



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01-03-2024 Period start date To 31-12-2024 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	The most important achievement in this period was the refurbishment of our new premises and moving from the old to the new premises in March 2024. Despite the added work, we managed to keep all our normal classes and activities running and we are very grateful to all our volunteers for making everything possible. The refurbishment required electrical re-wiring, fitting a kitchen, refurbishing 5 toilets and installing a shower, refurbishing a small kitchenette, painting, restoring two wooden floors and two carpets, amongst other things. We also had to do work on our old premises to fulfil the requirements of the dilapidation report. Thanks to the fact that we had been saving up for this for almost 10 years, thanks to the generosity of members and thanks to the continuation of all our activities, we managed to cover the (for us very) substantial costs and still have a financial cushion for the future. We more than doubled our income for this period and only had to use about 30% of our savings. <u>Activities in the field of Philosophy:</u> We taught about 512 hours of philosophy to our ongoing groups in this 8-month period. We opened 3 introductory courses on "Philosophies of East & West" (1 in March 2024, 2 in October 2024). As every year, we celebrated UNESCO's World Philosophy Day in November. The topic chosen for this year was "How can we achieve more unity despite our diversity?". We organised two events for World Philosophy Day: first we had a happening on the street (next to Highbury &

Islington tube station) where we asked passers-by this question. Many of them engaged in long conversations and most of them wrote their thoughts and suggestions onto a board (see photos).



Secondly, we organised for the first time a panel discussion with 3 speakers from different communities about this topic. 56 people attended and we received very positive feedback.



Amongst our talks in the field of philosophy we would also like to highlight the talks on: "Theory of the imprisoned soul", "The art of making wise choices", 'The timeless spirit of sport' and the workshop on 'Philosophical friendship - keys to inner life and reaching the other'. We also had summer classes on "The changing views of history", "The cosmovision and mythologies of ancient Europe" and 'Mysticism in the 21st century'.

Activities in the field of Culture: We organised for the first time a very successful **Day of Arts** in June, with 61 participants. We offered free talks and workshops on: 'The Importance of Art and Culture', a 'Drop-in Drawing Session', a workshop on poetry, a short theatre workshop, a body percussion and singing workshop and a class on 'Contemplating art for inner understanding'.

Throughout the year we also organised two very popular drawing courses (2x 6 sessions) with David Cole FRSA with the title "**Draw out Your Inner Artist**"; a talk on "**The living heart: cultivating the personality according to Sufism**", a **dance workshop** in October 2024 and a workshop on "**The Hero's Journey**".



As every year, we celebrated the **spring equinox** watching the sunrise from Parliament Hill on Hampstead Heath, the **summer solstice** with a walk, the **autumn equinox** and the **winter solstice** with celebrations for our student members.

We also offered a talk on 'Dowsing, geobiology and telluric energies' (by a guest speaker) and a 'Geobiology excursion to Winchester'. In September we organised for the first time a pilgrimage walk (for the autumn equinox) from Canterbury to Dover, which was very well received (and challenging!).

For our celebrations, our members organised two theatre performances and in December we had a well attended carol singing.



In this 8-month period, we published 5 digital issues of our **magazine** “New Acropolis – Philosophy and Education for the Future”.

And we also organised **3 walks** this year: a Bluebell walk in May, a summer solstice walk in June and a summer walk in August.



Lastly, it is also worth mentioning that we organised an event for our neighbours (to invite them to our new premises) and that we offered an excellent talk on the history of the public gardens in front of our premises (Compton Terrace Gardens), by a garden historian.

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. For International Earth Day in April we organised again a litter pick in Hackney where we collected around 700 kg of rubbish (it was a very dirty place!).  We also organised in this period again 9 garden volunteering days (one Saturday a month, apart from August) to maintain the public gardens in front of our premises, together with neighbours and support from Islington Council.
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. And we would like to stress our gratitude to our volunteers for their good will, commitment and ongoing support.
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	The main benefit to our members and to society is our offer of a holistic education for 'head, heart and hands', based on the universal and timeless values of the philosophies and cultures throughout history. Regarding measurable outcomes, our achievements are expressed in the fact that we increased our membership, our income and the attendance at all our events. But the most important outcomes of our activities are not measurable; they are reflected in a spirit of active citizenship that is expressed in actions, in the development of greater resilience due to a deeper understanding of ourselves and others, the pursuit of virtues such as generosity, perseverance, compassion and a greater ability to make wise choices. We continued to give grants to members who were unable to pay their subscriptions (a bit more than 10% of our members receive a grant).

