

# REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 297488

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1987-08-12

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Craigmuir Farm  
Strathaven  
Lanarkshire  
ML10 6PT

**Phone** 07773 863296

**Email** [liz.hancock@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:liz.hancock@glasgow.ac.uk)

**Website** [www.regionalfurnituresociety.com](http://www.regionalfurnituresociety.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY, DESIGN PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF REGIONAL FURNITURE IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND AREAS UNDER BRITISH INFLUENCE, AND OF CONTINENTAL AND OTHER OVERSEAS INFLUENCES ON BRITISH REGIONAL FURNITURE; AND TO FURTHER PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF IT.

**Activities:** Research and dissemination of history of regionality in furniture design and construction.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SEE OBJECTS
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£32,797	£28,259	-	-
2023-12-31	£38,747	£40,023	-	-
2022-12-31	£40,317	£37,037	-	-
2021-12-31	£33,115	£30,052	-	-
2020-12-31	£12,110	£22,926	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Liz Hancock</b>	Chair	2021-08-31
Andrew Herbert Noel TREASURER		2024-06-30
Echo Godfrey COUNCIL		2025-07-06
Gerry Coughlan BOOK SALES		2017-07-09
Jeffrey Steven Evans US SEC		2024-06-30
Julian Henry James Parker WEBSITE		2020-01-09
Linda Janet Hall N/LETTER		2021-08-31
Nick Humphrey BURSARY		2017-10-21
Rachel Anna Sycamore COUNCIL		2025-07-06
Robert Gardiner Williams COUNCIL		2022-06-26
Samuel James White		2025-10-04
Sara Anne MacLennan MEMBERSHIP		2024-06-30
Simon Joseph Feingold COUNCIL		2024-06-30
Stephen Nicholas Jackson JOURNAL		2018-07-01

**REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 297488

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity Number 297488

# Regional Furniture Society

Annual Report and Accounts  
for the year ending  
31st December 2024

## **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2024.

If you wish to obtain further information about any aspect of this Report or the Society in general, please write to the Honorary Secretary:

David Fletcher, 78 Denmark Street, Bedford MK40 3TH

### **SOCIETY OBJECTS**

The Regional Furniture Society has recorded its aims and objectives in the 'Objects' section of its Constitution. They require the Society to:

- advance the study of the history, design, production, distribution and use of regional furniture in the British Isles and areas under British influence, and of Continental and other overseas influences on British regional furniture; and to further public knowledge and appreciation of it.

To achieve this, the Society seeks to:

- encourage the conservation and preservation of examples of all such furniture and related archives both in museums and in other collections, and their current use as sources for study.
- encourage research in all aspects of regional furniture and promote the development of interest in regional furniture in relation to social and economic life and history and in the relationship between regional furniture design and architecture and other arts and crafts.
- publish material selected by its Editorial Board, organise exhibitions and meetings alone or in conjunction with other bodies, and record and store information in appropriate institutions.
- raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation or otherwise, provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its charitable objects.

### **TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served from 1 January 2024 were:

Chair	Liz Hancock
Secretary	Jeremy Rycroft (replaced by David Fletcher)
Treasurer	Keith Robinson (replaced by Andrew Noel)
Membership Secretary	Diana Halliwell (replaced by Sally MacLennan)
Events Organiser	Jeremy Bate
Journal Editor	Stephen Jackson

Newsletter Editor	Linda Hall
Bursary Secretary	Nick Humphrey
Website Editor	Julian Parker
Book Sales	Gerry Coughlan
American Secretary	Daniel Ackermann (replaced by Jeffrey S. Evans)

Council Officers	Louis Platman
	Catherine Grigg
	Rosalyn Sklar
	Robert Williams
	Simon Feingold
	Rachel Sycamore (co-opted)

## OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Society was founded in 1984. Its membership of over 400 includes museum curators, furniture historians, furniture collectors, furniture makers, restorers, antique dealers, auctioneers and students.

The Society has a programme of events which have often been fully subscribed. These events provide the opportunity to visit properties and collections that are not open to the general public; residential events allow members to see a very wide range of furniture in one area, which would otherwise be difficult. Occasionally overseas visits are arranged.

The main event for 2024, the Annual Conference, was held in Kent with numbers similar to the previous year. While interest in the annual conference remains high, it is apparent that costs of holding conferences (both in terms of travel and accommodation) is escalating. The financial arrangements for the Society have traditionally used the surplus on events to add to subscription income in funding the Society's well-regarded publications. Escalating costs may not allow this to happen in future to the same extent as in the past.

The Society's grants and bursaries are funded from investment income. Unfortunately, recent events have reduced investment returns so funding of awards at their current level may eat into reserves a little. This means that for the next year or more both annual cash income and investment returns will need to be monitored carefully to make sure reserves do not decline too rapidly. An increase in subscriptions would be needed to maintain the value of subscription income, but this has to be balanced with the desire to retain membership levels.

A similar number of events were arranged as last year:

17 June – Stephen Jackson, Senior Curator, Furniture and Woodwork at National Museums of Scotland, gave a lecture on Zoom about his new book, *Scottish Furniture: 1500-1914*.

26 – 30 June – Annual Conference in Kent, based in Canterbury; visits were made to Great Dixter, Smallhythe Place, Restoration House in Rochester, St Dunstan's Church and St John's Hospital in Canterbury, Fordwich Town Hall, Penshurst Place and Stoneacre. Hans Piena gave a lecture on the application of forensic science to the identification of a pair of wooden stocks in the collections of the Rijksmuseum. The Christopher Gilbert Lecture on *The study of British regional furniture: how far have we come?* was given by David Dewing.

1 August – Visit to Leeds to see the exhibition ‘Part of the Furniture: The Library of John Bedford’ at The Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery at the University of Leeds, with an afternoon at Temple Newsam House, Leeds Museums and Galleries.

9 September – A reception was held at the Museum of the Home to celebrate the achievements of Bill and Gerry Cotton in laying the foundations of regional furniture history and to thank them for their donations of the chair collection and archive to the Museum.

14 – 24 October – Southern States of America Tour, with study visits including the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA), Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, Monticello, Colonial Williamsburg, properties in Edenton, Drayton Hall, houses in Charleston historic district, and a number of private collections.

Although the Society has had some success in attracting younger members, taking time off during the week is perhaps more difficult nowadays for those working and they will of course be working to a greater age with little prospect of early retirement. This means that the average age of event attendees is increasing and can be expected to continue doing so. However, ways of sponsoring attendance has been extended to other relevant Conferences on regional furniture topics

The Society’s publications, website and social media channels are used increasingly and appear to be the main focus of interest and hence benefit of membership for younger members. A review of the Society’s media strategy has resulted in the decision to create a new post for a Social Media Editor, given its growing importance. There has been increased interest in the Society’s material on YouTube, particularly the lectures on Windsor chairs.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY BY THE COUNCIL IN 2024**

### **Grants & Bursaries**

Wycombe Museum’s project to improve the condition and storage of the collection of regional chairs, for which a grant of £5,000 was approved, is progressing.

As mentioned above, the prime source of funds for grants is the investment income, i.e. the invested bequests received by the Society. The Council had already decided that grants may exceed investment returns for outstanding applications thereby reducing investment capital, but previous levels of returns are not now expected, increasing the risk of depleting reserves. If markets remain disappointing, further bequests would provide the way to allow the Society to sustain its grant giving. The Society is therefore encouraging legacy giving and with an ageing membership, it hopes for more bequests. However, with the escalating costs of events and recently depressed investment returns creating financial uncertainty, the Council will not add to that financial uncertainty by assuming further legacies will be forthcoming. £4,500 was received in 2024.

### **Investment Management**

The Investment Committee has three members of whom two have business/accounting experience and one has significant investment experience. A simpler target rate of investment was set last year and remains in place. Attention continues to be given to investment returns, the anticipated cost inflation and the likelihood of bequests. No restrictions on grants or publication costs have been necessary in this financial year. 2024 may bring greater difficulties.

## **Archive Management**

A detailed Archive Retention plan was agreed in 2021; some paper records have now been transferred to the Museum of the Home and others are being reviewed for archiving there. It is intended that later documentation typically from 2017 will be transferred electronically. A formal agreement with the Museum of the Home was agreed during 2022 and work under the recently appointed RFS archivist, initially on physical records, is progressing.

