

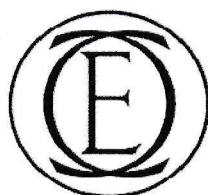
The English Ceramic Circle

Trustees Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31st October, 2025



A Swansea pearlware cabaret service, c1805, comprising an oval tray, teapot and cover, sucrier and cover, milk jug and one of the two tea cups and saucers originally supplied with the service. Finely painted by William Weston Young with sepia landscapes of Swansea, gilded by Thomas Pardoe with an all over caillouté design.

Photo courtesy of Bonhams Auctioneers, London



Registered Charity Number 1097063

**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charity Commission's publication "Financial Reporting Standard 102" ("FRS 102") and guidance note "Charity reporting and accounting (CC15d)" applicable to reporting periods beginning on or after 1st November 2016

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name: The English Ceramic Circle (also known as "ECC")

Registered Charity Number: 1097063

Website address: www.englishceramiccircle.org.uk

Charity's principal postal address: BM Box 7246, London WC1N 3XX

Trustees

Neil Ewins - Programme Secretary

Jonathan Gray - President

Francesca John - Communications Manager

Barbara Jotham - Treasurer

Lucy Lead - Librarian

Caroline McCaffrey-Howarth - Co-Chair 2027 Exhibition Committee

Nick Panes - Advisor (appointed 13 April 2025)

James Peake - Chair, Grants Committee

Jacqui Pearce - Joint Editor

Rosemary Pemberton (resigned 12 April 2025)

Tom Smith - Visits Manager

Simon Spier - Webmaster and Co-Chair 2027 Exhibition Committee

Oliver Towers - Transactions Advertising (appointed 12 April 2025)

Amber Turner (resigned 12 April 2025)

Rebecca Walker - Social Media

Irina Zigar - Social Media (resigned 17 November 2025)

Bankers : NatWest Bank plc and United Trust Bank

Independent Examiner: Mr John Beetwell

**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The Charity is an unincorporated association, governed by the Rules of The English Ceramic Circle ('The Rules'), which were revised at and took effect from the Annual General Meeting held on 24 May 2022. A copy of the Rules can be found on ECC's website.

The Trustees of the Charity form the Committee of the English Ceramic Circle. The Committee comprises not more than fifteen members who are elected (for a term of not more than three years with the right to re-election). The Committee has power to co-opt not more than three members, and a list of the current Trustees is set out above.

The Charity has no employees. The Accounts have been subject to Independent Examination as required by Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011.

ECC complies with the requirements of the EU General Data Protection Regulation. Data is held by only the President, Treasurer, Membership and Programme Secretaries and Visits Manager and is accessed and used by them only to solicit subscription renewals and other payments due, to mail Transactions (via a third party which then destroys the mailing list) and email Newsletters and communicate matters of interest eg events (via Mailchimp) to them. ECC does not share personal data with third parties without the consent of the individuals concerned. ECC's full data privacy statement is available on its website www.englishceramiccircle.org.uk.

3. OBJECTIVES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Objectives of the Charity, as defined in section 2 of The Rules, are:

- a)** To advance the public knowledge and appreciation of ceramics and enamels manufactured, decorated, or used in the British Isles.

- b)** To promote research and study in all matters relating to ceramics and enamels manufactured, decorated, or used in the British Isles and to disseminate the useful knowledge gained for the public benefit.

The Charity provides public benefit through its Transactions and other publications, which are available in a variety of libraries and also for sale to the public, and through its website, public meetings and seminars. The general public are also invited to view those of our on-line Zoom lectures which are not restricted to Members only.

**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

4. ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Meetings, seminars and visits

Saturday lecture meetings are generally held twice a year; in 2024-25 the meetings were held in Doubletree by Hilton, London Kensington. A further seven lectures were held via Zoom, with the majority open to non-members. Many of these lectures are available to Members on the ECC website, with several available to all website visitors.

In March 2025 71 people participated in a one-day seminar devoted to 'Wedgwood and the Society of Dilettanti', a British society for noblemen and scholars which sponsored the study of ancient Greek and Roman art and work in that style.