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Not applicable

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	Moving to new premises in March 2024 meant that we had unprecedented costs of refurbishment and much higher rent for the new premises and the dilapidation of our old premises. But we had been saving up for many years for this and thanks to the generosity of our members and careful planning, we managed to meet all our targets and we still have enough funds to for still outstanding costs and we also have a cushion for the future. <u>In detail (this compares a period of 12 months with a period of 10 months):</u> In the period from 1 March 2023 to 29 Feb 2024 our income was: £76,975 In the period 1 March 2024 to 31 Dec 2024 our income was: £148,539 In the 12 months to 29 Feb 2024 our payments were: £100,820 (this already included refurbishment of the new premises) In the 10 months to 31 Dec 2024 our payments were: £141,549 On 29 Feb 2024 our Balance was: £73,687 On 31 Dec 2024 our Balance was: £80,677 How did we manage to increase our income? By increasing donations from members. Through Gift Aid. By having 'inherited' a tenant from the previous leaseholder who contributes to the rent and who occupies one floor of the building. By receiving £31,000 from the previous leaseholder because we were taking on most of the refurbishment tasks that he needed to do for his dilapidation report.
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 have £17,000 in a savings account and the rest of the money in our current account.

		We are planning to build up our savings to £50,000 over the coming years.
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 principal sources of funds were: 17.5% from membership subscriptions 31.6% from donations 32.7% from rental income (we inherited tenants in our lease who occupy one floor of the building and were able to rent out rooms for a few times during the day when not needed for our activities) 8.8% from our Introductory course, our public talks and workshops 8.8% Gift Aid 0.6% other
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	At our AGM we decided to change our structure from a trust into a CIO and to change our financial year to the calendar year (from January to December). These decisions were based on the growth of our charity and our activities and in order to align the financial reporting cycle with our internal processes and operational timeline. It took us more than a year to realize this plan because of all the extra work in this period (refurbishment, moving, keeping up with all our activities, illness of key people).
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	18 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
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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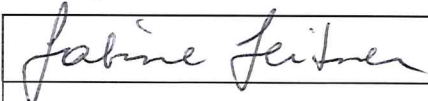
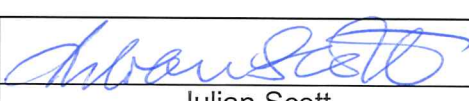
Other optional information

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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 26 January 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
New Acropolis Cultural Association

No (if any)
1110140

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Mar-24		31-Dec-24

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	26 013	-	-	26 013	32 272
Donations	46 987	-	-	46 987	27 670
Course Philosophies of East and West	8 918	-	-	8 918	11 889
Talks, Workshops, Seminars and other Events	4 192	-	-	4 192	3 520
Books, Notes, Magazine	702	-	-	702	999
Charity produce: casts, tibetan thangka, honey, candles	135	-	-	135	247
Other (incl. lease payments, interests)	48 512	-	-	48 512	379
Gift Aid	13 080	-	-	13 080	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	148 539	-	-	148 539	76 975
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	148 539	-	-	148 539	76 975
A3 Payments					
Premises	106 787	-	-	106 787	31 783
Public Relations	1 332	-	-	1 332	1 338
Advertising	2 277	-	-	2 277	2 936
Office	518	-	-	518	1 153
Purchases	594	-	-	594	1 121
Cost of sales	817	-	-	817	789
Utilities	4 545	-	-	4 545	1 759
Refurbishment and Maintenance	20 905	-	-	20 905	59 218
Other (incl organisation of courses and events, legal compliance)	3 773	-	-	3 773	723
Sub total	141 549	-	-	141 549	100 820
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	141 549	-	-	141 549	100 820
Net of receipts/(payments)	6 990	-	-	6 990	- 23 845
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	6 990	-	-	6 990	- 23 845

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	61 210	-	-
	Saving account	17 234	-	-
	Cash	2 233	-	-
	Total cash funds	80 677	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

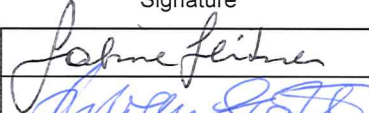
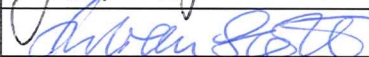
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	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	26-1-25
	JULIAN SCOTT	26-1-25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
NEW ACROPOLIS CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

On accounts for the year
ended

December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1110140

Set out on pages

(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 31/12/2024.

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:

Date:

31/03/2025

Name:

PINAR AKHAN VIRDEE

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

CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants)

Address:

76 HILLCREST ROAD

BR1 4SD

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.