

The Friends of St Anne's Church, Kew

Registered Charity Number 1085389

Kew Green, Richmond TW9 3AA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 6 APRIL 2021 TO 5 APRIL 2022

Section A – Reference and Administrative Details

TRUSTEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>by whom appointed</u>
Giles Fraser (inducted 25 May 2022)	President	Vicar
Nigel J. Worn (retired 23 May 2021)	President	Vicar
Lorraine Neale	Chairman	elected Chairman
Catherine Lyon		Churchwarden
William Cottle (until 25 April 2021)		Churchwarden
John Mortley (from 25 April 2021)		Churchwarden
Simon Mollett	Treasurer	elected Treasurer
Benjamin H Jones	Secretary	elected Secretary
Wendy Booth		elected
Phyllis Cunningham (deceased 8 Dec 2021)		elected
Belinda Pethick		elected
Gemma Roundell (until 3 July 2021)		elected

Nigel Worn, who was our President by virtue of being Vicar of the Church, retired during the year. Revd Canon Dr Giles Fraser has kindly accepted to become President upon his induction as Vicar.

Section B – Structure, governance and management

The Friends of St Anne's Church, Kew, is a registered charity under the Charities Act constituted pursuant to a Constitution adopted on the 27th day of January 2001. It is managed by an Executive Committee composed of a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and two to six members (all elected at the charity's annual general meeting) plus the Vicar of St Anne's Church, the two churchwardens and any additional members who may be co-opted by the Committee during the year pursuant to article 7(2) of the Constitution.

Section C – Objectives and activities

The Charity's objects, as set out in the Constitution, are to aid in the restoration, preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement and beautification, for the benefit of the public, of St Anne's

Church and its churchyard and of the monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels therein.

Having regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, the charity has undertaken to:

- *Raise funds to help maintain the fabric of the church and churchyard*
- *Finance special projects to restore the churchyard*
- *Promote public awareness of the church and its place in the history of Kew.*

The trustees consider that these activities satisfy the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The charity makes grants solely to St Anne's PCC, has no investments other than bank accounts and has no employees; it relies entirely on the hard work of volunteers running the charity.

Section D – Achievements and performance

Following the necessary pause in live fundraising events due to the Covid-19 pandemic, The Friends continued their programme with virtual-only fundraising events via Zoom Webinar and then, from autumn 2021, resumed live events with limited attendance in the Parish Room coupled with on-line access. Donations for on-line access to events were encouraged, rather than being ticketed, while we grappled with the technical complexity of providing this dual access. We are very grateful to the Arts Society of Richmond who generously provided The Friends the use of their Zoom account for the early events at no cost and to the Chairman of the Arts Society who personally provided the IT support for this. Since autumn 2021 we have been indebted to Paul Booth for developing our own Zoom webinar capability, assisted since January 2022 by two IT students from Richmond upon Thames College, Jean-Paul Graham and Aarush Ram, with the support of their Head of Department Anna O'Flaherty.

The events offered during the year 2021-2022 were as follows:

May: BERNARD & VANESSA LEWIS 'IN CONVERSATION' with CATHERINE BLYTH - Author of 'A Family Business: The Story of River Island, Chelsea Girl, Bernard Lewis and his brothers.' One of the first winners of Drapers Lifetime Achievement Award – as Drapers put it, "A conversation with Bernard Lewis is an oral history lesson on the development of the fashion retailing sector in the UK." It was our pleasure to offer you an extraordinary insight into this privately-owned family business that was founded in the 1940s by Bernard which our Chairman Lorraine was privileged to have been part of, working closely with Bernard and Vanessa. This was only the 3RD maybe the 4th interview that Bernard has ever done in 7 decades of his retailing life. The Book is now published available on Amazon hard back, kindle and audible.

October: Dr DAVID BELLINGHAM. 'NERO, ROME & THE GOLDEN PALACE.' Back by popular demand we were delighted to welcome Dr David Bellingham, Art Historian, Author & Programme Director for the master's degree in Art Business at Sotheby's Institute of Art, London. David's lecture about the current exhibition on that time at the British Museum reminded us of what a wonderful period the first century CE was for the arts and architecture. David is an excellent speaker bringing his subject so alive and many of our audience re-visited the exhibition following David's inspiring lecture not having enjoyed it as much on their initial visit prior to his lecture.

