

2023 AGM ANNUAL REPORTS



FRIENDS
& OF KETTERING
ART GALLERY
MUSEUM



FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday 17 April 2024. At 7.30 pm at the
St Andrews Church rooms
(Chaired by Cllr Keli Watts)**

AGENDA

1. Attendance and apologies
2. Minutes of AGM held on 26th April 2023 (circulated)
3. Matters arising
4. Reports (oral):
 Chair
 Treasurer

Written reports are in the Friends KAGAM Annual Report 2023/4

5. Election of Officers and Committee.
 Nominations from the floor

Officers. The following officers are willing to be re-elected, except as indicated

Chairman (David Brown). David has stated his intention to stand down at the next AGM in 2025.

Ian Luck Treasurer, with assistance from the bookkeeper recently appointed.

Maura Bright, social media secretary has stepped down and will be replaced by a part-time salaried individual.

Jonathan Badger, Secretary.

Committee members. The current members have all indicated their willingness to be Re-elected:

Elected Committee members: Barbara Lewis, Stephanie Mercer, Roger Hatton, Dez Dell, Keli Watts, Madeleine Meninick, Janice Parker.

6. Amendments to the Constitution.
7. Any other business.
8. Thanks and closure

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM DAVID BROWN



THE GLAM PROJECT

The progression of the refurbishment of the Art Gallery and Library had reached a standstill a year ago. Reports received from NNC indicated that the problems would soon be fixed and we again geared ourselves up for a possible reopening in September 2023. Heavy rains and storms revealed that the problem with the roof was more serious than originally thought. Original estimates of the cost of repairs indicated a cost of about £6million. Nevertheless the NNC approved the project and it seems that funding has been found. Work has commenced to strip vegetation from the library building so that a more thorough inspection can be made. The absence of a Gallery and Museum has made it very difficult to engage in any promotional activity by the Friends.

It is heartening to see work on the Gallery starting. The fate of the Museum is still uncertain.

SPEAKER MEETINGS

It has been a mixed bag this year, with fewer meetings than normal. It has not helped that we have been without a regular venue, which has meant that there has been a drift away from the feeling of allegiance to the gallery. The availability of good quality speakers has declined, and the cost of speaker fees and hire of alternative venues has escalated. A revised program of meetings will be announced in the autumn. In the meantime, a series of visits and excursions are planned for the summer months.

Last year's History Open Day in the Cornmarket Hall was huge success, with 110 people attending. Another History Open Day is planned for the 7th September 2024, under the umbrella of the National Trust's History Open Day scheme.

OUTINGS

We enjoyed a very informative private tour of Drayton Manor, near Islip during the summer of 2023, and were welcomed in the village hall by the Friends of Lowick church, with tea and cakes. A coach took 49 of us to Oxford for the day, primarily for a visit to the Ashmolean Museum and the special exhibition on the Minoan civilization. It rained!

Maura organized another picnic at Boughton House, which was well attended and much enjoyed. It rained!

This year outings are planned for Lincoln (home of our President Horace Liberty), and Deene Park. And a picnic.

HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE (HSHAZ)

The Friends' active participation in this town-wide project comes to an end at the end of March 2024. Over the last 3 years we have worked closely with a number of other organizations to deliver an ambitious program of events. We have liaised closely with the Civic Society, Wicksteed Park, the Library Friends, KDAS and Picture the Difference amongst others.

Specific to the Friends, we have completed the ambitious QR Plaque scheme, the results of which can be seen all around the town. We continued and augmented the Cemetery walks program, and introduced a series of guided Town walks. To accompany these tours we have produced three foldout pocket sized guides as well as a full-colour cemetery guidebook. Similar books describing the exotic trees, and the monumental masonry of the graves are in production. A program of volunteer training was also undertaken. The History Day in 2023 was part of the Heritage Action Zone project.

The full, illustrated summary of the Friends' achievements in HSHAZ project can be accessed via the Friends' website. www.friendskagam.org.

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The Chairmans Report from David Brown - continued

THE MEMBERSHIP

With the closure of the Gallery and Museum, and consequent loss of the regular venue and focus for our activities, many members have not renewed their membership, and new recruits have dwindled. "What for?" is a frequent and understandable response to requests for renewal fees. We will continue to remind members about renewal of membership, and will embark on a campaign once the Gallery is open again.

ARTworks

ARTworks is now organized and run by a separate sub-committee. Recent reorganization has put it on a new and more robust footing to face the future challenges.

It took the previous ARTworks Sub Committee some considerable time to sort out the payment structure for the exhibiting artists, and to renegotiate the contract with the utilities that had been left in a chaotic state by the previous tenants of the unit.