## **Succession Management**

As in previous years, new Council members have been identified to take the place of those retiring.

In 2024 the term of office of both the Treasurer and American Secretary was completed; two additional officers retired at the AGM in June. At the meeting, a new Secretary, Membership Secretary, American Secretary and a Member of Council were elected. A new Treasurer and a new member of Council were co-opted at the October Council meeting and will be confirmed by election at the 2025 AGM.

In 2025 the current Events Organiser will have completed his term of office, as will two Council members. Work is ongoing to recruit new members.

A new post for a Social Media Editor will be created, following a change to the Constitution.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM was held in person and on Zoom at the annual conference. Time was allowed for general discussion after clearing formal business.

## **Council Meetings**

Both the April and October Council meetings were held in person and by Zoom.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC**

In a specialist society of this type a number of levels of communication are necessary:

Firstly, publication of the results of major or minor pieces of research in the regional furniture field is essential.

Secondly it is important to keep members abreast of Society events and developments and general Society news.

Thirdly it is important to share information about regional furniture and the Society with the wider public.

The Society uses three media to achieve this:

The annual Journal, *Regional Furniture*, publishes major research and is distributed to members. The Journal articles are also made available to the general public on the Society's website with a three-year time lag.

The bi-annual Newsletter publishes visit reports, short reports by members and regional museum curators on items of regional furniture and book reviews. It also provides the membership with Society news. Visit reports have an important role in allowing those unable to attend an event to share in the information and insights gained during visits. A decision was taken in 2022 to make past articles of the Newsletter available on the Society's website with the same three-year delay that applies to the Journal. Certain potentially confidential information will not be included.

The Website provides information to members and the wider public on the Society's activities and importantly provides an introductory guide to regional furniture for the general public. Webinars, available on YouTube, a series of chairs of the month, useful links to other websites, and the Society's Twitter and Instagram accounts are all popular. These media channels now form an excellent starting point for anyone interested in exploring the world of regional furniture and are particularly attractive to younger members.

In terms of involvement of the membership in decision making, the AGM allows the Council's plans, policies and reports to be discussed and voted on by the membership and for Council members to be elected democratically.

## **CONSTITUTION AS GOVERNING DOCUMENT**

The Society is governed by its Constitution which was approved by the Charity Commission at its inception and has been revised periodically – significantly in 2017 and most recently in 2022 with some minor administrative changes. This latest version was approved by the Charity Commission and is available on the Society website. In addition, the Society follows Charity Commission guidance on appointment, clearance and briefing of trustees, reporting of serious events, risk management including governance matters, and also on data protection, all of which are discussed by Trustees, with appropriate policies and procedures adopted at Council meetings.

The Society is an unincorporated association governed by its Council which consists of officers and members who are trustees. The Honorary President and Vice-Presidents may attend Council meetings but are not trustees. Potential new trustees are identified by Council members, who may consult or receive proposals from members. Where there is a vacancy during the year, the Council may co-opt the new Council member/Trustee to fill the vacancy, and this would then have to be confirmed by election at the AGM. Alternatively, the Council (or Society members) can nominate a member for election at the AGM. All trustees are subject to annual election at the AGM with limits on how long they can serve.

## **REVIEW OF CHARITABLE PURPOSE AND PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The prime aim of the Regional Furniture Society, as indicated above, is to promote the preservation and conservation of regional furniture, to promote research on regional furniture and to publish information relating to these subjects and arrange for important information to be archived. As an educational charity, pursuing those objects is the Society's main way of providing public benefit.

## **Research**

The Society encourages research by:

- a) offering bursaries to those carrying out research on specific areas of regional furniture, directed particularly to younger researchers;
- b) providing members who carry out their own research with a forum for encouraging and discussing results among peers, through its events and publications;
- c) holding a Research in Progress day in most years where the latest developments in regional furniture research nationally or internationally are presented and debated.
- d) running a programme of events which allow members to become familiar with collections of furniture and their regional differences, including some which are not open to the general public;
- e) Offering grants of up to £5,000 to facilitate more major projects, including archiving important regional furniture research, carrying out more major investigations than would be possible through bursaries, and supporting publication of significant books covering aspects of regional furniture.

## **Publications**

These are a major activity for the Society. As mentioned above, the Journal is published once a year and allows major pieces of research to be presented. Many articles cover recent developments or discoveries. By publishing the Journal to members and then putting Journal articles on the website with a three-year delay, members retain a significant benefit of membership but the wider public also has access to the Society's research. Articles are by members, non-members and by curators of particular collections. This is particularly useful as it can draw attention to important items of furniture that may not be well-known or well-researched and also to problems or issues with them and their conservation. It helps set an agenda for the Society.

The Newsletter has shorter articles and visit reports, both important for those who are less expert in the field of regional furniture and are trying to increase their expertise. It is hoped that the Newsletter may encourage them to do more to support the Society's objects, particularly research. The less formal style encourages wider debate about topics that are less well understood. It was expanded and reformatted in late 2019. As from 2022 it has been decided to make the Newsletter available in the same way as the Journal and with the same time delay.

The Society's website helps to raise public awareness of the complexity and regionality of vernacular furniture, thus helping the Society to achieve its objects. Website activity has continued to increase. The Society is developing an increasing presence on social media – Instagram and Twitter – which has allowed various examples of different regional furniture types to be shown and described. The Society runs a service, via its website, responding to queries from members of the public about regional furniture, which has the same aims of encouraging wider interest in regional furniture. Hypertext indexing of all Journal and Newsletter articles available on the website is well advanced and will enable members of the Society and the public to explore particular research interests far more easily. With new items like Chair of the Month and a wide range of links to other furniture organisation and museum websites, the website is a natural 'route in' for any-one wishing to study regional furniture.

## **REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The accounts for 2024 show a surplus of £4,358 (2023: a deficit of £1,266). This was a result of the Robert Parrott donation of £4,500. These figures exclude the unrealised investment gains.

A programme of RFS events, including visits and the Canterbury Conference, were held in 2024 producing a modest surplus of £684 which is added to the money used to fund the Society's charitable activities.

Grant and bursary spending totalled £2,627 which was payment of a proportion of the £5,000 grant to the Wycombe Museum from general funds which was approved in early 2024.

The Society's other charitable activities include publication of the Journal and Newsletter and the maintenance and updating of the website and presence on social media. The cost of these activities together with that of governance and administration of the Society has been substantially met from membership subscriptions, event surpluses and a proportion of investment income. Throughout the year cash on deposit and at the bank remained at a level sufficient to meet normal expenditure for a period of not less than three months.

The Reserve Funds, including those on deposit, continued to be managed by CCLA Investment Management Limited with their performance being monitored by the Society's Investment Committee which reports annually to the trustees. In 2024 the value of the Society's holdings increased by just over 5.5%. The RFS invests for the long term and the funding of its charitable activities is based on an annualised total return of 4.5% over a five year period.

At 31 December 2024 the net worth of the Society, including reserves and unrealised gains on investments was £150,533 (2023: £142,642).

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

This report on the accounts of the Regional Furniture Society (Registered Charity Number 297488) for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Trustees' Report, Treasurer's Report, the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Balance Sheet, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner.**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under section 43(2) of the Act), follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)9b of the Act), and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the trust and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 accounts.

**Independent examiner's report**

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 requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with those accounting records and to 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.

