigsaws and/or to sell the items from our stalls. We are grateful to you all for supporting the museums service in this way. However, it required some effort to dispose of the remaining books after the weekend so we took the decision to concentrate on cakes, preserves and jigsaws in future – and leave the selling of books to charity shops.

The Archaeology Festival at Blaise took place in September this year. We had a stall sited next to the Thatched Dairy, where we displayed food made with milk or cream dating from the Iron Age through to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when the dairy was built. The weather was disappointing but the Roman, Tudor and Georgian food looked inviting and we had many children attempting to make butter by beating cream vigorously with a twig whisk in a bowl or using wooden butter pats to form the butter into shapes (very messy). Many thanks to Rosemary Silvester for providing food and props for the display and also to Sue Pears and Sue Pettit for their time helping on the stall and to Sue Thurlow, who took up her usual position on the welcome desk for the whole day.

In June we were invited to participate in Pyronaut's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations with a cake stall in L Shed over the weekend. Our baking volunteers got busy again and we had plenty of cakes to sell, making a surplus of just under £450. Thanks to everyone who baked and helped on the stall.

Our cakes always attract many compliments from the crowds at these events – one customer proclaiming that it was worth travelling 2½ hours to enjoy the fruit cake. He bought four slices in all. Another customer tasted a lemon cake and promptly bought eight slices to take home for his family.

## **Mary Bailey**

### **Harbourside Working Exhibits Report**

Firstly, a huge thanks from the Working Exhibits team for the help and support given by the Friends – a long-standing collaboration, which is much appreciated.

The 2023-34 period has put a lot of pressure on our team but they have overcome all the hurdles to maintain the exhibits, enabling us to continue the visitor offer.

*Portbury* locomotive is currently in the Whitehouse workshop awaiting the removal of boiler tubes while undergoing its ten-yearly standard overhaul. This project has been slowed down because the team has had to work on the track, replacing many life-expired railway sleepers.

*Mayflower* has a boiler problem which is preventing her sailing until new parts arrive. *Pyronaut* also needed repairs so *John King* became the only working boat.

The Fairbairn steam crane is also showing its age and has been out of action, awaiting repairs to the boiler; these will be carried out by an outside contractor.

Maintaining the electric cranes is similar to the painting of the Forth Bridge: the team are working on them constantly. The good news is that No 29 is coming closer to being operational since it ceased working in 1975. Watch this space.

The Bristol lorry had a problem with the cab developing a droop, which meant it became unusable. The lorry is a favourite at Docks Heritage Weekend in September, when the volunteers have some fun re-enacting life on the docks in the 1950s.

Apart from the exhibits themselves our plant, which enables us to maintain them, also had issues during the year. We had a scissor lift which went up but not down, a rail crane which had an electrical fire, various batteries died and the loader shovel was starved of fuel. It has undoubtedly been a testing time for the team, who deserve our thanks for their dedication in maintaining and operating the working exhibits.

**Chris Ecclestone**

Working Exhibits Manager

# **Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives Committees**

2023-2024

## **Executive Committee**

### **Officers:**

Sue Thurlow – Chair  
Katherine Martin – Secretary  
Robert Walters – Treasurer  
Richard Avery – Membership Secretary

### **Elected Members:**

Lucy Bailey  
Mary Bailey  
Clive Burlton  
Susan Hibberd  
Carol Lear  
Toby Pinn  
Sir Stephen Sparks

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives' Representatives:**

Beth Cutter/Caroline Booth Morris – Joint Development Managers  
Allie Dillon – City Archivist

## **Events Group**

Mary Bailey – Chair  
Richard Avery  
Catherine Dixon  
Sally Dore  
Gary Gostelow  
Carol Lear  
Carol Ouvry

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024**

<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Subscriptions	11,931	12,640
Donations and legacies	206,030	14,210
Gift Aid	2,667	2,801
Activities for generating funds	19,633	14,500
Bank interest	9,037	3,559
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>249,298</b>	<b>47,710</b>

<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>		
Newsletter and AGM	5,038	5,760
Postage	4,290	3,003
Sundry Expenses	177	832
Bank charges	535	897
Website	158	164
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	<b>10,198</b>	<b>10,654</b>

<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>239,100</b>	<b>37,056</b>
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<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Grants to BMGA (see over for breakdown)	71,031	75,734
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>71,031</b>	<b>75,734</b>

<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN FUNDS</b>	<b>168,070</b>	<b>-38,678</b>
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<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>305,131</b>	<b>343,808</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>473,201</b>	<b>305,131</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2024**

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stamps, debtors and payments in advance	5,907	3,210
Current account	6,028	16,383
Deposit account	139,570	43,841
United Trust Bank	87,099	83,331
Cambridge and Counties Bank	81,209	80,000
Redwood Bank	80,750	0
Virgin Money	80,000	0
Hampshire Trust deposit	0	56,196
Shawbrook Bank deposit	0	25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>480,563</b>	<b>307,961</b>

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Receipts in hand per future events and creditor	7,362	2,830

<b>ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>473,201</b>	<b>305,131</b>
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<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>473,201</b>	<b>305,131</b>
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## **BREAKDOWN OF RESOURCES EXPENDED**

Reprinting of Bristol Region Geology book	1,000
Woodblock print of Gioji Temple, Kyoto, Japan	550
Benjamin Lund porcelain sauce boat	5,000
Artistic interpretation of Palaeolithic dragonfly	200
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1831 Bristol Riots police truncheon	2,250
Transfer of 16 <sup>th</sup> century wooden beam	570
Kate Newnham's purchases for the Japanese collection	2,982
Winter lectures	743
Summer walks	200
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Geoffrey Clements August 2024

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Geoffrey Clements August 2024

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES**

England & Wales - Charity number 276777

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2022-2023**

**Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives**  
**Registered charity no.276777**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

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**Friends of BMGA, c/o Bristol Museum & Art Gallery,  
Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL**

**[www.friendsofbmga.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk)**

## **Chair's Report**

The Friends continue to be in a strong position financially but in other respects we are seeing some of the less positive trends being experienced nationally across voluntary organisations supporting heritage and culture.

Our membership numbers are slowly declining and, as you will see from the Membership Secretary's report, are down year on year by about 8%, so new members who have joined us this year are particularly welcome. Our most significant challenge is that those of us currently taking responsibility for one or more of the many roles needed for an effective organisation will sooner or later move on, whether by choice or otherwise, and there are very few members expressing an interest in taking on those roles in the future.

The most immediate need for additional volunteers is in the Events Group but, despite diminished resources, they have run a varied and interesting programme raising an impressive total of £14,500. Without that very small group of people, led by Mary Bailey, the Friends would be unrecognisable as the organisation we all know and love, so I cannot thank them enough. Overall we are finding fewer members choosing to take part in our events, so that many are not fully subscribed, which both reduces funds raised and means that the event organisers work just as hard to benefit a smaller number of members.

Our financial health has been further strengthened by the receipt of a legacy from Jean Allan and the final instalment of funds from the estate of Margaret Kerr.

The Treasurer's report lists the ways in which our funds have been used this year to support the work of Bristol

Museums Galleries & Archives: many of them have been highlighted in more detail in our newsletter and on our website, or have been the subject of one of our Saturday talks.

