

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 March 2024  
for

The Wallpaper History Society

Cameron Forbes Limited  
19, Leigh Park  
Datchet, Windsor  
Berkshire

Report of the Trustees for the Year ended 31 March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Registered Charity number

The charity is registered in England with the charity number 1113163

Constitution

The charity was registered on 8 March 2005.

Registered Office

10 Hillside View

Oxton

Wirral

CH43 2GG

Trustees

The Trustees throughout the year were:

Rowena Beighton-Dykes	Hon. Chair & Editor, The Wallpaper History Review
Phillippa Mapes	Hon. Vice Chair
Eleanor Brooke-Peat	Hon. Secretary
Pauline Birdsall	Hon. Treasurer & Membership Secretary
Lucy Ellis	Online News Editor
Wendy Andrews	Events Coordinator
Zoë Hendon	Events Coordinator
Andrew Bush	General Enquiries
Matthew Meadows	Committee Member (resigned November 2023)
Joanna Banham	Committee Member (November 2023 onwards)
David Skinner	Committee Member (November 2023 onwards)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Society is unincorporated. The charity is controlled by a constitution dated 8 March 2005, amended in 2006 and again in 2019. Under the constitution the Officers and Committee Members are responsible for the governance of the Society, its strategy, direction and general wellbeing.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. During the year 2023-24 there have been no issues to report.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

To advance the education of the public in the history, development, manufacturing and design of wallcoverings, mainly since the 16th century, in particular but not exclusively by:

- a) Supporting research and disseminating the useful results of such research, particularly by means of a journal and electronic means where possible
- b) Supporting the preservation and conservation of historic and contemporary wall coverings
- c) Organising conferences, seminars and other such educational activities

Reliance on volunteers

The Society has no employees. It is entirely reliant on the voluntary work of its members, and in particular of its officers and committee members for all its activities.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

In-person events this year included a 4-Day trip to Ireland in May 2023, led by David Skinner, a trip to Insole Court near Cardiff in September 2023 led by Pauline Birdsall, and a trip to Marthe Armitage's studio and showroom, hosted by Jo Broadhurst in March 2024.

Online events this year were as follows:

David Skinner – 'Wallpaper in vernacular Irish houses: transience and memory' in October 2023 and has been made available as a download on the site shop

'Lincrusta – the enduring appeal of embossed wallpapers' in September 2023

Bo Sullivan – '1907, Shopping for American Arts and Crafts Wallpapers' in June 2023

The Society's events are all booked and paid by members and non-members alike through the Eventbrite system, which takes approximately 10% percentage overall, but allows the events to be far better managed as the Society has no paid staff.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held in person at the Artworkers' Guild and was catered by the WHS committee. The event was a welcome return to in-person events and the attendees were entertained by a lecture entitled 'Toile Tales of Timorous Beasties' by Paul Simmons of Timorous Beasties.

Matthew Meadows stepped down after many years as a valued Committee member. New nominations were sought, leading to Joanna Banham and David Skinner being elected as new Committee members.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership subscriptions were increased in early 2024 by GBP 5.00 to help with the Society's increased costs. The increase affects all types of membership other than the 'students and unwaged' category, which remains at GBP 12.00. This concessionary rate does not cover the cost of production and distribution of the journal every second year, but the Committee wishes to keep the Society accessible to a broad range of people, regardless of means. The changes in membership costs were proposed and approved at the 2023 AGM. It is intended that any members whose standing payments fall short of the new subscriptions will be asked to rectify this before the 2024 Wallpaper History Review is sent to them.

Some events have a slightly preferential rate to members over non-members.

Almost all new memberships and a large percentage of renewing memberships take place via the Society's website, incurring fees in the region of 3%. The same charges apply to all sales made on the site shop.

## BURSARY

Bursary payments have been made in full to one of the successful applicants, and fifty percent has been paid to the second recipient, pending completion of their work.

## RESERVES

The general fund is maintained at a level to cover day-to-day running expenses. The Committee intends to have a Reserves policy in place by the end of the next financial year. General costs have risen greatly in the last two years and the Committee is increasingly aware of the need for effective financial management and budgeting in the future. The Society has placed funds into fixed term bonds with Lloyds Bank to maximise interest on its reserves.

The total current bank balance of £26,017 is considered adequate to meet the Society's needs in the short and medium term, the main ongoing expenses being insurance, the Zoom platform, website and email accounts and the cost of producing and posting the next Review, due in the financial year 2024-25.

The Society has this year enlisted the services of Cameron Forbes Ltd (accountants).

On Behalf of the Committee:

Pauline Birdsall - Trustee

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Wallpaper History Society (the Society) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity trustees of the Society 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 Society'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angus J. Cameron', with a horizontal line underneath.