November: KATE TELTSCHER. 'THE GLORY OF THE GARDENS THE PALM HOUSE AND VICTORIAN KEW.' Kate Teltscher is the author of the critically acclaimed book *Palace of Palms: Tropical Dreams and the Making of Kew* (Picador, 2020), recently out in paperback. She is Honorary Research Associate at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and Emeritus Fellow of the University of Roehampton. Kate told us the story of the creation of the Palm House – the engineering masterpiece & emblem of Kew Gardens & the Victorian obsession with the palms that filled it. We heard an account of breath-taking ambition, of scientific discovery & crucially, of the remarkable men whose vision it was. Three of the main figures in her book were the Gardens' first two directors and curator who are buried in the churchyard of St Anne's.

December: PROFESSOR ROBIN SIMON FSA. 'ZOFFANY (1733 – 1810) IN AND OUT OF FAVOUR.' It was a pleasure welcoming Professor Robin Simon FSA, Editor of *The British Art Journal*, who examined the humorous character of Johan Zoffany's paintings. German-speaker, Zoffany lost royal patronage through including unsuitable jokes in a painting delivered to the Queen in 1779. By the 1790s, Zoffany was back in favour, when he would ride in the King's carriage around Kew 'to entertain him, and to tell him about all the paintings he was then carrying out'. Professor Simon delivered a very inspiring lecture pointing out many intricate and surprising details in paintings we would never have picked upon! (We need to point out a misleading statement in our promotional flyer about this event which indicated that The Friends had restored Zoffany's tomb in 2008. In fact, the restoration was paid for by private donation (The Garrick Club) and also relied on many other donations from neighbours on Kew Green.)

January: GEORGE GOODWIN MA FRHistS FRSA. 'HENRY VI, THE LOSS OF FRANCE AND THE FIRST WAR OF THE ROSES'. We were delighted to welcome George back. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Society of Arts; George is an Eccles Centre Makin Fellow at the British Library. His highly-illustrated talk marked the 600th anniversary of the birth of Henry VI – the founder of Eton and King's College, Cambridge – and England's most tragic monarch. Henry's reign saw the chaos in the King's own mind spreading to his Kingdom, leading to the loss of England's vast territories in France and to civil war at home. It effectively ended in 1461, with the Armageddon of Towton – the bloodiest battle on English soil. Something to get the blood stirring last January – though George lightened the mood as is his manner with his ready wit and entertaining presentation.

February: GEOFFREY MUNN OBE MVO. 'FABERGÉ AT THE COURT OF EDWARD VII'. We were delighted to welcome Geoffrey Munn best known as one of the experts on the *BBC Antiques Road Show* as the Jewellery specialist, and a television presenter and writer. Geoffrey is an expert on Fabergé saying he has probably seen more Fabergé than anyone else! Carl Fabergé was the maker of the famous Easter Eggs for the Russian Imperial Court, but the range of his work is very much wider & includes jewelled flower studies and charming animal carvings made from a variety of semi-precious stones. It was these that captivated King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, and as a result the Royal Collection has an unrivalled collection of both. Geoffrey's lecture was very timely as it made an ideal introduction to those planning to visit 'Fabergé in London: Romance to Revolution' Exhibition at the V&A still currently showing. It was not surprising that as soon as our live tickets went on sale it created a rush and we had to create a waiting list. Geoffrey is as charming as we see him on the TV, and our audience were not disappointed.

March: TONY KIRKHAM MBE, VMH. 'REMARKABLE TREES FROM AROUND THE WORLD.' Former Head of the Arboretum, Gardens and Horticultural Services, RBG Kew, who retired in July 2021 after over 40 years' devoted service to the management of its trees. It was our pleasure to welcome Tony,

who with our audience eagerly anticipating his lecture to learn more, took us on the incredible journey around the world 'to meet his special friends' and they were not disappointed! His enthusiasm and charisma for these trees is clearly evident and we could sense he had so much more he could have shared with his amazing passion for his life's work on trees. In addition to his MBE awarded in 2021, in 2009 Tony was awarded the Associate of Honour by the RHS for his services to horticulture. Only 100 people hold this award in the British Isles. Our live tickets sold out only one week after going on sale and again we created a waiting list.

April: SUSAN BAILES BA MA PGCE. 'THE GOLDEN AGE OF CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATION IN EDWARDIAN ENGLAND'. We were delighted to welcome Susan back by popular demand for her illustrated talk (Susan did a similar talk for us on Children's Book Illustration in Victorian England around three years ago). Susan, a retired Head Teacher with an MA in children's literature, is Chair of the Children's Books History Society and editor of its journal. She is also a committee member of IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) and of IBIS (Imaginative Book Illustration Society). As Susan pointed out, Edwardian England was a fascinating period of developments in colour printing leading to high quality illustrated children's books. Susan took us on a journey about the part three very different artists played with their expertise and talents: Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac & Beatrix Potter (the subject of the current V&A exhibition 'BEATRIX POTTER: DRAWN TO NATURE'). I know many were encouraged to visit the exhibition after hearing Susan's most interesting, entertaining and informative talk.