David Kingsmill FCA  
Hidcote Boyce Gloucestershire GL55 6LX

## Regional Furniture Society

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
		General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £		
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Subscriptions		10,699			10,699	11,551
Publications	1	30			30	14
Visits	2	70			70	615
Lectures and conferences	2	13,485			13,485	23,190
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Donations, legacies and grants	3			4,500	4,500	0
Investment income and interest	4	3,109	414	490	4,013	3,377
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>27,393</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>4,990</b>	<b>32,797</b>	<b>38,747</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Direct charitable expenditure						
Donations and grants	5	2,627			2,627	5,000
Bursaries	6	0			0	1,979
Publication of the Journal	7	3,111			3,111	2,832
Publication of the Newsletter	7	7,308			7,308	8,285
Visits	2	81			81	1,773
Lectures and conferences	2	12,790			12,790	19,129
Governance	8	1,300			1,300	327
Other resources expended	9	1,041			1,041	688
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>28,259</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28,259</b>	<b>40,013</b>
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses		-866	414	4,990	4,538	-1,266
Other recognised gains and losses						
Gains (losses) on investments						
Realised						
Unrealised	4	2,928	425		3,353	9,971
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>2,062</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>4,990</b>	<b>7,891</b>	<b>8,705</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2024		118,213	15,253	9,176	142,642	133,937
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2024</b>		<b>120,275</b>	<b>16,092</b>	<b>14,166</b>	<b>150,533</b>	<b>142,642</b>

**Regional Furniture Society**  
**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**NOTES**

1 Income from sales of the Journal, Newsletter and other RFS publications 30

2 Income and expenditure table for Visits, Lectures and Conferences

	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Kent conference	13,485	12,790	695
Leeds event	70	81	-11
Totals	<u>13,555</u>	<u>12,871</u>	<u>684</u>

3 Robert Parrott donation 4,500

4 Investment income 3,269

CCLA deposit account interest 700

Lloyds current account interest 44

4,013

Deposit interest investment income received is split between general and designated funds in proportion to the 1 January 2024 holdings

5 Wycombe Museum grant 2,627

6 No bursaries were granted during the year 0

7 Cost of designing one and printing and mailing two editions of the Newsletter 7,308

Cost of printing and mailing one Journal during the year 3,111

10,419

8 The Society's governance costs are for travel and subsistence for meetings of the Council. 1,300

9 Public Liability Insurance 77

Website hosting, social media, other technology spending 963

1,041

**Regional Furniture Society**  
**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Assets		
CCLA investments and deposits	120,275	118,213
CCLA investments designated by the Trustees: Dewdney Bequest	14,785	14,014
CCLA investments designated by the Trustees: Michael Legg Fund	1,308	1,239
Restricted Fund: Christopher Pickvance	9,505	9,176
Restricted Fund: Robert Parrott	4,661	0
	<u>150,533</u>	<u>142,642</u>
Less creditors		
Sundry creditors	0	0
	<u>150,533</u>	<u>142,642</u>
Reserves		
General reserves at 31 December 2023	118,213	109,635
Designated reserves at 31 December 2023	15,253	14,302
Restricted funds at 31 December 2023	9,176	10,000
Excess of income over expenditure	7,891	8,705
General reserves at 31 December 2024	120,275	118,213
Designated reserves at 31 December 2024	16,092	15,253
Restricted funds at 31 December 2024	14,166	9,176
	<u>150,533</u>	<u>142,642</u>

**Balance sheet notes**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash and investment balances at 31 December 2024		
Knightsbridge current account	6,032	14,059
Christchurch subscription account	652	2,270
PayPal account	1,035	2,553
CCLA COIF Charities Deposit Fund	18,991	3,290
CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund Inc	88,303	86,352
CCLA COIF Charities Short Duration Bond Fund Inc	20,705	20,090
CCLA COIF Global Equity Fund Inc	14,816	14,028
	<u>150,533</u>	<u>142,642</u>

**REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 297488

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity Number 297488

# Regional Furniture Society

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for the year ending  
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Jeremy Rycroft, Holwood House, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2WD

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	Robert Williams

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A similar number of events were arranged as last year, with a welcome return to a North of England event:

21 April – Visit to Hammersmith Arts & Crafts houses; this covered William Morris's Kelmscott House and Emery Walker's house; the event was rounded off with a visit to the Victorian Fuller's Brewery.

5-9 July – Annual Conference in Bangor; visits were made to Plas Mawr, Gwydir Castle and Chapel, Saint Grwst, Llanrwst, a number of other impressive churches, Penrhyn Castle, Plas Newydd in Llangollen and a private regional furniture collection on Anglesey.

9 July – A visit to the Private Collection of John Parry.

3 August – Visit to Lancaster covering the new Gillows Gallery in the Judges Lodgings, the Castle and Priory and the redundant Church of St John the Baptist; attendees had a choice of various other smaller museums to see.

23 September – Visit to House of the Binns, West Lothian, with its fine collection of Scottish furniture, many of the pieces by the leading mid- and late-eighteenth century Edinburgh makers.

Although the Society has had some success in attracting younger members, taking time off during the week is perhaps more difficult nowadays for those working and they will of course be working to a greater age with little prospect of early retirement. This means that the average age of event attendees is increasing and can be expected to continue doing so. However, ways of sponsoring attendance have been extended to other relevant Conferences on regional furniture topics

The Society's publications, website and social media channels are used increasingly and appear to be the main focus of interest, and hence benefit, of membership for younger members. It is planned to have a review of the Society's media strategy, given its growing importance. There has been increased interest in the Society's material on YouTube, particularly the lectures on Windsor chairs. A new addition is Daniel Ackermann's November 2022 talk on the inland American South.

Adam Bowett's work on enhancing the Journal indexes will be incorporated when the website is upgraded, planned for next year.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY BY THE COUNCIL IN 2022**

### **Grants & Bursaries**

After making a request for support in 2019, the Judges Lodgings Museum in Lancaster made a formal grant application in late 2020 for £5,000 towards a new Gillows Gallery within the museum. The Society approved the grant, conditional on full funding being achieved. The Museum has now managed to achieve its full target funding; it appears the Society's early grant helped trigger other awards. Payment of the award was negotiated in December 2022, and made late in 2023; the Gallery opened on 29 June 2023.

A grant to support the publication of a volume on 'Furniture & Furnishings in Medieval Europe' by Cécile Lagane was agreed in principle in 2021 but complementary funding from the French public sector has been delayed. The publication has now gone ahead and a copy of the book has been received and will go into the V & A National Art Library.

A bursary award of £1574 was approved for Aidan Harrison to support photography and Carbon-14 dating of the C16 Saffron Walden bed. Work on this old and virtually complete bed is expected to provide a unique source of information on beds of this period. It will be funded by using the Dewdney and Pickvance Bequests.

A proposal for the award of a Grant of £5,000 was received from Wycombe Museum for work on removing and cleaning a large collection of Regional Chairs currently held in unsatisfactory storage conditions. The proposal was only received in late 2023 but is expected to be approved. The chairs represent one of the main public collections of regional chairs known in the UK and would provide a rare opportunity for the Society to meet its first listed object of preserving appropriate furniture.

As mentioned above, the prime source of funds for grants is the investment income, i.e. the invested bequests received by the Society. The Council had already decided that grants may

exceed investment returns for outstanding applications thereby reducing investment capital, but previous levels of returns are not now expected, increasing the risk of depleting reserves. If markets remain disappointing, further bequests would provide the way to allow the Society to sustain its grant giving. The Society is therefore encouraging legacy giving and with an ageing membership, it hopes for more bequests. Over £10,000 was received in 2021. However, with the escalating costs of events and recently depressed investment returns creating financial uncertainty, the Council will not add to that financial uncertainty by assuming further legacies will be forthcoming. No major legacies were received in 2023.

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The Investment Committee has three members of whom two have business/accounting experience and one has significant investment experience. A simpler target rate of investment was set last year and remains in place. Attention continues to be given to investment returns, the anticipated cost inflation and the likelihood of bequests. No restrictions on grants or publication costs have been necessary in this financial year. 2024 may bring greater difficulties.

## **Archive Management**

A detailed Archive Retention plan was agreed in 2021; some paper records have now been transferred to the Museum of the Home and others are being reviewed for archiving there. It is intended that later documentation, typically from 2017, will be transferred electronically. A formal agreement with the Museum of the Home was agreed during 2022 and work under the recently appointed RFS archivist on initially physical records is progressing.

## **Succession Management**

As in previous years, new Council members have been identified to take the place of those retiring. The Council can still find able furniture specialists who are happy to make time to help guide the Society. The average age of Council members has again reduced slightly.

The Society decided it was prudent to identify a new President in advance of the serving one retiring. An approved change of the Society's Constitution will now allow this to happen before every Presidential handover.

