

BISHOP'S STORTFORD DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 281725
TRUSTEES' REPORT 2024

Another year of excellent lectures, visits, outings and Special Interest Days, for which I am sure we are all grateful owing to the hard work of our lovely committee. The lecture programme has been most engaging and varied, although one wag did say there did seem to be a predominance of women in the first three lectures of this year! Surely, we men have become aware of our place in society by now! Thank you so much Maggie Simons. The trip to Italy was incredible but also was a headache for Rosemary as she was so anxious that we were all present and did not get lost in a foreign country! Back home we have enjoyed Walmer Castle, Blickling Hall, and Brighton and Glyndebourne, and of course the 'back to our childhood' 2023 Christmas dinner. Rosemary Thomson, you have achieved so much this year and given so much enjoyment to all those in your care; thank you very much indeed.

Hilary Mathews, we have been wonderfully entertained by your choice of Special Interest Days regarding Oscar Wilde in January and women artists in the 1930s in August. Thank you so much to you.

Shirley Moore, as Young Arts representative, has been working very closely with local schools to enable us to help them with some of their projects. Development is continuing and you will see the products of her work in due course. Some of you may have seen the excellent artwork that was on display at the end of year exhibition in July. Thank you, Shirley.

Sue Chapman joined us after I made an appeal two years ago and has been very ably helping in a number of different tasks supporting all the members of the committee when needed. We very much appreciate your flexibility, Sue.

Thank you, Mick Fitch for another great year of publicity which has resulted in an even further increase in membership numbers through his effort, accompanied of course by your own encouragement of your friends and family.

Thanks to my wife June for having her smiling face welcoming everybody, (including people who are not even there for our lecture), and to our venue which provides the lovely environment that we all enjoy.

Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to several people during the course of this year, one in particular is our independent examiner of the accounts for the Society. Robert Inglis has approved the accounts for many years for which we are extremely grateful, and our condolences go to Anne. Roger Hughes-Penny has put himself forward as a nominee to take over the role at the AGM.

Behind the scenes Graham and Jenny Savage have ably looked after the accounts and membership and, similarly, Ray Jones, our Secretary, organises us into a cohesive band, holding everything together. We have all been active in discussing the merits of the plans which were put forward by the Arts Society Headquarters for governance and future organisation of the Society as a whole, which lead to a great deal of dissent. Now resolved, we wish the trustees every success in taking our Organisation forward.

I have enjoyed my part in the care of the Society, and thank you all for your continued support in keeping the Arts Society of Bishop Stortford so vital, and we look forward to your continued support into the coming year. My thanks to the committee for your support and for making it such good fun over the last four years. I now pass the baton on to my successor to take our Society to new heights, and wish Hilary, assuming you elect her, all the very best.

James Barrie
Chairman

THE ARTS SOCIETY BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Registered Charity no. 281725 - Member Society of The Arts Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
INCOME		
Subscriptions and visitors	12,673	11,171
Special Interest Days - Income	4,428	3,830
- Expenditure	(4,264)	(3,994)
Outings - Income	7,434	3,949
- Expenditure	(7,219)	(3,648)
Christmas lunch	93	(7)
Tax Recovery	2,146	1,953
Sales of booklet	5	105
Interest	444	83
Donations	316	68
Total Income	<u>16,056</u>	<u>13,510</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Lecture Fees & Expenses	4,051	4,178
Hire of Hall	2,964	2,790
The Arts Society Capitation & News	4,472	4,543
Administration and sundries	745	681
Committee expenses	432	385
Equipment	0	80
Donations	450	600
New Members' reception	84	113
Publicity	255	0
Total Expenditure	<u>13,453</u>	<u>13,370</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	<u>2,603</u>	<u>140</u>

BALANCE SHEET

MEMBERS FUNDS

Opening Balance	14,652	14,512
Surplus / (Deficit)	2,603	140
Closing Balance	<u>17,255</u>	<u>14,652</u>
Made up of: Subscription Reserve	2,984	2,684
General Reserve	14,271	11,968
	<u>17,255</u>	<u>14,652</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

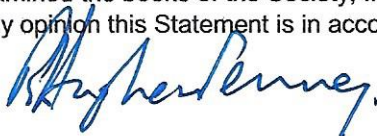
Debtors and Prepayments	0	28
Saffron Building Society	7,119	7,074
United Trust Bank	6,516	6,174
Natwest Bank	4,070	2,247
Petty Cash	135	154
	<u>17,840</u>	<u>15,677</u>
Less: Accruals	(585)	(1,025)
	<u>17,255</u>	<u>14,652</u>

Signed Graham Savage



I have independently examined the books of the Society, from which the above Financial Statement has been prepared, and in my opinion this Statement is in accordance therewith.

Roger Hughes-Penney
29th October 2024



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