

# ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1167722

## Details

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**Other names** ARG

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-06-20

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 29 Station Road  
Borrowash  
Derby  
DE72 3LG

**Phone** 07771838753

**Email** [steve@arcticresearchgroup.org](mailto:steve@arcticresearchgroup.org)

**Website** [www.arcticresearchgroup.org](http://www.arcticresearchgroup.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN THE HIGH ARCTIC ENVIRONMENT THROUGH SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO ALL ITS ASPECTS AND THE DISSEMINATION OF THE USEFUL RESULTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.

**Activities:** To advance education in the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public. To encourage the continuation on research expeditions by encouraging and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field research in this hostile environment

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Norway
- Svalbard And Jan Mayen
- United States

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£763	£474	-	-
2023-12-31	£20,325	£19,762	-	-
2022-12-31	£21,351	£13,339	-	-
2021-12-31	£2,146	£1,634	-	-
2020-12-31	£5,916	£300	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
BERNARD IAN FREARSON		2016-06-01
Dr George Henry Stephen Staley		2023-10-23
Ian Frearson		2016-06-01
Michael David Haynes		2025-11-07
SIMON JOHN HALL		2016-06-01

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1167722

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
<b>From</b>	01	January	2024	<b>To</b>	31	December	2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Arctic Research Group

**Other names charity is known by**

**Registered charity number (if any)**

1167722

**Charity's principal address**

29 Station Road  
 Borrowash  
 DERBY  
**Postcode** **DE72 3LG**

**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	Mr Ian Frearson	Founder & Trustee		
2	Mr Bernard Frearson	Trustee		
3	Mr Simon Hall	Trustee		
4	Mr Christopher Searston	Trustee	Until 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	
5	Dr Stephen Staley	Trustee		
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**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

Dr Stephen Staley, Group Leader. Mr Daniel Clarke, Safety and Logistics Leader

**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity’s trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Nominated internally from members of the Group with a proven track record of maintaining the interests of the Group

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li> <li>• the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li> <li>• relationship with any related parties;</li> <li>• trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li> </ul>	<p>The Group continues to work to the original principals and policies set up in 2016 when Charity Status was awarded.</p>
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**Section C Objectives and activities**

<p><b>Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document</b></p>	<p><b>OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY</b></p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 To advance knowledge of the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public.</li> <li>2 To encourage the continuation of research expeditions by engaging with and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field research in this hostile environment. It is also hoped that</li> </ol>

some will be able to incorporate academic thesis work alongside their ARG research, thus contributing directly to their University courses.

- 3 If the objectives specified in 1 and 2 should for any reason cannot be fulfilled in the short term then the Group will continue to plan for the future continuation of research expeditions and recruitment of new members who will be able to maintain the vision of the founding group.
- 4 The strategy of the ARG is to undertake useful, meaningful scientific research that will add to current information, benefitting both science specifically and the public generally to achieve a better understanding of the High Arctic environment. The Group's strategy has always been designed to guarantee a higher than average chance of success with all expeditions by undertaking a series of interlinked, but scientifically separate, projects. Together these should provide a better scientific understanding of the research area generally, as the individual projects are chosen on their own merit, are complementary to each other and still have merit if other projects have to be cancelled or scaled back. This strategy makes the best economic as well as scientific sense and has stood the ARG in good stead since its inception in 1988.

The Group positively encourages the inclusion in field research parties of a number of new young scientists and members of the public who may not otherwise get an opportunity to join a scientific expedition. This in turn helps to ensure that order that a dynamic interest in high latitudes continues for the benefit of all areas of society and academia and to better aid the protection of these fragile environments.

Where possible learned papers are produced for publication and, for all our expeditions, a full expedition report is produced that is widely disseminated (including to university libraries and on our website).

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All the members of the ARG are volunteers, giving their time and effort without charge in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. The continuing support of the members underpins the Group's work; without this support the actual hard work of identifying and selecting new members, planning, arranging, executing and financing expeditions - and both generating and publishing scientific reports - would not be possible.

The harsh climatic situations in the research areas puts an enormous strain on all equipment taken and used, which therefore requires regular replacement. Responsibility for replacing equipment also falls on the ARG members, who spend countless hours chasing leads and contacts to secure replacement equipment as required in order that successful and safe expeditions may continue.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

In 2024 two learned papers were published with ARG members as joint authors based on the work carried out by the ARG's 2023 Recherchefjorden expedition (in Marine Pollution Bulletin and in Environmental Science & Policy).