Sales remain buoyant, despite the economic climate, but just as important is that the daily footfall has remained satisfyingly high. The volunteers have remained loyal, and Newlands management has stayed supportive throughout.

Several workshops were organized during the year, both for adults and children, some in conjunction with the Alfred East Gallery, and proved very successful. ARTworks has also hosted the KDAS annual exhibition and participated in the roll out of the Northamptonshire Open Studio event.

Above all, ARTworks continues to retain perhaps its most important function, that of a central hub for artists and art lovers in the town

THE COMMITTEE

As you can imagine, even with the Gallery and Museum being closed, the Committee has not been idle. A lot of the extra activity will settle down once the HSHAZ project come to an end in March. I think that we all need a bit of a rest.

We were very sorry to lose our bookkeeper and membership secretary, Dylwn Lloyd, who died suddenly and unexpectedly before Christmas.

The treasurer's role has now been eased by the appointment of a part time bookkeeper. As in several areas, we are finding that the expertise for this type of role does not exist within the membership, and therefore recruitment and payment of people from outside the membership has become necessary. Similarly, the role of Social Media coordinator, vital in this day and age, is being outsourced and paid for. This development is as much due to the increased workload of the committee as the fact that people with skills are looking to find additional income in the cost of living crisis.

As a consequence of all this, the Committee has decided to make some changes to the workload: There will be no speaker meetings during the summer, and a new program will be developed in the autumn. The Committee will meet every 2 months, rather than monthly as at present. Town and Cemetery walks will continue, and the program has been circulated, but these will happen one day per month, not two. The coach trip will happen on the 15th July, and the visit to a stately home has been organized, as has the annual picnic.

Overall, the Committee feels that this program is sustainable.

FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

KETTERING HERITAGE QUARTER WALK

Historic England
www.historicengland.org

LONDON ROAD CEMETERY KETTERING
A brief guide for visitors

FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

KETTERING MARKET STREET & BEYOND WALK

Historic England
www.historicengland.org

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT 2023

TREASURERS REPORT 2023

Membership

Income from membership subscriptions fell by 15% in 2023. Membership has changed with nearly 80 members in 2023. Single person membership is still £15 and Joint membership is £25 for the coming year. Although, donations fell during 2023, our usual Monthly Talks, an expanded programme of Town and Cemetery walks and second History Day in September, together with activities planned for 2024 will increase our donations and sustain our membership.

The Gallery and Museum

The Alfred East Art Gallery remained closed during 2023, for continued renovation. Throughout the year we have tried very hard to actively engage with the North Northants Council (NNC) to keep our members informed and updated on the latest developments. During 2022, no requests were made by the Alfred East Art Gallery or Museum for funds, from our Charity

HSHAZ

The Historic England High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) project has funded our QR codes project. QR codes are now placed on Wayfarer totems in most of Kettering town. Additionally, we have developed our Volunteer Training Program and published 2 Town Walk flyers and a 48 page guide to the Kettering London Road Cemetery.

ARTworks

By the introduction of an artists hanging fee in 2022 we are able to cover the operational costs for running ARTworks. Electricity costs were approx £550 per month in 2023. We must also thank the Newlands Centre management, who have always supported ARTworks. They see ARTworks as a great asset within the shopping mall and support us with prize money and advertising. So, with the continued support of the Newlands Centre, the future of Artworks Creative Space is secure for the immediate future.

COMMUNITY LIAISON REPORT FOR 2023

ARTworks continues to offer children's tables for their own creative works, plus goody bags to advertise any events and art and craft related activities in Kettering. Included are assorted art and craft items to encourage children to try drawing and other creative activities.

Many of the materials we use have been donated by artists and volunteers, however we have noticed an increase in shoplifting and have had to keep the free goody bags behind the desk and encourage volunteers to oversee the craft tables .

We have successfully supported Cornerstone Alfred East Gallery staff to offer several workshops for children, during school holidays as the Gallery remains closed.

During Kettfest many artists were painting art in the High Street. Stella Benford in the Newlands Centre attracted much attention. Some artists have set up inside ARTworks and in the Newlands to demonstrate and encourage visitors.

Summer activities planned in in both the Library and Gallery were successfully moved to ARTworks following the collapse of the Library ceiling. These were for younger children and a footfall of nearly 300 was recorded. ARTworks continued to offer workshops for '9 to 90 year olds', with an encouraging number of children attending the Portrait Workshop for which Stella Benford and Rachel Nicholson organised a model .

Halloween was particularly successful reliving the many Halloween events which previously were held in the Museum. Activities and craft making over several days was well attended and much appreciated by those who attended. Goody bags were distributed and a prize was given to Tessa Bellamy for best volunteer witch costume .