In 2024 the term of office of our current Treasurer will be completed as will that of the American Secretary; two further officers have indicated they will retire at the 2024 AGM. Action is being taken now to try to find successors. Two new people have agreed to be co-opted to the Council from April 2024 and will be offered for election at the AGM. Finding someone with a furniture interest who is willing to act as an accountant has proved difficult so far.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM was held in person at the annual conference. Time was allowed for general discussion after clearing formal business.

## **Council Meetings**

Both the April and October Council meetings were held in person and by Zoom.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC**

In a specialist society of this type a number of levels of communication are necessary:

Firstly, publication of the results of major or minor pieces of research in the regional furniture field is essential.

Secondly it is important to keep members abreast of Society events and developments and general Society news.

Thirdly it is important to share information about regional furniture and the Society with the wider public.

The Society uses three media to achieve this:

The annual Journal, *Regional Furniture*, publishes major research and is distributed to members. The Journal articles are also made available to the general public on the Society's website with a three-year time lag.

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The Website provides information to members and the wider public on the Society's activities and importantly provides an introductory guide to regional furniture for the general public. An innovation last year was to make webinars available on YouTube. A new series of chairs of the month has been introduced and many useful links to other websites given. The Society also has Twitter and Instagram accounts which are popular. These media channels now form an excellent starting point for anyone interested in exploring the world of regional furniture and are particularly attractive to younger members.

In terms of involvement of the membership in decision making, the AGM allows the Council's plans, policies and reports to be discussed and voted on by the membership and for Council members to be elected democratically.

## **CONSTITUTION AS GOVERNING DOCUMENT**

The Society is governed by its Constitution which was approved by the Charity Commission at its inception and has been revised periodically – significantly in 2017 and most recently in 2022 with some minor administrative changes. This latest version was approved by the

Charity Commission and is available on the Society website. In addition, the Society follows Charity Commission guidance on appointment, clearance and briefing of trustees, reporting of serious events, risk management including governance matters, and also on data protection, all of which are discussed by Trustees, with appropriate policies and procedures adopted at Council meetings.

The Society is an unincorporated association governed by its Council which consists of officers and members who are trustees. The Honorary President, Vice-Presidents may attend Council meetings but are not trustees. Potential new trustees are identified by Council members, who may consult or receive proposals from members. Where there is a vacancy during the year, the Council may co-opt the new Council member/Trustee to fill the vacancy, and this would then have to be confirmed by election at the AGM. Alternatively, the Council (or Society members) can nominate a member for election at the AGM. All trustees are subject to annual election at the AGM with limits on how long they can serve.

## **REVIEW OF CHARITABLE PURPOSE AND PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The prime aim of the Regional Furniture Society, as indicated above, is to promote the preservation and conservation of regional furniture, to promote research on regional furniture and to publish information relating to these subjects and arrange for important information to be archived. As an educational charity, pursuing those objects is the Society's main way of providing public benefit.

### **Research**

The Society encourages research by:

- a) offering bursaries to those carrying out research on specific areas of regional furniture, directed particularly to younger researchers;
- b) providing members who carry out their own research with a forum for encouraging and discussing results among peers, through its events and publications;
- c) holding a Research in Progress day in most years where the latest developments in regional furniture research nationally or internationally are presented and debated.
- d) running a programme of events which allow members to become familiar with collections of furniture and their regional differences, including some which are not open to the general public;
- e) Offering grants of up to £5,000 to facilitate more major projects, including archiving important regional furniture research, carrying out more major investigations than would be possible through bursaries, and supporting publication of significant books covering aspects of regional furniture.

### **Publications**

These are a major activity for the Society. As mentioned above, the Journal is published once a year and allows major pieces of research to be presented. Many articles cover recent developments or discoveries. By publishing the Journal to members and then putting Journal

articles on the website with a three-year delay, members retain a significant benefit of membership but the wider public also has access to the Society's research. Articles are by members, non-members and by curators of particular collections. This is particularly useful as it can draw attention to important items of furniture that may not be well-known or well-researched and also to problems or issues with them and their conservation. It helps set an agenda for the Society.

The Newsletter has shorter articles and visit reports, both important for those who are less expert in the field of regional furniture and are trying to increase their expertise. It is hoped that the Newsletter may encourage them to do more to support the Society's objects, particularly research. The less formal style encourages wider debate about topics that are less well understood. It was expanded and reformatted in late 2019. As from 2022 it has been decided to make the Newsletter available in the same way as the Journal and with the same time delay.

The Society's website helps to raise public awareness of the complexity and regionality of vernacular furniture, thus helping the Society to achieve its objects. Website activity has continued to increase. The Society is developing an increasing presence on social media – Instagram and Twitter – which has allowed various examples of different regional furniture types to be shown and described. The Society runs a service, via its website, responding to queries from members of the public about regional furniture, which has the same aims of encouraging wider interest in regional furniture. Hypertext indexing of all Journal and Newsletter articles available on the website is well advanced and will enable members of the Society and the public to explore particular research interests far more easily. With new items like Chair of the Month and a wide range of links to other furniture organisation and museum websites, the website is a natural 'route in' for any-one wishing to study regional furniture.

## **REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The accounts for 2023 show a small deficit of £1,276 (2022: a surplus of £3,279). This was a result of greater than anticipated spending on charitable grants and bursaries and was funded from cash balances which remained healthy at £22,165. This figure excludes the value of the Reserves and the unrealised investment gains.

A full programme of RFS events, including visits and the North Wales Conference, was held in 2023 producing a modest surplus of £2,900 which is added to the money used to fund the Society's charitable activities.

Grant and bursary spending totalled £6,979 of which £5,405 was payment of one grant and one bursary from general funds both being approved in 2021. The balance of £1,574 was for a bursary both approved and paid in 2023. This was partly funded from the Dewdney Fund (£750) and the Pickvance Fund (£824). At the beginning of 2024 a grant of £5,000 was approved by the Council.

The Society's other charitable activities include publication of the Journal and Newsletter and the maintenance and updating of the website and presence on social media. The cost of these activities together with that of governance and administration of the Society has been wholly met from membership subscriptions, event surpluses and a proportion of investment income. Throughout the year cash on deposit and at the bank remained at a level sufficient to meet normal expenditure for a period of not less than three months.

The Reserve Funds, including those on deposit, continued to be managed by CCLA Investment Management Limited with their performance being monitored by the Society's Investment Committee which reports annually to the trustees. In 2022 markets had their worst year since 2008 and the value of the reserve funds fell by 12%. 2023 was a better year and the value of the Society's holdings increased by just over 9%. The RFS invests for the long term and the funding of its charitable activities is based on an annualised total return of 4.5% over a five year period. The annualised return for the five years ended 31 December 2023 was 9.7%.

At 31 December 2023 the net worth of the Society, including reserves and unrealised gains on investments was £142,642 (2022: £133,979).

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

This report on the accounts of the Regional Furniture Society (Registered Charity Number 297488) for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Trustees' Report, Treasurer's Report, the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Balance Sheet, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner.**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under section 43(2) of the Act), follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)9b of the Act), and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the trust and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 accounts.

**Independent examiner's report**

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 requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with those accounting records and to 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.