Our financial contribution continues to be valued by the Service, and we are able to help with minimal bureaucracy. For larger amounts, our seed funding can unlock national funds from the Science Museum, the V&A, or private trusts, often more than doubling the value of our contribution. The availability of our funds therefore makes a very real difference to the Service and to the individual members of staff we support.

Our non-financial support is also important, and appreciated. This has been a difficult year for the Museum staff continuing to deliver on their commitments throughout a very challenging staff restructure process. I have heard privately from quite a few individuals how much our encouragement and advocacy has meant to them over that time.

## **Newsletter and communications**

The newsletter has continued to be vital in keeping us connected with all our members, not just those who join us for events, and the museum team have contributed some fascinating and well-received articles to complement our traditional reports of our own events and trips. Editors Tim and Ann Wood as always do a wonderful job of putting together each fully-illustrated edition and making it so enjoyable to read; many thanks to them both for their skill and hard work, to our many contributors of both articles and photographs, and to Mary Bailey and Richard Avery, who are responsible for printing, enveloping and dispatch.

## **Working with the museums service**

Our relationship with the museum team continues to be key to what we do as Friends, and we are grateful to staff across the service for their continued enthusiastic support. I know that in return they appreciate not just our financial and practical contribution but also the genuine friendliness of our committees and volunteers when we work with them in organising and running events and other activities. Because of the restructure of the museums service, which aimed to reduce operational cost to the Council by over £400k a year, there have been too many staff changes to mention in detail, but as far as possible they have been reported in the newsletter. We wish all the staff who have left the best for the future. One departure was of particular significance for us: Ray Barnett, who was for many years our main contact at the museum and took early retirement at the end of 2022 after 33 years with the Bristol museums service. He will be long remembered for his helpfulness, encouragement, common sense, unflappability and untiring good humour. We wish him the very best in the new chapter of his life and warmly welcome him as a member of the Friends.

Ray's role as our primary contact has been taken on jointly by Beth Cutter and Caroline Booth-Morris, who job-share the role of Development Manager. They already run the organisational aspects of Bristol Museums Development Trust and even prior to the news of Ray's departure we had been in discussion with them about areas where the two charities, the Friends and BMDT, could work more closely together. Ray's was a hard act to follow, and Beth and Caroline have very much proved to be up to the job. We are grateful for their ongoing support.

## **The Executive Committee**

I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes. Special appreciation is due to our officers: Katherine Martin our Secretary; Robert Walters our Treasurer; and Richard Avery our Membership Secretary. The committee have met monthly in person throughout the year. Thanks, too, to the volunteers who are not part of the committee but whose work is vital to our success.

Gary Gostelow, a long-serving member of the committee, has decided not to stand for re-election at the AGM. Our thanks go to him for his work and support, both on the committee and as a key member of the Events Group. As well as organising some very enjoyable events, including holidays, over the years Gary has been ready without fuss to cover many impromptu jobs as they come up, such as collecting donations at the Museum's Winter Lectures and organising refreshments for the AGM. His contributions will be missed but he and Hilary will, I am sure, continue to play a full part in the Friends' social life.

## **The Future**

We are in a strong position financially and, thanks to our loyal membership and to all our officers, committee & Events Group members and other volunteers – and supportive staff from the museums service – I am confident we will continue to thrive in the coming year. To reduce our administrative workloads we have successfully introduced online booking, but to maintain and grow our activities we need to recruit new members to the Events Group and volunteers interested in shadowing and later taking on all the key roles essential to our success. If you think you might be able to help, while at the same time

extending your social circle and having the satisfaction of supporting such a good cause, please let me know in person or by email.

## **Sue Thurlow**

Chair

### **Treasurer's Report**

This has been a difficult year with the aftermath of COVID and a shortage of members willing to take on some of our key roles. However the organisation is in very good shape largely due to generous legacies: in this financial year we received a new legacy of £2,500 from the estate of Jean Allan and the final instalment of over £10,000 from the estate of Margaret Kerr. For these we are most grateful.

Our substantial funds are invested in sundry banks on short-term bonds of no more than two years. We aim to try to earn the best rates of interest consonant with safety. Fortunately we have been able to make grants to the museums of over £75,000. A new departure was a contribution to the salary of a Working Exhibits Deputy Manager for M Shed. This has enabled the museums to keep these exhibits working and to raise money from them. We were also able to give Amy Raphael a purse of £5,000 to spend in Japan on vessels and sundry items used in tea and other ceremonies. Our list of donations shows a wide and eclectic variety of ways in which we have contributed to the collections and activities of the museums.

Our sources of income have continued to consist of subscriptions and donations from members ably managed by Richard Avery, gift aid clawed back from HMRC by Dr Peter Newley and the series of lectures and outings organised and run by Mary Bailey's small Events Group.

That group has done very well to achieve a profit of over £14,000 in the post COVID period and the lack of funds of members caused by inflation. The important thing is that we still have ample funds to support donations to the museums, provided that we can find people to carry on our activities.

We are grateful to Geoffrey Clements for being our External Examiner of the accounts.

	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions	12,640	14,198
Donations	804	473
Legacies	13,300	57,000
Gift aid	2,801	3,079
Activities for generating funds	14,500	15,157
Winter lectures	106	271
Bank interest	3,559	1,616
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>47,710</b>	<b>91,794</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Sponsorship of winter lectures	1,313	7,085
Grants to Bristol Museums - General funds	74,321	22,842
Grants to Bristol Museums - Art fund	0	6,175
Administration costs	10,753	8,773
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>86,387</b>	<b>44,875</b>
<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN FUNDS</b>	<b>-38,677</b>	<b>46,919</b>
<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>296,889</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>305,131</b>	<b>343,808</b>

### **Grants to Museums in Year**

JB Pyne Watercolour	6,750
Three Video Installations	4,246
Contribution to a pair of Lund vases	15,500
Repairs to vessel John King	7,000
Contribution to salary of Working Exhibits Deputy Manager	22,456
Purchase of painting of Red Maids School	3,000
Purchase of Print of Gio-ji temple	810
Contribution to Ray Barnett's leaving event	500
Amy Raphael's Japan Purchases	4,963
Mary Carpenter Photo Album	1,596
Painting of Avon Gorge by J S Harford	6,000
Digitising Chinese textiles	1,500
Winter lectures	1,313
	<b>£75,634</b>

### **Grants approved for 2023-2024**

Video Art	5,954
Sound Archives	2,000
Contribution to conservation of building plans	1,500
Digitising papers	1,344
Reprint Bristol Region Geology book	1,000
Benjamin Lund sauceboat	5,000
Five 18 <sup>th</sup> century glasses	5,000
	<b>£21,798</b>

### **Robert Walters**

Treasurer

## **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership numbers fell again and at the end of our reporting year (30 June) we had 330 single members (352 last year) and 310 (342) joint members. The lifting of most COVID restrictions during the year was mirrored by the gradual resumption of our normal activities and we have seen 13 new memberships.

84% of the current membership have completed Gift Aid declarations, enabling us to boost our income, and our thanks are due to Peter Newley for processing the year's claim.

