

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04574188 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1126736

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED

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STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31
MARCH 2020

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THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Registered Company number

04574188 (England and Wales)

Charity Number

1126736 (England and Wales)

Registered office

The Round Chapel
1d Glenarm Road
London
E5 0LY

Trustees

Chair: Nick Perry

Vice Chair: Lisa Shell

Treasurer: Tony Gillett

Other Trustees:

Ray Blackburn
Monica Blake
Laurie Elks
Julia Lafferty
Wendy Forrest

Company secretary

Tony Gillett

Bankers:

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c.
P.O. Box 250
Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner:

David Harris FCMA
36 Malvern Road
London E8 3LP

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Trustees are pleased to present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report.

The charitable company ('The Society') has prepared its financial statements in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005). The financial statements also comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the governing document of the charitable company.

ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

Legal status

The Hackney Society Limited is constituted as a company limited by Guarantee having been incorporated on 25th October 2002 and is therefore governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. On 17th November 2008 the company was granted charitable status.

Trustees

A Trustee is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Charity and a Director for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees who held office during the year or were appointed since are as follows:

Ray Blackburn
Monica Blake
Laurie Elks
Tony Gillett
Julia Lafferty
Nick Perry
Lisa Shell
Wendy Forrest

Trustee Appointment and induction and training

The power of appointing new Trustees is vested in the existing Trustees.

On appointment new Trustees are provided with information about the activities of the Society including copies of minutes of previous Board meetings, copies of the financial statements and details of the Trustees' responsibilities in law.

Organisational structure

The Trustees must hold a meeting at least once a year and every trustee has one vote on each issue with the Chair holding the casting vote.

The Trustees, meeting at least once a year and more frequently when necessary, are the decision-making body. The Trustees do not receive any remuneration. The day to day administration of the Charity is delegated to the Society's Secretary.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Risk policy

The Trustees have identified the risks that the Society may be exposed to and continue to monitor existing controls in place in order to mitigate those risks.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity Commission in its Charities and Public Benefit Guidance requires that there are two key principles to be met to show that an organisation's aims are for the public benefit. Firstly, there must be an identifiable benefit. Secondly, the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees confirm that in setting the charity's objectives and in planning its activities, they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that they will continue to ensure each year that they will consider how the Society continues to meet the public benefit objectives outlined in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Society has met the requirements of the public benefit guidance.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

Summary of the main activities of the Society in relation to its objectives

The objectives of the Society are:-

- (1) To promote high standards of planning, architecture and conservation in Hackney.
- (2) To give a voice to local people in the future development of Hackney.
- (3) To educate and foster public interest in the history, architecture and character of the Borough. The Society seeks to achieve its objectives and aims through its activities which include:-

- Organising public events including talks, guided walks, exhibitions and site visits
- Producing publications which celebrate Hackney's social, cultural and architectural history
- Producing a regular newsletter, SPACES, to highlight the society's work and important current issues
- Campaigning to protect local buildings of historical and/or architectural merit
- Promoting high standards of design, construction and conservation, including through making comments on planning applications in the Borough
- Supporting the six Conservation Areas Advisory Committees (CAAC) made up of local people including publication of their minutes on our website, where required
- Building links between residents, officials and councillors, including being a member of Sustainable Hackney
- Providing advice and support to local groups to help them improve their neighbourhoods

No significant change in these objectives and aims occurred during the period.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE OF THE CHARITY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

Despite the fact the Society receives no public funding, it continued to deliver a modest programme of projects and events on modest income from activities and donations, whilst maintaining its public profile and its level of engagement with the planning authority on matters of development, and develop future projects. Crucially, the Society continues to meet its charitable objectives. Statutory 'lockdown' measures were put in place towards the end of the financial year, to mitigate the global Coronavirus pandemic. The Society operates in an agile fashion and had no major projects in progress, so the impact of those measures has not had material effect on our operations this year, though may do so in the future. The only exception to this is a nascent project to engage members and the wider public to discuss the future shape of the Society. The project was due to begin a programme of meetings in March, but has now been put on hold.

