



**FRIENDS**  
OF KETTERING  
& ART GALLERY  
MUSEUM

**ANNUAL REPORTS 2013 - 2014**





*Chairman John Wilson summarises a busy year for the Friends of Kettering Art Gallery and Museum*

This was my 3rd year as Chair. It has been a memorable year in several ways –

The Centenary of the opening of the AE Gallery in July (purple and gilt walls for the ‘hang’); new catalogue; clean corridor etc; the Centenary of the death of AE in September; contact with AE family members; a gift of paintings by the Churchills; the Celebratory dinner (‘suffragettes’ and flowers, magic and harp - see full report); the co-operation with KDAS in the celebratory dinner etc. (IL co-

opted), the £1,000 raised at the dinner plus other generous donations from AE family and local supporters of the Gallery (GJ, Cadbury etc.)

I would like to note in particular ...

- the time and energy contributed by committee members and others. And donations to raffle, discount cards etc.
- 9 talks plus AGM (instead of previous 6); most had a continuing theme of AE and the centenary of the gallery
- Also supported the Museum during the year and increased our Family memberships
- Active committee – Barbara Lewis (*Secretary*), Phil Steele (*website/social media*), Nicola Robinson (*design*), Jean Bushell (*publicity*), Stephanie Mercer (*flowers!*); new member Carla Bennett; former Chair Richard Makins – who is standing down today

And we have a new logo launched this evening!

**FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM**

**Charity No: 216048**

**TRUSTEE REPORT FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

The Alfred East Gallery double Centenary was the highlight of a very successful year with major donations to the Gallery in respect of conservation work on East's paintings and upgrading of the Gallery entrance totalling in excess of £7000. We are much indebted to the Cadbury Trust and Guy Johnson whose kind donations have made this work possible. A memorial dinner was held in conjunction with the Kettering And District Arts Society the proceeds of which will be used towards further conservation work. The Trustees are also delighted with the increase in membership numbers and the success of the school holiday activities for younger members.

The Trustees are elected from amongst the Members taking account of the various skills that are required to run the Charity. They are elected annually and ensure that the accounts are drawn up on an accruals basis consistent with the previous year and accepted accounting standards.

The Trustees have also considered the risks attaching to the Charity and believe that sufficient procedures are in place to mitigate those risks. However the future of the organisation can only be assured by the recruitment of new members and we are therefore delighted to have welcomed several such members. The Trustees are also able to confirm that the Charity complies with s4 Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit.

John Wilson -  
Chairman

David Watson -  
Treasurer

06 April 2014

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

	2014			2013		
	General	Restricted	Total	General	Restricted	Total
	Fund	Fund*		Fund	Fund*	
<b>Income</b>						
Subscriptions	824		824	628		628
Memorial Dinner		1,023	1,023	0		0
Visitor Fees	285		285	186		186
Interest	1	3	4	1	3	4
Donations	140	5,000	5,140	95	10,000	10,095
Refreshments	63		63	19		19
	<u>1,313</u>	<u>6,026</u>	<u>7,339</u>	<u>929</u>	<u>10,003</u>	<u>10,932</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Lecture Fees	350		350	30		30
Open 13 Prize	100		100	100		100
Open Studio Advertisement	160		160	160		160
Gallery re Centenary	0	2,050	2,050	0		0
Gallery Signage	0		0	981		981
Gallery Catalogue	0		0	0	6,000	6,000
Gallery Conservation	0	5,000	5,000	0		0
Gallery re Young Friends	223		223	30		30
Secretarial	164		164	148		148
Website	0		0	24		24
BAfM	228		228	225		225
	<u>1,225</u>	<u>7,050</u>	<u>8,275</u>	<u>1,698</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>7,698</u>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>88</u>	<u>(1,024)</u>	<u>(936)</u>	<u>(769)</u>	<u>4,003</u>	<u>3,234</u>

