

Art Friends Cambridgeshire

Report and Financial Statements
Year ended: 31 December 2025

Charity no. 1188903

**7th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
23 JULY 2026**

Reference and administration detail

Charity name: Art Friends Cambridgeshire

Registered charity number: 1188903

Charity's principal address: 46 Thornton Court, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0NS

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity during the year

	Trustee name	Office
1	David Way	Chair
2	Richard Medland	Treasurer & Acting Secretary
3	Ann Keith	Grants Officer and Membership Secretary
4	Jenny Josselyn	Events Coordinator

Bank: NatWest,
21 Petty Cury, Cambridge CB2 3NE

Independent Examiner: Jeremy Wong
59 Bridle Way, Grantchester,
Cambridge CB3 9NY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees of Art Friends Cambridgeshire (AFC) present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which has been compiled in accordance with The Charity Commission guidance for small non-company charities and the Constitution. As the Charity is below the larger charity threshold, it has elected to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis, in accordance with commission's guidance Charity Reporting and Accounting: the essentials (CC15d).

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. It is controlled by its governing document, which is a constitution adopted on 7 February 2019, as amended 31 March 2020, and registered with the Charity Commission on 4 April 2020 with registration number 1188903.

Trustees may be appointed by the Management Committee during the year and are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Management Committee, which comprises the trustees, oversees the activities of the Charity. The Management Committee welcomes the views of members, who may also serve as volunteers, in deciding the activities to be run.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Charity as set out in its governing document are for the public benefit and are:

- (1) the advancement of education in the subjects of art, culture and heritage by providing in particular but not exclusively lectures, workshops, tours and other events at museums, galleries, historic buildings and sites;
- (2) the advancement of the arts, culture and heritage by making grants to projects, museums or galleries that promote the arts, culture and heritage.

Main activities

AFC provides events and lectures related to our aims. AFC also makes grants to projects, museums or galleries that promote the arts, culture and heritage, and these may be proposed by members, our lecturers or event venues to reinforce the benefits of our fund-raising events. In planning our activities for the year, we continued to keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our Management Committee meetings. This report addresses in more detail what has been done during the year to carry out those purposes.

Grants

Grants totalling £3,900 were made during 2025 - see Appendix B:

- Lettering and Commemorative Arts Trust - £300 towards apprentice workshops
- National Gallery Trust re Articulation - £300 towards travel grants for Cambridgeshire candidates
- St Wendreda's March PCC - £150 towards tower restoration appeal
- March & District Museum £500.00 - towards restoration of civic water fountain
- Gestingthorpe PCC - £1000 towards conservation of paintings of Moses and Aaron, possibly by Robert Cardinall, following conservation report towards which we had contributed in 2024
- Our Lady and the English Martyrs church - £2000 towards restoration of decorative features on West Front

The charity's **grant-making policy** has been to ensure that it reflects AFC's objectives, and due diligence has been given to ensure proposed grants clearly benefit the public. The criterion of public benefit may be met in a range of ways, for example through educational projects, including provision of learning materials; funding of training in specific conservation skills; support for conservation projects or those which enable the accessibility to the public of works of art and other cultural objects in museums, galleries and buildings of artistic or historic importance.

Events - visits and lectures

During the year we had eight well-attended events and we were pleased to welcome a number of guests. We are grateful to everyone who has supported them and helped us raise money to make grants. Our thanks also go to all who took part in their organisation, from the exploration stage to the event itself, dealing with tickets and refreshments and to our hosts and lecturers, including the team at Coton Village Hall where we had our lectures and the AGM.

- Lecture by Roland Mayer, Emeritus Professor of Classics at Kings College London:
What's in a Ruin? Conserving the Ruins of Ancient Rome.

- Exploration of churches in Ashwell, Guilden Morden, Gamlingay and Cockayne Hatley.
- Visit to view a private collection of contemporary art in a Cambridge College.
- Annual General Meeting, followed by short talk by Sambor Puskas, a finalist in the 2023 Articulation competition, on *The Palace of Culture and Science, Warsaw, 1952*.
- Morning visit to a private house near Cambridge, and guided visit to the church nearby containing many features of historical interest.
- Day visit to March to see St Wendreda's Church and private visit to the March Museum.
- Lecture by Mark Knight, Excavation Director, on *Cambridgeshire's Pompeii? The Bronze Age pile-dwelling settlement at Must Farm, Whittlesey*.
- Exclusive visit to Cambridge University Museum of Zoology including an introduction by the Collections Manager, gallery tour with the Assistant Director and handling session with the Senior Learning and Engagement Co-ordinator.

