

Chairman's Report 2023- 2024

Dear Members,

What a marvellous Arts Society we have, with the lecturers and their talks every session, bringing its own character. We have

- chuckled over cartoons,
- been challenged to demonstrate our musical capabilities,
- provoked by the disquieting,
- smiled at the artistically provocative,
- been given a deeper insight into aspects of architecture,
- viewed racial discrimination through the camera's lens.

What a fantastic range and most often taking away with us a broader appreciation than perhaps where we started. Indeed, lessons of life through art.

I thoroughly enjoy these lectures and judging by members renewing their subscription, year on year, I suspect that you do, too.

Aside from the meetings, I would draw your attention to the volunteer arms of the society, each led by a member of the committee, which in conversation with members, are little lauded or even known to be there. This year alone an audit of West Littleton Church was completed, culminating in the production of three hard-bound copies, for the Bristol Archives, West Littleton Church and TASSV. My thanks to Barbara and her team who persevered through thick and thin to achieve something to be treasured. The Heritage Volunteers, a dedicated team of accomplished needlewomen completed one refurbishment and are well into their next project whilst the Community Arts Bursary of £1,000 has been used to great effect by local Jigsaw Charity which enhances the lives of children and their families who are struggling with autism. These successes often feature on the pre-talk presentation but we are aware that this can be overlooked as we socialise with friends.

It is pleasing that our membership is gradually recovering, although we are a long way short of the numbers of pre-covid years, about 25% short.

See you at the coffee morning in September where everyone is welcome.

Linda Griffith