

THE FRIENDS OF THOMAS PLUME'S LIBRARY

Registered charity no. 1098311

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	2024-25	2023-24
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	645.00	650.00
Donations from Friends	<u>1,696.81</u>	<u>5,033.50</u>
Donation from Marsh Charitable Trust	120.00	500.00
Gift Aid recovery	1,173.46	919.66
Income from fundraising & events (note 1)	2,305.04	2,260.68
Interest received	<u>0.93</u>	<u>26.19</u>
Receipts total	<u>5,941.24</u>	<u>9,390.03</u>
PAYMENTS		
Books purchased for Thomas Plume's Library	4,296.00	11,825.00
Laptop for Thomas Plume's Library	289.98	0.00
Marsh Charitable Trust donation paid over to TPL	120.00	0.00
Costs of fundraising & events (note 1)	785.00	896.00
Print, post and stationery	57.15	67.24
Insurance	75.00	90.00
AGM room costs	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
Payments total	<u>5,653.13</u>	<u>12,908.24</u>
Net surplus for the year	<u>288.11</u>	<u>-3,518.21</u>
Bank balances at the start of the year	1,462.94	4,981.15
Net surplus for the year (deficit in 2023/24)	<u>288.11</u>	<u>-3,518.21</u>
Bank balances at the end of the year	<u>1,751.05</u>	<u>1,462.94</u>

Note 1. Fundraising events & visits:

	2024-25			2023-24		
	Receipts	Payments	Net	Receipts	Payments	Net
AGM raffle May	129.00	0.00	129.00	96.28	0.00	96.28
Caird Library, Greenwich visit Jul 2024	750.00	685.00	65.00	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Pepys Library, Cambridge visit Jun 2023	0.00	0.00	0.00	936.00	846.00	90.00
Heritage Day bookstall Sept	302.04	0.00	302.04	191.40	0.00	191.40
Quiz Feb	1,124.00	50.00	1,074.00	1,037.00	0.00	1,037.00
Milton's Cottage visit July 2025 deposit	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total from fundraising & events	<u>2,305.04</u>	<u>785.00</u>	<u>1,520.04</u>	<u>2,260.68</u>	<u>896.00</u>	<u>1,364.68</u>

Treasurer's Report for 2024-25

Summary

In 2024/25 we were able to buy 3 books for the Library to replace those on the 'missing' list, at a cost of £4,296. This was a quieter year than 2023/24, when we purchased 10 books, mostly at the Fox-Pointe Collection auctions. We also purchased a laptop for the Library in 2024/25. We had a surplus of income over expenditure of £288.11 for the year. We finished the year with balances in the bank of £1,751.05 (£1,462.94 at the start of the year).

Income

Subscriptions & donations

The main source of income for the charity is subscriptions and donations from members of £2,341.81 (last year £5,683.50 including donations from a special appeal for book purchases in June 2023). We had 128 members in 2024-25, (131 in 2023/24). We received a donation of £120 in August 2024 towards the running costs of the Library from the Marsh Charitable Trust. This was passed on to the Library. Gift Aid income of £1,173.46 was received during the year, in respect of the tax years 2023-24. This is a larger amount than normal, as it included the donations from the special appeal. Gift Aid on the donations received in 2024-25 will be received in the next financial year.

Fundraising events

The Friends held two fundraising events and one trip during the year. On Heritage Day in September 2024 we held a bookstall in the churchyard outside the Library, and helped with stewarding duties for the visitors to the Library. We received a large number of donated books; some of the unsold books were subsequently sold to online second hand booksellers. In total £302.04 was raised (last year £191.40). In February 2025 we held our annual quiz in Maldon Town Hall. This was very enjoyable and was well attended, and £1,074.00 was raised (last year £1,037.00). The Mayor very kindly nominated us to receive free use of the Town Hall, so there were no venue costs.

Visits

In July 2024 members visited the Caird Library and the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. This trip made a small surplus of £65.00 less costs of £50 prepaid the previous year.

Expenditure

Donations to Thomas Plume's Library

During the year we paid £4,296 towards the cost of 3 books for the Plume Library. The Library also received a generous grant of £2,250 from The Friends of the National Libraries towards the cost of one of these books.

The Friends of Thomas Plume's Library History Prize

The Plume Academy did not put forward any pupils for the essay prize this year.

Payments to trustees

Trustees were reimbursed £82.65 for costs incurred on behalf of the charity.

Year end bank balance & reserves

The charity ended the year with £1,751.05 in its bank accounts. Reserves remain within the agreed range of £500 to £20,000. The charity holds reserves so it can pursue its objects; trustees monitor the level of reserves at each meeting.

Signed Janis Croom Janis Croom, Treasurer, 22nd April 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of The Friends of Thomas Plume's Library on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 Act of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act
- Follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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 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 matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act and
 - b. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met, or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  David Sage, 5 May 2025