

Charity number
296085

The French Porcelain Society
Report and Unaudited Accounts
31 March 2025

The French Porcelain Society
Report and accounts
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The French Porcelain Society

Charity Information

Current Trustees

Antoinette Megens-Kuhn - Chairwoman resigned August 2024
Amelia Jackson - Co chair appointed August 2024
Nick Stagliano - Co chair appointed August 2024
Micheline Espeland - Treasurer
Helen Jacobsen - Secretary
Rebecca Klärner
John Whitehead
Caroline McCaffrey-Howarth
Peter Burton
Letitia Roberts
Errol Manners
Elisa Sani
Cyrille Froissart
Sophie Freiin Von Der Goltz
Simon Spier
Tamara Preaud

Independent examiner

Catherine A Williams Ltd
The Old Bank
Beaufort Street
Crickhowell
Powys
NP8 1AD

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
94 Kensington High Street
Kensington
London
W8 4SH

Charity's principal address from 15th November 2024

Waddesdon Manor
Waddesdon
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP18 0JH

Charity's principal address to 15th November 2024

9 Lloyd Street
London
WC1X 9AN

Registered number

296085

The French Porcelain Society
Registered number: 296085
Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charities trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Structure, governance and management

The Society is a registered charity, number 296085 and is constituted and governed by Society rules. The charities principal activity during the year continued to be advancing the study of French Porcelain of all periods and to further public knowledge and appreciation of it .

Trustees are appointed by members of the society. Voting takes place annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually held in June. Trustees are eligible for reappointment every year at the AGM and remain in office, until either their position is challenged or they resign. A current list of trustees and their roles is contained in the information page.

Financial Review

The society is self-funding and in addition to income raised via membership subscriptions, Seminars and visits are organised each year to enable appreciation of French Porcelain.

The general fund is unrestricted and are spent as Trustees see fit for purpose to meet the aims of the Society.

The Special fund, Publications fund, Mavis Watney Bequest and Sir Geoffrey de Bellaige Bequest are all restricted funds and monies are spent in accordance with the each fund's purpose.

Main Objectives

The charity's principal activity during the year continued to be advancing the study of French and other European porcelain and pottery of all historical periods, and to further public knowledge and appreciation of it. These aims are fulfilled with an active programme of lectures, symposia, and visits to collections within the UK and abroad. Scholarly journals and newsletters are also produced to help achieve the Society's aims. The website is a window into the Society's visits to collections, study days and handling sessions, and publications. It is also an introduction to our subject, with sections on the French porcelain factories, ceramic materials, techniques, and marks, and links to societies and collections around the world.

The French Porcelain Society is on solid footing as we conclude our 41st year in existence. Our financial strength is owing to the generosity of our members, past and present, and to the wise management of our assets by past treasurers. Mia Jackson and Nick Stagliano completed their first year as Co-Chairs. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 28th June 2025, we welcomed new Committee members Gregory Sewell and Félix Zorzo and bade farewell to Peter Burton and Caroline McCaffrey-Howarth. The FPS has 391 members around the world and has welcomed 25 new members this year. Our annual outing this year, with over 40 members, was to Longleat House, with the participation of member Patricia Ferguson and Longleat curator James Ford. Our Emerging Scholars group of ceramics enthusiasts under the age of 35 has around 20 members from the UK, the US, and the Continent, and the group meets bimonthly for special Zoom sessions either featuring members of the group or with senior scholars. The growth of this group is extremely important to the Society as it represents the future of our field. Volume X of The French Porcelain Society Journal was published in January 2025 and celebrated the Society's 40th anniversary with eight articles by an international group of scholars on the topics of collectors, dealers, and curators largely in the 20th century. We have moved to publishing our Newsletter thrice yearly, which goes to our entire membership and a broader readership and features book and exhibition reviews, short articles, acquisition announcements, and more. All of our past Newsletters are archived on our website. We are very grateful to be able to support scholars in the field with grants for travel, research, and publications. Our recent grants have been in support of important publications including papers from a conference held in Lyon entitled 'The Commerce and Circulation of the Decorative Arts 1792-1914' and former committee member Caroline McCaffrey-Howarth's book 'Lady Charlotte Schreiber, Extraordinary Art Collector' We have also made a grant to a conference at the V&A on 'Sacred Ceramics – Devotional Images in European Porcelain', to take place at the V&A in September 2025. And the French Porcelain Society was pleased to be underwrite 75% of a place in the Attingham Summer School for a qualified member of the FPS in 2025, and to be contributing to the Dame Rosalind Savill Memorial Scholarship. The vast majority of our past Living Room Lectures are now available on YouTube so that all of this educational material can be shared with the general public to help promote future love and knowledge of our subject, European ceramics.

