

GUILD OF ST GEORGE



Annual General Meeting
Sheffield 25th November 2023
Reports & Accounts 2022/23



The 2023 Annual General Meeting

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The charity for arts, crafts and the rural economy,
founded by John Ruskin in 1871.

A registered charity No. 231758. Limited company 12583 www.guildofstgeorge.org.uk

Introduction

The Guild's 2023 AGM will be held at:

**The Cadman Suite, Millennium Gallery
48 Arundel Gate, Sheffield S1 2PP ·
(And on Zoom)
11 a.m. Saturday 25th November**

This year, we are very grateful to be the guests of our partners Sheffield Museums Trust (SMT) at the Millennium Gallery in the heart of Sheffield, home to the Ruskin Collection and, among its many treasures, the portfolio of precious and fragile medieval manuscripts (one of which is featured on the front cover). Kirstie Hamilton, Keeper of the Collection and Ashley Gallant, Curator of the Collection will be addressing Companions during the event as will representatives from the Wyre Community Land Trust (WCLT), the Guild's other major UK partner delivering responsible rural management in the woodland and meadows of Ruskin Land.

There will be no 'keynote' address at this year's AGM; instead we will be giving a broad range of Companions and partners the opportunity to share their reflections and aspirations as well as news of their projects and experiences working with one another, with the Guild or with like-minded organisations joined in the common cause of sustaining the life affirming legacy of John Ruskin.

The Companions' Dinner will be held this year at Fusion Café, Freeman College, about five minutes walking distance from the Millennium Gallery. The College is one of five independent specialist further education colleges operated by the Ruskin Mill Trust and providing practical skills and therapeutic education for young people aged 16 to 25 with complex learning and behavioural difficulties. In November 2022 we were very fortunate to have been hosted both for the AGM and the dinner at Glasshouse College in Stourbridge where Aonghus Gordon, Chief Executive of the Trust, and his outstanding team made us warmly welcome. Details about how to sign up for the dinner are set out on page 3.

To ensure that the AGM runs smoothly, we would be grateful if you would tell us **as soon as possible** if you plan to **a)** attend in person, **b)** attend online, **c)** cannot attend but are happy to appoint a proxy (usually the Master) who can vote on your behalf, or **d)** wish to give your apologies. The details we will need from you are set out more fully on page 3.

There will also be the opportunity for new or first time AGM attendees to **sign the Roll**, which is our long-standing way of recording the name and signature of every Guild Companion. Again, we will want you to let us know if you will be signing the Roll this year.

We look forward to seeing you!

Martin Green & Simon Seligman

Attending the Meeting

The meeting will begin at 11am (UK time). Tea and coffee will be available from 10.30am. and lunch will be provided at 1pm (see below).

The day's formal proceedings are scheduled to end no later than 5.00pm.

Please email (or send a letter) to the Guild's Administrator, Martin Green (see contact details below) as soon as possible indicating:

- a) if you wish to attend the AGM in person
OR
- b) if you wish to attend via the online Zoom link (see below)
OR
- c) if you are unable to attend but wish to appoint a proxy
OR
- d) if you wish to tender your apologies

We encourage everyone who apologises for absence to nominate a Companion as a proxy (If in doubt, simply nominate 'The Master').

Please also let us know:

- if you have any special dietary requirements for the sandwich lunch
- if you wish to sign the Companions' Roll
- if you wish to make a donation (to cover the costs of the day - see below).

Online Access to the Meeting

The meeting will be accessible online via Zoom via the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting:

[Launch AGM - Zoom](#)

Companions Dinner

The Companions' Dinner will be held at 7pm at Fusion Café, Freeman College, which is run by our partners the Ruskin Mill Trust and booking for this will be via Eventbrite. The cost will be £37.50 per head (including drinks). If you have no email access, please contact Martin Green to book dinner via the contact details below and remember to mention any **special dietary requirements** you have. We will be offering a couple of menu choices so, once you have indicated a willingness to attend, we will need to liaise with you about your selections up until a fortnight before the event.

Here is the Eventbrite link (also sent out via email with the invitation to the AGM)

[Companions' Dinner - Fusion Cafe](#)

If attending the dinner, please respond no later than Monday 6th November

Payment & Donations

Morning and afternoon tea and lunch at the AGM are included, but a donation to the Guild to help us cover the cost (£20 per head) would be very warmly welcomed either on the day or via the options below.

Additionally, if you wish to attend the Companions' dinner but are unable to use Eventbrite, please note the following payment options:

You can pay by:

1. Sending a cheque/check/international banking order to the address above made payable to 'Guild of St George'
2. Making a money transfer online from your UK bank account (to a/c no. 90023388, sort-code 20-98-61)—or from non-UK accounts to IBAN GB17BARC20986190023388 BIC/Swift: BARCGB22
3. Donating using PayPal to admin@guildofstgeorge.org.uk (if you categorise us a 'friend' and pay from your existing PayPal balance or transfer from your bank account, we receive every penny of your donation—no fees apply).

CONTACT - Martin Green Administrator (+44/0 7936 192794)

Email- admin@guildofstgeorge.org.uk

Address for all AGM Postal Correspondence:

Martin Green, Guild of St George, 35 Bromwich Rd, Sheffield S8 0GF, UK

There is a range of convenient places to stay in the centre of Sheffield:

[Travelodge Sheffield Central Hotel](#)

[Premier Inn Sheffield City Centre \(Angel St\)](#)

[Mercure Sheffield St Paul's Hotel](#)

[Novotel Sheffield Centre](#)

[Leopold Hotel Sheffield](#)

[Ibis Sheffield City Centre](#)

[Leonardo Hotel Sheffield](#)

[Premier Inn Sheffield City Centre \(St Mary's Gate\)](#)

[Easy Hotel Sheffield](#)

2023 AGM in Sheffield - Plan for the Day (UK times)

10.30am Registration/tea/coffee

10.45am The Zoom room will be opened

11.00am Welcome from Guild Master, Rachel Dickinson

11.15am Companion & Ruskinian voices - session 1:

- Vanessa Roberts (Companion)
- Billy Hughes (Ruskin Collection artist in residence)
- Tom Payne (Senior Lecturer in Performance, Sheffield Hallam University & contributor to current displays in Ruskin Collection)
- Alex Ekin (Companion & recipient of a 2021 Guild grant)
- Chiaki Yokoyama (Companion)

12.15pm Presentation from Kirstie Hamilton & Ashley Gallant of Sheffield Museums Trust

12.30pm Introduction to the Manuscript conservation appeal (and viewing of a manuscript)

12.40pm LUNCH (during some of this time, there will be an opportunity for those attending on zoom to have a conversation chaired by the Master)

13.30pm Guild AGM (Zoom broadcast resumes)

3.00pm AGM ends (10 min comfort break)

3.10pm Farewell interview with departing director Peter Miller

3.30pm Presentation from Margaret Tunstall and Richard Rundell of the Wyre Community Land Trust.

3.45pm Companion & Ruskinian voices - session 2:

- Paul Evans (Companion)
- Mary Greenstead (Companion)
- Judah Armani (Companion)
- Helen Parker (Companion)
- Cedric Quayle (Companion)

4.30/45pm Closing remarks from the Master, Rachel Dickinson

4.45/5pm End (Zoom broadcast ends).

5 - 6pm An optional private view of the Bauhaus, Morris & Ruskin exhibition at the Millennium Gallery

7.00pm Companions' Dinner at Fusion Cafe, Freeman College, RMT (must be pre-booked). The café & gallery will be open from 6pm for AGM attendees to gather.

