

CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1169953

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-10-31

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

Contact

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Website <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN THE SCIENCE OF ASTRONOMY AND RELATED SUBJECTS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY FURTHERING THE KNOWLEDGE OF ITS MEMBERS, PROMOTING AND CONDUCTING OBSERVATIONS, AND BY PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATION

Activities: DELIVER, EACH YEAR, UP TO 20 LECTURES ON ASTRONOMICAL SUBJECTS. PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENTS. HOLD STAR PARTIES & SOLAR VIEWING EVENTS AT THE SOCIETY'S OBSERVATORY WHERE CAS MEMBERS (AND OFTEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC) CAN USE THE SOCIETY'S ASTRONOMICAL EQUIPMENT. MAINTAIN A WEBSITE & A LIBRARY PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION & BOOKS ON ASTRONOMY

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£5,212	£5,041	-	-
2024-12-31	£8,336	£8,504	-	-
2023-12-31	£4,276	£4,414	-	-
2022-12-31	£4,446	£8,126	-	-
2021-12-31	£3,158	£1,817	-	-
2020-12-31	£3,831	£2,396	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PHILIP JOHN WALLACE	Chair	2016-10-31
Dr JANE DAVINA CLARK		2017-06-27
Michael Bradley		2023-04-27
NICHOLAS CHARLES VALENTINE POLLOCK		2017-07-06

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2025 TO 31st DECEMBER 2025

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1169953
LEGAL FORM	Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed under the Charities Act 2011
TRUSTEES AT 31/12/25	Mike Bradley (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Nick Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman), Emily Peters
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16
OBJECTS	To advance education in the science of astronomy and related subjects for the public benefit by furthering the knowledge of its members, promoting and conducting observations, and by providing facilities for active participation in astronomical observation
CONVERSION TO CIO	The members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society agreed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical Society.
INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS	TBA but is not a legal requirement.
SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	The Society had 219 paid-up members as at 31 December 2025, comprising 139 adult, 4 junior, and 38 family memberships

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met 2 times and the Committee on 8 occasions during 2025. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

Fortnightly Talks – The talks program for this period comprised 22 lectures plus the 2025 AGM. All talks were conducted in person in our usual lecture theatre at Cardiff University. The University continues to provide support and have resolved the lighting issues that affected us in 2024. One meeting that would have been a normal lecture was instead used for a museum event described below.

Public Events & Outreach – Public Events and Outreach activities have continued with a number of events, including the February “Museum After Dark” event at the National Museum of Wales, a March Astronomy event at Techniquet in Cardiff Bay, solar observing at Bannau Brychanilog National Park and the September Brecon Dark Skies Festival, which involved solar observing, night-sky observing and talks. Star Parties have continued throughout the year, and the December event notably featured clear skies.

Observatory – The Observatory has required some ongoing maintenance work during the year and this has been accomplished by CAS volunteers under the overall direction of our Observatory Manager, Stephen Nichols.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. This has been expanded slightly with several new books either donated by, or purchased in support of, some of our speakers.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON and GMN from our two cameras (Dyffryn Gardens & Bannau Brycheiniog NP). Our UKMON/GMN Coordinator, Edward Cooper, also continues to provide extensive support for other organisations in setting up and utilising UKMON / GMN cameras.

Merchandising & Social Events – Our Merchandising Officer/Social Secretary, Tiffany Kew, has continued to obtain and very successfully market a range of astronomy-themed merchandise at events, Star Parties and lectures. This merchandising effort has continued to provide a significant income to the Society for use in other areas. Tiffany also organised several social events, including a Christmas meal, that were well-received by members.

CAS 50th Anniversary Year – 2025 saw the Society celebrate its 50th anniversary in September. This was marked with a number of events, including a CAS museum exhibit at the Museum of Cardiff that was open for four months. A special members-only event was held at the exhibit in October that celebrated our history. The Trustees wish to express our profound thanks to our Social Secretary, Tiffany Kew, for her outstanding work in organising both the exhibit, the special event, and the anniversary-specific souvenirs given to attendees.

In addition to these efforts, the Society also adopted a new anniversary logo that was kindly designed for us by one of our members.

