

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1074552

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03685496
Registered	1999-03-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Folklore Society 50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT
Phone	0203 915 3034
Email	thefolkloresociety@gmail.com
Website	www.folklore-society.com

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE RESEARCH INTO AND THE RECORDING OF FOLKLORE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD AND TO MAKE AVAILABLE ACADEMICALLY AND CULTURALLY THE RESULTS OF ITS STUDIES TO ALL PERSONS WHETHER MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OR NOT.

Activities: The Folklore Society is devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. Its objectives are to foster folklore research and recording worldwide and to make the results of these studies available to all persons whether members of the Society or not.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WORLDWIDE
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£92,059	£136,653	-	-
2023-12-31	£87,217	£67,253	-	-
2022-12-31	£122,155	£61,336	-	-
2021-12-31	£108,850	£57,915	-	-
2020-12-31	£79,758	£60,905	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Helen Christina Frisby		2022-03-04
Dr Kate Rebecca Smith		2026-03-17
Jeremy Mark Harte		2026-03-17
Prof Owen Davies		2020-06-27
Prof. David Matthew Hopkin		2023-06-16
Sophia Margaret Augusta Kingshill		2022-03-04

Accounts

Charity registration number 1074552 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 03685496

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof D M Hopkin - President Prof O Davies - Vice President Dr H C Frisby Prof R P Jenkins Ms S Kingshill	
Secretary	Ms S Kingshill	
Senior management	Dr C Oates Dr J Hemming	Senior Librarian Editor of Folklore
Charity number (England and Wales)	1074552	
Company number	03685496	
Registered office	50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT	
Independent examiner	Michelle Westbury FCCA West & Berry Limited Nile House Nile Street Brighton BN1 1HW	
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	
Solicitors	Alan Murdie, LL.B. Barrister Nucleus Legal Advice 298 Old Brompton Road London SW5 9JF	
Investment advisors	CCLA Investment Managerment Limited Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET	

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Folklore Society (the Society) was founded in 1878. It was one of the first organisations in the world to be devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. The charity objects are to promote research into and the recording of folklore in all parts of the world, and to make the available academically and culturally the results of studies to all persons whether members of the Society or not. With effect from the year 2001, membership of the Society was available both to institutions and individuals through subscription to its journal *Folklore*. This is on a joint-venture basis with the publisher, Taylor & Francis Plc. From 2003 the publication frequency was increased from twice to three times per year, and this was increased again to four times per year from 2017. The Society and Taylor & Francis Plc exercised their option to mutually renew the joint venture by entering into a new licence agreement for publication of *Folklore* for a further ten years with effect from 1 January 2017.

The Society operates its administrative facilities from 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, a building owned by The Royal Anthropological Institute. The Society's rights and obligations in respect of its occupancy at 50 Fitzroy Street are reflected in a licence agreement, underwritten by the Director of The Royal Anthropological Institute. Following renegotiation in 2022, the Society paid £11,237 in 2024 for its licence, updated annually in line with inflation. The licensee and licensor are required to give twelve months' notice of termination. The current licence expires on 27 July 2029. Under this licence, Folklore Society members may visit the FLS Office by appointment to consult with the librarians and view the society's most recent folklore periodicals and the reference books that are kept there.

Most of the Society's library is retained under a continuing custodial agreement with University College London, which maintains the library on a retrieval basis and insures it at no cost to the Society. The membership of the Society is granted membership of University College London Library at no additional cost in order that they may access and borrow books. The Society's Rare Books, Archives and Collections are housed at UCL Library Special Collections, currently in temporary quarters at the National Archives at Kew and will eventually move to a new location with UCL Special Collections. They are held and insured by University College London at no cost to the Society. They are accessible with notice and upon request. Artefacts are held on loan at other institutions and museums, and the Canziani paintings are held at UCL Special Collections.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

The Annual General Meeting 2024 was held on 17 September at 50 Fitzroy Street, in-person and on-line. 17 members attended in person, and 31 online. Prof. David Hopkin delivered his Presidential Address 2024: 'The Sailor's Tale.' The lecture was live-streamed, free, to the general public, to an audience of 135. The article is published in *Folklore* vol.136, 2025.

At the AGM, Prof. David Hopkin continued as President and Trustee. Prof. Owen Davies continued as Vice-President and Trustee. Prof. Richard Jenkins (Hon. Treasurer), Ms Sophia Kingshill (Hon. Secretary) and Dr Helen Frisby (Participation Officer) all continue as Trustees. Dr Julia Bishop joined the Management Board as President in Waiting. We welcomed 3 new members of Council: Dr Julia Bishop; Prof. Stuart Dunn, Ms Holly Elsdon. The following Council members were re-elected for 2024-27: Dr Paul Cowdell; Mr Jeremy Harte; Mr Ross Macfarlane; Mr Mark Norman; Dr Doc Rowe; Dr Juliette Wood. Continuing members of Council: Dr Jessica Hemming; Dr Ceri Houlbrook; Prof. Matthew Cheeseman; Prof. Owen Davies; Dr Helen Frisby; Prof. David Hopkin; Prof. Richard Jenkins; Ms Sophia Kingshill; Mr Nicolas Le Bigre; Prof. Patricia Lysaght; Dr Kate Smith. Dr Oliver Douglas, Prof. James Grayson, and Prof. Ian Russell stepped down from the Council and were thanked for their services.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The society's Katharine Briggs Lecture commemorates the work of this key figure in folklore scholarship. The 2024 Lecture was jointly hosted by The English Folk Dance and Song Society, and held at Cecil Sharp House on 12 November. The lecture was given by Doc Rowe: 'Transmission, Transformation and Trends: Historic and Contemporary Approaches to our Cultural Traditions', to an audience of 120.

In 2024, the Society made various awards to promote the academic study of folklore. The prestigious Katharine Briggs Award, for the best book in folklore studies entered for the award, was presented after the Katharine Briggs Lecture 2024, to Dr Tabitha Johnston Stanmore for her book *Cunning Folk: Life in the Era of Practical Magic*, published by The Bodley Head. There were 33 entries for the Katharine Briggs Award in 2024.

The Folklore Society occasionally awards The Coote Lake Medal in recognition of longstanding excellence in folklore research and scholarship: two were awarded in 2024: Steve Roud was presented with the medal at Kings College London, during our Digital Folklore conference, on 28 June 2024; and Prof. Ronald Hutton received his medal at Cecil Sharp House on 12 November following the Katharine Briggs Lecture.

Recognising the importance of supporting the next generation of folklore scholars, the Society awards the Estella Canziani Bursary for Post-Graduate Research (worth up to £1,500). In 2024, three applicants were awarded bursaries for their field work projects: Jessica Lloyd, 'The Randwick Wap: Folk Custom and Rural Community'; Siobhan Scarlett O'Reilly, 'Impact of Liminal Space Imagery on Well-being: A Photo Elicitation Study'; Sophie Parkes-Nield, 'Thankstide: The Calendar Custom as Narrative Device in Contemporary Fiction'.

The President's Prize of £150 is an annual award made for a student essay. The 2024 President's Prize was awarded to Harvey Cross for his essay 'Why Do People Believe in Ghosts, Aliens, and Bigfoot? Exploring the Rise of Popular Antiscientific Folklore in the Euro-American West.' We gratefully acknowledge the annual donation towards the prize of £60 from Professor John Widdowson, former President of the society and founder of the prize.

The society's annual conference 'Digital Folklore', a hybrid conference in collaboration with the Dept of Digital Humanities, Kings College London, was held at Kings College London and online, 28-30 June 2024. 46 people attended in person, and 35 online, with speakers from many different parts of the world.

The conference 'Water in Legend and Tradition: the eighteenth Legendary Weekend' was held in Ipswich from 31 August to 1 September, with 37 participants. These weekends are for both specialists and non-specialists in folklore and focus on a particular topic and are held in various places outside London.

The conference 'Soundscapes and Folklore in East Asia', the eighth annual joint symposium of The Folklore Society and The Royal Anthropological Institute 'Anthropology and Folklore in Conversation,' was held at 50 Fitzroy Street and online on 24 October 2024, attended by 31 in person and c.40 online. The book *Creativity in a Time of Covid-19*, ed. Patricia Lysaght and James H. Grayson, containing papers from the sixth 'Anthropology and Folklore' symposium (online, 2021), was published by Sean Kingston as No.47 of the Occasional Papers of The Royal Anthropological Institute, and launched at an event at 50 Fitzroy Street on 16 December.

During 2024, The Folklore Society participated in a number of projects with other organisations, either as a partner or a supporter:

- AHRC-DTP Collaborative Doctoral Award at the Open University in partnership with The Folklore Society, 'Healthy Folk: the role of vernacular knowledge in health-related decision-making,' starting 2024: the successful applicant for this fully-funded PhD programme was Ciara Joyce whose research, 'Pollution, Purity, and Pong: The Connection Between Smell, Vaginal Health, and Sexual Impurity,' will be jointly supervised by Prof. Richard Jenkins, Hon. Treasurer of The Folklore Society.
- A new 10-week '[History of Folklore](#)' course, starting January 2025, was organised by The Folklore Society in partnership with the University of Oxford, School of Continuing Education, and taught by Dr Paul Cowdell and Prof. David Hopkin. The course was sold out with 26 students (4 of whom joined the society as a result) and there is interest in running the course again.
- 14-15 November, at 50 Fitzroy Street, The Folklore Society hosted a two-day conference of the Folklore without Borders network, with 32 people attending. The network was set up with AHRC grant funding for 2024 by FLS Council members Prof. Matthew Cheeseman and Dr Paul Cowdell, as an international knowledge exchange exploring how to embed greater equality, diversity and inclusivity in UK folklore. The three 2-day in-person conferences and nine online meetings in 2024 recruited significant numbers to the network, including representatives from the Dept for Culture, Media & Sport (UNESCO 'Living Heritage') and generated so much enthusiasm and interest that the organisers decided to keep the network running in 2025 after the end of the AHRC funding.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- The Folklore Society, along with The Folklore Library and Archive, and the Folklore Museums Network, is a project partner in the AHRC-UKRI funded 'National Folklore Survey—England.' This AHRC-UKRI funded research project, is led by Dr David Clarke and Dr Diane Rodgers of the Centre for Contemporary Legend, Sheffield Hallam University; co-leads are FLS Council members Prof. Owen Davies and Dr Ceri Houlbrook, who founded the MA in Folklore Studies at the University of Hertfordshire, with Prof. Christopher Bader of Chapman University, California as international lead. The project aims to capture an accurate snapshot of the folklore of multicultural England and gain a new understanding of the impact of colonial and empire narratives on previous surveys, notably the 1964 survey by the University of Sheffield.
- A selection of Folklore Society Library and Archives materials will be digitised in 2025 as part of a joint contract with University College London Library and British Online Archives to produce a digital archive of Witchcraft and Folklore materials as a subscription collection.
- United Agents, who manage the IPR of Katharine Briggs on behalf of The Folklore Society, entered into negotiations with artist Fee Greening and a commercial publisher to produce a new, illustrated edition of Katharine Briggs's *Dictionary of Fairies*.

Though hosting folk music events is not a regular part of Folklore Society activity, we hosted a performance by Milkweed to launch their new recording 'Folklore 1979', supported by Jacken Elswyth, in February at 50 Fitzroy Street, with an audience of 35; and in December, we hosted Liz Overs' in performance with Dave Tomlins to launch her new CD 'Nightjar' with an audience of 30.

Our bi-monthly online talks continue to be very popular, with audiences between 45 and 95 each time, including both FLS members and non-members, from different parts of the world. FLS members benefit from discounted tickets. The online talks have increased the accessibility of The Folklore Society's events programme to participants who might struggle to attend in-person events.

These talks are given by experts on a wide range of folklore topics. Speakers in 2024 were:

Nick Jubber, 'The Fairy Tellers;' Richard Jenkins, 'Hiding in Plain Sight: Digging for Folklore Gold in the Social Science Mine;' Wayne Perkins, 'Sir John Schorn: The Man who Conjured the Devil into a Boot;' Juliette Wood, '... a Big Grey Wolf came out of the Forest;' Dian Rodgers, 'Fact, Fiction and Folklore in Film and Television;' Susan Kilby, 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: Extraordinary Ordinary Landscapes;' Juliette Wood, 'Beastly Beasts: Hybrids in Folklore and Fantasy;' Eric Huang, 'Martyrdom and Possession: The Virginal Followers of Saint Ursula;' Rosemary Power, 'Sheela-na-gigs on Medieval and Early Modern Buildings;' Aphrodite-Lidia Nounanaki, 'Re-inventing National History through Conspiracy Theories;' Victoria Newton, 'Reproductive Bodylore;' Sophia Kingshill, 'Through the Looking Glass: What is a Doppelgänger?' Rosalind Kerven, 'Keeping Myths, Legends and Folktales Alive;' Julia Phillips, 'Operation Cone of Power: The Making of a Modern Legend;' Jeremy Harte, 'Fairy Encounters in Medieval England;' Marion Bowman, '30 Years in Avalon: Fieldwork and Vernacular Religion in Glastonbury;' Veronica Strang, 'Rising Tides: Water Beings as Agents of Change in Environmental Activism.'

We have a full programme of online talks scheduled for 2025, and speakers are now being invited for 2026.

Work began in 2024 on our new website, to be launched in 2025. FLS members will continue to have access to a dedicated Members Only area at <https://folklore-society.com> where, among other resources, they can access the entire digital archive of back issues of *Folklore* and its earlier titles from 1878 onwards via tandfonline.com, selected folklore journals from JStor.org, and pdfs of all back issues of our newsletter *FLS News*.

Library and Archives: 70 new books were added to The Folklore Society Library, stored at University College London Library, to whom we are grateful for their continued generosity in housing our collections. We are also grateful to Mrs Rosemary Yeaxlee of Hertfordshire for her gift of 'Cunning' Murrell's manuscript book (mainly astrological calculations and tables), which will be added to The Folklore Society Archives & MS Collections held at UCL Special Collections.

The findings of the 2023 Membership Survey have been analysed and will inform the Trustees in ensuring the Society's strategic direction and sustainability, as well as its continued relevance and appeal to members, who will be invited to participate in a 'Town Hall' online meeting in November 2025.

At the end of 2024, the society had 471 members (73 new members; 216 individual; 51 Students; 97 Senior; 15 Household; 92 Gratis/Library exchange).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial review

Total income for the year amounted to £92,059 (2023: £87,217), total expenditure for the year amounted to £136,653 (2023: £95,404) and there were net gains on investments of £691 (2023: £2,575). The deficit was £43,903 (2023: £5,612). Over the financial year 2024, as compared with 2023, there was an increase in the deficit of £38,292.

Looking at the balance sheet, the picture continues to be reasonably healthy: as of December 31, 2024 cash at bank and in hand showed a rise of £15,460 by comparison with the previous year, and net current assets had risen by £19,131. The carried-forward net current assets as at 31 December 2024 amounted to £259,904 (2023: £240,773).

However, in some respects the broader picture is a little less rosy than last year, largely due to some volatility in income, particularly from Taylor and Francis. The increased fixed costs associated with the move to the Royal Anthropological Institute required the Society to re-evaluate its income-generating activities, on the one hand, and its costs, on the other, particularly those associated with administration and meetings. This is an ongoing process.

We anticipate continuing modest income from on-line activities, modest continued saving in expenses payments arising from holding on-line meetings, and continued uncertainty arising from the increasing importance of open-access publishing within the Taylor and Francis income stream (see below).

Folklore Enterprises Limited

The principal source of income of the Society and its trading subsidiary (Folklore Enterprises Limited) continues to be provided by the *Folklore* journal publishing arrangement with Taylor and Francis, a trading arm of Informa UK Ltd. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Informa plc, a company whose shares are quoted on the London International Stock Exchange. The Society's previous joint venture profit share agreement with Taylor and Francis expired on 31 December 2016 and was replaced from 1 January 2017 by a royalty-based agreement for ten years. This agreement is a fixed royalty based on forty (40) percent of net sales receipts as defined, with a guaranteed nonreturnable advance each year of £30,000 and an annual contribution towards editorial expenses of £16,080, plus a variable additional payment at end of year for extra editorial work on Open Access articles. The current agreement offers the Society some protection from the vagaries of prevailing market conditions. Payments under the agreement are made to the Society's trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, and the surplus profits are paid up to the Society by way of a gift-aided donation. However, the increasing move to open-access publishing in academic journal publishing is an issue; the impact of this, one way or the other, on the Society's income is not yet clear (not even, it seems, to Taylor and Francis). A new publishing agreement, to come into effect in 2027, is currently under negotiation, the Trustees having decided that changing publishers or moving to another publishing model (such as self-publishing) would not be in the Society's best interests.

To illustrate the current volatility of our income from Taylor & Francis, the royalty payment from Taylor and Francis to Folklore Enterprises Limited was for 2023 £55,251 and for 2024 £64,195. In the absence of any projections from the publisher, we expect this volatility to continue.

