The Dulwich Society

Annual Report for the year

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Registered Charity number 234192

Objectives and Activities

Purposes

The Dulwich Society is an unincorporated association registered as a charity on 1 May 1964. Its constitution was adopted on 12 March 1964 and was last revised on 7 May 2019. A revision is due to be approved at the 2024 AGM.

The Society's objectives are to foster and safeguard the amenities of Dulwich, both in the interests of its residents and the wider local community of which it is a part, and to increase awareness of the varied character that makes the area so special.

The Society represents all parts of Dulwich, North, South, East and West in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth.

Further details of the Society's aims and objectives are here.

Main Activities

In planning their activities, the Trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The Society has several sub-committees which make recommendations to the Executive Committee to actively seek improvements in the environment, architecture and planning, licensing, trees, gardens, wildlife habitats and nature/species conservation, and understanding of local history.

The Society comments regularly on local authority planning applications and is also a consultee for the Dulwich Estate on all changes to properties within the Estate's Scheme of Management. We encourage change, and welcome good design appropriate to its setting, but actively defend Dulwich against the pressures of inappropriate development. In 2023, the Society has been working with the Dulwich Estate on its Green Strategy.

The Society has a policy of supporting additional tree planting on streets and in public open spaces and organises regular local history talks and walks. The Society has successfully submitted project ideas for using Southwark Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) funds to enhance the Dulwich environment and improve local safety, securing Council funding to assist in local restoration projects.

Policy on Grant Making

The Society's resources allow it to make small grants to local projects which meet its objectives, for example improvements to the paths in local woods and parks and funding of trees, benches and information boards. The Society's Policy on Grant-Making is here.

Contribution made by Volunteers

Volunteers play an essential part in the running of the Society. There are over 90 volunteers who sit on various sub-committees and deliver the Journal which is issued 4 times a year.

Main Achievements

The Society's 60th Anniversary

In July 2023, Dulwich Society celebrated its 60th anniversary by holding a well-attended party in Dulwich College in the hall which houses Shackleton's boat, the James Caird. History Boards were created showcasing the history of the Society and the wider world in each of the Society's six decades. These were on display at the anniversary party and were later issued to members as a supplement in the Winter Journal.

Membership

Membership at the end of 2023 was 1,227 households. Our membership for Dulwich represents approximately 20% of all households. We gained 87 new members and lost 59 during the year.

New members continued to join via the website using the direct debit facility. Some existing members also changed their method of payment to direct debit. We continue to try to get our members to pay either by standing order or, preferably now, direct debit. We do however still have 70 members who either pay by cash, cheque, or one-off direct bank payment. With the cost of postage now it would be appreciated if these members could seriously consider changing their payment to direct debit which can easily be done via the Dulwich Society website.

For the financial year 2022-2023 £2,498.72 was claimed from HMRC for gift aid.

Projects and Grants

During 2023, the Dulwich Society undertook a number of projects, and also made grants to further its charitable objectives:

- Bench in Dulwich Village in honour of distinguished local resident and former Committee member, Alistair Hanton, who died in 2021.
- Grant to restore ancient boundary marker in Sunray Gardens.
- Listening Post with historical and wildlife recordings at Cox's Walk entrance to Sydenham Hill Wood.
- Grant to volunteer-run Dulwich Vegetable Garden for a new greenhouse.
- Installation of a historical sign at the Tollgate.
- Grant for restoration of the murals on the Burbage Road railbridge.
- Grant to the South London Botanical Institute in recognition of a wildflower walk organised by the Institute.
- Grant to Bell House's new pottery to purchase equipment.

Links and Partnerships

The Society works closely with local councillors and relevant officers of the London Borough of Southwark and with the Dulwich Estate.

Whilst maintaining a neutral position on Southwark's traffic proposals, the Society is a key stakeholder in the discussions on the development of the public realm of the junction of Calton Avenue and Court Lane/Dulwich Village.

During 2023, the Society was represented on the Advisory Committee of the Dulwich Estate's Scheme of Management by James Thompson (Chair) and Penny Stern (Trustee). Society Officers meet with representatives of the Dulwich Estate regularly on non-Scheme of Management matters.