2024 was also spent planning and recruiting members for the July 2025 expedition to Tempelfjorden, Svalbard (this has now been successfully completed). This was a 10 person expedition that carried out scientific studies of (a) beach rubbish pollution (b) the effects on climate change of nitrogen compounds in glacial runoff (c) revisiting sites visited in 1983 to assess the impact of climate change on the flora and fauna and (d) re-digging 1983 ice pits on glacier accumulation areas to assess the state of glacial health versus 42 years previously.

## Section E

## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The Group does not carry reserves as such and its finances operate on a rolling programme where excess funds from one year will help offset potential losses from another.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal sources of funds in 2024 were third party donations and a payment from Barclays Bank in respect of a Banking Ombudsman's decision in favour of the ARG.


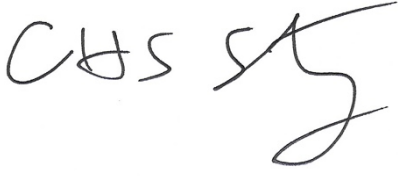
These were used to pay for necessary expedition-related costs: a deferred charge for minibus use in 2023 plus rental costs for the storage container in Svalbard. Minor amounts were spent on ancillary costs such as website hosting.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Ian Frearson	Dr Stephen Staley
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Founder & Trustee	Trustee
<b>Date</b>	7th October 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Arctic Research Group

1167722

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	1:1:2024	To	31:12:2024
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### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
opening balance	1 562	-	-	1 562	8 012
On line donations	513	-	-	513	-
Barclays payment for Ombudsman decision	250	-	-	250	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>2 325</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2 325</b>	<b>8 012</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>2 325</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2 325</b>	<b>8 012</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Storage in Svalbard	300	-	-	300	-
Delayed minibus hire costs	150	-	-	150	-
GoDaddy web services	24	-	-	24	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1 851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 851</b>	<b>8 012</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>1 851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 851</b>	<b>8 012</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash retained in Svalbard bank	1 000	-	-
	Barclays Bank a/c	851	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>1 851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Claim for ~£8,800 grant (as a reimbursement of past costs) filed with the Miljøvernfond. Was paid post-period end.		8 800	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	x4 survival suits		-	-
	x2 base camp tents		-	-
	x2 satellite phones		-	-
	set of VHF radios and base station		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Loans from, and as yet unreimbursed, payments made by, Dr G Staley (was reimbursed post-period end)		5 535	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Ian Frearson	7th October 2025
	Dr G Staley	7th October 2025

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1167722

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# Accounts

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# ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP CHARITY ACCOUNT

FINANCE STATEMENT 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

ITEM	DATE	OUT	IN	BALANCE
Opening balance 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023	01 01			<b>8012.00</b>
Arctic Ltd	05 01	300.00		7712.00
Amazon Europe Core	31 01		7.02	7719.02
PayPal	08 02		9.00	7728.02
Dr G Staley (Farm deposit)	23 02	872.81		6855.21
MJ Haynes	13 03		500.00	7355.21
Nick Norman	14 03		1000.00	8355.21
C Patton	17 03		500.00	8855.21
Icom UK Ltd. Radios	21 03	647.18		8207.73
Dr G Staley (Flights)	28 03	6424.04		1783.69
N Haycock	30 03		1000.00	2783.69
Amazon Europe Core	24 04		5.00	2788.69
SALT Lofoten AS Milljoven Fund	27 04		4210.90	6999.59
Nick Norman. Firearm permits & bags	02 05	158.00		6841.59
Siri Enckell Funds	09 05		580.95	7422.54
Dr G Staley. Radio donation	18 05		400.00	7822.54
Neil haycock Firearms permits	18 05	79.41		7743.13
Amazon Europe Core	19 05		15.43	7758.56
PayPal	22 05		9.12	7767.68
Dave Pidgeon. Funds	25 05		1500.00	9267.68
PayPal	01 06		5.00	9272.68
SAS Flights	05 06	773.38		8499.30
PayPal	29 06		2.00	8501.30
C Searston. (ACRO & permits)	10 07	108.01		8393.29
MJ Haynes Polarigg (accom. In LYR)	19 07	2598.17		5795.12
Nick Norman (Permits & ancillaries)	21 07	105.45		5689.67
SAS Flights baggage	28 07	234.00		5455.67
PayPal	31 07		1.25	5456.92
SAS Baggage	01 08	177.00		
SAS	01 08	980.00		429 9.92
Coop Longyear	03 08	66.21		
Spitsbergen Travel	03 08	132.62		
Svalbard Auto AS (Fuel)	03 08	273.42		
Nick Norman (Polarigg etc)	03 08	2094.12		1733.55
Coop Longyear (food)	04 08	432.50		1301.05
Ditto	07 08	161.91		1139.14
Dr G Staley (Loan)	14 08		1000.00	2139.14
Stakers Svalbard	21 08	259.96		1879.18
PayPal	31 08		17.23	1896.41