The other principal source of cash income is the revenue paid to the Folklore Enterprises Limited by JSTOR. For 2024, Folklore Enterprises Limited received a royalty of USD \$15,493 (£12,374) (2023: £13,055).

The surplus profits of Folklore Enterprises Limited are paid up to the Society by way of a gift-aided donation. In 2024 £70,500 was paid, and therefore donated, to the Society (2023: £72,000).

Reserves policy

For a number of years now the financial strategy has been to maintain a day-to-day financial reserve (equivalent to net current assets) sufficient to meet roughly two years of running costs (covering employment costs of the Librarian and Assistant Administrator plus a license fee for office accommodation and other costs) in order to provide ample time for restructure should there be dramatic reductions in the income line in any future period. The net current assets position of £259,904 at 31 December 2024 was more than adequate to satisfy this strategy.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Risk management

In addition to accommodation costs, and the unpredictable fluctuations in royalty payments from Taylor and Francis, which the Trustees are managing with prudence, the Charity's other risks may be categorised into financial dependency, stewardship and staffing.

So far as financial dependency is concerned, there is the Society's obvious link to the financial good health of Taylor and Francis. In this regard, the financial performance of the parent Informa group presents no cause for concern at the moment. The Trustees sought to manage risk and future uncertainty in the Society's commercial arrangements with Taylor and Francis by concluding the ten-year agreement based on a royalty model with a minimum royalty payment that came into effect from 1 January 2017. The issues that this strategy is now raising (in respect of open access publishing etc.) have already been discussed.

In common with many charities the Society is heavily dependent upon being able to identify and then secure a stream of prospective Trustees and Officers who will take a lead in preserving the Society together with its aims and objectives for future generations.

This risk is being addressed by changes to governance which facilitate changes in the main officer group so that succession plans are in place for the next three- to five-year period at any point in time. This initiative is linked to a more general one of openly inviting participation by new and younger members to the Society by a natural process to fill all the key roles.

With respect to staffing, the Trustees keep the matter under review. It is possible that the next period will see some changes and renewal in this respect. This will be an opportunity for reflection upon the Society's needs in terms of staffing.

Plans for future periods

The Society continues to develop its programme of increasing and widening its personal membership and outreach, particularly amongst younger people and those who pursue the study of folklore both academically and for personal interest. It is also working to increase its collaboration with cognate societies and received support from other societies at its own events, or contributed to the support of events of similar societies.

Structure, governance and management

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, founded in 1878 and incorporated in the UK under England and Wales (registration number 03685496) and has been granted charitable status (registration number 1074552).

The officers of the Society (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Participation Officer) are directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The officers act as the Management Board and have equal responsibility for the legally mandated affairs of the Society, including annual returns to Companies House and the Charity Commission. Officers also deal with on-going financial matters, staff, accommodation, links with Taylor and Francis who publish Folklore, and whatever other issues arise. The Society has accountants, book-keepers and solicitors to provide professional services as appropriate.

The Council of the Society, of which the officers are part, is responsible for non-mandated matters, such as the academic-related activities, including organising and participating in conferences and other events, acting as judges for various annual awards, and as members of ad-hoc working groups.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Prof D M Hopkin - President

Prof O Davies - Vice President

Dr H C Frisby

Prof R P Jenkins

Ms S Kingshill

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees of The Folklore Society are proposed by the Management Board, which consists of the Trustees and the Editor of *Folklore*, on the basis of any nominations received and seconded in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. They are elected by votes on a show of hands by the Annual General Meeting. Proxy votes are cast, in accordance with instructions from those absent but entitled to attend, by the President of the Society, who is always a Trustee of the Society. They are elected to serve a term of three years.

The directors of Folklore Enterprises Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of The Folklore Society, are elected at the meeting of the Trustees of The Folklore Society. They represent the commercial interests of the Society in its trading subsidiary and comprise the Secretary and Treasurer of The Folklore Society.

Pay Policy for Key Management Personnel

The trustees consider the trustees and the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The key management individual who is involved in all decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity is Dr C Oates, the administrative manager. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with market rates.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

.....
Prof R P Jenkins
trustee

Date:

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Folklore Society for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the society and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Folklore Society (the society) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the society (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the society are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006. or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Michelle Westbury FCCA

West & Berry Limited

Nile House

Nile Street

Brighton

BN1 1HW

Date:

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	71,317	73,522
Charitable activities	4	9,401	4,802
Investments	5	11,341	8,893
Total income		<u>92,059</u>	<u>87,217</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	136,653	92,404
Other expenditure	11	-	3,000
Total expenditure		<u>136,653</u>	<u>95,404</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	<u>691</u>	<u>2,575</u>
Net expenditure and movement in funds		(43,903)	(5,612)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		<u>949,023</u>	<u>954,635</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		<u>905,120</u>	<u>949,023</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	15		58,247		121,282
Heritage assets	16		586,959		586,959
Investments	17		10		10
			<u>645,216</u>		<u>708,251</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	19	970		923	
Investments	20	31,287		30,596	
Cash at bank and in hand		231,687		216,227	
		<u>263,944</u>		<u>247,746</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	(4,040)		(6,974)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			259,904		240,772
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total assets less current liabilities			905,120		949,023
			<u></u>		<u></u>
The funds of the society					
Unrestricted funds	23		905,120		949,023
			<u>905,120</u>		<u>949,023</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

.....
Prof R P Jenkins
trustee

Company registration number 03685496 (England and Wales)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Folklore Society is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and a registered charity with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. The registered office is 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1 5BT. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in page 1 of these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the society's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The society has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial items at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from ancillary trading activities (conference fees and royalty and book sales) is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it, being the occurrence of the event or the sale of the book.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

The trustees' follow a capitalisation policy to treat such items with a cost in excess of £250 as capital in nature.

Publishing licences

Over the life of the underlying agreement

1.7 Heritage assets

Heritage assets are recognised on the balance sheet and initially measured at cost when purchased. Donated heritage assets are measured at valuation, or not recognised on the balance sheet if a valuation cannot be reasonably obtained. Assets are subsequently stated at valuation where appropriate. Fair values are based on formal independent valuations of the heritage assets.

Heritage assets are deemed to have an indefinite life and are not depreciated. The heritage assets recognised in the accounts are reviewed by the trustees for impairment on an annual basis.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the society. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Financial instruments

The society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the society's balance sheet when the society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.13 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Heritage assets

The useful economic lives and residual values of heritage assets are reassessed annually for any impairment. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 18 for the carrying amount of the charity's library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

There are no undisclosed key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	71,317	73,522

Donations and gifts includes £70,500 (2023: £72,000) of trading surplus paid to the charity in the year. This includes £37,098 (2023: £38,604) unpaid from the year ended 31 December 2023.

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Charitable activities		
Conference fees	7,300	4,753
Royalties	2,101	49
	9,401	4,802

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from unlisted investments	10,134	8,731
Interest receivable	1,207	162
	<u>11,341</u>	<u>8,893</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	35,826	34,391
Depreciation and impairment	63,035	28,151
FLS news	2,118	3,121
Conference speakers' travel bursaries	8,379	3,733
	<u>109,358</u>	<u>69,396</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	2,613	1,150
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	17,876	14,798
Governance	6,806	7,060
	<u>136,653</u>	<u>92,404</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>136,653</u>	<u>92,404</u>

7 Grants payable

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Grants to institutions:		
University of Hull Folklore Society	1,323	-
Grants to individuals	<u>1,290</u>	<u>1,150</u>

-

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Licence fee - occupation of office	11,237	10,445
Postage, stationery and telephone	1,089	983
Sundry expenses	420	518
Bank charges	103	103
Insurance	1,118	1,039
IT costs	1,947	100
Travel and subsistence	2,894	632
Marketing & Publicity	40	978
Governance costs	5,834	7,060
	<u>24,682</u>	<u>21,858</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>24,682</u>	<u>21,858</u>
Governance costs comprise:	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy	4,200	4,050
Bookkeeping	950	2,880
Legal and professional	295	-
Trustee expenses	389	130
	<u>5,834</u>	<u>7,060</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year, but 3 of them were reimbursed a total of £389 travelling expenses (2023 - 2 were reimbursed £130).

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Administration	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	35,717	34,369
Other pension costs	109	22
	<u>35,826</u>	<u>34,391</u>

The trustees consider that they, together with the charity's Senior Librarian, comprise the key management personnel of the charity who are jointly in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Senior Librarian's salary cost was £25,847 (2023: £25,114).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Net loss on disposal of heritage assets	-	3,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>

12 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	691	2,575
	<u>691</u>	<u>2,575</u>

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14 Impairments

Impairment tests have been carried out where appropriate and the following impairment losses have been recognised in profit or loss:

	2024 £	2023 £
In respect of:		
Intangible assets	63,035	28,151
	<u>63,035</u>	<u>28,151</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 Intangible fixed assets

	Publishing licences £
Cost	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	121,282
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 January 2024	-
Impairment losses	63,035
At 31 December 2024	63,035
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	58,247
At 31 December 2023	121,282

More information on the impairment arising in the year is given in note 14.

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

16 Heritage assets

	£
At 1 January 2024 and at 31 December 2024	586,959

The heritage assets recognised in the accounts include a library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

Heritage assets where recognised are included in the accounts at valuation. The library is formally revalued every five years. Other heritage assets recognised in the accounts are reviewed by the trustees for impairment on an annual basis.

The paintings and artefacts were last formally valued during the year ended 31 December 1997, with the archives last formally valued in the year ended 31 December 2015.

The most recent formal valuation of the Library was undertaken by Mr M Banwell in May 2022 to value the books donated to that date and for insurance purposes. Mr M Banwell also valued the addition of 205 titles to the Library in the prior year. Mr M Banwell is a specialist in Folklore material.

The charity also owns the Mary Young Collection and the Cambridge Anthropology Collection, these items have not yet been professionally valued and are not included in these accounts.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17 Fixed asset investments

		Other investments £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2024 & 31 December 2024		10
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2024		10
At 31 December 2023		10

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Other investments comprise:			
Investments in subsidiaries	26	10	10

18 Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	31,287	30,596

19 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	13	-
Prepayments and accrued income	957	923
	970	923

20 Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Unlisted investments	31,287	30,596

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	-	400
Other creditors	-	2,074
Accruals and deferred income	4,040	4,500
	<u>4,040</u>	<u>6,974</u>

22 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	109	22
	<u>109</u>	<u>22</u>

The society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the society in an independently administered fund.

23 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 December 2024 £
Copyright licence fund	121,282	-	(63,035)	-	-	58,247
Heritage assets fund	586,959	-	-	-	-	586,959
Investments fund	10	-	-	-	-	10
General funds	240,772	92,059	(73,618)	-	691	259,904
	<u>949,023</u>	<u>92,059</u>	<u>(136,653)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>691</u>	<u>905,120</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

23 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Copyright licence fund	149,433	-	-	(28,151)	-	121,282
Heritage assets fund	589,959	-	-	(3,000)	-	586,959
Investments fund	10	-	-	-	-	10
General funds	215,233	87,217	(95,404)	31,151	2,575	240,772
	<u>954,635</u>	<u>87,217</u>	<u>(95,404)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,575</u>	<u>949,023</u>

Copyright licence fund - this fund holds the licences and copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements.

Heritage asset fund - this fund holds the heritage assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but to maintain and preserve the archives and manuscript collections.

Investment fund - this fund holds the trading subsidiary, and is invested to maximise total return and generate income.

24 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the society had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	11,468	11,070
Between two and five years	41,094	44,280
In over five years	-	5,535
	<u>52,562</u>	<u>60,885</u>

At 31 December 2024 the charity had an operating lease commitment with The Royal Anthropological Institute under the terms of a licence agreement to occupy space at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1T 5BT. The total commitment covers the remaining period of occupancy by the Charity expected to end on 27 July 2029.

The amount of the rent paid under this agreement in the year to 31 December 2024 was £11,237 (2023: £10,445).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

25 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

The Charity's wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, conducts the commercial activities of its parent charity and donates under gift aid any trading surplus to the parent charity each financial year. For the year ended 31 December 2024 the amount donated was £70,500 (2023: £72,000).

At 31 December 2024 there were no balances outstanding between the charity and Folklore Enterprises Limited.

26 Subsidiaries

These financial statements are separate Society financial statements for The Folklore Society.

The Society is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The Society and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the Society has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

Details of the society's subsidiaries at 31 December 2024 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
Folklore Enterprises Limited	England & Wales	Not for profit publishing and library activities	Ordinary	100.00	

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
Folklore Enterprises Limited	6,052	44,260

Accounts

Charity registration number 1074552

Company registration number 03685496 (England and Wales)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof O Davies - Vice President Dr H Frisby Prof D M Hopkin - President Prof R P Jenkins Ms S Kingshill
Secretary	Ms S Kingshill
Senior Librarian	Dr C Oates
Editor of Folklore	Dr J Hemming
Company number	03685496
Principal Office	50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT
Registered office	Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN United Kingdom
Independent examiner	S Jennings FCA Azets Audit Services Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Alan Murdie, LL.B. Barrister Nucleus Legal Advice 298 Old Brompton Road London SW5 9JF
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Folklore Society was founded in 1878. It was one of the first organisations in the world to be devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. Its objectives are to foster folklore research and recording worldwide, and to make the results of these studies available to all persons whether members of the Society or not. With effect from the year 2001, membership of the Society was available both to institutions and individuals through subscription to its journal Folklore. This is on a joint-venture basis with the publisher, Taylor & Francis Plc. From 2003 the publication frequency was increased from twice to three times per year, and this was increased again to four times per year from 2017. The Society and Taylor & Francis Plc exercised their option to mutually renew the joint venture by entering into a new licence agreement for publication of Folklore for a further ten years with effect from 1 January 2017.

The Society operates its administrative facilities from 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, a building owned by The Royal Anthropological Institute. The Society's rights and obligations in respect of its occupancy at 50 Fitzroy Street are reflected in a licence agreement, underwritten by the Director of The Royal Anthropological Institute. Following renegotiation in 2022 the Society currently pays £10,535 per annum for its licence, updatable annually in line with inflation. The licensee and licensor are required to give twelve months' notice of termination. The current licence expires on 27 July 2029. Under this licence, Folklore Society members may visit the FLS Office by appointment to consult with the librarians and view the society's most recent folklore periodicals the reference books that are kept there.

Most of the Society's library is retained under a continuing custodial with University College London, which maintains the library on a retrieval basis and insures it at no cost to the Society. The membership of the Society is granted membership of the libraries of University College London at no additional cost in order that they may access and borrow books. The Society's Rare Books, Archives and Collections are housed at UCL Library Special Collections, currently in temporary quarters at the National Archives at Kew and will eventually move to a new location with UCL Special Collections. They are held and insured by University College London at no cost to the Society. They are accessible with notice and upon request. Artefacts are held on loan at other institutions and museums, and the Canziani paintings are held at UCL Special Collections.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Achievements and performance

The Annual General Meeting 2023 was held on Friday 16 June at 50 Fitzroy Street, in-person and on-line. Only the 16 members attending in person were eligible to vote at the AGM. Prof. Owen Davies delivered his Presidential Address 2023: 'A Folklorist looks at Ice-Cream Vans.' The lecture was live-streamed, free, to the general public, to an audience of 160, and a recording is freely available at <https://youtu.be/S6zU7EIN4U4>. The article is published in Folklore vol.135/1, 2024.

At the AGM, Prof. David Hopkin was elected as President and Trustee. Prof. Owen Davies continues as a Trustee and Vice-President. Prof. Patricia Lysaght stepped down from the Board. Prof. Richard Jenkins (Hon. Treasurer), Ms Sophia Kingshill (Hon. Secretary) and Dr Helen Frisby (Participation Officer) all continue as Trustees.

The following Council members were re-elected for 2023-26: Dr Matthew Cheeseman; Prof. Owen Davies; Dr Helen Frisby; Prof. James Grayson; Prof. David Hopkin; Prof. Richard Jenkins; Ms Sophia Kingshill; Dr Nicholas Le Bigre; Dr Kate Smith. Continuing Council members: Dr Paul Cowdell; Dr Oliver Douglas; Mr Jeremy Harte; Dr Jessica Hemming; Dr Ceri Houlbrook; Mr Ross Macfarlane; Mr Mark Norman; Prof. Ian Russell; Dr Juliette Wood.

The flagship event for the Society is the annual Katharine Briggs Lecture, commemorating the work of this key figure in folklore scholarship. The 2023 Lecture was given on 7 November at the Indian YMCA, Fitzroy Square, London, by Prof. Paul Gilroy: 'Folk Tradition and the Choosing of Ancestors,' to an audience of c.50 people. The lecture was free and open to the public.

In 2023, the Society made various awards to promote the academic study of folklore. The prestigious Katharine Briggs Award, for the best book in folklore studies entered for the award, was presented after the Katharine Briggs Lecture 2023, to Una McIlvenna, for her book *Singing the News of Death: Execution Ballads in Europe, 1500-1900* (published by Oxford University Press). There were 24 entries for the Katharine Briggs Award 2023.