### **Richard Avery**

Membership Secretary

## **Events Group Report**

This year was almost a normal year for the Events Group, working as a small team of six: Richard Avery, Catherine Dixon, Gary Gostelow, Carol Lear, Carol Ouvry and myself. We have continued to limit the number of events per month to a maximum of three and provide as wide a range of activities and topics as possible. Administrative support has been provided by Roni Edwards, so many thanks to her.

The number of members booking for our events have still not reached pre-COVID levels so very few of our trips are fully booked; in fact we had to cancel the trip to Clevedon in March due to lack of support. It does, however, provide an opportunity for members' friends to join us so we hope that word will be put around to attract more bookings. In contrast, the behind-the-scenes visits continue to attract a

high level of interest so Carol Ouvry is kept busy arranging extra visits to accommodate as many members as possible. She deserves our special thanks for this additional workload.

Highlights of this year's activity have been the gallery tours of the newly-displayed delftware and Japanese porcelain collections by Amber Turner and Amy Raphael respectively; the trip to Longford Castle – one of the most difficult destinations to get into; and the trip to Messums Wiltshire in Richard Avery's splendid vintage Royal Blue coach.

We welcome suggestions for and feedback on the programme and also any offers of help in organising events. Please do get in touch with me if you have comments or think you would like to be part of the organising team: [events@friendsofbmga.org.uk](mailto:events@friendsofbmga.org.uk) or 0117 942 1944/ 07779 244308



## **List of events**

### **11 Trips**

Longford Castle  
Messums Wiltshire  
Mottisfont House  
National Museum of Wales, Cardiff  
New Art Gallery, Walsall  
Roche Court sculpture park  
Sherborne Castle  
Southampton Art Gallery  
Stourbridge Glass Museum  
Stourhead, Wiltshire  
Ugbrooke House

### **16 Behind the Scenes Visits**

Albion Dockyard  
Ashton Court Mansion (2)  
All God's Children exhibition, Bristol Cathedral  
Bristol Archives  
8 gallery tours: delftware collection (3); Japanese porcelain collection (3); Bristol Tapestry (2)  
Hogarth Altarpiece at St Nicholas Church  
Merchants' Hall  
Royal West of England Academy

### **8 Talks**

Archive film: the Citizens of Bristol at War  
Bristol Tapestry  
Cézanne – Father of Modernism  
Delftware Tiles  
Pyronaut and the Queen's Jubilee  
The Flying Sikh  
The Windrush Tapes  
Tutankhamun – King of Egypt

## **1 Walk**

Crime and Crinolines in Clifton

## **3 Special events**

Harbour cruise on the Matthew

Quiz and buffet supper

Lecture and lunch: The Lund Vases by Amber Turner at M Shed

## **3 Public events**

Bristol Harbour Festival book and cake sale at L Shed

Seasonal sale of jigsaws, books, cakes and preserves at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

Cake sale at L Shed for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the demise of Bristol Commercial Vehicles

## **Mary Bailey**

Chair, Events Group

## **Volunteering**

This year saw the return of two big events: Bristol Harbour Festival and Bristol's Brilliant Archaeology Festival, both in July 2022. For the former, we had our usual books and cakes sale in L Shed but, with not many books to sell on this occasion, we made a smaller surplus than in previous years: just over £500. However, our volunteers came up trumps with plenty of delicious cakes which more than made up for the dearth of books.

Bristol's Brilliant Archaeology Festival, master-minded by Kate Iles – Curator of Archaeology, was a lively event with staged Viking battles, lots of hands-on archaeology and things for children to get involved in. The Friends' contribution, apart from Sue Thurlow being in charge of the welcome/information point for the whole day, was a display

of herbs and food from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, majoring on medicinal use. There was plenty of interest in this topic from the visitors to the festival and our time was fully occupied in discussing the finer points of some of the cures and recipes. No tasting of food was allowed but children enjoyed smelling the herbs.

We had two further baking opportunities during the year: our seasonal sale in November 2022 at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery (which also included books, jigsaws and preserves); and a cake sale in June this year at L Shed with the display of vintage buses and coaches on the harbourside to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the demise of Bristol Commercial Vehicles. These two events generated useful sums: £400 and £370 respectively.

Our grateful thanks go to all the volunteers who supported these events with their time or donations or both.

**Mary Bailey**

## **Harbourside Working Exhibits Report**

The electric cranes have been given grade II listed status, which will not affect our programme of work to keep all four cranes operating. These iconic sentinels stand proudly as not many now exist in full working order, a credit to our volunteer team.

The steam crane and *Mayflower* are both certified to run but, due to operational pressures, we have decided to step back a little this year. This is a difficult choice to make and it upsets those who love trips on the *Mayflower*. However, she will operate at the end of the season.

The steam railway remains very popular but since January, when *Portbury's* 10-year boiler ticket expired, only *Henbury* has been in operation on the quayside. With the repair to the Cumberland Road landslip it is hoped to reinstate the service to A Bond soon.

In the spring we started work on *Pyronaut's* starboard engine, which has not been performing as it should. As a result the planned work to lift the boat out of the water for a survey and painting of the hull has been postponed to later this year and *Pyronaut* was unable to perform its traditional display, as ambassador for M Shed and the working exhibits, at the 2023 Harbour Festival.

A big thank you is due to the Friends for helping us financially to add Bill Drewett to the team. His input in sharing the workload with the Operations Manager is invaluable. We have since secured the position externally for a further 3 years through the John Ellerman Foundation.

The Friends also helped to pay for the hull of *John King* to be surveyed and painted and work is progressing to make the above deck look smart for taking visitors on trips.

Thanks again for your continuing support.

**Chris Ecclestone**

Working Exhibits Manager

# **Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives Committees**

2022-2023

## **Executive Committee**

### **Officers:**

Sue Thurlow – Chair

Katherine Martin – Secretary

Robert Walters – Treasurer

Richard Avery – Membership Secretary

### **Elected Members:**

Mary Bailey

Clive Burlton

Gary Gostelow

Susan Hibberd

Carol Lear

Toby Pinn

### **Co-opted:**

Sir Stephen Sparks

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives' Representatives:**

Ray Barnett – Head of Collections and Archives (to Dec 22)

Beth Cutter/Caroline Booth Morris – Joint Development Manager  
(from Jan 23)

Allie Dillon – City Archivist

## **Events Group**

Mary Bailey – Chair

Richard Avery

Catherine Dixon

Gary Gostelow

Carol Lear

Carol Ouvry

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023**

<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Subscriptions	12,640	14,198
Donations and legacies	14,104	57,473
Gift Aid	2,801	3,079
Activities for generating funds	14,500	15,157
Winter lectures	106	271
Bank interest	3,559	1,616
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>47,710</b>	<b>91,793</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>		
Newsletter and AGM	5,760	3,402
Postage	3,003	3,479
Sundry Expenses	832	866
Bank charges	897	890
Website	164	135
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	<b>10,654</b>	<b>8,771</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>37,056</b>	<b>83,023</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED (see over for breakdown)</b>		
Grants to BMGA – from general funds	75,734	29,927
Grants to BMGA – from art funds	0	6,175
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>75,734</b>	<b>36,102</b>
<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN FUNDS</b>	<b>-38,678</b>	<b>46,919</b>
<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>296,889</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>305,131</b>	<b>343,808</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2023</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and stamps in hand	3,210	2,612
Current account	16,383	29,891
Deposit account	43,841	94,038
Hampshire Trust deposit	56,196	55,579
Shawbrook Bank deposit	25,000	0
United Trust Bank	83,331	81,689
Cambridge and Counties Bank	80,000	80,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>307,961</b>	<b>343,808</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Receipts in hand per future events and creditor	2,830	0
<b>ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>305,131</b>	<b>343,808</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>305,131</b>	<b>343,808</b>

