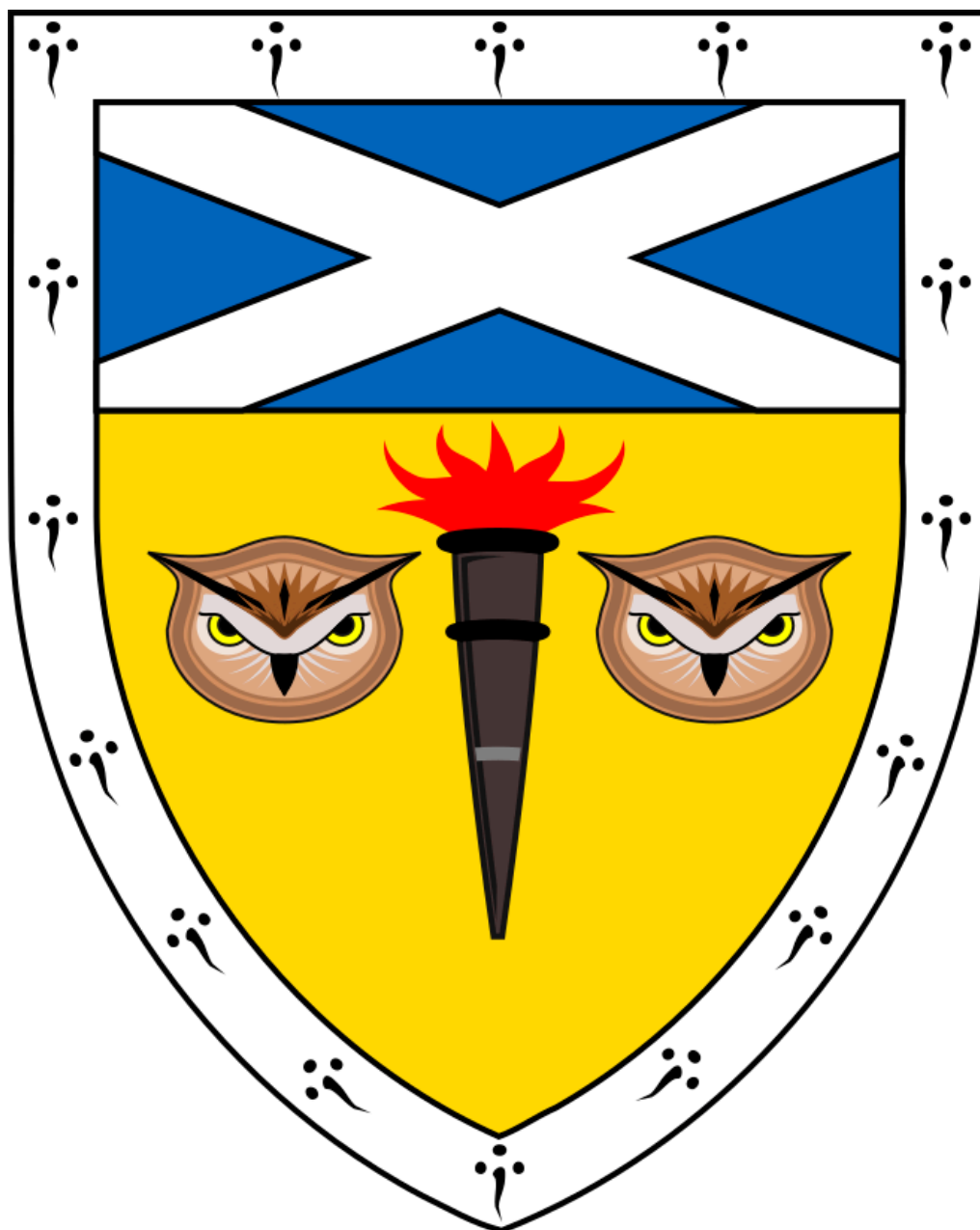


The Royal Scottish Society of Arts

Showcasing Scotland's Science, Technology and Innovation

**Report of Council for the period
1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024**

203rd Session



Patron: His Majesty the King

**Established 1821 - Incorporated by Royal Charter 1841
Registered Scottish Charity SC015549**

The Royal Scottish Society of Arts

Showcasing Scotland's Science, Technology and Innovation

Report of Council for 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024

Charity name	The Royal Scottish Society of Arts		
Registered charity number	SC015549		
Charity's principal address	23 Queen's Crescent		
	Edinburgh		
		Postcode EH9 2BB	
	Email: secretary@rssa.org.uk	Website: https://www.rssa.org.uk/	