Recognising the importance of supporting the growth of the next generation of folklore scholars, the Society awards the Estella Canziani Bursary for Post-Graduate Research (worth up to £1,000). A Bursary for 2023 was awarded to: Claire Slack (D.Heritage student, University of Hertfordshire) for a fieldwork research project 'Sharing Sacred Spaces: Engagements with the contemporary heritage of British Pagan sacred sites.'

The President's Prize of £150 is an annual award made for a student essay: The 2023 President's Prize was awarded to Xinrui Xie (University of Edinburgh) for her essay: 'Shadowed Maternity: The Perpetuating Ambivalence towards Motherhood in *Ubumé* Narratives.' The society gratefully acknowledges the annual donation of £60 from Prof. John Widdowson, former President of the society and founder of the prize.

The society's Annual conference 'Folklore, Geography and Environment,' 14-16 July 2023 was a hybrid international event held on-line and at The Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull. 39 people attended in person, and 33 on-line, with speakers from around the world. In gratitude for hosting the conference gratis, the society offered a donation of £1,323 to The Wilberforce Institute.

The society's Newer Researchers one-day workshop, usually every two years, aims to encourage the work of early career researchers in the field of folklore and related studies. The 2023 workshop 'Folklore Now!' took place on 25 May at The Centre for Folklore, Todmorden, with 49 participants. The event was funded by a generous donation of £500 from The University of Hertfordshire, plus £500 each from The Elphinstone Institute and The Folklore Society (according to our match-funding agreement: similarly, the society co-sponsored the FEECA conference 'Connection, Creativity, Community,' at The Elphinstone Institute in July 2023).

The conference 'Saints and Mystics in Legend and Tradition: The seventeenth legendary weekend,' was held at St Albans Cathedral Chapter House from 2-3 September, with 43 participants in person. These weekends are for both specialists and non-specialists in folklore and focus on a particular topic in a place outside of London.

The conference 'Amazonia: Differing Research Perspectives in Ethnology and Folklore,' the seventh annual 'Anthropology and Folklore in Conversation' joint symposium of the society with The Royal Anthropological Institute was held at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, and on-line, on 26 October 2023, attended by 36 participants in person and many more on-line.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The society co-hosted a free, one-day symposium on 'Fertility, Folklore and the Reproductive Body,' at 50 Fitzroy Street and on-line. The conference was a collaboration between The Folklore Society and the Open University's 'Reproductive Bodylore' project (supported by *AHRC Grant Number AH/S011587/1*). 12 people attended the symposium in person, and 128 on-line.

Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnerships announced a new, AHRC-DTP Collaborative Doctoral Award at The Open University, in partnership with The Folklore Society: 'Healthy Folk: The role of vernacular knowledge in health-related decision-making', a fully-funded PhD to begin in 2024.

The regular on-line talks begun during the pandemic proved so popular that we have continued to hold them. These talks are given by experts on a wide range of folklore topics. Speakers in 2023 were: Prof. Stuart Dunn, on 'Corpse Roads and the Right to Roam'; Tibor Falzett, on 'The Midwife Effie Currie'; Sophia Kingshill, on 'Bog Bodies'; Dr Petr Janeček on 'Spring-heeled Jack on the Continent'; Prof. Margaret Bennett 'There was a lady dressed in green' on Scottish children's songs; Mark Lewis, 'Lighthouses and the Paranormal'; Prof. Terry Gunnell, on 'Nordic Legends of the Wild Ride'; Dr Tommy Kuusela, 'Scandinavian Werewolves'; Eric Huang, 'Saint Sebastian the Queer Icon'; Joel Conn, on 'Freemen of the Land'; Simon Young, on 'The Wandering Jew' in Britain'; Dr Helen Frisby, on 'A History of Burial Grounds'; Prof. Ronald Hutton, on 'The History of Halloween'; Robert McDowall, on 'Archival Challenges of Collections'; Rosalind Kerven, on 'Old Faery Narratives'; Dr Ronald L. James, on 'The Folklore of the Wild West'; Dr Francis Young, 'On the Origins of British Fairies'; George Monger, on 'Ribbons, Flowers and Locks—contemporary practices'; Dr David Waldron, on 'Ghosts of the Goldfields'.

These on-line talks were very well attended, both by the general public and society members (who benefit from discounted tickets) and attracted a diverse audience nationally and internationally (including participants from Europe, India, South Africa, Canada, USA), increasing the accessibility of the Society's programme of activities to participants who would struggle to attend an in-person Society event. We have a full programme of on-line bi-monthly talks for 2024 and speakers are now being invited for 2025.

The society devoted more resources to increasing its social media activity and expanded the digital resources available at <https://folklore-society.com>. Folklore Society members benefit from a dedicated Members Only area of the website <https://folklore-society.com> where they can access: the entire digital archive of back issues of Folklore and its earlier titles from 1878 onwards via tandfonline.com, selected folklore journals from JStor.org, and the digital form of all back issues of FLS News.

Library and Archives: 167 books and pamphlets were added to The Folklore Society Library collections at University College London Library in 2023. 96 of these items were bequeathed by late Jean Tsushima; this bequest, valued at £5,750, included 109 titles already held in our collection; 40 duplicates were donated to The Folklore Library and Archive, Crediton, and 69 were donated to the Centre for Folklore, Myth and Magic, Todmorden.

A membership survey was conducted between August and December 2023, and analysis of the resulting data is ongoing. The findings will assist the Trustees in ensuring the Society's continued relevance and appeal to members, and will inform the Society's strategic direction and sustainability.

The society's journal *Folklore*, published in 4 issues per annual volume by Taylor and Francis, continued to perform well: the journal was accessed by over 3,100 institutions worldwide; has a Citations (Impact Factor) score of 0.4 and a Scopus score of 0.6; there were over 180,000 downloads of articles from the journal in 2023 (including 122,447 via JStor; 57,244 via Tandfonline.com; 6 articles in the 2023 volume of *Folklore* were published as Open Access and free to all, encouraging wider public access to the fruits of folklore research, in keeping with the society's charitable aim. *Folklore* is also listed by ERIH PLUS (European Reference Index for Humanities & Social Sciences) and by ANVUR (Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of University & Research Institutes /Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial review

Review of financial position

The results for the year are set out on pages 10 & 11.

Total income for the year amounted to £87,217 (2022: £122,155); the difference between 2022 and 2023 is largely accounted for by the Katharine Briggs Trust donation in the previous year. Total expenditure amounted to £67,253 (2022: £61,336).

The broader picture is a little better than last year, largely due to modest increases in income from Taylor and Francis and JSTOR. The increased fixed costs associated with the move to the Royal Anthropological Institute required the Society re-evaluate its income-generating activities, on the one hand, and its costs, on the other, particularly those associated with administration and meetings. This is an ongoing process. The inhibition of our activities caused by the restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic was both a restraint and an opportunity in this respect: net income from all on-line activities in Folklore Enterprises Limited (the trading subsidiary) in the year, after Eventbrite fees and VAT have been paid, was £4,752 (2022: £3,289).

We are able to report that for 2023, allowing for the increase in the charity's office costs since leaving the Warburg Institute in 2019, there was net income of £19,964 achieved before recognising the movement in carrying value of the charity's current asset investment fund, compared to a net income in the previous year of £61,003. The prior year included £5,750 of donated heritage assets, along with the residual funds transferred on cessation of The Katharine Briggs Trust amounting to £45,482. For the 2023 financial reporting year, which represented a modest improvement on the preceding two years, we anticipate: continuing modest income from on-line activities; some continued saving in expenses payments arising from holding on-line meetings; and continued uncertainty arising from the increasing importance of open-access publishing within the Taylor and Francis income stream (see below).

After non-cash items (being revaluations on intangible and heritage assets), there was a net decrease in charity funds for the year of £5,612, meaning that the carried forward reserves position as at 31 December 2023 amounted to £949,023 (2022: £954,635).

Folklore Enterprises Limited

The principal source of income of the Society and its trading subsidiary (Folklore Enterprises Limited) continues to be provided by the Folklore journal publishing arrangement with Taylor and Francis, a trading arm of Informa UK Ltd. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Informa plc, a company whose shares are quoted on the London International Stock Exchange. The Society's previous joint venture profit share agreement with Taylor and Francis expired on 31 December 2016 and was replaced from 1 January 2017 by a royalty-based agreement for ten years. This agreement is a fixed royalty based on forty (40) percent of net sales receipts as defined, with a guaranteed nonreturnable advance each year of £30,000 and an annual contribution towards editorial expenses of £16,080, plus a variable additional payment at end of year for extra editorial work on Open Access articles. The current agreement offers the Society some protection from the vagaries of prevailing market conditions. Payments under the agreement are made to the Society's trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, and the surplus profits are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. However, the increasing move to open-access publishing in academic journal publishing is an issue; the impact of this, one way or the other, on the Society's income is not yet clear (not even to Taylor and Francis). This uncertainty is further underlined by the looming need to renegotiate the publishing agreement with Taylor & Francis.

The royalty payment from Taylor and Francis to Folklore Enterprises Limited in respect of 2023 was £55,251, a small increase of £2,797 on 2022 (£7,368).

The other principal source of cash income is the revenue paid to the Folklore Enterprises Limited by JSTOR. For 2023, Folklore Enterprises Limited received a royalty of USD \$15,452 (£13,055), another modest increase (2022: £12,206).

The surplus profits of Folklore Enterprises Limited are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. In 2023 £72,000 was paid, and therefore donated, to the Society (2022: £64,436).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reserves policy

For a number of years now the financial strategy has been to maintain a day to day financial reserve (equivalent to net current assets) sufficient to meet roughly two years of running costs (covering employment costs of the Librarian and her assistant plus a license fee for office accommodation and other costs) in order to provide ample time for restructure should there be dramatic reductions in the income line in any future period. Based on the previous two years costs this would be equivalent to approximately £127,000. The net current assets position of £240,772 at 31 December 2023 was more than adequate to satisfy that strategy.

At 31 December 2023 there was a balance of £30,596 (stated at its current market value) in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with cash or near cash balances amounting to £216,227.

Although this has been interrupted by the pandemic, periodic meetings take place with Society's Fund Managers to review performance of the investments and if felt appropriate to effect changes in direction.

At 31 December 2023 the Society had unrestricted funds of £949,023 (2022: £954,635), of which £240,772 was general unrestricted funds available for day-to-day use (2022: £215,233).

There were no restricted funds as at 31 December 2023.

Risk management

In addition to accommodation costs, and the unpredictable fluctuations in royalty payments from Taylor and Francis, which the Trustees are managing with prudence, the Charity's other risks may be categorised into financial dependency, stewardship and staffing.

So far as financial dependency is concerned, there is the Society's obvious link to the financial good health of Taylor and Francis. In this regard, the financial performance of the parent Informa group presents no cause for concern at the moment. The Trustees sought to manage risk and future uncertainty in the Society's commercial arrangements with Taylor and Francis by concluding the ten-year agreement based on a royalty model with a minimum royalty payment that came into effect from 1 January 2017. The issues that this strategy is now raising (in respect of open access publishing etc.) have already been discussed.

In common with many charities the Society is heavily dependent upon being able to identify and then secure a stream of prospective Trustees and Officers who will take a lead in preserving the Society together with its aims and objectives for future generations.

This risk is being addressed by changes to governance which facilitate changes in the main officer group so that succession plans are in place for the next three- to five-year period at any point in time. This initiative is linked to a more general one of openly inviting participation by new and younger members to the Society by a natural process to fill all the key roles.

With respect to staffing, the Trustees keep the matter under review. Due to retirement plans, for example, it is likely that the next eighteen months will see some turnover and renewal in this respect. This will be an opportunity for reflection upon the Society's needs in terms of staffing.

Plans for the future

The Society continues to develop its programme of increasing and widening its personal membership and outreach, particularly amongst younger people and those who pursue the study of folklore both academically and for personal interest. It is also working to increase its collaboration with cognate societies and received support from other societies at its own events, or contributed to the support of events of similar societies.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Governance and management

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, founded in 1878 and incorporated in the UK under England and Wales (registration number 03685496) and has been granted charitable status (registration number 1074552).

The officers of the Society (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Participation Officer) are directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The officers act as the Management Board and have equal responsibility for the legally mandated affairs of the Society, including annual returns to Companies House and the Charity Commission. Officers also deal with on-going financial matters, staff, accommodation, links with Taylor and Francis who publish *Folklore*, and whatever other issues arise. The Society has accountants and solicitors to provide professional services as appropriate.

The Council of the Society, of which the officers are part, is responsible for non-mandated matters, such as the academic-related activities, including organising and participating in conferences and other events, acting as judges for various annual awards, and as members of ad-hoc working groups.

Trustees of the charity

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Prof O Davies
Dr H Frisby
Prof D Hopkin (appointed 16 June 2023)
Prof R P Jenkins
Ms S Kingshill
Prof P Lysaght (retired 16 June 2023)

Appointment of trustees

The trustees of The Folklore Society are proposed by the Management Board, which consists of the Trustees and the Editor of *Folklore*, on the basis of any nominations received and seconded in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. They are elected by votes on a show of hands at the Annual General Meeting. Proxy votes are cast in accordance with instructions from those absent but entitled to attend, by the President of the Society, who is always a Trustee of the Society. They are elected to serve a term of three years.

The directors of Folklore Enterprises Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of The Folklore Society, are elected at the meeting of the directors of The Folklore Society. They represent the commercial interests of the Society in its trading subsidiary and comprise the Secretary and Treasurer of The Folklore Society.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The trustees consider the trustees and the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The key management individual who is involved in all decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity is Dr C Oates, the Senior Librarian and administrative manager. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with market rates.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023*

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Professor R P Jenkins

Trustee

Dated: 2 September 2024



THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors of The Folklore Society for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Folklore Society (the Society) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Society (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Society are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Sarah Jennings FCA
Azets Audit Services

Globe House
Eclipse Park
Sittingbourne Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 3EN
United Kingdom

Dated: 3 September 2024

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations	3	73,522	-	73,522	118,226
Other trading activities	4	4,802	-	4,802	1,459
Investments	5	8,893	-	8,893	2,470
Total income		87,217	-	87,217	122,155
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	6	64,253	-	64,253	61,152
Other	11	3,000	-	3,000	184
Total expenditure		67,253	-	67,253	61,336
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	2,575	-	2,575	(4,029)
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gains or losses		(28,151)	-	(28,151)	(26,148)
Net movement in funds		(5,612)	-	(5,612)	30,642
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		954,635	-	954,635	923,993
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		949,023	-	949,023	954,635

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	14		121,282		149,433
Heritage assets	15		586,959		589,959
Investments	16		10		10
			<u>708,251</u>		<u>739,402</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	17	923		833	
Investments	18	30,596		28,021	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>216,227</u>		<u>192,825</u>	
		247,746		221,679	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>(6,974)</u>		<u>(6,446)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>240,772</u>		<u>215,233</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>949,023</u>		<u>954,635</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	21	708,251		739,402	
General unrestricted funds		<u>240,772</u>		<u>215,233</u>	
			<u>949,023</u>		<u>954,635</u>
			<u>949,023</u>		<u>954,635</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 2nd September 2024



Professor R P Jenkins

Trustee

Company Registration No. 03685496

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Folklore Society is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and a registered charity with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. The registered office is Globe House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN. The principal place of business is 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in page 1 of these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Society has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial items at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the format to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. In reaching that view, the trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from approving these financial statements. Their belief is that the anticipated income and expenditure for that period will be adequate for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern, given its level of reserves at 31 December 2023 and the fact that they currently still believe and expect that the charity's trading subsidiary will also continue operating as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

The Income Fund consists of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from ancillary trading activities (conference fees and royalty and book sales) is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it, being the occurrence of the event or the sale of the book.

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, is inclusive of VAT where incurred, and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

The trustees' follow a capitalisation policy to treat such items with a cost in excess of £250 as capital in nature.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed and current asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Society. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Intangible assets

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

Heritage assets carried at valuation

The useful economic lives and residual values of heritage are reassessed annually for any impairment. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 14 for the carrying amount of the charity's library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

There are no undisclosed key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3 Donations

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and gifts	73,522	111,216
Internship grant	-	1,260
Donated heritage assets	-	5,750
	<u>73,522</u>	<u>118,226</u>

Donations and gifts includes £72,000 (2022: £64,436) of trading surplus paid to the charity in the year. This includes £38,604 (2022: £37,270) unpaid from the year ended 31 December 2022.

The internship grant received in 2022 was restricted income. All other income in the current and prior year was unrestricted.

No legacy income was notified to the trustees during the year under review.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Conference fees	4,753	1,284
Royalties and book sales	49	175
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Other trading activities	4,802	1,459
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other investment income	8,893	2,470
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 Charitable activities

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	-	1,260
Depreciation and impairment	-	90
FLS news	3,121	2,202
Conference speakers' travel bursaries	3,733	911
	<u>6,854</u>	<u>4,463</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	1,150	2,320
Share of support costs (see note 8)	49,319	48,729
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	6,930	5,640
	<u>64,253</u>	<u>61,152</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	64,253	59,892
Restricted funds	-	1,260
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,260</u>

Charitable activities include holding various conferences throughout the year to foster and further research into folklore, and publishing a regular journal (FLS news) to the members of the Society. All support and governance costs are charitable activities.