May: Postponed event - 'AN AFTERNOON CHARITY BRIDGE DRIVE & SUPPER' with TINA RUYGROK & ARNOLD TUNBRIDGE. This will be rescheduled for either Autumn 2022 or Spring 2023.

We have committed financial assistance for repairs to the Church floodlighting (a project we previously financed) and to cover cost of the proposed pathway through the churchyard (which awaits the grant of a faculty).

Membership

Membership at the end of the financial year 2021-22 stood at 157 with 10 members joining during the year. Subscriptions for the new year became due on 06 April 2022 and membership is currently at 155 with some renewals still being confirmed.

Section E – Financial review (see attached Statement of Account for the year ending 5th April 2022)

Following completion of the renovation of the churchyard wall in 2020-21, The Friends have adopted the planned restoration of the pathway in the churchyard as our next project – we hope it can be carried out later in 2022-23.

Total income in the year was £15,918 despite the pandemic, arising from the generosity of our members and others who viewed our on-line events and also from the resumption of live events, albeit with limited numbers. The income reflects the hard work of so many in putting on the on-line events.

The trustees of The Friends have set a reserves policy that reflects its objects – it only seeks to hold reserves sufficient to fund the overheads needed to continue its operations for the coming year, being no more than £1,000. Reserves above that amount are held solely with the aim of funding suitable projects identified by St Anne's PCC. Reserves have now been re-built to fund the restoration of the pathway in the churchyard.

The trustees have considered the risks facing the charity and have instituted the appropriate controls over the use of the charity's funds held at bank and appropriate insurance for public liability.

No trustees receive any remuneration from the charity. In the course of the year, expenses were paid to trustees as reimbursement of expenses directly incurred as part of the charity's fund-raising events.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature

Full name - Susan Lorraine Neale

Position - Chairman

Date



Years to 05 April

Income and Expenditure Account

	Year 2021-22	Year 2020-21
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions	£4,611	5,009
Other donations (largely prompted by events)	£5,208	3,948
Gift Aid recovery (2 years outstanding)	£0	0
Events (net of costs) (Notes 1 and 2) :	£	
1 Gainsborough (Susan Sloman) - not ticketed	0	
2 A family business (Bernard Lewis) - not ticketed	0	
3 Nero (David Bellingham)	571	
4 The Glory of the Gardens (Kate Teltcher)	661	
5 Zoffany (Robin Simon)	693	
6 Henry VI (George Goodwin)	490	
7 Faberge (Geoffrey Munn)	856	
8 Trees (Tony Kirkham)	976	
Golden Age (Susan Bailes) - next year, so provided (Note 2)	0	
Total from Events (net)	£4,247	2,522
Christmas cards, artists leaflets and woodcut cards (net)	£351	-49
Bank SWITCH reward (Note 4)	£1,500	0
Bank interest	£0	9
TOTAL INCOME	£15,918	11,439
EXPENDITURE		
Payments to St. Anne's PCC re churchyard wall project (Sept 2020)	£0	-28,667
IT equipment and expenses (Note 5)	-£2,530	0
Public liability insurance	-£350	-350
Other admin expenses	-£210	-82
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-£3,091	-29,099
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD	£12,827	-17,661
Opening reserves	£4,926	22,587
Movement in period	£12,827	-17,661
CLOSING RESERVES (Note 3)	£17,753	4,926
Represented by:		
Cash at bank (Note 4)	£18,295	5,093
Cash in hand	£0	40
Provision for unearned income and costs (Note 2)	-£542	-207
NET ASSETS	£17,753	4,926

NOTES

- These accounts are prepared on a cash basis, with no value ascribed to any fixed assets or to any stock held at the end of events.
- Provisions are made at the year-end where cash has been received for events not yet held and where costs are known but outstanding.
- All reserves are unrestricted.
- Cash at bank was all held at NatWest bank until June 2021; thereafter, the Charity's banking has been with the Co-operative Bank.
- IT equipment and expenses consists of:

IT equipment	£	1,404 (of which £240 in 2020)
Zoom	£	751
IT students	£	280
34 SP (website hosting)	£	95
	<u>£</u>	<u>2,530</u>

Simon Mollett, Treasurer
05/05/2022