**GUILD OF ST GEORGE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023
TO BE HELD AT**

**The Cadman Suite, Millennium Gallery
48 Arundel Gate, Sheffield S1 2PP**

1.30 p.m. Saturday 25th November (And via Zoom)

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome & apologies for absence**
- 2. Recently deceased Companions remembered**
- 3. Welcoming new Companions**
- 4. Minutes of the 2022 AGM**
- 5. Matters arising from the minutes**
- 6. Annual Report 2022/23**
- 7. Accounts 2022/23**
- 8. Director Portfolio reports**
- 9. Appointment of new Director**
- 10. Re-election of Directors**
- 11. Farewells to Directors standing down**
- 12. Signing of the Roll by new Companions**
- 13. Any other business**
- 14. Date and venue of next AGM**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
2.00 p.m. SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2022
GLASSHOUSE COLLEGE, STOURBRIDGE**

IN ATTENDANCE

Anne Amison, Hilary Baker, George Breeze, Ross Burgess, Peter Burman, Mark Cleaver, Rachel Dickinson, Catherine Edwards, Mark Frost, Paul Gibson, Aonghus Gordon, John Iles, Nichola Johnson, Andrew Leonard, Nicholas Mander, Kate Mason, Peter Miller, Celia Potts, Cedric Quayle, Thelma Quayle, Jenny Robbins, Richard Rundell, Yvonne Rundell, Julian Smith, Margaret Tunstall, Ron Ward, Clive Wilmer, Lynn Yendell

PARTICIPATING ONLINE

Julia Bolton Holloway, Gray Brechin, Geoffrey Brown, Suzanne Fagence Cooper, Nicholas Friend, Howard Hull, Caroline Ikin, David Ingram, Arjun Jain, Deirdre Kelly, Gabriel Meyer, Anna Netri, Peter Osborn, Helen Parker, Tim Rawson, Laurence Roussillon Constanty, Kay Walter, Harri Washington, Jacqueline Whiteside, Joanna Whittle

ALSO ATTENDING

Ashley Gallant, Martin Green, Alex Griffin, Kirstie Hamilton, Simon Seligman

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Julia Armstrong*, Linda Austin*, Hilary Baker*, David Barrie*, Carole Baugh*, Julia Carter*, Anuradha Chatterjee*, Tony Chisholm, Janine Christley, Jeanne Clegg, Celia De Piro, Tristram De Piro, Suzie Doncaster, Kevin Duffy*, Stuart Eagles*, Rosalind Edwards*, Elaine Ellis, Kateri Ewing*, Cynthia Gamble, Ann Gagne*, Kay Greenlees, Lawrie Groom*, Anthony Harris, Chris Harris, Nick Hartley, Ray Haslam*, Andrew Hill*, Tony Hilton*, Norman Hobbs, Ellie Hooper*, Beate Howitt, Sophie Hunter*, Linda Iles*, Terry Johnson, John Jordan*, Stephen Kite, Robert Knight*, Juliette Losq, Michelle Lovric*, David Lustgarten, Gordon Monsen*, Angie Negrine, Jo Nightingale, Ruth Nutter, Frances O'Connor, Kathryn Ogden*, Michael Pye, Michael Riggs, Emma Sdegno, Robert Stansfield*, Jodie Southwood*, Rhianon Thomas, Serena Trowbridge*, Paul Tucker, Marcus Waithe*, Caroline Washington*, Lizzie Washington*, Richard Watts*, Stephen Wildman, Robert Wilson, Carol Wyss*

(*indicates attending proxy nominated)

479 MASTER'S WELCOME

The Master welcomed all Companions (and guests) and celebrated the opportunity finally to convene in person since 2019 and in the remarkable setting of Glasshouse College in Stourbridge managed by Guild partners the Ruskin Mill Trust. The additional opportunity to welcome participants online from India, France, and the USA underscored the Guild's standing as an international community. The Master thanked the Board of Directors and staff for their support during her recent period of illness and in particular Peter Burman who had temporarily taken on the role of Acting Master. Thanks were also due to the Ruskin Mill Trust staff who had worked so hard, flexibly and amicably to ensure the success of the Guild's visit to Stourbridge.

480 MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM

The Master referred the meeting to the minutes of the previous AGM which had been held online on 20th November 2021 and asked if these could be approved as a true record. With George Breeze proposing and Peter Osborne seconding, the minutes of the 2021 AGM were duly approved.

481 MATTERS ARISING

The Master asked if there were any questions or matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM. There were none.

482 MASTER'S REPORT

Thanking colleagues for their support in producing the Annual Report for the preceding year (as circulated with the accounts for 2021/22), the Master asked if there were any questions about its content. There were none. She then asked for the Annual Report to be formally accepted by the meeting. With Howard Hull proposing and Clive Wilmer seconding the Master's Annual Report was duly accepted.

483 RECEIVING THE 2021/22 ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2021/22 to the meeting and asked if there were any questions. There were none. It was then put to the AGM to approve the Guild's accounts for 2021/22 and with John Iles proposing and David Ingram seconding the accounts for the preceding financial year were unanimously approved.

484 BOARD MEMBER BRIEFINGS

Emphasising the collegiate and democratic character of the Board of Directors (Trustees), the Master invited those present to brief the meeting on their areas of interest, responsibility and recent activity.

Peter Burman introduced himself as an architectural historian living in Fife. As a Director, his responsibilities were International Relations and Craftspeople and Craftsmanship. Peter introduced a topic which had recently been discussed by the Board, namely the idea of local groups forming in order to give Companions (and friends) the opportunity to meet one another, informally and in small groups, to form friendships, for mutual encouragement and support in reading and understanding Ruskin's writings, and in discerning the relevance and interest of his writings to present-day society and especially to Ruskin's heroic determination 'to make lives better'. All attending the AGM were invited to participate in future sessions.

Nichola Johnson referred the meeting to her presentation earlier in the day during which she had set out her responsibility for the management of the Ruskin Collection which was held in the professional care of Sheffield Museums Trust with whom the Guild had an active and extremely positive partnership. In short, and in relation to museums in general, Nichola urged all present to 'Go visit!'.

Mark Cleaver, who had also spoken earlier in the day about his responsibility for environmental matters and rural management, added how inspiring he had found the experience of Glasshouse College, the work of the Ruskin Mill Trust and the story of the young people it supported and how this squared so solidly with his own educational and social priorities.

Peter Miller introduced himself as Director responsible for Guild publications, (many of which were on display in the auditorium for sale on the day). Peter took the opportunity to thank former BBC journalist and Companion Peter Day for the help he had given freely with recent publications and with the Guild's magazine.

Jenny Robbins who lived not far from Stourbridge, welcomed the opportunity to visit the town and the college for the first time. Jenny was the Guild's Treasurer and had for several years had taken responsibility for the Guild's property portfolio in Bewdley and Westmill in

Hertfordshire. She also worked closely with partners the Wyre Community Land Trust on the management of the Guild's woodland and rural holdings in Ruskin Land.

Mark Frost, Senior Lecturer in English Literature, introduced himself as the Director responsible for Ruskin Studies and Legacy. He had a strong and long-standing interest in woodland which led logically to developments in Ruskin Land where a bid had recently been submitted to support a project linking cultural and environmental aspects of the woodland. The project would be led by Birmingham University and, if successful in its funding bid, draw local schools and underprivileged communities into the woodland to work with artists and educationalists. Should the project bid prove successful, the goal would be to produce educational materials to address issues of environmental injustice. Mark had written on the early history of the Guild which dwelt substantially on the history of Ruskin Land. He would also be involved in the provision of appropriate reading matter for the local groups as proposed by Peter Burman

Speaking from Delhi, **Arjun Jain** introduced himself as the current Young Companions' Representative who had, because of the recent pandemic, been less active than he hoped to be when he took up the role but would be working on a project with fellow Companion, Julia Bolton Holloway to present a conference to be held in Florence on Saturday, 15th April 2023, and in Delhi on 23 April 2023. The conference would be 'hybrid' (i.e. in person and online).

The Master invited Companions to contribute ideas on the development and composition of the Board of Directors. In particular, she invited the input of any Companion who might take on a financial role to lessen the burden on the current Treasurer who had additional portfolio duties to discharge.

Jenny Robbins asked Companions to note the voluntary nature of the role of Director/Trustee and, on behalf of all the Board, she placed on record the gratitude owed to the Master for the efforts she had been making on behalf of the Guild in the face of recent health challenges.

485 SIGNING THE ROLL

The following Companions were invited to come forward to sign the Roll and say a few words about themselves and the reasons for their interest in becoming Companions of the Guild. The signatories were:

Ross Burgess
Paul Gibson
Nicholas Mander
Celia Potts
Margaret Tunstall
Lynn Yendell

486 DATE AND LOCATION OF THE 2023 AGM

The Master announced that the next AGM would be held in the Millennium Gallery in Sheffield on 25th November 2023. She added that Sheffield might alternate annually as a venue between others with Ruskinian affiliations (as had been the case with Glasshouse College).

487 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Master drew the meeting's attention and offered warm congratulations to former Master, Clive Wilmer who would be in receipt of the Ruskin Society of North America's Lifetime Award which to be conferred on 23rd September 2023.