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31  
MARCH 2014**

Reserves as at 1 April 2013	1,813	8,108	9,921	2,582	4,105	6,687
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	88	(1,024)	(936)	(769)	4,003	3,234
Reserves as at 31 March 2014	<u>1,901</u>	<u>7,084</u>	<u>8,985</u>	<u>1,813</u>	<u>8,108</u>	<u>9,921</u>

Represented Payments in Advance			110			110
Debtors			0			50
Petty Cash			9			9
Barclays Bank - current account			1,209			399
Barclays Bank - postal deposit account			<u>7,657</u>			<u>9,353</u>
			<u>8,985</u>			<u>9,921</u>

\* Restricted Funds comprise:

	Gallery Fund	Johnson Legacy	Cadbury Donation	Memorial Dinner	Total	Gallery Fund	Johnson Legacy	Total
Balance at 1 April 2013	3,108	5,000	0	0	8,108	4,105	0	4,105
Donation	0	0	5,000	1,023	6,023	0	10,000	10,000
Interest	3	0	0	0	3	3	0	3
Utilised	<u>0</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(2,050)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(7,050)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
	<u>3,111</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,950</u>	<u>1,023</u>	<u>7,084</u>	<u>3,108</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>8,108</u>

We are not charged for meeting rooms, thanks to KBC.

**Membership**

We now have over 70 paid up adult members; subscription increases effective from today - £15 (good value for 9 talks and other benefits); the Membership card; electronic database; discounts at some stores; a reciprocal 'corresponding membership' with the **Grapevine Society** of Aix-les-Bains; membership of the **BAfM** (*British Association of Friends of Museums*).

Barbara Lewis reports: ...

*I am pleased to report that there has again been an increase in all categories of membership.*

*Sadly, several long standing members have died and we would like to send our condolences to their families and thanks for the support we have received over the years.*

*We now also have an 'interested list' as a result of the promotional stall at the Open Studios in Mears Ashby, the talks, the Centenary Dinner and other Centenary celebrations at the gallery and museum .*

### **Social media**

Phil Steele reports ...

*The Website [www.friendskaqam.org](http://www.friendskaqam.org) has been largely undeveloped pending the outcome of the project to blend the identities of the Gallery and Museum ... it continues to carry the membership form and links to friendly organisations, but most of the active content for Friends and supporters can be found on social media, Facebook and Blogger ...*

*See also the Museum and Gallery's feed on [Twitter](#).*

*Despite the slowed development schedule, the website received just under 8,000 visits in the last year, 30% up on 2012/13, at around 65 hits/day (a lower growth – more like 20%, as a result of the migration of some content to the social media platforms)*

*Likes on Facebook have more than doubled in the last year (meaning announcements such as details for the very popular Grammar School Education talk now reach hundreds of connected Facebook followers) and [Kettering Art News](#) has grown to around 150 viewers/month.*

*It would be satisfying to see correlations between the increased exposure and uptake on the website and social media and the increase in membership ... of course nothing is as simple as that, but it certainly does seem that many of our strands are pulling together ...*

### **Publicity**

Jean Bushell reports ...

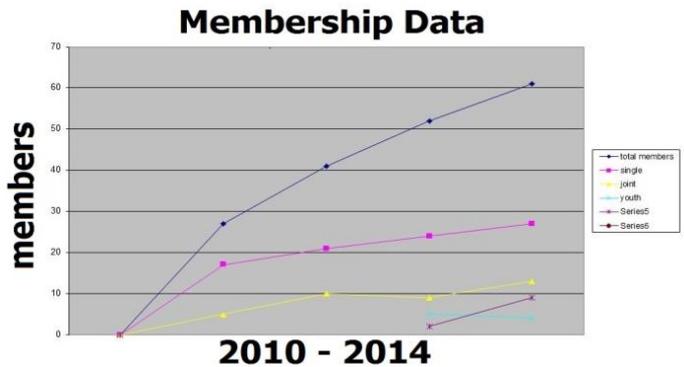
*The publicity for the Friends talks has become more widespread over the last year. We now have publicity in quite a few magazines, in the papers, on the radio and also 'where we can go', which is on the web and so reaches a bigger audience. Our numbers for the talks have certainly grown from previous years – I think because of the publicity that is now out there. Hopefully that will continue.*

Nickie Robinson joins in ...