David Kingsmill FCA  
Hidcote Boyce Gloucestershire GL55 6LX

Regional Furniture Society

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2023	Total 2022
		General	Designated	Restricted		
		Fund	Funds	Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>						
Subscriptions		11,551			11,551	9,590
Publications	1	14			14	58
Visits	2	615			615	1,842
Lectures and conferences	2	23,190			23,190	24,975
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>						
Donations, legacies and grants	3	0		0	0	558
Investment income and interest	4	2,966	411	0	3,377	3,294
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>38,337</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38,747</b>	<b>40,317</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>						
Donations and grants	5	5,000	0	0	5,000	0
Bursaries	6	405	750	824	1,979	0
Publication of the Journal	7	2,832			2,832	6,080
Publication of the Newsletter	7	8,285			8,285	7,877
Visits	2	1,773			1,773	1,343
Lectures and conferences	2	19,129			19,129	21,290
<b>Governance</b>	8	327			327	0
Other resources expended	9	698			698	447
<b>Net incoming (outgoing) resources before transfers between funds</b>		<b>38,449</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>40,023</b>	<b>37,037</b>
<b>Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>-113</b>	<b>-339</b>	<b>-824</b>	<b>-1,276</b>	<b>3,279</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>						
Gains (losses) on investments						
Realised						
Unrealised	4	8,680	1,291	0	9,971	-14,988
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>8,567</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>-824</b>	<b>8,695</b>	<b>-11,709</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2023		107,905	16,043	10,000	133,947	145,688
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2023		<b>116,472</b>	<b>16,994</b>	<b>9,176</b>	<b>142,642</b>	<b>133,979</b>

## NOTES

1	Income from sales of the Journal, Newsletter and other RFS publications			14
2	Income and expenditure table for Visits, Lectures and Conferences			
		<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
	<i>Hammersmith event</i>	215	350	(135)
	<i>Lancaster event</i>	240	230	10
	<i>North Wales Conference 2023</i>	23,190	19,129	4,061
	<i>Kent Conference 2024</i>	0	821	(821)
	<i>Binns event</i>	160	372	(212)
	<i>Totals</i>	23,805	20,902	2,903
3	No donations, legacies or grants were received during the year			0
4	Investment income			3,173
	CCLA deposit account interest			114
	Lloyds current account interest			90
				3,377
	Deposit interest received is split between general and designated funds in proportion to the 1 January 2022 holdings			
	General Funds			96,197 87.06%
	Dewdney Bequest (designated)			13,195 11.94%
	Michael Legg Fund (designated)			1,107 1.00%
5	No grants were made during the year but one grant approved in 2021 was paid from general funds			5,000
6	One bursary approved in 2021 was paid from general funds and another approved and paid in 2023 was paid partly from the Dewdney fund and partly from the Pickvance restricted fund.			1,979
7	Cost of designing three editions of the Newsletter and printing and mailing two of them			8,285
	Typesetting the Journal			2,832
				11,118
8	The Society's governance costs are for travel and subsistence for meetings of the Council.			76
9	Public Liability Insurance			83
	Website hosting, social media, other technology spending			614
				698

## Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash		£116,472	£109,645
Cash designated by the Trustees: Dewdney Bequest		£15,755	£13,195
Cash designated by the Trustees: Michael Legg Fund		£1,239	£1,107
Restricted Fund: Christopher Pickvance		£9,176	£10,000
		<u>£142,642</u>	<u>£133,947</u>
<b>Less creditors</b>			
Sundry creditors		£0	£0
		<u>£142,642</u>	<u>£133,947</u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
General reserves at 31 December 2022		£108,363	£119,911
Designated reserves at 31 December 2022		£15,585	£15,777
Restricted funds at 31 December 2022		£10,000	£10,000
Excess of income over expenditure		£8,695	-£11,741
General reserves at 31 December 2023		£116,472	£108,363
Designated reserves at 31 December 2023		£16,994	£15,585
Restricted funds at 31 December 2023		£9,176	£10,000
		<u>£142,642</u>	<u>£133,947</u>

## Balance sheet notes

	£ <i>2023</i>	£ <i>2022</i>
<b>Cash and investment balances at 31 December 2023</b>		
Knightsbridge current account	14,058	6,878
Christchurch subscription account	2,270	11,780
PayPal account	2,553	1,670
CCLA deposit account	3,290	3,152
CCLA investment account	86,352	79,085
CCLA fixed interest account	20,090	19,084
CCLA global equity account	14,028	12,331
	<u>142,642</u>	<u>133,979</u>

**REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 297488

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity Number 297488

# Regional Furniture Society

Annual Report and Accounts  
for the year ending  
31st December 2022

## **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022**

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022.

If you wish to obtain further information about any aspect of this Report or the Society in general, please write to the Honorary Secretary:

Jeremy Rycroft, Holwood House, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2WD

### **SOCIETY OBJECTS**

The Regional Furniture Society has recorded its aims and objectives in the 'Objects' section of its Constitution. They require the Society to:

- advance the study of the history, design, production, distribution and use of regional furniture in the British Isles and areas under British influence, and of Continental and other overseas influences on British regional furniture; and to further public knowledge and appreciation of it.

To achieve this, the Society seeks to:

- encourage the conservation and preservation of examples of all such furniture and related archives both in museums and in other collections, and their current use as sources for study.
- encourage research in all aspects of regional furniture and promote the development of interest in regional furniture in relation to social and economic life and history and in the relationship between regional furniture design and architecture and other arts and crafts.
- publish material selected by its Editorial Board, organise exhibitions and meetings alone or in conjunction with other bodies, and record and store information in appropriate institutions.
- raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation or otherwise, provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its charitable objects.

### **TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served from 1 January 2022 were:

Chair	Liz Hancock
Secretary	Jeremy Rycroft
Treasurer	Keith Robinson
Membership Secretary	Diana Halliwell
Events Organiser	Jeremy Bate

Journal Editor	Stephen Jackson
Newsletter Editor	Linda Hall
Bursary Secretary	Nick Humphrey
Website Editor	Julian Parker
Book Sales	Gerry Coughlan
American Secretary	Daniel Ackermann

Council Officers	Crissie White (to 26 June)
	Louis Platman
	Catherine Grigg
	Rosalyn Sklar
	Robert Williams (from 26 June)

## **OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACTIVITIES**

The Society was founded in 1984. Its membership of over 400 includes museum curators, furniture historians, furniture collectors, furniture makers, restorers, antique dealers, auctioneers and students.

The Society has a programme of events which have often been fully subscribed. These events provide the opportunity to visit properties and collections that are not open to the general public; residential events allow members to see a very wide range of furniture in one area, which would otherwise be difficult. Occasionally overseas visits are arranged.

The main event for 2022, the Annual Conference was held in Somerset with numbers similar to those before the covid epidemic. While interest in the annual conference remains high, it is apparent that costs of holding conferences (both in terms of travel and accommodation) is escalating. The financial arrangements for the Society have traditionally used the surplus on events to add to subscription income in funding the Society's well regarded publications. Escalating costs may not allow this to happen in future to the same extent as in the past.

The Society's grants and bursaries are funded from investment income. Unfortunately, recent events have reduced investment returns so funding of awards at their current level may eat into reserves a little. This means that for the next year or more both annual cash income and investment returns will need to be monitored carefully to make sure reserves do not decline too rapidly. An increase in subscriptions would be needed to maintain the value of subscription income, but this has to be balanced with the desire to retain membership levels.

Events (visits primarily to collections of vernacular furniture) have returned to their pre-covid levels in terms of events offered, but there has been a small decline in numbers particularly at autumn events. However, the list of events for 2022 was impressive:

Visit to Wycombe Chair Museum and the Ercol Factory – repeated due to its popularity

Visit to Shibden and Oakwood Halls to study West Yorkshire furniture

Visit to Westwood Manor

Visit to the newly updated Burrell Collection

Visit to David Parr House and Saffron Walden Museum

Although the Society has had some success in attracting younger members, taking time off during the week is perhaps more difficult nowadays for those working and they will of course working to a greater age with little prospect of early retirement. This means that the average age of event attendees is increasing and can be expected to continue doing so.

The Society's publications, website and social media channels are used increasingly and appear to be the main focus of interest and hence benefit of membership for younger members. It is planned to have a review of the Society's media strategy, given its growing importance. Webinars seem to appeal to members of all ages and an important one was held on the development of a range of furniture styles in the American South. It is hoped to introduce modest charging for these events, which could be an important supplement when other income sources appear threatened.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY BY THE COUNCIL IN 2022**

### **Grants & Bursaries**

After making a request for support in 2019, the Judges Lodgings Museum in Lancaster made a formal grant application in late 2020 for £5,000 towards a new Gillows Gallery within the museum. The Society approved the grant, conditional on full funding being achieved. The Museum has now managed to achieve its full target funding; it appears the Society's early grant helped trigger other awards. Payment of the award was negotiated in December, but is still to be made.

A grant to support the publication of a volume on 'Furniture & Furnishings in Medieval Europe' by Cécile Lagane was agreed in principle in 2021 but complementary funding from the French public sector has been delayed. It still seems likely the publication will go ahead with regional public funding if the Ministry of Culture review is negative.