The Society also has links with a number of other third party organisations, including:

- The Police Safer Neighbourhood Panels (a Society representative attends each of the Ward Panels)
- The Safe Routes to School Group
- Friends Groups of local parks (Dulwich Park; Belair Park).
- London Wildlife Trust
- South London Botanical Institute
- Dulwich Festival Committee
- Local Residents' Associations
- Dulwich College Archive
- Dulwich Picture Gallery
- Kingswood House Arts Centre
- The Grove Tavern DIY Skateboarders
- The London Forum
- Royal Horticultural Society (affiliated society membership)
- Local Schools, e.g. Dulwich College; Alleyn's; JAGS/JAPS; Charter School
- Aquinna, developers of housing in Dulwich Village, (to implement a permanent home for the historic Stocks Stone in the Dulwich Village Burial Ground)

Awards

The Society's Media and Communications Lead, Sharon O'Connor, was a prize winner in a National Archives local history competition with her essay on Khalid Sheldrake.

Media and Communications

We use our media outlets to communicate with our members, to disseminate information from other organisations and to help improve the amenities of Dulwich. Our printed Journal and digital eNews are our main forms of member communication and both have excellent feedback. Every member receives our Journal and a large number of our members subscribe to our eNews.

In March 2023, Brian Green, well-known local historian, retired as Editor of the Journal, having overseen the publication of eighty editions over 20 years. These statistics alone convey the importance of his role as editor for a generation. During his tenure, colour was introduced and the Journal become a "must read" magazine for many families in the area. Brian was also a prolific writer for the Journal, and took many of the current-day photographs and has a large and invaluable collection of images of old Dulwich. For many years, he also managed the advertising which forms the foundation of the financial viability of the publication. Brian continues to be an active member of the Society, giving frequent talks on the local history of the area.

Following the retirement of Brian Green, two new editors were appointed, Claire Richards and Ian McInnes. As a result of their work to update the Journal, both the presentation and the content have been subject to a major overhaul and we hope that it meets - or even exceeds - the expectations of our members. Since the last AGM four editions of the new-style Journal have been published and the feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive. Ian has since decided to step down and Claire will continue as sole editor.

Our website is regularly updated and this year we added a new section called 'Destination Dulwich', showcasing the best of Dulwich's attractions, shops and restaurants. Following its upgrade in 2022, our website is more attractive and easier to navigate, meaning visitors come to our site directly rather than using a search engine. It serves about 7,000 visitors per month and over the past year our pages have appeared over one million times in Google search results. Our website is cookie free, demonstrating our commitment to visitor privacy.

Our three Twitter accounts highlight local issues and allow us to engage with the community. The main Society account (@DulwichSociety) has 3,144 followers, up 7% on the year. It highlights Dulwich Society and local community activities and relays information from Southwark Council, the Dulwich Estate and central government. Our local history account (@DulwichHistory) has 3,640 followers, a 13% increase from last year. Our gardens account (@DulwichGarden) has 463 followers, up 11% year on year. On the East Dulwich Forum, we answer enquiries and publicise our activities, while on Instagram we support local events, our local shops and our small businesses.

The Society's online talks reach a growing number of members, Dulwich residents and we have even had attendees from Europe and the US. All ticket proceeds go to local good causes.

Planning and Architecture

The Planning & Architecture sub-committee has had another busy year reviewing planning applications to Southwark, Lambeth and applications for works to the Dulwich Estate Scheme of Management as well as local and national planning policy. We do this with the aim of protecting the varied character that makes Dulwich so special and safeguarding the amenities of the area for its residents and the wider community.

This year we reviewed 178 applications to the Dulwich Estate Scheme of Management, slightly down on the 200 projects in 2022. There are an increasing number of projects including solar panels and heat pumps, in addition to electric vehicle chargers and bike stores. We have also provided comments to the Scheme of Management for consideration in the ongoing review of their Development Guidelines in the light of evolving building methods, particularly more environmentally responsible practice.

We review many of the planning applications made to Southwark and Lambeth, and seek to comment in a constructive manner. Regrettably, the planning approval for Soane Place has been amended and no longer includes either affordable or accessible housing in the centre of Dulwich Village. Some of the major applications we have commented on include:

- Applications for 5G phone masts
- Children's Gallery at Dulwich Picture Gallery
- Floodlighting at Peckham Town FC and the Charter School
- Vacant land to the rear of Lyndenhurst, Village Way
- Herne Hill Velodrome Trust
- Land to the west of Featherstone Mews
- Support for the Dulwich Estate upgrade of external spaces by North Dulwich Parade

Southwark's recently adopted Statement of Community Involvement and Development Consultation Charter is now in operation, and we have attended pre-application presentations on Dulwich Picture Gallery, James Allen's Prep School and The Sidings in East Dulwich. Members should continue to pass on details of any relevant schemes in their neighbourhood to planning@dulwichsociety.com

Local History

The Local History group has had an active and varied year which started on a high when our secretary, Sharon O'Connor, was a prize winner in a National Archives local history competition with her essay on Khalid Sheldrake.

