

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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EDITOR'S FOREWORD

In March 2020, the government imposed the first national Lockdown in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Enjoying some of the finest Spring and Summer weather in living memory, Chelsea residents took to local open spaces – which were celebrated in last year's Annual Report.

Throughout the Winter of 2020 and into the new year, the Lockdown was still with us. As Covid-19 became Covid-21, the novelty had gone, replaced by anxiety for many and ennui for others. Home schooling, working from home, stay home... We retreated indoors, into isolation and perhaps into ourselves.

A great consolation in these strange times was music. Scientific studies, including in intensive care units, are busy confirming what we all know instinctively; that music has a transformative effect on mood. And it's not just Bach concertos; it seems that even heavy metal – allowing listeners to help process negative feelings such as anger – can help with long term well-being.

This year's Annual Report celebrates music in Chelsea.

Sarah Ingham – Editor

The image on the cover is Einstein's Instrument by Johanna Vogt, Unsplash. @johanna_vogt

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THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

Founded by Reginald Blunt in 1927 To Protect the Interests of all who Live and Work here and to Preserve and Enhance the Unique Character of Chelsea

www.chelseasociety.org.uk

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Annual General Meeting of the Chelsea Society Monday, 30th November 2020

Held via Videolink

Welcome

Members heard a short address by the Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea, Cllr. Gerard Hargreaves, and then a speech by the President, John Simpson CBE.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Monday 26th November 2019 were approved.

Elections to the Society's Council

Martyn Baker, Amelia Cebriero and Fleur de Villiers retired from the Council by rotation and were re-elected.

Accounts for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2020

The Accounts were presented by the Treasurer Christopher Lenon and were approved.

Chairman's Annual Report

The Society's Chairman, Dr James Thompson, presented his report.

Any Other Business

Due to the exceptional circumstances, there was none.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

Mr. President, Mr. Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea; Member of Parliament for Chelsea, Chelsea Councillors, Representatives of other Amenity Societies, Honoured Guests, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen.

2020 has turned out to be the most extraordinary year since the Society was founded 93 years ago. We would have to go back to 1918 to find a comparable epidemic, but even at the height of the Spanish flu, when the death rate exceeded the birth rate, Chelsea kept going.



Covid-19 Defied: Boden window, King's Road. Photo by John Cameron, Unsplash @john_cameron

Crowds of more than 20,000 watched football matches. Furthermore, we cannot compare our travails to those of Chelsea residents being bombed in the Second World War. In those dreadful times, however, people were at least able to visit each other and be supported by the community.

For the first time, our AGM is by videoconference. Health restrictions have forced us to cancel all the meetings, lectures and visits that we had arranged. They have restricted those impromptu everyday interactions which make Chelsea such a special place to live. We have had material comforts and a poverty of conviviality.

After a brief Summer of normality we have been locked down again. We now face further restrictions, which may increase in scope and severity. We hope not.

So, my first thanks are to our members for rallying round, and for attending our virtual meetings and events. In some ways it has been even more friendly this way, because we have all been able to see members at home and admire their bookcases, paintings and furniture. We have even commented on their haircuts.

I also thank the Members of Council for their dedicated work in preserving and improving the amenities of Chelsea for the public benefit.

Our Constitution requires three members of Council to retire each year, although they may stand for re-election: I am delighted that Martyn Baker, Fleur de Villiers and Amalia Cebreiro are willing to continue serving the Society.

We have decided to give prizes that reflect the Society's objectives of preserving and enhancing Chelsea, as well as encouraging interest in its history and its geography. We have a Chelsea Society Photography Prize which we give in collaboration with celebrity photographer and Councillor Alison Jackson; a Chelsea Society Essay Prize for primary schools which Fleur de Villiers has organised; and in future a prize for architecture in Chelsea. Our policy is to enhance Chelsea, and to strengthen our membership in order to do so.

Pandemic or no, the desire to rebuild Chelsea continues. A catastrophic accidental demolition occurred at Durham Place on 2nd November, when a house undergoing building work in a very fine 1790 terrace collapsed overnight. Mercifully no-one was injured or killed, but there could easily have been casualties.

The Royal Borough were quick to contact us, to explain what they knew so far, and to answer our questions. Officials of the Health and Safety Executive are presently conducting an inquiry which will determine the cause of the disaster. The two houses which collapsed were not having a basement dug beneath them, though they were digging to extend a lower ground floor, and a basement had just been completed next door. Permissions for other basements have also been granted in the same terrace.



Collapsed terrace at Durham Place

The Chelsea Society has urged that new basements and major building work should stop until the causes of the collapse are known, and we would urge much greater scrutiny of the design and execution of structural works, especially in terraces, where work on one house can affect the structural integrity of the others.

National legislation allows owners to appoint their own building inspectors from an approved list, which was the case in this instance. There may be no reason in principle why an inspector employed privately should be any better or worse than one employed by the Council, but we think that this issue should be revisited.

Some of us think that living in Chelsea is like living on a building site, especially as a few owners see houses not as homes but as mere business opportunities. My personal message to present and future owners is: why not take a good look before you buy a house in Chelsea, and just enjoy living in it?

In May this year, after sterling work over 5 years, our Vice Chairman Michael Stephen retired from his Chairmanship of the Planning Committee. I would thank him for the very high standard of his closely argued reports, written with a skilled Barrister's eye on all planning matters. He has been succeeded by Sir Paul Lever as Chairman, and Sir Paul remains the Committee member for Brompton-Hans Ward. The other members of the Committee are Martyn Baker, for Chelsea Riverside Ward; Jules Turner for Royal Hospital Ward, and Michael Parkes, for Stanley Ward.

We have an excellent Planning Committee, and it is the engine room of our Society. They cannot of course deal with every individual planning application but can concentrate on those with largest impact which raise matters of planning principle or which might lead to damaging precedents. Our constitution requires us to serve Chelsea, not individual members, and to look to the long-term public interest. We do however attach considerable weight to the views of our members and we encourage anyone who seeks help from the Society to become a member.

To our great dismay, the Royal Brompton Hospital has resurrected plans to move to a site south of the river. The timescale is unclear, but there is a risk that they will try to sell off their existing premises for development. The Council of RBKC, with the Chelsea Society's support, is preparing a Supplementary Planning Document for the site, which would ensure that if the hospital moves (but we hope it will not) the site would remain substantially in medical use. You can contribute to the document by using the link we have placed on our website. Our vision had always been that all our local hospitals and medical research institutes would form a Chelsea Medical Campus, to create a unified centre of excellence in our Borough. We are meeting with Council officials tomorrow to bring previous work on this concept to their attention.

Crossrail 2 is formally in abeyance, though not definitively cancelled. TfL still refuses to confirm publicly whether it has abandoned the idea of a King's Road station, though we believe that this is the case. Much of the land in the vicinity is therefore still subject to planning blight. Some of the money earmarked for the project has already been used to continue to run the tube system. For once, a decision which makes sense.

In common with the Brompton Association and others, we have objected to a very unwelcome application for the redevelopment of South Kensington Station. We have also warned that the increasing mass of some proposals for King's Road developments risk the road becoming a canyon. We have pointed out that the government's new housing policy targets for RBKC are unachievable in our densely populated borough.



Cabman's Shelter near Albert Bridge

We continue to demand a like-for-like replacement of care home beds which we have been promised since the Council's Thamesbrook home was closed.

We continue to fight to maintain the look and feel of the Chelsea riverside. We have participated in the Conservation Area Appraisal. At our request RBKC has served a statutory notice on the owners of the Cabman's Shelter near Albert Bridge to restore it to its proper condition.

The only visit we have been able to carry out this year was to Vintners' Hall in March which included an excellent tour by Guy Fairbank, a blue badge guide and Vintners' Member. We had to postpone visits to the Garrick Club, Bonhams auction rooms, the College of Arms and the JP Morgan art collection, but we hope that these can take place in 2021.

On April 27th we had our first Zoom event for members, a lecture by Jonathan King, late of the British Museum, honorary fellow at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge, on the Ranelagh Gardens and the Rotunda and the entertainments provided there.



The Rotunda, Ranelagh Gardens

On 29 July we had a Zoom lecture by General Sir Adrian Bradshaw former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander of NATO forces in Europe on "Current Security challenges facing NATO and the UK." Sir Adrian is now Governor of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

On Tues 1st September Emma Matthews, a Blue Badge Guide, and former Barrister took us on a virtual walk around the Royal Courts of Justice, the Inns of Court, and the other legal landmarks of London.

On 29 September we had one of our best-attended lectures, about the Chelsea Physic Garden, and many questions were asked by our members.



The Chelsea Physic Gardens

We are working on a collaboration with Waterstones in which authors would give us exclusive presentations on their new books.

I would like to thank Gaye Murdoch, who worked against the odds to organise these events. She spent many hours tracking down opportunities and dealing with logistical difficulties.

I thank all the speakers, and the audiences who were knowledgeable and contributed to excellent discussions. I would welcome suggestions from members for future virtual lectures.

I end on a note about an event of a very different sort. Our Society will always remember those who have done so much for Chelsea and for our country, and on Remembrance Sunday this year we laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Sloane Square.



Remembrance Sunday wreath

As you will have heard from our Treasurer, we are in a good financial position, probably the best in our history. We are spending some money on prizes, but we are determined to build up our reserves so that our Society can ride out any storms and meet any challenges in the future. We also now have a paid administrative secretary, Clare Agertoft, and a paid bookkeeper, Aaron Smyth.

We remain one of the country's largest amenity societies, with some 1,000 members. This year we distributed introductory leaflets to Chelsea residents to recruit more members, and may do so again. We still get callers telling us that "the Chelsea Society ought to do something" and then admitting that they aren't members. Help us explain to them that they can strengthen the Society by joining through our website, whether they live in Chelsea or not.

Under the editorship of Sarah Ingham, the Annual Report continues to flourish. I am most grateful to her and the advertisers who continue to support us, even in these difficult times. I am also grateful to the Vice-chairman for producing a Spring and an Autumn Bulletin, and for managing the website and our presence on Instagram.

Volunteers are always welcome to help the Society in any of our activities. They can give as much or as little time as they like, and they do not have to join the Council.