The French Porcelain Society
Registered number: 296085
Trustees' Report

Accounting and reporting responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The Charities Act 2011 requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to;

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue as a going concern

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board of Trustees on 16 September 2025 and signed on its behalf.



Amelia Jackson
Co Chair

The French Porcelain Society

Independent examiners' report to the board of trustees on the preparation of the unaudited accounts of The French Porcelain Society for the year ended 31 March 2025

We report on the examination of the accounts of The French Porcelain Society for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to;

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act ;and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention

Basis of the independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the 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 of an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of our examination, no matter has come to our attention;

(A) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that;

- * proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- * accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; or

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

Catherine A Williams Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Old Bank
Beaufort Street
Crickhowell
Powys
NP8 1AD

16 September 2025

The French Porcelain Society
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General	Restricted Funds Publications	Restricted Funds Special Fund	Restricted Funds Mavis Watney Bequest	Restricted Funds Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue Bequest	This Year Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
		2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
Income								
Charitable activities	2	25,069	165	-	-	-	25,234	33,143
Other income		2,179	-	-	-	-	2,179	2,379
Total Incoming Resources		27,248	165	-	-	-	27,413	35,522
Expenditure								
Charitable activities	3	(44,847)	(313)	-	-	-	(45,160)	(19,228)
Other expenditure		(9,183)	-	-	-	-	(9,183)	(9,110)
Total Resources Expended		(26,782)	(148)	-	-	-	(26,930)	7,184
Interest receivable		2,164	-	5	-	-	2,169	1,755
Net (Resources Expended)/ Incoming Resources		(24,618)	(148)	5	-	-	(24,761)	8,939
Total Funds brought forward		101,725	5,035	13,270	2,748	2,347	125,125	116,186
Retained Reserves carried forward		77,107	4,887	13,275	2,748	2,347	100,364	125,125

The French Porcelain Society**Registered number:** 296085**Balance Sheet****as at 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	6	8,745	8,450
Cash at bank and in hand		92,844	118,602
		<u>101,589</u>	<u>127,052</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(1,225)	(1,927)
Net current assets		<u>100,364</u>	<u>125,125</u>
Net assets		<u>100,364</u>	<u>125,125</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		100,364	125,125
Shareholders' funds		<u>100,364</u>	<u>125,125</u>

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

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

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

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. The profit and loss account has not been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.



Amelia Jackson

Director

Approved by the board on 16 September 2025

The French Porcelain Society
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

Income

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has an entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of the incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under the headings that aggregate all costs relating to that category.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts. Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price). Loans and other financial liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recognised at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. At the end of each reporting period foreign currency monetary items are translated at the closing rate of exchange. Non-monetary items that are measured at historical cost are translated at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are charged to profit or loss.

The French Porcelain Society
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees remuneration

The trustees received no salaried remuneration during the year.

Assets

Basic financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

Liabilities

Basic financial liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

2 Analysis of income	2025	2024
	£	£
Charitable activities:		
Subscriptions	15,195	16,365
Seminar, AGM & Visits	9,863	15,720
Book Income	11	195
Publications Income	165	864
	<u>25,234</u>	<u>33,144</u>
	2025	2024
	£	£
Other income:		
Donations	2,179	2,379
	<u>2,179</u>	<u>2,379</u>
Total income	<u>27,413</u>	<u>35,523</u>
3 Analysis of expenditure	2025	2024
	£	£
Charitable activities:		
Seminar, AGM & Visits	13,661	10,096
Bursary	11,300	6,842
Journal	19,886	802
Publication costs - Book	313	1,486
	<u>45,160</u>	<u>19,226</u>
	2025	2024
	£	£
Other expenditure:		
Bad debts	(800)	200
Postage	432	884
Stationery and printing	19	-
Bank charges	942	987
Insurance	868	789
Software	2,102	1,831
Exchange differences & charges	356	241
Sundry expenses	100	-
Accountancy fees	969	792
Bookkeeping costs	1,323	1,997
Advertising and PR	2,872	1,387
	<u>9,183</u>	<u>9,108</u>
Total expenditure	<u>54,343</u>	<u>28,334</u>