Website - The Society's website is at <https://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts for the Period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Available Funds on 1 January 2025 (£)		Available Funds on 31 December 2025 (£)	
Current Account Opening	220.87	Current Account Closing	545.45
Reserve Bank Opening	5508.99	Reserve Bank Closing	5503.69
Treasurer Petty Cash Opening	361.80	Treasurer Petty Cash Closing	133.90
PayPal	284.15	PayPal	254.89
Merchandise Officer Cash	126.70	Merchandise Officer Cash	235.10
Total	6502.51	Total	6673.03
Income Exceeded Expenditure by £170.52			

Table 1. CAS Assets

Breakdown of Income and Expenditure 2025

Description	Debit (£)	Credit (£)
Anniversary Merchandise	856.99	
Bannau Income		300.00
Donation		91.00
Easy Fundraising		24.62
Engraving	28.90	
FAS Fee	30.00	
Gift Aid		365.50
Hosting UK	43.65	
Insurance	865.40	
Interest		44.65
Key	9.00	
Members Travel	183.38	
Membership	108.41	3123.00
Merchandise Purchase	280.09	
Merchandise Sales	7.67	431.20
Merchandise Cash Sales		408.40
Observatory Costs	44.67	
Outreach Book	23.99	
Planets	44.04	
Raffle Income	0.07	424.00
Raffle Prizes	225.36	
Seestar	560.95	
Solar Scope Part	27.00	
Speaker Expenses	1122.25	
Trolley	79.99	
Webfactory	344.16	
Zoom Licence	155.88	
Grand Total	5041.85	5212.37
Income Exceeded Expenditure by		170.52

Table 2. Income v Expenditure for 2025

Assets

The figures presented above in both Table 1 and Table 2 are accurate and a true reflection of the society's assets, income, and expenditure for the financial year 2025.

As can be seen in Table 1, the value of Cardiff Astronomical Society (CAS) assets increased by £170.52 in 2025. When income and expenditure items from both Petty Cash (PC) and the Bank Transactions are analysed, the income exceeds expenditure by £170.52. This matches the increase in assets described in Table 1.

Reserves

The reserve fund is effectively unchanged in 2025 from £5508.99 in January to the current level of £5503.69 in December. Petty Cash surpluses, mainly profit from the raffle and merchandise sales were put into the reserve account throughout the year to replace funds withdrawn when major expenditures were encountered. These were merchandise purchases and the purchase of a Seestar S50 for outreach events. The Reserve Fund is above the minimum level agreed by the trustees¹. (£3500 v £5503.69)

Income

The largest generator of income for CAS is the Membership fee. In 2025 it generated an income of £3014.59 (£3234.84 in 2024) and a further £365.50 (£321.97 in 2024) in Gift Aid.

The second largest generator of income in 2025 was the sale of Merchandise. Current figures show the sales on PayPal amounted to £423.53. Cash sales amounted to £408.40. It is difficult to give an accurate figure of the amount of profit made on merchandise as there would need to be an annual stock check taken during the final week of December. The treasurer is reluctant to instigate this, and it is not a legal requirement. However, it is reasonable to estimate the profit from merchandise being in the order of £550. This more than justifies the committee decision to begin sales of merchandise and is a credit to the current merchandising officer who has taken every opportunity to promote sales.

The outreach events at Bannau Brycheiniog (BB) brought in two donations of £150.00. This is offset by the cost of members travel to run this event. It is still financially beneficial to CAS to attend this event and is within our remit as a charity.

No commission was claimed from the CAS clothing supplier, EuroLogo. They were contacted in November and there is only £33 in commission to be claimed. The vendor asked if we could push sales. The reason for a lack of sales seems to be the delivery charges on items which are ordered. Members have stated this as a reason they have not purchased more goods.

Donations totalling £15.00 were received from appreciative star party visitors. A donation of £74 was received from a collection held at the funeral of our late secretary's widow, Joanne Titley

Expenditure

The largest expenditure in 2025 was the cost of speakers to attend the talks programme. A total of £1122.25 (£1314.82 in 2024) was spent on accommodation, travel, and subsistence for speakers. This was lower than usual due to us having more locally based speakers.

The second largest cost to CAS in 2025 was insurance. This was a total of £865.40 (£1261.98 in 2024). In June 2025 the tie-in to a contract with ANSVAR ended and the Society was able to shop around for a better deal. A provider was found who provided equivalent cover for £43.23 pcm (£121.20 in 2024). The change to the new provider was made halfway through the FY so it is anticipated that further cost saving will appear in next year's budget.

2025 saw the 50th anniversary of the formation of Cardiff Astronomical Society and this was celebrated that with an exhibition and a party in the Cardiff Museum. The total cost of the event was £856.99. This included room hire, food and raffle prizes.

Performance against prediction

In the report for FY2024 predictions were made to allow planning to take place regarding income and expenditure in 2025.

The following table shows the predicted income and expenditure for 2025 against actuals.

¹ The figure is equivalent to the previous year's membership income rounded up to the nearest £500. Income from 2025 was £3014.59 which rounds up to £3500.