As usual the group participated in the Dulwich Festival with Duncan Bowie leading three walks on Dulwich Social Reformers and Ian McInnes leading two on Dulwich's Georgian houses – all five were sold out almost immediately. Group members also gave talks at the Dulwich Park Friends AGM in April, at the Dovercourt and Woodwarde Road street parties in June, and at the Dulwich Library and St John's Goose Green coffee morning club in July. We also gave a talk to the Year 5 pupils at Harris Academy in Lordship Lane and continue to collaborate with the Herne Hill Society on their research on the history of local shops.

Working in conjunction with Bell House, group members continued the monthly Zoom talks on a variety of local history subjects ranging from gentrification in East Dulwich, the River Effra, the Grove Tavern, to Dulwich spies and Dulwich Social reformers. They remain popular and have a regular audience – all the proceeds are given to charity.

A Cleaner Greener Safer funded information sign at the Dulwich library was fixed to the front railings in May and a second audio post was installed at the bottom of Cox's Walk in September. The one at the Old College is played six times a day on average while the new post in Cox's Walk has been used 1,616 times in three months, (an average of 18 times a day).

In December the Council published its new 'local list' of buildings that make an important contribution to the local built environment, and it was pleasing to see that a large number of the Local History Group's suggestions were included.

The wide range of enquires we received covered subjects as diverse as where actor Peter Cushing lived as a boy, the history of the Court Lane flower beds, and former local builder CB Core's artistic career. We were also contacted by a former resident who was taken round Dulwich Park by Queen Mary in the 1930s and were sent a well-researched article on the Baily family who owned several large properties in East Dulwich in the early/mid C19 and met up with the author early in January – the article is on our website. The group paid a visit to Dulwich College Archives to see the maps which have yet to be digitised and did the research and provided photos for the decade boards which covered the past 60 years for the Society's 60th anniversary party. They were subsequently made into a leaflet and circulated to all members in the Winter 2023 Journal.

The local history group has written several articles for the British Association for Local History (BALH). Articles which were published in the BALH Journal and website, and include how to organise local history walks, researching with primary sources, how to use social media, running online talks and how to use audio posts to share information. Sharon O'Connor also took part in a BALH conference 'Local History Live' discussing her prize-winning essay and appearing on panels discussing local history.

The local history Twitter account (@DulwichHistory) continues to bring Dulwich's local history to a wider audience. By December it had 3,640 followers and regularly receives around 155,000 'impressions' (an indication of the how effective tweets are) per month, approaching an astonishing two million a year. It also links to articles in the Journal and on the Society's website, helping to drive traffic there.

Environment

The Environment sub-committee was formed by agreement of the Dulwich Society Executive in November 2023, following the request of the Executive Committee that Laurie Johnston explore whether such a sub-committee was feasible and whether relevant experts would volunteer. Laurie presented a draft Terms of Reference to the Executive which was agreed with some minor changes and is available on the Society's website. Suitable experts have been recruited, although there are still some vacancies. The first meeting was held in January 2024.

Gardens

The Gardens sub-committee supports gardening and related activities in Dulwich, a green oasis bejewelled by its gardens, parks, trees and woodland.

Each Spring we publish a *"Dulwich Gardens Open for Charity"* brochure, with details of local gardens that are open to the public during the year. This is compiled by Ann Rutherford, with copies going to all members of the Society as well as being distributed to local garden centres and other outlets. We also publicise the openings, which raise significant sums for national and local charities, through the Society's monthly Newsletter and social media.

We organised two talks in the Spring. The first was a topical online talk by Sue Fisher on "Gardening in a Changing Climate", and the second was a "physical" talk by Martin Duncan, the distinguished Head Gardener at Arundel Castle, on its gardens and their development. The talks were hosted by Bell House, with surpluses benefiting its volunteer-led garden activities.