Using Zoom continues to be extremely popular with the membership at large, enabling many more, particularly those living overseas, to attend meetings. It also widens the list of potential speakers as they can give papers from their own homes or workplaces anywhere in the world. ECC receives invitations from various other ceramic groups in the UK and abroad to participate in their Zoom lectures and these are passed on to both ECC Members and other societies.

Publications

The English Ceramic Circle publishes an annual publication, The Transactions of the English Ceramic Circle, and two newsletters each year. Occasional additional publications are published and made available to Members. Members are also advised by email of significant events in the ceramic world, such as exhibitions, auctions and seminars.

ECC maintains a library of ceramic publications and literature to which Members have access and which, in most cases, are available on loan to Members for short periods.

The publication arising from the 2022 Thomas Baxter study day was published in 2025 with the support of a CHF6,500 (£5,991) grant from Ceramica Stiftung and private donations of £2,725. A further £3,000 was designated for publication and postage costs from unrestricted funds, including a total of £1,000 donated by HSBC. Copies were sent in October 2025 to paid-up members together with Transactions volume 35.

Various information is available on the ECC website. As the website itself has not been updated for several years the Committee will be reviewing options for further development.

**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

Membership

The English Ceramic Circle offers annual subscription membership which entitles Members to attend meetings, to receive the annual Transactions, two newsletters, invitations to Zoom lectures including those provided by other bodies to which ECC Members are invited and sometimes (at the discretion of the Committee) other publications without further charge. Membership is offered to individuals, joint membership to two individuals at the same address, and Institutional Membership. The latter category entitles Institutions to send any nominated individual to meetings organised by the ECC.

Membership subscription numbers decreased by 24 (5%) overall during the year (2023-24 decrease of 29 (5%)).

The majority of UK individual Members gift aid their subscriptions and the Committee urges any UK tax payer who has not done so to contact the Treasurer in order to set this up and provide valuable additional income to ECC at no cost to themselves.

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

ECC generated net income of £9,312 for the year, before designations, comprising £615 restricted net income and £8,697 unrestricted net income (2023-24 net income of £4,105, comprising £328 restricted net income and £4,433 unrestricted net income). The increases to unrestricted income were primarily one-off in nature: a welcome £2,988 legacy, which is being designated to contribute to speakers and bursaries at events, and £1,916 royalties which dated back several years. Subscriptions income decreased by £475 (2%). £763 net income was generated by the Wedgwood seminar. Sale of publications, including postage recharges, reduced from £895 to £271, mainly due to the website issues. ECC continued to benefit in 2024-25 from higher interest rates on longer-term deposits, generating £3,701 bank interest income compared to £3,972 in 2023-24; however this is expected to decrease as longer-term deposits mature. A total of £6,716 was received in 2024-25 towards the publication of papers from the Thomas Baxter seminar held in 2021-22, comprising a grant of £5,991 (CHF6,500) from Ceramica Stiftung and a £725 private donation.

Expenditure increased by £10,697, to £38,535 from £32,823 in 2023-24. This included £11,475 costs of the Thomas Baxter publication (of a total £11,716). There were savings on the costs of London meetings in 2024-25, both on the cost per meeting and having two rather than three meetings as occurred in 2023-24 due to the change of timing of these meetings; the total cost including the annual Zoom subscription for remote meetings was £3,298 in 2024-25 compared to £5,556 in 2023-24. Additional funds have been allocated to start to develop the website and from July 2025 onwards for day-to-day administration of membership.

**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

The ECC is a registered charity and we encourage donations and bequests from both Members and the public to enable ECC's activities to continue. Supplementary categories of membership, comprising Friends, Sponsors and Benefactors, produced additional income of £2,374 during 2024-25 (2023-24 £2,172). This income is treated as restricted and credited to the Research Reserve, which enables ECC to contribute to research, publishing and increasing access in relation to ceramics and enamels made in Britain. In 2024-25 the balance on this fund increased from £3,409 to £5,783, of which £1,370 was committed in early 2025-26 for research grants to two individual recipients and £500 was granted towards a display of The Du Boulay Collection of Huguenot Ceramics at the newly established Rochester Huguenot Museum.