Item Type	2025 Predicted		2025 Actual	
	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
EasyFundRaising	15.00		24.62	
Engraving		50.00		28.90
FAS Fee		33.80		30.00
Gift Aid	350.00		365.50	
Insurance		1300.00		865.40
Interest	50.00		44.65	
IT Services		25.00		0
Eurologo Commission*	20.00		0	
Member Travel Expenses		370.00		183.38
Membership	3393.00		3016.59	
Merchandise Sale	600.00		1139.60	
Merchandise Purchase		250.00		280.09
Observatory Goods Cost		391.04		44.67
Outreach Income	300.00		300.00	
Raffle Costs		220.00		225.36
Raffle Income	600.00		423.93	
Speaker Costs		1347.69		1122.25
Website		338.86		344.16
Zoom		159.77		155.88

Table 3 Predicted Income and Expenditure for 2025 against Actuals

Highlights

- There was a considerable drop in the cost of insurance. This is discussed elsewhere in this report and is due to CAS being able to seek a lower premium due to the expiry of the tie-in with ANSVAR.
- There is a drop (approximately 10%) in income from Membership fees.
- Merchandise sales far exceeded predictions.
- Cost of Observatory goods (Repairs) was lower than anticipated but it is known that some expense will be necessary during the 2026 financial year.

2026 Budget Forecast

Item Type	2025		2026	
	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
EasyFundRaising	24.62		15.00	
FAS Fee		30.00		30.00
Engraving		28.90		30.00
Gift Aid	365.5		365.5	
Insurance		865.40		750.00
Interest	44.65		35.00	
IT Services		23.99		25.00
Eurologo Commission	0		35.00	
Member Travel Expenses		362.15		370.00
Membership	3014.59		3000.00	
Merchandise Sale	831.93		850.00	
Merchandise Purchase		280.09		300.00
Observatory Goods Cost		44.67		600.00
Outreach Income	300.00		300.00	
Raffle Costs		225.36		250.00
Raffle Income	424.00		450.00	
Speaker Costs		1122.25		1347.69
Trophies		0.00		50.00
Website		330.60		338.86
Zoom		155.88		159.77

Table 4. Forecast changes in income and expenditure 2026

Table 4 shows the significant items which incurred a cost or brought an income during 2025 and a prediction for that item in 2026. Where the predicted increase cannot be confirmed an inflationary increase of 3.2% (CPI) has been assumed.

The largest source of income for the society is the membership fee. The predicted income for 2026 assumes that the current level and demographic of membership is maintained and that no increase if membership cost is introduced.

The item of expenditure which could have a significant impact on the Society's finances, and is the most difficult item to forecast, is the cost of visiting speakers. In 2025 CAS had combined hotel, travel and subsistence costs of £1122.25. Assuming inflation in line with CPI 3.6% this could rise to £1347.69.

Factors which could act to the detriment of this forecast are, a large loss of membership income, an above inflation increase in a large expenditure item such as the insurance. The Society has no control over these and must rely on the reserve to fill the gap if needed.

As with any organisation's finances nothing is guaranteed, however, the Society's finances are in good order, and it has a significant reserve fund.

Reporting Programme

- Early April 2026. The 2025 end of year report will be submitted to the Trustees and committee to show the financial position before the AGM on 24th April.
- Early September 2026. This report will allow Trustees and committee to have insight of the performance to budget and to make judgements regarding the end of year report.
- End of December. This will be the end of year report for 2026.

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2024 TO 31st DECEMBER 2024

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1169953
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TRUSTEES AT 31/12/24	Mike Bradley (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Nick Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman)
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16
OBJECTS	To advance education in the science of astronomy and related subjects for the public benefit by furthering the knowledge of its members, promoting and conducting observations, and by providing facilities for active participation in astronomical observation
CONVERSION TO CIO	The members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society agreed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical Society.
INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS	TBC
SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	The Society had 227 paid-up members as at 31 December 2024, comprising 140 adult, 7 junior, and 40 family memberships

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

While 2024 was overall a successful year for CAS, it must be noted that it was marked with sadness as our Secretary and Trustee, Gregory Titley, passed away in July. In his memory the Committee have voted to rename the Bill Sutherland Award to the Greg Titley Award and this will be presented for the first time at the 2025 AGM.

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met 4 times and the Committee on 6 occasions during 2024. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

Fortnightly Talks – The talks program for this period comprised 21 lectures plus the 2024 AGM. All talks were conducted in person in our usual lecture theatre at Cardiff University. An inability to change the lighting levels has been an ongoing issue that has been repeatedly escalated with Cardiff University and should be resolved in the new year.

Public Events & Outreach – Public Events and Outreach activities have resumed with a number of events, including the February “Museum After Dark” event at the National Museum of Wales, a summer Astronomy event at Techniquet in Cardiff Bay, solar observing at Bannau Brychanilog National Park and the September Brecon Dark Skies Festival, which involved solar observing, night-sky observing and talks from our Chairman and member Stephen Webber. Following a new agreement reached with the National Trust, Star Parties have resumed and run successfully in late 2024. The joint “beginners” course was run with Bath and Bristol AS and proved to be successful and well-received.