In July we took a full coach of Society members and friends to the Sussex Prairie Garden and to Wakehurst, Kew's "wild botanic garden" in Kent, for what was an enjoyable day out. More locally, we had an interesting visit to Grange Lane Allotments to see how its holders work their plots and deal with some of the gardening challenges they face.

We arranged two Cleaner, Greener, Safer ("CGS") grants from the London Borough of Southwark, one to relay the plinths of the two double benches at Clarke's Green (near the Village Way traffic lights) and the second to replace some of the more tired planting in the roundabout in Dulwich Village. We also planted over 500 native bulbs and primroses in the old Burial Ground in Dulwich Village, to add to its existing Spring display and to benefit early pollinators.

We were pleased that the Society funded part of a replacement greenhouse for the Dulwich Vegetable Garden, enabling it to continue the propagation that funds its activities.

Wildlife

The Wildlife sub-committee continued to meet every two months. We submit messages or bulletins monthly via the Society's eNews, with reports, records and information published in each issue of the Society Journal. We welcome the work of the London Wildlife Trust in the upgrading and maintenance of the Sydenham Hill Wood and now also Dulwich Wood which will provide a much improved wildlife experience for visitors. Important scientific surveys of the fungi and invertebrates in the woods have been commissioned and undertaken, which indicate that the woods are a significant conservation base for a biodiversity corridor in south London.

We were spared the extreme heat in 2023 of the previous year and our bird counts in Dulwich Park and the woods indicate that most species maintained their populations but some common insects were scarce and this would appear to relate to the ongoing change in our climate. We probably now have to report sadly that Hedgehogs are extinct in Dulwich as no sightings have been recorded for over two years.

Dulwich has historically provided nesting sites for Swifts on our older houses. Swift numbers are declining partly due to loss of breeding opportunities. A leading member of the wildlife group plans to acquire swift bricks that can be installed on houses. If Society members are

undertaking repairs to their brickwork and would wish to take part in Swift conservation by including a swift brick we would welcome a contact.

Wildlife, particularly in this urban setting, will remain under pressure and it is important that we should try and provide habitats in our gardens so that common species that we have previously taken for granted do not get lost.

Trees

The Tree sub-committee met in January, April, July and October 2023, and has continued to promote the planting, maintenance and enjoyment of trees in Dulwich. An article on a tree-related topic was published regularly in the Society's Journal. The Winter 2023 Journal was a special Diamond Jubilee issue, with an article on the role of the Society in supporting tree planting, and the appreciation of, trees in the Dulwich area, over the past 60 years. Another fungi-themed tree walk, led by Daniel Greenwood, was held in Dulwich Park on 5 November 2023.

A tree to commemorate the reign of Queen Elizabeth II was planted in the garden of the Dulwich Picture Gallery. The tree is a disease-resistant elm *Ulmus* 'Wanoux' (sold under the name VADA), and we are grateful to former Tree sub-committee Member Mark Lane CVO, until recently Gardens Manager of the London Royal Palaces, for his guidance on the choice of species. Mark joined us for the unveiling of the accompanying plaque by the Gallery Director, Jennifer Scott, on 2 June.

We continue to be available to advise residents on their tree problems via the email helpline trees@dulwichsociety.com.

Licensing

The Society receives regular notifications from Southwark Council Licensing Department of all premises licence applications for bars, restaurants and events in Dulwich Village and adjacent Wards. A group of members examines each application and recommends to the Society's Executive Committee whether the Society should make a representation to the Licensing Department.

We also attend, either in person or online, Consultation Meetings about outdoor events and Licensing Hearings for applications which are contested. The number of applications in 2023 remained fairly stable, the most time-consuming applications being for outdoor events and festivals such as GALA (Peckham Rye Park) and Pokeman Go (Brockwell Park). Other applications on which representations were made include Megan's in East Dulwich, Elderflower Two, Appletree Children's Café, and Eric's Bakery. The sub-committee also responded to Southwark Council's consultation on types of events appropriate for Calton Avenue (Dulwich Square).

Details of new premises licence applications can be found in the Society's monthly eNews.

Disbanded sub-committee

The Travel and Environment sub-committee met only twice in 2023. An article on the Vision Zero road safety campaign appeared in the Journal. Harry Winter stepped down as a trustee in September 2023. The Executive Committee undertook a review of the activities of the travel and environment group in consultation with its members. Following their review, the Executive Committee disbanded the Travel and Environment sub-committee in November 2023.