## **BREAKDOWN OF RESOURCES EXPENDED**

J B Pyne watercolour	6,750
Three video installations	4,246
Contribution to pair of Lund vases	15,500
Repairs to vessel <i>John King</i>	7,000
Contribution to salary of Working Exhibits deputy manager	22,456
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Painting of Avon Gorge J S Harford	6,000
Digitising Chinese textiles	1,500
Winter lectures	1,313
Summer walks	100
	<hr/>
	75,734
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## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2023 set out above.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 130 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Geoffrey Clements July 2023

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023**

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Geoffrey Clements July 2023

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES**

England & Wales - Charity number 276777

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2021-2022**

**Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives**  
**Registered charity no.276777**

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Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL**

**<http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk>**

## **Chairman's Report**

Following the national lockdowns and restrictions of 2022/21, this year has seen a gradual return of both museum and Friends activities to something that feels closer to normal.

In the summer of 2021 Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, M Shed and Bristol Archives re-opened their doors to visitors followed by Blaise Museum, The Georgian House and The Red Lodge in the spring of 2022. The working exhibits at M Shed restarted their regular programme of public running at the start of the 2022 season. All have been enthusiastically welcomed by the returning visitors.

Our Events Group has run a programme of face-to-face activities which has ramped up as the year progressed, raising an impressive total of over £15,000, although inevitably there continued to be a few cancellations and postponements caused by pandemic precautions. Our first major event since lockdown, a holiday to the Isle of Man postponed from 2020, took place in October and was a great success.

Our financial health has been further strengthened by the receipt of £50,000 from the estate of Margaret Kerr (bringing the total received so far to £200,000), plus legacies from Jenny Pennington and John Hibberd.

The Treasurer's report lists the ways in which some of our funds have been used this year to support the work of Bristol Museums Galleries & Archives; many of them have been highlighted in more detail in our newsletter and on our website.

Our financial contribution continues to be valued by the service, and we are able to help with minimal bureaucracy. For larger amounts, our seed funding can unlock national funds from the Science Museum, the V&A, or private trusts, often doubling or more the value of our contribution. The availability of our funds therefore makes a very real difference to the service and to the individual members of staff we support.

Our non-financial support is also important and appreciated. In January we issued a media release raising the profile of the Council's proposed significant cuts to the museums service budget, and this was picked up by BBC and ITV local news, the Bristol Post, Bristol 24/7 and other media. We can only hope that this led to an increased awareness of the value of the service to the city and the potentially damaging impact of ill-judged cost cutting.

### **Sad news**

In July 2021 Andy King, who had recently agreed to be our fourth Patron, sadly died, having made an exceptional contribution to the city and to industrial and maritime history across the country over almost 40 years. Over the decades Andy was a very practical supporter of the Friends and will be widely missed.

During the year we also lost several others who had made very significant contributions to the work of the Friends and previously to Friends of Bristol Art Gallery (FoBAG) and Bristol Magpies over the years. Tony Merriman was a past treasurer of FoBAG and a popular participant in many of our activities. John McOmie – who may well have been our oldest member at 101 – had been chairman of the Bristol Magpies on three occasions! Most recently we lost Maurice Bell who for 20 years ran, with his wife Margaret, the FoBAG programme of events that delighted and informed

members and raised many thousands of pounds to support the work of the Art team at the museum. The Friends are indebted to them all for their contributions to our success, and our best wishes go to their families and many friends.

## **Newsletter and communications**

The newsletter has continued to be vital keeping us connected with members and the museum team have contributed some fascinating and well-received articles to complement our traditional trip reports. Editors Tim and Ann Wood as always do a wonderful job of putting together each fully-illustrated edition and making it so enjoyable to read; many thanks to them both for their skill and hard work, and to our many contributors of both articles and photographs.

## **Working with the museums service**

Our relationship with the museum team continues to be key to what we do as Friends, and we are grateful to staff across the service for their continued enthusiastic support. I know that in return they appreciate not just our financial and practical contribution but also the genuine friendliness of our committees and volunteers when we work with them in organising and running events and other activities. I would particularly like to thank Ray Barnett, our main contact at the museum, who in the face of an ever-growing workload comes to all our Executive Committee meetings, keeps us up-to-date with developments across the service, answers our questions and resolves any issues. The Executive Committee continue to appreciate his helpfulness, encouragement, common sense, unflappability and untiring good humour.

In December, Jenny Gaschke, Curator of Fine Art pre-1900, left to become Senior Curator, Paintings & Drawings, at the

Victoria and Albert Museum. Jon Finch, Head of Culture & Creative Industries left Bristol at Easter to become Head of Culture and Visitor Economy for Barnsley. His interim replacement is Genevieve Adkins, previously at the National Army Museum.

## **Programme of Events**

Our Events Group, led by Mary Bailey, has continued to work very hard on arranging (and sometimes re-arranging) a gradually expanding programme of events. I cannot thank them enough for all they do. The Events Group now needs some new recruits if we are to return to as full a programme as in pre-lockdown years. If you think you might be interested please contact Mary Bailey or Sue Thurlow to find out more.

## **The Executive Committee**

I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes, and for the support they give me. Special appreciation is due to our officers: Katherine Martin our Secretary; Robert Walters our Treasurer; and Richard Avery our Membership Secretary. The committee have met monthly in person throughout the year. Thanks, too, to the volunteers who are not part of the committee but whose work is vital to our success, including Peter Newley who collates and submits our valuable Gift Aid claim.

June Hibberd has decided not to stand for re-election at the AGM. She deserves our special thanks for being on the committee since 2004, serving as an extremely efficient and welcoming membership secretary until 2020, when she handed over the role to Richard Avery.

If you are interested in contributing to the work of the committee, or to any of our activities, please let me know.

## **The Future**

We are in a strong position financially, and thanks to our loyal membership and to all our officers, committee & Events Group members and other volunteers – and supportive staff from the museums service – I am confident we will continue to thrive. However, to maintain and grow our activities we need to recruit one or two new members to the Events Group.

## **Sue Thurlow**

Chairman



## **Treasurer's Report**

The Friends are fortunate in having assets of over £300,000 available to the museums and archives. This is largely due to legacies from the estates of Margaret Kerr, Jane Biddulph, Jennifer Pennington and John Hibberd. By far the largest of these was from Margaret Kerr. We are very grateful for the generosity of these legacies.

The funds especially reserved for the purchases of art, received from the winding up of the Friends of Bristol Art Gallery, have now been fully expended so that a specific art fund no longer exists but we will continue to support requests from the art collections on the same basis as all other requests. Funds left to us for specific purposes will, as far as possible, be used for those purposes.

Other sources of income are subscriptions, for which we thank Richard Avery, Membership Secretary, for collection and Dr Peter Newley for claiming the Gift Aid, and proceeds of events. After release from the restrictions of the COVID pandemic the Events Group, chaired by Mary Bailey, has provided a welcome and very varied programme of events. This has contributed over £15,000 to our funds. Our thanks to all members of Mary's group.