Name: Angus Cameron

Relevant professional qualification: Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address: 19, Leigh Park, Datchet, Berkshire SL3 9JP

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024



The Wallpaper History Society

Receipts and Payments Account  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted fund £	2024 Restricted Fund £	Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Donations received	239	-	239	427
Charitable activities	14,221	-	14,221	10,307
Investment Income	494	-	494	20
Total incoming resources	14,954	-	14,954	10,754
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable activities	6,682	-	6,682	13,550
Total expenditure	6,682	-	6,682	13,550
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	8,272	-	8,272	(2,796)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	17,745	-	17,745	20,541
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	26,017	-	26,017	17,745

Receipts and Payments Account  
Comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted fund £	2023 Restricted Fund £	Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Donations received	427	-	427
Charitable activities	10,307	-	10,307
Investment Income	20	-	20
Total incoming resources	10,754	-	10,723
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Charitable activities	13,550	-	13,550
Total expenditure	13,550	-	13,550
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	(2,796)	-	(2,796)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	20,541	-	20,541
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17,745	-	17,745

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

At 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted Fund £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at bank	26,017	-	26,017	17,745	-	17,745
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>26,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,017</u>	<u>17,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,745</u>
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS	<u>26,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,017</u>	<u>17,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,745</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY						
Unrestricted funds						
Balance brought forward			17,745			20,541
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year			8,272			(2,796)
Balance Carried Forward			<u>26,017</u>			<u>17,745</u>
Restricted funds			-			-
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>26,017</u>			<u>17,745</u>

The charity is entitled to exemption from audit for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records that comply with the Charities Act 2011
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 relating to financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Committee of Trustees on 12 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Pauline Birdsall – Trustee

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

**Incoming Resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Receipts and Payments Account when the money is received.

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for when paid and has been categorised under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure. The Society has benefitted from the contribution of unpaid volunteers and trustees, which is not financially estimated or included in these accounts.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sale of publications	631	978

3 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Society paid £1,000 to Phillippa Mapes in the year ended 31 March 2023 for the completion of the indexing project.

There were no trustees' expenses for the year ended 31 March 2024 or for the year ended 31 March 2023.

4 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31 March 2023 £	Net Movement in Funds £	At 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	17,745	8,192	25,937
Restricted funds	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>17,745</b>	<b>8,192</b>	<b>25,937</b>

The net movement in funds included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	14,874	(6,682)	8,192
Restricted funds	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>14,874</b>	<b>(6,682)</b>	<b>8,192</b>

5 GRANT MAKING ACTIVITIES

Analysis	Grants to Institutions £	Grants to Individuals £	Total Grants made £
Bursaries	500	250	750
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>750</b>

6 PRIOR PERIOD ERRORS

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 omitted one of the Charity's bank accounts from the financial statements. This had the effect of materially understating the Charity's total funds at year end by £1,570

This error was identified during the drafting of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 but the correction was mis-applied to the financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2023 instead of correcting the comparatives from the year ending 31 March 2022. This had the effect of materially overstating the Charity's incoming resources for the year ended 31 March 2023 by £1,570 whilst the total funds presented at that year end date were correct. Additionally, the opening balance on the Society's Paypal account of £1,103 was mis-categorised as income in the year ended 31 March 2023 when it was in fact an opening cash asset.

The accounts prepared for the year ended 31 March 2024 have corrected the comparatives for the year ended 31 March 2023 so that these now correctly show the incoming resources and the resources expended for that year.

It is not practicable to consider correcting previous years' accounts as the Trustees do not believe the cost of investigating and making such corrections is a good use of charitable funds given the size of the charity and the likely costs of such an investigation. The Trustees consider the corrections made in the comparatives in the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 are a reasonable disclosure of the prior period errors identified and now corrected.



The Wallpaper History Society

Detailed Receipts and Payments

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted Fund £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Donations	239	-	239	427	-	427
Charitable income						
Subscriptions	7,363	-	7,363	6,515	-	6,515
Ed visits/study day	4,945	-	4,945	2,783	-	2,783
AGM Xmas lecture	1,282	-	1,282	-	-	-
Sale of review/books	631	-	631	978	-	978
Bank Interest	494	-	494	20	-	20
Total Income	<u>14,954</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,954</u>	<u>10,723</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,723</u>
Expenditure						
Purchases for fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and postage	309	-	309	8,672	-	8,672
Website	535	-	535	124	-	124
Insurance	117	-	117	172	-	172
Lecture series	-	-	-	270	-	270
Ed visits/study day	1,883	-	1,883	-	-	-
AGM Xmas lecture	1,261	-	1,261	924	-	924
Accountant's fees	-	-	-	400	-	400
Zoom licence	818	-	818	1,374	-	1,374
Bank charges/Merch Fee	960	-	960	113	-	113
Sundry	49	-	49	1,000	-	1,000
Bursary	750	-	750	500	-	500
Total expenses	<u>6,682</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,682</u>	<u>13,550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,550</u>
Net income for the year	<u>8,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,272</u>	<u>(2,827)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,827)</u>