Financial Review

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are due to be received and considered at the Society's Annual General Meeting on 20 May 2024, can be found here.

Overall, the Society showed a surplus of £3,040 for the year, compared to the previous year's deficit of £8,689.

Income was £32,042 in 2023 against £24,210 in 2022.

Expenditure was £26,710 in 2023 against £22,523 in 2022.

Donations and grants made in 2023 were £2,292 against £10,376 in 2022.

Accumulated Funds and Reserves Policy

The accumulated funds at 31 December 2023 totalled £39,757, mainly represented by bank and deposit accounts. The annual expenditure of the Society depends in part on the cost of projects that are undertaken and grants made or committed in that year, with an underlying surplus in recent years before such expenditure. Given the wish to fund worthwhile projects as they arise and the uncertain nature of the advertising income which partially funds the Society's quarterly journals, it is the Trustees' current policy to hold as reserves, 9 months

normal expenditure (currently some £16,000) together with a further £10,000 to cover unplanned major projects. These amounts total circa £26,000. Funds at 31 December 2023 were in excess of this, and the Trustees continue to seek out worthwhile projects that meet the Society's aims.

Principal Sources of Funding

The Society's principal sources of funding are subscriptions (£12,510 in 2023), Gift Aid (£2,424 in 2023), Journal advertising (£6,504 in 2023) and Dulwich Gardens Open for Charity advertising (£2,165 in 2023).

Investment Policy and Objectives

The Trustees seek to produce an acceptable financial return on the Society's assets within an acceptable level of risk.

The Society's Investment Policy, which is reviewed annually, can be found here.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Dulwich Society is administered by its charity trustees. The trustees collectively are known as the Executive Committee. The trustees comprise the Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary), and other trustees. Other trustees have roles as sub-committee Chairs and other roles such as Membership Secretary and Journal Co-Editors. The Executive Committee meets every two months. The Society's subject matter sub-committees provide technical expertise and volunteers. They advise the Executive Committee which is the Society's decision making body. The ability to comment on domestic licence applications to the Managers of the Dulwich Estate Scheme of Management has been devolved to the Planning and Architecture sub-committee. Every sub-committee has a trustee as a member. All members of the Executive Committee are Trustees of the Dulwich Society on appointment.

In addition to the Executive Committee, the honorary office of President is elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting. The President is not a Trustee.

All members of the Executive Committee are elected annually at the AGM and must be nominated by two members of the Society. Any contested election is determined by ballot at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee has the power to fill any vacancy occurring in between Annual General Meetings.

All members of the Executive Committee, Trustees and members of the sub-committees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Society is governed by a set of Rules which can be found here.

During 2022/23, the Society began a review of its Rules. At an SGM held in September 2022, recommended changes to update the Rules and enable more processes to be managed online did not achieve the two thirds majority required to enact them. Further work has been undertaken on the Rules review, which was subject to a 6 month consultation with members during 2023 and will be proposed for adoption at the AGM in May 2024.

Policies and Procedures

During 2023, the Society added to its existing policies a Risk Management Policy (including completion of a Risk Register), a Lone Volunteers Policy, a Health and Safety Policy, and an Archiving Policy. The Executive Committee also reviewed the Investment Policy, Reserves Policy, Internal Controls, External Expenditure Guidelines and the Safeguarding Policy. A Policy Review Timetable was agreed to assist with managing the policy review framework.

Policies and Procedures for the Induction and Training of Trustees

New Trustees receive Charity Commission documentation and regular updates to help them understand their obligations as Trustees.

References and Administrative Details

Charity name: The Dulwich Society
Registered Charity Number: 234192
Charity's principal address: The Dulwich Society, c/o 94 Underhill Road, London, SE22 0QU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
James Thompson	Chair	
Susan Badman	Vice Chair	
Heather Stubbs	Secretary	
Russell Lloyd	Treasurer	
Diana McInnes	Membership Secretary	
Brian Green	Journal Editor	1/1/23-06/03/23
Ian McInnes	Chair Local History sub-committee (Journal Co-editor from 13.03.23)	
Claire Richards	Journal Co-editor	13/03/23-31/12/23
Penelope Stern	Chair Planning and Architecture sub-committee	
Harry Winter	Chair Travel and Environment sub-committee	1/1/23-27/09/23
Laurie Johnston	Chair Environment sub-committee	13/11/23-31/12/23
Peter Roseveare	Chair Wildlife sub-committee	
David Beamish	Chair Trees sub-committee	
Jeremy Prescott	Chair Gardens sub-committee	
Patsy Bramble	Chair Licensing sub-committee	