As mentioned above, the prime source of funds for grants is the investment income, i.e. the invested bequests received by the Society. The Council had already decided that grants may exceed investment returns for outstanding applications thereby reducing investment capital, but previous levels of returns are not now expected, increasing the risk of depleting reserves. If markets remain disappointing, further bequests would provide the way to allow the Society to sustain its grant giving. The Society is therefore encouraging legacy giving and with an ageing membership, it hopes for more bequests. Over £10,000 was received in 2021. However, with the escalating costs of events and recently depressed investment returns creating financial uncertainty, the Council will not add to that financial uncertainty by assuming further legacies will be forthcoming.

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## **Archive Management**

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## **Succession Management**

As in previous years, new Council members have been identified to take the place of those retiring – in 2022 only one was needed. The Council can still find able furniture specialists who are happy to make time to help guide the Society. The average age of Council members has again reduced slightly.

The Society decided it was prudent to identify a new President (not a trustee post) in advance of the current one retiring in mid 2023. A change of the Society's Constitution will allow this to happen before every Presidential handover.

In 2024 the term of office of our current treasurer will be completed; action is being taken now to try to find a successor. Finding someone with a furniture interest who is willing to act as an accountant has proved difficult previously.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM was again held in person at the annual conference and by Zoom. It created a larger 'attendance' and allowed those not able to take part in the conference still to take part in the AGM. It also allowed time for general discussion after clearing formal business. This dual method is now the preferred format for future AGMs.

## **Council Meetings**

The Covid epidemic and its related lockdowns continued to affect the way the Council functioned. The April and October Council Meetings were conducted via Zoom, but 2023 will bring a return to in person meetings.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC**

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The Society is an unincorporated association governed by its Council which consists of officers and members who are trustees. The Honorary President and Vice-Presidents may attend Council meetings but are not trustees. Potential new trustees are identified by Council members, who may consult or receive proposals from members. Where there is a vacancy during the year, the Council may co-opt the new Council member/Trustee to fill the vacancy, and this would then have to be confirmed by election at the AGM. Alternatively, the Council (or Society members) can nominate a member for election at the AGM. All trustees are subject to annual election at the AGM with limits on how long they can serve.

## **REVIEW OF CHARITABLE PURPOSE AND PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The prime aim of the Regional Furniture Society, as indicated above, is to promote the preservation and conservation of regional furniture, to promote research on regional furniture

and to publish information relating to these subjects and arrange for important information to be archived. As an educational charity, pursuing those objects is the Society's main way of providing public benefit.

The Society intervenes in co-ordination with other bodies when important examples of regional furniture are at risk of being sold or disposed of or even withdrawn from prominence in Museums. The Society challenged plans by the V & A to reduce dedicated furniture curators. The Society offered support to the Judges Lodgings Museum in Lancaster when it was threatened with closure and will be providing a grant towards the new Gillows Gallery.

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- a) offering bursaries to those carrying out research on specific areas of regional furniture, directed particularly to younger researchers;
- b) providing members who carry out their own research with a forum for encouraging and discussing results among peers, through its events and publications;
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These are a major activity for the Society. As mentioned above, the Journal is published once a year and allows major pieces of research to be presented. Many articles cover recent developments or discoveries. By publishing the Journal to members and then putting Journal articles on the website with a three-year delay, members retain a significant benefit of membership but the wider public also has access to the Society's research. Articles are by members, non-members and by curators of particular collections. This is particularly useful as it can draw attention to important items of furniture that may not be well-known or well-researched and also to problems or issues with them and their conservation. It helps set an agenda for the Society.

The Newsletter has shorter articles and visit reports, both important for those who are less expert in the field of regional furniture and are trying to increase their expertise. It is hoped that the Newsletter may encourage them to do more to support the Society's objects, particularly research. The less formal style encourages wider debate about topics that are less well understood. It was expanded and reformatted in late 2019. As from 2022 it has been decided to make the Newsletter available in the same way as the Journal and with the same time delay.

The Society's website helps to raise public awareness of the complexity and regionality of vernacular furniture, thus helping the Society to achieve its objects. Website activity has continued to increase. The Society is developing an increasing presence on social media – Instagram and Twitter – which has allowed various examples of different regional furniture types to be shown and described. The Society runs a service, via its website, responding to queries from members of the public about regional furniture, which has the same aims of encouraging wider interest in regional furniture. Hypertext indexing of all Journal and Newsletter articles available on the website is well advanced and will enable members of the Society and the public to explore particular research interests far more easily. With new items like Chair of the Month and a wide range of links to other furniture organisation and museum websites, the website is a natural 'route in' for any-one wishing to study regional furniture.

## **REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

A surplus of £3,279 was made by the Society in 2022 (2021: a surplus of £13,479). This figure excludes unrealised investment losses. The 2021 surplus was unusually high as it included an unanticipated donation of £10,000. This donation from Chris Pickvance has been placed in a Restricted Fund.

During the year the Society changed its method of collecting and recording membership subscriptions. The complexity of this task meant that some subscription payments remained outstanding at the year end. It is anticipated that the majority of these will be collected in 2023.

In 2021 the coronavirus situation restricted the Society to holding only one live event, the Annual Conference in Lincoln. In 2022, free of pandemic regulations, the Annual Conference and five other visits were organised and these contributed £4,184 to the Society's income.

Promotion of the availability of bursaries and grants continued in 2022 but no awards were made. Grants and bursaries approved in 2021 or earlier totalled £6,680 of which at least £5,000 is likely to be paid in 2023 on completion of the grant work.

The Society's other charitable activities include publication of the Journal and Newsletter and the maintenance and updating of the website, Twitter feed, Instagram posts and YouTube channels. The cost of these activities together with that of governance and administration has been wholly met from membership subscriptions, event surpluses and investment income. Throughout the year cash on deposit and at the bank remained at a level sufficient to meet normal expenditure for a period of three months.

The reserve funds, including those on deposit, continued to be managed by CCLA Investment Management Limited with their performance being monitored by the Society's Investment Committee and reported annually to the trustees. In 2022 markets had their worst year since 2008 and the value of the reserve funds fell by £14,988 - 12% of their value at the start of the year. This was in contrast to 2021 when the funds grew by £11,429 or a little over 10%. The RFS invests for the long term and is able to continue its charitable activities, albeit at a reduced level, until markets recover. Planned spending of the reserves is based on the assumption that an annualised total return of 4.5% will be achieved long-term.

At 31 December 2022 the net worth of the Society, including reserves and unrealised losses on investments was £133,979 (2021: £145,688)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

This report on the accounts of the Regional Furniture Society (Registered Charity Number 297488) for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Trustees' Report, Treasurer's Report, the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Balance Sheet, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner.**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under section 43(2) of the Act), follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)9b of the Act), and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the trust and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 accounts.

**Independent examiner's report**

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 requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with those accounting records and to 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.

David Kingsmill FCA  
Hidcote Boyce Gloucestershire GL55 6LX

Regional Furniture Society

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2022	Total 2021
		General	Designated	Restricted		
		Fund	Funds	Funds		
		£	£	£	£	
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>						
Subscriptions		9,590			9,590	12,612
Publications	1	58			58	155
Visits	2	1,842			1,842	0
Lectures and conferences	2	24,975			24,975	17,239
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>						
Donations, legacies and grants	3	558		0	558	10,405
Investment income and interest	4	2,884	410	0	3,294	3,121
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>39,907</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,317</b>	<b>43,532</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>						
Donations and grants	5	0	0	0	0	1,000
Bursaries	6	0	0	0	0	2,850
Publication of the Journal	7	6,080			6,080	6,863
Publication of the Newsletter	7	7,877			7,877	7,155
Visits	2	1,343			1,343	0
Lectures and conferences	2	21,290			21,290	10,385
<b>Governance</b>	8	0			0	844
Other resources expended	9	447			447	954
<b>Net incoming (outgoing) resources before transfers between funds</b>		<b>37,037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>37,037</b>	<b>30,052</b>
<b>Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>2,869</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>13,479</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>						
Gains (losses) on investments						
Realised						
Unrealised	4	-13,104	-1,884	0	-14,988	11,429
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-10,234</b>	<b>-1,475</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-11,709</b>	<b>24,908</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2022		118,629	17,060	10,000	145,688	120,780
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2022		<b>108,395</b>	<b>15,585</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>133,979</b>	<b>145,688</b>

