



# FRIENDS & OF KETTERING ART GALLERY MUSEUM

**ANNUAL REPORTS 2014 – 2015**



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Thursday 30 April 2015 7.00 p.m. in the Alfred East Art Gallery**

### **AGENDA**

1. Attendance and apologies (Philip Hollobone, etc.)
2. Minutes of AGM held on 10 April 2014 (circulated)
3. Matters arising
4. Reports (oral): Chair; Treasurer (accounts for 2014/15: see pages 4 and 5);  
Secretary; Social Media (fuller reports are printed in this booklet).  
Maurice Bayes will speak about membership support.
5. Election of officers and committee –
  - **Officers**  
The President (Philip Hollobone), Chairman (John Wilson), Secretary (Barbara Lewis) and Treasurer (David Watson) are all willing to stand.
  - **6 committee members**  
Elected members Stephanie Mercer, Phil Steele, Ian Luck and Nicola Robinson are all willing to stand.  
  
Maurice Bayes (former Council nominee) and David Brown (co-opted member) are also willing to stand.
  - **Other nominations for office or committee are welcome.**
6. Launch of the Heritage Map
7. Future events – Summer and autumn talks
  - Newlands Centre 29 May; Naseby 13/14 July
  - Stow and Upper Swell, Sat 25 July
  - Open Studios opening 29 August
8. Any other business

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‘Forty Years On’: The AGM will be followed at 7.45 by an illustrated Talk by John Wilson on his recent visit to the Solomon Islands and his visit in 1976.

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2014/15

This was my 4th year as Chair. Perhaps not as exciting as 2013 with its Centenary celebrations (the death of Sir Alfred East and the opening of the gallery in 2013), but it did have several achievements.

One of them was a closer working relationship with the Kettering Borough Council. We were sorry to say farewell to Val Hitchman, the Cultural Services Manager, but are pleased to welcome **Emma Buckler** to the post. Emma has attended Committee meetings in that capacity and has kept us fully informed of developments in the gallery and museum.

Members of the Friends have assisted with the Activity Days that Emma initiated - *Halloween* in October, *Dinosaurs* in February, and for Easter.

We had a Friends' display in the *Community Corner* in the Museum in January. We have helped with distribution of the Council's quarterly '**Highlights**' brochure which includes details of our evening talks. We were also glad to note the new leaflets put out by the Council about the gallery and museum.

In addition to the provision of rooms for our committee meetings and our evening talks, for which we are always grateful, the Council this year has assisted financially in two significant ways. One was a *Community Grant* towards the cost of the Heritage Map. The other was by facilitating donations from two councillors out of their *Empowerment Funds*. The principle has now been accepted that the Gallery & Museum are for the benefit of the whole community, and that is something we hope to build on in the future.



It is also pleasing that this year again enjoyed the patronage of the town's Mayor (Cllr. Duncan Bain) – this time at the unveiling of the **Kettering Heritage Map** at the *Newlands Centre* in March.

Several of our members also actively support the gallery exhibitions, by entering work, by acting as judges, and by assisting with prize-giving. In particular, we again provided prizes and judges for the Kettering **Youth Open 15** in April.

It was pleasing to see the return of the **Kettering & District Art Society** exhibition this year, and the first exhibition by the *Northamptonshire Town & County Art Society*. This year was also the first year that the *Corby Photographic Society* exhibited. The **Alfred East in Japan** exhibition in April was one of the largest of the kind since the 1890's. We understand that the quality of curatorship provided by **Katie Boyce** and her staff is very high and we are proud to be associated with it.

The Kettering *Open Studios* were not held in 2014, for operational reasons. We are glad that the Council has taken over this activity and that there will be Open Studios from 29th August 2015. We will be supporting that in various ways.

*(continues on page 8)*

**FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM Charity No. 216048**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