Honorary President

Kenneth Wolfe

The Honorary President is not a Trustee

Name and Address of Independent Examiner

Sally-Anne Jeffries
K.A. Jeffries and Co
18 Melbourne Grove
London SE22 8RA

Bankers

Barclays Bank
28 Rye Lane
Peckham
London SE15 5BS

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	*James Thompson*	*Heather Stubbs*
Full name (s)	James Thompson	Heather Louise Stubbs
Position	Chair	Secretary
Date	30 April 2024	30 April 2024

THE DULWICH SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 234192

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- for the year ended -

31 DECEMBER 2023

THE DULWICH SOCIETY

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Dulwich Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dulwich Society (the Society) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the trustee's accounts carried out under s. 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

(1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by s. 130 of the Act; or
(2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
(3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sally-Anne Jeffries
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S. A. Jeffries
Chartered Accountant
K. A. Jeffries & Company
18 Melbourne Grove
London, SE22 8RA

Date: 24th April 2024 **……**

THE DULWICH SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted funds £	£	2022 Unrestricted funds £	£
Income					
Subscriptions		12,510		11,752	
Gift aid		2,424		2,447	
Interest receivable		1,590		371	
Journal advertising	2	6,504		5,766	
Gardens Open for Charity booklet advertising	3	2,165		2,280	
Gardening group - coach trip		1,820		1,129	
Gardening talk		-		300	
Dulwich Festival		-		165	
Diamond Jubilee event - receipts		1,165		-	
History talk		536		-	
Southwark Council - plaque reimbursements		620		-	
Southwark Council - bench plinth reimbursement		2,300		-	
Gardening talks		408		-	
"Pubs of Dulwich & Herne Hill"	4	-		-	
Total income			32,042		24,210
Expenditure					
Journal printing costs		9,787		8,541	
Journal distribution costs		2,092		2,449	
Postage and related expenses		200		652	
Subscriptions		68		68	
AGM costs		324		239	
SGM costs		-		170	
Society - public and trustee liability insurance		1,372		713	
Maintenance of website		1,602		1,584	
Dulwich Gardens Open for Charity booklet	3	2,662		2,224	
Gardening group - coach trip		1,480		898	
Garden talks		378		300	
DGOFC - advertising commission paid		541		570	
Edward Alleyn statue insurance		(858)		631	
Finger posts refurbishment		-		445	
Defibrillator installation costs		-		980	
RHS membership		-		35	
Zoom subscription		144		144	
Conference		-		144	
Logo redesign		-		1,290	
Clarke's Green bench plinths - reimbursed by Southwark Council		2,300		-	
Depreciation		621		346	
Diamond Jubilee party costs		2,339		-	
Wildflower talk		100		-	
Fungi walk		150		100	
WW2 bomb leaflet reprint		140		-	
Burial Ground - leaflet reprint		521		-	
First Aid kit		27		-	
Vinyl banner		49		-	
A1 poster - history board		100		-	
St Christopher's Hospice donation re History talk		536		-	
Alastair Hanton - memorial plaque		35		-	
Total expenditure			26,710		22,523
Net income			5,332		1,687
Less: Projects and grants	5		2,292		10,376
Net movement in funds			3,040		(8,689)
Total funds brought forward			36,717		45,406
Total funds carried forward			39,756		36,717

THE DULWICH SOCIETY

Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted funds £	£	2022 Unrestricted funds £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6	3,348		1,217	
Investments	7	38,789	42,137	37,200	38,417
Current assets					
Cash at bank - Barclays		977		5,109	
Barclays - deposit account		1,750		-	
Sundry debtors	8	1,030		990	
		3,757		6,099	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Sundry creditors	9	6,138		7,799	
		6,138		7,799	
Net current assets / (liabilities)			(2,381)		(1,700)
Total assets less current liabilities			39,756		36,717
Total net assets			**39,756**		**36,717**
Unrestricted funds					
Accumulated fund			39,756		36,717
Total Funds			**39,756**		**36,717**

Approved on behalf of the trustees

J Thompson
Chairman ……..

