



**EDINBURGH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY**

*President:* The Countess of Rosebery

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN  
that the Forty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the  
EDINBURGH DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY  
will be held in the Freemason's Hall  
96 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3DH on  
Tuesday 11 October 2016 at 6.15pm**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting
3. Adoption of the Chairman's Annual Report and Accounts
4. The Society will be asked to reappoint Mr Ian Wittet as the Honorary Auditor
5. The Society will be asked to reappoint Mr John Crawford as the Honorary Solicitor
6. The Society will be asked to approve the re-election of Mrs. Gail Guest as Chairman of the Committee  
The Society will be asked to approve the re-election of the following other office bearers and members of the Committee and the election one new member of the Committee\*:

Mr Wren Hoskyns-Abrahall	Treasurer
Miss Anne Mason Brown	Vice Chairman
Miss Elizabeth East	Secretary
Mrs Fiona Mitchell-Rose	Lecture Secretary
Miss Grace Durham	Lecture Secretary
Mrs Anne Young	Membership Secretary (afternoons)
Mrs Jen McDowell	Membership Secretary (evenings)
Mrs Catriona Burns	Visits and Study Groups
Mr Neil Hynd	Visits and Study Groups
Mrs Filly Nicol	Visits and Study Groups
Mrs Jane Drysdale	Visits and Study Groups
Mrs Leslie Abram *	Member

Any member of the Society may propose or second members for election to the Committee, the consent of those proposed having first been obtained. Any such nomination must be notified to the Secretary at least 28 days prior to the holding of the Annual General Meeting (see Rules, No 10).

7. Any Other Business
8. Date of Next Meeting

**Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the  
Edinburgh Decorative & Fine Arts Society held in the  
Queen Mother Conference Centre, Royal College of Physicians,  
9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 6.15pm**

**PRESENT:** Vice Presidents Dr Iain Gordon Brown and Lady Johnston, the Chairman, the Treasurer, Members of the Committee and Members of the Society.

**ITEM 1: APOLOGIES** were received from President Lady Rosebery, Miss Elizabeth East, Miss Grace Durham, Mr and Mrs Michael Pearson, Miss Anne Mason Brown, Mrs Valerie Crombie, Dame Mary Corsar, Mrs Phyll Hoskyns Abrahall, Mrs Cherry Campbell, Mr and Mrs Tony Brightman, Mona Shae, Lindsay Morison, Dr and Mrs David Jenkins, Mrs Sally Packe.

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting were proposed by Mr John Fleming and seconded by Mrs Jane Drysdale, approved by the Members and duly signed.

**ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.**

The Chairman's first year in office, with the enormous support from the dedicated Committee and many society members, had been stimulating and enjoyable. During the year a successful season of lectures on a variety of diverse subjects had been put together by the two lecture secretaries, Grace Durham and Fiona Mitchell Rose, who were thanked for organising such an excellent programme, and the committee was thanked for their hospitality to the lecturers.

A busy schedule of well attended events was also enjoyed by the members. These included a Festive Reception at the New Club with James Naughtie, and visits to Kinross House, Penicuik House and Dumfries House. This would not have been achieved without the commitment of the events team: Neil Hynd, Catriona Burns, Filly Nicol, Jane Drysdale, Anne Mason Brown and Pilla Scott Moncreiff. A special vote of thanks was given to Neil Hynd for masterminding a superb visit to Bath and Wells.

Membership currently stood at 888 with 76 on the combined waiting list for afternoon and evening sessions. The two Membership Secretaries, Anne Young and Jen McDowell, were thanked for their efforts.

The new website had been successfully redesigned by John Fleming, and Kevin McCarthy of Airedale Solutions. Sadly John had decided to retire as EDFAS Webmaster. The committee were very grateful for all the work he had done in designing the original website and ensuring the new one was in good order before stepping down. Thanks were also extended to Grace Durham for her skillful editing of the twice yearly Newsletter.

The Secretary, Liz East, was thanked for taking the minutes at meetings and for producing the events flyers.

Heritage Volunteering continued at various institutions within the city, including a new project at the Museum of the Royal Regiment of Scotland at Edinburgh Castle. The Church Recording team had presented their record to Greyfriars Church, and were currently working at St. Margaret's Chapel in Edinburgh Castle. Filly Nicol had recently taken on responsibility for Young Arts.