	2015			2014		
	General Fund	Restricted Fund*	Total	General Fund	Restricted Fund*	Total
<b>Income</b>						
Subscriptions	765	0	765	824	0	824
Memorial Dinner	0	0	0	0	1,023	1,023
Visitors Fees	183	0	183	285	0	285
Interest	1	5	6	1	3	4
Donations	0	9,264	9,264	140	5,000	5,140
Refreshments	0	0	0	63	0	63
	<u>949</u>	<u>9,269</u>	<u>10,218</u>	<u>1,313</u>	<u>6,026</u>	<u>7,339</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Lecture Fees	199	0	199	350	0	350
Open13 Prize	0	0	0	100	0	100
Open Studio advertisement	0	0	0	160	0	160
Gallery re Centenary	0	0	0	0	2,050	2,050
Gallery Signage	269	500	769	0	0	0
Gallery Catalogue	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gallery Conservation	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Gallery re Young Friends	206	350	556	223	0	223
Secretarial	330	684	1,014	164	0	164
Website	0	0	0	0	0	0
BAfM	223	0	223	228	0	228
	<u>1,227</u>	<u>1,534</u>	<u>2,761</u>	<u>1,225</u>	<u>7,050</u>	<u>8,275</u>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>(278)</u>	<u>7,735</u>	<u>7,457</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>(1,024)</u>	<u>(936)</u>
<b>BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 2015</b>						
Reserves as at 1 April 2014	1,901	7,084	8,985	1,813	8,108	9,921
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(278)</u>	<u>7,735</u>	<u>7,457</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>(1,024)</u>	<u>(936)</u>
Reserves as at 31 March 2015	<u>1,623</u>	<u>14,819</u>	<u>16,442</u>	<u>1,901</u>	<u>7,084</u>	<u>8,985</u>
Represented by						
Payments in Advance			110			110
Debtors			0			0
Petty Cash			9			9
Barclays Bank - current account			360			1,209
Barclays Bank - postal deposit account			<u>15,963</u>			<u>7,657</u>
			<u>16,442</u>			<u>8,985</u>

* Restricted Funds comprise:					2015					2014				
	Gallery	Johnson	Cadbury	Memorial	Total	Gallery	Johnson	Cadbury	Memorial	Total				
	Fund	Legacy	Donation	Dinner		Fund	Legacy	Donation	Dinner					
Balance at 1 April 2014	3,111	0	2,950	1,023	7,084	3,108	5,000	0	0	8,108				
Donation (see below)	6,264	3,000			9,264	0	0	5,000	1,023	6,023				
Interest	2	2	1	0	5	3	0	0	0	3				
Utilised	(850)		(684)		(1,534)	0	(5,000)	(2,050)	0	(7,050)				
Balance at 31 March 2015	8,527	3,002	2,267	1,023	14,819	3,111	0	2,950	1,023	7,084				
KOGSF			350											
Borough Councillor Funds			4,664											
Community Fund Grant			750											
Mrs J M Steele			500											
			6,264											

## FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM Charity No: 216048

### Trustee Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

*This year has been one of consolidation after the success of the Centenary Year celebrations. A new map of Kettering highlighting the location of the Cultural Quarter and especially the Art Gallery and Museum has been launched, located in the Newlands Centre. Plans for the conservation of a number of works of art are at an advanced stage and our scheme to promote children's holiday activities has once again been a success. We are most grateful to all those who have helped fund and organise these activities,*

*The Trustees are elected from amongst the Members taking account of the various skills that are required to run the Charity. They are annually elected 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 delighted to have welcomes 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

20 April 2015



## The Friends of Kettering Art Gallery and Museum's 2014-2015 year in pictures



*Our year started and ended with the Open exhibitions and sponsorship of the Youth category awards ...*



*... and featured a number of awareness raising stalls*



*May 2014 - Recording the Geoff Hales DVD*

July saw the annual Museum and Historic Houses Awards ceremony - a near clean sweep for the **Museum and Art Gallery** and an award for the new logos, created with the assistance of the Friends.



*(The Museum and Gallery team pose with their awards after the ceremony at Sywell Aerodrome)*





Sir Alfred East's grave which can be found amongst the many famous families of Kettering

Last Summer also saw a special *Friends* guided walk in **Kettering Cemetery** as well as numerous events in the town and the Gallery and Museum commemorating the Centenary of the *Outbreak of the Great War* and the homecoming of the Royal Anglians from Afghanistan.



Some of 2014's commemoration of the Great War

**Conservation & Restoration**  
by  
Nikkie Robinson

Carolyn Bushell  
Exploration of the Wiener Culture & Art Movements - An Artist Residency in Berlin  
Thursday 7th  
Alfred East

Carolyn has travelled from her home in the Netherlands to Berlin where she will share her experiences and her work on the Wiener Period from the 1890s to the 1930s. The focus is on the work of the artists and designers who were part of the movement.

**FRRIENDS OF THE ALFRED EAST ART GALLERY**  
Arts Council, FRIG AND

**Pasqualina Tarobino**  
3 D WEAVES, INSPIRATION & PRACTICE  
DESIGN PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 3 D WEAVE STRUCTURE FOR SELF-SUPPORTING AND INTERIOR ACCESSORIES  
Thursday 18th September  
Alfred East Gallery  
Kettering  
7.30 p.m.