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Professor Beverly Bergman	President		AGM
2	Brigadier Joseph d'Inverno	Vice-President		AGM
3	Dr Carol Marsh	Vice-President		AGM
4	Dr Alison Morrison-Low	Immediate Past President		Ex Officio
5	Mr Stanley Bird			AGM
6	Mr Stuart Brown			AGM
7	Miss Sophie Goggins			AGM
8	Dr Patrick Hickey			AGM
9	Professor Stuart K Monro			AGM
10	Professor Ian Robson			AGM
11	Professor John Sawkins			AGM
12	Mr Peter Jones	Secretary		Trustees
13	Mr Graham Rule	Treasurer		Trustees
14	Brigadier Ian Gardiner	Programme Secretary		Trustees

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

The shield shown on the front page is from the Society's full 'coat of arms' as described by the Lord Lyon King of Arms: "Or, between two eagle owls heads affrontée proper a torch Sable paleways enflamed Gules, on a chief Azure a saltire Argent, all within a bordure Ermine". The shield has a white border with black marks representing ermine fur. The upper part has a white (or silver) diagonal cross on a blue background. Below that the main body of the shield is yellow (or gold) with two forward-facing eagle owl heads on either side of an upright black torch with red flames. The Society commissioned the local illustrator Sandy Mackenzie <sandiloquent@gmail.com> to create the computer file based on the description and original painting from the Lord Lyon.

Structure, governance and management

The Society was incorporated by Royal Charter on 16th August 1841 and, subject to that charter, is governed by Laws, last altered on 24th June 2013.

The affairs of the Society are managed by a Council (the Charity's Trustees) consisting of: the President, the immediate Past President (if willing), two Vice-Presidents, up to seven Councillors, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and additional Officers as determined by Council. The President, Vice-Presidents and Councillors are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The immediate Past President holds office ex-officio.

The Secretary, Treasurer, and additional Officers (currently the Programme Secretary, the Webmaster, and the Archivist) are appointed by the Council.

Fellows of the Society are encouraged to put their names forward for election to the Council at the Annual General Meeting.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Society are the advancement of the Useful Arts in Scotland and the encouragement of Invention which these days is taken to be concerned with Science and Technology.

The Society holds seven or eight lecture meetings each year, all of which are open to the public. Meetings are held at the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EL. During the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic it was necessary to switch to holding meetings entirely online and the Zoom platform was used for this. As face-to-face meetings became possible again Fellows and guests continue to be able to attend online. Subject to the agreement of guest speakers, recordings are retained and may be viewed on request.

When possible meetings are at 7pm on the last Monday of the month (September to April, but not normally December). The AGM is usually on the first Monday of June (to avoid the May Bank Holiday).

The Society also organises, for its Fellows and, where appropriate, its guests, visits to places of scientific or technological interest.

The Society annually awards a prize and medal to the best student in the SQA Higher Engineering Science, and Advanced Higher Engineering Science examinations and a Travel Scholarship which enables a third year student in a STEM subject at a Scottish university to obtain experience and expertise over and above what would normally be possible in their undergraduate course

The Society desires to expand its activities and is actively pursuing means of engaging with schools, colleges, and universities.

Fellowship of the Society is open to all with an interest in science and its place in Society who would like to attend our meetings. Fellows of the Society are entitled to use the letters FRSSA after their names. Applications for Fellowship must be supported by at least one Fellow of the Society to whom the applicant is personally known.