7 Grants payable

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Grants to institutions:		
Open Book Publishing	-	1,230
Grants to individuals (1 grants)	1,150	1,090
	<u>1,150</u>	<u>2,320</u>

-

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

8 Support and governance costs (all unrestricted funds)

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 Support costs £	Governance costs £	2022 £
Staff costs	34,391	-	34,391	33,690	33,690
Licence fee – occupation of office	10,445	-	10,445	9,792	9,792
Postage, stationery and telephone	983	-	983	512	512
Sundry expenses	518	-	518	185	185
Bank charges	103	-	103	83	83
Insurance	1,039	-	1,039	962	962
Computer running costs	16	-	16	208	208
Subscriptions	84	-	84	108	108
Officers' travel and subsistence	762	-	762	3,189	3,189
Marketing & Publicity	978	-	978	-	-
Accountancy	-	2,880	2,880	-	1,890
Independent examiner's fee	-	4,050	4,050	-	3,750
	<u>49,319</u>	<u>6,930</u>	<u>56,249</u>	<u>48,729</u>	<u>54,369</u>
All relate to Charitable activities	<u>49,319</u>	<u>6,930</u>	<u>56,249</u>	<u>48,729</u>	<u>54,369</u>

Total staff costs for the year amounted to £34,391 (2022: £34,950) - see note 10.

9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

Included in officers' travel and subsistence is a total of £130 (2022: £771) reimbursed to the 5 trustees during the year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Employees

Number of employees

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Administration	3	3

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	34,369	34,867
Other pension costs	22	83
	34,391	34,950

The trustees consider that they, together with the charity's Senior Librarian, comprise the key management personnel of the charity who are jointly in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Senior Librarian's salary cost was £25,114 (2022: £24,616).

There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000 (2022: Nil).

11 Other

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2022
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	184
Net loss on disposal of heritage assets	3,000	-

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 Net (losses)/gains on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Revaluation of investments	2,575	(4,029)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14 Intangible fixed assets

	Publishing licences £
Valuation	
At 1 January 2023	149,433
Impairment	(28,151)
At 31 December 2023	121,282
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2023	121,282
At 31 December 2022	149,433

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

15 Heritage assets

	At valuation £
At 1 January 2023	589,959
Disposals	(3,000)
At 31 December 2023	586,959

The Trustees assess the fair value of the heritage assets on an annual basis.

The paintings and artefacts were last formally valued during the year ended 31 December 1997, with the archives last formally valued in the year ended 31 December 2015.

The most recent formal valuation of the Library was undertaken by Mr M Banwell in May 2022 to value the books donated to that date and for insurance purposes. Mr M Banwell also valued the addition of 205 titles to the Library in the prior year. Mr M Banwell is a specialist in Folklore material.

The charity also owns the Mary Young Collection and the Cambridge Anthropology Collection, these items have not yet been professionally valued and are not included in these accounts.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 Fixed asset investments

		Other investments
Cost		
At 1 January 2023 & 31 December 2023		10
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2023		10
At 31 December 2022		10

		2023 £	2022 £
Other investments comprise:			
Investments in subsidiaries	24	10	10

17 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	923	833

18 Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
COIF Charities Investment Fund	30,596	28,021

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	2,474	898
Accruals and deferred income	4,500	5,548
	6,974	6,446

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Internship	-	1,260	(1,260)	-	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

21 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2022	New designation	Designation released	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 1 January 2023	Designation released	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Copyright licence fund	175,581	-	-	(26,148)	149,433	(28,151)	121,282
Fixed assets fund	274	-	(274)	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets fund	584,209	5,750	-	-	589,959	(3,000)	586,959
Investments fund	10	-	-	-	10	-	10
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	760,074	5,750	(274)	(26,148)	739,402	(31,151)	708,251
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Copyright licence fund - this fund holds the licences and copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements.

Fixed asset fund - this fund holds the various tangible assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but utilised in the performance of the charity's activities.

Heritage asset fund - this fund holds the heritage assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but to maintain and preserve the archives and manuscript collections.

Investment fund - this fund holds the trading subsidiary, and is invested to maximise total return and generate income.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

22 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Society had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	11,070	10,000
Between two and five years	44,280	40,000
In over five years	5,535	5,833
	60,885	55,833

At 31 December 2023 the charity had an operating lease commitment with The Royal Anthropological Institute under the terms of a licence agreement to occupy space at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1. The total commitment covers the remaining period of occupancy by the Charity expected to end on 27 July 2029.

The amount of the rent paid under this agreement in the year to 31 December 2023 was £10,445 (2022: £9,792) which included a 50% discount in January 2023 and a 33% discount from 1 February 2023 to 31 December 2023.

23 Related party transactions

The Charity's wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, conducts the commercial activities of its parent charity and donates under gift aid any trading surplus to the parent charity each financial year. For the year ended 31 December 2023 the amount donated was £72,000 (2022: £64,436).

At 31 December 2023 there were no balances outstanding between the charity and Folklore Enterprises Limited.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

24 Subsidiaries

These financial statements are separate Society financial statements for The Folklore Society.

The Society is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The Society and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the Society has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

Details of the Society's subsidiaries at 31 December 2023 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
Folklore Enterprises Limited	England & Wales	Not for profit publishing and library activities	Ordinary	100.00	

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
Folklore Enterprises Limited	(1,506)	38,198

Accounts

Charity registration number 1074552

Company registration number 03685496 (England and Wales)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof O Davies Dr H Frisby Prof R P Jenkins Ms S Kingshill Prof P Lysaght
Secretary	Ms S Kingshill
Senior Librarian	Dr C Oates
Editor of Folklore	Dr J Hemming
Company number	03685496
Principal Office	50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT
Registered office	Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN United Kingdom ME14 3EN
Independent examiner	M Wilkes FCA Azets Audit Services Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Alan Murdie, LL.B. Barrister Nucleus Legal Advice 298 Old Brompton Road London SW5 9JF
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The Folklore Society was founded in 1878. It was one of the first organisations in the world to be devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. Its objectives are to foster folklore research and recording worldwide, and to make the results of these studies available to all persons whether members of the Society or not. With effect from the year 2001, membership of the Society was available both to institutions and individuals through subscription to its journal Folklore. This is on a joint-venture basis with the publisher, Taylor & Francis Plc. From 2003 the publication frequency was increased from twice to three times per year, and this was increased again to four times per year from 2017. The Society and Taylor & Francis Plc exercised their option to mutually renew the joint venture by entering into a new licence agreement for publication of Folklore for a further ten years with effect from 1 January 2017.

The Society operates its administrative facilities from 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, a building owned by The Royal Anthropological Institute. The Society's rights and obligations in respect of its occupancy at 50 Fitzroy Street are reflected in a licence agreement, underwritten by the Director of The Royal Anthropological Institute. Following renegotiation in 2022 the Society pays £10,000 per annum for its licence, updatable annually in line with inflation. The licensee and licensor are required to give twelve months' notice of termination. The current licence expires on 27 July 2029. Under this licence, Folklore Society members may visit the FLS Office by appointment to consult with the librarians and view the society's most recent folklore periodicals the reference books that are kept there.

Most of the Society's library is retained under a continuing custodial with University College London, which maintains the library on a retrieval basis and insures it at no cost to the Society. The membership of the Society is granted membership of the libraries of University College London at no additional cost in order that they may access and borrow books. The Society's Rare Books, Archives and Collections are housed at UCL Library Special Collections, currently in temporary quarters at the National Archives at Kew and will eventually move to a new location with UCL Special Collections. They are held and insured by University College London at no cost to the Society. They are accessible with notice and upon request. Artefacts are held on loan at other institutions and museums, and the Canziani paintings are held at UCL Special Collections.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Achievements and performance

With the end of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in 2022, most of the Society's in-person activities resumed and, as they had proved to be popular, on-line events also continued.

The Annual General Meeting 2022 was held on 28 June at 50 Fitzroy Street, in-person and on-line. Only the 16 members attending in person were eligible to vote at the AGM. Prof. Owen Davies delivered his Presidential Address 2022: 'The Witch of Endor: A Study in History and Folklore;' it was live-streamed to an audience of 259, an audio recording is freely available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fpoGEnBuoc> and the article is published in *Folklore* in 2023.

Dr William Roberts stepped down as a Trustee, and Ms Sophia Kingshill was elected as Honorary Secretary and Trustee. Dr Helen Frisby was appointed as a Trustee and as Participation Officer. The following Council members were re-elected for 2022-25: Dr Jessica Hemming (Editor *Folklore*), Dr Ceri Houlbrook (Editor, *FLS News*).

Continuing members of Council: Prof. Owen Davies (President), Dr Matthew Cheeseman, Dr Paul Cowdell, Dr Oliver Douglas, Dr Helen Frisby, Prof. James Grayson, Mr Jeremy Harte, Prof. David Hopkin, Dr Prof. Richard Jenkins (Hon. Treasurer), Ms Sophia Kingshill, Mr Nicolas Le Bigre, Prof. Patricia Lysaght (Vice-president), Mr Mark Norman, Dr William Roberts, Dr 'Doc' Rowe, Prof. Ian Russell, Dr Kate Smith, Dr Juliette Wood (Reviews Editor).

The society's Annual conference "Open Voices: Folklore for All, Folklore of All", held on-line 6-8 May, with 72 participants from around the world, included BSL deaf-sign storytelling and a keynote address by Prof. Sadhana Naithani: 'Since All are Never One: Margins, Borders and Folklore.'

In light of the success of this event, a follow-up one-day online conference 'Folklore for All' was held on 17 September, with 51 participants.

The conference "Fate and Prophecy in Legend and Tradition: The Sixteenth Legendary Weekend," in Knaresborough 3-4 September, was attended by 40 participants. These weekends are for both specialists and non-specialists in folklore and focus on a particular topic in a place outside of London.

The seventh annual 'Anthropology and Folklore in Conversation' joint symposium of the society with the Royal Anthropological Institute was postponed until 2023.

The flagship event for the Society is the annual Katharine Briggs Lecture, commemorating the work of this key figure in folklore scholarship. The 2021 Lecture was given on 8 November at Conway Hall, London, by author Kath Langrish: 'Fenrir's Fetter and the Power of Stories,' to an audience of c.60 people; Doc Rowe's recording of the lecture is free to download at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ID3KbgJiimw>.

In 2022, the Society made various awards to promote the academic study of folklore. The prestigious Katharine Briggs Award, for the best book entered in folklore studies in the past year, was presented after the Katharine Briggs Lecture 2022, to Marina Montesano, for her book *Folklore, Magic and Witchcraft: Cultural Exchanges from the Twelfth to Eighteenth Century* (published by Routledge). There were 32 entries for the Katharine Briggs Award 2022.

Recognising the importance of supporting the growth of the next generation of folklore scholars, the Society awards the Estella Canziani Bursary for Post-Graduate Research (worth up to £1,000). Bursaries for 2022 were awarded to: Jessica Lloyd (PhD candidate, University of Nottingham): 'Folklore and Identity in Southwest England', and Georgina Rowe (PhD candidate, University of Birmingham): 'No longer "unwritten": British Traditional Folk Music and the Archive.'

The President's Prize of £100 is an annual award made for a student essay: in 2022 there were no entries.

A subvention of £1,230 was made to Open Book Publishing to support the publication of *Play in a Covid Frame*, by Anna Beresin and Julia Bishop.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In recognition of the University of Hertfordshire's work in promoting the academic study of folklore, the society supports the students on their MA in Folklore Studies by offering them the benefits of membership and access to our library collections at UCL.

In 2022, the Society benefited greatly from Dr Julia Phillips' paid internship funded by Bristol University, during which she transcribed years 1901-1904 of the Society's Minute Books, and co-organised and recorded the 'Open Voices' conference.

The regular on-line talks begun during the pandemic proved so popular that we continued these in 2022; audiences of 50-100 people, from many parts of the world, have attended these talks given by experts on a wide range of folklore topics, including: Prof. Felicity Wood, on 'Wealth-Giving Magic in Present-day South Africa'; Ross MacFarlane: 'Edward Lovett: A Forgotten Folklorist?'; Dr Juliette Wood: 'When Unicorns Walked the Earth,' and 'Night Fears and Nursery Lore, the Origins of the Sandman'; Dr William Roberts: 'Traditions of British Army Uniforms: From Leek to Lego and Beyond'; Dr Helen Frisby: 'The Sin-Eater: Lives and Afterlives'; Prof. David Hopkin: 'Shepherdess Saints and Sinister Seigneurs: The Social History of a Local/Global Cult'; Dr John Clark: 'The Green Children of Woolpit'; Dr Chris Duffin: 'Fraisketten, or Convulsion Chains,' and 'Fossils in Myth, Legend and Lore'; Dr Claire Ccollins: 'Pregnancy and Childbirth in Medieval England'; Dr Ronald L. James: 'Cornwall's Knockers, Sea Monsters and Pesky Piskies'; Rosalind Kerven: '"In the Beginning, All Wisdom was with the Animals: Exploring Native American Myths'; Dr Paul Cowdell: 'Wights in Night Satin: Ghosts in Bedsheets'; Prof. Richard Jenkins: 'What is Folklore?'; Dr Ceri Houlbrook: '"Dear Father Christmas": Tracing the Origins of a Folkloric Custom.'

These on-line talks were very well attended, both by the general public and society members (who benefit from discounted tickets) and attracted a diverse audience nationally and internationally (including participants from Europe, India, South Africa, Canada, USA), increasing the accessibility of the Society's programme of activities to participants who would struggle to attend an in-person Society event. We have a full programme of on-line bi-monthly talks for 2023 and speakers are now being invited for 2024.

The society devoted more resources to increasing its social media activity and expanded the digital resources available at <https://folklore-society.com>, including a number of recorded talks, and more Virtual Special Issues of *Folklore*. Folklore Society members benefit from a dedicated Members Only area of the website <https://folklore-society.com> where they can access: the entire digital archive of back issues of *Folklore* and its earlier titles from 1878 onwards via tandfonline.com, selected folklore journals from JStor.org, and the digital form of all back issues of *FLS News*.

The society's library received a bequest of 205 books, valued at £5,750, from the estate Mrs Jean Tsushima, former archivist of the society; a number of the books will be added to the Society's library at University College London in 2023, and duplicates will be donated to other libraries, including The Centre for Folklore, Myth and Magic in Todmorden, and the Folklore Library and Archive in Crediton. The 5-yearly re-valuation of the Society's Library (delayed in 2020 by the pandemic) was carried out in 2022, with an uplift of £20,000 worth of new acquisitions added to stock since the previous valuation in 2015. In 2022, 15 new accessions of FLS library books were added to UCL Library's online catalogue. The Folklore Society's library and archive collections at University College London continue to be regularly used by readers, including Folklore Society members, as well as students, and researchers both from the UK and international. There were 247 requests for items from the FLS collections: 14 from Folklore Society members, 8 from visiting scholars, 112 from UCL undergraduates, and 127 from UCL post-graduates and staff.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Financial review

Review of financial position

In terms of an overview of the results for the financial year 2022 as compared with 2021, the position can be summarised as follows:-

	£
Increase/(decrease) in net income for the year	1,758
Accounted for by:-	
Increase in total gross income	13,305
(Increase) in costs of charitable activities	(3,237)
Decrease in gains/(losses) on current asset investments	(8,310)

It is worth saying a few words about the broader picture, which is a little rosier than last year, largely due to modest increases in income from Taylor and Francis and JSTOR. The increased fixed costs associated with the move to the Royal Anthropological Institute required the Society re-evaluate its income-generating activities, on the one hand, and its costs, on the other, particularly those associated with administration and meetings. This is an ongoing process. The inhibition of our activities caused by the restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic was both a restraint and an opportunity in this respect: net income from all on-line activities in the trading subsidiary in the year, after Eventbrite fees and VAT have been paid, was £3,289 (2021: £3,485).

We are able to report that for 2022, allowing for the increase in the charity's office costs since leaving the Warburg Institute in 2019, there was net income of £61,003 achieved before recognising the movement in carrying value of the charity's current asset investment fund, compared to a net income in the previous year of £50,935. This includes £5,750 of donated heritage assets, along with the residual funds transferred on cessation of The Katharine Briggs Trust amounting to £45,482. For the 2022 financial reporting year, which represented a modest improvement on the preceding two years, we anticipate: continuing modest income from on-line activities; some continued saving in expenses payments arising from holding on-line meetings; and continued uncertainty arising from the increasing importance of open-access publishing within the Taylor and Francis income stream (see below).

After non-cash items (being revaluations on intangible and heritage assets), there was a net increase in charity funds for the year of £30,826, meaning that the carried forward reserves position as at 31 December 2022 amounted to £954,819 (2021: £823,993).

