

DORSET COUNTY ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 306252

Details

Other names DORSET ARTS & CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1967-09-05

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

Contact

Address 24 Nottingham Lane
Weymouth
DT3 5DF

Phone 01305816530

Website www.dorsetartsandcrafts.org

Activities

Objects: (1) TO REVIVE AND PROMOTE THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS BY HOLDING EVENTS, INCLUDING AN ANNUAL EXHIBITION AT WHICH EXHIBITS WILL BE JUDGED BY COMPETENT PERSONS. (2) TO ENCOURAGE, INCLUDING THROUGH THE AWARDING OF GRANTS, THE EDUCATION OF RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF DORSET IN TRADITIONAL AND MODERN ARTS, CRAFTS AND RELATED INDUSTRIES, FOR THEIR PLEASURE AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT. (3) TO PROMOTE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS FACILITIES FOR TEACHING ARTS, CRAFTS AND RELATED INDUSTRIES NOW CARRIED ON IN DORSET.

Activities: Annual Exhibition of traditional and modern arts and crafts

Classification

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

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** COUNTY OF DORSET
- Bournemouth
- Dorset
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£28,517	£27,074	-	-
2024-09-30	£25,916	£24,621	-	-
2023-09-30	£23,756	£20,906	-	-
2022-09-30	£20,713	£18,316	-	-
2021-09-30	£13,333	£10,192	-	-
2020-09-30	£4,816	£6,776	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JENNIFER ELIZABETH GURDEN	Chair	2011-05-27
Gillian Elaine Hedger		2024-10-07
Janette Underdown		2025-03-15
John Forsdyke		2026-03-23
Pauline Forsdyke		2026-03-23

DORSET COUNTY ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 306252

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	1	10	2024	To	30	09	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Dorset County Arts and Crafts Association

Other names charity is known by Dorset Arts & Crafts Association

Registered charity number (if any) 306252

Charity's principal address 24 Nottingham Lane
 Weymouth
 Postcode DT3 5DF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Jennifer Gurden	Chair		
2	Gillian Hedger	Membership Secretary		
3	Malcolm Macnaughtan			
4	Timothy Morris	Treasurer		
5	Janette Underdown	Acting Secretary		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Constitution, dated 8 th August 1967 and amended on 15 th May 2021.
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	Association
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	Trustees are elected by members of the Association at the Annual General Meeting. The trustees also have the power to appoint additional trustees, provided the maximum number of trustees is not exceeded.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Trustees, together with other senior officials elected by the members of the Association, form the Steering Committee. This Committee manages the business, structure and organisation of the Association, with decisions being taken by the Trustees.

The Showcase Working Group consists of the Steering Committee members and other Association members, who together are responsible for organising and running the annual Showcase event.

The Steering Committee may also create subcommittees with specific responsibilities. These subcommittees will include one or more trustees. Currently, there is one such subcommittee, which is responsible for approving applications to the Stallholder Register.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The charity's objects ('the objects') are :

- (1) to revive and promote the study and practice of arts and crafts by holding events, including an annual Exhibition at which exhibits will be judged by competent persons.
- (2) to encourage, including through the awarding of grants, the education of residents of the County of Dorset in traditional and modern arts, crafts and related industries, for their pleasure and personal development.
- (3) to promote co-operation between the various facilities for teaching arts, crafts and related industries now carried on in Dorset.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Our main activity is our annual Showcase event. Anyone may enter work into the judged competitions at the event, whether they are beginners or experts in their chosen field. Work is judged and feedback provided, to encourage makers to develop their skills. Work can be entered in any area of art, craft and photography, both traditional and modern.

We particularly welcome participation by young people and run a series of family workshops during Showcase at which families can try a range of activities.

Grants are awarded from the DACA Arts & Crafts Fund to individuals or groups to support their work.

The guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit has not been read by all current trustees. This guidance has now been sent to all trustees and will be considered against our planned activities at our next trustee meeting, to be held in April 2026. .