The Chairman ended her report by thanking the President, Lady Rosebery, the Vice Presidents Dr. Iain Gordon Brown and Lady Johnston, and the Vice Chairman Pilla Scott Moncreiff for their wise counsel, friendship and constant support. Thanks were also extended to the Royal College of Physicians, the IT technician Ian Cunningham, Saltire Catering and St. Andrew's Ambulance for ensuring each lecture ran seamlessly.

In handing over to the Treasurer, the Chairman stressed how heavily she and the committee rely on Wren Hoskyns Abrahall not only for looking after the finances but for everything else he does. The committee was indebted to him for his patience and commitment.

In presenting the accounts for the year The Treasurer opened his remarks by saying a book-keeper had recently been appointed to look after day-to-day transactions and to provide continuity for the Society's finances when he handed over to a successor. Rather than decreasing reserves as had been hoped, they had increased partly due to the change of venue and resulting change in accounting for the hall hire, and partly due to the reduction in postage costs arising from emailing events flyers. A third year without an increase in subscriptions was being enjoyed, and the committee would consider whether an increase for 2016-2017 would be required. The tight control on expenditure exercised by the committee may allow a postponement of any increase. Many members and committee members hoped that we should return to the Physicians Hall once the refurbishment was complete but it was understood that their hire prices would increase substantially.

With no questions from the floor, the adoption of the Annual Report & Accounts was proposed by Lady Fiona Campbell, seconded by Mrs Carol Sibbald and approved by the members.

**ITEM 4: REAPPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR**

The Chairman thanked Mr Ian Wittet, our Independent Examiner for his time, attentiveness and skill in examining the accounts for the last 11 years. The reappointment of Mr Ian Wittet as Honorary Auditor was proposed by Mrs Hilary Fleming, seconded by Mrs Anne Young and approved by the members.

**ITEM 5: REAPPOINTMENT OF HONORARY SOLICITOR**

The reappointment of Mr John Crawford was proposed by Mrs Jane Drysdale, seconded by Mr Neil Hynd and approved by the members.

**ITEM 6: RE-ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIETY**

The Secretary proposed the re-election of Mrs Gail Guest as Chairman. This was seconded by Mrs Fiona Young and approved by the members.

**ITEM 7: ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Chairman asked the Society to approve the re-election of the following members of the Committee:

Mr Wren Hoskyns Abrahall	Treasurer
Mrs Pilla Scott Moncrieff	Vice Chairman
Miss Elizabeth East	Secretary
Mrs Fiona Mitchell-Rose	Lecture Secretary
Miss Grace Durham	Lecture Secretary
Mrs Anne Young	Membership Secretary (afternoons)
Mrs Jen McDowell	Membership Secretary (evenings)
Mrs Catriona Burns	Visits and Study Groups
Mr Neil Hynd	Visits and Study Groups
Mrs Filly Nicol	Visits and Study Groups
Mrs Jane Drysdale	Visits and Study Group
Miss Anne Mason Brown	Member

These were proposed by Mr John Fleming, seconded by Lady Johnston and approved by the Members.

Before the next item on the agenda the Chairman took the opportunity to present John Fleming with a gift to mark the Society's appreciation of his commitment, not only to the website but to the Society as a whole, over the last 6 years.

**ITEM 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Iain Gordon Brown praised the Chairman for so successfully completing her first year in office.

**ITEM 9: DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Annual General Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in Central Hall, 2 West Tollcross, Edinburgh EH3 9BP

There being no other business, the Meeting was declared closed at 6.32pm



**EDINBURGH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY**

*President:* The Countess of Rosebery

**Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts**

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Scottish Charity Number SC039651

**Trustees:**

Mrs Gail Guest *Chairman*  
Mr Wren Hoskyns-Abrahall *Treasurer*  
Mrs Pilla Scott Moncrieff *Vice Chairman*  
Miss Elizabeth East *Secretary*  
Mrs Fiona Mitchell-Rose *Lecture Secretary*  
Miss Grace Durham *Lecture Secretary*  
Mrs Anne Young *Membership Secretary (afternoons)*  
Mrs Jen McDowell *Membership Secretary (evenings)*  
Mrs Catriona Burns *Visits and Study Groups*  
Mr Neil Hynd *Visits and Study Groups*  
Mrs Filly Nicol *Visits and Study Groups*  
Mrs Jane Drysdale *Visits and Study Groups*  
Mr John Fleming *Website (Until 13 October 2015)*  
Mrs Wendy Maynard *Website (From 13 October 2015)*  
Miss Anne Mason Brown *Committee*

