



The Arts Society Nottingham: AGM 2025: TREASURER'S REPORT

This is my last year in the treasurer's role and I hope the admin processes we have introduced are now working well. The SumUp card readers at our meetings have proved very successful, making it easier for members to avoid online transactions. Those who do go online are now familiar with the system for BACS payments. Online bookings for events and membership applications make committee work easier and I hope we have seen the last few cheques payable to the Society!

We had set the membership fee for 2024-25 season at £58, a small increase from the previous year, with our budget allowing to cover any losses from reserves. In the event, the final accounts for the year show a trading surplus of £3228.12, due to extra membership income, a substantial increase in guest income, a surplus from improved attendance at our paid events, sale profits from the 50 Treasures book and a generous discount from Broadway hire when we agreed to move our June lecture date. Given that lecture fees and Broadway hire has increased in 2025-26, we have set the new membership fees to £60 (up 3.5%), but again any shortfall will be covered from savings.

The 2024/25 season had a full list of lectures plus two special interest days (SID) and a visit to Coventry. The SID's, at a new venue in Broadway screen 4, allowed us to offer "optional" lunches to help save on prices. This increased attendance and generated a profit over £1000 for the two events, more than covering a minor loss of £30 on the visit.

Since September 2024, a significant proportion of the income from membership renewals was placed in a NatWest 35-day account to generate interest before being taken to cover costs as the season progressed. With early renewals for 25-26 since May 25, a combined sum of £27,262.89 remained in the three NatWest accounts at the year end. Final Membership in the year was 453 (five more than 23-4), leaving our finances in excellent shape. The Society Sustainability Reserve stands at £25,829.91 and is invested in the Skipton BS. We also have money deposited in the Patricia Fay Fund (£7,000), the interest on being used by The Arts Society centrally for grants.

We retain a Zoom licence for the coming year and mainly use that for our committee meetings, which makes attendance easy, even when our members are on holiday!

We made a grant of £1500 to Nottingham Trent University for Young Arts. For Heritage Volunteers we paid a £500 grant, (inc £250 from TAS central office), towards the National Civil War Centre in Newark.

Finally, I should say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being Treasurer in recent years, and hope the changes we have introduced make the society financially efficient, as I hand over the position to Sally Green. She is well placed having worked in banking for many years. I wish her well in the new role.

The Society accountants, Chesapeake Associates, have prepared the final accounts which are attached.

Steve Dance
Treasurer (retiring)
19th August 2025