How we have spent some of the money on grants to the museums and archives is set out in schedules to the accounts and the list is on the following page. The accounts will be available for members to see at the annual general meeting.

We are most grateful to Geoffrey Clements for being our external examiner.

<b>Grants made in 2021-2022</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Art Fund</b>
	£	£
Goram Fair photographs	222	
Delft Black Boy punch bowl		2,175
Book of maritime documents	6,250	
Emilia ship's bell	2,000	
Japanese lacquer box		4,000
W R Barker letter	240	
Archive Windrush interviews	2,200	
South West Sounds audio project	2,000	
Pachystropeus fossil	1,500	
Contribution to storyteller etc at Blaise Museum	7,700	
Winter lectures Zoom kit	4,500	
Winter lectures room hire	2,100	
	<b>28,712</b>	<b>6,175</b>
<b>Grants approved for 2022-2023</b>		
Video art	6,800	3,400
Bristol Zoo archive	1,000	
J B Pyne watercolour		6,750
Sound archives	1,000	
Japanese artefacts		5,000
Pair of Bristol Lund vases		11,300
Support for working exhibits	7,600	
	<b>16,400</b>	<b>26,450</b>

**Robert Walters**

Treasurer

## **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership fell slightly again during the year and we now have 352 single members (362 last year) and 342 (346) joint members. The gradual lifting of Covid-19 restrictions during the year was mirrored by the gradual resumption of our normal activities and we have seen 36 new memberships. 83% of the membership have completed Gift Aid declarations, enabling us to boost our income, and our thanks are due to Peter Newley for processing the year's claim.

### **Richard Avery**

Membership Secretary

## **Events Group Report**

We had a small-scale beginning to the year with a couple of Zoom talks in July and August but September saw events begin in earnest. The postponed visit to the Isle of Man took place and was much enjoyed by all. Thereafter, the small core of members of the Events Group managed to organise a programme of up to three events a month. Initially it was challenging as Covid restrictions were still in place in some instances but as the year wore on most of these were lifted and life returned to something resembling normal. The number of members booking for trips has remained lower than pre-Covid times but we hope that confidence will return and our events will once again be fully booked.

Within the group, Richard Avery has taken on responsibility for organising day trips along with Carol Lear and, occasionally, Gary Gostelow – the latter having reduced his workload due to ill health. We are pleased to welcome

Catherine Dixon to the group and look forward to her input during the next year. Once again, Carol Ouvry has managed to put together an impressive list of behind-the-scenes visits – with additional help from Carol Lear, Gary Gostelow and back-up from Katherine Martin. We have also appreciated the administrative help of Catherine Dixon, Roni Edwards and Keira Stobie with bookings for the talks. All the group deserve congratulations and thanks for organising such an interesting programme for this year.

We welcome suggestions for and feedback on the programme and also any offers of help in organising events. Please do get in touch with me if you have comments or think you would like to be part of the organising team: [events@friendsofbmga.org.uk](mailto:events@friendsofbmga.org.uk) or 0117 942 1944/ 07779 244308

## **List of events**

### **2 Holidays**

Visit to the Isle of Man

Visit to the north-east of England

### **7 Trips**

Ashmolean Museum exhibition: Pissarro – the Father of Impressionism

Blake Museum, Bridgwater

Holburne Museum and Victoria Art Gallery, Bath

Salisbury Museum exhibition: The art of the British wood engraver

Peter Scott's House and the Wetlands Centre, Slimbridge

The Dorset Museum

The Firs, birthplace of Sir Edward Elgar

## **17 Behind the Scenes Visits**

Arnos Vale Cemetery

Averys Wine Cellar

Bristol Blue Glass factory and shop

10 gallery tours: Bristol Photography Festival exhibition (2),

Diversity in Art (2), Wildlife Photographer of the Year

exhibition, English Delftware collection (2),

Vanguard/Street Art exhibition, Grayson's Art Club

exhibition (2)

Lifeskills Centre

Limbs & Things

Muller Museum

Underfall Yard

## **9 Talks**

964 and All That – focus on Pucklechurch

Arnos Vale – the symbolism of gravestones

British Empire & Commonwealth Collection archive film

Cutting it Fine – the art of the British wood engraver

English Delftware at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

From Brycgstow to Bristol in 45 bridges

Pissarro – the father of Impressionism

Raphael – his life and works

That Zealous Naturalist, Mr Miller

## **1 Lecture and Lunch**

Flowers in Japanese Art at M Shed

## **2 Public events**

Seasonal sale at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

Cake sale for Blaise Museum re-opening

## **Mary Bailey**

Chairman, Events Group

## **Volunteering Report**

We had two small-scale events this year to raise extra funds for the museums service. The first was a late-November sale of books, jigsaws, cakes and preserves at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery. Restrictions were still in place so all volunteers wore masks and hand-gel was provided on each table. As we had no books in store, we relied on our members to bring supplies – and there had obviously been a lot of clearing out during the lockdowns along with time filled by completing jigsaw puzzles. We had mountains of books and jigsaws, so there was plenty of stock to sell. Members also brought in a varied selection of cakes and preserves so a healthy surplus of over £450 was made during the day. Sales were boosted for the first time by the use of a card-reader, now an essential item in our increasingly cashless society.

The second event was the result of a fairly late request from Catherine Littlejohns to take part in the re-opening celebration at Blaise Castle House Museum in early April. We agreed to provide cakes for visitors and, as we were positioned outside the front entrance of the house (on a sunny day, fortunately), to passers-by. Dog-walkers, cyclists and families stopped to buy slices of cake, pleased to discover that the museum was once again open to the public. Again, the card-reader came into its own and we ended the day with a surplus of over £200.

Both these events were well supported by volunteers staffing the stalls and bringing items to sell, as well as by members coming to buy, so we are very grateful to all of them for helping to boost the funds we raise for the museums service.

July 2022 sees the return of events such as the Harbour Festival and Bristol's Brilliant Archaeology festival so opportunities for our volunteers will increase next year.

**Mary Bailey**

## **Harbourside Working Exhibits Report**

Following the difficult period of the Covid shut down, the working exhibits have received a warm welcome back since returning to public operations. We have not had all the volunteers back to work, only those with the relevant training and competence to operate the exhibits. This small but dedicated team continues to operate and maintain our fleet of boats, trains and cranes.

We have made changes to the public operation by creating a ticket office built inside L shed and facing the quayside. This caters for all our exhibit operations and has proved to be a success with both public and staff alike.

A change to the normal rail operation has been with two engines on the train - top and tail is the phrase. This is to prove *Henbury* by putting mileage on the new bearings and also to enable practical hands-on learning for new crew.

All three boats have given public trips and the fire-boat *Pyronaut* is due to provide water displays for the Harbour Festival. This is very much a favourite with the crowds and when on a trip it is possible to see a rainbow in the spray.

Donations have grown in strength with *Pyronaut*, electric crane and behind-the-scenes tours organised for groups. These follow many talks about the boat given by Clive

Brain, skipper of *Pyronaut* and former crew member when she was in the fire service.