MEETING CLOSED 3.00pm

Alphabetical List of Companions (October 2023)

Rick Allan – David Alston – John Ames – Anne Amison – Ewan Anderson – Dag Andersson – Jan Ansell – Terry Ansell – Judah Armani – Katherine Armbrester – Julia Armstrong – Toshiko Asai - Sara Atwood – Linda Austin – Ron Austin – Michael Badu – Chris Baines – Hilary Baker – Matthew Ball – Janet Barnes – Jennifer Barnes – Philip Barnes – David Barrie – Emma Bartlet – Carole Baugh – Zoë Berman – Graham Beck – R. Dyke Benjamin – Ryan Berley – Bill Bevan – Dinah Birch – Sir Quentin Blake – Caroline Blyth – Julia Bolton Holloway – David Borrington – Edward Bosley Jr. – Nic Boyes - Gray Brechin – George Breeze – Matthew Briggs – Geoffrey Brown – Robert Brownell – Zachary Bullock – Ross Burgess – John Burgin – Peter Burman – Carolyn Butterworth – Elena Karina Byrne – Colin Campbell – Tony Cann – Peter Carpenter – Fran Carter – Julia Carter – Jan Casey – Anuradha Chatterjee – Anthony Chisholm – Janine Christley – Dorian Church – Jacki Clark – Mark Cleaver – Jeanne Clegg – Gill Cockram – Malcolm Cole – Sarah Coleman – John Cuddeback – Malaika Cunningham – Annie Creswick Dawson – Patrick Curry – Harry Daniels - Paul Dawson – Pascal Debout – Beverly Denenberg – Stuart Denenberg – Rachel Dickinson – Marco Di Gregorio – Suzie Doncaster – Abigail Droke – Kevin Duffy – Natalia Dushkina – Stuart Eagles – Hon. Catherine Edwards – Rosalind Edwards – Alex Ekins – Elaine Hirsch Ellis - Paul Elmhurst – Shirley Elwell – Luke Emmet – Paul Evans – Kateri Ewing – Suzanne Fagence Cooper – Rt Hon. Frank Field – Philip Fisher – Olive Forbes-Madden – Sue Grayson Ford – Maria Laura Picchio Forlati – Nicholas Friend – Mark Frost – Ann Gagné – Shannon Gale – Cynthia Gamble – Larry Gambone – Stella Gardner – Mark Garner – Kate Genever – Olivier Geoffroy – Bambos Georgiou – Eliza Gilbert – Paul Gibson – Isobel Gilbert – Stephen Gill – Jonathan Glancey – Lynne Glazzard – Michael Glover – Sally Goldsmith – Kathleen Gonzalez - Elizabeth Goodwin – Aonghus Gordon – Robert Goulding – Kay Greenlees – Mary Greensted – Lawrie Groom – Martin Haber – Jack Haddon – Lucy Hadfield – Judy Hague – Caroline Hall - Alexander Hamilton – Camilla Hampshire – Anthony Harris – Chris Harris – Colin Harrison – Nick Hartley – Richard Harvey – Ray Haslam – Lefteris Heretakis – Andrew Hill – Sara Hill – Nancy Hiller – John Anthony Hilton – Paul Hine – Norman Hobbs – Andrew Hodgson – Tim Holton – Ellie Hooper – Catherine Howarth – Peter Howell – Beate Howitt – Hueimin Lu - Thomas Hughes – Howard Hull – Natalie Hunt – Caroline Ikin – John Iles – Linda Iles – Jim Ineson – David Ingram – Arjun Jain – Laurence Johnson – Nichola Johnson – Terry Johnson – Tony Jones – John Jordan - David Judson – Divya Marie Kato – Masahiro Kato – Déirdre Kelly - Sandra Kemp – Seiko Kinoshita – Helen Kippax – Stephen Kite – Robert Knight – Qusai Kraisha – Simon Lawrence – Junchol Lee – Rita Lenney – Brian Lewis – Carrie Leyland – Lady Naomi Lightman – Catriona Lister – Juliette Losq – Michelle Lovric – David Lustgarten – Harry Malkin – Kate Mason – Julie McCarthy – Jenine McGaughran – William McKeown – Jane McKinne-Mayer – Nicholas Mander – Gabriel Meyer – Alison Milbank – Martin Miles-Moore – Peter Miller – Adam Mindkowski – Liz Mitchell – Stuart Mitchell – Sabine Miquelis - Gordon Monsen – Nick Norris – Stephen Morris – Jane Muir – Fay Musselwhite – Mary Musselwhite – Angie Negrine – Anna Netri – Christopher Newall – Robert Newell – Jo Nightingale – Tatiana Nikitina – Shokan Nishikawa – Yoko Nishikawa – Ruth Nutter - Frances O'Connor – Kathryn Ogden – Francis O'Gorman – Paul O'Keeffe – Francesca Orestano – Peter Osborn – Christine Parker – Helen Parker – Graham Parry – Cristina Pascu-Tulbure – David Peacock – Julian Perry – Elizabeth Perryman – Gareth Pert – Gerry Pert – Celia de Piro – Tristram de Piro – Steve Pool – Franco Posocco – Celia Potts – Leila Prescott – Paul Quarrie – Cedric Quayle – Thelma Quayle – Sarah Quill – Iolanda Ramos – Tim Rawson – Janette Ray – Anthony Reeve – Dame Fiona Reynolds – Bernard Richards – Jeffrey Richards – Bob Richmond – Jenny Robbins – Vanessa Roberts – Hon. Elizabeth Robins –

Miriam Rockness — John Rosenberg — Laurence Roussillon-Constanty — Richard Rundell — Yvonne Rundell — Kamel Saeed — Kalika Sands — Shoji Sato — Austen Saunders — Franziska Schenk — Emma Sdegno — Andrew Shepherd — Neil Sinden — Olga Sinitsyna — Nick Smiljanic — Allison Smith — Julian Smith — Lydia Somerville — Robert Somerville — Demetrio Sonaglioni — David Sorensen — Jodie Southwood — Julian Spalding — James Spates — John Spiers — Robert Stansfield - John Steers — Isaac Stovell — Robin Sukatorn — Philip Taylor — Robert Taylor — Charles Tebbutt — Rhiannon Thomas — Nellie Trevelyan — Philip Trevelyan — Neil Trinder — Serena Trowbridge — Norio Tsuyuki — Paul Tucker — Coralie Turpin-Thomson — Jason Turpin-Thomson — Margaret Tunstall — Michael Upshall — Mark Usher — Marcus Waithe — Geoffrey Walker — Robert Walmsley — Kay Walter — Chao Wang — Ron Ward — Wendy Ward — Ian Warrell — Caroline Washington — Elizabeth Washington — Harriet Washington — Hugh Waterhouse — Ian Watt — Richard Watts — Joseph Weber — Michael Wheeler — Jacqueline Whiteside — Joanna Whittle - Dominika Wielgopolan — Stephen Wildman — Clive Wilmer — Mark Wilson — Robert Wilson — Necole Witcher — Sarah Woods — Amy Woodson-Boulton — Carol Wyss — Jacqueline Yallop — Lynn Yendell — Ryo Yamazaki — Chiaki Yokoyama — Emily Young — Samuel Zeveloff

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered number: 00012583
Charity number: 231758

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Trustees Dr Peter Burman
Mr Mark Cleaver
Dr Rachel Dickinson
Dr Mark Frost
Ms Nichola Johnson
Mr Peter Miller
Mrs Jenny Robbins

Company registered number 00012583

Charity registered number 231758

Registered office Meersbrook Hall
Brook Road
Sheffield
S8 9FL

Administrator Mr Martin Green

Young Companions' Representative Mr Arjun Jain

Communications officer Mr Simon Seligman

Independent auditor BHP LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the company for the purposes of company law) present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objects of the company as set out in the Memorandum of Association are "To promote the advancement of education and training in the field of rural economy, industrial design and craftsmanship and appreciation of the arts in accordance with the principles set out in the Letters to Working Men by John Ruskin published under the title *Fors Clavigera*."

The Guild has developed policies to ensure it delivers its charitable objectives in line with guidance from the Charity Commission and in order to comply with statutory requirements.

The Guild raises funds to support its charitable activities and ensure its future as a going concern and sustainable force for good. The Guild has, in line with the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities, developed a fundraising policy. The Guild has not engaged external fundraisers, had any person acting on its behalf for the purpose of fund-raising nor has been subject to an undertaking to be bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising. There have been no complaints received by the Guild regarding its fund-raising activities.

Under the terms of its fundraising policy, the Guild takes care to ensure that there is no unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy, no unreasonable persistent approaches for the purpose of soliciting or otherwise procuring money and no undue pressure placed on people, particularly vulnerable people, to donate money or other property.