Reserves Policy

ECC's trustees consider the existing free reserve of £56,425 to be sufficient to meet the medium-term requirements of ECC, being comparable, in relation to annual expenditure, to other ceramic societies.

Designated Funds

ECC will reach its 100th anniversary in 2027 and the Committee has set up a sub-committee to plan at least one special event to commemorate this. Since 2020-21, uncommitted unrestricted funds have been transferred to the Centenary Fund: in 2024-25, we have been able to apply the additional bank interest and royalties, together with expenditure savings, to add £8,209. This brings the balance at 31 October 2025 to £17,797, which will provide instrumental matched funding for fundraising activities to create a truly memorable year of activities in 2027-28.

A £2,988 legacy from Diana Edwards has been designated in 2024-25 as a fund to contribute to speakers and bursaries for events.

ECC maintains a printing reserve of £18,500 to cover the anticipated costs of printing the papers delivered to Members but not yet published.


**THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

6. MEMBERSHIP

Membership numbers at 31 October 2025 were as follows:

| | Individual | Institutional | Total | 2023-24 Total |
|-------------------------|------------|---------------|-------|------------------|
| UK Members | 337 | 23 | 360 | 374 |
| Europe | 6 | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| USA and Canada | 93 | 16 | 109 | 112 |
| Australia & New Zealand | 14 | 3 | 17 | 19 |
| Rest of World | 2 | | 2 | 4 |
| | 452 | 45 | 497 | 521 |

On behalf of the Trustees



Jonathan Gray
President



Barbara Jotham, FCA
Treasurer

15 May 2026

**Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of
The English Ceramic Circle
for the Year Ended 31st October 2025**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the English Ceramic Circle ("The Circle") for the year ended 31 October 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Circle you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circle's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

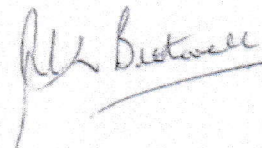
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John Beetwell
c/o BM Box 7246
London
WC1N 3XX



15 May 2026

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st October 2025

| | 2024-25 | | | 2023-24 | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| | £ Restricted Funds | £ Unrestricted Funds | £ Total Funds | £ Restricted Funds | £ Unrestricted Funds | £ Total Funds |
| INCOMING RESOURCES | | | | | | |
| Voluntary Income | | | | | | |
| Subscriptions | - | 21,170 | 21,170 | - | 21,645 | 21,645 |
| Income from Friends, Sponsors & Benefactors | 2,374 | - | 2,374 | 2,172 | - | 2,172 |
| Gift Aid | - | 2,500 | 2,500 | - | 2,659 | 2,659 |
| Legacies | - | 2,988 | 2,988 | - | - | - |
| Grants receivable | 5,991 | - | 5,991 | - | - | - |
| Donations | 725 | 734 | 1,459 | 500 | 555 | 1,055 |
| | <u>9,090</u> | <u>27,392</u> | <u>36,482</u> | <u>2,672</u> | <u>24,859</u> | <u>27,531</u> |
| Investment Income | | | | | | |
| Bank Interest | - | 3,701 | 3,701 | - | 3,972 | 3,972 |
| Income from Charitable Activities | | | | | | |
| Publication & archive sales | - | 271 | 271 | - | 895 | 895 |
| Seminar income | - | 2,255 | 2,255 | - | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| Advertising income | - | 3,000 | 3,000 | - | 2,750 | 2,750 |
| Visits income | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other income | - | 1,916 | 1,916 | - | 180 | 180 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>7,442</u> | <u>7,442</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>5,425</u> | <u>5,425</u> |
| Total Incoming Resources | <u>9,090</u> | <u>38,535</u> | <u>47,625</u> | <u>2,672</u> | <u>34,256</u> | <u>36,928</u> |
| RESOURCES EXPENDED | | | | | | |
| Costs of Charitable Activities | | | | | | |
| Publication Costs | 8,475 | 18,066 | 26,541 | - | 18,715 | 18,715 |
| Mailings and Postage | - | 1,488 | 1,488 | - | 1,380 | 1,380 |
| Meetings | - | 3,298 | 3,298 | - | 5,556 | 5,556 |
| Website and computer expenses | - | 2,360 | 2,360 | - | 1,620 | 1,620 |
| Research Grants awarded | - | - | - | 3,000 | - | 3,000 |
| Marketing | - | 253 | 253 | - | 201 | 201 |
| Insurance | - | 538 | 538 | - | 533 | 533 |
| Depreciation | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Seminar costs | - | 1,492 | 1,492 | - | 1,419 | 1,419 |
| Visits costs | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Donations | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bank Charges | - | 326 | 326 | - | 284 | 284 |
| Administrative support and Committee expenses | - | 2,017 | 2,017 | - | 115 | 115 |
| Total Resources Expended | <u>8,475</u> | <u>29,838</u> | <u>38,313</u> | <u>3,000</u> | <u>29,823</u> | <u>32,823</u> |
| NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR | 615 | 8,697 | 9,312 | (328) | 4,433 | 4,105 |
| Total funds brought forward | 5,168 | 87,013 | 92,181 | 5,496 | 82,580 | 88,076 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | <u>5,783</u> | <u>95,710</u> | <u>101,493</u> | <u>5,168</u> | <u>87,013</u> | <u>92,181</u> |