Observatory – The Observatory has required some ongoing maintenance during the year and this has been accomplished by CAS volunteers. A new agreement with the National Trust for access has been reached and events have resumed with more planned for 2025.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. This is once again available for members to use.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON from our Cardiff-based cameras. Our UKMON Coordinator, Edward Cooper, also continues to provide extensive support for other organisations in setting up and utilising UKMON cameras.

Merchandising & Society Trips – Our Merchandising Officer/Social Secretary, Tiffany Kew, has developed a wide range of merchandise for sale at events, star parties and Society lectures. This has proven extremely successful and has provided a significant amount of funds for other Society activities. Tiffany has also managed to get our clothing supplier to provide other colour options and this has also proved moderately successful.

Tiffany also planned, organised and implemented three CAS trips to museums, specifically the Herschel Museum in Bath, Jodrell Bank Observatory and the National Space Centre. These were well-attended and well-received, and plans are being considered for further trips in 2025.

Website - The Society's website is at <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts for the Period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Available Funds on 1 January 2024 (£)		Available Funds on 31 December 2024 (£)	
Current Account Opening	1587.20	Current Account Closing	220.87
Reserve Bank Opening	4550.56	Reserve Bank Closing	5508.99
Petty Cash Opening	148.45	Petty Cash Closing	361.80
PayPal	383.82	PayPal	284.15
		Merchandise Officer Cash	126.70
Total	6670.03	Total	6502.51
Expenditure exceeded Income by £167.52			

Table 1. CAS Assets

Breakdown of Income and Expenditure 2024

Item	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
Donation	110.00	
Easy Fundraising	17.85	
Engraving		50.80
Facebook Advertising		50.00
FAS Fees		30.00
Gift Aid	321.97	
Hosting UK		23.99
Insurance		1201.98
Insurance Broker Fee		60.00
Interest (Reserve Account)	62.43	
Members Travel Expenses		362.15
Merchandise Officer Cash	126.70	
Merchandise Purchases		640.14
Merchandise Sales	504.69	
Observatory Costs		521.58
Outreach Income	300.00	
Printing		36.34
Raffle Costs		212.39
Raffle Income	605.13	
Speaker Costs		1314.82
Test Item	0.98	
Trip Costs		3375.93
Trip Income	3052.28	
Trophy Purchase		102.99
Webfactory		330.60
Zettle Card Reader Purchase		34.80
Zoom Licence		155.88
Membership	3234.84	
Totals	8336.87	8504.39
Expenditure Exceeded Income by £167.52		

Table 2. Income v Expenditure for 2024

Assets

The figures presented above in both Table 1 and Table 2 are accurate and a true reflection of the society's assets, income, and expenditure at the end of 2024.

As can be seen in Table 1, the value of Cardiff Astronomical Society (CAS) assets dropped by £167.52 in 2024. When income and expenditure items from both Petty Cash (PC) and the Bank Transactions are analysed, the expenditure exceeds income by £167.52. This matches the drop in assets described in Table 1.

During 2024 it was decided at Committee to trial the sales of space themed merchandise to both CAS members and the public. This venture has proved successful and merchandise sales and purchases are included in the annual report. It is still too early to provide a report on merchandise sales profits, and this would also require a stock check. However, the sales figure plus the cash holding add up to £631.39. The revenue from sales was £640.14. This means that, effectively, any sales of the stock held on 31 Dec 2024 are profit.

Reserves

The reserve fund grew in 2024 from £4550.56 to the current level of £5616.50. An increase of £1065.94. Petty Cash surpluses, mainly profit from the raffles and merchandise sales were put into the reserve account throughout the year to replace funds withdrawn when major expenditure was encountered, such as trips and merchandise purchase. The Reserve Fund is still above the level agreed by the trustees¹. (£3500 v £5616).

Income

The largest generator of income for CAS is the Membership fee. In 2024 it generated an income of £3234.84 (2023 £3061.81) and a further £321.97 (2023 £286.65) in Gift Aid.

The second largest generator of income in 2024 was the raffle held on "Talk Nights". This year the profit from the raffle was £392.74 (2023 £323.34).

Merchandise sales were reintroduced this FY and have proved popular. A merchandise officer was appointed and has made excellent progress.

The outreach events at Bannau Brycheiniog (BB) brought in two donations of £150.00.

Easyfundraising (EFR) is still active and generated £17.85 in 2024.

No commission was claimed from the CAS clothing supplier, this is something to do in 2025.

A donation of £10 was received from a grateful Star Party visitor and the work colleagues of Greg Titley donated £100.00 in his memory. This was put towards the purchase of a Trophy to be awarded annually in his memory.

Expenditure

The largest expenditure in 2024 was the cost of speakers to attend the talks programme. A total of £1314.82 was spent on accommodation, travel, and subsistence for speakers. This was to be expected as hotel and food costs are rising.

