



Annual Report April 6th 2022 - April 5th 2023

AIMS AND PURPOSES

Mattering Press is an Open Access publisher that is dedicated to increasing access to the social scientific study of expert-led knowledge in a field often referred to as Science and Technology Studies (STS). As an open access publisher we aim to increase access to research in the field of STS by making it widely and freely available in the form of monographs and edited collections.

Mattering Press established itself as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 15-05-2013. The object of the charity as set out in our constitution is

To advance the education of the public in Science and Technology Studies, in particular by commissioning and publishing social scientific work on an open access basis.

All Mattering books will, therefore, be available freely as ebooks and as printed books to purchase. We also support books using formats that are experimental or difficult to publish using conventional publishing models.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on fee-charging. Open Access book publishing is still a relatively new phenomenon and the Open Access community is still experimenting with ways to make this form of publishing economically sustainable. The Press is partly funded through general donations, donations made for accessing books online and book sales. Mattering Press does charge fees to costs of publication, although discounts on this range from 25% to 100%. At the same time, we are working with partners in the ScholarLed consortium to develop new infrastructures and partnerships that will enable us to move away from a dependence on these fees.

During the financial year that this document reports on – 06-04-2022 to 05-04-2023 - the Press continued to participate in events and projects that have been building the Open Access infrastructures.

ACTIVITIES

Books Published

- [Democratic Situations](#) was published on May 18th 2022. The book offers an urgently needed renewal of our understanding of democratic politics. The contributors study democracy as a rapidly shifting and techno-scientifically moving target, analysing it in the same way STS has treated other objects of science and technology. They take common sites of Euro-American participatory democracy - elections, bureaucracies, public debate and citizen participation - and examine them as fluctuating democratic situations where supposedly untouchable democratic ideals are shaped and contested in practice.
- [Concealing for Freedom](#) was published on April 19th 2022. The book explores the most politically charged of all internet technologies: encryption. Encrypted messaging enables users to conceal private communications + online activities, often with specific 'adversaries' in mind. The authors invite us into the technical and political world of secure messaging, revealing the interplay between design choices and imaginaries of digital civil liberties. They offer an analytical portrait of the development of this field, following crises, debates and controversies. They examine three applications with different technical architectures as they grew, transformed and were reconfigured through use – Signal, LEAP/Pixelated and Briar. Opening up the social and political implications of design choices, they show how these platforms became subjects of controversy and contestation.

Project Involvement

- Mattering Press editors, Joe Deville and Julien McHardy, continued to be involved as a Co-Investigator and Consultant in the COPIM (Community-led Open Publication Infrastructures for Monographs) project funded by Research England and the Arcadia Fund (the project ended in April 2023).
- This project work included a number of significant developments, including:
 - The launch of Mattering Press' Supporter Programme via the Open Book Collective, which [launched in December 2022](#). The launch of the Supporter Programme marks a significant moment in the press' history. It aims ultimately to enable the press to move away from charging fees for the publication of its books. In time, this has the potential to enable the press to become more sustainable, enabling it to continue to publish books on a fully Open Access basis for the benefit of public.
 - Julien McHardy's involvement in a number of experimental publishing conversations and initiatives, including contributing to discussions associated with the [Books Contain Multitudes](#) report (by Janneke Adema, Marcell Mars, and Tobias Steiner) and working towards the release of the Experimental Publishing

Compendium (which was not launched in this accounting period, but is linked nonetheless)

- Joe Deville, in his role as a Senior Lecturer at Lancaster University, led a successful funding application to the Arcadia Fund and the Research England Development Fund. This new project is titled [Open Book Futures](#), and the award of the grant was announced in March 2023. The project's work will provide crucial ongoing support for the Open Book Collective, which is key to Mattering Press' long term sustainability.

Presentations

- Joe Deville delivered a keynote presentation (jointly with Dr Janneke Adema) at the London Book Fair in April 2022, titled "[The case for open Open Access book infrastructures](#)".

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Mattering Press is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity trustees. The charity trustees are also the General Editors for the Press. The Editors, or the Board of Trustees meet quarterly to administer the business of the Press. All decisions are brought to the board either via email or during meetings. Trustees each have a portfolio that they are responsible for administering.

In the event of a retiring trustee, the board will meet to discuss the skill requirements needed to fill the position. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees and Editors, the board has regard for the skills, knowledge and experience needed to administer the CIO. Nominations for the new Trustee may come from the Board or the wider STS community. The Editors will vote to accept new applications at a General Meeting. New trustees are then inducted into charity business at their first Trustees meeting. During this meeting they are briefed about their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, the Mattering Press Constitution, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. The work of administering the charity is supported by the Advisory Board.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

The correspondence address for Mattering Press is 8 Limley Grove, Manchester, M21 8UB, United Kingdom.

Charity Number: 1152056

The Trustees that have served during the financial year here reported and until the date this report was approved are as follows:

Uli Beisel, University of Bayreuth, Germany
Endre Dányi, Bundeswehr University Munich, Germany

Joe Deville, Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK
Anna Dowrick, Oxford University, UK
Julien McHardy, Studio, Amsterdam.
Michaela Spencer, Charles Darwin University, Australia
Natalie Gill, University of Western England, Bristol, UK

Professional Advisors

The Trustees would like to thank the following advisors and partners for their continued support.

STS Advisory Board

Geoffrey Bowker, University of California, Irvine
Franck Cochoy, University of Toulouse
Michael Guggenheim, Goldsmiths, University of London
Casper Bruun Jensen, IT University of Copenhagen
John Law, Open University
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Ivan da Costa Marques, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
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EASST
Hybrid Publishing Lab
Infostreams

Institute for Social Futures, Lancaster University
Open Humanities Press
Tetragon
Will Roscoe
ScholarLed

This report was approved on 10 October 2024 by Endre Dányi, Joe Deville, Anna Dowrick, Natalie Gill, Julien McHardy, and Michaela Spencer.



MATTERING PRESS

Charity number:
1152056

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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	6th April 2022	To	5th April 2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Receipts from institutions (publishing fees)		-	-	-	4,065
Receipts from institutions (supporter programme income)	175			175	
Individual donations	244	-	-	244	-
Sales	1,544	-	-	1,544	2,491
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,963	-	-	1,963	6,557
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,963	-	-	1,963	6,557
A3 Payments					
Administration	467			467	522
Printing and distribution	1,603			1,603	3,405
Production	3,762			3,762	9,939
Marketing	726			726	
Sub total	6,558	-	-	6,558	13,866
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,558	-	-	6,558	13,866
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,595	-	-	- 4,595	- 7,309
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,312	1	-	-	46,621

<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	34,717	-	-	-	39,312
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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 Current Account	28,784	-	-
	Paypal Account 1	891		
	Paypal Account 2	5,043	-	-
	Total cash funds	34,717	-	-

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

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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-

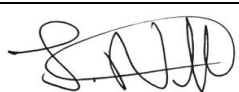
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval



Joseph Deville

5th February 2024