In carrying out the charity's aims, the Guild has paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and ensures that its objectives are carried out in accordance with the guidance.

The Guild owns and maintains properties at Westmill in Hertfordshire, properties and woodland in the Wyre Forest at Bewdley in Worcestershire. It also owns St George's Field, Sheepscombe, Gloucestershire, a Site of Special Scientific Interest which it leases to Natural England who maintain it to the highest environmental standards in line with the Guild's commitment to sustainable management of the rural economy.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

During the 2022/23 financial year, the Board of Directors took steps to adopt a carbon literate approach to environmental strategy; to consolidate its policy portfolio; to ensure the ethical status of its investment holdings; and to continue to act with purpose to make a positive difference to people's lives. The Board of Directors have considered deeply the issue of 'What it means to be a Companion' and have discussed strategic measures to protect and maximise the value of its assets, in so doing adopting the watchwords of 'Good Stewardship'.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Main activities undertaken to further the Charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Guild believes in active education rooted in Ruskinian principles and aimed at making lives better under the banner of Ruskin's dictum: "THERE IS NO WEALTH BUT LIFE". The Guild has planned and delivered activities set out below to further this fundamental aim.

In setting objectives and planning, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. The Guild is also mindful of Charity Commission guidance on The Promotion of Social Inclusion.

d. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Guild of St George is an educational charity and achieves its charitable objectives by delivering programmes of educationally, socially and environmentally beneficial activity in both urban and rural settings and via online participation.

Grants are made to maintain the Ruskin Collection in Sheffield and to a small number of organisations and individuals whom the Board of Directors recognise as having aspirations which align with the aims and objectives of the Guild. During the year the Guild worked with partners who manage the rural economy in a sustainable way whilst maintaining financial support for the Ruskin Collection housed at the Millennium Gallery in Sheffield under the stewardship of Sheffield Museums Trust (SMT).

Achievements and performance

a. Main achievements of the Charity

The various activities and achievements of the charity over the year are described under the sub-headings below.

The Guild's AGM 2022

The Guild was, after two years of holding the event online, finally able to host its AGM in person on 19 November at the Ruskin Mill Trust's (RMT) Glasshouse College in Stourbridge, south west of Birmingham. Nevertheless, given the technological progress that had been made in the intervening years and thanks to the technical expertise available at the College, the event was also made available online to an international audience. 30% of attendees joined the meeting via a digital link, with participants in India, France, Italy and the USA. We are immensely grateful to RMT's Chief Executive, Companion Aonghus Gordon and College Principal Alex Griffin and his team for making us so welcome and hosting such a stimulating day. The facilities were outstanding, the catering excellent and the practical demonstrations of professional glassmaking impressive and memorable.

There were presentations from the Wyre Community Land Trust and SMT while Aonghus delivered an inspiring talk about the groundbreaking educational work done with vulnerable young people by RMT in Stourbridge, Birmingham and Sheffield.

Once the formal AGM closed six new Companions were able to sign the Roll and the day's activity continued with a tour of the Stourbridge Glass Museum about half a mile from the College. The day concluded with a Companions Dinner, hosted again by the College and served up by their first-class catering team. A gift of high-quality glassware made at the College was presented by Alex Griffin to the Master of the Guild at the end of the evening.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

Changes in our Companionship

During the year, we welcomed the following 12 new Companions to the Guild. They are:

April 2022

Harry Daniels (London, UK)

Paul Gibson (Bewdley, UK)

Lynn Yendell (Bewdley, UK)

July 2022

Nicholas Mander (Gloucestershire, UK)

September 2022

Margaret Tunstall (Kidderminster, UK)

March 2023

Judah Armani (London, UK)

Matthew Briggs (Sheffield, UK)

Zachary Bullock (Scottsville, VA, USA)

Paul Evans (Sheffield, UK)

Shannon Gale (Wayzata, MN, USA)

Julian Perry (London, UK)

Mark Usher (Shoreham, VT, USA)

We were very sorry to record the deaths of Companions Nancy Hiller and Peter Day.

Board Deliberations

The Board held its first 'in person' meeting for two years in April 2022. The scope of the Board's deliberations over the year have been broad and recurring themes have included: what it means to be a Companion of the Guild and how Companionship might become still more meaningful; in budget planning, working towards balancing income more closely against expenditure over the coming years; protecting the Guild's financial reserves and maximising the potential of its assets and resources with the watchwords 'Good Stewardship' constituting a guiding principle; prioritising the environmental role of the Guild in terms of its influence, performance and the impact of its investments; strengthening key partnerships in Sheffield and Ruskin Land, and seeking new partnerships to help deliver its charitable objectives.

Governance

The Board is actively seeking to recruit recruiting new Directors to broaden its skills base, particularly in the areas of finance and fundraising, and more broadly also to consolidate succession planning. This aligns with the organisation's strategic goal to adopt a robust and sustainable approach to financial planning and to explore fundraising opportunities from as wide a base as possible to ensure it can continue to create beneficial impacts long into the future. To this end, a five-year financial projection and a review of reserves policy was discussed at the Board's meetings in January and April 2023.

After long discussion and having consulted with Companions and considered constitutional issues, the Board of Directors took the significant step in April 2023 of agreeing a mandatory subscription fee for Companions to come into effect in January 2024. This would have the twin merit of raising extra income and confirming commitment from subscribing Companions.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

Environmental Engagement

The Guild continues to prioritise the climate change agenda and has reiterated its commitment to be fully carbon neutral by 2030. Having developed an environmental strategy with Director for Ruskin Studies and Legacies, Mark Frost, Director for Land Management and Environmental Matters, Mark Cleaver arranged the delivery in November 2022 of an accredited carbon literacy course for Directors and staff. The training evolved into individual and organisational action plans to reduce the carbon impact of the Guild's business.

The Guild remains a signatory of Culture Declares a Climate Emergency and, as part of the COP26 Group of ethical investors, is working with partners in the charitable sector and with its asset managers to ensure its investments are all in sustainable and carbon neutral sources.

The Guild has maintained its partnership with the South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, an organisation committed to taking action to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to climate change in the region.

The Ruskin Collection

The Guild's Collection remains one of its greatest assets and it continues to be cared for and displayed by SMT. Ashley Gallant has made great strides as the new part-time Curator of the Ruskin Collection and, since taking up the role, his engagement with the public, the Guild and all things Ruskinian has been both hugely enthusiastic and creative. Two new Ruskin Gallery displays have been curated by Ashley and an innovative line has been taken in interpreting the material exhibited with the active participation and contribution of Sheffield Hallam University and the Sheffield community at large - particularly young people.

During the year the Guild has supported the engagement of Professor Nicholas Pickwoad, eminent book conservator, to advise SMT staff on the handling and conservation of the manuscripts in the Guild's collection. Alongside this, the Guild has supported the commissioning of artist in residence Billy Hughes, who has been working closely with Ashley and the SMT team to widen access to the collection and enthuse visitors to the Gallery. Meanwhile the Guild and SMT continue to share an aspiration to have as much of the Collection as possible available for viewing digitally.

The Guild is grateful to SMT for the commitment and skill it provides in caring for the Collection, particularly in these times of great financial pressure for publicly funded institutions. The partnership working embodied in the Collection Steering Group goes from strength to strength and benefits greatly from the joint leadership of Guild Director, Nichola Johnson and SMT's Kirstie Hamilton along with the invaluable oversight and steerage of Companion Howard Hull, Director of Brantwood.

SMT hosted the Guild's Companions' event at the Millennium Gallery on Saturday 10 September 2022 and Companions were very much to the fore (see 'Events' below) with presentations matched by contributions from Ashley Gallant and Kirstie Hamilton who also facilitated tours of the museum stores housing the Ruskin Collection.

