



## Annual Report 2019-20

The highlight of autumn 2019 was undoubtedly the success of our first Berwick Music Series. World class musicians performed in an excellent local arts venue, The Watchtower, to great critical acclaim. You can read a full report and see a video of the highlights on our website <http://berwickea.org/music/>

Collaboration with Berwick Visual Arts continued throughout the year, and popular art workshops, lectures and tours were arranged around the Granary Gallery's exhibitions on Turner, Wilhelmina Barns-Graham and the Glasgow Boys and Girls. We also worked with other local organisations:

- with Sea the Change on a short course on the environment,
- with Berwick Arts Choir on a lecture related to their December 2019 concert,
- with the Radio Rooms on a Blues lecture and concert,
- with Berwick Film Society on our Film Studies courses, and
- with Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival (and Sarah Neely of Stirling University) on a celebration of Margaret Tait.

Our regular programme continued with a wide range of lectures and activities until March, when the Coronavirus epidemic put an end to classroom meetings. We are presently providing a reduced programme online, with astronomy, art, ancient civilisations, environmental studies, and film. Our experience is that our local audience continue to support us in this new environment and that our audience base has broadened, both nationally, and to a lesser degree, internationally.

Once again, we hosted more than 100 sessions with an aggregate attendance of more than 2,000. We thank our excellent lecturers, both old and new; we appreciate that the popularity of our annual programme is due to the high quality of their contributions. We also thank our tireless volunteers, who are essential to our ability to provide such a wide and varied programme.

### **Financial review**

Our accounts for 2019-20 include expenditure of grants received in 2018-9 for the Berwick Music Series.

Total income for the year amounted to £ 21,203 (2019: £ 27,153 ) against running costs of £24,562 (2019: £ 19,913 ) resulting in an operating deficit of £3,359 (2019: £7,240 surplus).

Total funds at the year end were £ 13,116 (2019:£16,475 ) of which £ 13,116 (2019: £ 11,554 ) were unrestricted and none (2019: £4,291) were restricted.

Our policy is to maintain this fund at a level that will enable us to pay any outstanding bills and allow us to increase both the number of events and the range of our subjects.

For and on behalf of the Trustees.

Jacqui Parkin  
Treasurer

17/10/2020