Our troubles this year are nothing like those our ancestors faced in the Black Death of 1348, the Great Pestilence that carried away a third of the European population, as described by Boccaccio in *The Decameron*



Tales from the Decameron by John William Waterhouse

In Florence, some thought that moderate living and the avoidance of all superfluity would preserve them from the epidemic. They shut themselves up in houses where none was no sick, eating the finest food and drinking the best wine very temperately, avoiding all excess, allowing no news or discussion of death and sickness, and passing the time in music and suchlike pleasures. Others thought just the opposite. They thought the sure cure for the plague was to drink and be merry, to go about singing and amusing themselves, satisfying every appetite they could, laughing and jesting at what happened.

I leave you to judge which is more in keeping with the spirit of Chelsea.

I think that our current travails have taught us how much every community depends on the simple pleasures of human contact, of the warmth of chance encounters, of friends seen and waved at across a street, and of the comforting reassurance of familiar places. Our Society is here to gather us together in whatever way possible to strengthen the spirit of both people and place, and to remind us of all those who have lived here before us.

Chelsea is unique, and we aim to keep it so. The Society will continue to preserve and improve Chelsea, to be enjoyed by all who live, work and play here. May it delight them all.

That ends the account of our activities in 2020, in this the 93rd year since the foundation of our Society.

Throughout Chelsea the year has seen livelihoods lost and shopping frontages disfigured by the closure of a significant number of mainly small retail and hospitality businesses. The combination of Covid and changes in shopping habits, as well as in transport usage, has hit Chelsea hard.

The Committee monitors policy developments at the national and local level and comments, where appropriate, on individual planning applications. For much of 2020 all planning activities took place remotely.

The Society's Planning Committee comprised:

Martyn Baker (Chelsea Riverside Ward) Paul Lever (Chairman and Brompton Hans Town Ward) Michael Parkes (Stanley Ward) Jules Turner (Royal Hospital Ward)

News on planning issues is published regularly on the Society's website at **www.chelseasociety.org.uk**

National Planning Framework

The Society has supported RBKC in expressing concern about three potential changes in planning policy at the national level on which the government is consulting:

- a) The introduction of an obligation on all local authorities to build a set number of new homes over the next five years
- b) the extension of permitted development rights to allow two more additional storeys on many properties
- c) the easing of restrictions on change of use from retail/commercial to housing.

In the particular circumstances of Chelsea these could all have damaging consequences.

Royal Brompton Hospital

The Brompton Trust have confirmed their intention to relocate to a site south of the river, but has not specified in what timescale. RBKC has adopted a Supplementary Planning Document for the site providing for its retention for medical use. The Society has supported this. Meanwhile the Trust, which already has planning permission for the re-development of the Farmers Market, has submitted an application for this work to be carried out in phases. The Society has objected to this on the grounds that it would unnecessarily prolong the disruption involved.





Old Church Street becomes a lorry park as contractors wait to enter a site near Brompton Hospital

Sutton Estate

Clarion Housing Association received planning permission for major refurbishment works to Blocks A-D and the open space at Sutton Dwellings, Ixworth Street. Bringing the estate up to modern decent home standards will result in some loss of social housing units, though not of floorspace. Clarion have employed experienced conservation and design consultants and the Society has supported their work.



South Kensington Station

Although it is not in Chelsea, the station is used by many of the Society's members and its redevelopment would have an impact on the nature of, and the views from, its wider surrounding environment. Transport for London's planning application attracted over 800 objections, including from the Chelsea Society, on the grounds that its mass, bulk and style would be an eyesore. TfL have subsequently revised their plans, but only marginally.

Refurbishment of Open Spaces

RBKC is planning to refurbish both Dovehouse Green and Chelsea Green. The Society has been represented in the two planning groups which have been set up to look at the options. Both sites have become a bit run-down and scruffy in recent years and have suffered from anti-social behaviour. It is good news that RBKC has found the resources to improve them.



Dovehouse Green by Melissa Scott-Miller, with thanks to Robert Eagle Fine Art

Kings Road



The £92 million redevelopment of the Curzon cinema site by the Cadogan Estate is well underway. The famous Art Deco facade (designed by William Edward Trent) will be retained. The whole project should be competed in 2023. Members of the Society's Planning Committee visited the site for a briefing in the course of the year.

Planning permission has been given for the re-development of the King's Walk shopping arcade: this will mean the replacement of the present drab and commercially unsuccessful building by one which is more in harmony with its environment. The Society was consulted by the developers before the application was submitted and further liaison is planned regarding the details of the façade which we hope will reference the historical axis of Royal Avenue to Kensington Palace.

The Society has also been involved in discussions with the owners of the Marks and Spencer building about their plans to redevelop it. The design they have in mind would be striking and attractive, but there is a question mark over its height and impact on nearby properties. The Society has been in contact with the local Residents Association and the design is currently being refined.



Colebrook Court

No planning application was submitted in 2020 for the redevelopment of Colebrook court in Sloane Avenue, but the Society was involved in discussions with the owners of the site about their plans. They were originally contemplating a skyscraper of 18 - 26 storeys in glass and steel. Both the Chelsea Society and RBKC planning officers urged them to think again and they have revised their design. They are now looking at a building which would be either 12 or 14 storeys high, in materials and design which would be more in keeping with the surrounding environment.

Queens Head Pub

Work on the refurbishment of this pub continues in accordance with the planning stipulations and historical features.



Cheyne Place

A planning application was submitted in respect of 22 Cheyne Place, a building of little merit, which involved its demolition and replacement by an elegant design more in keeping with neighbouring properties. The Society saw no reason to object. The owners of 29 Cheyne Place, with a similar aesthetic, also intend to demolish it and their architects are discussing with the Society the nature of its replacement. A planning application is expected in 2021.

At 49 Cheyne Place RBKC confirmed that permission for a small rear extension was valid and work began on this. It was further confirmed that planning permission for a three-storey subterranean development, granted before the change in the Council's policy on basements, was also still valid. An application for the complete demolition of the existing house was rejected and it is still unclear whether or when this project will be implemented. Its vast scale would involve massive disruption and potential damage to the local fabric.

Lots Village

Now in its 10th year, work on the Lots Road Power Station site continued.

With the redevelopment occurring in stages, attention was finally turned to the roofless Power Station, with contractors being appointed. Work is likely to continue until 2024. Once completed, this Chelsea segment of the site, with 420 new residential units, will double the population of Lots Village.

Although RBKC's Highways Dept have allowed the contractors to cordon off one lane of Lots Road (alongside the length of the Power Station) for delivery vehicles to be unloaded, infringements of the Construction Traffic Management Plan continued. The Council has refused to install CCTV Cameras to deter breaches of the Plan. While an increase in the number of wardens is welcome, they have not been able to prevent disruption to the highway and to local residents.

By contrast **Tideway** working on the adjacent Cremorne Wharf has demonstrated a good deal more attention to reducing impacts on the local community, taking out most waste by barge, using more effective noise reduction methods especially when working at night, and trying harder to avoid its construction traffic arriving prematurely and double parking outside neighbouring buildings. Its five years' work connecting the sewers of Fulham as well as of RBKC to the Thames Tideway Tunnel should be completed in 2023.

An independent monitoring of actual **Air Pollution Levels** before the pandemic showed how excessively polluted Lots Village had become, particularly close to Cremorne Road and the start of the Earls Court One Way System where traffic often backs up. The recent introduction of a 20mph speed limit, long called for, is therefore a very welcome step in Lots Road.

The long overdue **Greening of Lots Village** was the subject of bids by the Residents' Association last summer for an initial share in the borough wide allocation of Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Funds to be adjudicated by Ward Councillors. So far only £16,000 has been awarded to begin the regeneration and upgrading of the long-neglected Cremorne Gardens. A sixhectare riverside park was promised many years ago but only created in a small way in Cremorne Gardens.

A second bid still pending is to enable a professional feasibility study to be conducted by an experienced landscape architect into completing the Thames Path alongside the river itself; creating a public recreational park on part of Cremorne Wharf when Tideway finish; creating a Green Way from Chelsea Creek up to Stanley Bridge (following the boundary between RBKC and LBHF); planting a Green Wall to cover up the Council-owned hoardings at the junction of Lots Road and Cheyne Walk; planting more trees in Lots Road itself. Because there is no sports pitch anywhere in Lots Village (and the 1200 student Academy has no sports field), the space behind these hoardings could be used as a sports pitch as it is next to Cremorne Gardens, part of which has been lost to a Canoe Centre.

There was sadly no progress on the provision of **care homes for the elderly**. When it sold off the Thamesmead home in Dovehouse Street for £75milion to the private sector, the Council promised that it would compensate for the loss of affordable care homes in Chelsea by building a new facility on the Pound site in Lots Road. It has yet to deliver on this undertaking.

Building Collapse

During the night of 2nd November a house in Durham Place which was undergoing redevelopment collapsed. Fortunately, no-one was injured but the loss of a handsome Georgian property is a blow to Chelsea's heritage. The Society was concerned that although there was no evidence that the construction of basements in nearby properties were linked to the collapse, there should as a precaution be a temporary moratorium on new basement construction in the borough while this investigation took place. The Leader of the Council's response was that the Council did not have the legal power to do this.

Thames Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

In 2017 ward councillors for Royal Hospital and Chelsea Riverside proposed that RBK&C should engage in a Conservation Area Appraisal (CAA) to assess the existing planning guidelines for the Thames Conservation Area, set out in the 1983 TCA Proposals Statement. This initiative was welcomed by the key residents' associations (Chelsea Society, Cheyne Walk Trust and KRACR), who engaged in dialogue with councillors and officers to take this forward.

Whilst the CAA completed in February 2020 is an excellent descriptive document, it did not provide the specific conservation and planning guidance necessary to enable appropriate control of conservation and planning activities in the designated area: a management plan is necessary to provide such guidance.

Council disruption over Grenfell and COVID-19 has delayed progress but we are pleased that local ward councillors have maintained support for this important task. In September 2020 a newly appointed RBK&C team lead Conservation officer circulated an Options Paper and held a formal initiation meeting. The aim is to complete the initial drafting and consultation (including statutory consultation) and produce the Thames Conservation Area Management Plan (CAMPS) by the end of the financial year April 2021.



Lots Road Power Station Development with thanks © Denis Strauss

A NEW ORGAN FOR CHELSEA OLD CHURCH

Andrew Macmillan

The history of Chelsea Old Church is a long and interesting one – and that of its organs no less so.