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
<b>From</b>	01	January	2023	<b>To</b>	31	December	2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Arctic Research Group

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**Registered charity number (if any)**

1167722

**Charity's principal address**

29 Station Road	
Borrowash	
DERBY	
<b>Postcode</b>	<b>DE72 3LG</b>

**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	Mr Ian Frearson	Founder & Trustee		
2	Mr Bernard Frearson	Trustee		
3	Mr Simon Hall	Trustee		
4	Mr Christopher Searston	Trustee	Until 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	
5	Dr Stephen Staley	Trustee	From 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	
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**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

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### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Financial	Mr Richard Day ACA	83 Wingfield Drive Chaddesden Derby

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

Dr Stephen Staley, Group Leader. Mr Daniel Clarke, Safety and Logistics Leader

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Nominated internally from members of the Group with a proven track record of maintaining the interests of the Group

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Group continues to work to the original principals and policies set up in 2016 when Charity Status was awarded.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- 1 To advance knowledge of the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public.
- 2 To encourage the continuation of research expeditions by engaging with and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field research in this hostile environment. It is also hoped that

some will be able to incorporate academic thesis work alongside their ARG research, thus contributing directly to their University courses.

- 3 If the objectives specified in 1 and 2 should for any reason cannot be fulfilled in the short term then the Group will continue to plan for the future continuation of research expeditions and recruitment of new members who will be able to maintain the vision of the founding group.
- 4 The strategy of the ARG is to undertake useful, meaningful scientific research that will add to current information, benefitting both science specifically and the public generally to achieve a better understanding of the High Arctic environment. The Group's strategy has always been designed to guarantee a higher than average chance of success with all expeditions by undertaking a series of interlinked, but scientifically separate, projects. Together these should provide a better scientific understanding of the research area generally, as the individual projects are chosen on their own merit, are complementary to each other and still have merit if other projects have to be cancelled or scaled back. This strategy makes the best economic as well as scientific sense and has stood the ARG in good stead since its inception in 1988.

The Group positively encourages the inclusion in field research parties of a number of new young scientists and members of the public who may not otherwise get an opportunity to join a scientific expedition. This in turn helps to ensure that order that a dynamic interest in high latitudes continues for the benefit of all areas of society and academia and to better aid the protection of these fragile environments.

Where possible learned papers are produced for publication and, for all our expeditions, a full expedition report is produced that is widely disseminated (including to university libraries and on our website).

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

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- contribution made by volunteers.

All the members of the ARG are volunteers, giving their time and effort without charge in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. The continuing support of the members underpins the Group's work; without this support the actual hard work of identifying and selecting new members, planning, arranging, executing and financing expeditions - and both generating and publishing scientific reports - would not be possible.

The harsh climatic situations in the research areas puts an enormous strain on all equipment taken and used, which therefore requires regular replacement. Responsibility for replacing equipment also falls on the ARG members, who spend countless hours chasing leads and contacts to secure replacement equipment as required in order that successful and safe expeditions may continue.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the first half of 2023 the ARG continued recruiting members, raising funds and planning for its 2023 expedition to Recherchefjorden in southern Spitsbergen, in the Svalbard archipelago.

This represented the delayed 2022 expedition, postponed because a last-minute strike by pilot's employed by Scandinavian Air Services (SAS) led to the cancellation of our flights days before departure, with no chance of putting alternative travel plans in place. Fortunately, all air fares were eventually recovered from SAS though some costs of the boat chartered for transport in the islands could not be.