Membership

Membership is stable at 211 members of whom 61 are life members, and as a body provides the largest single source of income, albeit generating little to no surplus for general projects. In the wake of our change of bankers in 2017, there has continued to be an encouraging take-up of non-Standing Order renewals.

Fundraising and volunteering

The necessary work to continue the activities of The Hackney Society either has been undertaken by volunteers, or, where appropriate and funding has been obtained, outsourced. Work such as organising events, editing the newsletter, book sales, managing the membership and dealing with planning matters continues to be done solely by volunteers including, and especially, the Trustees.

Programme of events

Events have been well-attended and popular.
We ran **eight events** during this financial year.

There were **two** walks: *4% Housing*, led by Jerry White, beginning with a visit to Navarino Mansions; *Hackney's Secret [Woodland] Places*, led by Russell Miller and Dominic Allen.

There were **two** talks: *Biodiversity, Swifts, Buildings and Open Spaces in Hackney*, by Edward Mayer of "Swift Conservation", held at Hackney CVS ; *Post-WW2 Council Housing in Hackney*, by John Boughton, in partnership with Friends of Hackney Archives and held at Hackney Archives.

There were **three** site tours: Gravel Pit Chapel, led by Tim Walder; De Beauvoir Block led by Edward Benyon and Simon Henley, preceded by the AGM; London Power Tunnels, at National Grid Highbury Substation, led by James Watson, and **one** social evening, held at Sutton House and featuring a performance of *The Hackney Anthology*.

The Trustees would like to thank our events partner Friends of Hackney Archives (now Hackney History), the various venues, the walk and talk leaders, doorkeepers, caterers and chair wranglers for supporting our programme through volunteering to participate in these events. Their energy and commitment is greatly appreciated and to be recognised.

Publications

1. The Society continues to sell its backlist titles through local bookshops, and occasionally at local events and fairs. Since 2018, the Society has sold its titles in modest quantities through the Amazon Marketplace. It is our policy to price Amazon sales so they are no cheaper than RRP and that our income, net of postage and package costs, is greater or similar to those of direct website sales and trade sales.

2. Work that began in 2014 on a new version of *Hackney Houses*, a guide to improvement, conservation and maintenance of late Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian houses remains on hold.

3. The Society's most recent title, *Hackney: portrait of a community 1967 – 2017* continues to sell steadily and there remains around 395 copies in stock from our first reprint, reported last year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

'Spaces' newsletter

The Society produced **four** issues of *Spaces*: 64, 65, 66 and 67.

The newsletter is quarterly and is written by voluntary contributors. They cover planning and historic building issues in the borough, topical issues, forthcoming events, buildings at risk and updates on Hackney Society projects and events. Buildings and issues covered by *Spaces* over the year included: Hackney Town Hall, Hackney Design Awards 2018, Holborn Studios, Talks at the Tower, Pitcairn House, 146A Rushmore Road, 195 Mare Street, Hackney Disinfecting Station, Green Spaces Walks, De Beauvoir Block, New Gravel Pit Burial Ground, London's Anatomy, Bohemia Place, Kings Crescent Estate, St Columba Church and St John at Hackney.

The newsletter continues to be funded piecemeal and by in-kind contribution of the editor and Trustee, Monica Blake, along with Ray Blackburn for help with copyediting. The Trustees would like to thank Paul Bolding, Tim Cocker, Core Arts, Siobhán Doran, Tom Feary, Sean Gubbins, Charles Hosea, Nicholas Kane, Peter Landers, Iain Langlands, Debbie Michener, Hedy Parry-Davies, John Pawson Ltd, Jim Stephenson, Rossana Tich and Tim Walder for their **articles** and **photographs**. We would also like to thank Glory Hall. Without her generosity, we would not be able to afford the commercial rates for **design**.

Websites

The Society continues to maintain our main website <http://hackneysociety.org> and in lieu of grant funding to redevelop the site entirely, continues with minor reorganisation of pages in the hope that the most relevant materials are easier to find. Two other *micro-sites* are still available but not actively updated. hackneybuildings.org (aka lovelocallandmarks.org), hackneysociety.org/health.