R Lloyd
Hon.Treasurer ……

24th April 2024
Date ……..

The notes on pages 4 to 6 form part of the financial statements.

THE DULWICH SOCIETY
Notes to the accounts
as at 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Funds structure

The Society's funds are unrestricted.

1.3 Accumulated Funds and Reserves Policy

The accumulated funds at 31st December 2023 totalled £39,756, mainly represented by bank and deposit balances. The annual expenditure of Society depends in part on the cost of projects that are undertaken and grants made or committed in that year, with an underlying surplus in recent years before such expenditure. Given the wish to fund worthwhile projects as they arise and the uncertain nature of the advertising income which partially funds the Society's quarterly journals, it is the Trustees' current policy to hold as reserves, 9 months normal expenditure (currently some £16,000) together with a further £10,000 to cover unplanned major projects. These amounts total circa £26,000. Funds at 31st December 2023 were in excess of this, and the Trustees continue to seek out worthwhile projects that meet the Society's aims.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of assets, less estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

- Computer equipment: 3 years straight line basis

- Listening Posts: 5 years straight line basis

In addition, the Society has title to a number of fixed assets that have either been donated to the Society or which have been purchased for a nominal sum. As such, the assets have no cost of purchase to the Society so they are not included in fixed assets. Where appropriate, the Society maintains and insures them. These assets are made available for the benefit of the community and include the Edward Alleyn statue and the Village Phone Box, which is a listed building.

1.5 Income and expenditure recognition

Subscription income and donations are accounted for as received by the charity.

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

1.6 Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the Society, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2 Advertising

The Society accepts a limited amount of advertising in its quarterly Journal to help defray the costs of production.

3 Dulwich Gardens Open for Charity advertising

The annual booklet is distributed in March each year and also accepts a limited amount of advertising to help defray the costs of production.

4 Booklets & other publications

"The Home Front"
In 1995 the Society agreed to underwrite the costs of producing a booklet on the experiences of Dulwich during the war years. To date, the publication has resulted in a net profit to the Society of £2,440.

"Who Was Who in Dulwich"
In 2002 the Society agreed to underwrite the cost of the production. The net cost to the Society to date is £628.

"Pubs of Dulwich & Herne Hill"
In 2016 the Society agreed to share the costs of this publication with The Herne Hill Society. The net cost to the Society to date is £140.

5 Projects and grants

	2023 £	2022 £
Defibrillator	-	2,360
London Wildlife Trust paths, matched funding for Sydenham Hill Wood	-	5,000
Donation to Dulwich Village Christmas tree	-	100
Plaque for Frances Peek, Dulwich Park	-	291
Grant - veteran oaks project	-	2,625
Murals - Dulwich Sports Ground	300	-
Dulwich Library and Tollgate signage	979	-
Phone box repairs re defibrillator	280	-
Bell House - pottery equipment	250	-
Dulwich Vegetable Garden - new greenhouse	483	-
	2,292	10,376

In addition to the above, an audio post was installed in Cox's Walk which is included in Tangible Assets - Note 6 (cost £2,752)

Grants are made by the Society from time to time towards projects that meet its objectives of maintaining and fostering the amenities of Dulwich in the interest of its residents and the wider community of which Dulwich is part.

6 Tangible assets

	Statue Camera	Listening Posts	Office Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1.1.2023	3,529	1,731	653	1,750	7,663
Additions in year	-	2,752	-	-	2,752
At 31.12.2023	3,529	4,483	653	1,750	10,415
Depreciation					
At 1.1.2023	3,528	519	650	1,749	6,446
Charge for year	-	621	-	-	621
At 31.12.2023	3,528	1,140	650	1,749	7,067
Net book value					
At 31.12.2023	1	3,343	3	1	3,348
At 31.12.2022	1	1,212	3	1	1,217

7 Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
COIF Charities Deposit Account Fund	37,681	36,100
Monmouthshire Building Society	1,108	1,100
Investments	38,789	37,200

8 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Advertising revenue	1,030	990

9 Sundry creditors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Winter Journal printing	2,461	2,202
Statue insurance	552	1,411
Project grant accrual	2,625	2,625
Items less than £500	500	1,561
Accruals	6,138	7,799

10 Related party transactions

There have been no related party transactions during the year that require disclosure.

11 Emoluments and expenses

None of the Society's trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits other than the reimbursement of expenses from the charity.