*... an exciting year - **the centenary**. Since joining the Friends I've been creating posters to support the monthly talks, and we've increased distribution too. We've worked on increasing distribution of **Highlights** for the Gallery and Museum. And I've also started working on archiving paperwork in order to put together a comprehensive history of Friends activities since its start*

### **Stamps**

Phil Steele reports ...



*Our second run of commemorative fun postage stamps based on the Alfred East bust were rejected by the Royal Mail (presumably because they looked too much like stamps, but no reason is given) so we have done a limited run of the original stamp based on the self-portrait. These are available now, at cost, to any Friends who missed out on the original run.*

### **Working with Kettering Borough Council**

We continue to enjoy good relations with the KBC; 2 active Council reps (MB and DS) on the committee; KBC provide rooms for committee meetings and talks and staff for talks; the gallery officers Katie Boyce and Ellie Baumber very supportive. Other staff also helpful, especially Hilary Holt(booking rooms for meetings) and Carolyn Bushell (who is in Berlin but will talk about her visit in July). We missed Delia Thomas but were glad she was able to give her talk on AE in the gallery

- Pleased to note the new signage for the museum – the Robinson 1905 car in green
- Congratulations to Museum staff on winning the County MHH Heritage Award for a record 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year with ‘American Arrivals’.
- We are supporting the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Museum move to the Manor House
- We are supporting the Youth Open with prizes and 2 members are judges
- The ceramic model of the gallery is on display in East gallery
- We get advance e-notice of exhibitions etc.
- We assist with distribution of ‘Highlights’
- The library toilet is now available for our evening talks! Also the library side entrance available for disabled. External lighting remains a problem.
- Val Hitchman was rarely able to attend meetings, but maintained interest and support. She moves to Cornwall at the end of April and we send our best wishes.
- We look forward to working with her successor.



### **Talks**

May 2014 – Toni Hubermann on *Sette of Odd Volumes*; June – Roy Hargrave on *John Alfred Gotch*; July – Paul Johnson on *Alfred East*; September - Prof K McConkey on *Alfred East* ; October – Ian Luck on *KDAS*; November – Phil Steele on *WWI*; January – Peter Barrett re *Alice Hawkins, Suffragette*; February – Paul Sharpling on *Stained glass*; March – Bayes and Lewis on *Kettering Grammar Schools*.

Secretary Barbara Lewis reports ...

*Ten evening talks were offered on a wide range of subjects. The visitor numbers have increased (average last year 9 this year 12 per meeting ) and the number of members attending has almost doubled compared to last year. Hopefully this trend, due in part to the extra advertising and reminders sent out each month, will continue. Real tea cups seem appreciated as we see more visitors enjoying the refreshments at talks.*

## **The Centenary Dinner** (Barbara continues) ...

*...was organised in less than 14 weeks and was well supported by local businesses, Friends, KDAS members and others, intrigued by the event and willing to enter into the period spirit of the evening.*

Ian Luck reports ...

*While Vice Chairman of KDAS I was co-opted onto the Friends Committee in 2012 to help co-ordinate with the production of the new Permanent Collection Guide for the Alfred East Gallery for which both KDAS and the Friends had each donated £1000.*

*2013 was an exciting year for the Gallery with many events to mark the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Gallery. The highlight was a special Exhibition recreating the very first show in 1913, hung in the same manner with all of the original paintings on view again, complete with two purple walls. An entire day was given over to the opening ceremony which was enjoyed by many invited dignitaries including descendants of the East family.*

*Further to the Celebrations, the Friends and KDAS proposed a recreation of the dinner held on 20th September 1913 to mark Sir Alfred's knighthood. By working together this was achieved and on Friday 20th September 2013, KDAS and the Friends of the Alfred East Gallery and Museum held the Centenary Dinner.*

*A most enjoyable evening was spent at the Masonic Hall in Kettering to mark the occasion, attended by over 130 guests mostly in Edwardian costume. Over £1000 was raised through an auction and raffle on the evening, towards the restoration of East's oil painting 'Midland Meadow'.*

Stephanie Mercer organised the floral arrangements ...

