

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	January	2024		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 th February 2024	
5	Dr Stephen Staley	Trustee		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

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)

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

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY**

- 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)

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

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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 Recherche fjorden 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.


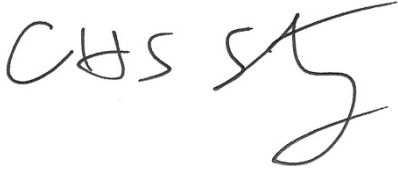
Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
	Full name(s)	Ian Frearson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Founder & Trustee	Trustee
Date	7th October 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Arctic Research Group

1167722

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1:1:2024

To

31:12:2024



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

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	Cash retained in Svalbard bank	1 000	-	-
	Barclays Bank a/c	851	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1 851	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	Claim for ~£8,800 grant (as a reimbursement of past costs) filed with the Miljoernfond. Was paid post-period end.		8 800	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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)
	x4 survival suits		-	-
	x2 base camp tents		-	-
	x2 satellite phones		-	-
	set of VHF radios and base station		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	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