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
Balance Sheet at 31st October 2025

| | | 2025 | | 2024 | |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | |
| Tangible Assets | 2 | | - | | - |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Debtors and Prepayments | 3 | 18,021 | | 9,119 | |
| NatWest Bank - instant access | | 18,346 | | 6,526 | |
| NatWest Bank - 35 days notice | | 41,878 | | 47,759 | |
| United Trust Bank - 2 years bond | | 31,514 | | 31,514 | |
| United Trust Bank - 3 years bond | | 18,439 | | 18,439 | |
| | | 128,198 | | 113,357 | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Creditors and Accruals | 4 | | 26,705 | | 21,176 |
| Net Current Assets | | | 101,493 | | 92,181 |
| Net Assets | | | 101,493 | | 92,181 |

Represented by:

Unrestricted Funds:

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| General Reserve | | 56,425 | | 56,425 | |
| Printing Reserve | | 18,500 | | 21,000 | |
| Diana Edwards Legacy | | 2,988 | | - | |
| Centenary Fund | | 17,797 | | 9,588 | |
| | 5 | | 95,710 | | 87,013 |

Restricted Funds:

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------|---------|-------|--------|
| Research Reserve | | 5,783 | | 3,409 | |
| Thomas Baxter Publication | | - | | 1,759 | |
| | 6 | | 5,783 | | 5,168 |
| | | | 101,493 | | 92,181 |

The Financial Statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Jonathan Gray (President)



Barbara Jotham, FCA (Treasurer)

15 May 2026

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
Accounts for the year ended 31 October 2025
Notes to the Accounts

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost convention and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The statements have been voluntarily compiled on an accruals basis to comply with the principal recommendations of the Charity Commission's publication "Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities" [2015].

Income from Members' subscriptions, which entitles members to receive the annual Transactions publication and to attend both public and members' meetings, is recognised in the year in which those meetings take place.

Income from Gift Aid is accounted for in the financial year in which the donated income being claimed for is received. Income from publication grants, provided such grant is committed, is accounted for in the year in which the relevant publication costs are incurred.

The Circle holds stocks of past Transactions which it sells to the public and to Members. Some of these publications are many years old and the trustees take the view that maintaining a stock recording system to maintain these relatively low valued stocks would not be justified. Accordingly, subject to the matters set out below, publication costs are expensed in the accounts in the year in which they are printed.

The Circle maintains a Printing Reserve to make allowance for the cost of unpublished Transactions, or supplements to Transactions, where the relevant papers have been presented by Members to the Circle but the printing not yet undertaken.