At Christmas we did not hold a Craft Fayre, but again with the support of KCTG and the Tuesday Group attended several Christmas Fayres distributing ARTworks flyers. Plus extended Christmas opening hours in ARTworks brought in more visitors.

In 2024 we are planning to extend the children's workshops and the community corner, possibly with a pop-up museum, with the support of Emily Hayland, Cornerstone Learning and Engagement Officer, as the Gallery opening is again delayed by possibly until 2025.

We are revamping the workshop posters and an Art Groups in Kettering leaflet.

More help is needed to organise and publicise these activities particularly during the school holidays. Activities remain free for children but the workshops for adults will be charged to cover tutor and model costs a grant may be available again, which we would need to apply for.

Hopefully we will again attend the planned Art Centre Festival and Kettfest and be able to take up other opportunities to advertise ARTworks and the work which continues in support of the re-opening of the Gallery and Museum. Compiled by Barbara Lewis.

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS	Year 2022	Year 2023
INCOME		
Community Enterprises AW	6870.60	11796.00
Talks, Raffles , Refreshments	0.00	635.81
Visitors	0.00	0.00
Donations	500.71	3145.00
Events	1168.00	2360.00
Sales	429.45	879.50
Subscriptions	1329.40	1222.00
Grants Consortium	7000.00	16493.00
Grants	500.00	0.00
Grant	0.00	500.00
Bank Interest	8.10	140.74
Income 2021. Banked in 2022	15.00	
Income 2020. Banked in 2021	0.00	
Income 2020. Banked in 2021	0.00	
Gift Aid	399.88	178.70
Total Receipts	18221.14	36852.00
EXPENDITURE		
Community Enterprises	10234.14	10708.00
Talks, Raffles. Refreshments	197.21	
Events	657.62	1421.00
Purchases	718.00	1183.55
Sale Items	100.00	777.30
Gallery Museum Donation	0.00	0.00
Web Site	0.00	114.90
Secretarial	274.03	401.29
Subs and Insurance	474.00	454.00
Advertising	400.00	807.00
Bank Card Charges	0.00	
Expenses 2023 Paid 2024	0.00	853.00
Haz Consortium	3451.28	15268.00
Stationery	288.40	347.50
Room Hire	120.00	436.02
Kids Activities	200.00	650.00
Unpaid Subscription	15.00	0.00
Total Payments	17129.68	31716.00
Income	18221.14	36852.72
Payments	-17129.68	-31716.00
Net of Receipts (Payments)	1091.46	5136.00
+ Cash Funds 01/01/2023	28413.94	29505.40
Cash Funds as at 31/01/2023	29505.40	34642.00

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT 2023

UNRESTRICTED CASH FUNDS	
Community Current	10315.65
Deposit Designated Pots	15443.71
Co-op Account Art Works	8835.00
Petty Cash	50.00
Total Cash Funds	34644.36

RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS				
FUND	01/01/23	CHANGE +	CHANGE -	31/12/23
Gallery Development Fund	1202.57			1202.57
Museum Development Fund	967.63			967.63
Maurice Bayes Fund	1839.00			1839.00
Paul Johnson Fund	1452.00	500.00		2452.00
Conservation Fund	1919.45			1919.45
June Steele Fund	115.00			115.00
Friends General	794.72			397.77
Robinson Fund		1431.00		1431.00
	8290.37	1931.00		10324.42
FUND	01/01/2022	CHANGE +	CHANGE -	31/12/23
HIGH STREET ACTION ZONE	6965.00	16493.00	15268.0	8190.00

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM

Charity No. 216048

Trustee Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

This represents the Friends of Kettering Art Gallery and Museum accounts for the period 1st January to 31st December 2023.

The accounts have been independently verified to confirm that proper records have been kept.

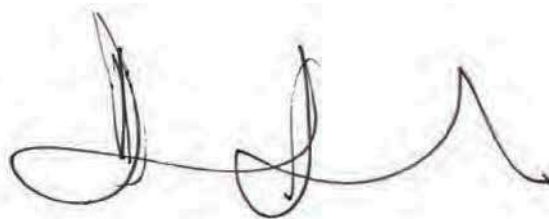
Again, another challenging year. We have continued to maintain interest through ARTworks with the wider local community during the renovations of the Alfred East Gallery which hopefully will reopen during 2024. Unfortunately, the renovation of the Museum is a much longer term project. Decisions have been taken in accordance with the Charities Commission guidelines.