Kirstie Hamilton, Keeper of the Ruskin Collection and Director of Programmes for SMT, further writes:

The Guild of St George's Ruskin Collection continues to be a central part of Sheffield's cultural and artistic heritage and a highlight for visitors to the Millennium Gallery. In late 2022 we closed the bird themed display and opened a new display, 'Comes the Flood' in January 2023, welcoming 26,548 visitors between 1 January and 31 March 2023. 'Comes the Flood' explores the idea of flooding and displays works that depict Venice and also objects from Sheffield's collection marking the major floods in 1864 and 2007. 'Comes the Flood' also includes poetic and sound recordings from 45 students at Sheffield Hallam University as part of the interpretation. The improvements we made to the gallery in 2021 have made it much more flexible to create new displays and helped visitors to notice the changes we make more easily.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

Highlights from Ashley Gallant, Curator of the Ruskin Collection for this year include:

- *Delivering 7 talks and tours with over 250 participants.*
- *Facilitating a lunch time poetry reading from Sheffield Hallam University students.*
- *15 works have been displayed across Sheffield Museums sites and one work loaned to the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle.*
- *16 Collection images have been requested for four academic publications.*
- *51 images have been added to the Bridgeman Art Library.*
- *1,840 records have been added to the collections management database, including all of the minerals and numismatics (volunteers have supported the work with the numismatics) with 1,297 photographs added to the database.*
- *The first artist 'micro residency' with Billy Hughes - Billy engaged with the collection in store and delivered two workshops and we continue to work together.*
- *Facilitating the initial meeting of the Ruskin Curators group.*
- *Attending the Association of Art Historians Conference.*
- *Undertaking manuscript handling training with Nicholas Pickwoad.*

Works on paper from the Ruskin Collection will be displayed as part of the Dutch Flower Paintings exhibition at the Millennium Gallery (22 June – 7 September 2023) alongside ten of the most important Dutch flower paintings from the National Gallery. Also, works from the Ruskin Collection will form an important part of the Pioneers: John Ruskin, William Morris and the Bauhaus exhibition due to open in October 2023 at the Millennium Gallery.

Ashley is working on the next collection display on the theme of craftsmanship and the moral role of craft and handiwork. The display is planned for November 2023 and we will be working with multiple partners including Freeman College (Ruskin Mill Trust), the Terrence Higgins Trust, Fine Cell Work, Combat Stress: Mental Health Services for Veterans and also with participants from our museum knit and natter group.

Kirstie Hamilton, Keeper of the Ruskin Collection and Director of Programmes, Sheffield Museums

Ruskin Land

Treasurer and Director for Properties, Jenny Robbins and Director for Land Management and Environmental Matters, Mark Cleaver, have worked closely over the year with key partners the Wyre Community Land Trust (WCLT) to ensure that the Guild's charitable objectives in relation to woodland management, the rural economy and education continue to be delivered in Ruskin Land. WCLT have begun to deliver the programme of work funded by a ten-year grant from the Woodland Trust which the Guild was successful in securing in 2022. The grant had a marked positive impact on income for the Guild for 2022/3 although the funding was bespoke to woodland maintenance only and restricted to delivering a ten year programme of work. The block payment of the grant and the sharp uplift in revenue committed the Guild to a full audit for the financial year 2022/3 with the concomitant costs and resource demands this would inevitably bring. The audit requirement was in line with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK.

The woodland maintenance programme is matched by a ten-year management plan evolving jointly between the Guild and WCLT which is nurturing a shared vision for the woodland. Discussions with WCLT about the future of St George's Farm as an asset of mutual benefit are positive and ongoing.

Property improvements have progressed, St George's Farmhouse benefitting particularly from a programme of refurbishment, undertaken by the tenants and funded by the Guild, now nearing completion.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

Tenants of St George's Bungalow, Companions Lynn Yendell and Paul Gibson, have added colour and environmental diversity to the woodland with their horticultural work. Companions John and Linda Iles at Unclyls Farm remain very active in the life of Ruskin Land and continue to work with WCLT, with volunteers and other partners to sustain their remarkable legacy in Ruskin Land.

Valuable partnership work with Birmingham University has maintained momentum with the involvement of the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research analysing the positive local environmental impact of the woodland. Meanwhile Mark Frost, the Guild's Director for Ruskin Studies and Legacies, has been working with Professor John Holmes on a funding bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council for a cultural and environmental project based in Ruskin Land (which, at the time of writing, had not come to fruition).

One of the many benefits of having held the 2022 AGM at Glasshouse College in Stourbridge has been the development of a joint approach to a possible educational project in the woodland. This is still at an embryonic stage of development but the opportunity for the Guild to work more closely with dynamic and innovative partners like RMT with their outstanding educational and social track record is an invigorating prospect.

Westmill

The properties in the village donated by Mary Hope Greg to the Guild in 1948 have, for the last seven years, benefitted from a sustained programme of capital investment and, while this has inevitably drawn heavily on the Guild's reserves, the improved rental returns are starting to have a significant positive impact on income. Likewise the market value of the assets has risen proportionately to the investment. The Guild is required under Charity Commission guidance to maximise the income it is able to derive from its assets and does so in line with its policy to be fair and to recognise the individual circumstances of the tenants. The capital improvement programme is reaching its conclusion with only two properties out of eight still awaiting refurbishment, most likely when they next become vacant.

The continuing relationship with north London agents William Dace Brown (WDB) has continued to ensure a high quality and consistent level of service to tenants. WDB are likewise well placed to ensure that the Guild is meeting its statutory duties in the context of ever-changing landlord duties and that programmed and day to day maintenance is carried out to the highest standards and at the most competitive prices. Director for Properties, Jenny Robbins, and Administrator Martin Green meet regularly with WDB to monitor the programme of works and any issues affecting the tenants.

Important partners in the village are the Parish Council and the Thomas and Mary Greg Trust. A major concern in 2022 to both of these partners was the future of the local church, St Mary the Virgin. Director for Craftsmanship and Craftspeople (and International Matters) Peter Burman, an architectural historian of huge experience and expertise, visited the village in April with Companion Ross Burgess and was able to provide valuable advice on the conservation of the building and possible opportunities for development and external funding. Peter and Ross were hosted by Companion Lady Julia Carter, resident of Westmill and Chair of the Thomas and Mary Greg Trust.

International

As can be seen below, the Guild continued to offer live online events accessible to Companions and other interested parties living outside the UK. At the four Ruskin & the Crafts sessions held Dec 22 - Mar 23, there were international participants and audience members in attendance.

December 2022 saw the launch of FoRS (Focus on Ruskin Studies) at Ca' Foscari University in Venice, for which the Guild is a founding partner. It was preceded by an informal gathering of Guild Companions at the Scuola Internazionale di Grafica, hosted by Companion Déirdre Kelly who gave a tour, with Rachel Dickinson, Jenny Robbins and Companions Francesca Orestano, Marco di Gregorio and Jeanne Clegg.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

For the launch of FoRS, Companion Emma Sdegno had prepared a rich presentation to announce the new centre. Guild Master Rachel Dickinson gave a talk, followed by Emanuele Moretti, Professor of Architectural Restoration (Politecnico di Torino) and artist and Companion Kate Genever, who presented images online from the UK. We look forward to many years of collaboration with this important new centre of Ruskin studies in Italy.

Publications

2022/23 was the first full year since the lifting of lockdown restrictions that the Guild was able to take a selection of publications for sale at the Companions Day in Sheffield in September and then at the AGM in Stourbridge. It was, as ever, a delight to witness Director for Publications, Peter Miller plying his trade with the charm, skill and knowledge we will so much miss when he steps down from the Board at the forthcoming AGM after twenty years on the Board. Peter would be the first to add how much he would miss the expert contribution Peter Day had made in recent times to redesigning the Guild's publications.

Over the year Peter has commissioned reprints of Companions Cedric Quayle's Ruskin & Bewdley, and Annie Creswick Dawson's Benjamin Creswick along with John Holmes' Ruskin, the Pre-Raphaelites and the Oxford Museum which has found a ready market at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. Peter has continued to supply publications and cards to Brantwood, The Ruskin Museum at Coniston and the Millennium Gallery in Sheffield. Meanwhile online sales of publications via the website has continued at a steady if not spectacular rate.

We urge Companions to visit the Guild's website and check out the range of publications. If any have gone out of print and there is sufficient demand for hard copies, reprints may be organised (as evidenced above). Failing that, PDF's can be downloaded free of charge in line with the Guild's committed educational remit.

Events

In-person

The Guild held two in-person events, in April on Ruskin Land, and in September in Sheffield.

The first event was a weekend gathering on Ruskin Land for Companions, associates and friends, on 23/24 April 2022. Hosted in close partnership with the Wyre Community Land Trust, approximately 50 people gathered for a programme of walks, talks, demonstrations, readings and social interaction. As part of the day, a beautiful aspen tree was planted in memory of former Master James S Dearden, by two of his grandchildren, with four short tributes paid to him by Rachel Dickinson, Cedric Quayle, former Master, Clive Wilmer (read by Peter Burman in his absence) and former Master, Anthony Harris (read by John Iles in his absence).

