



STRADFAS – a member of The Arts Society
www.stradfas.org.uk



August 2021

Dear STRADFAS Member,

After a difficult and challenging year, we are inviting you to renew your membership. We are hoping to resume “live” meetings, depending on government advice. But we also expect to deliver lectures via zoom for a good while, so it may well be a combination of the two.

We do hope you are happy to renew this year.

Our new STRADFAS year, from **September 2021** to **June 2022**, starts with our first lecture on 16th September.

Subscription renewals

This year, we plan to keep our subscription to **£45 per member**, which includes membership to the Arts Society, and receipt of their magazine.

A new innovation last year was the introduction of Direct Debit for our members. This is our **preferred** payment option for its simplicity both for our members and our hard working committee.

The 2021-22 programme details are in our enclosed Newsletter, and our website gives even more information with any updates on our lecture and event programme_ **www.stradfas.org.uk**

In line with other branches of the Arts Society, and with the central AS membership policy, we are encouraging members to join or renew electronically, by using the forms available on the STRADFAS website, accessed by pressing the “Join Us” button on the top left corner of the screen. Then please email to **membership@stradfas.org.uk**

Non-renewals

It is very helpful if you let us know if you are unable to re-join. If you decide to leave, you would be welcome as an occasional visitor with a £7 donation per lecture. But remember that our existing membership will have priority for Days of Special Interest, Day Visits and Extended Tours as well as receiving the excellent quarterly Arts Society magazine.

We look forward to receiving your completed membership renewal form, confirmed as paid by Direct Debit, BACS or alternatively with a cheque enclosed, payable to ‘STRADFAS’.

Very best wishes

Jan Dawson / Sue Horne - Membership Secretaries
Email: **membership@stradfas.org.uk**

Gift Aid amounts

For 2021-22 the criteria for 'gift-aiding' is that you are paying **at least £45.00** on any of Income, Savings & Investment or Capital Gains Tax for the 2021-22 tax year. Other taxes such as VAT do not qualify.

The STRADFAS charity number is 1177315.

A reminder that if you have already given us a Gift Aid form, **we hold this on file, and there is no need to submit another one. If you no longer qualify for Gift Aid, please inform me.** We strongly encourage those who have not 'Gift-Aided' but wish to do so to download the form from www.stradfas.org.uk/members-documents or obtain a form from me.

Gift Aid Explanatory notes:

These are taken from the HMRC and The Arts Society websites.

a) **STRADFAS:**

STRADFAS (a charity) has a Gift Aid scheme, number 1177315

b) **Gift Aid forms are available from STRADFAS, or**

download from: www.stradfas.org.uk/members-documents/

You only need to fill the form in once, and we will retain it on your behalf.

c) **Payments from a couple:** *There are some specific requirements:*

For a **couple** to Gift Aid, you each need to fill in a **separate form** (there are two forms on our A4 sheet).

In order to Gift Aid, **each** must pay sufficient tax. If only **one** of you pays tax, **only that person may Gift Aid**, and only that person fills in a Gift-Aid form.

If you have a **joint bank account**, you can pay both Gift Aid subscriptions from this.

If you have **separate bank accounts**, the subscription **must** be paid **from the individual's own bank account** to qualify for tax relief (i.e. you cannot pay a combined cheque from just one of the accounts).

d) **Tax you pay:**

You must be paying a sufficient amount of Income tax and/or capital gains tax which is at least equal to the tax that STRADFAS (and any other charity or Community Amateur Sports Club to which you have made a Gift Aid declaration) reclaims on your donations in the current tax year. The tax must be income tax and/or capital gains tax: other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. The amount for this year is in our renewal letter.

e) **Changed circumstances:**

If in the future **your circumstances change** and you no longer pay tax on your income and/or capital gains that is equal to the tax that STRADFAS reclaims, **you should cancel your declaration by informing STRADFAS on your renewal form.**

f) **Change of name/address:**

STRADFAS will notify The Arts Society if you change your name or address. This will be on STRADFAS's annual return to The Arts Society.

g) **Higher rate tax:**

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate, and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return, or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code (see HMRC website)