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Policy on grant making:

One or more grants may be awarded annually, with a maximum amount per application of £1000. These are awarded to projects with a strong arts or crafts focus. The terms and conditions for applicants are published on our website, and all applications are reviewed by the trustees. Sources of funding for the grant are

- income from the DACA Plant & Books Stall
- 10% of any annual surplus (before grants and major projects)

Contribution made by volunteers

DACA is entirely run by its volunteers and the contribution made by volunteers is greatly appreciated. Approximately 20 volunteers serve on the various committees through the year, and a further 50 – 60 volunteers give their time during the Showcase event, covering tasks such as setting up the exhibition, assisting with judging entries, and stewarding the public galleries.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Showcase 2025 took place from 1st to 5th August and attracted 2660 visitors, an increase of 10% on 2024.

Visitor feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many regular attendees telling us they considered it to be the best ever show.

This positive response was reflected in the finances, with the event showing a surplus of approx. £3,000.

Income from Showcase increased by 10% on 2024. There were some significant contributions which will have a positive impact on our plans for 2026.

- The Plant and Book stall took £1,126 – a record amount and greater than forecast in the budget. The full amount is transferred directly to the Grant fund. In accordance with our policy, 10% of the surplus (£300) is also transferred to the Grant fund. The fund now stands at £1800 for 2026.
- Commission on sales was £3,634 (on total sales of approx. £14,000) and also exceeded the forecast amount.

Two grants were awarded in 2025 to local groups, both with a strong community connection.

The Parish of Wyke Regis All Saints Church with St Edmunds community group received a grant of £170, supporting a project involving the whole village in a walking trail displaying stations of the cross

The Islanders Youth and Community Centre, Portland received a grant of £1,000 to run a series of graffiti workshops for young people, culminating in the painting of a wall at the community centre. We were particularly pleased to support this project, which offers something new for young people in a less affluent area of the county.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The general policy for managing reserves is

- Maintaining long term reserves of ca £20,000 which are not intended to be used within 5 years and are invested in stock market-based Charity Official Investment Funds to grow at a higher rate than inflation.
- Maintaining short term reserves of ca £10,000 which are not expected to be required within 1 year but are readily accessible and held in a secure Charity Official Investment Fund, earning a positive interest.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Future planned expenditure:

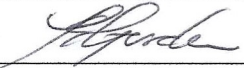
We have started a project to make better use of technology, including an updated website and improvements in our digital marketing and social media.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Jennifer Gurden	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date 7th March 2026

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

30.09.2021

30.09.2022

FIXED ASSETS

2234	Equipment	6838
1580	Trophies	1580

BANK ACCOUNTS

8553	NatWest Current account	9882
23	NatWest Business Reserve Account	3025
143	Petty Cash	45

8719

TOTAL READY CASH

12952

COIF ACCOUNTS (Reserves)

28109	COIF Deposit Fund (1-5 years)	10712
10305	COIF Investment Fund (>5 years)	27643

0 Website/Database costs carried forward 0

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

200	Creditors (Net)	8184
940	Early Membership renewals	0
1140	<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	8184

49807

TOTAL ASSETS

51542

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

49784	General Fund	48517
23	Grant Fund	1025
0	Educational Workshop Fund	2000

49807

TOTAL FUNDS

51542

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION				
Year to	Year to	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		Year to
30.09.2019	30.09.2021	YEAR ENDED 30TH. SEPTEMBER 2022		30.09.2022
			INCOME	
9560	2,992		Door Receipts	8,305
5265	255		Stalls	4,111
390	234		Plants & books	830
825	2,629		Commission on sales	2,777
1411	0		Entry Fees	452
168	0		Workshops	219
2518	867		Subscriptions	2,853
24	1,030		Donations	561
0	4,637		Grants Received	0
681	689		Dividends and Interest Received	605
20,842	13,333		TOTAL INCOME	20,713
			EXPENDITURE	
4783	2,320		Hire of premises	5,118
1961	2,282		Storage costs	1,882
595	0		Judging fees	341
456	263		Travelling & Other expenses	1,076
1360	1,000		Haulage costs	1,600
182	-27		Programmes (net cost)	292
466	316		Website	254
3292	1,314		Marketing including signage	1985.58+
214	0		Engraving	146
1132	1,067		Insurance	1,030
560	0		Public address hire	580
508	117		Catering	419
253	329		Miscellaneous	506
50	50		Accounts Review	50
15812	9,032		TOTAL REGULAR EXPENDITURE	15,280
864	0		Major Projects	435
1591	1,160		Depreciation	2,601
18267	10,192		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	18,316
2575	3,141		SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	2,397
250	0		Grants awarded	0
588	0		Profit from Xmas Fair	0
2913	3,141		Surplus after grant adjustments	2,397
1814	3,707		Growth/Loss of Reserves	-661
40083	43095		General Fund brought forward	49,807
44372	49807		Carried Forward	51,543
4727	6848		Total increase or decrease in funds	1,736
			Check sum (should be zero)	0

