

**Cyfeillion Amgueddfa Cymru - Friends Museum Wales**  
**69fed Cyfarfod Blynyddol Cyffredinol – 69th Annual General Meeting**  
**Tachwedd 2<sup>il</sup> 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Treasurer's Report**  
**Financial Year April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

**Background**

Activities have returned to more or less normal after a couple of difficult years. Members have enjoyed talks, day trips and longer visits at home and abroad; membership levels have remained fairly static, and we were able to make a modest donation to Amgueddfa Cymru/Museum Wales during the year. Our grateful thanks are expressed to Dr Tony Williams who was kind enough to examine our accounts again this year.

**Income**

- A rise in subscription levels resulted in an increase in income from that source, although there has been some difficulty in ensuring that all members had regard for the change as it applied to standing orders and online payments. Members continued to support monthly talks with their donations.
- Day trips and longer visits provided a reasonably level of surplus, and we remain very grateful indeed to those who are prepared to spend time and effort in ensuring that all runs smoothly.
- The Christmas Lunch again gave members the opportunity to meet and mingle in the splendid Great Hall of the Museum. Members enjoyed a delicious meal and excellent entertainment.
- While the increase in the rate of inflation was a cause for concern for the general public, the raising of interest rates by the Bank of England did produce a better level of interest on the savings account.

**Expenditure**

- Donations from members attending monthly talks are used to cover the costs of speakers, room hire and refreshments. There is usually a small surplus.
- We are fortunate in being able to arrange insurance through the British Association of Friends of Museums; our premium has not increased this year.
- Increases in postage and printing rates have given rise to a substantially higher figure this year. Members who are able to receive paperwork electronically are urged to ensure that we have up-to-date email addresses: being able to send information without having to print and post it saves considerable expense. Those who do not have this facility will of course receive information by post. The possibility of making *Oriel* available electronically would also help to save considerable expense.
- Our donations to Amgueddfa Cymru/Museum Wales this year were put towards the refurbishment of glasshouses at St Fagans; the digital learning project, and the reconditioning of the organ. We were delighted that recitals commenced this year.
- We were able to open a Treasurer's account in the middle of the Financial Year, which offers us free banking and deposit facilities, and enables us to make online payments. Members are also able to pay by online transfer, which has reduced the need for visits to the bank considerably. We do urge those making such payments to ensure that they are made to the correct account and that they are easily identified by the use of the recommended reference!

- Nevertheless, our banking arrangements continue to cause concern – our Subscriptions account now attracts a monthly charge of £7.00. While this is not a substantial figure, it is a charge we could do without. We do not have online access to the Subscription and Savings Accounts, which causes problems with administration. This is a situation which the Board of Trustees should consider as a matter of urgency.
- It was a matter of regret that we were notified that our submission of accounts to the Charity Commission for the previous year (2022-23) overdue. This was the result of our misunderstanding of the new procedures in place and it was made immediately we became aware of the problem. Our submission of this year's accounts (2023-24) will be made in good time.

## **In Summary**

The organisation remains in reasonably good health financially, and we look forward to an interesting and stimulating year of activities, and being able to support Amgueddfa Cymru/Museum Wales in its aims against a background of reduced grant aid from Government.

**Lyn Owen, Treasurer**

**July 2024**