The 10-person expedition was successfully carried out in August 2023 and completed studies of (a) beach rubbish pollution (b) natural methane emissions from pingoes (c) surveys of archaeological sites (d) group psychology studies and (e) an architectural study of Longyearbyen, the main settlement on the islands.

The expedition report has been written and disseminated and at least one learned paper is in preparation for publication.

Planning, fundraising and preparation for an expedition scheduled for July 2025 began in the second half of 2023 and are continuing.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group does not carry reserves as such and its finances operate on a rolling programme where excess funds from one year will help offset potential losses from another.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal sources of funds in 2023 were grants received earlier, member donations and third party donations.


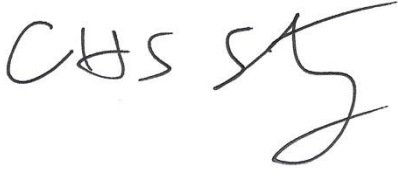
These were used to pay for necessary expedition-related costs, including items such as radio sets, and minor amounts were spent on ancillary costs such as website hosting.

**Section F Other optional information**

**Section G Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Ian Frearson	Dr Stephen Staley
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Founder & Trustee	Trustee
<b>Date</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1167722

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# Accounts

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The Group positively encourages the inclusion in field research parties of a number of new young scientists in order that a positive dynamic interest in high latitudes may be developed for future generations so that a continued stream of science may be guaranteed for the benefit of all areas of society and academia.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The Group has actively added new members so that a continuing new crop of participants may add to those experiencing these fragile wilderness areas and the problems faced by wildlife through direct and indirect anthropogenic activity. This extends the Group's activities whilst upholding and developing the knowledge of how man affects these areas.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All the members of the ARG are volunteers, giving their time and effort without charge in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. The continuing support of the members reinforces the Group's policy by this continued support, without which the actual hard work of identifying and selecting new members, planning, arranging and financing expeditions and both generating and publishing scientific reports would be almost impossible. The harsh climatic situations in the research areas visited puts an enormous strain on all equipment taken and used, which therefore requires regular replacement. This too falls on the ARG members, who spend countless hours chasing leads and contacts to secure replacement equipment as required in order that successful and safe expeditions may continue.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In early 2022 we were successful (with institutional partners) in winning grants from (a) the Svalbard Miljovernfond (the environmental fund for Svalbard) to carry out a clean-up of rubbish from beaches in the archipelago and to assess a technique to accurately determine how much rubbish there actually was on a given beach and (b) the Gino Watkins Memorial Fund for general expedition costs.

The ARG had spent a considerable amount of time and energy throughout 2021 and early 2022 preparing for its planned expedition to Recherchefjord (Svalbard) in summer 2022. This included acquisition of some new kit to support the field work. Unfortunately an unexpected, last minute pilots' strike meant that our flights were cancelled and the expedition had to be postponed until 2023 (it was carried out successfully in August 2023). We managed to recover a large proportion of the expenses that had already been incurred, including all the flight costs.

However, we were able to send two members to Tromso in northern Norway earlier in 2022 to learn the techniques that would be employed in the beach pollution project. This invaluable experience was then passed on to the other expedition members for use in the expedition.

During the rest of 2022 we recruited several additional expedition members, raised further funds and added more scientific projects to the forthcoming expedition's repertoire.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group does not carry reserves as such and its finances operate on a rolling programme where excess funds from one year will help offset potential losses from another.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The ARG planned for the summer 2022 expedition and made pre-payments for flights, boat transport, food etc in the months leading up to this. Last minute cancellation due to the SAS pilots' strike meant most of the boat and food costs had to be written off. Fortunately, following much effort, all flight costs were recovered (some post-2022).

See Section D for grant sources of funds. ~In addition to these, payments from those going on the expeditions plus donations of, or reductions in cost of, equipment were received.

The ARG invests to date only in its bank accounts.


## Section F Other optional information

The plans (realised in 2023 by a 10 man expedition) for the 2022 expedition included studies of (a) beach rubbish pollution (b) natural methane emissions from pingoes (c) surveys of archaeological sites (d) group psychology studies and (e) architectural study of Longyearbyen.

## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Ian Frearson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Founder	
<b>Date</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Arctic Research Group

1167722

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

1:1:2022

To

31:12:2022

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
opening balance	7,098	-	-	7,098	973
On line donations	195	-	-	195	-
Grants	750	-	-	750	-
Donations	9,450	-	-	9,450	-
Flight reimbursement	2,993	-	-	2,993	-
Boat transport reimbursement	865	-	-	865	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>21,351</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,351</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
share sales		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>21,351</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,351</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Storage	300	-	-	300	-
Boat transport payment	2,436	-	-	2,436	-
Accommodation & out of pocket	1,382	-	-	1,382	-
Go Daddy	183	-	-	183	-
reimbursement	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Flights	5,128	-	-	5,128	-
project equipment purchase & service	1,664	-	-	1,664	-
Firearms permits etc	375	-	-	375	-
Sundries	179	-	-	179	-
Food	192	-	-	192	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13,339</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,339</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,339</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,339</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>8,012</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,012</b>	<b>973</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>8,012</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,012</b>	<b>973</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	retained in Svalbard	1,000	-	-
	Barclays Bank a/c	7,098	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>8,098</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Ian Frearson	04-Oct-23
	Chris Searston	<b>04-Oct-23</b>

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1167722

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# Accounts

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**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR CHARITY COMMISSION 2021**

**CONTENTS**

- 1 Trustees of the Charity During 2021**
- 2 The Objects**
- 3 Leader's report**
- 4 Accounts**
- 5 Agreement of Trustees**

**TRUSTEES**

**For the year 2021 Trustees of the Association were as follows: -**

**Trustees:** Mr Ian Frearson (Founder)  
Prof George Shaw  
Mr Chris Searston  
Mr Bernard Frearson  
Mr Simon Hall

## **1 OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY**

- 1 To advance education in the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public.
- 2 To encourage the continuation of research expeditions by encouraging and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field research in this hostile environment
- 3 If the objects specified in 1 and 2 should for any reason fail or cannot be fulfilled then the Group will continue to plan for the future continuation of research expeditions and recruitment of new members who will be able to maintain the vision of the founding group.
- 4 The strategy of the ARG is to undertake useful, meaningful scientific research that will add to current information and benefit both science specifically and the public generally so that a better understanding of the High Arctic environment may be obtained. The Group's strategy has always been designed to guarantee a higher than average chance of success with all expeditions, by undertaking a series of interlinked, but scientifically separate, projects that together provide a better scientific coverage of the research area generally, whilst the individual projects chosen on their own merit are complementary to each other. This strategy makes the best economic as well as scientific sense and has stood the ARG in good stead since its inception in 1988.

## **2 LEADER'S REPORT**

During 2021 the ARG made good progress with planning its 2022 Arctic expedition, this time to Recherchefjorden in southern Spitsbergen, the main island in the Svalbard archipelago.

By year end the threat to travel from the Covid 19 pandemic had receded somewhat, though it still posed a substantial risk as to whether any expedition could go ahead. During the year the ARG attracted the interest of several young scientists who have now joined the team. They will undertake a number of projects in the field area including an archaeological survey, the clean-up and analysis of seaborne beach rubbish, groundwater work and an architectural study.

The beach rubbish work will also trial new techniques for the recording and analysis of relevant data which can be used on any beach. SALT, a Norwegian research institute, was approached to be our partners in this work (as in 2019) and we are glad to report that this has now grown into a four way collaboration with two further research institutes. Support for this work from a specialist Svalbard environmental fund was sought, and secured, after the end of the reporting period.

Dr Stephen Staley

ARG Leader

### **3 FINANCES**

Once again, as with last year, the omnipresence of restrictions due to Covid has meant another year without field work so the relatively low number of transactions reflects this and likewise the relatively low increases in funds that are seen in the actual financial spreadsheet. The only marked increases of note are the last two at the close of the year where new members were recruited for the forthcoming expedition planned to take place in 2022. It is hoped that an opportunity to undertake some serious research will be available once again soon.