The first record of an organ is found in a sixteenth-century inventory. This instrument was presumably removed during the Civil War. Its replacement is thought to have been installed in 1712 by the renowned builder Renatus Harris. This, however, lasted only a few years before being transported to a church in Devon, where part of its case remains.

Another organ was found by another well-known builder, Richard Bridge around 1743, but a faculty (planning permission from the diocese) was never obtained. Consequently, this instrument was also removed. Such was the ensuing controversy, that a farce was a written and published, Justice Triumphant: or, the Organ in the Suds.

Finally, an organ built by the Bevington firm was obtained in 1818 from a private home in Covent Garden. This lasted, with alterations by the locally-based Henry Jones, until the church was bombed in 1941 and the organ completely destroyed.

As part of the church's rebuilding in the 1950s, an attempt was made to restore what had been before. Owing to the paucity of resources in a time of post-War austerity, an organ was made by the Rothwell firm largely from second-hand componentry. It was not altogether successful, but after some remedial work N. P. Mander Ltd in the early 1960s, it gave an astonishing 60 years' service without any further work.

It was clear by 2010, when a report was produced by independent consultant Dr William McVicker, that such was the investment required simply to bring this organ up to a good condition, the church would be better advised to start over and commission a new organ designed to last at least 100 years.

Accordingly, a campaign was launched with a fundraising initiative led by parishioner Lavinia Wallop MBE. Much support was given both by parishioners and Chelsea residents.

The new instrument was commissioned from one of the UK's finest builders, William Drake Ltd. The firm has installed instruments in Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral, as well as being involved in many historic restoration and reconstruction projects.

A NEW ORGAN FOR CHELSEA OLD CHURCH



Image thanks to Barney Jones Photography

Thus, they were able to produce a fine new organ that is both sensitive to the historic qualities of the church itself, while at the same time meeting all the demands placed on an organ in the modern age.

The striking new case design (based on the remnant of the eighteenth-century organ mentioned above) is a great addition to the church and much admired.

The project was completed in late 2019. On 21st November, the new organ was dedicated at a service attended by Lord Cadogan, whose support of the project has been greatly appreciated by the church.

Shortly before the pandemic struck, an opening concert was given by international virtuoso

organist Nathan Laube. He showed the audience the full capabilities of what is now regarded as one of the finest new organs to be built in the UK in recent years.

Sadly, a raft of further performances and events celebrating the new organ have had to be delayed indefinitely. However, the church reopened in July 2020 for worship and the organ has been heard every week since then, either online or in person. For many this has been one of the few ways to enjoy and be uplifted by live music.

So for now, the new organ at Chelsea Old Church is fulfilling its core role of providing inspiration week by week at Sunday services. We hope very much that its great potential as an instrument for concerts, recording, teaching, masterclasses and other events will be fulfilled in the near future.

Andrew is Director of Music, Chelsea Old Church

PETER WARLOCK (PHILIP HESELTINE)

Angus Blakey ventures into the world of the maverick composer and critic



Thanks to Michael Graves and the Peter Warlock Society

Peter Warlock was an early-twentieth-century composer, a controversial music critic and an important early scholar of English folksong and Elizabethan music. He was a dabbler in black magic and the occult, a precocious disciple of Delius and claimed he was defamed by DH Lawrence.

Warlock is commemorated at 30 Tite Street by a blue plaque, which is also inscribed with his birth name – Philip Heseltine. He was born into a wealthy family in 1894 at the Savoy Hotel, where his parents had been living in grand style for several years. Following the death of his father when Peter was just two, his mother married Welsh landowner Walter Buckley Jones. The family moved from Hans Place.

After being sent to board at Stone House school in Kent, Warlock arrived at Eton College, which he later claimed he loathed. His growing interest, bordering on the obsessive, in the English romantic composer Frederick Delius provided some distraction from school life. In 1911, shortly before his sixteenth birthday, he made his escape. He moved to Cologne to study music at the Cologne Conservatoire. Having begun to learn to play the piano at his prep school, Warlock was undoubtedly proficient, but his mother doubted whether he would become a musician of first rank.

After Cologne, he went up to Oxford to read classics at Christ Church, which he abandoned after a year. His stint at UCL where he studied English, philosophy and psychology was similarly brief. Thanks to family connections, he became a music critic for the *Daily Mail* for all of four months.

A picture emerges of a young man unable to settle, a dilettante on the fringes of London's cultural life. Unemployed, he spent his days at the British Museum, engrossing himself in studies of Elizabethan music. He became friends with DH Lawrence and moved to Cornwall with him in December 1915, only for the pair to fall out and Warlock to move back to London a few months later. He lived in Chelsea, first at 13 Rossetti Mansions in Flood Street and then at 14 Whitehead's Grove. His restlessness contrasts with many of his contemporaries who were going off to war. He registered as a Conscientious Objector.

PETER WARLOCK

In November 1916, in an article published in *The Music Student* Philip Heseltine finally became Peter Warlock, a name reflecting his interest in the occult and defined 'as a man who practices witchcraft'. By then, he was sharing a flat with the young Scottish composer Cecil Gray, his future biographer, whom he had met at the Café Royal. The following month he married 'Puma' Channing at Chelsea Register Office. She was expecting. The marriage had hardly begun before it was over. Later, they would feature in an early draft of *Women in Love*, which Lawrence was forced to tone down.



Thanks to Michael Graves and the Peter Warlock Society

A sojourn in Ireland saw Warlock embarking on a study of Celtic languages, while continuing his musical studies. He gave a lecture at Dublin's Abbey Theatre, *What Music Is*, which included work by Bela Bartok. He met WB Yeats who would inspire *The Curlew* (whose performance almost a century later at the BBC Proms can be seen on YouTube).

In August 1920, Warlock returned to Chelsea, this time living at 122 Cheyne Walk. He edited the music magazine The Sackbut (named after the early trombone) but abandoned the job in acrimonious circumstances. Although he lived partly in Wales, over the next few years his odyssey around Chelsea continued as he lived at 125 Cheyne Walk, then at 6A Bury Street, then at 113 Cheyne Walk before moving to the unsuspecting Kentish village of Eynsford in 1924.

Despite his unsettled life, Warlock composed numerous song-cycles and songs including the *Capriol Suite*, promoted early English folk music and wrote a biography of Delius. *The Curlew* was chosen to represent contemporary British music at the Salzburg Festival.

In Eynsford, Warlock's cottage played host to a stream of talented artists and musicians. His frequent visitors enjoyed a riotous and, to the villagers, scandalous lifestyle, characterised by drunken parties, and, allegedly, orgies. Despite this debauchery, he composed one of his most beautiful pieces, the 1927 carol *Bethlehem Down* in collaboration with fellow composer Bruce Blunt. The pair were broke: needing money to avoid a sober Christmas, they decided to enter a *Daily Telegraph* carol-writing competition – which they won.

PETER WARLOCK

Warlock continued to visit Chelsea. He and Blunt arrested on Cadogan Street in February 1927 for causing a ruckus while being drunk and disorderly. He was also a member of the Chenil Gallery Music Committee during the Gallery's brief spell as a bustling artistic centre from 1925 to 1927.

In September 1930, Warlock moved back to Chelsea, staying briefly with a friend in Bramerton Street before taking up residence at 12A Tite Street (today No.30). This was to be Warlock's final Chelsea address and the site of his blue plaque. His body was discovered in his flat on Tite Street in the early hours of the morning of 17th December 1930. In the subsequent inquest, the Coroner returned an open verdict.

The life of Peter Warlock, maverick composer and unconventional genius, was all-too-brief. His bohemian lifestyle was not exactly atypical in Chelsea but reports of his scandalous conduct often overshadowed serious consideration of his music.

To this day, there is widespread speculation about the cause of his death. Suicide or misadventure? Foul play, perhaps committed by a fellow composer as his son Nigel suggested? While it impossible to determine the exact circumstances that led to his death on a cold winter's night in 1930, Warlock's music most certainly lives on.



Two of the most celebrated British composers brought together

HE WAS JAMMING Robert Dunkley looks into Reggae icon Bob Marley's time in Chelsea

Scott of the Antarctic, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Oscar Wilde, George Best and David Bowie. Not a draft reworking of Peter Blake's iconic album cover for Sergeant Pepper but something else. The eclectic band are some of the famous, the notorious, or both, who have all lived in Chelsea's Oakley Street.



Bob Marley, the reggae pioneer and global superstar, is the latest former resident to have his spell living across the way from the Albert Bridge recognised. Modestly described on his recently unveiled English Heritage plaque as 'Singer and Songwriter', Marley's move from Jamaica to Chelsea came after he was shot twice during a failed assassination attempt in early December 1976, a victim of the island-nation's troubled politics. Rival factions were at war on the streets of the capital, Kingston. Still nursing

his bullet wounds, Marley went ahead with his planned 'Smile Jamaica' concert with his band The Wailers, but he left within weeks.

Marley, then 31, was no stranger to London, which he regarded as his second home. But his days of sofa-surfing in the early seventies, were long over. The Oakley Street townhouse, number 42, where he lived for a year or so from January 1977, was some way from the Bayswater B&B and the Neasden semi where he had stayed in earlier days.

English Heritage would normally have little trouble in establishing who lived where even after the regulation twenty years since residence have passed, but Marley's all-too-short life was anything but normal.

He had every reason to be evasive as to where he was living. Along with having a complicated love life, the assassination attempt and rumours of being tracked by the CIA, there were the drugs. When arrested for possession he covered his tracks and protected his entourage by giving a London address other than Oakley Street.

Now however it is unanimously accepted that Marley and the Wailers used the Chelsea townhouse as their base during a short but highly productive period. They were working on the album Exodus, which included some of their best-loved tracks; *Jamming, Three Little Birds* and *One Love*.

HE WAS JAMMING

When not recording, the increasingly wealthy Marley entertained a disparate band of friends, not least his girlfriend, a former Miss World, Cindy Breakspeare. His new home, handily placed with Battersea Park just over the bridge, allowed him to indulge his passion for football.

When he needed his own space, he could take refuge in his own rooms at the top of the house. What the genteel residents of Oakley Street thought when their new neighbours moved in is unrecorded. Had they known about his time in Jamaica however they might have had their concerns.

Hope Road, Kingston was (and is) one of the smartest addresses on the island. It included the then prime minister among its residents when Marley moved into number 56. The colonial, Victorian-era mansion soon housed a recording studio and became neutral ground for rival gangs and political factions, as well as the setting for seemingly non-stop parties. Now the Bob Marley Museum, it was here he was shot one night taking a break from recording at its Tuff Gong recording studio.