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

30.09.2022

30.09.2023

FIXED ASSETS

6838	Equipment	6945
1580	Trophies	1660

BANK ACCOUNTS

9882	NatWest Current account	913
3025	NatWest Business Reserve Account	21712
45	Petty Cash	52

12952

TOTAL READY CASH

22678

COIF ACCOUNTS (Reserves)

10712	COIF Deposit Fund (1-5 years)	14571
27643	COIF Investment Fund (>5 years)	27137

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

8184	Creditors (Net)	7478
8184	<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	7478

51542

TOTAL ASSETS

65513

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

48517	General Fund	43801
1025	Grant Fund	19712
2000	Educational Workshop Fund	2000

51542

TOTAL FUNDS

65513

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

30.09.2024

30.09.2025

FIXED ASSETS

5990	Equipment	4615
1776	Trophies	1776

BANK ACCOUNTS

503	NatWest Current account	913
10696	NatWest Business Reserve Account	21712
93	Petty Cash	52

11292

TOTAL READY CASH

22678

COIF ACCOUNTS (Reserves)

13347	COIF Deposit Fund (1-5 years)	14571
29395	COIF Investment Fund (>5 years)	18908

61800

62548

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

6110	Creditors (Net)	7073
6110	<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	7073

55689

TOTAL ASSETS

55475

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

52176	General Fund	52006
1513	Grant Fund	1470
2000	Educational Workshop Fund	2000

55689

TOTAL FUNDS

55475

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION				
	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			BUDGET
Year to			Year to	Year to
30.09.2024	YEAR ENDED 30TH. SEPTEMBER 2025		30.09.2025	30.09.2026
	INCOME			
9,018	Door Receipts		11,525	12300
6,126	Stalls		6,025	6200
830	Plants & books		1,126	900
3,361	Commission on sales		3,475	3500
946	Entry Fees		1,037	1100
198	Workshops		200	250
3,683	Subscriptions		3,619	4300
209	Donations		99	250
1,545	Dividends and Interest Received		1,411	1400
25,916	TOTAL INCOME		28,517	30200
	EXPENDITURE			
5,364	Hire of premises		5,675	6000
2,496	Storage costs		2,496	2500
363	Judging fees		275	400
744	Travelling & Other expenses		799	900
5,213	Haulage costs		6,213	6500
175	Programmes (net cost)		313	350
1,257	Website and other IT areas		1,148	1500
3,223	Marketing including signage		3,457	3870
539	Engraving		264	350
1,178	Insurance		1,331	1400
580	Public address hire		750	800
434	Catering		678	700
814	Miscellaneous		713	800
50	Accounts Review		50	50
22,430	TOTAL REGULAR EXPENDITURE		24,161	26120
0	Major Projects		1,280	5000
2,191	Depreciation		1,633	1800
24,621	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		27,074	32920
1,295	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		1,443	-2720
700	Grants awarded		1170	1500
595	Surplus after grant adjustments		273	-4220
2,361	Growth/Loss of Reserves		-487	0
52,733	General Fund brought forward		55,689	
55,689	Carried Forward		55,475	51,255
2,956	Total increase or decrease in funds		-214	
0	Check sum (should be zero)		0.00	



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Dorset Arts & Crafts Association

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30 September 2025
Charity no (if any) 306252

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2025.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Date: 3/11/2025

Name: Martin Sibley

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address: 3 Sedge Place
Weymouth
Dorset, DT3 6FN

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

DORSET COUNTY ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 306252

Accounts



**Dorset Arts & Crafts Association
Annual General Meeting
Saturday 15th March 2025
Purbeck School, Wareham**

Present: Jenny Gurden (Chair) and 25 members

1. Introduction and Welcome

Jenny welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the Steering Committee.

