



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01-03-2021 Period start date To 28-02-2022 Period end date

Charity name: New Acropolis Cultural Association

Charity registration number: 1110140

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education of the general public in the field of philosophy in the classical tradition. To educate students in the comparative study of arts, philosophy, religion and science in order to preserve mankind's heritage and to disseminate the results of such study and research to the public. To promote racial harmony for the benefit of the public. To promote good citizenship. To promote the education of the public in order that they may achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<u>Activities in the field of Philosophy:</u> Until June 2021, we continued to provide our weekly classes on zoom. The attendance continued to be very good, and our members expressed their gratitude regarding the regularity of the classes and that they provided a dependable virtual community at a time when many were feeling isolated or uncertain. During the summer, we offered a varied programme for all those people who were still not able to go on holiday (including a very successful public speaking course). In total, we taught more than 600 hours of classes on comparative philosophy within the framework of our Programme of Studies. This year we still had to give most of our public talks and seminars online and we started to experiment with streaming our talks (although we still lack adequate equipment for this). <u>Amongst our talks in the field of philosophy</u> we would like to highlight the following: "Mind – Best Friend or Worst Enemy?", "Ethical Dilemmas of Scientific and Technological Progress" and a talk on "Buddhist Philosophy". We celebrated UNESCO's World Philosophy Day again this year. We organised an online event with the title "Can Philosophy help build a better world?", where 5 speakers gave presentations on 'The Role of Philosophy in Promoting Active Citizenship', 'Philosophy as an Art of Living', 'Inner Life and Transformation as an Integral Part of Philosophy', 'Philosophy and Spiritual Exercises', 'Universal Laws and Timeless Principles of the Perennial Philosophy'.

We also organised a **Happening** on the streets for World Philosophy Day by engaging with the general public in philosophical conversations about whether philosophy can actively contribute to a better world and by offering small interactive activities (quotes, a 'wheel of virtues'). We spoke to about 80 people at 3 different locations in Islington.



Activities in the field of Culture: We organised a wide range of **online talks** and **seminars**, including: a talk on “Can we truly love?”, 2 seminars on **Ancient Egypt**, a seminar on **Dante’s Divine Comedy** (it was the 700th Anniversary of Dante’s death in 2021), a talk on **Indian Art** (by a guest speaker from Mumbai), a series of 3 talks on “**Conquering Crisis – The Hero’s Journey and other Life Lessons from the Myths of Greece and Rome**”, a talk on “**The Way of the Warrior**” and a talk and Q&A session on Bees for **World Bee Day** in May.

In March 2021 we organised an online ‘**Philosophical Photography Competition**’ in which 27 of our members participated.

This year, we only managed to publish 5 of the planned 6 digital issues of our **magazine** “New Acropolis – Philosophy and Education for the Future” (because of a family emergency of our designer). We also only printed 1 paper issue instead of 3 because of COVID (there were hardly any possibilities of distributing the paper issues). Like last year, more of our members contributed to the magazine by writing articles.

We organised a “**Bluebell walk**” in April with 18 people (who were walking together in groups of 4-5 people for reasons of Covid restrictions) in order to bring people back together in a safe way and to help them re-connect with nature.

To celebrate the summer solstice, we organised two long walks: one of 38 km (with only 4 people) and one of 30 km (with 14 people). Both walks were a great success and also taught us about endurance, resilience and overcoming limitations.



In August, we organised another walk of 26 km with 7 people. The purpose was to enjoy nature at its best and to study plants and insects with magnifying glasses.

Activities in the field of Volunteering:

All the activities in our School of Philosophy (teaching, cleaning and maintenance of the school, advertising, design of leaflets and course notes, etc.) are done on a voluntary and honorary basis and there are no paid positions in our charity. Every task is used as a practical exercise and application of philosophy in action. This year, we were only able to start using our premises again from June onwards (gradually).

Despite the continuing lockdown in the first half of 2021, we were able to organise all 11 of the planned 11 Compton Terrace Garden Volunteering Days (this is a joint project with neighbours, volunteers from the general public and the support of Islington Council), with 134 volunteers in total on these 11 days who gave in total 402 hours of their time to improve these public gardens.

In March 2021, we organised a litter pick with 17 people in 4 teams and collected about 100 kg of rubbish near our premises in Islington and in a little nature reserve next to Manor House climbing castle.

		
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	I confirm that the trustees have had regard to the guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All our work is entirely carried out by volunteers since there are no paid positions in our charity. Our programme of studies is designed to provide an education that develops not only the mind but also other human faculties such as kindness, compassion, imagination, perseverance, willpower and creativity.