There were no such dramas in SW3. To the unsuspecting passer-by Bob Marley's blue plaque serves as a timely and unexpected reminder of Chelsea's diverse musical heritage. It was unveiled by Rastafarian writer and poet Benjamin Zephaniah who said that Marley's music came from a small island in the Caribbean and shook up the world.



The poet Benjamin Zephaniah at the unveiling of the blue plaque ©English Heritage

PUNK Sarah Ingham scrawls a tribute

'No Elvis, Beatles or the Rolling Stones...'



In 1977 the giants of contemporary music were rejected in 1977 by The Clash. The band was at the heart of Britain's Punk movement, an import from New York. 1977 typified the genre: three chords or less, a pounding rhythm and about three minutes of volcanic energy.

Nihilistic. Anti-establishment. Anarchic. Angry... For critics and parents, Punk was mystifying: Call *that* a song? Call *that* music? For fans, especially teenagers, it was adrenaline-fuelled turbo-charged joy.

When Punk exploded into life, arguably the 1970s began. Until then, popular culture seemed stuck in the late 1960s. What was seen as counter-cultural in Woodstock or San Francisco in the Summer of Love was now mainstream: who didn't have longer hair and a pair of flared blue jeans? And apart from David Bowie and laughable boy bands like the Bay City Rollers, British music seemed to have lost its mojo. It had become overwhelmingly entitled, privileged and male. The l-o-n-g, l-o-n-g numbers of bombastic Prog Rock, were written to be listened to, not to dance to. Down the average pub how many would have been able to identify Pink Floyd's reference to *The Piper at the Gates of Dawn*?

No wonder so many in Britain turned to the easy-listening rock of The Eagles, with *Hotel California* being released in early 1977. Just as everyone wondering about this place they could check into but could never leave, the Sex Pistols metaphorically burst through the doors and into the lobby of public consciousness, where they started running riot and letting off the alarms.

Legend has it that the Sex Pistols were formed when a green-haired teenager with an intense stare and "I hate" added to his Pink Floyd t-shirt was spotted in the King's Road by a band manager Malcolm McLaren, who was looking for a lead singer. It's suggested that either John Lydon's teeth or his singing was so bad, guitarist Steve Jones renamed him Johnny Rotten. Many could sing, but only a few in the history of pop have ever had Lydon's innate charisma. Having done a few low-key gigs, the band shot to national infamy in December 1976 with a teatime television interview to promote their first single, *Anarchy in the UK*.

PUNK



This seemed all too apt for most viewers, outraged by their first exposure to punk, to Lydon – the movement's Artful Dodger – and to the Pistols' bad language coming into their homes via the small screen. 'The Filth and the Fury' thundered the *Daily Mirror* the next day.

Punk went from an underground cult to youthquake. The Pistols inspired not just hundreds of other bands – initially The Clash, The Damned, Siouxsie and the Banshees – but a look. Black, fluorescent pinks and greens and yellows, leopardskin, plastic, leather, more black, drainpipes, ripped t-shirts, safety pins... and the ultimate counter-cultural statement – short hair.

Punk's street style was influenced by designer Vivienne Westwood, who in turn was influenced by it. Her outlet at 430 King's Road went through several incarnations, including Seditionaries. Thanks to the link with the Sex Pistols – McLaren was Westwood's partner – the shop was at the epicentre of a cultural movement, just as Mary Quant's boutique Bazaar had been almost two decades earlier. Seditionaries' signature bondage trousers and swastika-emblazoned t-shirts were worn by the band. As punk spread, the King's Road became ground zero for its followers. They were often escaping dull suburbia, like the so-called Bromley contingent who included Siouxsie Sue.

Punk's influence on graphic art was seismic. Despite being banned by all broadcasters, the Pistols' anthem *God Save the Queen* reached No1 in the Singles' chart during the week celebrating the Silver Jubilee. Jamie Reid, who had been at art school with McLaren, designed its sleeve with an image of the Queen and collage of letters and words cut from newspapers like a ransom-note. He followed it with the band's first album in neon yellow and pink and the same seemingly wonky, Do-It-Yourself aesthetic.
PUNK

Reid inspired hundreds up and down the country to compile their own fanzines, just as the Pistols inspired others to form their own bands. Energy was more important than musicianship; three chords were enough as The Ramones had proven over in New York. And with the rise of girl bands like The Slits and front women like Siouxsie, unpleasing, uncompromising women were finally getting a look-in.

Britain, especially London, in the late 1970s was shabby and broke. Unemployment was rising; the Cold War a fact of life; divisions of class and race were far more entrenched. While there was too much posing and preening up and down the King's Road, punk could also be political. The Clash in particular would highlight the inadequacies of the status quo in tracks such as (*White Man*) in Hammersmith Palais. This drew heavily on reggae, itself just breaking through.

Soon punk morphed into new wave, typified by Elvis Costello and his band, The Attractions. In March 1978, their single (*I Don't Want to Go to*) Chelsea would reach No 16 in the charts.

Today, the Rolling Stones continue to tour. John Lydon lives in Los Angeles.



Punks in Chelsea. Image thanks to Christine Catlin

Punk morphing into New Wave/New Romantics. 'Bean' outside Boy, King's Road. Image: Christine Catlin

CADOGAN HALL

Tucked away behind Sloane Square, Sloane Terrace seems an unlikely street to find one of London's premier concert halls.

The 950-seat Cadogan Hall opened as a venue primarily for music in 2004. Today, it is home to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Each Summer it becomes a satellite of the BBC Proms Festival, hosting the Chamber Music Series.

Cadogan Hall opened in 1907 as the First Church of Christ, Scientist. The building is of Portland stone ashlar in Byzantine style, according to English Heritage, which draws our attention to the five-bay granite arcade at the ground storey and the dome-capped campanile at the south-east corner.

The Church was designed by architect Robert Chisholm (1840-1915). He spent most of his working life in India, where he was principal of the School of Industrial Arts in Madras (Chennai) and supported local crafts and craftsmen. He can be seen as a champion of the Indo-Saracenic style, a 'synthesis of Islamic designs and Indian materials' developed by several prominent British architects during the Raj. As the late Prof George Jeyaraj notes, the style was a hybrid which combined 'diverse architectural elements of Hindu and Mughal with cusped arches, domes, spires, tracery, minarets and stained glass, in a wonderful, almost playful manner.'



CADOGAN HALL



Whether Byzantine or Indo-Saracenic, work began on the original church in 1904, funded by 500 members of the comparatively new Christian Scientist sect, itself perceived as quite an exotic import from the United States. The building's foundation stone is from Concord, New Hampshire.

Services ceased at the Church in 1996, and in a precursor of Lockdown, silence fell on the building for several years until it was acquired by the Cadogan Estate.

As the Report goes to press, staff are preparing for the venue to be re-opened and music once again to fill the building. Given the Hall's international heritage, it seems all too apt that its current incarnation attracts musicians from across the world, playing some of the world's best music.

The Hall's Managing Director Adam McGinlay says: 'Opening with socially distanced concert performances from the Royal Philharmonic and London Mozart Players with Isata Kanneh-Mason, the season features a mix of artists including classical guitar hero, Miloš Karadaglić and an evening with adventurer extraordinaire, Ben Fogle. We will be welcoming the return of family show ZOG!, author Levison Wood and Prog Rock legend Rick Wakeman. Some truly majestic choral music can be savoured with the Tallis Scholars, Cardinall's Musick and the Academy of Ancient Music (featuring Chelsea's own Choir of the Royal Hospital).

'It's terrific mix and we look forward to welcoming audiences back and being part of Chelsea's wonderful, colourful, cultural landscape.'



QUIET – AND A MAESTRO Lockdown kindled musical memories for David Robinson

Over the past year, living in lockdown in Chelsea, we have been reminded what the true meaning of the word quiet and what it can bring.

The enforced closure of many businesses brought a decline in vehicle movements and footfall in and around the King's Road. This led to the welcome return of silence. With that came not just audible bird song but memories of yesteryear. The cheerful cries of neighbours' small children enjoying sunshine in their back gardens has not been drowned out by "normal levels" of ambient noise. Memories of beautiful days were rekindled, when windows were thrown wide open. Residents' defence against rising levels of noise and other intrusion, they are now so often firmly shut and bolted. Until the lockdown many of us in Chelsea have been used to no night-time hush until well after midnight and into the early hours. Those early hours trespass on dawn's arrival. The commercialisation of the night is the destroyer of silence.

Growing up in Old Church Street between Mallord Street and Mulberry Walk brought with it many benefits. If I were particularly fortunate, I might enjoy the private concert performances by one of the musical superstars of the day. Just a few yards from my open West-facing window lived the Hungarian-born pianist Louis Kentner (1905-1987). His daily practice – leading to either a performance in one of the great concert halls of London or Europe, or a recording studio – were my private delight. From very young, unknown to me, I had my own personal maestro-performed introductions to the world's greatest composers.

Kentner lived at Number 1 Mallord Street with his second wife, the pianist and teacher Ilona Kabos. Their "music room" was on the second floor of the house behind a large picture window. This had to be enlarged to allow the couple's concert grand piano to be lifted up and winched through it.

The installation of the piano was a performance that no one witnessing it would ever forget. It happened in one day, with everyone working at enormous pace. This was post-war Britain where skilled craftsmen worked with urgency, rather than the more leisurely tempo of modern craftsmen. *Allegro* rather than *adagio*.

From time to time Maestro Kentner and his wife emerged from the house, to watch and to reassure neighbours and passers-by that the job would be completed to time. First the original window had to be removed, then bricklayers and carpenters enlarged the void. Scaffolding went up, only immediately to come down, once the window space was enlarged to allow for the arrival of a crane. This was not a crane on wheels but one constructed in *situ*. When it was in place, a removal van arrived. From it an enormous (to me) concert size grand piano

QUIET - AND A MAESTRO

emerged, to be carefully lifted into place onto the pavement of Old Church Street. It stood, wrapped in multiple layers of blanket, wide rope and straps, as the crane's hook was lowered. The gearing of the crane's motor changed, and up the piano went. Slowly and confidently.