2. Apologies

Gillian Appleton, Andrew Barnett, Myra Barter, Carmen Burridge, Sarah Butterworth, Julie Chadbourne, Andrew Child, Judy Churchill, Eveyln Clark, Michael Cooper, Don Coward, Sandra Coward, Sally Davies, Sue Deverell, Karen Erlebach, Jennie Harrison, Dot Karley, Ron Karley, Jim King, Marg King, Ann Langrishe, Malcolm Macnaughtan, Valerie Marsden, Greg Morris, Vicky Norman, Di Pattinson, Mark Pender, Miranda Pender, Christine Redhead, Janine Rees, Wendy Richmond-Jones, Joan Taylor, Jenny Trotman, Jennifer Walls

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 2nd March 2024 were accepted, approved unanimously and signed.

Proposed: Tim Parker; Seconded: Tessa Scamell

4. Chair's Report

The main focus of my report is a look back at 2024, what went well and where we can improve. I will also say something about our plans for this year.

Showcase 2024

Showcase 2024 was successful in many ways.

Visitors were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about the event. Comments made, overheard or written in the visitor book are always interesting and included

- It's good to see work by local artists and craft people
- There is a professional feel to Showcase
- Attractive displays, helpful volunteers, good catering.
- I had no idea this was such a big event

Our stall pitches were fully booked inside and outdoors, featuring both long-time and first-time exhibitors. Some pitch sizes were oversubscribed, and balancing stall selection was

challenging. We want to encourage new exhibitors to keep Showcase fresh for visitors, but this sometimes meant that longtime supporters did not have their preferred pitch.

The member sales gallery served as an excellent display of the skills of DACA members and sales were good. We had some challenges in displaying the work, in particular the number of paintings that were submitted. We do not have the space to display everything and while we plan to rotate stock during Showcase, in practice this is simply not possible.

The judged competitions are an important part of Showcase. One of our charitable objectives is “To revive and promote the study and practice of arts and crafts by holding events, including an annual Exhibition, at which exhibits will be judged by competent persons”. The number of entries varies from year to year, and it is interesting to follow the trends as crafts fall in and out of favour. We introduced a new category for 2024: Modern Methods and Materials which attracted a range of items using techniques such as 3D printing and digital photography manipulation. We do not turn our backs on traditional crafts, so there is something for everyone. I strongly encourage all members to make 2025 the year they enter a piece of work in the judged competitions.

The Member Design Challenge was particularly popular in 2024, attracting 13 very varied pieces. This isn't judged and is your chance to show off your creativity and have fun. The 2025 photo was in a recent newsletter and is also on the website.

Our guest exhibition in 2024 was a particular highlight. “Work in Wood” was first suggested by Celia Morris; she proposed a curated exhibition of woodwork, with invited guests submitting work for display. The exhibition included carved walking sticks, marquetry boxes and several pieces of exquisite furniture. Celia did all the work in putting the exhibition together and persuading makers to lend their work for the display, and with the support of Di and Rod Pattinson, ensured that every item was displayed to its best advantage.

Tim will say more about the financial aspects of Showcase in his report, so I won't say anything about the numbers here.

On a less than welcome note, the final reconciliation of our sales records revealed that a small number of items could not be accounted for and are presumed to have been stolen. It's been widely reported shoplifting is an increasing problem and DACA is not immune from this.

Volunteers and stewards

As you know, DACA is run by volunteers, although we pay for specialist services such as removals. We want the volunteers to have a rewarding and enjoyable experiences, so we have been developing a structured approach, particularly for the set up and close down periods. We want volunteers to do what they enjoy and make best use of their skills. A volunteer is usually part of a team, they are briefed on their role and know who to speak to if they have a problem or question.

Stewards during Showcase are absolutely essential. As we have grown, so has our need for stewards. The role of a steward is twofold:

- to be a welcoming and friendly face for visitors, answering questions and helping them with purchases.
- to be visible and vigilant presence within the public areas. We must not be complacent about security; the thefts that I referred to earlier are proof of that. Our steward briefings in 2025 will place more emphasis on this. We do not expect stewards to be security guards, but an obvious presence can be a deterrent.

As is the case every year, recruiting enough volunteers and stewards was challenging. It's been suggested that we should make stewarding a condition of entering work. We have decided against this because we would prefer to have willing volunteers rather than those who are helping reluctantly.

What's happening in 2025?

Preparation for Showcase 2025 is well underway and is sure to be as good as ever. The craft stall areas are already fully booked both inside and outside; in fact we have a waiting list.