**Contact Address:**

c/o Mr W Hoskyns-Abrahall, 23 Lauder Road, Edinburgh EH9 2JG

**Appointment of Trustees:**

Trustees are appointed or reappointed by the members at the annual general meeting, in accordance with the constitution, which is held early in the lecture season each autumn.

**Governing Document:**

The Society is a charitable unincorporated association and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in the constitution.

**Charitable Purposes:**

The purposes, as set out in the constitution, are the promotion and advancement of education through the cultivation and study of the decorative and fine arts.

**Activities and Achievements**

During the past year our membership has enjoyed another successful season of notable lectures and events. Due to our association with NADFAS, we have access to their Directory of lecturers and from this source we held a series of ten lectures on a diverse variety of subjects ranging from Symbols and Double-Entendre in Dutch Genre Painting, the multi-talented Sir Joseph Paxton, the flamboyant and eccentric aristocrat Lady Ottoline Morrell to hearing about members of the Blue Rider Group and artists such as Die Brucke and Kandinsky. Each lecture was given twice, once in the afternoon and repeated in the evening attracting healthy audience numbers on every occasion. The average attendance at the afternoon lecture session was 236 (compared to 248 the previous year) and at the evening lecture 225 (compared to 209 the previous year).

We also completed an imaginative and busy events programme including a popular repeat visit to Kinross House followed by an equally successful Festive Reception at the Queen's Gallery to see an exhibition on Scottish Artists from the Royal Collection. To complement our lecture on Islam and the Mosque, a visit to the King Fahd Mosque

and Islamic Centre of Edinburgh was offered and later in the season members visited the historic library at Innerpeffrey near Crieff coupled with a privately hosted visit to Megginch Castle.

Our society tours also proved very popular with trips being organised to Amsterdam in the autumn and the West Midlands in the spring.

Donations totalling £16,000 were made to appropriate qualifying bodies, including those who had hosted visits or events throughout the year. We also continued with our Young Arts support by way of our University of Edinburgh's Bursary Scheme for art students and donations to the Leith School of Art, a community-led arts charity in Wester Hailes and a Special Needs School Workshop Programme run by the Friends of the RSA. Almost £9,500 of our donations pool came from the tax reclaimed from HM Government under the Gift Aid Scheme.

As a result of the move in January 2016 to our new lecture venue at Central Hall, Tollcross, we have been able to reduce the waiting list considerably. However, the trustees will continue to monitor the situation closely and confirm they will keep members up to date with future venue plans.

**Trustee Remuneration and Expenses:**

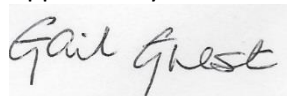
The trustees received no remuneration during the year. Incidental expenses incurred solely on behalf of the Society were reimbursed.

**Reserves:**

The Society has more than adequate reserves to cover any foreseeable uninsured liability. The trustees are therefore inclined to reduce these reserves over time, through the prudent support of suitable arts projects or bodies.

They do not feel it appropriate to use such reserves, accumulated over many years, to subsidise current subscriptions. As a result the accounts have been arranged to show the costs of running the society's general administration and lecture programme separately from other income and costs, such as visits, volunteer activities and donations. The trustees have agreed that subscriptions should be set at a level to cover these administrative and lecture costs, averaged over a number of years to avoid annual inflation-linked increases.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf



Mrs Gail Guest  
*Chairman*

11<sup>th</sup> September 2016

**Edinburgh Decorative and Fine Arts Society**

Scottish Registered Charity No: SC039651

**Statement of Financial Activities**

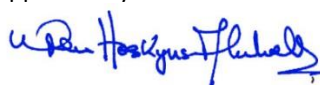
**For the year to 30 June 2016**

	General Fund	Visits & Study Days	Designated Funds Vol'teers	D'nations	Net Income	2015
<b>Income</b>						
Subscriptions from members	42,682				42,682	40,021
Donations				3,509	3,509	1,500
Visitor Donations	910				910	1,175
Tax reclaimed under Gift Aid				9,485	9,484	8,766
<b>Income from Charitable Activities</b>						
Visits & Study Days & Events		13,596			13,596	12,259
	<b>43,592</b>	<b>13,596</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,994</b>	<b>70,181</b>	<b>64,010</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>						
<b>Charitable Activities</b>						
Lecture Fees & Expenses	12,062				12,062	11,562
Hall hire and audio visual expenses (Note 1)	5,325				5,325	5,858
NADFAS affiliation fees & expenses	10,860				10,860	10,743
NADFAS Scottish Area affiliation fees & expenses	850				850	803
Telephone & Postage (Note 2)	2,089				2,089	3
Printing & Stationery	3,434				3,434	2,968
Volunteer expenses			295		295	30
Miscellaneous expenses	750				750	1,028
Net Travel	121				121	76
Visits & Study Days & Events		11,751			11,751	7,411
Donations Made (Note 3)				16,000	16,000	13,600
Bank Interest received gross less charges	267				267	289
<b>Governance Costs (Note 4)</b>	1,178				1,178	684
	<b>36,936</b>	<b>11,751</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>64,982</b>	<b>54,766</b>
<b>Net Income before Transfers (Note 5)</b>	<b>6,655</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>-295</b>	<b>-3,006</b>	<b>5,199</b>	<b>9,244</b>
<b>Transfers</b>						
Visits & Study Days & Events		-1,845		1,845		
General Funds	-1,372		295	1,077		
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>5,283</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-84</b>	<b>5,199</b>	<b>9,244</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
Total Funds Brought forward	39,284		450	84	39,818	30,574
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b>44,567</b>		<b>450</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,017</b>	<b>39,818</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2016**

Equipment (Note 6)		1	1
Deposit Account (Note 7)		76,234	70,785
Current Account		-422	500
Loan - Patricia Fay Memorial Fund (Note 8)		3,300	3,300
		<b>79,113</b>	<b>74,586</b>
<b>Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)</b>			
Creditors & pre-paid subscriptions		34,096	34,768
<b>Net Assets</b>	44,567	450	<b>45,017</b>
			<b>39,818</b>

Approved by the Trustees on 11 September 2016



Wren Hoskyns-Abraham  
Honorary Treasurer & Trustee

## Notes to the Accounts

**Note 1.** Historically lecture venue hire has been paid annually in advance and taken in the year in which it was paid.

This applied to hire of the RCPE until January, with the cost appearing in the 2014-2015 accounts.

Only the January to June hire charges for the Central Venues Hall appears in this year's accounts.

**Note 2.** Having used up the stamp stocks from earlier years, more had to be purchased during the current year.

Some purchasing of stock ahead of the price rise was possible.

It is not cost effective to acquire a franking machine.

<b>Note 3.</b> Donations made during the year were:	£
University of Edinburgh Bursaries	4,000
SHBT for Riddell's Court	6,000
National Museums of Scotland	1,500
National Galleries of Scotland	1,500
Wester Hailes Arts for Leisure and Education	1,000
Leith School of Art	1,000
St Andrew's Ambulance	350
NMS for Silver Storage Cloth	300
Friends of the Royal Scottish Academy	250
Edinburgh Mosque	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,000</b>

**Note 4.** Governance Costs consist principally of Printing and postage, External Examination costs and the costs of meetings.

No payments are made to Trustees other than reimbursement of out of pocket expenses incurred in managing the Society's activities.

**Note 5.** As a result of generous sponsorship of our Events by the Evelyn Drysdale Charitable Trust the Society has been able to donate more to local Arts charities at the same time as showing a healthy surplus.

**Note 6.** Equipment, including display boards and software, has been fully depreciated, but remains in use.

**Note 7.** There are no Restricted Funds, but for clarity's sake Volunteers Funds and Donations are kept separate as Designated Funds.

**Note 8.** The Patricia Fay Memorial Fund is an English Registered Charity (No. 1089743) to which EDFAS has made a loan, which is repayable on demand.

# **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Edinburgh Decorative and Fine Arts Society**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2016 which are set out on the previous pages.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks 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 view given by the accounts.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Wittet  
CA

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016