The trickiest part of the performance was lifting the large piano through the window space. There was little room for error. The crane stopped as the lift brought its load opposite the void in the wall. Men in suits and overalls began earnest conversation with Maestro Kentner. Slowly and carefully, the piano was

pulled into the room. A cheer went up from all of us gathered on the pavement. I did not stay to watch the reinstatement of the wall and introduction of the new, enlarged window. By the following morning, everything was back in place.

From then on, Maestro Kentner introduced me to what is now my all-time favourite, *Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor*. During his rehearsals, I was given privileged insights into sections of the piece, as he practised them again and again. A visit with my parents to one of Kentner's concerts at the Royal Festival Hall had me gripped as each of those sections arrived. From my seat several feet away, I felt at one with the great man. How would he approach the section – how fast, quiet, staccato – I had heard them all.

Grieg was not the only composer I learned from the maestro. An enduring education in Tippet, Brahms, Liszt and Chopin and Beethoven followed. Others too. No note was ever drowned by traffic noise, as quiet ruled.

The day is past when neighbours in Chelsea can eavesdrop on a concert. It is our loss.

Every April, Mrs Kentner's pair of miracle camellia bushes are always resplendent in their stunning rose red blooms. Please God may they remain as a glorious reminder of this talented couple's occupation of the house.



Music Room window and camellias, 1 Mallord St

THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2020

I am pleased to report that Society continues to be in good financial health. I would like to thank my fellow Trustees, Members and the Chairman, James Thompson, for their strategic thinking over financial issues and effective financial decisions.

The Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 2020 was submitted to the Charity Commission. The financial statements for the year have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP 2015.

The Society derives its main income from Members' subscriptions. Lectures and visits also make a contribution, together with some donations, legacies and Gift Aid receipts. These principal income sources fund the general operating expenses of the Society, as well as the programmes and services that are made available to protect and foster the amenities of Chelsea. These services and other activities are all designed to break even.

This Report covers the beginning of the restrictions due to Covid, but despite this, the financial position remains strong. Total income decreased by £8,697 to £25,366 in 2019/20 (2018/2019: £34,063). This income derives principally from membership fees, event income, advertising and Gift Aid from HMRC. Membership fees increased by 9% last year to £19,904 (2018/2019: £18,220), advertising revenue fell on last year to £0, Gift Aid income decreased to £2,308 (2018/2019: £2,596) and event ticket sales decreased to £1,300 (2018/2019: £8,710). The Society's plans to boost revenues from ticketed events to further bolster reserves are on hold during the pandemic.

The focus will continue to be both on information and enjoyment as previously whilst seeking to grow and develop the Society.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) shows the analysis of charitable activities split between development, fundraising, event, support and governance costs. Total spending on charitable activities, at £14,214 (2018/2019: £28,080), representing a 50% decrease. The Statement of Financial Position is a summary of the assets, liabilities and equity position of the Society. Net increase in funds in the year was £10,061 (2018/2019: £5,400). Cash and cash equivalents at the year-end were £87,726 (2018/2019: £74,215). Over the year, the net assets of the Society increased in line with the surplus to £69,182 (2018/2019: £59,122). This net asset position reflects that the Society is financially healthy, secure and well positioned to endure any future economic conditions. The balance of Reserve funds within the Society increased by £10,060 to £69,182 in 2019/20 (2018/2019: £59,122).

What happens if there are losses in these self-funded activities or our operations? Well, we have reserves that act as a type of guarantee. These reserves help secure the Society's long-term financial security. The Trustees have established a policy

THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2020

that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in fixed assets should be approximately £40,000, which is the cost of a major exhibition or a planning dispute. This is considered prudent since the reserve also protects the Society from any legal challenges against it on planning matters and enables it to pay for legal advice on planning and other matters. At present the free reserves are slightly above target, but charitable activities in schools and for an architecture prize will reduce the reserves. Amounts in excess of the reserve's minimum level provide flexibility for the Trustees when developing operating plans for future years.

Recently, the Trustees have made use of part of this surplus to fund the Society's strategic initiatives as an investment in the Society's future. The future financial prospects of the Society are based on the number of members we will have in the coming year. For budgeting purposes, the Trustees must consider the number of members and level of membership fees which have remained constant for a number of years and the impact of increasing expenses. We have had some difficulty achieving our anticipated membership numbers, so membership fees are projected to remain constant. Other trading and event activities remain on target to break even.

As we continue to strengthen the Society's public image and awareness, we must work hard to achieve sustainable membership growth and our financial position. We must ensure that we stay relevant, in order to attract and retain good members. We must continuously explore new ways to spread the word about the Society and to strengthen and grow our membership base – to grow our community - so that we may all continue to perform the good work that the Society does while remaining financially secure.

The Chelsea Society's Independent Examiner has issued a statement which means that no matter in the financial statements, in their opinion, to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts. The Trustees intend to ask the existing examiner, GMAK Chartered Accountants to undertake the independent examination of the charity in the following year.

In conclusion, the Society will continue to seek to provide financial support for initiatives that further the interests of the membership and the amenities of Chelsea.

Christopher Lenon – Treasurer

Registered Charity Number 276264

The Trustees present their report, together with financial statements, for the year ended 30 June 2020.

The beneficiaries of the Charity are those who live, study, or work in Chelsea, as well as those who visit Chelsea, own property in Chelsea, or benefit from Chelsea in any other way. The Society regards Chelsea as an asset of national importance.

Trustees

The members of the Council of the Society are the Trustees for the purpose of charity law, and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The Trustees serving during the year and up to the date of approval of the financial statements were as follows:

| Dr James Thompson | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Stephen | |
| Michael Bach | |
| Martyn Baker | |
| Amalia Cebreiro | |
| Fleur de Villiers | |
| Jane Dorrell | (resigned 29/11/2019) |
| Dr Sarah Ingham | |
| Sir Paul Lever | |
| Christopher Lenon | |
| Julian Turner | (appointed 10/05/2019) |
| Col. David Waddell | (appointed 10/05/2019) |

Trustee Induction and Training

All Trustees are advised to read the guidance on the Charity Commission's website at https://www.gov.uk/topic/running-charity/Trustee-role-board.

New Trustees take part in an informal induction process. New guidance and goodpractice information from the Charity Commission is communicated to Trustees.

How we raised and spent the Society's money in 2019/2020



Income

Total income decreased by £8,698 to £25,365 in 2019/2020 (2018/2019: £34,063). This income derives principally from membership fees, event income, advertising and Gift Aid from HMRC.

Membership fees increased by 9% on last year to £19,904 (2018/2019: £18,220), advertising revenue fell to £nil, Gift Aid income decreased to £2,308 (2018/2019: £2,596) and event ticket sales decreased to £1,300 (2018/2019: £8,710). A detailed analysis of income is shown in the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Notes 2, 3 and 6 to the accounts.

Expenditure

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) shows the analysis of charitable activities split between development, fundraising, event, support and governance costs. Total spending on charitable activities, at £13,664 (2018/2019: £28,278), representing a 52% decrease, due to fewer events being held.

Events

The Society organises public meetings, lectures, internal meetings, and visits to places of interest. Further details of event profitability are set out in Note 6.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

From 25 May 2018, data-processing in the EU has been governed by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 ("GDPR"), which replaced the UK Data Protection Act 1998, and has implications for all organisations which control and process personal data.

The Chelsea Society holds on computer the name and address, and in some cases also the e-mail address and telephone number, of its members (all of whom are adults), and records whether the member has made a valid Gift Aid declaration. The Data Controller is the Chairman of the Society but any request for information about data, or for any amendment or deletion, is dealt with by the Membership Secretary, acting on behalf of the Data Controller.

The Society does not share any information with third parties except in compliance with Article 28 of GDPR, regarding the legal conduct of processing of information. The Society has always published the names (but not addresses) of its members in its Annual Report.

A Data Protection notice has been placed on the website at http://chelseasociety. org.uk/join-us-2/.

Members are advised that they have a statutory right of complaint to the Information Commissioner.

Governance

The management of the registered charity (No. 276264) and its assets is vested in the Trustees. The Charity is governed by its current constitution, adopted on 21 November 2016.

Article 4 of the Constitution provides that there shall be a Council of the Society which shall comprise Elected Councillors, Co-opted Councillors, and Officers. Elected Councillors shall be elected to be Members of Council by Members of the Society at a General Meeting, and at any time there shall be no more than twelve Elected Councillors. The Council may by resolution co-opt further persons to be Members of Council. The term of each appointment shall be such as may be determined by resolution of Council but not exceeding one year. At any time, there shall normally be no more than four Co-opted Councillors.

The Council is required to appoint appropriate persons to the offices specified in Article 5 and on such appointment such persons shall be Members of Council for the duration of their terms of office. The specified offices are Chairman, Vice-chairman; Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Treasurer.

Objectives

Much has changed in the world since The Chelsea Society was established in 1927 but it remains grounded in a commitment to preserve and improve the amenities of Chelsea for the public benefit.

We implement this commitment through, lectures, exhibitions, publications, events, campaigns fundraising activities and appeals, and by making representations to the proper authorities. We will further preserve and improve the amenities of Chelsea by encouraging interest in the history and traditions of Chelsea, focusing on architecture, town planning and civic design, the planting and care of trees and the conservation and proper maintenance of buildings and open spaces, and the abatement of nuisances.

The Trustees hold the charitable funds, and apply the income, and at their discretion, the capital, for any charitable purposes for which the Society is established. The receipt given for donations and legacies states that the funds will be used for the general purposes of the Charity, unless the Society accepts a donation for a special purpose which is stated by the donor and confirmed in the receipt given.

Risk Management

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Society has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. Systems of financial control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Trustees carry out an annual review of the following categories of risk; governance and management, operational, external factors and compliance with laws and regulations. The Trustees will identify the primary risks applicable to the Society in each category and develop action plans to mitigate the risks identified.

Achievements

During the year, the Society's funds supported a wide range of charitable activities in and relating to Chelsea for the public benefit, and are reported in the Chairman's report to members at the AGM, which is also published in the Society's Annual Report.

Financial Review

The Society derives its main income from Members' subscriptions. Lectures and visits also make a contribution, together with some donations, legacies and Gift Aid receipts.

Net increase in funds in the year was £10,061 (2018/2019: £5,399). Funds carried forward at the year end totalled £69,192.