A particular feature of the day was that we had invited a number of Companions from around the UK to lead a workshop of some kind, resulting in a very varied programme and the chance for Companions from different personal and professional walks of life to meet and learn from each other's expertise. The programme included guided walks led by John Iles and Mark Cleaver, a talk and demonstration at the Sawmill, and the chance to hear from the new tenants of St George's Bungalow, Companions Lynn and Paul, about growing native wildflowers as pollinators, a life writing workshop led by Suzanne Fagence Cooper, a drawing session focused around wellbeing, led by Kate Mason and Anna Netri and a workshop led by Jenine McGaughran and the Juneau Collective. There were also talks from Robert Somerville on 'Elms for the Future'; Prof John Holmes on the developing relationship between Ruskin Land and the University of Birmingham; Mark Cleaver talking about the Guild's environmental priorities; Peter Burman reflecting on the Venice conference and online readings and Rachel Dickinson on Companionship. Saturday evening ended with a very special event at sunset in the Dragon's Nest, one of the timber structures left from the Studio in the Woods residencies, where PhD student Dion Dobrzynski led an evening of Elvish Storytelling. On Sunday morning, Robert Somerville led a workshop on making timber-frame oak pegs and the Land Trust offered a workshop on leaf carving in oak.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

For this event, we introduced a small charge for attendance, as a way of offsetting some of the practical costs (food and staff time especially) of the event. We plan to continue to offset the cost of these events by charging attendees at an appropriate level.

September 2022 saw another Companion face-to-face event in Sheffield, hosted at Sheffield Museums. Kirstie Hamilton and Ashley Gallant from the Museums' Trust began the day by introducing the latest presentations and displays in the Gallery and talking about future plans and conservation needs. Over the course of the day we also heard from Companions Suzanne Fagence Cooper, Peter Burman, Rhian Thomas, Carole Baugh, Anna Netri and Joanna Whittle, alongside guest Andy Jackson, manager of the Heeley Trust. In addition, Ruskin Collection curator Ashley Gallant offered tours of the Collection's storage areas, giving a vivid insight into how the wider collection is stored and cared for. The Guild was also delighted to formally accept the gift of former Ruskin Collection curator Genevieve Pilley's illuminated copy of Lives of the Saints from her relative Angela Wood, which has been added to the Guild's Library in Sheffield.

The Guild was also a partner in an event launching the outcomes of the final activity generated by the funding of the 2019 Ruskin in Manchester Festival, a publication and accompanying film, Everybody Deserves Space: Ruskin's Manchester Now, featuring five black poets responding to a Ruskin text and a location in Manchester. Led by Suandi and Rachel Dickinson, this was a collaboration between the National Black Arts Alliance, the Guild and Manchester Metropolitan University. It was formally launched in July 2022, with a gathering of more than 50 people including the Mayor of Manchester, and both the film and the book are now freely available via the Guild website.

In February 2023, there was a small informal gathering of Companions, with directors Rachel Dickinson and Jenny Robbins, at the Ruskin Collection gallery in Sheffield, where the group had a chance to see the new thematic displays in the Gallery alongside curator Ashley Gallant, before attending the launch of a new book of essays RUSKIN TODAY, published by our friends the Ruskin Mill Trust.

Online

The Guild continued to offer online events as well, building on the formats that had been introduced during and after the Covid lockdowns.

The year began with a very successful and well attended online conference, VOICES FROM VENICE, with 18 speakers, many of them live from Venice, who spoke about the multifarious challenges facing the city and its lagoon. The conference was attended by more than 200 people over the course of the day and video recordings of the day's sessions are now available on the Guild's website and have been viewed by more than 350 people.

Between December 2022 and March 2023 we presented a series of four monthly online reading and discussion events focused on RUSKIN & THE CRAFTS, held via Zoom, and convened and curated by Guild Companion and director Peter Burman. Each event featured four or five speaker participants, some Companions and others not, from across England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, France, Italy and India, bringing international voices and perspectives to this subject. As well as the attendees who joined the events live (averaging about 30 people per event) the video recordings of the four sessions have been viewed via the website more than 440 times.

Communications

The Guild has continued to issue regular e-newsletters to Companions, sharing news of relevant Companion activity (personal or professional), events, opportunities to engage, publications and exhibitions.

E-newsletters and our social media channels remain the principal means of promoting the Guild's online and in-person events and sharing news of work being done by Companions anywhere in the world. We record our online events via our zoom channel, to make them available as free resources via the website.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

In the summer of 2022, Companion Peter Day completed work on a digital magazine entitled *Companions Review* which was a compendium of writing and reviews that Companions had offered during 2021. It is freely available to read online or download via the Guild's website. There are currently no plans for a similar digital publication in 2023, reflecting in part the much-reduced volume of writing and reviews that were submitted during 2022.

Partnerships

The Guild continues its strong working partnership with our two principal partners, SMT and WCLT. We also continue to have good working relationships with The Ruskin at Lancaster University and with Brantwood, Ruskin's final home in Cumbria.

Our relationship with the arts charity The Big Draw continues; as indicated in the 'Future Plans' section below, we are partnering with them for the 6th edition of the John Ruskin Prize in 2023/24, with funds given towards the 1st and 2nd Prizes and involvement with the panel of judges. As this is the first edition of the Prize in four years with a new team at the charity, and given the pressure on Guild funds, the Board will reflect on the success of this edition of the Prize.

As noted elsewhere, the holding of our 2022 AGM at RMT's Glassworks site in Stourbridge has given fresh impetus to our relationship with the Trust. As well as discussions about future collaboration on Ruskin Land, their Founder, Companion Aonghus Gordon, offered to share expertise about fundraising, and some of the Board have had a very productive first meeting with the Trust's fundraiser, Janine Christley, herself a Guild Companion.

Financial review

a. Overall financial review

The total income for the year amounted to £273,070 (2022: £141,052), an increase of 93.6%. Total expenditure amounted to £218,379 (2022: £229,894). After adjusting for realised and unrealised losses on investments of £58,867 (2022: £49,244 gains) and gains on revaluation of fixed assets of £1,049,446 (2022: £nil) this produced an overall surplus for the year of £1,045,270 (2022: deficit of £39,598). This provides the Guild with total reserves of £6,634,699 (2022: £5,589,429).

b. Reserves policy

The Guild has unrestricted funds of £6,529,158 (2022: £5,589,429) which are primarily represented by fixed assets (properties, heritage assets and investments less related creditors) of £6,510,532 (2022: £5,497,897) which are held in designated funds. These assets are essential parts of the Guild's operations and generate income that enable the Guild to deliver its charitable objectives. The portion of reserves available for current operations (free reserves excluding fixed asset investments which can be utilised to fund deficits) is £18,626 (2022: £91,532). The Directors have set a deficit budget for a number of years, drawing down on investment resources as necessary, to expand operations and the range of charitable activities undertaken. The Board of Directors has, during 2022/23, continued to have strategic discussions about how to continue delivering its charitable objectives while protecting as far as possible its financial reserves.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

c. Going concern

The Board has approved a budget for 2023/24 based on forecast income and expenditure along with the cost of planned activity. Directors remain confident that sufficient reserves are in place for the Guild to be able to continue delivering its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. With major community projects and prestige bicentennial exhibitions now behind us, there has been, over the last year, much less demand on reserves to support plans and these conditions are likely to apply in the short to medium term at least.

The Board will continue to monitor financial performance to ensure the charity continues as a going concern and, by analysing expenditure and income over the coming five years, has explored the implications of phasing out the setting of an annual deficit budget by bringing income and expenditure more closely into harmony. Additionally, Directors have decided to introduce a mandatory membership subscription fee for Companions from January 2024 which will help to sustain income and confirm the commitment of Companions to the Guild in a more meaningful way than might currently be the case.

Investment in property improvements continue to show an encouraging increase in revenue while responsive maintenance demands are diminishing in proportion to the success of programmed capital improvements to properties over recent years.

Within the planned programme of charitable activity there is sufficient flexibility for the organisation to make further economies to maintain its financial buoyancy. Therefore, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of preparation for these financial reports.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Guild of St George is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The Guild's Directors are responsible for the general control of the Guild to ensure it delivers its charitable aims and objectives and complies with all the relevant guidance and statutory requirements for the management of charities. The duties of Directors are fully set out in the Guild's Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Board of Directors is legally responsible for the recruitment of new Directors and retains overall responsibility and control of the recruitment, selection and induction processes.