FRRIENDS OF THE ALFRED EAST ART GALLERY

**"The Lecture League"**  
Alfred East Gallery, Stamp Street, Kettering  
Thursday 15th January 2015 7.30pm

Presented by  
**ADAM GOUGH**  
Graduate of Laurence Gatch

In 1919, Laurence Gatch returned to Kettering to present a lecture on "The Alexander in Tattersall's" using glass objects and maps. He joined The Lecture League, created for I.R. presenting lectures on "Leaves of Arabia" & "The Country Houses of Shakespeare".

Ticket price £5.00  
How to Book: 01533 600000  
For further information please contact:  
Julia Wilson  
01533 600000  
The Alfred East Gallery  
Stamp Street, Kettering

Above: The Royal Anglians Homecoming Parade passes in front of the Alfred East Art Gallery (July 21st 2014)

Below: some of the many fascinating talks from the 2014-15 Friends year



One of 2015's signature achievements has been the creation of the *Friends'* Kettering Heritage Map: here, at the unveiling, *Friends* Secretary Barbara Lewis presents artist Sian Brown a bouquet in appreciation of her work on the project

*John Wilson continues...*

This year we have provided funding for restoration work of some of the gallery's Alfred East collection. (*Midsummer Meadows* is now being restored in Cambridge.) We have also provided funding for the restoration of a woodblock sculpture by the Brazilian artist **Sergio Di Camargo**.

Our work would not be possible without donations from members and supporters, and we are grateful this year to have received £3,000 from Paul Johnson (for restoration) and £500 from June Steele (for an Open Studios prize.) We also received £4,664 from Councillors Maurice Bayes and Paul Marks, and £350 from the Old Grammarians. The Council contributed £750 as a **Community Grant** for the *Kettering Heritage Map*.

We have extended our outreach this year by having stalls in the *Newlands Centre* on two days, and one for the unveiling of the Heritage Map. We are grateful to Neil Griffin for allowing us to have a table and for being willing to encourage shoppers at his end of the town to explore the cultural riches at the other end of the town.

*In addition to 3 visits, we have continued to present a series of evening talks, 9, as last year, in addition to the talk after the AGM. They represent good value for money at £3 a time, with annual membership of £15.*

All these are at the heart of our activities and take up a lot of time and effort. I wish to express my thanks to all the committee members who have helped with them.

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Ian Luck reports on the work of the design team ....

*The Friends new logo – worked up from a design by Northamptonshire artist Chris Prout with input from Richard Makins as to the logo device of the 'artists palette' and the 'shoe last' is now used for all the Friends stationery and promotional material.*

*The big venture for 2015 is the launch of the **Kettering Heritage Map**. It came about from an idea put forward by Committee Member Phil Steele, seeking an image to put onto the Friends web site.*

*The Friends application for a Community Grant from **Kettering Borough Council** was successful and with 'match funding' from the Friends resources it has been made possible to produce the map and have it on permanent display. The map can also be used for future Friends promotional material.*

*It was suggested that **KDAS** member Sian Brown, well known for her illustrative skills, might be approached to see if she was interested in working on the map.*

*The suggestion was for a 'birds eye' view looking over Kettering from Bowling Green Road towards the Newlands Centre, that featured all the main architectural/historical buildings in the town, focusing on the Alfred East Gallery and the Museum in the foreground. The hope being that Kettering inhabitants and visitors will be encouraged to walk through the town and come and enjoy the pleasures of the Gallery and Museum collections.*

*Sian truly rose to the occasion, researched the buildings she was to draw and made small models to copy from and create the perspective required for the map. This took several weeks of intensive work but resulted in an illustration that the Committee was extremely pleased with. The street and road names were added digitally as were the symbols and information keys. The final result was printed and made up as an A1 sign by **Kensigns** of Kettering. The map was installed in the foyer of the Newlands Centre with an unveiling on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March performed by the Mayor of Kettering.*

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*John Wilson concludes his review of the year ...*

Please note that the talks *from September 2015* will be on **the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**, not Thursday.

We will have a stall at the Newlands centre on 29<sup>th</sup> May for the half-term holidays, and we will be supporting the 2015 Open Studios, beginning with the opening on 29<sup>th</sup> August.

On **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July** there will be a visit to *Stow on the Wold and Upper Swell*, which

have links with Alfred East, and with L. S. Lowry and W.G. Grace and the Civil War.

***The cost is £15 for members, £18 for non-members. For details or to book, please call the Chair on 01536 518941.***

We look forward to your support of these talks and activities, which in turn will show you to be a true Friend of the Kettering Art Gallery and Museum!