*1913 was part of the Edwardian Era. This still showed the influence of Art Nouveau.*



*What also had to be borne in mind was the strong link with the Victorian use of massed flowers, ferns and ivy trails – used in home and official dinner parties.*

*The muted colours which reflected the background were straight forward to find – this would always be the case.*

*What took a little longer was where flowers had been found or 'genetically modified' at that time.*

*It is easy to find examples of the use of masses of roses or Edwardian flowers on the internet. But inevitably, cost had to be considered and it was not easy to ascertain a price for the flowers that would be needed or the season they would reflect.*

*Having been given a figure to work to we decided to use roses, carnations (Dianthus) and lavender (garden flowers) together with trails of small garden ivy to link the posies of flowers to candles in silver candelabra ... So flowers were ordered and all the committee were introduced to the use and preparation of ivy. We all dived in on Thursday afternoon and continued until the Friday evening, stopping only for the talks by Prof. McConkey on the Alfred East Centenary.*

*At 6.30 pm on Friday evening we were able to relax to the feel of art, flowers, food, music, and all the fun of a memorable event.*

### **Engaging with younger audiences**

Carla, Nickie, Stephanie and Barbara ...

*... have made contact with schools and other youth groups to help promote both the Children's activities at the Museum, and more recently distribution of the Youth 14 Open competition posters and forms. We hope that the efforts made to promote the competition will mean more entries this year. The Friends have also used some of the money raised by our fundraising activities to purchase materials for the holiday activities at the Museum and increase awareness of the free places available for youth and family members.*

Barbara continues ...

*We have also helped with wider distribution of the Highlights magazine to ensure as many as possible are aware of both the Friends' talks and the activities and talks at the museum and gallery. This year we hope to continue the promotional activities, support the children's activities and establish more links with other organisations and businesses for discounts and joint ventures. We are busy networking with other organisations to promote the Friends' activities and talks, any suggestions for talks, walks, trips or contacts would be most welcome.*

### **A remarkable year**

Ian Luck concludes ...

The final event of the year was a special exhibition displayed in the small gallery celebrating the history of Art in Kettering researched by Ian Luck and Katie Boyce. Starting in 1883 when drawing lessons were first publicly requested, up to KDAS formation in 1905 with archive items up to the present day. A timeline of paintings by Members drawn from the AE collection was also exhibited. Over 4200 visitors enjoyed this show.

*KDAS looks forward to working with the Friends on future suitable events.*

### **Visits**

Although we were very occupied with Centenary events, several members went on outings organised by the Civic Society. Phil Steele arranged for Friends to visit Northampton with re-enactors on the anniversary of the Battle and witness the placing of wreaths on the Eleanor Cross.

### **Centenary events (not all by Friends)**

Centenary Exhibition on 31 July by KBC; New Guide (money via the Friends, and from KDAS; section on the Friends by MH); Bookmarks; Commemorative stamps; Parliamentary Questions; AE painting to Yale; Paul Johnson informed us of exhibitions round the country and gave talks; Celebratory dinner in September; Cleaning of 'Midsummer Meadow'; Cleaning of other AE paintings with money channelled through the Friends.

### **Coming talks**

May - Geoff Hale's Alfred East repeat; June- Chris Fiddes; July – Carolyn Bushell reflects on Berlin; September – Pasqualina on weaving; October - Fred West on *Women and War*.

### **Future talks and activities**

We have several other talks lined up for 2015 and we have plans for outings and other activities. All of them will be in support of the work of the Kettering Art Gallery and Museum and we hope that you will in turn wish to continue with your support of the Friends. Do tell others about us, as word of mouth remains the best form of publicity!