

THE ART SOCIETY HIGHLAND 2025

Charity Report for 1st January to 31st December 2025

This year has been successful in that we have continued to keep our membership up, but with slightly less visitors.

We have increased the percentage of members attending each lecture to 67% from 62% the previous year. We did have to increase our membership fees, as we faced rising costs for both the hire of the venue and the lecturer's fees plus travelling expenses.

Despite all this we managed to improve our finances.

Lectures:

7th January 2025 200 yrs of the National Gallery **Simon Whitehouse**

We had a lot of snow, preventing some members and committee attending.

Members attending 52. Visitors 10 Assessment Outstanding.

7th February 2025 Charles 1st King and Collector **Barbara Askew**

Members attending 78. Visitors 15 Assessment Very Good.

11th March 2025 Discovering the Edinburgh Festivals **Mark Fisher**

Members attending 77. Visitors 14 Assessment Very Good

8th April 2025 Cartoonists on Cartooning **Harry Venning**

Members attending 69 Visitors 19 Assessment Very Good.

13th May 2025 Canal Architecture **Roger Butler**

Members attending 54 Visitors 15 Assessment Excellent.

10th June 2025 Tales in Tesserae **Imogen Corrigan**

Members attending 67 Visitors 18 Assessment Excellent.

9th September 2025 The Borgias **Sarah Dunant**

Members attending 91 Visitors 28 Assessment Outstanding.

7th October 2025 The Glasgow Girls **Elaine Hanson**

Members attending 71 Visitors 46 Assessment Excellent.

28th October 2025 The Legacy of Gutenberg **by a local member**

Members attending 34 Visitors 16 Assessment very well received.

11th November 2025 Dame Laura Knight **Rosalind Whyte**

Members attending 83 Visitors 28 Assessment Outstanding.

9th December 2025 The Great British Pantomime **Tony Lidington**

Members attending 75 Visitors 15 Assessment Excellent

We have 7 trustees : Jessica wolff, Lesley Proctor, Marie Lee, Penny Evennett, Mary Collier, Rosanna Clegg, and Ellen Maxwell.

As a charity we are aiming to advance the knowledge of the arts, heritage and culture. We do this by providing 10 monthly lectures throughout the year. Members pay annually, costing £ 6.50 lecture. We also provide tea/coffee and shortbread free. Visitors pay £10.00 per visit, many then opt to join at a later date.

We have some local people who will provide an extra lecture once a year and for these one off lectures, we charge to cover the cost of hiring the venue and other expenses.

We have occasional **lunch events**, after the lectures, and these are proving popular with members. It helps people to socialise. In 2025 we only held 1 event, after the Xmas lecture.

We did organise a visit to the private gardens of **Glenkyllack Highland Estate**, in June. This was highly successful. We charged £ 15.00 per person, which included a guided tour around the extensive gardens, then a visit to the Arboretum followed by afternoon tea. The owners spent two separate afternoons, with two separate groups, and donated all the proceeds to Marie Curie Nurses and Scotland's Gardens. We raised £ 755.00.

We arranged for our Cartoonist lecturer to give a **workshop**, in the afternoon. 32 children and 12 adults, (parents attended). He was brilliant with the children, and some took away his signed cartoons.

We were given a large supply of Art Books, that had belonged to a member's parents. As we do not have anywhere to keep a library, it was decided to display them at a couple of lectures and ask people to give donations. Donations came to £ 450.00. We also sold some prints from a member. In total we received £ 509.00, which we have earmarked for Young Arts. This was in line with the member's view on how the money should be spent.

Our membership at present is 125. (February 2026). Members have commented on our welcoming atmosphere and that they are "happy to be there". Most of our new members and visitors come by word of mouth.

For the future:

In February this year 2026. We have arranged a lunch after the morning lecture, followed by a second lecture, **The City Livery Companies: The Origins of the Great Twelve** in the afternoon. We already have 45 people signed up for this.

We are giving a **prize** to a current competition for graduating artists in the Highlands.

We are also in discussion about supporting the local school to produce **art for the Nairn Book and Arts week**.

We have a **Magic Show** already arranged for November this year.

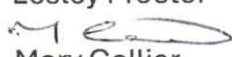
This will be for school age children and accompanying parents. This will be run in the afternoon, by our November lecturer, who is also Magician.

We have a **Cyanotype Workshop** to be available on two separate dates in June. This is being run by one of our members.

In October we are to have an **Extra lecture**, given local non member, Fr Domenico Zandre, "Making Lorenzo Magnificent: Medici family in 15th century Florence."

Apart from these additions, we are making plans for another **art workshop** for young children, utilising young graduate artists in the neighbourhood. This will be both helpful for the students, whilst giving work experience to the young graduates.

Overall, we are very happy with the way things are going and as we progress we feel we will have more funds to support Young Arts.

Signed  Chairman Lesley Proctor
 Treasurer Mary Collier

Date 12/05/2026

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