Achievements and performance

His Majesty King Charles III has graciously accepted patronage of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts. The Society has written to His Majesty to express our gratitude for honouring us in this way and we have invited him to visit the Society in due course.

Our Society has enjoyed royal patronage over many years. Our honorary archivist and immediate past president, Alison Morrison-Low, has recently found contemporaneous documents which record that the Society has had a royal patron since its foundation in 1821 in the reign of King George IV. The honour was then enshrined in our royal charter when it was presented by Queen Victoria in 1841. In recent times, for many years, our royal patron was Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

The year 2023-24 has seen a continuing return towards a degree of normality since the difficult years of the pandemic, albeit there have been some positives to emerge. One of these is the ability to stream lectures online facilitated by the technical expertise of our Treasurer, Graham Rule. This has enabled many more Fellows and guests to enjoy our lectures, irrespective of distance, weather, or mobility. It has also enabled us to build up an archive of digital recordings where the speakers have given us permission so that Fellows who missed a lecture or would like to hear one again can do so. There were eight lectures in year, details of which appear below.

The lectures which all took place in the Augustine United Church provided important insights into new developments in the world of science and technology. Grateful thanks are due to Brigadier Ian Gardiner for his sterling work as Program Secretary in arranging the meetings. Members of Council are also thanked for proposing speakers and all Fellows are reminded that suggestions for future speakers can be made to any member of Council.

On 27th September 2023, the Society held an excellent and instructive visit for an enthusiastic group of Fellows to the National Robotarium on the Heriot-Watt campus at Riccarton.

The Society took a stand on Doors Open Day at the Augustine United Church on 23rd September, which was a valuable opportunity to bring the activities of the RSSA to the wider public. Gratitude is expressed to the small group of people who kindly manned the stand during the day. Volunteers for such events are always welcome and it is always an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

The Society attended the influential Science in the Parliament event at Dynamic Earth on 22nd November, 2023, at which the Society's award for the top marks in higher engineering science was presented to Sam Craig of Earlston High School in the Borders. The Society's award for the top marks in advanced higher engineering science was presented to Fraser Price of George Watson's College in Edinburgh.

Our congratulations go to both prize winners. The Society also had a stand at the exhibition, which attracted a steady stream of visitors during the breaks, a number of whom expressed an interest in joining the Society.

At the Annual General Meeting the President announced the winners of the RSSA Travel Scholarships for 2024: John Whitfield and Ed Riley, both of the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Edinburgh.

It is with very great sadness that we received news of the death on 23rd February 2024 of our Honorary Fellow Professor Stephen Salter, MBE FRSE, who was Emeritus Professor of Engineering Design at the University of Edinburgh. He was widely known as "the father of wave energy", and was tireless in his efforts to mitigate climate change.

Sadly, only a few weeks later on 8th April, we lost another of our Honorary Fellows, Professor Peter Higgs, CH FRS FRSE. He was Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Edinburgh. His best-known achievement was his proposal of the existence of the eponymous Higgs boson, some 50 years before it was actually discovered. He was the joint winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2013.

We send our condolences to the families and the many friends and colleagues of our late Honorary Fellows.

During the session the Society was represented by the President at the Diwali celebration of the Scottish Hindu Foundation, and at a dinner at Edinburgh Castle in honour of the visit to Scotland of dignitaries of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

The Society's 19 volumes of *Transactions* published between 1841 and 1927 have now been digitised and made accessible on-line to both Society Fellows and the general public, one of the projects commemorating the Bicentenary of the Society in 2021. The Transactions can be accessed at <https://digital.nls.uk/transactions-of-the-royal-scottish-society-of-arts/> on the website of the National Library of Scotland.

The Council is concerned to ensure that the Society continues to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). As a membership organisation the Society has a duty to hold certain records regarding its Fellows. The Society is required to keep appropriate accounting records, including subscriptions paid. It holds very little about non-Fellows other than correspondence with speakers and a simple mailing list. Everyone on this mailing list has confirmed that they wish to continue to receive information about the Society's activities.