Trustees are elected annually from amongst the members taking account of the various skills that are required to run the charity. They ensure that the accounts are drawn up on an accrual's basis consistent with the previous year, and accepted accounting standards. The trustees have also considered the risks attached to the charity and believe that sufficient procedures are in place to mitigate those risks. General funds for running the society remain under pressure. However, additional means of raising income are now in place. The consolidation of our current membership and the recruitment of new members and volunteers will also be a key factor going forward to ensure the good financial health of the organisation.

The Trustees confirm that the Charity complies with Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit.



Ian Luck, Treasurer



David Brown, Chair

THE FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT FROM MAURA BRIGHT AGM 17TH APRIL

The Friends' social media networking sites have been busy over the past year providing news and images of our many innovative, dynamic and forward-facing art, culture and heritage events to members and groups all over Northamptonshire. We like to stay in touch. We're meme-free, don't get trolled or hacked, are easy to find and navigate. **And no fake news!**


 Facebook: - @FriendsKetteringArtGalleryandMuseum
- ARTworks at Newlands

 Instagram: Friends_KAGAM

 Twitter: @FKagam

Website www.friendskagam.org

THE ROLE OF NORTHANTS COUNTRY HOUSES DURING WORLD WAR II



YOU ARE INVITED TO this illustrated Zoom talk by Neil Lyon.
Many of Northamptonshire's country houses were requisitioned in the Second World War, and put to a wide variety of uses. Some of the houses never recovered from the damage caused by their occupants. This talk explains how many of the houses fared, and the legacy the war left behind.

**THURSDAY
26TH JANUARY 7.30PM**
A JOINING LINK WILL
BE SENT TO ALL MEMBERS
IN ADVANCE
Telephone for more details: 07808262644
www.friendskagam.org

**FRIENDS
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& MUSEUM**

The Women's Land Army of the First World War



This talk by Helen Frost is on the role of the Women's Land Army in Northamptonshire during the Great War years. As the organisation began to expand she will explore the role it played nationally.

Wednesday 15th February
Friends Free - Guests £4.00 - Doors open at 7pm

In the Main Hall,
St Andrews Church, Kettering,
NN16 8JS
(Car park entrance in Crown Street)
Telephone for more details: 07808 262644
www.friendskagam.org

**FRIENDS
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Charity number: 216048

FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

BOUGHTON PICNIC




INVITATION

2023 Friends Annual Summer Picnic
Tuesday 8th August - gather at 12 noon
Boughton House grounds
(under the trees, same place as last year)
Parking on the side road

As the grounds will be open on that day the entrance fee will be funded by The Friends and KDAS as a thank you to members.

To get an idea of numbers,
please contact Maura at maurabright@ulster.ie
or 07985 298322 to confirm your place



Saints, Sinners, Stars & Scandals

Popular talk given by local historian Derek F Blunt
Meet some of Northamptonshire's past residents -
Famous and Infamous!
How many do you know? - We have a quiz!

Wednesday 11th October - 6.30pm
Friends Free - Guests £4.00 - Doors open 6.00pm

In the Main Hall,
St Andrews Church, Kettering,
NN16 8JS
(Car park entrance in
Telephone for more details: 07808 262644
www.friendskagam.org

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50 YEARS OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ILLUSTRATED TALK BY ANDY CHAPMAN



As a young archaeologist in 1979 Andy Chapman arrived in the County to work for the Northampton Development Corporation. Near to fifty years later, he is still in Northampton having worked as, directed, managed and published numerous excavations relating to all periods of Northamptonshire's archaeological heritage, his talk will focus on those fifty years leading up to his retirement. The audience to edit the county archaeological journal, *Northamptonshire Archaeology*.

Wednesday 15th November - 7.30pm
Friends Free - Guests £4.00 - Doors open 7.00pm

In the Main Hall,
St Andrews Church, Kettering,
NN16 8JS
(Car park entrance in Crown Street)
Telephone for more details: 07808 262644
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**FRIENDS
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Charity number: 216048

Grand Christmas Party & Lecture



For Friends and ARTworks volunteers only

**Wednesday December 20th
at 6.15 pm until 9pm.**

CaféNESS (Market Street, Kettering, NN16 0AD)
The evening will start at 6.30 with a talk by Michael Brown about Christmas in Mediaeval times.
He will describe the food and drink and bring along recipes and samples for you to try.

Along with this there will be a free running buffet of traditional and Eastern European Christmas delicacies, wines, beers, soft drinks and tea and coffee.

We would love all Friends members and ARTworks volunteers to come and join us for this Celebration.
Please respond by contacting:
David Brown on: 07808262644
or email: davidbrown40@gmail.com

**FRIENDS
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Charity number: 216048