Suffolk Craft Society - Treasurer's Report AGM 2025

Overview
The accounts we are looking at, at this AGM, are for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The subscription fee for 2024/5 was increased to at £75. The fee remains below the pre-pandemic amount of £100 per annum due to the uncertainty of the economic environment and the impact on makers.

During the year a £15 application fee was introduced for new member applications.

The Society was able to put on four exhibitions throughout the year, at The Minories, with the National Trust at Ickworth, with MADE London and at The Guildhall. All exhibitions were received well. The Own Art scheme was discontinued due to no sales being achieved. The online shop has been trading.

Despite the increased membership fees, the profits for one exhibition and the Online Shop income, the Society made an overall loss of £(6,019).

The Minories
This was the first time the Society exhibited here and the exhibition was received well. Overall, a loss of £(792) was made. Restricted opening times affected the footfall, resulting in low sales with high rent costs having an impact.

National Trust at Ickworth
This was the second time the Society exhibited with the National Trust and was received very well. Increased sales were achieved, no Workshops were run by members this year. Overall a profit of £2,314 was made, largely due to no rent being charged.

MADE London
This was the first time the Society exhibited with MADE in London and was received well. High rental costs impacted the low sales resulting in a loss of £(1615).

The Guildhall
This exhibition was held in the run up to Christmas and was received well although making a loss of £(1172). This being due to higher publicity costs, increased exhibition costs and rental costs with lower sales being made.

Online Shop
For the third year of trading, sales remain low but a small profit of £13 has been achieved. Some further thought/marketing may be needed to increase traffic to this part of the website.

Other Activities
The committee have continued to work hard during the year, upgrading to an intranet for management along with looking at new ventures, venues and selling opportunities. We have welcomed some new makers and applications continue to be received. The introduction of the application fee will benefit, more so in future years, although we still need to work on recruiting new members, as we remain in a position where current levels of membership and subscriptions do not cover our fixed costs annually. It is hoped that this year, to the 31 March 2025, improvement in the economy continues.

The current bank balances are, as at 31 August 2025:
Barclay's business account - £9,384.76
Barclay's premium account - £26,329.46

Friends
During the year ended 31 March 2024 the Friends made a profit of £804 (2024: £242)). Higher income with a decrease in expenses related to supporting the Society have resulted in an increased amount of profit for this year. As with previous years the Friends continue to run a raffle during the exhibitions. No grants were made during the year.

The current bank balances, as at 31 August 2025:
Barclay's community account - £2184.23
Barclay's premium account - £13,013.53

Nicci Dedman
Treasurer
31 August 2025