The Council considers that the Society makes a useful contribution to the advancement of science and technology in Scotland and that the year in question was very successful. Engagement with more younger people, increasing attendance at meetings, as well as making the activities of the Society known to a wider public is high on the list of objectives for the future.

Financial review

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to major risks.

The Council considers that reserves of the order of £100,000 are needed to generate income necessary to pay the expenses of, and to attract, the quality of speaker the Society needs for its lecture series, and to make awards.

Currently the Society's reserves exceed this amount and the Council is actively investigating how to best use the surplus while being mindful of the potential for future decline in the current high levels of investment income and interest that these reserves are generating.

Details of any deficit: None

Donated facilities and services (if any): None

Fusion Power: a practical energy source

Professor Declan Diver

**Professor of Plasma Physics
School of Physics & Astronomy
University of Glasgow**

Monday 25th September 2023

Recent advances in magnetic fusion research have resulted in STEP – the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production – which will be built in the UK: the first fusion power station in the world. STEP is a unique machine, the result of a sustained UK fusion research effort, and will be delivering power by 2040. Fusion offers a consistent and reliable source of low-carbon energy that will help address the scale of the energy challenge globally: reducing fossil fuels whilst meeting the demand for significant increases in electrical power as transport, domestic heating and heavy industry transition from fossil fuels. We will explore the technology of STEP, and the prospects for the future.



My main research theme is the role of self-consistent electric and magnetic fields in the dynamics of charged particles and neutrals for complex gaseous systems (plasmas) in mixed-phase flows (ie in the presence of dust or liquid interfaces), with recent significant emphasis on the physics of life applications of plasmas having direct and indirect interaction with living cells. I also have a continuing interest in high-energy plasmas, including fusion, relativistic pair plasmas and pulsars. I was the consortium lead for Fusion Forward Ardeer, seeking to bring the world's first fusion power station - STEP - to the Ayrshire Coast.

**More about Professor Declan Diver from
<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/staff/declandiver/>**

Remote laboratories: Tolkienian adventures in digital education

Professor Timothy D. Drysdale SFHEA

**Chair of Technology Enhanced Science Education
School of Engineering
University of Edinburgh**

Monday 30th October 2023

Tolkien's *The Hobbit* was inspired by the landscape of my heritage (Scotland) and filmed in the land of my birth (New Zealand). It's possibly even an apt metaphor for my academic journey from the familiar shire to the distant lands that I now call home, with some unexpected adventures along the way. No good story is worth telling without dragons, so there'll be tales of risk, live (remote) experiments, and maybe even some dragon sightings (no guarantees, it's an adventure after all). Along the way, I'll explain how my work evolved from insect-inspired technologies for body scanning, to digital education innovations, and remote laboratories in particular. These open up some fantastic opportunities for the future of education, as well as addressing emerging human rights concerns around open access to digital education.



Professor Timothy Drysdale is the Chair of Technology Enhanced Science Education and Director of Strategic Digital Education in the School of Engineering at the University of Edinburgh. He leads the Practable.io remote laboratories, winners of the 2023 international award for Digital Transformation, from the Association for Learning Technology & Jisc. From 2015-2018, he was a Senior Lecturer in Engineering at the Open University, where he was the founding director and lead developer of the £3M openEngineering Laboratory which was recognised by awards including the Times Higher Education Outstanding Digital Innovation 2017, The Guardian Teaching Excellence 2018, Global Online Labs Consortium Remote Experiment Award 2018, and National Instruments Global Engineering Impact Award for Education 2018. His public engagement work has seen him exhibit at the British Science Festival, the Royal Society, and Buckingham Palace.

<https://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/category/author/tim-drysdale/>

The past, present and possible future of bird flu

Professor Paul Digard

Chair of Virology and Deputy Director

Roslin Institute

University of Edinburgh

Monday 27th November 2023

The oldest living humans on the planet have lived through seven viral pandemics; of which, six have been caused by influenza A virus, all descended at greater or lesser remove from avian influenza, or "bird flu". Currently, much of the world is afflicted by the largest known epizootic outbreak of H5N1 bird flu. Spread across at least 5 continents, the virus is killing large numbers of wild birds, domestic poultry and spilling over into wild and domesticated mammals, often fatally. Thankfully, it currently is not infecting humans in any appreciable numbers but nevertheless, presents a serious threat for causing another pandemic. This talk will attempt to explain the evolution and ecology of bird flu and thus why it poses such a threat to human and animal health, as well as assessing the current situation and describing interventions and possible outcomes.