Plans for future periods

In June and July 2023, we are convening two online discussion sessions for Companions to solicit their views on what Companionship of the Guild should involve in the third decade of the C21st. These sessions are being offered in support of the policy decision to introduce a mandatory annual subscription for Companions from the start of 2024, and the Board will consider the implications of the sessions at their September 2023 meeting.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Plans for future periods (continued)

As another initiative to engage more Companions, work is ongoing to develop a range of reading material that is being prepared by Directors Mark Frost and Peter Burman, entitled *READINGS FROM RUSKIN*. Available as a free resource on the Guild website, these are carefully curated extracts from Ruskin's writing across a range of subjects, with introductions that explain their context and purpose. They are designed to encourage groups of Companions and others interested in Ruskin, whether geographically adjacent, or via shared interests, to meet (in person or online) to read and discuss Ruskin's work.

We are also developing a plan to encourage new regional groups of Companions to consider meeting regularly, whether for readings (as above) or for shared visits, discussion and engagement with shared concerns. A Scottish group will soon be convened in Edinburgh, there is interest in Birmingham, and the location of clusters of other Companions suggest other possible locations for groups.

In the Autumn/Winter of 2023/24 we will be presenting a further series of four online readings, this time focused on Ruskin's seminal text on the political economy, *Unto This Last*. As with the previous series, its convenor Peter Burman intends to gather a diverse range of voices and perspectives from our international Companionship, including one session which we hope will be made up of voices from Japan.

In October 2023 we will be co-hosting the first of what we intend will become a series of Anglo-Japanese online events, encompassing discussion, readings and eventually conferences. This initiative is centred on Guild Companions in Japan but will be intended for a wider audience and we intend to apply for funding to make live simultaneous translation part of these events.

We have agreed to be partners once again for the sixth iteration of The John Ruskin Prize, initiated by the Guild and our partners, The Big Draw. This is the first edition of the Prize in four years, and a new team at The Big Draw has decided to expand its remit to all media, and to international entries. To facilitate this, the administration of the Prize is being managed by specialists in this field, Parker Harris. Submissions will be invited between June and September 2023, and the finalists will be displayed at Trinity Buoy Wharf in London in the first half of February 2024.

Before the end of 2023, we will launch a fundraising appeal to support ongoing digitisation and conservation of the precious manuscripts in the Ruskin Collection.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditor, BHP LLP, has indicated his willingness to continue in office. The designated trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditor at a meeting of the trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Rachel Dickinson
Master
Date: 13th October 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE

We have audited the financial statements of The Guild of St George (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE (CONTINUED)

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE (CONTINUED)

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the entity through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity, including employment law, health and safety, GDPR, tenancy laws and tree safety laws;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence where appropriate; and
- we ensured identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the entity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE (CONTINUED)

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

The financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022 were unaudited.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Rachel Heath (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

BHP LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

Date: 13th October 2023

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	115,868	5,529	121,397	23,336
Charitable activities	5	-	3,866	3,866	1,914
Other trading activities	6	-	780	780	1,800
Investments	7	-	147,027	147,027	114,002
Total income		115,868	157,202	273,070	141,052
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	-	46,821	46,821	104,686
Charitable activities	10	10,327	161,231	171,558	125,208
Total expenditure		10,327	208,052	218,379	229,894
Net income/(expenditure) before net (losses)/gains on investments		105,541	(50,850)	54,691	(88,842)
Net (losses)/gains on investments	18	-	(58,867)	(58,867)	49,244
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains		105,541	(109,717)	(4,176)	(39,598)
Other recognised gains:					
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	16,17	-	1,049,446	1,049,446	-
Net movement in funds		105,541	939,729	1,045,270	(39,598)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		-	5,589,429	5,589,429	5,629,027
Net movement in funds		105,541	939,729	1,045,270	(39,598)
Total funds carried forward		105,541	6,529,158	6,634,699	5,589,429

The Statement of Financial Activities complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006 and includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 00012583

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	16	5,646,767	4,472,233
Heritage assets	17	58,350	58,350
Investments	18	856,254	967,314
		6,561,371	5,497,897
Current assets			
Debtors	19	18,656	43,588
Cash at bank and in hand		129,188	172,601
		147,844	216,189
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(74,516)	(124,657)
Net current assets		73,328	91,532
Total assets less current liabilities		6,634,699	5,589,429
Total net assets		6,634,699	5,589,429
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	21	105,541	-
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds (Revaluation reserve: £1,934,141 (2022: £1,129,294)	21	6,510,532	5,497,897
General funds	21	18,626	91,532
Total unrestricted funds	21	6,529,158	5,589,429
Total funds		6,634,699	5,589,429

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 00012583

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Rachel Dickinson

Master

Date: 13th October 2023

The notes on pages 34 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. General information

The Guild of St George is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Meersbrook Hall, Meersbrook Park, Brook Road, S8 9FL.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition - October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Guild of St George meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

2.2 Going concern

The Board has approved a budget for 2023/24 based on forecast income and expenditure along with the cost of planned activity. Directors remain confident that sufficient reserves are in place for the Guild to be able to continue delivering its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. With major community projects and prestige bicentennial exhibitions now behind us, there has been, over the last year, much less demand on reserves to support plans and these conditions are likely to apply in the short to medium term at least.

The Board will continue to monitor financial performance to ensure the charity continues as a going concern and, by analysing expenditure and income over the coming five years, has explored the implications of phasing out the setting of an annual deficit budget by bringing income and expenditure more closely into harmony. Additionally, Directors have decided to introduce a mandatory membership subscription fee for Companions from January 2024 which will help to sustain income and confirm the commitment of Companions to the Guild in a more meaningful way than might currently be the case.

Investment in property improvements continue to show an encouraging increase in revenue while responsive maintenance demands are diminishing in proportion to the success of programmed capital improvements to properties over recent years.

Within the planned programme of charitable activity there is sufficient flexibility for the organisation to make further economies to maintain its financial buoyancy. Therefore, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of preparation for these financial reports.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

With the exception of Sheepscombe Meadow, the charity's properties are categorised as fixed assets because they are held for the purposes of achieving the charity's objectives rather than to generate an investment return.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 *Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)*

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	1% straight line
Plant and machinery	-	10% straight line

Land is not depreciated.

2.6 *Heritage assets*

The Ruskin Collection has been included in tangible fixed assets at cost to the extent that the items were actually purchased. Any future purchased additions will be capitalised.

The Guild's donated heritage assets have not been capitalised because no reliable cost information is available and valuation processes lack sufficient reliability.

The very long expected lives of heritage assets, due to their nature, value and need to be protected and preserved means that depreciation is not material and is, therefore, not provided.

2.7 *Investments*

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'gains/(losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.8 *Debtors*

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 *Cash at bank and in hand*

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.13 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

2.14 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	-	5,529	5,529	6,981
Grants	115,868	-	115,868	16,355
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	115,868	5,529	121,397	23,336
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2022	-	23,336	23,336	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£
Books and publications	2,883	2,883	1,854
Symposia and events	983	983	60
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,866	3,866	1,914
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2022	1,914	1,914	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from non-charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Timber sales	780	780	1,800
Total 2022	1,800	1,800	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from properties	109,766	109,766	99,511
Income from listed investments	37,261	37,261	14,491
	147,027	147,027	114,002
Total 2022	114,002	114,002	

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Investment management fees	2,065	2,065	7,244
Total 2022	7,244	7,244	

Property expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Property repairs	28,574	28,574	32,298
Property insurance and utility costs	5,005	5,005	9,652
Depreciation	1,235	1,235	48,207
Property administration	9,942	9,942	7,285
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	44,756	44,756	97,442
Total 2022	97,442	97,442	

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9. Analysis of raising funds expenditure by activities

	Direct activities	Support activities	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Property repairs	28,574	-	28,574	32,298
Property insurance and utility costs	5,005	-	5,005	9,652
Depreciation	1,235	-	1,235	48,207
Property administration	-	9,942	9,942	7,285
	34,814	9,942	44,756	97,442
Total 2022	90,157	7,285	97,442	

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities expenditure	10,327	161,231	171,558	125,208
Total 2022	-	125,208	125,208	

11. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2023	Grant funding of activities 2023	Support costs 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities expenditure	51,819	45,990	73,749	171,558	125,208
Total 2022	19,079	54,000	52,129	125,208	

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Activities 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£
Books and publications	19	19	1,256
Symposia and events	7,293	7,293	-
Wyre Woodland	44,507	44,507	14,081
Creative project	-	-	3,742
	<hr/> 51,819	<hr/> 51,819	<hr/> 19,079
Total 2022	<hr/> 19,079	<hr/> 19,079	

There is restricted expenditure of £10,327 included within direct expenditure in the current year (2022: £nil).