The French Porcelain Society
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

4 Independent Examination Fees

The independent examiners' fees for the year ending 31st March 2025 were £705.00 (2024: £660.00) and were unpaid at the yearend.

5 Employees

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Average number of persons employed by the company	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade Debtors - Subscriptions	8,945	9,450
Bad Debt Provision	<u>(200)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	75	583
Taxation and social security costs	100	-
Other creditors	<u>1,050</u>	<u>1,344</u>
	<u>1,225</u>	<u>1,927</u>

8 Movement in Major Funds

	Fund Balance Bfwd £	Income Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Fund Balance Cfwd £
General Unrestricted Fund	101,725	29,412	(54,030)	77,107
Publications Restricted Fund	5,035	165	(313)	4,887
Special Restricted Fund	13,270	5	-	13,275
Mavis Watney Bequest Restricted Fund	2,748	-	-	2,748
Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue Bequest Restricted Fund	<u>2,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,347</u>
	<u>125,125</u>	<u>29,582</u>	<u>(54,343)</u>	<u>100,364</u>

9 Reserves

The French Porcelain Society's bi-annual journals, seminars and visits for the self appreciation of French Porcelain are financed from unrestricted funds. In order to be able to ensure that the Society has sufficient available resources to ensure that this programme of events can continue to be offered, the policy of the Trustee's is to endeavour to maintain the Society's reserves at a minimum of two years' estimated unrestricted expenditure. The trustees work to ensure that the Society once again meets this level of reserves.

The French Porcelain Society
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

10 Transactions with Trustees and related party transactions

No Trustee received remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year ending 31st March 2025 for their role as trustee.

11 Charity information

The French Porcelain Society is a registered charity, registration number 296085. Its principal office is
Waddesdon Manor
Waddesdon
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP18 0JH

The French Porcelain Society
Detailed income and expenditure account
for the year ended 31 March 2025

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income	27,413	35,522
Expenditure	(54,343)	(28,338)
Operating (deficit)/surplus	<hr/> (26,930)	<hr/> 7,184
Interest receivable	2,169	1,755
(Deficit)/surplus before tax	<hr/> (24,761)	<hr/> 8,939

The French Porcelain Society
Detailed income and expenditure account
for the year ended 31 March 2025

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	Unrestricted Funds General	Restricted Funds Publications	Restricted Funds Special Fund	Restricted Funds Mavis Watney Bequest	Restricted Funds Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue Bequest	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
Income							
Charitable activities:							
Subscriptions	15,195					15,195	16,364
Seminar, AGM & Visits	9,863					9,863	15,720
Book Income	11					11	195
Publications Income	-	165				165	864
	25,069	165	-	-	-	25,234	33,143
Other income:							
Donations	2,179					2,179	2,379
	2,179	-	-	-	-	2,179	2,379
Charitable activities:							
Seminar, AGM & Visits	13,661					13,661	10,096
Bursary	11,300					11,300	6,843
Journal	19,886					19,886	803
Publication costs - Book	-	313				313	1,486
	44,847	313	-	-	-	45,160	19,228
Other expenditure:							
Bad debts	(800)					(800)	200
Postage	432					432	884
Stationery and printing	19					19	-
Bank charges	942					942	987
Insurance	868					868	789
Software	2,102					2,102	1,832
Exchange differences & charges	356					356	242
Sundry expenses	100					100	-
Accountancy fees	969					969	792
Bookkeeping costs	1,323					1,323	1,997
Advertising and PR	2,872					2,872	1,387
	9,183	-	-	-	-	9,183	9,110
	54,030	313	-	-	-	54,343	28,338