Folklore Enterprises Limited

The principal source of income of the Society and its trading subsidiary (Folklore Enterprises Limited) continues to be provided by the Folklore journal publishing arrangement with Taylor and Francis, a trading arm of Informa UK Ltd. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Informa plc, a company whose shares are quoted on the London International Stock Exchange. The Society's previous joint venture profit share agreement with Taylor and Francis expired on 31 December 2016 and was replaced from 1 January 2017 by a royalty-based agreement for ten years. This agreement is a fixed royalty based on forty (40) percent of net sales receipts as defined, with a guaranteed nonreturnable advance each year of £30,000 and an annual contribution towards editorial expenses of £16,080. The current agreement offers the Society more protection from the vagaries of prevailing market conditions. Payments under the agreement are made to the Society's trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, and the surplus profits are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. However, the increasing move to open-access publishing in academic journal publishing is an issue; the impact of this, one way or the other, on the Society's income is not yet clear (not even to Taylor and Francis).

The royalty payment from Taylor and Francis to Folklore Enterprises Limited in respect of 2022 was £57,454, a welcome increase of £7,368 on 2021 (£50,086).

The other principal source of cash income is the revenue paid to the Folklore Enterprises Limited by JSTOR. For 2022, Folklore Enterprises Limited received a royalty of USD \$16,507 (£13,206), another modest increase (2021: £11,851).

The surplus profits of Folklore Enterprises Limited are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. In 2022 £64,436 was paid, and therefore donated, to the Society (2021: £84,982).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Reserves policy

For a number of years now the financial strategy has been to maintain a day to day financial reserve (equivalent to net current assets) sufficient to meet roughly two years of running costs (covering employment costs of the Librarian and her assistant plus a license fee for office accommodation and other costs) in order to provide ample time for restructure should there be dramatic reductions in the income line in any future period. Based on the previous two years costs this would be equivalent to approximately £120,000. The net current assets position of £215,233 at 31 December 2022 was more than adequate to satisfy that strategy.

At 31 December 2022 there was a balance of £28,021 (stated at its current market value) in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with cash or near cash balances amounting to £192,825.

Although this has been interrupted by the pandemic, periodic meetings take place with Society's Fund Managers to review performance of the investments and if felt appropriate to effect changes in direction.

At 31 December 2022 the Society had unrestricted funds of £954,819 (2021: £923,993), of which £215,233 was general unrestricted funds available for day-to-day use (2021: £163,919).

There were no restricted funds as at 31 December 2022.

Risk management

In addition to accommodation costs, and the unpredictable fluctuations in royalty payments from Taylor and Francis, which the Trustees are managing with prudence, the Charity's other risks may be categorised into financial dependency, stewardship and staffing.

So far as financial dependency is concerned, there is the Society's obvious link to the financial good health of Taylor and Francis. In this regard, the financial performance of the parent Informa group presents no cause for concern at the moment. The Trustees sought to manage risk and future uncertainty in the Society's commercial arrangements with Taylor and Francis by concluding the ten-year agreement based on a royalty model with a minimum royalty payment that came into effect from 1 January 2017. The issues that this strategy is now raising (in respect of open access publishing etc.) have already been discussed.

In common with many charities the Society is heavily dependent upon being able to identify and then secure a stream of prospective Trustees and Officers who will take a lead in preserving the Society together with its aims and objectives for future generations.

This risk is being addressed by changes to governance which facilitate changes in the main officer group so that succession plans are in place for the next three- to five-year period at any point in time. This initiative is linked to a more general one of openly inviting participation by new and younger members to the Society by a natural process to fill all the key roles.

With respect to staffing, the Trustees keep the matter under review. Due to retirement plans, for example, it is likely that the next eighteen months will see some turnover and renewal in this respect. This will be an opportunity for reflection upon the Society's needs in terms of staffing.

Plans for the future

The Society continues to develop its programme of increasing and widening its personal membership and outreach, particularly amongst younger people and those who pursue the study of folklore both academically and for personal interest. It is also working to increase its collaboration with cognate societies and received support from other societies at its own events, or contributed to the support of events of similar societies.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Governance and management

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, founded in 1878 and incorporated in the UK under England and Wales (registration number 03685496) and has been granted charitable status (registration number 1074552).

The officers of the Society (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Participation Officer) are directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The officers act as the Management Board and have equal responsibility for the legally mandated affairs of the Society, including annual returns to Companies House and the Charity Commission. Officers also deal with on-going financial matters, staff, accommodation, links with Taylor and Francis who publish *Folklore*, and whatever other issues arise. The Society has accountants and solicitors to provide professional services as appropriate.

The Council of the Society, of which the officers are part, is responsible for non-mandated matters, such as the academic-related activities, including organising and participating in conferences and other events, acting as judges for various annual awards, and as members of ad-hoc working groups.

Trustees of the charity

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Prof O Davies
Dr H Frisby (appointed 4 March 2022)
Prof R P Jenkins
Ms S Kingshill (appointed 4 March 2022)
Prof P Lysaght
Dr W J Roberts (resigned 28 June 2022)

Appointment of trustees

The trustees of The Folklore Society are proposed by the Management Board, which consists of the Trustees and the Editor of *Folklore*, on the basis of any nominations received and seconded in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. They are elected by votes on a show of hands at the Annual General Meeting. Proxy votes are cast in accordance with instructions from those absent but entitled to attend, by the President of the Society, who is always a Trustee of the Society. They are elected to serve a term of three years.

The directors of Folklore Enterprises Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of The Folklore Society, are elected at the meeting of the directors of The Folklore Society. They represent the commercial interests of the Society in its trading subsidiary and comprise the Secretary and Treasurer of The Folklore Society.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The trustees consider the trustees and the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The key management individual who is involved in all decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity is Dr C Oates, the Senior Librarian and administrative manager. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with market rates.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


Professor R P Jenkins
Trustee
Dated: 26/5/23

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees, who are also the directors of The Folklore Society for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Folklore Society (the Society) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Society (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Society are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

M Wilkes FCA

Azets Audit Services

Globe House
Eclipse Park
Sittingbourne Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 3EN
United Kingdom

Dated: 5 June 2023

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	2021 £
Income from:					
Donations	3	116,966	1,260	118,226	106,111
Other trading activities	4	1,459	-	1,459	1,910
Investments	5	2,470	-	2,470	829
Total income		120,895	1,260	122,155	108,850
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	59,892	1,260	61,152	57,915
Other	11	184	-	184	-
Total expenditure		60,076	1,260	61,336	57,915
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(4,029)	-	(4,029)	4,281
Other recognised gains and losses					
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets		-	-	-	24,725
Other gains or losses		(26,148)	-	(26,148)	(25,984)
Net movement in funds		30,642	-	30,642	53,957
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		923,993	-	923,993	870,036
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		954,635	-	954,635	923,993

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	13		149,433		175,581
Tangible assets	15		-		274
Heritage assets	14		589,959		584,209
Investments	16		10		10
			<u>739,402</u>		<u>760,074</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	17	833		625	
Investments	18	28,021		32,050	
Cash at bank and in hand		192,825		134,664	
		<u>221,679</u>		<u>167,339</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(6,446)		(3,420)	
Net current assets			<u>215,233</u>		<u>163,919</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>954,635</u>		<u>923,993</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	21	739,402		760,074	
General unrestricted funds		215,233		163,919	
		<u>954,635</u>		<u>923,993</u>	
		<u>954,635</u>		<u>923,993</u>	

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

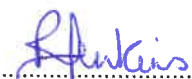
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26/5/23


.....

Professor R P Jenkins
Trustee

Company Registration No. 03685496

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Folklore Society is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and a registered charity with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. The registered office is Globe House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN. The principal place of business is 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in page 1 of these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Society has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial items at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the format to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. In reaching that view, the trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from approving these financial statements. Their belief is that the anticipated income and expenditure for that period will be adequate for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern, given its level of reserves at 31 December 2022 and the fact that they currently still believe and expect that the charity's trading subsidiary will also continue operating as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

The Income Fund consists of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from ancillary trading activities (conference fees and royalty and book sales) is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it, being the occurrence of the event or the sale of the book.

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, is inclusive of VAT where incurred, and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computers and office equipment	33% on written down value
--------------------------------	---------------------------

Heritage assets

The charity's library, artefacts, paintings and archives have been included at market value for insurance purposes. In the opinion of the trustees, the estimated residual values of these assets are not less than the valuations, which will normally be updated every five years, and no depreciation charge is required. The trustees consider this policy is necessary in order that the accounts show a true and fair view.

1.8 Group accounts

The charity is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The charity and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

1.9 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the directors/trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed and current asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Society. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.13 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.14 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.15 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Intangible assets

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

Heritage assets carried at valuation

The useful economic lives and residual values of heritage are reassessed annually for any impairment. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 14 for the carrying amount of the charity's library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

There are no undisclosed key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3 Donations

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and gifts	111,216	-	111,216	86,111
Internship grant	-	1,260	1,260	-
Donated heritage assets	5,750	-	5,750	20,000
	<u>116,966</u>	<u>1,260</u>	<u>118,226</u>	<u>106,111</u>

Donations and gifts includes £64,436 (2021: £84,982) of trading surplus paid to the charity in the year. This includes £37,270 (2021: £58,569) unpaid from the year ended 31 December 2021.

Donations and gifts also includes £45,482 being the residual funds transferred to the Society on the dissolution of the Katharine Briggs Trust.

No other legacy income was notified to the trustees during the year under review.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Conference fees	1,284	1,790
Royalties and book sales	175	120
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Other trading activities	1,459	1,910
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Other investment income	2,470	829
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6 Charitable activities

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	1,260	-
Depreciation and impairment	90	135
FLS news	2,202	3,571
Conference speakers' travel bursaries	911	1,996
	<u>4,463</u>	<u>5,702</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	2,320	1,182
Share of support costs (see note 8)	48,729	46,111
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	5,640	4,920
	<u>61,152</u>	<u>57,915</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	59,892	57,915
Restricted funds	1,260	-
	<u>61,152</u>	<u>57,915</u>

Charitable activities include holding various conferences throughout the year to foster and further research into folklore, and publishing a regular journal (FLS news) to the members of the Society. All support and governance costs are charitable activities.

7 Grants payable

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
Grants to institutions (1 grants):		
Open Book Publishing	1,230	-
Grants to individuals (3 grants)	1,090	1,182
	<u>2,320</u>	<u>1,182</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8 Support and governance costs (all unrestricted funds)

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2022 Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £
Staff costs	33,690	-	33,690	36,391	36,391
Licence fee – occupation of office	9,792	-	9,792	8,125	8,125
Postage, stationery and telephone	512	-	512	371	371
Sundry expenses	185	-	185	33	33
Bank charges	83	-	83	96	96
Insurance	962	-	962	759	759
Computer running costs	208	-	208	240	240
Subscriptions	108	-	108	96	96
Officers' travel and subsistence	3,189	-	3,189	-	-
Accountancy	-	1,890	1,890	-	1,260
Independent examiner's fee	-	3,750	3,750	-	3,660
	<u>48,729</u>	<u>5,640</u>	<u>54,369</u>	<u>46,111</u>	<u>51,031</u>
All relate to Charitable activities	<u>48,729</u>	<u>5,640</u>	<u>54,369</u>	<u>46,111</u>	<u>51,031</u>

Included in restricted funds are £1,260 of staff costs (see note 6). Total staff costs for the year amounted to £34,950 (2021: £36,391) - see note 10.

9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

Included in officers' travel and subsistence is a total of £771 (2021: £nil) reimbursed to the 5 trustees during the year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Employees

Number of employees

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Administration	3	3

Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	34,867	36,366
Other pension costs	83	25
	34,950	36,391

The trustees consider that they, together with the charity's Senior Librarian, comprise the key management personnel of the charity who are jointly in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Senior Librarian's salary cost was £24,616 (2021: £23,918).

There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000 (2021: None).

11 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	184	-

12 Net (losses)/gains on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022 £	2021 £
Revaluation of investments	(4,029)	4,281

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

13 Intangible fixed assets

	Publishing licences £
Valuation	
At 1 January 2022	175,581
Impairment	(26,148)
At 31 December 2022	149,433
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	149,433
At 31 December 2021	175,581

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

14 Heritage assets

	At valuation £
At 1 January 2022	584,209
Additions	5,750
At 31 December 2022	589,959

The Trustees assess the fair value of the heritage assets on an annual basis.

The paintings and artefacts were last formally valued during the year ended 31 December 1997, with the archives last formally valued in the year ended 31 December 2015.

Purchases comprise over 1,000 titles donated to the Library over the course of the last 5 years. 205 books were acquired in the current year from a bequest. The most recent formal valuation of the Library was undertaken by Mr M Banwell in May 2022 to value the books donated and for insurance purposes. Mr M Banwell is a specialist in Folklore material.

The charity also owns the Mary Young Collection and the Cambridge Anthropology Collection, these items have not yet been professionally valued and are not included in these accounts.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 January 2022	11,280
Disposals	(11,280)
	<u> </u>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 January 2022	11,006
Depreciation charged in the year	90
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(11,096)
	<u> </u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	-
	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2021	274
	<u> </u>

16 Fixed asset investments

	Other investments
Cost	
At 1 January 2022 & 31 December 2022	10
	<u> </u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	10
	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2021	10
	<u> </u>

	2022 £	2021 £
Other investments comprise:		
Investments in subsidiaries	24	10
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

17 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	833	625
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

18 Current asset investments

	2022 £	2021 £
COIF Charities Investment Fund	28,021	32,050

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	898	-
Accruals and deferred income	5,548	3,420
	6,446	3,420

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Internship	-	-	-	-	1,260	(1,260)	-

During the year the charity received a grant amounting to £1,260 for the specific purpose of funding an internship with the Society. All of the amount had been expended in the year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

21 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2021	New designation	Designation released	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 1 January 2022	New designation	Designation released	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Copyright licence fund	201,565	-	-	(25,984)	175,581	-	-	(26,148)	149,433
Fixed assets fund	343	66	(135)	-	274	-	(274)	-	-
Heritage assets fund	539,484	44,725	-	-	584,209	5,750	-	-	589,959
Investments fund	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	10
	<u>741,402</u>	<u>44,791</u>	<u>(135)</u>	<u>(25,984)</u>	<u>760,074</u>	<u>5,750</u>	<u>(274)</u>	<u>(26,148)</u>	<u>739,402</u>

Copyright licence fund - this fund holds the licences and copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements.

Fixed asset fund - this fund holds the various tangible assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but utilised in the performance of the charity's activities.

Heritage asset fund - this fund holds the heritage assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but to maintain and preserve the archives and manuscript collections.

Investment fund - this fund holds the trading subsidiary, and is invested to maximise total return and generate income.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

22 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Society had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	10,000	11,875
Between two and five years	40,000	60,000
In over five years	5,833	38,750
	<u>55,833</u>	<u>110,625</u>

At 31 December 2022 the charity had an operating lease commitment with The Royal Anthropological Institute under the terms of a licence agreement to occupy space at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1. The total commitment covers the remaining period of occupancy by the Charity expected to end on 27 July 2029.

The amount of the rent paid under this agreement in the year to 31 December 2022 was £9,792 (2021: £8,125) which included a 50% discount in January 2022 and a 33% discount from 1 February 2022 to 31 December 2022.

23 Related party transactions

The Charity's wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, conducts the commercial activities of its parent charity and donates under gift aid any trading surplus to the parent charity each financial year. For the year ended 31 December 2022 the amount donated was £64,436 (2021: £84,982).

At 31 December 2022 there were no balances outstanding between the charity and Folklore Enterprises Limited.

24 Subsidiaries

These financial statements are separate Society financial statements for The Folklore Society.

The Society is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The Society and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the Society has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

Details of the Society's subsidiaries at 31 December 2022 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held Direct Indirect
Folklore Enterprises Limited	England & Wales	Not for profit publishing and library activities	Ordinary	100.00

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

24 Subsidiaries

(Continued)

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
Folklore Enterprises Limited	1,334	39,714

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1074552

Company Registration No. 03685496 (England and Wales)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof O Davies Dr H Frisby Prof R P Jenkins Ms S Kingshill Prof P Lysaght Dr W J Roberts
Secretary	Dr W J Roberts
Senior Librarian	Dr C Oates
Editor of Folklore	Dr J Hemming
Company number	03685496
Principal Office	50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT
Registered office	Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Independent examiner	M Wilkes FCA Azets Audit Services Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Alan Murdie, LL.B. Barrister Nucleus Legal Advice 298 Old Brompton Road London SW5 9JF
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Folklore Society was founded in 1878. It was one of the first organisations in the world to be devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. Its objectives are to foster folklore research and recording worldwide, and to make the results of these studies available to all persons whether members of the Society or not. With effect from the year 2001 membership of the Society was available both to institutions and individuals through subscription to its journal *Folklore*. This is on a joint-venture basis with the publisher, Taylor & Francis Plc. From 2003 the publication frequency was increased from twice to three times per year, and this was increased again to four times per year from 2017. The Society and Taylor & Francis Plc exercised their option to mutually renew the joint venture by entering into a new licence agreement for publication of *Folklore* for a further ten years with effect from 1 January 2017.