Cash and cash equivalents at the year-end was £87,726 (2018/2019: £74,215).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a policy that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in fixed assets should be approximately £40,000, which is the cost of a major exhibition. This is considered prudent since the reserve also protects the Society from any legal challenges against it on planning matters, and enables it to pay for legal advice on planning and other matters. At present the free reserves are slightly above target, but future plans for charitable activities in schools and for an architecture and photography prize will reduce the reserves.

The Society has in the past organised public exhibitions, and for future exhibitions advice will be taken as to whether the Society could benefit from Museums and Galleries Tax Relief granted by Schedule 6 of the Finance (No.2) Act 2017, also as to whether the Society is entitled to VAT relief on purchases of goods or services.

Future Plans

The Society intends to contribute to school prizes and projects, as well as architectural competitions, and to monitor and if thought fit oppose, planning applications. A major exhibition will also be held within the next three years.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011; the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008/629 (Regulation 8); and the provisions of the Society's Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, and in preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) http://www.charitysorp.org/;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in operation.

Public Benefit Statement

Charity Trustees have a duty to report in their Annual Report on their Charity's public benefit, and they should be clear about what benefits are generated by the activities of the Charity.

The benefits must be related to the objectives of the Charity. The Trustees consider that The Chelsea Society meets the public benefit requirements, and they confirm that they have taken into account the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit published at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/charitable-purposes-and-public-benefit.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 November 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

James Thomps

Dr James Thompson Chairman 24 November 2020

<u>St. Luke</u>'s & Christ Church Chelsea

ONE PARISH, TWO CHURCHES GIVING HEART AND SOUL TO THE CHELSEA COMMUNITY



SERVICES AT ST LUKE'S AND CHRIST CHURCH

| Monday | 09:00 Christ Church | Morr |
|-----------|----------------------------|------|
| Tuesday | 09:00 St Luke's | Morr |
| Wednesday | 09:00 St Luke's | Morr |
| Thursday | 09:00 St Luke's | Morr |
| | 08:00 Chelsea Old Church | Holy |
| | 13:00 Royal Marsden Chapel | Holy |
| Sunday | 08:00 St Luke's | Holy |
| | 10:30 St Luke's | Sung |
| | 11:00 Christ Church | Sung |
| | 15:00 St Luke's | Chor |
| | | |

Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Sung Eucharist Choral Evensong

Rector: The Revd Prebendary Dr Brian Leathard Associate Vicar: The Revd Dr Sam Hole Curate: Sam Rylands

Parish Office: St Luke's Crypt, Sydney Street. London SW3 6NH Tel: 020 7351 7365 www.chelseaparish.org

St Luke's & Christ Church, Chelsea

@SLCC Chelsea

The PCC of St Luke's and Christ Church is a Registered Charity, No. 1133092

THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the Chelsea Society for the year ended 30 June 2020.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act, but that an independent examination is needed under section 145 (1)(a).

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145(1)(a) of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission and published at the following location:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/ attachment_data/file/672779/CC32

Independent_examination_of_charity_accounts.pdf.

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

No matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the following requirements of the Act have not been met:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts.

A. Ktutaki

Angela Ktistakis ACA, FCCA For and on behalf of GMAK Chartered Accountants London - 24 November 2020

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

| | 2020 £ | 2019 £ |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Current assets Cash at bank and in hand Debtors | 87,726 5,708 | 74,215 6,053 |
| | 93,434 | 80,268 |
| Current liabilities Creditors due within one year | (24,252) | (21,147) |
| Net assets | 69,182 | 59,121 |
| Funds of the charity: General funds | 69,182 | 59,121 |
| Total charity funds | 69,182 | 59,121 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24 November 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

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Dr James Thompson Chairman,

Charity No. 276264, 24 November 2020

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

| Income and expenditure account | 2020 | 2019 |
|---|--------|--------|
| | £ | £ |
| Incoming resources | | |
| Advertising revenue | - | 2,250 |
| Annual membership subscriptions | 19,904 | 18,220 |
| Donations received | 1,854 | 2,044 |
| Event income | 1,300 | 8,710 |
| Gift Aid | 2,308 | 2,596 |
| Interest received | - | 243 |
| | | |
| | 25,366 | 34,063 |
| | | |
| Resources expended | | |
| Accounting fees | 2,206 | 3,004 |
| Advertising | 53 | - |
| Conference and archive | - | 545 |
| Cost of annual report | 325 | 8,883 |
| Cost of newsletters | 3,063 | 4,819 |
| Event costs | 1,687 | 7,727 |
| Grants | 2,000 | - |
| Membership administration costs | 2,112 | 749 |
| Printing, postage and miscellaneous costs | 112 | 605 |
| Subscriptions and donations | 98 | 198 |
| Sundry expenses | 1,087 | 303 |
| Website and internet | 1,196 | 465 |
| | 13,939 | 27,298 |

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

| Funds carried forward at 30 June 2020 | 69,182 | 59,121 |
|--|--------|--------|
| Reconciliation of funds Funds brought forward at 1 July 2019 | 59,121 | 53,722 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) movement in funds | 10,061 | 5,399 |
| Total resources expended | 15,305 | 28,664 |
| Total governance costs | 1,366 | 1,366 |
| Insurance | 376 | 376 |
| Independent examiners' fee | 990 | 990 |

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities. The charity has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above.

HUGH KRALL (1924-2020) *Michael Bach pays tribute to a champion of Chelsea*



Hugh Krall was inspired by the beauty of Chelsea's riverscapes. Image courtesy of Heatherleys.

In a nutshell, Hugh Krall was the backbone of the Chelsea Society for 15 years.

Hugh was an architect, who after qualifying, came to London and lived on one of the houseboats. He designed and built his own house at 51 Milman's Street in 1954. Hugh and his family lived there for the rest of his life – just a stone's throw from the river.

A Life Member of the Society, he was also one of the leading members of its Council (1981-91; 2002-2006), the Society's Hon. Secretary (1992-2001), and the Secretary to the Planning Committee. He was also a key member of the Exhibition Sub-Group, as well as the designer of our cards, especially the views of his beloved Chelsea Riverside.

HUGH KRALL (1924-2020)

Transport campaigning

I first met Hugh in 1979 through West London Traffic Reform (WLTR) who were fighting for relief from heavy lorries on the Earl's Court One-Way System. WLTR was started by Betty Woolf, Lesley Lewis (Chelsea Society), May Maguire (Cheyne Walk), Hugh and myself. We persuaded the GLC to introduce a night and weekend lorry ban in 1981, but it took until 1986 to materialise as a London-wide scheme. The next campaign was to fight against the Government's proposal in 1986 for the so-called Western Environmental Improvement Route, which would have brought heavy traffic to West London and along the Chelsea Embankment. We managed to defeat that in 1990, when the Government abandoned the scheme.

Planning

I joined the Chelsea Society's Council in 1990, and it was from then on that I really came to know Hugh much better. As Hon. Sec, he handled a lot of the administration, but as Secretary to the Planning Committee he came into his own, firstly in support of the planning chairman, Andrew Hamilton (1990-2000) and then his successor, Terence Bendixson (2000-2014). We met every three weeks in Chelsea Library, where we reviewed applications and debated the cases. Hugh took the notes and produced all the letters to the Council. This process was very collegiate and efficient. Hugh captured our views professionally; he was always brief and to the point – giving a masterclass in clear communication.

Exhibitions

Perhaps Hugh's major contribution was the design and delivery of a series of successful exhibitions which the Society mounted as part of the Chelsea Festival between 1997 and 2005. He ensured their high standard – and that their delivery was on time. Themes included the King's Road, Places of Worship, Sporting Chelsea and a highly successful one on Chelsea's pubs (2005), which helped our campaign to save Chelsea's pubs in 2012/13.

Artist

After retiring as an architect in 1994, Hugh was able to devote more time to an earlier passion – art. He took up printmaking at Heatherleys School of Fine Art. Between 1992-2010 he studied with the eminent printmaker Hilary Dalltry RE, Head of Printmaking, who has warm memories of their working together.

Hilary wrote: 'He beautifully conveyed bridges, boats, buildings and churches in the manner of Whistler. I was always impressed by his confident draftsmanship and how naturally he took to etching on copper and zinc, engraving and relief printing on wood and lino. Hugh loved his time at Heatherleys.'

HUGH KRALL (1924-2020)

Hugh produced a fine and accomplished series of views of Chelsea, particularly its riverside, and presented a portfolio of these views to the Local Studies section of the Library of the Royal Borough. This was a very generous gift and was typical of Hugh's genuine kindness.

In September 2015 Hugh's exhibition *The Changing River at Chelsea* (almost a retrospective) was held by The Chelsea Society at The Gallery, Cadogan Gardens and afterwards at Heatherleys, where it was enjoyed by all. He was generous with his own works in support of the fund raising for bursaries, donating prints and originals to School auctions.

Hugh produced lots prints of the views across and along the Chelsea riverside. He generously donated these to the Society and to the Cheyne Walk Trust as cards and prints.

Cheyne Walk Trust

In addition to his work for the Chelsea Society, Hugh was an enthusiastic and supportive member of the Cheyne Walk Trust.

Trust Chairman David Waddell recalls that Hugh 'was quietly and unassumingly kind in quite unexpectedly giving copies of his prints to those who lived in houses that had taken his interest as topographical subjects. He always took a close interest in local concerns, which might attract his occasionally sardonic views, but his support was always there for moves to protect and enhance the Chelsea riverside of which he was so fond.'

2008 Mayor's Award

In 2008, Hugh received the Mayor's Award 'in recognition for his services to the community in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and particularly for his work with the Council of the Chelsea Society for over 25 years.'

Hugh undertook an amazing amount of work on behalf of the Society, which he carried out with supreme efficiency and a quiet and self-effacing manner. It was his dedication to Chelsea and especially its riverside that was the inspiration for all his voluntary work, through the Chelsea Society, Cheyne Walk Trust, West London Traffic Reform and Heatherleys. His legacy includes all of the exhibitions, the cards and prints for the Society and his collection of prints. He was a quiet but determined advocate for not just for Chelsea, but particularly for Chelsea's riverside.

DR MARY REMNANT (1935-2020)

Nicholas Lane remembers a scholar of music

Mary Elizabeth Theresa Remnant, distinguished scholar, lecture-recitalist and pioneer of iconographical research into mediaeval instruments died in May 2020 aged 85.

Her lifelong home in Fernshaw Road was a time capsule, a repository of thousands of books and photographs, as well as 150 musical instruments.