The second largest cost to CAS in 2024 was insurance. This was a total of £1261.98 which includes a broker's fee of £60. The anticipated inflationary increase did not materialise. It should be mentioned here that our tie-in to a contract with ANSVAR ends in June 2025, so we are able to shop around for a better deal. Currently, Federation of Astronomical Societies (FAS) provides a group policy for approx. £60p.a. This is a considerable saving. The Treasurer assured the committee that they will investigate the levels of cover and any hidden clauses in time for the renewal date.

A new financial cost in 2024 was the introduction of trips to places of interest. They were well attended and enjoyed by all those who took part. The trips were expensive to put on and the attendees paid for tickets. The cost of running the trips was £3331.25 (plus PayPal fees of £84.75) and the income generated from sale of tickets was £3235.95. Thus, the three trips were run at a loss of £180.05. It should be noted that the costs involved with running the trips was unknown and therefore the financial outcome unpredictable. Cautious financial decisions were made in planning all the trips and a decision was taken to cancel the trip to Greenwich Observatory when the cost to travel there was deemed too great for members.

Performance against prediction

¹ The figure is equivalent to the previous year's membership income rounded up to the nearest £500. Income from 2024 was £3234.84 which rounds up to £3500.

In the report for FY2023 predictions were made to allow planning to take place regarding income and expenditure in 2024.

The following table shows the predicted expenditure for 2024 against actual expenditure.

Item Type	2024 Predicted		2024 Actual	
	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
EasyFundRaising	20		17.85	
FAS Fee		33		30
Gift Aid	300		321.97	
Insurance		1338.51		1261.98
Interest	30		62.43	
IT Services		23.99		23.99
Eurologo Commission*	25		Unknown	
Member Travel Expenses		300		362.15
Membership	3800		3234.84	
Merchandise Sale	30		410.2	
Misc Donations			110	
Observatory Goods Cost		250		381.51
Observatory Services Cost		250		
Outreach Income	300		300	
Printing/Engraving		150	50.8	
Raffle Costs		240		212.39
Raffle Income	500		605.15	
Speaker Costs		1750		1314.82
Website		350		330.6
Zoom		155		155.88

Table 3. Performance against prediction 2024

The item which stands out is the below prediction income from membership fees. Following the 20% increase in fee (in 2023) it was predicted that, with the membership staying at the level of 2023 the income from membership would increase to £3800.00. In 2024 the membership income was £3234.84.

2025 Budget Forecast

Item Type	2024		2025	
	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
EasyFundRaising	20.00		15.00	
FAS Fee		30.00		33.80
Engraving		50.80		50.00
Gift Aid	321.97		350.00	
Insurance		1261.98		1300.00*
Interest	62.43		50.00	
IT Services		23.99		25.00
Eurologo Commission	0		20.00	
Member Travel Expenses		362.15		370.00
Membership	3393.00		3393.00	
Merchandise Sale	504.69		600.00	
Merchandise Purchase		640.14		250.00
Observatory Goods		381.51		391.04

Cost				
Outreach Income	300.00		300.00	
Raffle Costs		212.39		220.00
Raffle Income	605.15		600.00	
Speaker Costs		1314.82		1347.69
Trophies		102.99		0
Website		330.60		338.86
Zoom		155.88		159.77

Table 4. Forecast changes in income and expenditure 2025

*this figure assumes a worst case scenario of being unable to take advantage of the reduced premium offered by FAS.

Table 4 shows the significant items which incurred a cost or brought an income during 2024 and a prediction for that item in 2025. Where the predicted increase cannot be confirmed an inflationary increase of 2.5% (CPI) has been assumed.

The largest source of income for the society is the membership fee. The predicted income for 2025 assumes that the current level and demographic of membership is maintained.

The item of expenditure which could have a significant impact on the Society's finances, and is the most difficult item to forecast, is the cost of visiting speakers. In 2024 CAS had combined hotel, travel and subsistence costs of £1314.82. There were 13 visiting speakers. Assuming inflation in line with CPI 2.5% this could rise to £1347.69. A greater impact would be the inability to recruit local (to Cardiff) speakers who would require overnight accommodation.

As with any organisation's finances nothing is guaranteed and 2025 could prove to be a difficult year, however, the Society's finances are in good order and has a significant reserve fund.

Factors which could act to the detriment of this prediction are, a large loss of membership income, an above inflation increase of a large expenditure item such as the insurance. The Society has no control over these and must rely on the reserve to fill the gap if needed.