The Society operates its administrative and library office facilities from 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, a building owned by The Royal Anthropological Institute. The Society's rights and obligations in respect of its occupancy at 50 Fitzroy Street are reflected in a licence agreement. The licence is underwritten by the Director of The Royal Anthropological Institute. With effect from 27 July 2019, the Society pays £15,000 per annum for its licence. Under the terms of the current licence, the licensee and licensor are required to give twelve months' notice of termination. The current licence expires on 27 July 2029. Under this licence, Folklore Society members may visit the FLS Office by appointment to consult with the librarians and view the Society's most recent folklore periodicals and c.250 reference books that are kept there. The Royal Anthropological Institute recognised the Society's loss of use of the office space during the pandemic and accordingly reduced the rent by half, to £7,500, for the year from March 2021 to February 2022, and to two thirds, £10,000, for the year from March 2022 to February 2023.

The Society maintains links with University College London. The majority of the Society's library is retained under a custodial agreement, which is to continue, with University College London, which maintains the library on a retrieval basis and insures it at no cost to the Society. The membership of the Society is granted membership of the libraries of University College London at no additional cost in order that they may access and borrow books. The terms of custodianship of the collection and the rights of the membership to access the collection are enshrined in an agreement with University College London.

The Society's archives and manuscript collections, as well as its folios, rare books and pamphlets, are also maintained under a custodial agreement, which is to continue, with University College London. They are held and insured by University College London at no cost to the Society. They are accessible with notice and upon request. The terms of custodianship are reflected in an agreement with University College London. Artefacts are held on loan at other institutions and museums, and the Canziani paintings are held at UCL Special Collections. These are documented. The Society's Rare Books, Archives and Collections are housed at UCL Library Special Collections, currently in temporary quarters at the National Archives at Kew and will eventually move to a new location with UCL Special Collections.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Achievements and performance

Covid-19 pandemic restrictions continued to affect the Society's activities in 2021. Staff worked mainly remotely, and most Society events were held online; in-person events, and access to the Society's library at UCL, resumed partially from September.

Due to the pandemic, the Annual General Meeting was deferred until 12 October 2021, and was held in person at 50 Fitzroy Street; Prof. Owen Davies gave his Presidential Address 2021: 'Finding the Folklore in the Annals of Psychiatry', which was also streamed online, and published in *Folklore* in 2022. 20 members attended the AGM; the meeting voted to reduce the quorum to 10 in future. One new Council member was elected: Mr Ross MacFarlane. The following Council members were re-elected for 2021-24: Dr Paul Cowdell, Dr Oliver Douglas, Mr Jeremy Harte, Dr 'Doc' Rowe, Prof. Ian Russell. Continuing members of Council: Prof. Owen Davies (President), Dr Matthew Cheeseman, Dr Helen Frisby, Prof. James Grayson, Dr Jessica Hemming (Editor *Folklore*), Prof. David Hopkin, Dr Ceri Houlbrook (Editor, *FLS News*), Prof. Richard Jenkins (Hon. Treasurer), Ms Sophia Kingshill, Mr Nicolas Le Bigre, Prof. Patricia Lysaght (Vice-president), Mr Mark Norman, Dr William Roberts, Dr Kate Smith, Dr Juliette Wood (Reviews Editor). Dr Helen Frisby and Ms Sophia Kingshill were appointed as Trustees of the Society in March 2022. Dr Tina Paphitis stepped down as Assistant Librarian in August 2021 but continues to work voluntarily as Assistant Reviews Editor; and Ms Sophie Crawford was appointed as Administrative Assistant.

The Society's Annual conference "Folklore, Learning and Literacies" (postponed from April 2020), was held online from 21-23 May 2021, with speakers from around the world and a keynote address by Prof. Michael Rosen "'Don't say that!' – How my Parents Negotiated Yiddish."

The conference "Sky in Legend and Tradition: the Fifteenth Legendary Weekend," (postponed from September 2020) was held in the Medieval Hall, Salisbury, 4-5 September, with 42 participants attending. These weekends are for both specialists and non-specialists in folklore and focus on a particular topic in a place outside of London.

The sixth annual 'Anthropology and Folklore in Conversation' joint symposium of the society with the Royal Anthropological Institute: "Creativity during the Covid Lockdown: Life and Renewal during the Pandemic," (postponed from October 2020) was held online 7-8 October 2021. The online conference was well attended, with speakers from around the world, and a publication of some of the conference papers is anticipated.

The flagship event for the Society is the annual Katharine Briggs Lecture, commemorating the work of this key figure in folklore scholarship. The 2020 Katharine Briggs Lecture was postponed from November 2020 to 23 February 2021, and given online, to an audience of several hundred, by Dr Juliette Wood: "I Cannot Find the Hanged Man: Tarot Cards in Fantastic Fiction." The 2021 Katharine Briggs Lecture was given online on 16 November by Prof. Ian Russell (Elphinstone Institute): "Peace o'er the World: Christmas Carolling in the Hope Valley," to an audience of over 250 people.

The Society hosted the Roy Palmer Lecture 2020 (postponed from November 2020) online on 2 November 2021; the speaker was Mr Jeremy Harte: "Brother Workmen: Solidarity in Trade Folklore".

In 2021, the Society made various awards to promote the academic discipline of folklore. The prestigious Katharine Briggs Award, for the best book entered in folklore studies in the past year, was presented online, after the Katharine Briggs Lecture 2021, to Jonathan Y. H. Hui, *Vilmundar saga víðutan*. The Saga of Vilmundur the Outsider, published by The Viking Society for Northern Research. And on the same evening, the society's biennial Non-Print Media Award 2020-2021 was given to *Iorram* (Boat Song), a documentary directed by Alastair Cole (Tongue Tied Films, 2021).

Recognising the importance of supporting the growth of the next generation of folklore scholars, the Society awards the Estella Canziani Bursary for Post-Graduate Research (worth up to £1,000). The Bursary for 2021 was awarded to Elena Sottilotto for her fieldwork project 'Women Writing Folklore: Politics of Folk and Fairytale Collections from Italian and Irish Islands (1870-1920).'

The President's Prize of £100 is an annual award made for a student essay: in 2021 there were no entries.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

In recognition of the University of Hertfordshire's work in promoting the academic study of folklore, the Society supports the students on their MA in Folklore Studies by offering them the benefits of membership and access to our library collections at UCL.

To offset the cancellation of in-person events and lack of access to our library and archives, the society arranged a series of online talks for 2021, once or twice per month, by experts on a wide range of folklore topics, including: Dr Helen Frisby on 'Traditions of Death and Burial;' Sophia Kingshill 'Mermaids: Fish, Flesh or Fowl?' Prof. Owen Davies, Laura-Beth Cowley and Nigel Jeffries: 'The Life and Times of a Witch-Bottle;' Prof. Richard Jenkins: 'The Strange History of Old Mother Shipton;' Prof. David Hopkin: 'The Soldier's Tale: Military Storytelling in Revolutionary Europe;' Prof. James H. Grayson: 'Folklore and Philately: The Semiotics of Folklore on Postage Stamps;' Dr Paul Cowdell: "Old Clem! Blow the fire, blow the fire." St Clement's Day and Dickens;' 'Henry Glassie and Doc Rowe in Conversation re *Henry Glassie: Fieldwork*;' Dr Ceri Houlbrook: 'The Suburban Boggart;' Shara Atashi: 'Fairy-stricken in Iran;' Jeremy Harte: "I was Satan's Roadie:" Tracking the Devil in English Local Lore;' 'Mark Norman: 'Dark Folklore.' These online talks were very well attended, both by the general public and society members (who benefit from discounted tickets) and attracted a diverse audience nationally and internationally (including participants from Europe, India, South Africa, Canada, USA), increasing the accessibility of the Society's programme accessible to participants who would have struggled to attend an in-person event. These online talks have proved to be popular and the society is considering how best to integrate this provision into its future events programme.

The Society devoted more resources to increasing its social media activity and expanded the digital resources available at <https://folklore-society.com>, including a number of recorded talks, indexes to the journal *Folklore*, and Virtual Special Issues of *Folklore*. Since February 2021, Folklore Society members now benefit from a dedicated Members Only area of the website where they can access: the entire digital archive of back issues of *Folklore* and its earlier titles from 1878 onwards via tandfonline.com, selected folklore journals from JStor.org, and the digital form of all back issues of *FLS News*.

The Society's library received a bequest of books from the collection of the late Mrs Jean Tsushima, former archivist of the Society; a number of the books will be added to the Society's library at University College London in 2022, and duplicates will be donated to other libraries. In 2021, 64 new books were added to the collection.

Financial review

Prior year adjustments

The Society has always accounted for the donation of the gift aided surplus from Folklore Enterprises Limited on an accruals basis. SORP 2019 requires such donations to be recognised on a paid basis. Therefore an adjustment has been made to correct the difference between donations accrued and donations paid in the prior period. As a result the donations received from FLE in 2020 have changed from £66,234 to £45,862. A similar adjustment was made to the 2020 opening balances to reflect the difference in 2019.

The Society's library, archives and paintings meet the criteria in SORP 2019 to be recognised as Heritage Assets. These have been reclassified as such.

Note 24 details the effects of these adjustments to the Net income for the year and closing funds at 31 December 2021.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial review (continued)

Review of financial position

The level of reserves as at 31 December 2021 was £923,993 (2020: £870,036) (as restated).

In terms of an overview of the results for the financial year 2021 as compared with 2020 (as restated), the position can be summarised as follows:-

	£
Increase/(decrease) in net income for the year	55,472
Accounted for by:-	
Increase in total gross income	49,464
Decrease in costs of charitable activities	2,990
Increase in gains on current asset investments	3,018

Before proceeding to a more detailed commentary on the results, it is worth saying a few words about the broader picture. The increased fixed costs associated with the move to new accommodation have required the Society to begin a re-evaluation of its income-generating activities, on the one hand, and its costs, on the other, particularly those associated with administration and meetings. The inhibition of our activities in 2021 directly caused by the restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic has been both a restraint and an opportunity in this respect: net income from all on-line activities in the trading subsidiary in the year, after Eventbrite fees and VAT have been paid, was £3,485 (2020: £nil).

We are able to report that for 2021, and after absorbing a significant increase in the charity's office space costs paid under a Licence fee - even allowing for the fact the RAI generously rebated the licence fee significantly because lockdown and homeworking meant that the office space was hardly being used - there was net income of £50,935 achieved before recognising the movement in carrying value of the charity's current asset investment fund, compared to a net expenditure in the previous year of £1,519 (which included a one-off business support payment from Camden Council of £10,000). This includes £20,000 of donated heritage assets for the library. For the 2022 financial reporting year, we anticipate: continuing modest income from on-line activities; some continued saving in expenses payments arising from holding on-line meetings; and continued uncertainty.

Accommodation - the Society is currently paying £15,000 p.a. for an office measuring approximately 10 feet by 11 feet, and the occasional use of a meeting room - is an issue, both in terms of cost and the quality of the accommodation for our staff, as in-office working will gradually return. Active steps need to be taken to find an alternative.

After non-cash items (being revaluations on intangible and heritage assets), there was a net increase in charity funds for the year of £80,330, meaning that the carried forward reserves position as at 31 December 2021 amounted to £923,993.

Folklore Enterprises Limited

The principal source of income of the Society and its trading subsidiary (Folklore Enterprises Limited) continues to be provided by the Folklore journal publishing arrangement with Taylor and Francis, a trading arm of Informa UK Ltd. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Informa plc, a company whose shares are quoted on the London International Stock Exchange. The Society's previous joint venture profit share agreement with Taylor and Francis expired on 31 December 2016 and was replaced from 1 January 2017 by a new, royalty-based agreement for ten years. This agreement is a fixed royalty based on forty (40) percent of net sales receipts as defined, with a guaranteed nonreturnable advance each year of £30,000 and an annual contribution towards editorial expenses of £16,080. The current agreement offers the Society more protection from the vagaries of prevailing market conditions. Payments under the agreement are made to the Society's trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, and the surplus profits are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation.

The royalty payment (@ 40%) from Taylor and Francis to Folklore Enterprises Limited in respect of 2021 was £50,086, a decrease of £7,569 on the profit share from 2020 (£57,655).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial review (continued)

Despite an increase in article downloads recently (up by over 6,000 between 2020 and 2021) and with no marked decline in the number of institutions that have access, one way or another, to *Folklore*, the royalty payable to Folklore Enterprises Limited by Taylor and Francis for 2021 was down, from 2020, by £7,569 (and the 2020 royalty was up by £2,297 from 2019). This appears to be largely due to a decline in electronic income, which in turn appears to reflect declines in consortia license sales and, more dramatically, in database income. This appears to be part of a movement across academic journal publishing, particularly involving an increase in open access (OA) publishing. The decline in database income is reflective of librarian decisions to reallocate funds from traditional content database purchases towards OA agreements (also known as Read and Publish Agreements). It is to be hoped that this is not a long-term trend of revenue decline, but, rather, a readjustment which will eventually restore revenue. The Society will see a better return in electronic income by further engaging with these OA transformative agreement, which can be achieved by publishing more research on an OA basis from researchers at participating institutions. The Trustees, together with the journal editor and Taylor and Francis, will continue to monitor this situation closely and report as appropriate.

The other principal source of cash income is the revenues paid to the Folklore Enterprises Limited by JSTOR which allows Society members to access, through its digital archive, back issues of *Folklore* for all periods other than the most recent five years as part and parcel of the current membership package. For 2021 and 2020, Folklore Enterprises Limited received a minimum royalty of USD \$14,775, which equated to £11,851 (2020: £10,595).

The surplus profits of Folklore Enterprises Limited are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. In 2021 £84,982 was paid, and therefore donated, to the Society (2020: £45,862).

Reserves policy

For a number of years now the financial strategy has been to maintain a day to day financial reserve (equivalent to net current assets) sufficient to meet roughly two years of running costs (covering employment costs of the Librarian and her assistant plus a license fee for office accommodation and other costs) in order to provide ample time for restructure should there be dramatic reductions in the income line in any future period. Based on the previous two years costs this would be equivalent to approximately £120,000. The net current assets position of £163,919 at 31 December 2021 was more than adequate to satisfy that strategy.

At 31 December 2021 there was a balance of £32,050 (stated at its current market value) in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with cash or near cash balances amounting to £134,664.

Although this has been interrupted by the pandemic, periodic meetings take place with Society's Fund Managers to review performance of the investments and if felt appropriate to effect changes in direction.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Risk management

In addition to the continuing fallout from Covid-19, accommodation costs, and the potential decline in royalty payments from Taylor and Francis, all of which the Trustees are working through at the time of approving these accounts, the Charity's other risks may be categorised into financial dependency and stewardship.

So far as financial dependency is concerned there is the obvious one linked to the financial good health of Taylor and Francis. In this regard, from time to time, the Trustees check published financial data on Informa plc. As at 31 December 2021, it can be reported that the financial performance of the Informa group appears both robust and soundly based so far as the future is concerned.

As reported above, the Trustees have sought to manage risk and future uncertainty in its commercial arrangements with Taylor and Francis by concluding the ten year agreement based on a royalty model with a minimum royalty payment that came into effect from 1 January 2017. The issues that this strategy is now raising have already been discussed.

In common with many charities the Society is heavily dependent upon being able to identify and then secure a stream of prospective Trustees and Officers who will take a lead in preserving the Society together with its aims and objectives for future generations.

This risk is being addressed by changes to governance which facilitate changes in the main officer group so that succession plans are in place for the next three to five year period at any point in time. This initiative is linked to a more general one of openly inviting participation by new and younger members to the Society by a natural process to fill all the key roles.

Plans for the future

The Society continues to develop its programme of increasing and widening its personal membership and outreach, particularly amongst younger people and those who pursue the study of folklore both academically and for personal interest. It is also working to increase its collaboration with cognate societies and received support from other societies at its own events, or contributed to the support of events of similar societies.

Governance and management

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, founded in 1878 and incorporated in the UK under England and Wales (registration number 03685496) and has been granted charitable status (registration number 1074552).

The officers of the Society (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Participation Officer) are directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The officers act as the Management Board and have equal responsibility for the legally mandated affairs of the Society, including annual returns to Companies House and the Charity Commission. Officers also deal with on-going financial matters, staff, accommodation, links with Taylor and Francis who publish *Folklore*, and whatever other issues arise. The Society has accountants and solicitors to provide professional services as appropriate.

The Council of the Society, of which the officers are part, is responsible for non-mandated matters, such as the academic-related activities, including organising and participating in conferences and other events, acting as judges for various annual awards, and as members of ad-hoc working groups.