### **4 AGREEMENT OF TRUSTEES**

This report has been circulated to all the Trustees with the understanding that it has to be agreed by them prior to submission. The agreement has been made and no adverse comments about the reports or accounts have been made. Some changes to the actual Trustee members is expected during the next financial year. This will be purely down to desired regular turnover of members so that the new Trustees remain keen and fresh to the tasks put before them. Not an enviable role at this time.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Arctic Research Group

1167722

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

1:1:2021

To

31:12:2021



### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
opening balance 3920	6,586	-	-	6,586	973
On line donations	21	-	-	21	-
Car Boot sales	400	-	-	400	-
Donations	725	-	-	725	-
members fees	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
share sales	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Storage	300	-	-	300	-
Immerson Suits purchase	1,246	-	-	1,246	-
car boot float	50	-	-	50	-
Go Daddy	38	-	-	38	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>7,098</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,098</b>	<b>973</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>7,098</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,098</b>	<b>973</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	retained in Svalbard	1,000	-	-
	Barclays Bank a/c	7,098	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>8,098</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	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
	Ian Frearson	26-Sep-22
	Chris Searston	<b>29-Sep-22</b>

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1167722

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# Accounts

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**ARG**

**ARCTIC RESEARCH GROUP  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR CHARITY COMMISSION 2020**

**CONTENTS**

- 1 Trustees of the Charity 2020 – 21**
- 2 The Objects**
- 3 Leader's report**
- 4 Accounts**
- 5 Agreement of Trustees**

**TRUSTEES**

**For the year 2020 – 21 Trustees of the Association were as follows: -**

**Trustees:** Mr Ian Frearson (Founder)  
Prof George Shaw  
Mr Chris Searston  
Mr Bernard Frearson  
Mr Simon Hall

## **1 OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY**

- 1 To advance education in the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public.
- 2 To encourage the continuation on research expeditions by encouraging and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field research in this hostile environment
- 3 If the objects specified in 1 and 2 should for any reason fail or cannot be fulfilled then the Group will continue to plan for the future continuation of research expeditions and recruitment of new members who will be able to maintain the vision of the founding group.
- 4 The strategy of the ARG is to undertake useful, meaningful scientific research that will add to current information and benefit both science specifically and the public generally so that a better understanding of the High Arctic environment may be obtained. The Group's strategy has always been designed to guarantee a higher than average chance of success with all expeditions, by undertaking a series of interlinked, but scientifically separate, projects that together provide a better scientific coverage of the research area generally, whilst the individual projects chosen on their own merit are complementary to each other. This strategy makes the best economic as well as scientific sense and has stood the ARG in good stead since its inception in 1988.

## **2 LEADER'S REPORT**

2020 opened with continued planning and preparation and promulgation of aspects of the reports from various portions of the 2019 Expedition to Bockfjorden. Sadly the inclusion of outside bodies and other research organisations who requested the ARG to undertake some work on their behalf means that the Group are dependent on them to complete their analyses of samples then come up with their part of the research findings as part of the overall research work so that results may be included on the overall Expedition reports. So far we still await the results from some outside partners. It is recognised that the Covid pandemic has seriously affected some organisations and countries so that normal research is now impossible to predict and the Group hopes that results will be forthcoming soon so that final reports may be completed and promulgated. This is one of the means through which the ARG is promoted to others and applications for inclusion on future expeditions is made.

Even the limited results of our 2019 expedition work up to the end of 2020 has since led more young scientists to express an interest in becoming involved in research work in the High Arctic and in joining our next expedition, the planning for which commenced as soon as the 2019 one got home.

Dr Stephen Staley

ARG Leader

### **3 FINANCES**

In considering the finances of this period – January 2020– December 2020, it must be realised that the roller coaster life of expeditioning means periods of low activity and financial transactions are to be experienced and expected. This reflects the low number of transactions and likewise that of increases in funds that are seen in the actual financial spreadsheet. The only marked element is the payment form HMRC of the monies claimed under Gift Aid, that has made such a marked turn in the current financial statement.

### **4 AGREEMENT OF TRUSTEES**

This report has been circulated to all the Trustees with the understanding that it has to be agreed by them prior to submission. The agreement is awaited although no comments or complaints on the figures or presentation have been made by anyone to date. Some changes to the actual Trustee members is expected during the next financial year. This will be purely down to desired regular turnover of members so that the new Trustees remain keen and fresh to the tasks put before them. Not an enviable role.