Future Reports

- Early April 2025. The 2024 end of year report will be submitted to the Trustees and committee to show the financial position before the AGM on 24th April.
- Early September 2025. This report will allow Trustees and committee to have insight of the performance to budget and to make judgements regarding the end of year report.
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CHARITY NUMBER	1169953
LEGAL FORM	Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed under the Charities Act 2011
TRUSTEES AT 31/12/23	Mike Bradley (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Greg Titley (Secretary), Nick Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman)
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16
OBJECTS	To advance education in the science of astronomy and related subjects for the public benefit by furthering the knowledge of its members, promoting and conducting observations, and by providing facilities for active participation in astronomical observation
CONVERSION TO CIO	The members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society agreed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical Society.
INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS	Kevin Jordan Treasurer Newport Round Table
SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	As at 31 st December the Society had 140 adult, 5 junior, and 53 family memberships

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met twice, and the Committee met on seven occasions during 2023. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

Fortnightly Talks – The talks program for this period comprised 21 lectures plus the 2023 AGM. All talks were conducted in person in our usual lecture theatre at Cardiff University. Some consideration has been given by the Committee to finding an alternative venue but no conclusion has been reached and there is no intention to move location for the foreseeable future.

Public Events & Outreach – Public Events and Outreach activities have resumed with several events, including the February “Museum After Dark” event at the National Museum of Wales, a summer Astronomy event at Techniquist in Cardiff Bay, solar observing at Bannau Brycheiniog National Park and the September Brecon Dark Skies Festival, which involved solar observing, night-sky observing and talks from our Chairman and Secretary. Star Parties are being prepared to resume in January 2024 and a small-scale event has been successfully run as a test. Plans were made for another joint event with the Bath and Bristol Astronomical Societies, a six-week Zoom course for beginners. This started in February 2024.

Observatory – The Observatory repairs needed last year have been completed, though there are still some minor issues that need addressing. Subject to discussions with the National Trust, it is our intention to have the observatory fully operational and accessible for members and Star Parties in early 2024.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. This is once again available for members to use.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON from our Cardiff-based cameras. The upgrade planned by our UKMON Admin, Edward Cooper, has been completed with the new camera in place and operational at Dyffryn Gardens. Edward has also been instrumental in setting up a similar camera at the Bannau Brycheiniog Visitor Centre.

Merchandising – The new range of CAS-branded clothing has been available throughout this year and is proving moderately successful. CAS has a new Merchandising Officer who has successfully negotiated a new range of colours for CAS clothing. The Merchandising Officer is also exploring options for other CAS-branded merchandise and will report to the membership when this is ready to proceed.

Website - The Society's website is at <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts for the Period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Available Funds at 1 January 2023 (£)		Available Funds at 31 December 2023 (£)	
Current Account Opening	1446.46	Current Account Closing	1587.20
Reserve Bank Opening	4811.58	Reserve Bank Closing	4550.56
Petty Cash Opening	205.75	Petty Cash Closing	171.40*
PayPal	366.43	PayPal	383.82
Total	6830.22	Total	6692.98
Expenditure exceeded Income by £137.24			

Table 1. CAS Financial Assets

*includes £23 held by MemSec for PayPal testing.

Breakdown of Income and Expenditure 2023

Item	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
Amazon Smile	27.05	
EasyFundRaising	21.44	
FAS Fee		30.00
Gift Aid	286.65	
Insurance		1231.38
Interest	38.98	
IT Services		43.65
Merchandise Commission	72.00	
Member Travel Expenses		291.98
Membership	3061.81	
Merchandise Sale	68.50	
Miscellaneous	115.00	
Observatory Goods Cost		187.88
Observatory Services Cost		441.00
Outreach Income	150.00	
Printing/Engraving		206.55
Raffle Costs		112.21
Raffle Income	435.55	
Speaker Costs		1083.60
Trophies		76.75
UKMON		243.02
Website		322.32
Zoom		143.88
Grand Total	4276.98	4414.22
Expenditure Exceeded Income by £137.24		

Table 2. Income v Expenditure for 2023

Assets

The figures as presented above in both Table 1 and Table 2 are accurate and a true reflection of the society's financial assets, income, and expenditure as at the end of 2023. As can be seen in Table 1, the value of Cardiff Astronomical Society (CAS) funds dropped by £137.24 in 2023. When income and expenditure items from both Petty Cash (PC) and the Bank Transactions are analysed, the expenditure exceeds income by £137.24. This matches the drop in funds described in Table 1.

Reserves

In April £500.00 was taken from the reserve account to make essential repairs and pay for services to ensure the safe running of the observatory. It is inevitable that a facility will incur running costs, and this is taken into account when predicting expenditure for next year. Some Petty Cash surpluses, mainly profit from the raffle, were put into the reserve account late in 2023 to replace the withdrawn funds. The Reserve Fund is still above the level agreed by the trustees¹. (£3500 v £4500).

Income

The largest generator of income for CAS is the Membership fee. In 2023 it generated an income of £3061.81 and a further £286.65 in Gift Aid.

The second largest generator of income in 2023 was the raffle held on "Talk Nights". The decision at committee to have a member at the door greeting members as they arrive has enabled the society to promote its raffle more effectively and this year the profit from the raffle was £323.34.