Difficult times are still ahead: the diesel tug *John King* needs to be out of the water for a hull inspection; the railway needs attention to the track and, of course, the long-awaited reinstatement towards A Bond. These goals and many more are the challenges that focus the volunteer team, without whom we would not be able to provide our unique public offer in the middle of a vibrant city.

**Chris Ecclestone**

Working Exhibits Manager

# **Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives Committees**

2021-2022

## **Executive Committee**

### **Officers:**

Sue Thurlow – Chairman  
Katherine Martin – Secretary  
Robert Walters – Treasurer  
Richard Avery – Membership Secretary

### **Elected Members:**

Mary Bailey  
Clive Burlton  
Gary Gostelow  
June Hibberd  
Susan Hibberd  
Carol Lear  
Toby Pinn

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives' Representatives:**

Ray Barnett – Head of Collections and Archives  
Allie Dillon – City Archivist

## **Events Group**

Mary Bailey – Chairman  
Richard Avery  
Catherine Dixon  
Gary Gostelow  
Carol Lear  
Carol Ouvry



## **Registered Charity No 276777**

The objects of the Association are as follows:

The education of the public by promoting, supporting, assisting and improving Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives through the activity of a group of supporters.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise the Association shall have the following powers:

- To raise funds for the purposes of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives in such manner as the Association shall deem necessary, provided that no permanent trading activities are undertaken at any time.
- To organize, assist with and support functions and events for Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To assist with the care of the collections at the discretion of the Head of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To make representations to the Executive of Bristol City Council on any museum, gallery or archives matter.
- To purchase or acquire works of art and museum and archive items for presentation or loan to Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To produce publications for sale and/or distribution to members of the Association and members of the general public.
- To pursue these objects by means of meetings, exhibitions, appeals, lectures, other forms of instruction and schemes of a charitable nature, provided these do not affect the limits of our unincorporated charitable status.

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022**

<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Subscriptions	14,198	13,768
Donations and legacies	57,473	51,921
Gift Aid	3,079	4,302
Activities for generating funds	15,157	1,800
Winter lectures	271	0
Bank interest	1,616	2,186
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>91,793</b>	<b>73,977</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>		
Newsletter and AGM	3,402	4,804
Postage	3,479	2,256
Sundry expenses	866	633
Bank charges	890	209
Website	135	214
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	<b>8,771</b>	<b>8,116</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>83,023</b>	<b>66,051</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED*</b>		
Sponsorship of winter lectures	485	300
Grants to BMGA – from general funds	29,442	20,228
Grants to BMGA – from art funds	6,175	48,177
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>36,102</b>	<b>68,705</b>
<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN FUNDS</b>	<b>46,919</b>	<b>-2,844</b>
<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>296,889</b>	<b>299,733</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>296,889</b>
Including art funds	0	22,018
<b>BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2022</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	2,612	243
Deposit account	94,038	76,485
Hampshire Trust deposit	55,579	55,029
Shawbrook Bank deposit	0	82,169
United Trust Bank	81,689	0
Cambridge and Counties Bank	80,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>223,539</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Receipts in hand per future events	0	7,650
<b>ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>296,890</b>
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>343,808</b>	<b>296,889</b>

<b>*BREAKDOWN OF RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>£</b>
Sponsorship of winter lectures	485
From General Fund:	
Goram Fair photographs	222
Book of maritime documents	6,250
Emilia ship's bell	2,000
Archive Windrush interviews	2,200
South West Sounds audio project	2,000
Pachystropeus fossil	1,500
Storyteller etc at Blaise Museum	7,700
Winter lectures zoom kit	4,500
Winter lectures zoom hire	2,100
Bristol harbour branch railway maps	970
From the Art Fund:	
Delft black boy punch bowl	2,175
Japanese lacquer box	<u>4,000</u>
	<b><u>36,102</u></b>

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2022 set out overleaf.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 130 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES  
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022**

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### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

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**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES**

England & Wales - Charity number 276777

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2020-2021**

**Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives**  
**Registered charity no.276777**

**<http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk>**



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**Friends of BMGA, c/o Bristol Museum & Art Gallery,  
Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL**

**<http://www.friendsofbmga.org.uk>**

## **Chairman's Report**

The Coronavirus pandemic and the various lockdowns that we have been subject to throughout 2020/21 have, of course, impacted on the Friends but, as an organisation, we find ourselves still in a strong position. This is due to our loyal membership and to all our officers, committee & Events Group members and other volunteers – and supportive staff from the museums service – who have cheerfully worked with what is possible rather than what is ideal.

The museums, galleries and archives we support have been closed, or open with social distancing precautions, throughout the year. The Friends have been able to run very few fundraising events, and some that have been organised have had to be cancelled due to the ever-changing lockdown situation. But the Events Group have been resolute and have raised £1,800 (including some refunds received this year for events cancelled in 2019/20) which in the circumstances is remarkable, and they can be rightly proud of what they have achieved. The plans are to gradually expand the programme as society-wide restrictions allow, assuming we are able to recruit a couple more members to help organise events.

Our financial health has been further strengthened by the receipt of a further £50,000 from the estate of the late Margaret Kerr.

The Treasurer's report lists the ways in which some of our funds have been used this year to support the work of Bristol Museums Galleries & Archives: many of them have been highlighted in more detail in our award-winning newsletter and on our website.

Given the exceptional situation this year, both our financial contribution and our non-financial support have been particularly valued by the Service. For small amounts we are able to help with minimal bureaucracy. For larger amounts, our financial contribution can unlock national funds from the Science Museum, the V&A, or private trusts, often doubling or more the value of our contribution. The availability of our funds therefore makes a very real difference to the Service and to the individual members of staff we support.

In March Andy King, Curator of History, retired from the museum and accepted our invitation to become our fourth Patron, and in our June newsletter we published a summarised account of Andy's exceptional contribution to the city and to industrial and maritime history across the country over almost 40 years. Only a few months later, in early July, sadly Andy died. Over the decades Andy was a very practical supporter of the Friends and will be widely missed.

We have sadly lost a number of other significant contributors to the Friends this year, including: John Hibberd, who served on the FoBAG committee for almost 20 years; Tony Merriman, a past treasurer of FoBAG; and John McOmie who had been chairman of Bristol Magpies on three occasions.

## **Newsletter and communications**

With so few events able to be run this year, the newsletter has assumed even greater importance in keeping us connected with members. In the absence of events reports, the team at the museum stepped into the breach to provide us with some fascinating articles to entertain and inform us all. Editors Tim and Ann Wood as always do a wonderful job of putting together each fully-illustrated

edition of our newsletter and making it so enjoyable to read: many thanks to them both for their skill and hard work, especially in rising to the recent challenges, and to our many contributors of both articles and photographs.

## **Working with the museums service**

Our relationship with the museum team continues to be key to what we do as Friends, and we are grateful to staff across the service for their continued enthusiastic support. I know that in return they appreciate not just our financial and practical contribution but also the genuine friendliness of our committees and volunteers when we work with them in organising and running events and other activities. I would particularly like to thank Ray Barnett, our main contact at the museum. In the face of an ever-growing workload, he comes to all our Executive Committee meetings to keep us up-to-date with developments across the service, to answer our questions and to resolve any issues. The Executive Committee have appreciated his helpfulness, encouragement, common sense, unflappability and untiring good humour even more this year.