John F Wilson, Chair, Friends of KAGAM

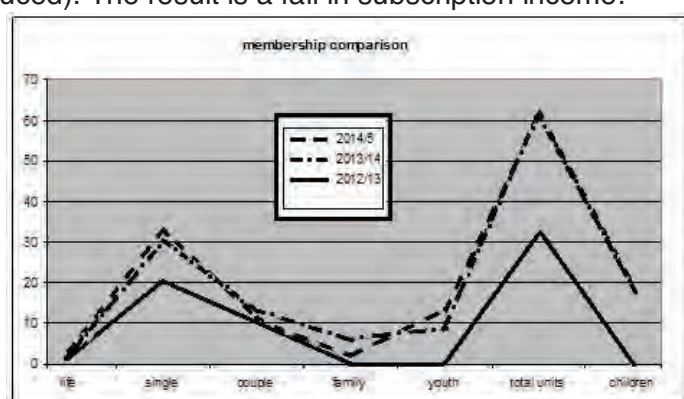
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*Barbara Lewis reports on Membership*

Membership has shown a slight change this year: there are more single and youth members (with family and joint membership reduced). The result is a fall in subscription income.

The new membership cards have been a boon (no more laminating and guillotining) and members continue to benefit from the discounts the card offers.

*Young Friends* took advantage of 150 free sessions at the activities in the Museum, compared to 76 last year, (although only 450 places in total were taken - out of over 900 available throughout the year).



	2014/5	2013/14	2012/13
life	3	3	2
single	33	30	21
couple	11	13	10
family	2	6	0
youth	13	9	0
total units	62	61	33
children	19	18	not known

Attendance at talks is lower compared to last year (total for 10 talks down from 300 to 262; average member attendance down from 20 to 18 and visitors from 10 to 6). This has meant a drop in income from visitors of £100 this year.

The talks covered a wide range of subjects including *WW1*, *Conservation* and *the Magic Lantern show*. The Friends also organised the successful *Cemetery Tour with Tony Whitney* in August and ran information stalls in the Newlands Centre and at ***Kettering by the Sea***.

The Committee and members volunteered at the ***Halloween*** event, ***Dinosaur Day*** and ***Easter*** activities in the Museum and the Friends membership of Phoenix Resource Centre proved invaluable in obtaining resources for dressing up and decorating the Museum as well as a popular 'bran tub' or lucky dip at Kettering by the Sea (*until washed out by a down pour!*).

We continued to advertise in local magazines and newspapers. Where possible posters for talks are displayed at supermarkets and other venues around the town. Help is appreciated advertising events and the Friends. We also help to distribute the Borough Council's ***Highlights*** events guide.

Supporting the funding priorities, the Friends applied to the *Idelwilde Trust* and the *Lecheworth Trust* but were unsuccessful. However the *Kettering Grammar School Foundation* gave a grant toward the children's activities at the Museum and we successfully bid for a Community Grant to produce the Heritage Map (for display in the Newlands Centre etc. to publicise the Art Gallery and Museum).

Barbara Whyler and myself attended a *British Association of Friends of Museums* (BAFM East Midlands) day in June at **Ruddington Knitting Museum**. This was a great opportunity to network and share experiences, problems and solutions. We left feeling quite positive and determined.

**Open competition:** As last year's *Youth Open* competition was so successful the works were exhibited in the **Long Gallery**. We were really pleased not only with the number of entries and the standard of entries but the enthusiasm and support of the families and friends of the young artists.

We decided that, for prizes, suitable art sets and materials were appropriate for the entrants

and these proved a success - particularly with the younger children.

The standard in the older group was such that we decided to enlist the help of *The Kettering Rotary Club* to sponsor the prizes in the junior section (so the Friends can offer a substantial prize in the new 16 -18 year old section). This year's Youth Open has been a great success.

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**Phil Steele** reports that the Friends' *Social Media* pages continue to attract a healthy audience and our following on **Facebook** has more than doubled in this year with a weekly reach that sometimes tops a thousand viewers. Please visit us. The next job is the long-awaited website makeover.