Paul Digard is a career virologist, trained at Cambridge and Harvard Universities before setting up his own research group in Cambridge in the 1990s and then moving to Edinburgh in 2012. He has studied a variety of viruses, but specialises in influenza, where his research into molecular aspects of the virus has led to rewritten text books, patents on antivirals and vaccine technology and advice to the NHS and government bodies. The aspect of his career that he is proudest of though, is the training of a substantial body of future scientists – over 50 PhD students and a sizable cohort of the next generation of independent researchers.

**Professor Paul Digard's website:
<https://www.ed.ac.uk/profile/paul-digard>**

A series of fortuitous events: Capture of carbon dioxide by milling of silicate minerals

Professor Zoe Shipton OBE FRSE

**Professor of Geological Engineering
University of Strathclyde**

**& Dr Mark Stillings
Research Fellow
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of Strathclyde**



Monday 29th January 2024

Milling minerals rich in magnesium and iron within CO₂ gas has been proposed to capture carbon as metal-carbonates. Through a series of fortuitous events, we discovered that not only are rocks much better than trapping CO₂ than individual minerals, but that this process can occur on all common silicate minerals. Polymineralic rocks are crushed worldwide to produce construction aggregate. If crushing processes could be conducted within a stream of effluent CO₂ gas (such as produced from cement manufacture) our findings suggest that for every 100 Mt of hard rock aggregate sold, 0.4-0.5 MtCO₂ could be captured as a by-product.

Professor Zoe Shipton is a geologist who researches the structural and permeability architecture of fault zones, geological processes of earthquake rupture propagation and constraining uncertainty in geological models.

Zoe is Professor of Geological Engineering at the University of Strathclyde, where she collaborates with scientists, engineers and social scientists to deliver subsurface solutions for the energy transition.

Dr Stillings research interests involve the coupled chemical and physical processes occurring during fracturing and faulting processes

Stillings M., Shipton Z. K., Lunn R. J.. 2023.

Mechanochemical processing of silicate rocks to trap CO₂.

Nature Sustainability, 10.1038/s41893-023-01083-y <https://rdcu.be/c7vQK>

Avoiding Killer Asteroids

Professor Colin Snodgrass FRAS

Professor of Planetary Astronomy The University of Edinburgh

Monday 26th February 2024

I will describe the NASA DART mission, which successfully performed the first test of the technology to deflect an asteroid from its trajectory in September 2022. This was a 'planetary defence' mission rather than a science one, designed to practice (on a harmless asteroid) what we would do if we discovered an asteroid on a collision course



with the Earth. The University of Edinburgh team supported the mission with observations of the asteroid before and after the impact, from telescopes in Chile and in Kenya, where we established a new observatory for this purpose.

Colin Snodgrass joined the University of Edinburgh as a Chancellor's Fellow in 2018, having previously worked at The Open University, the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Germany, and the European Southern Observatory in Chile. His PhD studies were at Queen's University Belfast. He is involved with a number of space missions, including the ESA Rosetta, Hera and Comet Interceptor missions, but his background is in observational astronomy, and in particular studying comets and asteroids with large optical telescopes.

More about the DART mission <http://dart.jhuapl.edu/>

Inside the brain of a bee

Professor Barbara Webb FRSE

**School of Informatics
University of Edinburgh**

Monday 25th March 2024

Bees and other insects are able to perform impressive feats of navigation. They can track their location relative to their nest during long foraging excursions and take the bee-line home. They also remember the location of food and can communicate this to their nest-mates by dancing on the honeycomb. Although these behaviours have been studied for many years, we have only recently discovered the brain circuits involved. It

appears the insect brain has evolved to perform the trigonometric functions needed for navigation. This lecture will explain what we now know about how it works.