## **Programme of Events**

Although far fewer fundraising activities than normal have been able to take place, our Events Group, led by Mary Bailey, have had to work very hard on arranging, re-arranging and cancelling in response to changing lock-down rules – almost as much work as running a full programme! Mary also added a new string to our bow; online talks by Zoom. I cannot thank them enough for all they do. The Events Group now need some new recruits if we are to aim to return to as full a programme as in previous years. If you think you might be interested please contact Mary Bailey or a member of the Events Group or Executive Committee to find out more.

## **The Executive Committee**

I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes, and for the support they give me. Special appreciation is due to our officers: Katherine Martin our Secretary; Robert Walters our Treasurer; and Richard Avery our Membership Secretary. The committee have met monthly by Zoom throughout the year, and are looking forward to resuming regular meetings in person when that is practical. Thanks, too, to the volunteers who are not part of the committee but whose work is vital to our success, including Peter Newley who collates and submits our valuable gift aid claim.

This year we are losing two executive committee members: Muriel Harrison resigned in May and Shirley Hodgson will not be standing for re-election at the AGM. Our thanks go to both of them for their work and support over the years.

If you are interested in contributing to the work of the committee, or to any of our activities, please let me know.

## **The Future**

At the moment the entire world finds itself unable to predict the future with certainty, but hopefully we will all get used to a "new normal" and continue to adapt to ensure our success. We are still in a very strong position financially and will strengthen that further in 2020/21 by gradually increasing our fundraising activities.

**Sue Thurlow**  
Chairman

## Treasurer's Report

	<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	£	£
Subscriptions	13,768	15,571
Donations	2,348	4,628
Legacies less legal fees	49,573	117,000
Gift Aid	4,302	3,416
Activities for Generating Funds	1,800	9,937
Winter Lectures	0	1,004
Bank Interest	2,186	1,273
Funds from Friends of Bristol Art Gallery	0	6,477
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>73,977</b>	<b>159,306</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Sponsorship of Winter Lectures	300	747
Grants to BMGA – general funds	20,228	3,745
Grants to BMGA for art	48,177	1,656
Summer Walks	0	300
Administration costs	8,116	9,049
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>76,821</b>	<b>15,497</b>
Net decrease/increase in funds	-2,844	143,809
Brought forward	299,733	155,924
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>296,889</b>	<b>299,733</b>
of which the Art Fund is	22,018	70,195

The grants made to Bristol Museums' service in the year are listed on the next page.

<b>Grants made in 2020-2021</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Art Fund</b>
	£	£
Memoir of Bristol Blitz	225	
Records of Air Raid Warnings	103	
Document for transfer of Elizabethan house on The Quay	263	
Japanese glass bowl 'Stern Winter'		1,078
Bristol cars buck (wooden master pattern)	5,000	
Mary Carpenter watercolours		5,125
Mary Beck journal (19 <sup>th</sup> century tourist to Bristol)	3,375	
Transport of Gane furniture from Canada		4,271
Andy Holden ceramic birds' eggs		5,000
The Dr D A Kendall Bristol Beetle Collection	6,152	
Docks Railway wooden single-line-working staff	2,950	
Three works of the Bristol School of Artists		1,425
Lady Mayoress's ceremonial shovel, Docks Railway		3,865
Ceramic Works by Renee So		3,500
Conserve carpets at Georgian House		7,020
19 photographs from Bristol Photo Festival		15,000
Commission of Aboriginal Art		1,893
Firebars for the <i>Mayflower</i> steam tug	2,160	
	<b>20,228</b>	<b>48,177</b>
<b>Grants approved for 2020-2021</b>		
Video art purchases	6,800	3,400

This year has seen most of our activities closed down because of Covid-19, except for one visit in the autumn and lectures taking place on Zoom. However the Zoom lectures did not produce as much for each lecture as the tea and cakes produced at lectures in M Shed.

There was a small recovery from the Bordeaux trip because of repayment by EasyJet. Many members generously donated the refunds due to them to the Friends, on which we could obtain gift aid. The Isle of Man trip is postponed to September of this year.

Paradoxically, because of the legacies received from the late Margaret Kerr and the late Jane Biddulph, we now have more funds than we have ever had. More of our time than we have ever spent before is taken up with nursing those in times of pathetic interest rates.

Our thanks are due to Richard Avery for managing our subscriptions and to Mary Bailey and her Events Group for what little programme we were able to mount.

Our thanks are also due to Geoff Clements for acting as our external examiner.

### **Robert Walters**

Treasurer

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership fell during the year and we now have 362 single members (394 last year) and 346 (368) joint members. The Covid-19 restrictions meant that the majority of our normal activities were put on hold and as a result we have had only 17 new memberships. The lack of activities is also in part responsible for the 71 resignations

in the year. 82% of the membership have completed gift aid declarations, enabling us to boost our income, and our thanks are due to Peter Newley for processing this year's claim.

**Richard Avery**

Membership Secretary

## **Events Group Report**

This year has been eventful for all the wrong reasons. We had hoped to re-start the programme of events once the first lockdown finished last summer but it quickly became obvious that it would not be possible to return to our usual level of activity. So, from arranging around 50 events each year we ended up managing only one physical visit in October: the trip to Underfall Yard. Carol Ouvry was kept extremely busy re-arranging and then cancelling various behind-the-scenes visits; we continued to schedule visits in hope and to reassure our members that we were not ceasing all activity.

From January we decided to schedule monthly Zoom talks in order to provide a basic programme of events until we could once again meet up in person. These were of course available only to those members with access to the internet but it was the only way we could offer this activity. The talks have proved to be popular with a core of members and many have expressed their appreciation, despite the occasional technical hitch which occurred as we got to grips with Zoom and Eventbrite. We are grateful to the Bristol Art Gallery curators Kate Newnham, Jenny Gaschke and Julia Carver for providing us with three excellent art-focused topics as part of the programme and to Anne Lovejoy from Bristol Archives for her research into the Bristol Old Vic archive.

With the easing of restrictions the Events Group is once again meeting regularly to provide a programme for members. Sadly, we are much reduced in numbers with only myself, Gary Gostelow, Carol Lear and Carol Ouvry able to attend meetings. David Snelson is still recovering from illness and Pat Walker had to step down from the group because of personal circumstances. We are very grateful to Pat for all the excellent trips she organised – the last outing for our members before the pandemic struck in earnest was to Tortworth church, which was a memorable visit. David and Wendy Snelson have organised a wide variety of trips for us over many years which have been much enjoyed and we wish them well. Thanks are due to Gary, Carol Lear and, particularly, to Carol Ouvry for continuing the work of the group over the last year.

We have eagerly accepted Richard Avery's offer to join the team, which will help us to schedule more events. However, without additional help we are unlikely to be able to arrange as many as 50 events in the coming year, so our programme will be curtailed somewhat. So please do get in touch with me if you think you would like to be part of the organising team: [events@friendsofbmga.org.uk](mailto:events@friendsofbmga.org.uk) or 0117 942 1944/ 07779 244308

Finally, some sad news: Valerie Andrews, who was a very efficient and much-appreciated member of the Events Group for many years - publicising and organising book sales at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery and at L Shed during the annual Harbour Festival, helping to organise our Christmas fairs and arranging day trips - died on 9 December 2020. Her health had been failing for a while (she had to resign from the group because of it) and she spent her last years being cared for in St Monica's. We remember her with affection and gratitude.