She studied piano and violin at the Royal College of Music from 1952 and was awarded the Tagore Gold Medal. Mary knew she would be a musician: her mother Joan was also an RCM graduate. Her father's influence was, however, equally important in shaping the unique path her musical career would follow. An architect who taught her photography, Mary shared his passion for mediaeval churches and soon after leaving the RCM in 1956 she began to photograph the numerous representations of musical instruments in mediaeval art and to have reconstructions made for performance.

She read music at St Anne's College, Oxford which culminated in a D.Phil. thesis. A Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship in 1967 enabled her to research musical iconography in eight European countries as well as in Afghanistan.

In 1970 she returned to the Royal College of Music as a professor, lecturing on the history of instruments. Her first book, *Musical Instruments of the West* was published by Batsford in 1978. A review in *The Musical Times* declared, 'Mary Remnant has written what is without doubt the best short book on all the musical instruments of the West'. It was translated into Japanese and revised in 1989 as *Musical Instruments: An Illustrated History from Antiquity to the Present.* She contributed to *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* (1980) and to the *New Grove Dictionary of Musical Instruments* (1984).

Her second book *Early English Bowed Instruments from Anglo-Saxon to Tudor Times* was published 1986 by Clarendon Press. For this, she became the first recipient of the prestigious Nicholas Bessaroff Prize awarded by the American Musical Instrument Society. In 1989 she was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

She enjoyed great success with many broadcasts during the 1960s and 1970s including *Beowulf* for the BBC and the WNYC of New York, as well as recording music for the 1987 *Age of Chivalry* exhibition for the V&A.

Mary Remnant always preferred live performance. Her solo lecture-recitals, always performed in conjunction with slides to illustrate the origins of the instruments themselves, were her unique contribution to the musical world. From 1961 she delighted audiences over the next 53 years ranging from

DR MARY REMNANT (1935-2020)

universities to primary schools with programmes such as '*Musical Animals in Mediaeval Art*' and '*Music in Paintings at the National Gallery*'. She appeared regularly at the Purcell Room from 1968 until 1999.

Her deep Catholic faith infused everything she did, and no more so than the lecturerecitals on mediaeval Pilgrimage routes. *Pilgrims and Music on the way to Walsingham'* was among the fascinating list of lecture-recitals she performed across Europe and in the USA. In 1980 she was the first soloist to have a tour arranged by the Early Music Network and the Arts Council for whom she devised *'The Musical Road to Santiago de Compostela'* for which her organistrum was made.

Lecture-recitals in and around Chelsea included the centenary celebration for Our Most Holy Redeemer and St Thomas More, Cheyne Row where she sang in the choir in her youth, as well as Crosby Hall, the Servite Church, the Brompton Oratory and St Wilfrid's Convent in Tite Street. From 1973 she taught violin and piano to children of the Oratory Junior Choir, as well as to many private pupils in a teaching career spanning almost 60 years.

The Confraternity of St James was founded in her house on 13th January 1983 and soon afterwards a Confraternity Choir which met over the next 30 years for rehearsals at Fernshaw Road, always followed by much food and wine.

In 2016 she was made a Dame of St Gregory in a service at Our Lady of Dolours in Fulham Road, her Parish Church.



Mary Remnant c1980 with her organistrum made by Alan Crumpler and copied from the Portico de la Gloria (1188) at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela (photo by R. W. Skinner).

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

(as amended by a Resolution of the Members of the Society

passed at its Annual General Meeting held on 21st November 2016)

1 The Chelsea Society shall be regulated by the Rules contained in this Constitution as follows:

OBJECTS

- 2 The Objects of the Society are to preserve and improve the amenities of Chelsea for the public benefit particularly by:
 - 2.1 stimulating interest in the history, character and traditions of Chelsea;
 - 2.2 encouraging and promoting good architecture, town planning and civic design, the planting and care of trees, and the conservation and proper maintenance of its buildings the public realm and open spaces and other features of historic or public interest;
 - 2.3 seeking the abatement of nuisances;
 - 2.4 making representations to the proper authorities on these subjects.

MEMBERSHIP

- 3 Subject to the provisions of this Rule 3, membership of the Society shall be open to all who are interested in furthering the Objects of the Society.
 - 3.1 Where a person firm or company ("Applicant") wishes to become a member of the Society ("Member") he shall submit to the Membership Secretary a written application in such form as the Council may by resolution from time to time prescribe ("Application").
 - 3.2 In the case of a married couple or a couple in a civil partnership who pay the subscription for joint membership each individual shall be a Member and each shall have one vote. In the case of a firm or company the Applicant shall designate a person to exercise its rights as a Member who shall have one vote.
 - 3.3 Within ten days following receipt of a properly completed and signed Application the Membership Secretary shall (subject to Rule 3.4) enter the Applicant on the Register (as defined in Rule 7.1) and the Applicant shall thereupon be a Member of the Society. The Membership Secretary shall notify the Applicant of such entry
 - 3.4 If the Membership Secretary reasonably considers that an Applicant does not subscribe to the Objects of the Society or may bring the Society into disrepute the Chairman of the Council may refer the matter to the Council who shall in such circumstances have the power by resolution to refuse the Application.
 - 3.5 If at any time the Chairman of the Council considers that the continued membership of any Member would not be in the best interests of the Society he may refer the matter to the Council, who may by Special Resolution proposed by the Chairman of the Council terminate the membership of that Member forthwith. The Membership Secretary shall give written notice of such termination to the former Member

THE COUNCIL

- 4 There shall be a Council of the Society which shall be constituted in accordance with these Rules.
 - 4.1 The Council shall comprise Elected Councillors, Co-opted Councillors, and Officers ("together Members of Council")
 - 4.2 Elected Councillors shall be elected to be Members of Council by Members of the Society at a General Meeting ("Elected Councillors")
 - 4.3 At any time there shall be no more than twelve Elected Councillors
 - 4.4 No person shall be eligible to be an Elected Councillor unless:
 - 4.4.1 he is a Member
 - 4.4.2 he has been proposed and seconded by at least two Members and has consented to serve
 - 4.4.3 there have been given to the Secretary at least twenty eight days before the General Meeting4.4.3.1 the names of the proposer, the seconder and the person seeking election (with his consent to serve) signed by the three persons concerned
 - 4.4.3.2 a written statement by the person seeking election setting out his qualifications to be a Member of Council
 - 4.5 Council may by resolution co-opt further persons to be Members of Council ("Co-opted Councillors"). The term of each such appointment shall be such as may be determined by resolution of Council but not exceeding one year
 - 4.6 At any time (but subject to Rule 4.18) there shall be no more than four Co-opted Councillors
 - 4.7 Council shall appoint by resolution appropriate persons to fulfil the roles specified in Rule 5.1 ("Officers") and on such appointment such persons shall be Members of Council for the duration of their terms of office. The terms of reference for each of those roles shall be determined by a resolution of Council
 - 4.8 In the event that an Elected Councillor becomes an Officer in consequence of an appointment under Rule 4.7 that person shall on such appointment cease to be an Elected Councillor.
 - 4.9 In the choice of persons for appointment as Co-opted Councillors and Officers, regard shall be had, amongst other things, to the importance of including persons known to have expert knowledge and experience of matters relevant to the Objects of the Society and to the person's connections with Chelsea.
 - 4.10 Council shall be responsible for the day-to-day work of the Society and shall have power by resolution to take any action on behalf of the Society which the Council thinks fit to take for the purpose of promoting and furthering the Objects of the Society
 - 4.11 Council may by resolution delegate any of its functions powers or authorities for such time on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit to any Committee consisting of one or more Members of Council and if thought fit one or more other persons who fulfil the criteria of Rule 4.9.

THE CONSTITUTION

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- 4.12.1 Unless requiring a Special Resolution, resolutions of Council shall be passed by simple majority of those present (whether voting or not) at a meeting of Council. A resolution (other than a Special Resolution) may also be proposed by the Chairman and voted upon by e-mail: it shall be passed if supported by a majority of all the Members of the Council.
- 4.12.2 Notice of a Special Resolution (with the text thereof) must be given to Members of Council at least twenty-one days before a meeting of Council. A Special Resolution shall be passed only if supported by not less than two thirds of all the Members of Council
- 4.12.3 If a Member of Council cannot attend a meeting of Council he may, by giving written notice signed by that Member of Council to the Chairman before the meeting, appoint another Member of Council as his proxy
- 4.13 Council shall make and publish every year a Report of the activities of the Society during the previous year. Following receipt of such Report at the Annual General Meeting publication may be done by posting the Report on the Society's website.
- 4.14 Council shall meet at least four times in each calendar year.
- 4.15 An Elected Councillor or Co-opted Councillor who is absent from two successive meetings of Council without explanation which the Council approves shall by Special Resolution cease to be a Member of Council
- 4.16 Three of the Elected Councillors shall retire each year, but may offer themselves for re-election
- 4.17 Retirement under Rule 4.16 shall be in rotation according to seniority of election. Elected Councillors elected on the same day shall draw lots.
- 4.18. In the event that at any time the number of Elected Councillors is fewer than six then Council may (notwithstanding Rule 4.6) by resolution appoint further persons to be Co-opted Councillors provided that:
 - 4.18.1 the term of appointment of a Co-Opted Councillor under this Rule shall terminate at the General Meeting next following his appointment, and
 - 4.18.2 at no time shall the aggregate number of Elected Councillors and Co-Opted Councillors exceed sixteen.
- 4.19 a Member of Council will be present at a meeting of Council if with the permission of the Chairman he attends the meeting electronically

OFFICERS

- 5 5.1 The Council shall appoint the following Officers who shall thereby be Members of Council for their respective terms of office namely:-
 - 5.1.1 Chairman of the Council;
 - 5.1.2 Vice-Chairman of the Council;
 - 5.1.3 Secretary or Joint Secretaries;

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- 5.1.4 Treasurer;5.1.5 Membership Secretary
- 5.1.6 persons to fill such other posts as may be decided from time to time by Special Resolution of Council.
- 5.2 The terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be three years and those of the other Officers five years from the date of appointment respectively. Provided nevertheless that the appointment of the Chairman shall terminate at the end of the Annual General Meeting in the third year after his appointment.
- 5.3 The Officers shall be eligible for re-appointment to their respective offices but the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall not serve for more than six consecutive years, unless permitted to do so by resolution at a General Meeting
- 5.4 Nothing herein contained shall detract from the Officers' right to resign during their current term
- 5.5 By Special Resolution Council may rescind the appointment of an Officer or a Co-opted Councillor during his term of office for substantial reasons
- 5.6 In the event of a casual vacancy in any of the offices specified in Rule 5.1 the Chairman (or in the event of the vacancy being the office of Chairman, the Vice-Chairman) shall have power to appoint a Member of Council to undertake the function of that office until a new Officer is appointed by Council

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 6 6.1 The Council may by resolution appoint a Member to be President of the Society for a term of three years, and may re-appoint him for one further term of three years.
 - 6.2 The Council may by resolution appoint not more than six persons, who need not be Members, to be Vice-Presidents of the Society each for such term as the Council may by resolution decide

REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 7.1 The Membership Secretary shall maintain an up-to-date confidential register of Members ("Register") containing such details for each Member as the Council may from time to time by resolution decide.
 - 7.2 A Member shall give notice in writing signed by the Member to the Membership Secretary of any changes to the details held for that Member and on receipt of such notice the Membership Secretary shall update the Register accordingly.
 - 7.3 The Council shall by resolution prescribe the amount of the subscriptions to be paid by Members and the date on which they are due and the period in respect of which they are payable
 - 7.4 Membership of the Society shall lapse if the Member's subscription is unpaid for three months after it is due, but may be restored by resolution of the Council.