Barbara Webb obtained her B.Sc. (in Psychology) from the University of Sydney in 1988 and her Ph.D. (in Artificial Intelligence) from the University of Edinburgh in 1993. Following lecturer positions in Nottingham and Stirling, she joined the School of Informatics at the University of Edinburgh in May 2003. Her main research interest is in biological perceptual systems for the control of behaviour, which she studies by building computational and physical (robot) models of the hypothesised mechanisms. In particular, she focuses on insect behaviours, as their smaller nervous systems may be easier to understand. She was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2022.

**More about Professor Barbara Webb from
<https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/insectrobotics/>**

The Effect of Nanoparticles on Workers and Health

Professor Rodger Duffin BSc PhD MRCPATH FRSB

**Professor of Thoracic Toxicology
Centre for Inflammation Research
The University of Edinburgh**



Monday 29th April 2024

When compared to chemicals, exposure to particulates, unless at extreme levels, can be hard to recognise yet are well known in the toxicology field to harm your health. For good reason, a great deal of attention is given to understanding how air pollution can effect ones health however workplace exposures have historically and continue today to have a huge impact on health. In Scotland, there is a long history of exposure and subsequently, disease associated with these exposures such as coal dust, asbestos and silica (mainly from stone dust). Whilst coal mining and in particular asbestos use has seen a massive decline, there has been increases in new (nano) materials which may pose similar risks. Work in my lab is focused on the mechanisms controlling inflammatory processes from their initiation to resolution and also understanding the potential toxicology surrounding environmental and occupational nanoparticle exposures. The rise of the nanotechnologies and the production of novel nanoparticles has raised concern that new hazards are being produced which need to be better understood in toxicological terms. A better understanding of the hazard of any particle and determination of the true biologically effective dose offers the prospect of an improved metric for risk management and the prospect of rational intervention in disease progression following exposure.

Professor Duffin is Professor of Thoracic Toxicology and Head of the Particle and Fibre Research Laboratory within the Centre for Inflammation Research at the University of Edinburgh. His research interests are focused on the mechanisms controlling the processes of inflammation, from initiation to resolution and also understanding the potential toxicology surrounding environmental and occupational (nano)particle exposures. He trained in Edinburgh with Professor Ken Donaldson as a Colt Foundation PhD student. He undertook a 3 year post-doctoral training position in Dusseldorf where he then returned to Edinburgh in 2005. He is currently one of the Scientific Advisors to the Colt Foundation Trustees.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/inflammation-research/people/principal-investigators/professor-rodger-duffin>

Annual General Meeting

Monday 3rd June 2024

The President Professor Beverly Bergman was in the Chair.

Agenda

1. To record apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on Monday 5th June 2023
3. Presentation of the Annual Report of the Council for the year ended 31st August 2023
4. President's Report of the 203rd Session of the Society
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers
7. A.O.R.B.

Following the conclusion of the AGM there was a short talk by Mr Stuart Brown on "From fixed to floating — de-risking the hard engineering that will electrify the UK".

Mr Brown talked about the massive growth anticipated in offshore wind as the UK, along with other major economies, looks to move away from polluting hydrocarbons to clean and sustainable sources of energy; and beyond that, how a project he is leading for the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney has a major role to play in proving and de-risking the floating wind technologies that will be the core of that transition.

After Mr Brown's talk, a light buffet and refreshments was available.