The outreach events at Bannau Brycheiniog (BB) netted £150. Usually, the society would gain £150 from each event but all messages from the CAS Treasurer to BB were not replied to until early December 2023 when it was discovered that BB had sent correspondence to the postal address of a previous CAS secretary which was not forwarded. This was chased up and rectified. As a result, in December 2023 BB paid CAS £150 for the event held in September.

Amazon Smile closed its donation activities however, Easyfundraising (EFR) is still active and generated £21.44 in 2023.

CAS clothing supplier, Eurologo, paid £72 in commission to the society.

It has not been possible to identify the source of the miscellaneous income of £115. This is made up of two payments, one of £80 and another of £35.

Expenditure

The largest cost to CAS in 2023 was insurance. This was a total of £1231.38 which includes a broker's fee of £50.

The second largest cost to CAS in 2023 was the cost of speakers to attend the talks programme. A total of £1083.60 was spent on accommodation, travel, and subsistence for speakers. This breaks down into £468.44 for hotels, £379.45 for travel and £235.71 for meals.

¹ The figure is defined by the Trustees as the previous year's membership income rounded up to the nearest £500. Income from 2023 was £3067.39 which rounds up to £3500. Reserve Fund holds £4550.56

2024 Budget Forecast

	2023		2024	
Item Type	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)	Credit Amount (£)	Debit Amount (£)
Amazon Smile	27.05		0.00	
EasyFundRaising	21.44		20.00	
FAS Fee		30.00		33.00
Gift Aid	286.65		300.00	
Insurance		1231.38		1338.51
Interest	38.98		30.00	
IT Services		43.65		23.99
Merchandise Commission	72.00		25.00	
Member Travel Expenses		291.98		300.00
Membership	3061.81		3800.00	
Merchandise Sale	68.50		30.00	
Misc	115.00			
Observatory Goods Cost		187.88		250.00
Observatory Services Cost		441.00		250.00
Outreach Income	150.00		300.00	
Printing/Engraving		206.55		150.00
Raffle Costs		112.21		240.00
Raffle Income	435.55		500.00	
Speaker Costs		1083.60		1750.00
Trophies		76.75		
UKMON		243.02		
Website		322.32		350.00
Zoom		143.88		155.00
	4276.98	4414.22	5005.00	4840.50
	Difference	-137.24	Difference	164.5

Table 3. Forecasts for income and expenditure in 2024

Table 3 shows the items which incurred a cost/brought an income in 2023 and a prediction for that item in 2024. The predicted increase has not been confirmed however an inflationary increase of 8.7% (CPI) has been assumed. The largest source of income for the society is the membership fee, which was increased by around 20% in September 2023. The predicted income for 2024 assumes that the current level and demographic of membership is maintained. As of 14 December 2023, that level was, 140 Adults, 53 Families and 5 juniors.

The item of expenditure which could have a significant impact on the Society's finances, and is the most difficult item to forecast, is the cost of visiting speakers. In 2023 CAS had 5 visiting speakers who claimed combined hotel, travel and subsistence costs averaging £165.82 per speaker. Allowing for inflation of 8.7% this will become £180.25 per speaker in 2024. Already the society has engaged 7 speakers for the first half of the 2024 season who will need accommodation. Should the society have difficulty engaging local speakers for the latter half of 2024 the cost of accommodation could have a detrimental impact on the projected budget.

From Table 3 it can be seen that in 2024 it is anticipated that the Society will incur costs of around £4840.50 versus an income of around £5005.00. This gives the society a surplus of £164.50.

Factors which could act to the detriment of this prediction are, a large loss of membership income, an above inflation increase in a large expenditure item such as the insurance. The Society has no control over these and must rely on the reserve to fill the gap if needed.

As can be seen from the report, 2024 could prove to be a difficult year, however, the Society's finances are in good order. The increase in membership fee will improve the Society's financial position and provide some protection against inflationary pressures in the coming year.

Future Reports

- Early April 2024. This report will allow the Trustees and committee to view the latest financial state before the AGM on 25th April.
- Early September 2024. This report will allow Trustees and committee to have insight of the performance to budget and to make judgements regarding the end of year report.
- End of December. This will be the end of year report for 2024.

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2022 TO 31st DECEMBER 2022

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1169953
LEGAL FORM	Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed under the Charities Act 2011
TRUSTEES AT 31/12/21	Roy Blunt (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Greg Titley (Secretary), Nick Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman);
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16
OBJECTS	To advance education in the science of astronomy and related subjects for the public benefit by furthering the knowledge of its members, promoting and conducting observations, and by providing facilities for active participation in astronomical observation
CONVERSION TO CIO	The members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society agreed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical Society.
INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS	Philip Smith
SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	The Society had 197 paid-up members as at 31 December 2022, comprising 144 adult, 9 junior, and 44 family memberships

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2022 TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met 3 times and the Committee on 7 occasions during 2022. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

COVID-19 Issues & Recovery – During the first half of the year most Society activities (except fortnightly talks) remained severely limited. However, from late June onwards, we have begun to return to pre-COVID activities, in terms of both lectures and public events (discussed below).