The Trustees thank *Community Sites* for their continued provision of services at very modest costs for community and amenity groups such as ours. It has been the Trustees' aim to prioritise redevelopment of the website but we remain constrained by the lack of capital funds for the project, which we estimate would need around £3,000.

Social Media

Social media continues to be important and we are indebted to member Rossana Tich who continues to manage our Twitter presence. As at 31 March 2020 we had around 11,100 Twitter (@HackneySociety) followers, up by 400 on the same time last year.

Our Facebook (@theHackneySociety) page is less actively managed and generally automatically reflects our Twitter activity.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Society's principal sources of funding in the period under review derived from membership subscriptions (£2,357) and from book sales (£3,915) and events held (£1,231).

The Trustees are satisfied with the results for the year disclosed on page 8. At the year-end date the Charity's general reserves stood at £21,888. The Charity's restricted funds remain at nil.

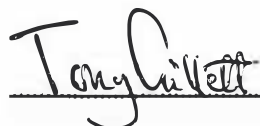
Reserves policy

In order for the Society to meet its stated aims and objectives it continues to be dependent upon donations. The donations received in any given year will dictate amounts that can be applied by The Hackney Society for its charitable purposes. Consequently, the Trustees consider it appropriate to carry forward a sufficient level of reserves to meet its immediate needs and also to ensure the short term liquidity and long term financial stability of the Charity.

SMALL COMPANY EXEMPTION

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



Tony Gillett – Trustee

Dated: 15 July 2020

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

I report on the accounts of The Hackney Society [the charity] for the year ended 31 March 2020 as set out elsewhere.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's trustees, you 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 Charities Act 2011 [the 2011 Act] and that an independent examination is appropriate.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 [b] of the 2011 Act;
- 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. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 [the 2006 Act]; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn, beyond disclosures already made, in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David J Harris FCMA

13 July 2020

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(Company number 04574188)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Notes	General funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income:					
Donations and grants		101		101	205
Activities for generating funds:	2	8,003		8,003	7,812
Investment income:					
UK bank interest		35		35	3
Total incoming resources		<u>8,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,139</u>	<u>8,020</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising and event costs	4	3,324	-	3,324	(1,901)
Charitable activities:					
Publications and campaigning	5	2,441	-	2,441	9,394
Governance costs	6	175		175	181
Total resources expended		<u>5,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,940</u>	<u>7,674</u>
Net movement in funds for the year before transfers		<u>2,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,199</u>	<u>346</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year	7	<u>2,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,199</u>	<u>346</u>
Total funds brought forward		<u>19,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,689</u>	<u>19,343</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>21,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,888</u>	<u>19,689</u>

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(Company number 04574188)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2020

	Notes	31.3.2020		31.3.2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	9				
Current assets:					
Stock of books	10	8,446		10,845	
Debtors: accrued income		121		12	
Cash at bank		13,349		9,060	
		<u>21,916</u>		<u>19,917</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year: accrued expenses		<u>(28)</u>		<u>(228)</u>	
Net current assets			21,888		19,689
Net assets			<u>21,888</u>		<u>19,689</u>
Represented By	11				
General funds	12		21,888		19,689
Restricted funds	13		-		-
			<u>21,888</u>		<u>19,689</u>

The charitable Company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2020.

The Directors have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 15 July 2020

 T Gillett - Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1. Accounting Policies

a. Basis of accounting

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2005).

b. Incoming resources

Incoming resources represent income generated from the charitable company's ordinary activities.

Voluntary income whether received by way of donation or grant is included in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it relates to.

Incoming resources from book sales are accounted for when earned. Membership subscriptions are recognised in the year in which they are received.

c. Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the categories. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in seeking voluntary contributions together with attributable support costs.

Charitable activities represent those specific direct costs incurred in providing public education materials. They also include support costs for providing logistical support and managing project expenditure.

Governance costs represent all costs involving public accountability of the charitable company and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related with statutory audit and constitutional requirements together with attributable support costs.