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*Maurice Bayes adds 'A Councillor's view of sitting with the Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum'*

*A few years ago I was appointed to sit on the Friends committee as a KBC appointee joining my colleague Cllr David Soans. Since first becoming a councillor I had followed the proceedings of all the "Other Groups" as we label them. The Friends had been a target that I wanted to join once a vacancy occurred. As councillors we have many responsibilities: there are seats to fill on committees essential to the efficient running of our Borough, and seats on various groups which abound in our area.*

*If possible the councillors should be paired with groups/committees whose work fits with the councillors' field of interest and this pairing with the work of the Friends has worked well for me. I was born in Kettering to a family that has been in the locality since the 1700's or even earlier. Being quite ancient myself I have long experience of the town, its people, its industry and its history.*

*I found the Friends to have a collection of skills and knowledge that could only be dreamt of if you were trying to start such an organisation from scratch. This is enhanced by cooperation with similar groups such as the Civic Society.*

*With all these experts what possible input can a mere councillor contribute? Surprisingly, a councillor does have some usefulness. We can facilitate meetings, we can use our political skills to smooth the way and importantly we can assist with finding funds. Also we can put our political skills to very good use. I have even been able to give a talk on the history of Kettering Grammar school.*

*I have learned quite a bit about art being somewhat of a philistine when I joined, but I admit nothing in the way of understanding when modern art works are mentioned. I have for instance discovered that shrinkage cracks in a wooden sculpture can be a vital part of the work. Such is the world of art.*

*To sum up I hope that my skills and knowledge have contributed to the work of the Friends as my understanding of the art world has improved. We have in Kettering a magnificent art collection that is well displayed in a custom designed gallery. We have a brilliant museum which all our residents should make an effort to visit to learn more about their home town.*

## **Report for the Friends of Kettering Art Gallery and Museum from Kettering Museum & Art Gallery**

**April 2014-April 2015** has proved to be a bumper year for the museum and art gallery. Visitor figures at both sites are particularly strong and we are confident we are going to match, if not exceed, our 2013/14 figures. These amazing results have been achieved through the dedication and hard work of our staff and the Friends. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Friends for their support as, without you, we couldn't achieve as much.

External recognition of this effort is evident in our most successful year in the Northamptonshire Museums and Historic Houses Forum heritage awards. The Museum and Gallery received the following accolades:

**People's Choice:** Public vote for favourite heritage venue – Winner; **Best Event:** The Alfred East Art Gallery's Centenary Re-opening – Winner; **Best Project on a Limited Budget:** The Kettering High School Exhibition – Winner; **Best Special Project:** The Museum and Gallery's new signage project (involving the support and input of the Friends) - Highly Commended

At the time of writing the gallery has also been shortlisted in the research category of the East Midlands Heritage Awards for the gallery collection catalogue. We will find out the results on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. Fingers crossed that we will be award winners again!

The museum and gallery staff have delivered a staggering array of exhibitions and events. Particular highlights include Chris Prout's 'Coast to Coast', and the #selfies exhibition. Expertly curated and researched by Katie Boyce, #selfies focussed on the gallery's portrait collections and engaged audiences around the world through Twitter.

Ellie Baumber personally curated two exhibitions at the museum. 'Faces of World War One' focussed on the personal and moving stories of local people's experiences of the war. This exhibition was extremely well received and Ellie's attention to detail and research skills brought to life previously untold stories.

'On The Wagon' featured 7 portraits from the Kettering Temperance Society which were discovered in a Kettering attic. The museum received funding from Museum Development East Midlands to conserve the portraits. Ellie conducted extensive research on the portraits and the Kettering Temperance Movement.

Life drawing classes, family history workshops, children's craft activities, school visits, lunchtime talks, art workshops, object loans boxes and education sessions continue to form part of our offer for visitors. In addition, there has been a focus on developing family-friendly events to engage and attract new audiences. The 3 events, Halloween, Jurassic Fun Day and Mad Hatter's Day have proved to be very popular. The support of the Friends has been crucial in providing the volunteer help to enable us to run these events.

During November, the museum shop underwent an extensive refurbishment. With funding from Kettering Borough Council and Museum Development East Midlands we have been able to significantly improve the working environment for staff, as well as enhance the shop displays. We are currently reviewing a report on the shop and working on improving the shop stock.

A new information leaflet for the museum and gallery has been produced and a successful funding application has enabled vital cataloguing work to be undertaken on the museum collections. Gallery staff are also working on enhancing the gallery's catalogue records. With the generous support of the Friends and a private donor 'Midland Meadows' is now with Hamilton Kerr for conservation. The Friends also generously agreed to support conservation to a sculpture by internationally renowned sculptor Sergio de Camargo.

We have another exciting year ahead. August will see the launch of the Northamptonshire Open Studios event and month – the first time that Kettering Borough Council through the museum and gallery team, will be leading this event. We have the May half-term and Summer activities and work will begin on the Arts Council Accreditation application for the Museum and Gallery.

**Emma Buckler, Cultural and Leisure Services Manager**