Financial review

The Charity's accounts for 2025 are attached at Appendix A

We had 82 members in 2025. Income unrelated to ticket sales amounted to £1860.52, being raised from subscriptions, the additional amount paid by non-members attending events, some donations and £129.52 claimed from Gift Aid.

Ticket income amounted to £6022. Event and administrative expenses amounted to £4113.33.

We made donations totalling £3,900, £300 of which related to events which took place in 2025 and £1,600 to events in earlier years. In addition, a grant of £2000 was made which did not relate to an event. (See Appendix B)

At the end of the year, we carried forward £8653.95: covering £4690.11 ring fenced in the Grant Fund; an event surplus of £909.15 not yet cleared for donation; and £3,054.69 retained in the Subscriptions Account for administration. The substantial surplus in the Grant fund reflected delays in completing the necessary paperwork and was reduced very substantially early in 2026.

Seven years of AFC and decision to close down

Despite the hope we had in 2024, following the AGM held that year, of finding sufficient volunteers able and willing to join the Management Committee, the Committee realised last autumn that with only four of them they could not cover all the roles required to run the Charity viably and that they would have to start the ball rolling to close down this year, 2026. This was communicated to members in December 2025 and the decision ratified at a Special General Meeting held after the lecture in Coton Village Hall on 9 January 2026.

Over the seven plus years since our inaugural event on 1 April 2019 at Selwyn College up to June 2026 we have had 70 events and donated almost £37,000 to a variety of projects that fall within the remit of our Grants Policy.

The Management Committee wishes to record and repeat its grateful thanks to those who have contributed to the success of our events programme and grant giving in so many ways since we started - by suggesting, planning, and helping with events; to speakers who reduced or waived their usual fees; to our hosts throughout Cambridgeshire and beyond; to the dedicated few who have helped with the AFC website, which has become such a key part of our operation; and of course, above all, to our Members, who have so wonderfully supported AFC over the years and who believed enough in our project at its outset to support us with encouragement and advice and donations.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

Full name David Way

Position **Chairman** Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2025

FOR ART FRIENDS CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Charity No. 1188903

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2025. 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 have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than 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.

Signed:.....Jeremy Francis Wong.....

Name: JEREMY FRANCIS WONG Date: 17.iii.26

Address:.....59 BRIDLE WAY.....
.....GRANTCHESTER, CAMBS CB3 9NY.....

* Notes:

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Art Friends Cambridgeshire

Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2025

BALANCE IN ACCOUNT brought forward from 2024		9092.76	
Less 2025 Event income received in 2024		<u>308.00</u>	8784.76
2025 INCOME			
Subscription income	1580.00		
Non-Member Ticket Loadings	135.00	1715.00	
Donations		16.00	
Gift Aid refund		129.52	
Event income		<u>6022.00</u>	
Total income for year		7882.52	7882.52
2025 EXPENDITURE			
Event expenses	3248.22		
Administration			
Insurance, website, subscription	367.79		
AGM & Meetings	418.57		
Stationery, printing, stamps	<u>78.75</u>	865.11	
Grants (see ~Appendix B)		3900.00	
Total expenditure	8013.33	<u>8013.33</u>	
DEFICIT for the year		130.81	<u>130.81</u>
NET BALANCE at end of year			<u><u>8,653.95</u></u>
Comprising			
Subscriptions & Administration account	3,054.69		
Grant Fund	4,690.11		
Event surplus not yet allocated	<u>909.15</u>	8653.95	
Cash at bank at 31 December 2025	8983.95		
Less 2026 Event income received in 2025	330.00		<u>8,653.95</u>

APPENDIX B

GRANTS MADE IN 2025

Lettering & Commemorative Arts Trust	300.00
Nat Gallery Trust re Articulation	300.00
St Wendreda's March PCC	150.00
March & District Museum Soc	150.00
Gestingthorpe PCC	1000.00
OLEM Decorative Features Fund	2000.00
TOTAL	3900.00