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Staff costs (note 14)	37,160	37,160	37,413
Marketing costs	-	-	528
Website and IT costs	4,502	4,502	2,582
General administration fees	5,530	5,530	4,299
Trustee costs	6,618	6,618	1,995
Staff training	950	950	700
Governance costs (note 12)	18,989	18,989	4,612
	<hr/> 73,749	<hr/> 73,749	<hr/> 52,129
Total 2022	<hr/> <hr/> 52,129	<hr/> <hr/> 52,129	

Support costs total £83,691 (2022: £59,414) including support costs within raising funds of £9,942 (2022: £7,285).

12. Analysis of governance costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit fees	18,000	-
Independent examination fees	-	2,240
Legal and professional	869	688
Accountancy fees	120	1,684
	<hr/> 18,989	<hr/> 4,612

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£
Grants payable	45,990	45,990	54,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2022	54,000	54,000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

The Company has made the following material grants to institutions during the year:

<i>Name of institution</i>	2023	2022
	£	£
Sheffield Museums	43,500	52,500
Campaign for Drawing	-	1,500
The Camberwell Society	240	-
Grow at Home Project	1,000	-
Louise Waterford Prize	250	-
Companion Project	1,000	-
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	45,990	54,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

14. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	33,940	33,792
Social security costs	2,021	1,989
Pension costs	1,199	1,632
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37,160	37,413
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Administration	2	2
	=====	=====

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

During the period no individuals deemed to be key management personnel received any remuneration (2022: £nil).

15. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2023 5 Trustees received reimbursement of expenses totalling £2,922 (2022: £1,399 reimbursed to 7 Trustees) in respect of travel, subsistence and postage. Trustee expenses totalling £4,285 (2022: £nil) have been paid directly to third parties. The charity received donations from trustees totalling £590 (2022: £440).

During the previous year, Mr J G Iles rented a property owned by the charity at a rate of £9,784. There were no related party transactions with Mr J G Iles this year as he resigned as a trustee in November 2021.

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant and machinery £	Total £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>			
At 1 April 2022	4,697,177	12,348	4,709,525
Additions	126,323	-	126,323
Revaluations	816,740	-	816,740
At 31 March 2023	5,640,240	12,348	5,652,588
<i>Depreciation</i>			
At 1 April 2022	232,706	4,586	237,292
Charge for the year	-	1,235	1,235
On revalued assets	(232,706)	-	(232,706)
At 31 March 2023	-	5,821	5,821
<i>Net book value</i>			
At 31 March 2023	5,640,240	6,527	5,646,767
At 31 March 2022	4,464,471	7,762	4,472,233

Freehold land and buildings were revalued on 21 August 2023 by independent valuers not connected with the charity on the basis of market value. The basis of valuation is equitable value (fair value), the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Historical cost of revalued assets were £3,706,099 (2022: £3,579,776).

At 31 March 2023, had the revalued assets been carried at historic cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, their carrying amount would have been approximately £3,284,565 (2022: £3,191,420).

THE GUILD OF ST GEORGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17. Heritage assets

Assets recognised at cost or valuation

	Ruskin Collection 2023	Total 2023
	£	£
Carrying value at 1 April 2022	58,350	58,350
At 31 March 2023	58,350	58,350

The heritage assets held by The Guild of St George are held together in the collection of drawings, paintings, prints, engravings, photographs, antique and illustrated books, craft works, architectural casts, geological specimens and other objects donated to St George's Museum in Sheffield which was founded by John Ruskin in 1875. Ruskin established the museum specifically for the benefit and education of Sheffield's workers whose skills and craftsmanship he admired. Sited at Walkley, in the north west of the city and overlooking spectacular countryside, the museum drew visitors away from the smoke that surrounded them in their daily lives and allowed them to immerse themselves in nature and art.

The collection has been added to over the years by donations and a small number of acquisitions. It is kept securely in Sheffield under the curatorship of Museums Sheffield at the Millennium Gallery where a cycle of exhibitions is organised and occasional loans to other institutions are facilitated.

It is impractical to obtain a valuation of heritage assets acquired by donation as the collection is unique and has never previously been valued.

St George's Field, Sheepscombe, Gloucestershire was donated many years ago and is subject to a covenant which restricts the use of the land. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest which is leased to Natural England. The restrictions limit the reliability of a valuation and therefore no value has been attributable to the land.

Analysis of heritage asset transactions

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Purchases					
Heritage assets at cost	-	-	-	411	-
Donations					
Heritage assets at cost	-	-	197	-	-
Total additions					
	-	-	197	411	-

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>			
At 1 April 2022	963,633	963,633	1,031,467
Additions	-	-	1,362,069
Disposals	(50,000)	(50,000)	(1,479,147)
Revaluations	(58,867)	(58,867)	49,244
At 31 March 2023	854,766	854,766	963,633
Investment cash	1,488	1,488	3,681
At 31 March 2023	856,254	856,254	967,314
Historical cost	953,505	953,505	1,010,202

19. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	1,453	10,614
Other debtors	-	22,500
Prepayments and accrued income	17,203	10,474
	18,656	43,588

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	938	100
Other taxation and social security	1,662	618
Other creditors	50,839	241
Accruals and deferred income	21,077	123,698
	<hr/> 74,516 <hr/>	<hr/> 124,657 <hr/>
	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	115,868	-
Resources deferred during the year	-	115,868
Amounts released from previous periods	(115,868)	-
	<hr/> - <hr/>	<hr/> 115,868 <hr/>

The deferred income related to a grant for a project with a start date of 1 April 2022, the monies for which were received prior to the year end in the comparative year.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

21. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
<i>Designated funds</i>						
Fixed asset fund	5,497,897	-	(1,235)	23,291	990,579	6,510,532
<i>General funds</i>						
General unrestricted funds	91,532	157,202	(206,817)	(23,291)	-	18,626
Total Unrestricted funds	5,589,429	157,202	(208,052)	-	990,579	6,529,158
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
Woodland Trust grant	-	115,868	(10,327)	-	-	105,541
Total of funds	5,589,429	273,070	(218,379)	-	990,579	6,634,699

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

21. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
Fixed asset fund	5,572,656	-	(48,207)	(75,796)	49,244	5,497,897
<i>General funds</i>						
General unrestricted funds	56,371	141,052	(181,687)	75,796	-	91,532
Total Unrestricted funds	5,629,027	141,052	(229,894)	-	49,244	5,589,429

Designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund represents the net book value of the fixed assets of £5,646,767, the heritage assets of £58,350 and the value of the investments of £856,254 less related creditors of £50,839.

Restricted funds

The Woodland Trust Grant fund represents monies received from the Woodland Trust for a 10 year project to restore the ancient woodland at Shelf Held Coppice, Wyre Forest.

Transfers from designated funds to general unrestricted funds reflect movements on all fixed assets.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

22. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Designated funds	5,497,897	-	(1,235)	23,291	990,579	6,510,532
General funds	91,532	157,202	(206,817)	(23,291)	-	18,626
Restricted funds	-	115,868	(10,327)	-	-	105,541
	5,589,429	273,070	(218,379)	-	990,579	6,634,699

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Designated funds	5,572,656	-	(48,207)	(75,796)	49,244	5,497,897
General funds	56,371	141,052	(181,687)	75,796	-	91,532
	5,629,027	141,052	(229,894)	-	49,244	5,589,429

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,646,767	5,646,767
Fixed asset investments	-	856,254	856,254
Heritage assets	-	58,350	58,350
Current assets	105,541	42,303	147,844
Creditors due within one year	-	(74,516)	(74,516)
<i>Total -</i>	105,541	6,529,158	6,634,699

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,472,233	4,472,233
Fixed asset investments	967,314	967,314
Heritage assets	58,350	58,350
Current assets	216,189	216,189
Creditors due within one year	(124,657)	(124,657)
<i>Total -</i>	5,589,429	5,589,429

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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24. Contingent liabilities

As at 31 March 2022 there was a contingent liability in respect of improvements made to a tenanted property in Bewdley with an estimated value of £50,839. The liability has now been recognised during the year and appears in other creditors as at 31 March 2023.

25. Capital commitments

	2023 £	2022 £
<i>Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements</i>		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	7,439	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

26. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in either year other than those disclosed in note 15.

27. Post balance sheet events

Since the end of the financial year, the charity has sold Kingswood Meadow for £32,000. This asset is recognised within freehold property as at 31 March 2023.