Regional Furniture Society  
**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**NOTES**

- 1 Income from sales of the Journal, Newsletter and other RFS publications 58
- 2 Income and expenditure table for Visits, Lectures and Conferences

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
<i>Ercol factory event (March)</i>	220	70	150
<i>Leeds and West Yorkshire event (May)</i>	1,320	1,007	313
<i>Somerset Conference</i>	24,975	21,290	3,685
<i>Westwood Manor (September)</i>	72	90	(18)
<i>Burrell Collection (October)</i>	80	0	80
<i>Cambridge event (November)</i>	150	176	(26)
<i>Totals</i>	<u>26,817</u>	<u>22,633</u>	<u>4,184</u>

- 3 Anonymous donation 500
- Member donations from booksales 58 558

- 4 Investment income 3,258
- CCLA deposit account interest 30
- Lloyds current account interest 6 3,294

Deposit interest received is split between general and designated funds in proportion to the 1 January 2022 holdings

General Funds	109,710	87.43%
Dewdney Bequest (designated)	14,556	11.60%
Michael Legg Fund (designated)	1,221	0.97%

- 5 No grants were made during the year 0

- 6 No bursaries were granted during the year 0

- 7 Cost of printing and posting two editions of the Newsletter and one Journal during the year 7,877 13,957

- 8 The Society's governance costs are for travel and subsistence for meetings of the Council. All meetings in 2022 were Zoom meetings and no costs were incurred. 0

- 9 Public Liability Insurance 72
- Website hosting, social media, other technology spending 375 447

Regional Furniture Society  
Accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022

**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022**

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2021</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and investments: General Fund		£109,645	£119,911
Cash and investments: Dewdney Bequest		£13,195	£14,556
Cash and investments: Michael Legg Fund		£1,107	£1,221
Cash and investments: Christopher Pickvance Restricted Fund		£10,000	£10,000
		<u>£133,947</u>	<u>£145,688</u>
<b>Less creditors</b>			
Sundry creditors		£0	£0
		<u>£133,947</u>	<u>£145,688</u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
General reserves at 31 December 2021		£119,911	£120,780
Designated reserves at 31 December 2021		£15,777	£15,256
Restricted funds at 31 December 2021		£10,000	£10,000
Excess of income over expenditure		-£11,741	£24,908
General reserves at 31 December 2022		£108,363	£119,911
Designated reserves at 31 December 2022		£15,585	£15,777
Restricted funds at 31 December 2022		£10,000	£10,000
		<u>£133,947</u>	<u>£145,688</u>

Regional Furniture Society  
Accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022

**Balance sheet notes**

	£ 2022	£ 2021
<b>Cash and investment balances at 31 December 2022</b>		
Knightsbridge current account	6,878	13,236
Christchurch subscription account	11,780	2,773
PayPal account	1,670	1,070
CCLA deposit account	3,152	3,122
CCLA investment account	79,085	89,362
CCLA fixed interest account	19,084	21,767
CCLA global equity account	12,331	14,358
	<hr/> 133,979	<hr/> 145,688

**REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 297488

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity Number 297488

# Regional Furniture Society

Annual Report and Accounts  
for the year ending  
31st December 2021

## **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021**

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021.

If you wish to obtain further information about any aspect of this Report or the Society in general, please write to the Honorary Secretary:

Jeremy Rycroft, Holwood House, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2WD

### **SOCIETY OBJECTS**

The Regional Furniture Society has recorded its aims and objectives in the 'Objects' section of its Constitution. They require the Society to:

- advance the study of the history, design, production, distribution and use of regional furniture in the British Isles and areas under British influence, and of Continental and other overseas influences on British regional furniture; and to further public knowledge and appreciation of it.

To achieve this, the Society seeks to:

- encourage the conservation and preservation of examples of all such furniture and related archives both in museums and in other collections, and their current use as sources for study.
- encourage research in all aspects of regional furniture and promote the development of interest in regional furniture in relation to social and economic life and history and in the relationship between regional furniture design and architecture and other arts and crafts.
- publish material selected by its Editorial Board, organise exhibitions and meetings alone or in conjunction with other bodies, and record and store information in appropriate institutions.
- raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation or otherwise, provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its charitable objects.

### **TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served from 1 January 2021 were:

Chair	Chris Pickvance (until 31 August) Liz Hancock (from 31 August)
Secretary	Jeremy Rycroft
Treasurer	Keith Robinson
Membership Secretary	Diana Halliwell
Journal Editor	Stephen Jackson

Newsletter Editor	Liz Hancock (until 31 August) Linda Hall (from 31 August)
Bursary Secretary	Nick Humphrey
Website Editor	Julian Parker
Book Sales	Gerry Coughlan
American Secretary	Daniel Ackermann
Council Officers	Crissie White Louis Platman Catherine Grigg Rosalyn Sklar (from 10 April)
Events Organiser	Jeremy Bate

## **OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACTIVITIES**

The Society was founded in 1984. Its membership of over 400 includes museum curators, furniture historians, furniture collectors, furniture makers, restorers, antique dealers, auctioneers and students.

The Society has a full programme of events which are often fully subscribed. These events provide the opportunity to visit properties and collections that are not open to the general public; residential events allow members to see a very wide range of furniture in one area, which would otherwise be difficult. Occasionally overseas visits are arranged.

The main event for 2021, the Annual Conference, went ahead but most events were deferred, due to the Covid epidemic and the related lockdowns.

A programme of webinars (lectures held via Zoom) was arranged in the autumn and drew good audiences. Lectures were free. That fact probably encouraged non-members to join these events, widening the society's outreach to others interested in particular aspects of regional furniture. Free admission to webinars for non-members is not intended as a long term arrangement, but webinars are intended to remain a permanent part of the Society's activities, complementing events held at venues of interest.

The retirement of the former Chairman and the hand over to the new Chairman who had in turn to hand over her Newsletter responsibilities to a new Newsletter Editor was achieved very smoothly.

Very sadly, the former Chairman died a few months after his retirement. The Society gratefully thanks Chris Pickvance for his enormous contribution over the last ten years as Chairman. He strengthened the Council; he led the revision of the Constitution; he oversaw the introduction of a number of policies required by the Charity Commission; he led the revision of our Bursary procedures and the introduction of our new Grants procedure. His personal focus on medieval chests has broadened the research interests of the Society.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY BY THE COUNCIL IN 2021**

### **Grants & Bursaries**

After making a request for support in 2019, the Judges Lodgings Museum in Lancaster made a formal grant application in late 2020 for £5,000 towards a new Gillows Gallery within the museum. The Museum was applying for similar funding from a number of other bodies. It was agreed to support this request, provided the full funding for the project was achieved.

An application for a grant to support the publication of a volume on ‘Furniture & Furnishings in Medieval Europe’ was received from Cécile Lagane. Although intended currently for publication in French, it promised to be an important source book for anyone researching European Medieval furniture. After some debate, it was agreed to make a contribution of £500, plus a further £500 if online access was made available.

There was also a bursary application for dendrochronology work on three items of medieval furnishings in Norwich Castle Museum. The award of £1500 was agreed.

The prime source of funds for grants is the bequests received by the Society. The bequests have been invested but to make sufficient impact, the Council has decided that grants may exceed investment returns. Inevitably this will gradually reduce investment capital. Further bequests would allow the Society to sustain its grant giving for a longer period or even increase grant spending. The Society is therefore encouraging legacy giving. The Society has gratefully received in 2021 a donation of £10,000 from the retiring Chairman and an anonymous donation of £250.

### **Investment Management**

The Investment Committee has three members of whom two have business/accounting experience and one has significant investment experience. A simpler target rate of investment return has been set. Attention continues to be given to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on investment returns, and the anticipated cost inflation is also being monitored. No restrictions on grants or publication costs have been necessary in this financial year. 2022 may bring greater difficulties.

### **Archive Management**

A detailed Archive Retention plan has been agreed; some paper records have now been transferred to the Museum of the Home and others are being reviewed for archiving there. It is intended that later documentation typically from 2017 will be transferred electronically.