		Volunteering helps to develop these key faculties and forms part of our philosophical training, and we encourage our students to become active citizens. Our members not only gave their time to support our activities but also donated generously so that we can build up a fund for the future for bigger premises (the ones we have been using became already too small before the pandemic. During the pandemic we hardly needed our premises but after the lockdowns it became clear again that we will need more space. Our donations increased by 64% this year.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	As already stated elsewhere in this report, we have benefitted our members by continuing to provide our educational services despite the difficult circumstances. Throughout another challenging year, we managed to maintain the offer of the wide range of public (mostly online) activities that we have developed over the last 20 years and were able to reach an even wider audience through zoom, although our primary goal remains to 'think globally and act locally'. It is important to us to build relationships and community, to develop values and a shared vision. We also continued to give grants to members who were unable to pay their subscriptions. However, the most important benefits are not only seen in measurable outcomes but also in the spirit of active citizenship, generosity, and resilience that we try to transmit through all our activities.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
		Not applicable

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	This was our best year ever. We managed to increase our total cash funds by 70% due to more donations from our members and no extra refurbishment costs (as in the previous year). All our members are aware that we need to save up money to be able to move to bigger premises and quite a few started to donate more generously. As in all the previous years, our biggest expenditure is the rent for our premises. But we have always managed to keep all our other costs at a very low level. 46% of our income was spent on premises and utilities. The rest of all our outgoings totalled 9.5% of our total income and we were able to save the rest in order to build up a fund for future premises.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	See above
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	We currently have £7,930 in our savings account.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Our sources of funds were: 42% from membership subscriptions 36% from donations 15% from our Foundation course and our public talks and workshops
--	-----------	---

		6% from Gift Aid
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed adopted 13 th June 2005
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	We are an unincorporated trust.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Every trustee must be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a meeting that was called with no less than 21 days' notice given.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	New Acropolis Cultural Association
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1110140

Charity's principal address	19 Compton Terrace London N1 2UN
-----------------------------	-------------------------------------

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Sabine Leitner	Chair		
2	Julian Scott	Secretary		
3	Agostino Dominici			
4	Ken Tsang			
5	Nataliya Petlevych	Treasurer		

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
Not applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Not applicable		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
-----------------	------	---------

--	--	--

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

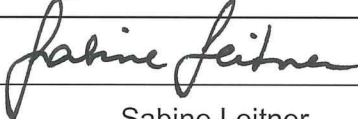
Other optional information

--

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Sabine Leitner	Julian Scott
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary

Date

20 Dec 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

New Acropolis Cultural Association

1110140

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/03/2021

To

Period end date
28/02/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Member's subscriptions	25,972	-	-	25,972	25,805
Donations	21,879	-	-	21,879	13,323
Course Philosophies of East and West	7,035	-	-	7,035	4,093
Talks, Workshops, Seminars and other Events	2,396	-	-	2,396	2,359
Books, Notes, Magazine,	449	-	-	449	627
Charity produce: tibetan thangkas, hone	-	-	-	-	232
Other (incl. refunds, interests)	100	-	-	100	662
Gift Aid	3,661	-	-	3,661	1,184
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	61,492	-	-	61,492	48,285
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	61,492	-	-	61,492	48,285
A3 Payments					
Premises	27,209	-	-	27,209	27,033
Public Relations	764	-	-	764	478
Advertising	1,474	-	-	1,474	1,394
Office	729	-	-	729	1,105
Purchases	1,388	-	-	1,388	1,113
Cost of sales	618	-	-	618	60
Utilities	1,349	-	-	1,349	724
Refurbishment and Maintenance	595	-	-	595	17,379
Other (incl organisation of courses and events)	260	-	-	260	1,640
Sub total	34,385	-	-	34,385	50,926
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	34,385	-	-	34,385	50,926
Net of receipts/(payments)	27,108	-	-	27,108	- 2,641
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	27,108	-	-	27,108	- 2,641

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank account & PayPal account	56,092	-	-
	Saving account	7,930	-	-
	Cash	1,435	-	-
	Total cash funds	65,457	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

Agreement
Error

OK

OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Sabine Leitner
Julian Scott

SABINE LEITNER
JULIAN SCOTT

27/12/22
27/12/2022



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity name
NEW ACROPOLIS CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

On accounts for the year
ended

28 February 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1110140

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Pinar Akhan Virdee

Date:

15/12/2022

Name:

PINAR AKHAN VIRDEE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

CIMA

Address:

**FLAT 11, FIR TREE COURT
62 MAYS HILL ROAD
BR2 ONE**

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.