## **List of events**

### **1 Behind the Scenes Visit**

Underfall Yard

### **6 Talks**

Being Human: Lynn Chadwick and the Geometry of Fear

Bristol's Homes for Heroes

Bristol Old Vic Archive

Bristol School of Artists – strange tales

Netsuke: miniature masterpieces from Japan

Underfall Yard: its central role in the development of Bristol

### **Mary Bailey**

Chairman, Events Group

## **Volunteering**

There were no book sales, cake sales, nor events in which the sewing group and cookery group could participate during the year because of the pandemic.

In the autumn of 2020 we were asked by the staff at M Shed to move our store of second-hand books as the space in L Shed was required by the museum. As there was no other storage space immediately available, we therefore regretfully disposed of the books to a bookseller in October.

We are planning to hold small-scale book sales in the future, along with the sale of jigsaws, preserves and cakes, as these sales have proved popular in the past and provide additional useful funds.

### **Mary Bailey**

## **Harbourside Working Exhibits Report**

It has been a strange two years as we all know but we are, hopefully, at the turning point of this extraordinary period. Not being able to deliver our usual train, boat trips and crane experiences for the public gave us time to catch up on the large projects that needed to be finished.

### **Harbourside Railway**

*Henbury* had not steamed for seven years while undergoing a heavy overhaul but the small team of dedicated volunteers managed to finish the rebuild and a steam certificate was given. We now need to run the engine and make sure all is well with the new bearings before the final coat of paint.

### **Boats**

The *Mayflower* team also worked hard to reassemble the boat for a steam test and give her a new coat of paint. This was done with pride and she looked smart to give Andy King the chance to skipper the boat one more time. True to form it rained on the day, as always when Andy was on a boat.

*Pyronaut* also has had a new coat of paint and a partial scrape of its bottom to remove the zebra mussels blocking the water cooling intake valves. All attention is now on *John King*, as we have removed the wheelhouse cabin into the workshop. The varnished timber is being cleaned back to bare wood before repairs and varnishing takes place.

### **Cranes**

Work has resumed on electric crane 29 to bring this back to working order and join the other three. All the cranes have just had a fresh coat of paint from top to bottom to help

fight against the elements; they look smart and now sit in their proper positions on the quayside.

The railway has a lot of track work to do over the coming months and hopefully all systems are go for the working exhibits in 2022.

We are grateful for the continued support of the Friends, which helps significantly, along with the volunteer team, to keep Andy's legacy going strong. We miss him hugely.

**Chris Ecclestone**

Working Exhibits Manager

# **Friends of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives Committees**

2020-2021

## **Executive Committee**

### **Officers:**

Sue Thurlow – Chairman  
Katherine Martin – Secretary  
Robert Walters – Treasurer  
Richard Avery – Membership Secretary

### **Elected Members:**

Mary Bailey  
Clive Burlton  
Gary Gostelow  
Muriel Harrison  
June Hibberd  
Shirley Hodgson  
Carol Lear  
Toby Pinn

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives' Representatives:**

Ray Barnett – Head of Collections and Archives  
Allie Dillon – City Archivist

## **Events Group**

Mary Bailey – Chairman  
Gary Gostelow  
Carol Lear  
Carol Ouvry  
David Snelson  
Wendy Snelson



## **Registered Charity No 276777**

The objects of the Association are as follows:

The education of the public by promoting, supporting, assisting and improving Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives through the activity of a group of supporters.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise the Association shall have the following powers:

- To raise funds for the purposes of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives in such manner as the Association shall deem necessary, provided that no permanent trading activities are undertaken at any time.
- To organize, assist with and support functions and events for Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To assist with the care of the collections at the discretion of the Head of Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To make representations to the Executive of Bristol City Council on any museum, gallery or archives matter.
- To purchase or acquire works of art and museum and archive items for presentation or loan to Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives.
- To produce publications for sale and/or distribution to members of the Association and members of the general public.
- To pursue these objects by means of meetings, exhibitions, appeals, lectures, other forms of instruction and schemes of a charitable nature, provided these do not affect the limits of our unincorporated charitable status.

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2020-21**

	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2019-20</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	£	£
Subscriptions	13,768	15,571
Donations and legacies	51,921	121,628
Gift Aid	4,302	3,416
Activities for generating funds	1,800	9,937
Winter Lectures	0	1,004
Bank Interest	2,186	1,273
Funds from Friends of Art Gallery	0	6,477
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>73,977</b>	<b>159,306</b>

**RESOURCES EXPENDED**

Sponsorship of Winter Lectures	300	747
Grants to BMGA - from general funds (see over)	20,228	3,745
Grants to BMGA - from art funds (see over)	48,177	1,656
Summer Walks	0	300
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>68,705</b>	<b>6,448</b>

**ADMINISTRATION COSTS**

Newsletter and AGM	4,804	4,524
Postage	2,256	2,603
Website	214	197
Bank charges	209	1,288
Christmas cards	83	65
Stationery	68	0
Sundry expenses	482	372
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	<b>8,116</b>	<b>9,049</b>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** **76,821**      **15,497**

**NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUNDS** **(2,844)**      **143,809**

**FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD** **299,733**      **155,924**

<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>296,889</b>	<b>299,733</b>
of which the Art Fund is	22,018	70,195

**BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2021**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Debtors (Gift Aid)	243	0
Current account	9,613	21,001
Deposit account	76,486	80,815
Hampshire Trust Bank (COIF)	55,029	45,129
Shawbrook Bank deposit	82,169	81,037
United Trust Bank	81,000	80,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>304,539</b>	<b>307,983</b>

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Receipts in hand per future events	7,650	8,250
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**ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES** **296,889**      **299,733**

FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

296,889	299,733
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<b>GRANTS MADE IN THE YEAR</b>	<b>General funds</b>	<b>Art funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Memoir of Bristol Blitz	225		225
Records of Air Raid Warnings	103		103
Document for transfer of Elizabethan house on The Quay	263		263
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Bristol Cars buck (wooden master pattern)	5,000		5,000
Mary Carpenter watercolours		5,125	5,125
Journal of Mary Beck, C19 tourist to Bristol	3,375		3,375
Transport of Gane furniture from Canada		4,271	4,271
Andy Holden ceramic bird eggs		5,000	5,000
The Dr D A Kendall Bristol Beetle Collection	6,152		6,152
Docks Railway wooden single-line-working staff	2,950		2,950
Three works of Bristol School artists		1,425	1,425
Lady Mayoress's ceremonial shovel Docks Railway		3,865	3,865
Ceramic works by Renee So		3,500	3,500
Conserve carpets Georgian House		7,020	7,020
19 photographs from Bristol Photo Festival		15,000	15,000
Commission of Aboriginal Art		1,893	1,893
Firebars for the <i>Mayflower</i> steam tug	2,160		2,160
	<u>20,228</u>	<u>48,177</u>	<u>68,405</u>
<b>Commitments</b>			
Video Art Purchases	6,800	3,400	10,200

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2021 set out above.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 130 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**FRIENDS OF BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

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<b>Commitments</b>			
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## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF BRISTOL'S MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND ARCHIVES

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### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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