Trustees of the charity

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Prof O Davies
Dr H Frisby (appointed 4 March 2022)
Prof R P Jenkins
Ms S Kingshill (appointed 4 March 2022)
Prof P Lysaght
Dr W J Roberts

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Appointment of trustees

The trustees of The Folklore Society are proposed by the Management Board, which consists of the Trustees and the Editor of *Folklore*, on the basis of any nominations received and seconded in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. They are elected by votes on a show of hands at the Annual General Meeting. Proxy votes are cast in accordance with instructions from those absent but entitled to attend, by the President of the Society, who is always a Trustee of the Society. They are elected to serve a term of three years.

The directors of Folklore Enterprises Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of The Folklore Society, are elected at the meeting of the directors of The Folklore Society. They represent the commercial interests of the Society in its trading subsidiary and comprise the Secretary and Treasurer of The Folklore Society.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The trustees consider the trustees and the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The key management individual who is involved in all decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity is Dr C Oates, the Senior Librarian and administrative manager. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with market rates.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Professor R P Jenkins

Trustee

Dated: 11 June 2022

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees, who are also the directors of The Folklore Society for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Folklore Society (the Society) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Society (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Society are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

M Wilkes FCA
Azets Audit Services

Globe House
Eclipse Park
Sittingbourne Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 3EN
United Kingdom

Dated: 16 June 2022

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted fund	Unrestricted fund (As restated)
		2021	2020
	Notes	£	£
<u>Income from:</u>			
Donations	3	106,111	58,193
Other trading activities	4	1,910	138
Investments	5	829	1,055
Total income		108,850	59,386
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	6	57,915	60,905
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	4,281	1,263
Net income/(expenditure)		55,216	(256)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Gain on revaluation of heritage assets		24,725	-
Other gains or (losses)		(25,984)	(26,117)
Net movement in funds		53,957	(26,373)
Fund balances at 1 January 2021			
As originally reported		928,605	934,606
Prior year adjustment	24	(58,569)	(38,197)
As restated		870,036	896,409
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		923,993	870,036

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

		2021		2020 as restated	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	12		175,581		201,565
Tangible assets	13		274		343
Heritage assets	14		584,209		539,484
Investments	15		10		10
			<u>760,074</u>		<u>741,402</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	16	625		1,250	
Investments	17	32,050		27,769	
Cash at bank and in hand		134,664		102,805	
		<u>167,339</u>		<u>131,824</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(3,420)		(3,190)	
Net current assets			163,919		128,634
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>923,993</u>		<u>870,036</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	19	760,074		741,402	
General unrestricted funds		163,919		128,634	
		<u>923,993</u>		<u>870,036</u>	
			<u>923,993</u>		<u>870,036</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11 June 2022

Professor R P Jenkins

Trustee

Company Registration No. 03685496

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Folklore Society is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and a registered charity with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. The registered office is Globe House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN. The principal place of business is 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in page 1 of these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Society has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial items at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the format to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist, even after considering the potential but uncertain financial impact of Covid-19. In reaching that view, the trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from approving these financial statements. Their belief is that the anticipated income and expenditure for that period will be adequate for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern, given its level of reserves at 31 December 2020 and the fact that they currently still believe and expect that the charity's trading subsidiary will also continue operating as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

The Income Fund consists of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from ancillary trading activities (conference fees and royalty and book sales) is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it, being the occurrence of the event or the sale of the book.

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, is inclusive of VAT where incurred, and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Display equipment	20% on cost
-------------------	-------------

Heritage assets

The charity's library, artefacts, paintings and archives have been included at market value for insurance purposes. In the opinion of the trustees, the estimated residual values of these assets are not less than the valuations, which will normally be updated every five years, and no depreciation charge is required. The trustees consider this policy is necessary in order that the accounts show a true and fair view.

1.8 Group accounts

The charity is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The charity and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

1.9 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the directors/trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed and current asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Society. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.13 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.14 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.15 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Intangible assets

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

Heritage assets carried at valuation

The useful economic lives and residual values of heritage are reassessed annually for any impairment. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 14 for the carrying amount of the charity's library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

There are no undisclosed key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Donations

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds (As restated) 2020 £
Donations and gifts	86,111	48,193
Business interruption grant	-	10,000
Donated heritage assets	20,000	-
	<u>106,111</u>	<u>58,193</u>

Donations and gifts includes £84,982 (2020: £45,862) of trading surplus paid to the charity in the year. This includes £58,569 (2020: £38,197) unpaid from the previous financial period.

In 2020, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the charity received a business interruption grant amounting to £10,000. This was a discretionary grant with no terms or conditions attached.

The trustees were notified of one bequest in the year of an extensive library. At the year end the trustees had been unable to quantify the number of books they will receive from the bequest and as such no valuation has been arrived at. For this reason, no legacy income has been included for the year ended 31 December 2021.

In March 2022 the trustees were notified the Katharine Briggs Trust should be terminated in the coming months and the intention is that the Society will be entitled to any remaining funds once all the Trust's financial obligations have been discharged.

No other legacy income was notified to the trustees during the year under review.

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
Conference fees	1,790	-
Royalties and book sales	120	138
Other trading activities	<u>1,910</u>	<u>138</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Other investment income	829	1,055

6 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation and impairment	135	169
FLS news	3,571	4,745
Room hire	-	(450)
Conference speakers' travel bursaries	1,996	-
	5,702	4,464
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	1,182	1,200
Share of support costs (see note 8)	46,111	50,801
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	4,920	4,440
	57,915	60,905

Charitable activities include holding various conferences throughout the year to foster and further research into folklore, and publishing a regular journal (FLS news) to the members of the Society. All support and governance costs are charitable activities.

7 Grants payable

During the year, 2 grants totalling £1,182 were paid to individuals (2020: £1,200).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

8 Support and governance costs (all unrestricted funds)

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	Support costs	Governance costs	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	36,391	-	36,391	33,630	-	33,630
Licence fee – occupation of office	8,125	-	8,125	15,000	-	15,000
Postage, stationery and telephone	371	-	371	282	-	282
Sundry expenses	33	-	33	57	-	57
Bank charges	96	-	96	60	-	60
Insurance	759	-	759	728	-	728
Computer running costs	240	-	240	254	-	254
Subscriptions	96	-	96	-	-	-
Officers' travel and subsistence	-	-	-	790	-	790
Accountancy	-	1,260	1,260	-	1,680	1,680
Independent examiner's fee	-	3,660	3,660	-	2,760	2,760
	<u>46,111</u>	<u>4,920</u>	<u>51,031</u>	<u>50,801</u>	<u>4,440</u>	<u>55,241</u>
All relate to Charitable activities	<u>46,111</u>	<u>4,920</u>	<u>51,031</u>	<u>50,801</u>	<u>4,440</u>	<u>55,241</u>

9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

Included in officers' travel and subsistence is a total of £nil (2020: £375) reimbursed to the 4 trustees during the year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Employees

Number of employees

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Administration	3	3

Employment costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	36,366	33,630
Other pension costs	25	-
	36,391	33,630

The trustees consider that they, together with the charity's Senior Librarian, comprise the key management personnel of the charity who are jointly in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Senior Librarian's salary cost was £23,918 (2020: £23,918).

There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000 (2020: None).

11 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021 £	2020 £
Revaluation of investments	4,281	1,263

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Publishing licences £
Valuation	
At 1 January 2021	201,565
Revaluation	(25,984)
At 31 December 2021	175,581
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	175,581
At 31 December 2020	201,565

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 January 2021	11,214
Additions	66
At 31 December 2021	11,280
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 January 2021	10,871
Depreciation charged in the year	135
At 31 December 2021	11,006
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	274
At 31 December 2020	343

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

14 Heritage assets

	At valuation £
At 1 January 2021	539,484
Purchases	20,000
Revaluation	24,725
At 31 December 2021	584,209

The Trustees assess the fair value of the heritage assets on an annual basis.

The paintings and artefacts were last formally valued during the year ended 31 December 1997, with the archives last formally valued in the year ended 31 December 2015.

Purchases comprise over 1,000 titles donated to the Library over the course of the last 5 years. The most recent formal valuation of the Library was undertaken by Mr M Banwell in May 2022. Mr M Banwell is a specialist in Folklore material.

The charity also owns the Mary Young Collection and the Cambridge Anthropology Collection, these items have not yet been professionally valued and are not included in these accounts.

15 Fixed asset investments

	Other investments
Cost	
At 1 January 2021 & 31 December 2021	10
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	10
At 31 December 2020	10

	2021 £	2020 £
Other investments comprise:		
Investments in subsidiaries	23	10

16 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	625	1,250

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

17 Current asset investments

		2021 £	2020 £
COIF Charities Investment Fund	23	32,050	27,769
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors		-	9
Accruals and deferred income		3,420	3,181
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		<u>3,420</u>	<u>3,190</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

19 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Copyright licence fund	227,682	-	-	(26,117)	201,565	-	-	(25,984)	175,581
Fixed assets fund	1	511	(169)	-	343	66	(135)	-	274
Heritage assets fund	539,484	-	-	-	539,484	44,725	-	-	584,209
	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	10
	<u>767,177</u>	<u>511</u>	<u>(169)</u>	<u>(26,117)</u>	<u>741,402</u>	<u>44,791</u>	<u>(135)</u>	<u>(25,984)</u>	<u>760,074</u>

Copyright licence fund - this fund holds the licences and copyright of the journal Folklore to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements.

Fixed asset fund - this fund holds the various tangible assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but utilised in the performance of the charity's activities.

Heritage asset fund - this fund holds the heritage assets of the Charity. They are not held to generate income, but to maintain and preserve the archives and manuscript collections.

Investment fund - this fund holds the trading subsidiary, and is invested to maximise total return and generate income.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

20 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Society had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	11,875	15,000
Between two and five years	60,000	60,000
In over five years	38,750	53,750
	<u>110,625</u>	<u>128,750</u>

At 31 December 2021 the charity had an operating lease commitment with The Royal Anthropological Institute under the terms of a licence agreement to occupy space at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1. The total commitment covers the remaining period of occupancy by the Charity expected to end on 27 July 2029.

The amount of the rent paid under this agreement in the year to 31 December 2021 was £8,125 (2020: £15,000) which included a 50% discount from 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022. A discount of one third has been given by The RAI for the period 1 February 2022 to 31 July 2022.

21 Events after the reporting date

During the year ended 31 December 2021, the Trustees were notified of a bequest of books. As of 31 December 2021, the Society had been unable to take possession of the books, and as a result a valuation of the bequest has not yet been performed. The expectation of the Trustees is that this bequest will be recognised in the 2022 financial statements.

22 Related party transactions

The Charity's wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, conducts the commercial activities of its parent charity and donates under gift aid any trading surplus to the parent charity each financial year. For the year ended 31 December 2021 the amount donated was £84,982 (2020: £45,862).

At 31 December 2021 there were no balances outstanding between the charity and Folklore Enterprises Limited.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

23 Subsidiaries

These financial statements are separate Society financial statements for The Folklore Society.

The Society is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The Society and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the Society has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

Details of the Society's subsidiaries at 31 December 2021 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
Folklore Enterprises Limited	England & Wales	Not for profit publishing and library activities	Ordinary	100.00	

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
Folklore Enterprises Limited	(20,199)	38,380

24 Prior period adjustment

Under charity law the donations can only be recognised when paid. Therefore an adjustment has been made to the comparative period to reflect the difference between what was paid over and what was previously recognised. The impact of the adjustment on the result for the year was £58,569 (2020: £38,197).

The charity's tangible fixed assets meet the criteria for recognition as heritage assets in both the current and preceding years. Therefore an adjustment has been made to the comparative period to reclassify these assets. There is no impact on the result for the year, this adjustment was for disclosure purposes only.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

24 Prior period adjustment

(Continued)

Changes to the balance sheet

	At 31 December 2020		
	As previously reported	Adjustment	As restated
	£	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	539,827	(539,484)	343
Heritage assets	-	539,484	539,484
Current assets			
Debtors due within one year	59,818	(58,569)	1,249
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net assets	928,605	(58,569)	870,036
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds	928,605	(58,569)	870,036
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds	928,605	(58,569)	870,036
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Changes to the Statement of Financial Activities

	Period ended 31 December 2020		
	As previously reported	Adjustment	As restated
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations	12,331	45,862	58,193
Investments	67,289	(66,234)	1,055
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds	(6,001)	(20,372)	(26,373)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1074552

Company Registration No. 03685496 (England and Wales)

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof O Davies Prof P Lysaght Dr W J Roberts Prof R P Jenkins
Secretary	Dr W J Roberts
Charity number	1074552
Company number	03685496
Principal Office	50 Fitzroy Street London W1T 5BT
Registered office	Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Independent examiner	Stephen Farrant FCA Azets Audit Services Globe House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road Maidstone Kent ME14 3EN
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Capital Law LLP Capital Building Tyndall Street Cardiff CF10 4AZ
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Folklore Society was founded in 1878. It was one of the first organisations in the world to be devoted to the study of traditional vernacular culture. Its objectives are to foster folklore research and recording worldwide, and to make the results of these studies available to all persons whether members of the Society or not. With effect from the year 2001 membership of the Society was available both to institutions and individuals through subscription to its journal *Folklore*. This is on a joint-venture basis with the publisher, Taylor & Francis Plc. From 2003 the publication frequency was increased from twice to three times per year, and this was increased again to four times per year from 2017. The Society and Taylor & Francis Plc exercised their option to mutually renew the joint venture by entering into a new licence agreement for publication of *Folklore* for a further ten years with effect from 1 January 2017.

The Society operates its administrative and library office facilities from 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, a building owned by The Royal Anthropological Institute. The Society's rights and obligations in respect of its occupancy at 50 Fitzroy Street are reflected in a licence agreement. The licence is underwritten by the Director of The Royal Anthropological Institute. With effect from 27 July 2019, the Society pays £15,000 per annum for its licence. Under the terms of the current licence, the licensee and licensor are required to give twelve months' notice of termination. The current licence expires on 27 July 2029. Under this licence, Folklore Society members may visit the FLS Office by appointment to consult with the librarians and view the society's most recent folklore periodicals and c.250 reference books that are kept there.

The Society maintains links with University College London. The majority of the Society's library is retained under a custodial agreement, which is to continue, with University College London, which maintains the library on a retrieval basis and insures it at no cost to the Society. The membership of the Society is granted membership of the libraries of University College London at no additional cost in order that they may access and borrow books. The terms of custodianship of the collection and the rights of the membership to access the collection are enshrined in an agreement with University College London.

The Society's archives and manuscript collections, as well as its folios, rare books and pamphlets, are also maintained under a custodial agreement, which is to continue, with University College London. They are held and insured by University College London at no cost to the Society. They are accessible with notice and upon request. The terms of custodianship are reflected in an agreement with University College London. Artefacts are held on loan at other institutions and museums, and the Canziani paintings are held at UCL Special Collections. These are documented. The Society's Rare Books, Archives and Collections are housed at UCL Library Special Collections, currently in temporary quarters at the National Archives at Kew and will eventually move to a new location with UCL Special Collections.

Public benefit

The directors confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Achievements and performance

The outbreak of Covid-19 and consequent restrictions on travel and gatherings severely impacted the society's activities from March 2020: all in-person events were cancelled, our office was closed, staff began working mainly from home, and our library and archives enquiries were handled remotely using digital resources while our collections at University College London were closed and inaccessible (a restricted delivery service has now resumed at UCL).

In keeping with the government's pandemic guidance, the society's Annual General Meeting 2020 was postponed from April and held via email up to 27 June. Prof. Patricia Lysaght delivered her Presidential Address 2020 via email "Collecting the Folklore of Ireland: The Schoolchildren's Contribution", which will be published in *Folklore* in 2021. Prof. Lysaght stepped into her role as vice-president, and Prof. Owen Davies was elected as president of the society for 2020-23. Three new Council members were elected for 3 years: Mr Nick Lebigre, Ms Sophia Kingshill and Dr Kate Smith. The following Council members were re-elected for 2020-23: Dr Matthew Cheeseman, Dr Helen Frisby, Prof. James H. Grayson, Prof. David Hopkin, Prof. Richard Jenkins (Treasurer), Dr William Roberts (Hon. Secretary). Continuing Council members: Dr Paul Cowdell, Dr Oliver Douglas, Mr Jeremy Harte, Dr Jessica Hemming (Editor of *Folklore*), Dr Ceri Houlbrook (Editor of *FLS News*), Prof. Patricia Lysaght (vice-president), Mr Mark Norman, Mr David Palliser, Dr Doc Rowe, Prof. Ian Russell, Dr Juliette Wood (Reviews Editor).

The Annual conference "Folklore, Learning and Literacies", originally scheduled for April 2020, was postponed until May 2021, a three-day online conference, with speakers from around the world and a keynote address by Prof. Michael Rosen, "Don't say that! – how my parents negotiated Yiddish."

The conference "Sky in Legend and Tradition: the Fifteenth Legendary Weekend," was postponed from September 2020 to 4-5 September 2021, in Salisbury. These weekends are for both specialists and non-specialists in folklore and focus on a particular topic in a place outside of London.

The sixth annual joint symposium of the society with the Royal Anthropological Institute, "Anthropology and Folklore in Conversation," was postponed from October 2020 to 7 October 2021; the rescheduled symposium will be held online, on the theme of "Creativity during the Covid Lockdown: Life and Renewal during the Pandemic."