At the end of last year, we asked for members' views on whether we should open for four days or five days in 2025. This was prompted by visitor numbers, which are typically lower on the final day. The survey revealed a small preference for four days, but the Steering Committee (which was itself split on the question) decided to stay with five days for 2025.

We have considered various ways of incentivizing visitors to visit on the final day and have decided to offer half-price admission. As always, publicity is crucial and the early adverts have already been placed. We will be opening for entries at the beginning of April.

In the open forum session later, you can ask questions, find out more about our plans and how you can help.

Work has started on a significant project to improve our use of technology. We are seeking professional support to upgrade the website, develop a database which is easier to use, and improve our use of digital marketing and social media. We are seeking a streamlined solution which takes away many of the manual processes that we currently use.

We have changed our membership year to align with the calendar year. Members can renew now, and membership will run to 31 December, although your current membership is still valid until 30 June. Importantly, you will need to renew in order to benefit from the member benefits associated with Showcase, as you would have had to do anyway.

Our charitable purposes

DACA is a registered charity, and it is essential that what we do meets our charitable purposes as set out in our constitution. One of the ways we do this is by offering grant funding to support individuals and groups in the development of art and craft projects.

We had eight applications for the 2025 grant, which is the highest number of applications we have had. I will be presenting the awards to the winners after the formal business of the AGM is complete.

Applications for the 2026 grant will be invited later in the year. If you, a group you belong to or someone you know could benefit from this funding opportunity, please take a look at the Grant page on the website, which sets out the criteria for applications.

Thank you

Karen Erlebach has decided to stand down as Association Secretary; she will not be seeking re-election to the Steering Committee. Although she cannot be with us today, I would like to place on record my thanks for the time and effort she has devoted to DACA over several years to bring us to where we are today. I refer to her formal role as being that of Association Secretary, but she has done much more than that over the years, including the following:

- She took the lead in publicity and has had a major impact on how DACA looks today, with the programme and other publicity material being redesigned into the format we have now.
 - She has been part of the exhibition display team, and her eye for detail helped to ensure that exhibits were presented in the best way possible.
 - She organized the stallholder selection panel and stall allocation
- She is not retiring from DACA completely; she remains a member and hopes to be able to help where she can.

Thanks are due as always to the Purbeck School site team and staff. We have an excellent working relationship with them and could not put on an event of the scale of Showcase without their support and co-operation.

Thanks to those who have taken on new responsibilities, both within the Showcase Working Group, and as Trustees and members of the Steering Committee.

Thank you to each and every member; you continue to support DACA in whatever way you can, and we thank you for this.

In memoriam

Sadly, we lost three members of the DACA community in 2024.

Peter Thomas died in early March 2024. Peter was an enthusiastic supporter of DACA, regularly exhibited his prize-winning woodturning at Dorset Arts & Crafts Association events. He first took part in the annual DACA Summer exhibition in the early 1990s and continued to sell his work at DACA events until very recently. It was a fitting tribute that his work was included in the Work in Wood guest exhibition.

Mark Lockie, husband of Steve Lockie who many of you will know, died at the end of March after a short illness. Mark supported Steve on her quilting stall and for several years he and Steve hung the quilts at DACA exhibitions using stands that he had designed and made himself.

Myra Jones died in July 2024, just before Showcase, after a brief illness. Most of you will have known Myra: she served as the Stallholder Representative on the DACA Committee for many years and became a friend to countless people. She offered encouragement and support to stallholders, whether it was their first event with DACA or they were long-time participants. Her enthusiasm for all that DACA represents was infectious, and her colourful presence was sorely missed at Showcase 2024.

5. Treasurer's Report

One of the key financial aims is to achieve a positive surplus of income over expenditure. The net result of £1295 is, therefore, acceptable but it is also well below the £2850 of the previous year. Although the total income increased by 9%, mainly driven by being able to use the Purbeck Hall again, this was offset by a 20% increase in costs, especially in the areas of storage and haulage. A worrying aspect is that, despite increasing the expenditure on marketing, the number of visitors decreased leading to a 15% fall in door receipts.

Only one grant was awarded last year. The bounce back of the stock market led to a marked growth in reserves. Overall, the total funds increased by 5.6% to a very healthy £55689. There continues to be no reason for financial constraints to inhibit the progress of DACA as an organisation. The question, therefore, is how best to use these funds to help DACA move forward.