Support costs and overheads have been allocated across activity categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resource, eg salaries allocated on the basis of estimated time spent and office overheads by estimated usage.

d. Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life at the following rates:-

Website - 33% Straight Line

e. Cash flow statement

The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No.1 from producing a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

f. Stock of books

Stocks of donated books are included at the Trustees' valuation. Stocks of books produced are valued at the lower of production cost and net realisable value.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(Company number 04574188)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1. Accounting Policies -continued

g. Funds

General funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the Charity without specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are those funds set aside by the trustees from unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds are specifically donated to the charity where the donor has specified they be used for the benefit of a specific project within the objects of the charity, or for a particular administrative cost.

2 Activities for generating funds	General funds	Restricted funds	Total 31.3.2020	Total 31.3.2019
	£	£	£	£
Membership income	2,357		2,357	2,287
Book sales	3,915		3,915	5,330
Fundraising event	1,731		1,731	195
	8,003	-	8,003	7,812

3 Allocation of support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income	Charitable activities	Governance	Total 31.3.2020	Total 31.3.2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance	63	110	10	183	184
Office cost	247	411	165	823	7,468
	310	521	175	1,006	7,652

4 Cost of generating funds: fund-raising and event costs

	General funds	Restricted funds	Total 31.3.2020	Total 31.3.2019
	£	£	£	£
Cost of books sold	2,399		2,399	(2,400)
Cost of events held	615		615	153
Attributed support costs	310		310	346
	3,324	-	3,324	(1,901)

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

5 **Costs of generating funds: analysis of charitable expenditure**

		Publication & Literature costs	Campaigning & public awareness	Total 31.3.2020	Total 31.3.2019
5.1	By activity:				
		£	£	£	£
	Newsletter	960	960	1,920	2,236
	Direct costs			-	34
	Support costs	21	500	521	7,124
		<u>981</u>	<u>1,460</u>	<u>2,441</u>	<u>9,394</u>
5.2	By fund:	General funds	Restricted funds	Total 31.3.2020	Total 31.3.2019
		£	£	£	£
	Newsletter	1,920		1,920	2,236
	Direct costs	-		-	34
	Support costs	521	-	521	7,124
		<u>2,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,441</u>	<u>9,394</u>

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(Company number 04574188)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

6 Governance costs:	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 31.3.2020 £	Total 31.3.2019 £
Independent examiner's fees			-	-
Support costs (see note 3)	175		175	181
	<u>175</u>		<u>175</u>	<u>181</u>

7 Surplus/ (deficit) for the year:	31.3.2020 £	31.3.2019 £
	<u>2,199</u>	<u>346</u>

There were no persons employed by the charitable company during the year [2019: nil]. None of the Trustees/Directors received any emoluments or were reimbursed expenses during the period under review.

8 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Society is potentially exempt from taxation on income and gains falling within sections 466-493 of the Corporation Act 2010 and section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied for charitable purposes.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Website £
Cost	
At 1 April 2019	8,290
Additions in the year	
At 31 March 2020	<u>8,290</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2019	8,290
Charge for year	
At 31 March 2020	<u>8,290</u>
Net book value	
At 1 April 2019	<u>Nil</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>Nil</u>

10 Stock of books

In accordance with financial policy 1f, Trustees have considered a write-down in the valuation of produced books, but decided that it was not necessary.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY LIMITED
(Company number 04574188)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

11 Analysis of net assets between funds:

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Current assets	21,916	-	21,916
Creditors	(28)		(28)
Fund balance	<u>21,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,888</u>

12 General funds

General funds are those funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

13 Restricted funds

The fund balances listed below represent the excess of donations or grants received over expenditure incurred for those projects whereby the purpose is specified by the donors as to their use:

	Balance at 1.4.2018 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	£
Love Local Landmarks	-	-	-	0
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>

The Society no longer has any restricted funds.

14. Related Party transactions

During the year the Charity did not make any payments to Trustees, [2019: nil].

15. Legal status

The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.