The flagship event for the Society is the annual Katharine Briggs Lecture, commemorating the work of this key figure in folklore scholarship. The 2020 Katharine Briggs Lecture was postponed from November 2020 to 23 February 2021, and given online, to an audience of several hundred, by Dr Juliette Wood: "I Cannot Find the Hanged Man: Tarot Cards in Fantastic Fiction."

In 2020, the Society made various awards to promote the academic discipline of folklore. The prestigious Katharine Briggs Award, for the best published monograph in folklore studies in the past year, was presented after the rescheduled Katharine Briggs Lecture, to William Pooley for his book *Body and Tradition in Nineteenth-Century France: Félix Arnaud and the Moorlands of Gascony, 1870-1914*, published by Oxford University Press.

Recognising the importance of supporting the growth of the next generation of folklore scholars, the Society awards the Estella Canziani Bursary for Post-Graduate Research (worth up to £1,000). In 2020, two applicants were awarded £500 each: Abraham Murad, for research on "Within and without: Christianity in Late colonial India and Postcolonial Pakistan 1930-1971," and Estera Jaros, for fieldwork on "Samba de Roda on the Ground: A New Perspective on Gender and Intangible Cultural Heritage". It was agreed to change the deadline for entries for the Canziani Bursary to early December for the following year's award, starting December 2021.

The President's Prize of £100 is an annual award made for a student essay: in 2020, the prize was awarded to two students: Antonia Craven: "Voices of Salento: identity in traditional song and rituals of the 'Terra d'Otranto', c.1900 to the present day," and Louise Edge: "Méchant(e) mère: Infanticide in the folk ballads of nineteenth-century France".

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In recognition of the University of Hertfordshire's work in promoting the academic study of folklore, the society supports the students on their MA in Folklore Studies by offering them the benefits of membership and access to our library collections.

To offset the cancellation of in-person events and lack of access to our library and archives, the society arranged a series of fortnightly online talks for 2021, open to the public as well as members, by experts on a wide range of folklore topics. The society devoted more resources to increasing its social media activity and expanded the digital resources available at <https://folklore-society.com>, including back numbers of *FLS News* and Virtual Special Issues of *Folklore*.

Financial review

The level of reserves as at 31 December 2020 was £928,605 (2019: £934,606).

In terms of an overview of the results for the financial year 2020 as compared with 2019, the position can be summarised as follows:-

	£
Increase/(decrease) in net income (2019: £(5,639)) for the year	14,477
Accounted for by:-	
Increase in total gross income	5,446
Decrease in costs of charitable activities	12,133
Decrease in gains on current asset investments	(3,102)

Before proceeding to a more detailed commentary on the results, it is worth saying a few words about the broader picture. The increased fixed costs associated with the move to new accommodation have required the Society to begin a re-evaluation of its income-generating activities, on the one hand, and its costs, on the other, particularly those associated with administration and meetings. The inhibition of our activities in 2020 directly caused by the restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic has been both a restraint and an opportunity in this respect: for example, although this does not show up in these accounts the net income from all on-line activities in the first half of 2021, after Eventbrite fees and VAT have been paid, was just under £1,500.

I am able to report that for 2020, and after absorbing a significant increase in the charity's office space costs paid under a Licence fee, there was net income of £18,853 achieved before recognising the movement in carrying value of the charity's current asset investment fund, compared to a net income in the previous year of £1,274. For the 2021 financial reporting year, we anticipate some continuing income from on-line activities, as noted above; some continued saving in expenses payments arising from holding on-line meetings; no further government-funded 'pandemic aid'; and continued uncertainty.

After non-cash items (being revaluations on intangible assets), there was a net decrease in charity funds for the year of £6,001, meaning that the carried forward reserves position as at 31 December 2020 amounted to £928,605.

The principal source of income of the Society and its trading subsidiary continues to be provided by the *Folklore* journal publishing arrangement with Taylor and Francis, a trading arm of Informa UK Ltd. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Informa plc, a company whose shares are quoted on the London International Stock Exchange. The Society's previous joint venture profit share agreement with Taylor and Francis expired on 31 December 2016 and was replaced from 1 January 2017 by a new, royalty based agreement for ten years. This new agreement is a fixed royalty based on forty (40) percent of net sales receipts as defined, with a guaranteed nonreturnable advance each year of £30,000 and an annual contribution towards editorial expenses of £16,080. The current agreement offers the Society more protection from the vagaries of prevailing market conditions. Payments under the agreement are made to the Society's trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited, and the surplus profits are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Financial review (continued)

The royalty payment (@ 40%) from Taylor and Francis to Folklore Enterprises Limited in respect of 2020 was £57,655, an increase of £2,297 on the profit share from 2019 (£55,358).

The other principal source of cash income is the revenues paid to the Folklore Enterprises Limited by JSTOR which allows Society members to access, through its digital archive, back issues of Folklore for all periods other than the most recent five years as part and parcel of the current membership package. For 2020 and 2019, Folklore Enterprises Limited received a minimum royalty of USD \$14,775, which equated to £10,595 (2019: £11,624).

The surplus profits of Folklore Enterprises Limited are paid up to the Society by way of a gift aided donation. In 2021 £66,234 was donated (2019: £65,738).

Reserves policy

For a number of years now the financial strategy has been to maintain a day to day financial reserve (equivalent to net current assets) sufficient to meet roughly two years of running costs (covering employment costs of the Librarian and her assistant plus a license fee for office accommodation and other costs) in order to provide ample time for restructure should there be dramatic reductions in the income line in any future period. The net current assets position of £187,203 at 31 December 2020 was adequate to satisfy that strategy based on total expenditure during 2020.

At 31 December 2020 there was a balance of £27,769 (stated at its current market value) in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with cash or near cash balances amounting to £102,805.

Periodic meetings take place with Society's Fund Managers to review performance of the investments and if felt appropriate to effect changes in direction.

Risk management

In addition to the unanticipated and evolving Covid-19 impact referred to above, which the Trustees are working through at the time of approving these accounts, the Charity's risks may be categorised into financial dependency and stewardship.

So far as financial dependency is concerned there is the obvious one linked to the financial good health of Taylor and Francis. In this regard, from time to time, the Trustees check published financial data on Informa plc. As at 31 December 2020, it can be reported that the financial performance of the Informa group appears both robust and soundly based so far as the future is concerned.

As reported above, the Trustees have sought to manage risk and future uncertainty in its commercial arrangements with Taylor and Francis by concluding a new ten year agreement based on a royalty model with a minimum royalty payment that came into effect from 1 January 2017.

In common with many charities the Society is heavily dependent upon being able to identify and then secure a stream of prospective Trustees and Officers who will take a lead in preserving the Society together with its aims and objectives for future generations.

This risk is being addressed by changes to governance which facilitate changes in the main officer group so that succession plans are in place for the next three to five year period at any point in time. This initiative is linked to a more general one of openly inviting participation by new and younger members to the Society by a natural process to fill all the key roles.

Plans for the future

The Society continues to develop its programme of increasing and widening its personal membership and outreach, particularly amongst younger people and those who pursue the study of folklore both academically and for personal interest. It is also working to increase its collaboration with cognate societies and received support from other societies at its own events, or contributed to the support of events of similar societies.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Governance and management

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee, founded in 1878 and incorporated in the UK under England and Wales (registration number 03685496) and has been granted charitable status (registration number 1074552).

Trustees of the charity

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Prof O Davies (appointed 27 June 2020)
Prof J H Grayson (resigned 27 June 2020)
Prof P Lysaght
Prof R P Jenkins
Dr W J Roberts

Appointment of trustees

The directors of The Folklore Society are proposed by the board of directors on the basis of any nominations received and seconded in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. They are elected by votes on a show of hands at the AGM by the membership. Proxy votes are cast in accordance with instructions from those absent but entitled to attend by the President of the Society, who is always a Director of the Society. They are elected to serve a term of three years.

The directors of Folklore Enterprises Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of The Folklore Society, are elected at the meeting of the directors of The Folklore Society. They represent the commercial interests of the Society in its trading subsidiary and comprise the Secretary and Treasurer of The Folklore Society.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The trustees consider the trustees and the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The key management individual who is involved in all decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity is Dr C Oates, the administrative manager. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with market rates.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Professor R P Jenkins

Trustee

Dated: 20/3/21



THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Folklore Society (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Stephen Farrant FCA
Azets Audit Services

Globe House
Eclipse Park
Sittingbourne Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 3EN
United Kingdom

Dated: 28/9/2021

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		Income fund (Unrestricted) 2020 £	Income fund (Unrestricted) 2019 £
	Notes		
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	12,331	685
Other trading activities	4	138	6,283
Investments	5	67,289	67,344
Total income		79,758	74,312
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	60,905	73,038
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	1,263	4,365
Net income for the year		20,116	5,639
Other recognised gains and losses			
Loss on revaluation of publishing licences	12	(26,117)	(25,677)
Other gains or (losses)		-	(72)
Net movement in funds		(6,001)	(20,110)
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		934,606	954,716
Fund balances at 31 December 2020		928,605	934,606

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	12	201,565		227,682	
Tangible assets	13	539,827		539,485	
Investments	14	10		10	
		<u>741,402</u>		<u>767,177</u>	
Current assets					
Debtors	15	59,818		39,447	
Investments	16	27,769		26,506	
Cash at bank and in hand		102,805		105,581	
		<u>190,392</u>		<u>171,534</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(3,189)		(4,105)	
Net current assets			187,203		167,429
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>928,605</u>		<u>934,606</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Income fund			<u>928,605</u>		<u>934,606</u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

For the year ending 31 December 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 28/9/21



 Professor R P Jenkins
 Trustee

Company Registration No. 03685496

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Folklore Society is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and a registered charity with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. The registered office is Globe House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN. The principal place of business is 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in page 1 of these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial items at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the format to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist, even after considering the potential but uncertain financial impact of Covid-19. In reaching that view, the trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from approving these financial statements. Their belief is that the anticipated income and expenditure for that period will be adequate for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern, given its level of reserves at 31 December 2020 and the fact that they currently still believe and expect that the charity's trading subsidiary will also continue operating as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

The Income Fund consists of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, is inclusive of VAT where incurred, and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computers and office equipment	33% on written down value
Display equipment	20% on cost

The charity's library, artefacts, paintings and archives have been included at market value for insurance purposes. In the opinion of the trustees, the estimated residual values of these assets are not less than the valuations, which will normally be updated every five years, and no depreciation charge is required. The trustees consider this policy is necessary in order that the accounts show a true and fair view.

1.8 Group accounts

The charity is a parent company subject to the small companies' regime. The charity and its subsidiary comprise a small group and the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting Charities' not to prepare group accounts. As a result, these accounts give information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group.

1.9 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the directors/trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed and current asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

1.11 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.13 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.14 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Tangible assets carried at valuation

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 13 for the carrying amount of the charity's library, paintings, artefacts and archives.

There are no undisclosed key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations and gifts	2,331	685
Business interruption grant	10,000	-
	<u>12,331</u>	<u>685</u>

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the charity received a business interruption grant amounting to £10,000. This was a discretionary grant with no terms or conditions attached.

No Legacy income was notified to the trustees during the year under review.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020	2019
	£	£
Subscriptions received	-	129
Conference fees	-	5,920
Royalties and book sales	138	234
	<u>138</u>	<u>6,283</u>
Other trading activities	<u>138</u>	<u>6,283</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020	2019
	£	£
Gift aided donation from subsidiary	66,234	65,738
Other investment income	1,055	1,606
	<u>67,289</u>	<u>67,344</u>
	<u>67,289</u>	<u>67,344</u>

6 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation and impairment	169	-
Licence fee - occupation of office	4,745	4,635
Staff costs	(450)	6,105
Conference speakers' travel bursaries	-	281
	<u>4,464</u>	<u>11,021</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	1,200	1,406
Share of support costs (see note 8)	50,801	56,231
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	4,440	4,380
	<u>60,905</u>	<u>73,038</u>
	<u>60,905</u>	<u>73,038</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

7 Grants payable

During the year £1,200 (2019: £1,406) was paid in grants to individuals. This included the Bursary and President's Prize of £1,000 (2019: £1,000).

8 Support and governance costs (all unrestricted funds)

	Support costs	Governance costs	2020	Support costs	Governance costs	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	33,630	-	33,630	39,005	-	39,005
Licence fee – occupation of office	15,000	-	15,000	8,275	-	8,275
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	513	-	513
Postage, stationery and telephone	282	-	282	1,057	-	1,057
Sundry expenses	57	-	57	55	-	55
Bank charges	60	-	60	72	-	72
Insurance	728	-	728	615	-	615
Computer running costs	254	-	254	351	-	351
Subscriptions	-	-	-	213	-	213
Officers' travel and subsistence	790	-	790	6,075	-	6,075
Accountancy	-	1,680	1,680	-	1,680	1,680
Independent examiner's fee	-	2,760	2,760	-	2,700	2,700
	<u>50,801</u>	<u>4,440</u>	<u>55,241</u>	<u>56,231</u>	<u>4,380</u>	<u>60,611</u>
All relate to Charitable activities	<u>50,801</u>	<u>4,440</u>	<u>55,241</u>	<u>56,231</u>	<u>4,380</u>	<u>60,611</u>

9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

Included in officers' travel and subsistence is a total of £375 (2019: £2,702) reimbursed to the 4 trustees during the year.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10 Employees

Number of employees

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Administration	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Employment costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	<u>33,630</u>	<u>39,005</u>

The trustees consider that they, together with the charity's Senior Librarian, comprise the key management personnel of the charity who are jointly in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000 (2019: None).

11 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020 £	2019 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>1,263</u>	<u>4,365</u>

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Publishing licences £
Valuation	
At 1 January 2020	227,682
Revaluation	(26,117)
At 31 December 2020	<u>201,565</u>
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2020	<u>201,565</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>227,682</u>

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

12 Intangible fixed assets

(Continued)

Intangible fixed assets relate to the licences of the copyright of the journal *Folklore* to Taylor & Francis Plc and JSTOR under the terms of the respective journal publishing and royalty agreements. The assets have been valued by the trustees at the present value of projected future cash flows over the minimum expected remaining life of the underlying agreements.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

13 Tangible fixed assets	Library	Furniture and Equipment	Paintings	Artefacts	Archives	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost/Valuation						
At 1 January 2020	475,275	10,703	12,000	2,500	60,509	560,987
Additions	-	511	-	-	-	511
At 31 December 2020	475,275	11,214	12,000	2,500	60,509	561,498
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 January 2020	-	10,702	10,800	-	-	21,502
Depreciation charged in the year	-	169	-	-	-	169
At 31 December 2020	-	10,871	10,800	-	-	21,671
Carrying amount						
At 31 December 2020	475,275	343	1,200	2,500	60,509	539,827
At 31 December 2019	475,275	1	1,200	2,500	60,509	539,485

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

13 Tangible fixed assets

(Continued)

The Trustees assess the fair value of the assets on an annual basis. The most recent formal valuation was undertaken by Mike Banwell on 22 January 2015. The charity also owns the Mary Young Collection and the Cambridge Anthropology Collection, these items have not yet been professionally valued and are not included in these accounts.

14 Fixed asset investments

Other investments

Cost

At 1 January 2020 & 31 December 2020	10
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Carrying amount

At 31 December 2020	10
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At 31 December 2019	10
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The investment comprises the cost of the ordinary shares of Folklore Enterprises Limited, registered company number 03935903, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity. The profits of the company for the year ended 31 December 2020 amounted to £66,234 (2019: £65,738) before donations to The Folklore Society, and at 31 December 2020, net assets totalled £10 (2019: £10).

	2020 £	2019 £
Other investments comprise:		
Investments in subsidiaries	10	10

15 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Amounts owed by fellow group undertakings	58,568	38,197
Prepayments and accrued income	1,250	1,250
	<u>59,818</u>	<u>39,447</u>

16 Current asset investments

	2020 £	2019 £
COIF Charities Investment Fund	27,769	26,506

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other creditors	9	-
Accruals and deferred income	3,180	4,105
	<u>3,189</u>	<u>4,105</u>

18 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Within one year	15,000	15,000
Between two and five years	60,000	60,000
In over five years	53,750	68,750
	<u>128,750</u>	<u>143,750</u>

At 31 December 2020 the charity had an operating lease commitment with The Royal Anthropological Institute under the terms of a licence agreement to occupy space at 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W1. The total commitment covers the remaining period of occupancy by the Charity expected to end on 27 July 2029.

The amount of the rent paid under this agreement in the year to 31 December 2020 was £15,000.

19 Related party transactions

At 31 December 2020 the charity was owed £58,568 (2019: £38,197) by its wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folklore Enterprises Limited.

The subsidiary conducts the commercial activities of its parent charity and donates under gift aid any trading surplus to the parent charity each financial year. For the year ended 31 December 2020 the amount donated was £66,234 (2019: £65,738).