### **Succession Management**

As in previous years, new Council members have been identified to take the place of those retiring. In one case the person was co-opted to the Council and formally elected at the June 2021 AGM. The other person was simply elected at the AGM. The average age of Council members is reducing.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM was again held by Zoom in June instead of at the Annual Conference. It allowed more time for general discussion after clearing formal business.

### **Council Meetings**

The Covid epidemic and its related lockdowns continued to affect the way the Council functioned. The April and October Council Meetings were conducted via Zoom.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC**

In a specialist society of this type a number of levels of communication are necessary:

Firstly, publication of the results of major or minor pieces of research in the regional furniture field is essential.

Secondly it is important to keep members abreast of Society events and developments and general Society news.

Thirdly it is important to share information about regional furniture and the Society with the wider public.

The Society uses three media to achieve this:

The annual Journal, *Regional Furniture*, publishes major research and is distributed to members. The Journal articles are also made available to the general public on the Society's website with a three-year time lag.

The bi-annual Newsletter publishes visit reports, short reports by members and regional museum curators on items of regional furniture and book reviews. It also provides the membership with Society news. Visit reports have an important role in allowing those unable to attend an event to share in the information and insights gained during visits.

The Website provides information to members and the wider public on activities and importantly provides an introductory guide to regional furniture for the general public. An innovation this year has been to make webinars available on YouTube.

In terms of involvement of the membership in decision making, the AGM allows the Council's plans, policies and reports to be discussed and voted on by the membership and for Council members to be elected democratically.

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## **REGIONAL FURNITURE SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

A substantial surplus of £13,479 was made by the Society in 2021 (2020: a deficit of £10,814). This figure excludes unrealised gains on investments. It is unusually high because of an unanticipated donation of £10,000. This generous contribution to the Society came from the retiring Chairman and was given to fund bursaries awarded for research into medieval chests. The specific research for which the money is given has been made a condition of the gift and it therefore becomes a Restricted Fund, to be shown separately in the accounts, and can be used only for the purpose set out by the donor.

The coronavirus pandemic continued to restrict the Society's activities but a number of lectures and an online Research in Progress day were organised using Zoom software. These events were free of charge. By June the virus situation was sufficiently improved for the postponed Annual Conference in Lincoln to take place.

The policy of promoting bursaries and grants continued in 2021 and £3,850 was spent during the year. Of this, grants accounted for £1,000 and bursaries for £2,850 half the latter coming from general funds and half from the Dewdney designated fund. A further grant of £5,000 was approved during the year but has yet to be claimed. Additionally, some £1,680 in grants and bursaries approved in previous years remains to be claimed. There are consequently liabilities of £6,680 in the budget for 2022 in addition to the sum of £5,000 for new grant and bursary applications in that year.

The Society's other charitable activities including publication of the Journal and Newsletter, maintenance of the website and the costs of governance and administration have all been met from membership subscription income, event surpluses, balances in the current accounts and on deposit and, in 2021 for the first time, investment income. Throughout the year cash on deposit and at the bank was at a level sufficient to meet normal expenditure for a period of three months.

All the reserve funds, including those on deposit, continued to be managed by CCLA Investment Management Limited. Despite the volatility in global markets the value of the Society's investments grew by £11,429, a little over 10%. Toward the end of 2020 the bulk of the Society's equity and fixed income investments were changed from accumulation to income units and in May 2021 the remaining balances in accumulation funds were switched to income funds. The Investment Committee met for the first time in March 2021 and a revised Investment Policy Statement was approved by the Council in April.

At 31 December 2021 the net worth of the Society, including reserves, unrealised gains on investments and net of creditors, was £145,688 (2020: £120,780)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
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IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

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**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the trust and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 accounts.

**Independent examiner's report**

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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.

David Kingsmill FCA  
Hidcote Boyce Gloucestershire GL55 6LX

# Regional Furniture Society

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
		General	Designated	Restricted		
		Fund	Funds	Funds		
		£	£	£		£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>						
Subscriptions		12,612		12,612		11,283
Publications	1	155		155		153
Visits	2	0		0		0
Lectures and conferences	2	17,239		17,239		360
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>						
Donations, legacies and grants	3	405		10,000	10,405	300
Investment income and interest	4	2,703	417	0	3,121	16
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>33,115</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>43,532</b>	<b>12,112</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>						
Donations and grants	5	1,000	0	1,000		3,080
Bursaries	6	1,425	1,425	2,850		0
Publication of the Journal	7	6,863		6,863		7,368
Publication of the Newsletter	7	7,155		7,155		6,257
Visits	2	0		0		0
Lectures and conferences	2	10,385		10,385		5,031
<b>Governance</b>	8	844		844		698
Other resources expended	9	954		954		492
<b>Net incoming (outgoing) resources before transfers between funds</b>		<b>28,627</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,052</b>	<b>22,926</b>
<b>Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>4,487</b>	<b>(1,008)</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>13,479</b>	<b>-10,814</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>						
Gains (losses) on investments						
Realised						
Unrealised	4	9,900	1,529	0	11,429	10,056
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>14,387</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>24,908</b>	<b>-758</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2021		104,625	16,155	0	120,780	121,538
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2021</b>		<b>119,012</b>	<b>16,676</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>145,688</b>	<b>120,780</b>

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021****NOTES**

1	Income from sales of the Journal, Newsletter and other RFS publications		155	
2	Income and expenditure table for Visits, Lectures and Conferences			
		<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
	<i>Research in Progress day 2021 (free Zoom meeting)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Lincoln conference</i>	<i>17,239</i>	<i>10,385</i>	<i>6,854</i>
	<i>Totals</i>	<i>17,239</i>	<i>10,385</i>	<i>6,854</i>
3	Anonymous donation		250	
	Member donations to retiring Chairman		155	
4	Investment income		3,119	
	CCLA deposit account interest		1	
	Lloyds current account interest		45p	3,121
	Investment income, deposit interest and unrealized gains and losses are split between general and designated funds in proportion to the value of the holdings on 1 January 2021			
	General Funds		98,803	86.62%
	Dewdney Bequest (designated)		14,173	12.43%
	Michael Legg Fund (designated)		1,083	0.95%
5	One grant was made during the year		1,000	
6	Two standard bursaries were awarded during the year		1,425	
	Two bursaries funded from the Dewdney fund were made during the year		1,435	2,860
7	Cost of printing and posting two editions of the Newsletter and one Journal during the year		7,155	
			6,863	14,018
8	Travel expenses for members of Council		52	
	Catering at Council meetings		0	
	Postage, stationery and general expenses		793	844
9	Public Liability Insurance		69	
	Website hosting, social media, other technology spending		527	
	Publicity leaflet		358	596

Regional Furniture Society  
Accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021  
**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021**

	<i>Notes</i>	£ 2021	£ 2020
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and investments		119,911	105,524
Cash designated by the Trustees: Dewdney Bequest		14,556	14,173
Cash designated by the Trustees: Michael Legg Fund		1,221	1,083
Restricted Fund: Christopher Pickvance Fund		10,000	
	1	<u>145,688</u>	<u>120,780</u>
<b>Less creditors</b>			
Sundry creditors		0	0
		<u>145,688</u>	<u>120,780</u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
General reserves at 31 December 2021		119,012	105,524
Designated reserves at 31 December 2021		16,676	15,256
Restricted funds at 31 December 2021		10,000	
		<u>145,688</u>	<u>120,780</u>

Regional Furniture Society  
 Accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021

**Balance sheet notes**

	£ 2021	£ 2020
<b>1 Cash and investment balances at 31 December 2021</b>		
Knightsbridge current account	13,236	145
Christchurch subscription account	2,773	1,292
PayPal account	1,070	164
CCLA deposit account	3,122	5,121
CCLA investment account (income units)	89,362	72,919
CCLA investment account (accumulation units)	0	5,415
CCLA fixed interest account (income units)	21,767	20,130
CCLA fixed interest account (accumulation units)	0	3,201
CCLA global equity account (income units)	14,358	10,509
CCLA global equity account (accumulation units)	0	1,885
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	145,688	120,780