There is little doubt that, whatever people are searching for, most turn to the internet to find it. There are clear gaps in DACA's ability to provide the right information to a wide enough audience. A sum of £10k has, therefore, been allocated to try to plug these gaps, including paying for digital marketing whilst also working towards future investment in Information Technology and website improvements.

DACA is currently at a crossroads. Encouragingly, we have had record numbers of applications for stalls at Showcase2025. This really does need to be matched by increases in numbers of visitors, members and volunteers. All three are linked in terms of sending out the right information in the right way and at the right time. Money will only be well spent if results are actually achieved in practice and we will be monitoring the impact of any expenditure as closely as possible. However, it would be pointless to let the money just sit in the bank and do nothing.

Martin Sibley is happy to continue as our Independent Examiner for the accounts.

In answer to a question from the floor, Tim explained that the increase in the NatWest Business Reserve Account is money held awaiting receipt of the invoice from Purbeck School for Showcase 2024. This invoice has now been received and paid.

The accounts were accepted unanimously.

Proposed: Harry Edwards; Seconded: Trevor Hedger

6. Membership Report

As the membership year has changed, to run from 1 January to 31 December, everyone is encouraged to renew their membership as soon as possible.

As of the date of the meeting, the membership figures are:

Members paid to 2025/12:	103
Members paid to 2025/06:	202
Honorary members:	10

7. Election of the Steering Committee for 2025

The following members of the Steering Committee stood for re-election in accordance with the DACA constitution. Valid nomination forms have been submitted, with individual proposers and seconders. They were unanimously elected *en bloc*.

Jenny Gurden	(Chair)
Tim Morris	(Treasurer)
Celia Morris	
Malcolm Macnaughtan	
Gillian Hedger	
Jan Underdown	

The meeting closed at 11:13.

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

30.09.2023

30.09.2024

FIXED ASSETS

6945	Equipment	5990
1660	Trophies	1776

BANK ACCOUNTS

3231	NatWest Current account	503
3334	NatWest Business Reserve Account	10696
93	Petty Cash	93

6658

TOTAL READY CASH

11292

COIF ACCOUNTS (Reserves)

11863	COIF Deposit Fund (1-5 years)	13347
27034	COIF Investment Fund (>5 years)	29395

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

1427	Creditors (Net)	6110
1427	<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	6110

52733

TOTAL ASSETS

55689

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

49399	General Fund	52176
1334	Grant Fund	1513
2000	Educational Workshop Fund	2000

52733

TOTAL FUNDS

55689

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION			
Year to	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		Year to
30.09.2023	YEAR ENDED 30TH. SEPTEMBER 2024		30.09.2024
	INCOME		
10,692	Door Receipts		9,018
4,055	Stalls		6,126
939	Plants & books		830
2,331	Commission on sales		3,361
538	Entry Fees		946
263	Workshops		198
3,323	Subscriptions		3,683
433	Donations		209
1,181	Dividends and Interest Received		1,545
23,756	TOTAL INCOME		25,916
	EXPENDITURE		
5,907	Hire of premises		5,364
2,112	Storage costs		2,496
306	Judging fees		363
467	Travelling & Other expenses		744
3,685	Haulage costs		5,213
317	Programmes (net cost)		175
653	Website and other IT areas		1,257
2,508	Marketing including signage		3,223
345	Engraving		539
1,090	Insurance		1,178
580	Public address hire		580
397	Catering		434
344	Miscellaneous		814
50	Accounts Review		50
18,761	TOTAL REGULAR EXPENDITURE		22,430
0	Major Projects		0
2,145	Depreciation		2,191
20,906	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		24,621
2,850	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		1,295
1050	Grants awarded		700
1,800	Surplus after grant adjustments		595
-610	Growth/Loss of Reserves		2,361
51,543	General Fund brought forward		52,733
52,733	Carried Forward		55,689
1,191	Total increase or decrease in funds		2,956
0	Check sum (should be zero)		0



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Dorset Arts & Crafts Association

On accounts for the year
ended

30 September 2024

Charity no
(if any)

306252

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date: 23/10/2024

Name: MARTIN SIBLEY

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

[Empty box for professional qualification(s) or body]

(if any): 3 SEDGE PLACE

Address: WEYMOUTH

DOLSET

DT3 6FN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

[Empty box for disclosure details]