Honorary Fellows

The Society's Rules allow for the election of up to 10 people "*Distinguished in the Science of the Applied Arts*" as Honorary Fellows. Current Honorary Fellows are:

Professor Dame Anne Glover DBE FRS FRSE FASM
Professor Catherine Heymans MPhys DPhil FRSE, Astronomer Royal for Scotland
Professor Sir James Hough OBE FRS FRSE FInstP FRAS
Professor Malcolm Longair CBE FRS FRSE

Prizewinners

Technological Studies Higher Prize

2012	Euan Walker	Marr College, Troon
2013	Catriona Sinclair	George Watson's College
2014	Suzie Neave	George Watson's College
2015	Michael Hain	Hutchesons' Grammar School

Engineering Science Higher Prize

2016	Scott Bennie	Bishopbriggs Academy
2017	Agnijo Banerjee	Grove Academy, Dundee
2017	Calum McHugh	Lornhill Academy, Alloa
2017	Hanming Liang	Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh
2017	Aidan Poon	George Watson's College, Edinburgh
2018	Timothy Brewis	Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
2019	Gilleasbuig Peterson	Dollar Academy, Dollar
2022	Robin Ferguson	Hutchesons' Grammar School, Glasgow
2023	Sam Craig	Earlston High School

Engineering Science Advanced Higher Prize


2018	Vasilii Hill	Madras College, St Andrews
2019	Timothy Brewis	Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
2022	Logan Suddaby	Queen Anne High School, Dunfermline
2023	Fraser Price	George Watson's College, Edinburgh

Bicentenary Travel Scholarship

2023	Ann-Kathrin Hoffmann	University of Edinburgh
2024	Ed Riley	University of Edinburgh
2024	John Whitfield	University of Edinburgh

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Graham Norman Rule	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Treasurer	
Date	14th November 2024	

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations						100
Legacies						
Grants						
Receipts from fundraising activities						
Gross trading receipts	55				55	150
Income from investments other than land and buildings	4,593				4,593	4,054
Rents from land & buildings						
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	3,680				3,680	3,092
A1 Sub total	8,328				8,328	7,395
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets						-
Proceeds from sale of investments						-
A2 Sub total						
Total receipts	8,328				8,328	7,395
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities						
Gross trading payments						
Investment management costs						
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	10,887				10,887	7,921
Grants and donations						
Governance costs:						
Audit / independent examination	150				150	100
Preparation of annual accounts						
Legal costs						
Other						
A3 Sub total	11,037				11,037	8,021
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets						
Purchase of investments						
A4 Sub total						
Total payments	11,037				11,037	8,021
Net receipts / (payments)	(2,709)				(2,709)	(626)
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(2,709)				(2,709)	(626)

Section B Statement of balances


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total current period	Total last period
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	9,064	13,607			22,671	23,297
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	(2,709)				(2,709)	(626)
	Cash and bank balances at end of year (Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	6,355	13,607			19,962	22,671

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation	Market valuation
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Investments	Investec	unrestricted	211,359	187,410
		Total	211,359	187,410

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available)	Current value (if available)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B3 Other assets					
			Total		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B4 Liabilities				
		Total		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B5 Contingent liabilities				
		Total		

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Graham Rule	14th November 2024

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

The Society's unrestricted fund (£6355 of the bank account and all of the investments) was worth £217,714. In addition there are a number of small prize funds (restricted) worth £13607.

	Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
C2 Grants				
			Total	-

C3a Trustee remuneration	If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)	x
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	Authority under which paid	£
C3b Trustee remuneration - details		

C4a Trustee expenses	If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	x
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		Number of trustees	£
C4b Trustee expenses - details			

	Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)
C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons				

C6 Other information

Additional analysis (1)**Analysis of receipts and payments****1 Donations**

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Donations						100
Total						100

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Total				

3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Subscriptions	3,680				3,680	2,130
Gift Aid reclaimed						962
Total	3,680				3,680	3,092

4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Publicity, Website, etc	3,450				3,450	2,328
Meeting Costs	2,530				2,530	2,475
Storage hire	240				240	240
Bank charges						1
Insurance	428				428	416
Prize	4,239				4,239	2,460
Excursion costs						
Total	10,887				10,887	7,921

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave 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.



Name: Thomas Mackay Murray

Date: 14 December 2024

Relevant Professional qualification/professional body:

Address: 3 Dreghorn Loan, Edinburgh EH13 0DF.

The Royal Scottish Society of Arts

Showcasing Scotland's Science, Technology and Innovation

203rd Session

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