(b) Statutory Disclosures

During the year five committee members were reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs totalling £536 incurred on behalf of ECC (2023-24 £350 to three committee members) and no other trustee expenses were incurred (2023-24 £nil).

(c) Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Equipment under £1,000 is written off in the year of acquisition. Assets over £1,000 are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful life, usually 3 years.

2 Tangible Fixed Assets

| | Computer, Software, and Projection Equipment £ |
|--|--|
| Cost | |
| Opening balance at 1st November 2024 | - |
| Additions | - |
| Disposals | - |
| Closing Balance at 31st October 2025 | - |
| Depreciation | |
| Opening balance at 1st November 2024 | - |
| Disposals | - |
| Charge for the year | - |
| Closing Balance at 31st October 2025 | - |
| Net Book Value at 31st October 2025 | - |
| Net Book Value at 31st October 2024 | - |

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC CIRCLE
Accounts for the year ended 31 October 2025
Notes to the Accounts

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 3 Debtors and prepayments | As at 31st October: | 2025 | 2024 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Amounts falling due within one year: | | | |
| Meetings expenses paid in advance | | 424 | 410 |
| Seminar expenses paid in advance | | - | - |
| Insurance paid in advance | | 90 | 90 |
| Website expenses paid in advance | | 871 | 861 |
| Gift Aid receivable | | 2,500 | 2,659 |
| Advertising income receivable | | 3,000 | 2,400 |
| Grant income receivable | | 5,991 | - |
| Publications income receivable | | - | - |
| CAF donation receivable | | - | - |
| Accrued bank interest receivable | | 5,145 | 2,699 |
| | | <u>18,021</u> | <u>9,119</u> |

| | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4 Creditors and accruals | As at 31st October: | 2025 | 2024 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Subscriptions received in advance | | 1,732 | 1,590 |
| Seminar/visit income received in advance | | 620 | 25 |
| Meetings expenses | | 119 | 246 |
| Publications expenses | | 23,486 | 18,590 |
| Mailings and postage | | 528 | 725 |
| Administrative expenses | | 220 | - |
| | | <u>26,705</u> | <u>21,176</u> |

5 Unrestricted Funds

| | Opening balance at 1st November 2024 | Incoming resources | Outgoing resources | Transfers | Closing balance at 31st October 2025 |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unallocated reserves | | | | | |
| General funds | 56,425 | 38,535 | (26,838) | (11,697) | 56,425 |
| Designated reserves | | | | | |
| Printing Reserve | 18,500 | - | - | - | 18,500 |
| Thomas Baxter Publication | 2,500 | - | (3,000) | 500 | - |
| Diana Edwards Legacy | - | - | - | 2,988 | 2,988 |
| 2027 Centenary Fund | 9,588 | - | - | 8,209 | 17,797 |
| | <u>30,588</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(3,000)</u> | <u>11,697</u> | <u>39,285</u> |
| Total | <u>87,013</u> | <u>38,535</u> | <u>(29,838)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>95,710</u> |

6 Restricted Funds

| | Opening balance at 1st November 2024 | Incoming resources | Outgoing resources | Transfers | Closing balance at 31st October 2025 |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Research reserve | 3,409 | 2,374 | - | - | 5,783 |
| Thomas Baxter Publication | 1,759 | 6,716 | (8,475) | - | - |
| | <u>5,168</u> | <u>9,090</u> | <u>(8,475)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>5,783</u> |

The Research Reserve, funded by additional income from Friends, Sponsors and Benefactors, enables ECC to contribute to research, publishing and increasing access in relation to ceramics and enamels made in Britain.

The publication arising from the 2022 Thomas Baxter study day was published in 2025 with the support of a CHF6,500 (£5,991) grant from Ceramica Stiftung and private donations of £2,725. A further £3,000 was designated for publication and postage costs from unrestricted funds, including a total of £1,000 donated by HSBC. Copies were sent in October 2025 to paid-up members together with Transactions volume 35.