THE CONSTITUTION

- 7.5 Members may pay more than the prescribed minimum, if they wish.
- 7.6 Members may pay annual subscriptions by Direct Debit.7.7 The Society may participate in the direct debiting scheme as an originator for the purpose of collecting subscriptions for any class of membership and/or any other amounts due to the Society. In furtherance of this objective, the Society may enter into an indemnity required by the Banks upon whom direct debits are to be originated. Such an indemnity may be executed on behalf of the Society by two Officers nominated by the Council.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.1 In these Rules "General Meeting" means a meeting of the Society open to all its Members. No other person may be admitted except by permission of the chairman of the General Meeting.
 - The Council shall arrange at least one General Meeting every year, to be called the Annual General 8.2 Meeting, which shall be held not less than ten months and not more than thirteen months after the previous Annual General Meeting. The Council may also arrange as many other General Meetings, (in these Rules referred to as Special General Meetings), as it may think fit including pursuant to Rule 8.15. Notice of the date of General Meetings shall be given so as to be received by Members not less than thirty five days before the date specified for the General Meeting.
 - General Meetings, the agenda for which shall be given to Members not less than twenty-one days before 83 the meeting, shall take place at such times and places as the Council shall specify.
 - The President shall preside as chairman at any General Meeting at which he is present, and if he is not present the Chairman of the Council or another Member of Council nominated by the Chairman of the 8.4 Council shall so preside.
 - 8.5 As regards voting at a General Meeting
 - 8.5.1 Each Member is entitled to a single vote
 - 8.5.2 A Member shall not be entitled to vote if
 - 8.5.2.1 His name (or in the case of a firm or company, the name of the person designated under Rule 3.2) has not been entered on to the Register for a period of at least twenty-one days before the General Meeting
 - 8.5.2.2 He has not paid his subscription
 - 8.5.2.3 He has appointed a proxy under Rule 8.7
 - 853 a vote will be on a show of hands as to which the declaration of result by the chairman of the General Meeting shall be final unless at least twenty Members present at the General Meeting request a ballot immediately following the declaration of result
 - 8.5.4 The Secretary shall prepare ballot papers beforehand for distribution at a General Meeting for use in the event a ballot is requested under Rule 8.5.3
 - 8.5.5 Any ballot at a General Meeting shall be conducted on such terms as is decided by a resolution of Council
 - Subject to Rule 8.14 a resolution of Members at a General Meeting will be passed by a simple majority of 86 those voting in person or by proxy save that a resolution of Members the effect of which is to amend these Rules will be passed only if:
 - 8.6.1 the text of the proposed amendment has been included with the agenda for the General Meeting and the resolution is supported by two-thirds of the Members voting in person or by proxy at the 8.6.2 General Meeting
 - 8.7 A Member may appoint another Member as his proxy to attend a General Meeting and to vote on his behalf and in his name if the Member has given notice in writing signed by him to the Secretary not less than seven days before the General Meeting of the name of the proxy and stating that the Member has appointed the proxy to attend the General Meeting
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- 8.8.1 Elections to Council shall be held at a General Meeting in accordance with Rules 4.2 to 4.4
 - 8.8.2 Each candidate for election to Council shall be elected individually
 - 8.8.3 A candidate will be duly elected if he receives more votes in favour of his election than against it provided that where the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies those candidates who receive the most votes in favour shall be duly elected.
 - The agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall include:
 - 8.9.1 receiving the Annual Report referred to in Rule 4.13;
 - 8.9.2 receiving the Annual Accounts.
 - 8.9.3 the election (if any) of Elected Councillors
 - 8.9.4 resolutions (if any) of which notice has been received under Rule 8.12.1
- 8.9.5 such other matters within the Objects of the Society as the Council may by resolution decide
- 8.10 At the Annual General Meeting any Member may comment on any matter mentioned in the Report or Accounts, and may raise any matter not mentioned in the Report or Accounts, if it is within the Objects of the Society.
- 8.11 The chairman of the General Meeting may limit the duration of speeches.
- 8.12 Resolutions by Members may be passed only at a General Meeting
 - 8.12.1 Any Member who wishes to propose a resolution shall give notice by sending a copy signed by him as proposer and by another Member as seconder so as to reach the Secretary at least twenty eight days before the date of the General Meeting.
 - 8.12.2 The chairman of the General Meeting shall allow a reasonable time to debate the resolution and shall call speakers for and against the resolution

THE CONSTITUTION

- 8.12.3 Unless withdrawn by the proposer the resolution shall then be put to the vote
- 8.12.4 A resolution on the agenda shall not be amended unless it is a minor amendment which does not alter the substance of the resolution. Any such amendment shall be considered only if moved by the proposer and seconder of the resolution and approved by the chairman of the General Meeting.
- 8.13 The Secretary shall send to Members with the agenda referred to in Rule 8.3
 - 8.13.1 the name of each person being proposed for election under Rule 4.2 with the names of the proposer and seconder and a copy of the statement for each such person referred to in Rule 4.4.3.2 and 8.13.2 a copy of any resolutions received under Rule 8.12.1
- 8.14 Notwithstanding Rule 8.6 any resolution the effect of which would be to cause the Society to cease to be a charity in law shall not be passed.
- 8.15 At any time not less than 50 Members may make an application to the Chairman of the Council requesting that the Council call a Special General Meeting.
 - 8.15.1 Such an application must be
 - 8.15.1.1 signed personally by all the Members making the application
 - 8.15.1.2 accompanied by a statement of the reasons for calling the Special General Meeting and the text of any resolution(s) they wish to propose at the Special General Meeting,
 - 8.15.2 the Council shall consider any such application and if granted shall (subject to payment of any deposit required under Rule 8.15.3) call a Special General Meeting in accordance with Rule 8.2
 - 8.15.3 The Council may make it a condition of such a grant that a deposit not exceeding the expense of calling and holding the General Meeting (as reasonably determined by the Treasurer) shall be paid to the Society by the Members making the application. The Council shall in its absolute discretion decide following the Special General Meeting whether the deposit shall be retained by the Society or returned to the applicants in whole or in part 8.15.4 An application made under Rule 8.15 shall be granted unless the Council decides by Special
 - Resolution that it shall not be granted.

CONSULTATIONS

- 9 9.1 At any time not less than 30 Members may make an application to the Chairman of the Council requesting that the Council shall consult the Members on an issue which falls within the Objects of the Society
 - 9.2 Such an application must be:
 - 9.2.1 signed personally by all the Members making the application
 - 9.2.2 accompanied by a written explanation of the issue on which a consultation is requested
 - 9.3 The Council shall consider any such application and if granted shall (subject to payment of any deposit required under Rule 9.4) arrange for a consultation to take place on such terms and on such basis and by such means as the Council shall in its absolute discretion think fit
 - 9.4 The Council may make it a condition of such a grant that a deposit not exceeding the expense of undertaking such a consultation (as reasonably determined by the Treasurer) shall be paid to the Society by the members making the application. The Council shall in its absolute discretion decide following the consultation whether the deposit shall be retained by the Society or returned to the applicants in whole or in part
 - 9.5 An application made under Rule 9.2 shall be granted unless the Council decides by Special Resolution that it shall not be granted.

NOTICES AND INTERPRETATION

- 10 10.1 Any notice required to be given or any application made to the Council
 - 10.1.1 shall be addressed to the Secretary (or in the case of an application under Rule 3 or a notice under Rule 7.2, to the Membership Secretary) and
 - 10.1.2 sent to the address of the Society published on its website or such other address as may from time to time be notified to Members
 - 10.2 Any notice to be given to a Member shall be validly given if sent:
 - 10.2.1 by pre-paid post to the address specified in the Register, or
 - 10.2.2 by email to the e-mail address of that Member specified in the Register if he has given an e-mail address to the Society.
 - 10.3 In these Rules:
 - 10.3.1 Any words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine or neuter as the context
 - admits 10.3.2 "Writing" may include e-mails except where required to be signed in which case a signed .pdf document sent by e-mail shall suffice.
 - 10.3.3 Any reference to a resolution is to an Ordinary Resolution unless required by these Rules to be a Special Resolution.
 - 10.4 Nothing herein shall affect any resolution of the Members or of the Council passed under any earlier edition of this Constitution

WINDING-UP

- 11.1 The winding-up of the Society shall be effected by a Special Resolution of Council confirmed by a two-11 thirds majority of Members voting in person or by proxy at a General Meeting.
 - 11.2 In the event of the winding-up of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable institutions having objects reasonably similar to those herein before declared as shall be chosen by the Council and approved by the General Meeting at which the decision to dissolve the Society is confirmed.







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An asterisk * denotes a Life Member. Should any amendments be made, please advise membership@chelseasociety.org.uk

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With plenty of involvement in Chelsea's art scene, Sloane Stanley gives back to the community with uplifting, inspiring and dedicated support. Involvement with the Kensington and Chelsea Art Week allows local artists to promote their pieces in their retailers' windows across the estate. And, with continuous promotion of local talent, Sloane Stanley sponsors artists to install their art on the Chelsea Fire Station throughout the year.

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