Fortnightly Talks – The talks program for this period comprised 22 talks plus the 2022 AGM. All talks from late June onwards were held in-person at Cardiff University with average attendance returning to pre-Covid levels from September. The Trustees wish to thank our Zoom Administrator, Edward Cooper, for his continued excellent work in this role.

Public Events & Outreach – Public Events were limited in the first half of the year due to ongoing COVID-19 measures. Events began to resume with a July solar observing event in Brecon. In September the Brecon Beacons National Park held a week-long astronomy event, which CAS was heavily involved with on two different days, involving telescopes, public engagement and talks given by CAS Chair Phill Wallace and CAS Secretary Greg Titley. A joint event was held in October via Zoom with the Bath and Bristol Astronomical Societies as a follow-up to the prior year's joint event and was considered a success. Further public events are planned for February and March 2023. The RAS National Astronomy Meeting for 2023 has also been announced as taking place in Cardiff and CAS expects to be heavily involved. CAS Chair Phill Wallace has also been active assisting numerous Cardiff Cub/Scout Groups with their astronomy badge work.

Observatory – Due to the inactivity enforced during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Observatory was found to need significant repairs to remain operational. These repairs were organised by Observatory Manager Jane Clark and implemented promptly, though at considerable cost. The Observatory is now operational again and will be available for star parties and other events sometime during 2023, pending the Trustee's completing risk assessments, PAT testing and so forth.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. This is once again available for members to use.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON from our Cardiff-based cameras. The upgrade planned by our UKMON Admin, Edward Cooper, has been completed with the new camera in place and operational at Dyffryn Gardens.

Merchandising – At the suggestion of the Secretary, Greg Titley, the Society has decided to once again market its own branded clothing. Recommendations for a local supplier were kindly provided by the Bridgend Astronomical Society and our Secretary was able to quickly get the agreement set up. An initial batch of CAS-branded products including hoodies and hats are now available online via the supplier's web store.

Website - The Society's website is at <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2022 TO 31 DECEMBER 2022 (in £)

Available Funds at 1 January 2022		Available Funds at 31 December 2022	
Current Account Opening	1202.74	Current Account Closing	1,446.46
Reserve Bank Opening	9099.80	Reserve Bank Closing	4,811.58
Petty Cash Opening	34.45	Petty Cash Closing	205.75
PayPal	172.31	PayPal	366.43
TOTAL	10,509.30	TOTAL	6,830.22
Expenditure exceeds Income by			3,679.08

Income and Expenditure

Category	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Subscriptions	3,082.50	123.38	2,959.12
Raffle	232.50	81.15	151.35
Merchandise			
Donations			
Amazon/ EasyFundRaising	41.90		41.90
Gift Aid	292.19		292.19
Miscellaneous Income	728.11		728.11
Interest	3.23		3.23
Special Events			
Travel		436.86	-436.86
Insurance		1,202.41	-1,202.41
Observatory		4,821.14	-4,821.14
Equipment/Maintenance		10.21	-10.21
Speaker expenses	66.00	895.45	-829.45
Hospitality		49.55	-49.55
Website		287.76	-287.76
Newsletter etc.			
Library			
Telephone			
Printing/copying		141.60	-141.60
Stationery			
Postage		2.05	-2.05
Other Expenditure		73.95	-73.95
TOTAL	4,446.43	8,125.51	-3,679.09

These accounts were approved by the Trustees of the Society on ..30th March 2023..and signed

Signed ..PHILIP WALLACE.. (Philip Wallace) Signed ...ROY BLUNT.. (Roy Blunt)

Notes to the Accounts:

Reserves Policy - The Trustees have kept under consideration the level of reserves they wish to retain appropriate to the Society's needs. In normal times this is based on the Society's size and the level of financial commitments held. During the Covid pandemic the level of reserves had risen whilst our financial commitments had fallen. However normal operations have recommenced and, in addition, extensive repairs to the Society's observatory at Duffryn Gardens have been required which has significantly eaten into our reserves. These are now towards the lower limit of what the trustees feel is required. The Trustees aim to ensure the Society will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or further unexpected expenditure arises. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

Public Benefit - The Society acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'objects' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved these are provided in the Trustees' report.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees/members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society on the accounts from 1 January to 31 December 2022 and to provide a basis for the Society's return for 2022 to be made to the Charity Commission.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the inspector

The Society's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and have noted that an audit of the Society's accounts is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and an independent examination is not required under section 145 of the Act. However, the Trustees consider that an informal inspection of the accounts by an independent person should, for the sake of good order, be carried out.

It is the inspector's responsibility to examine the accounts, state whether particular matters have come to their attention, and then report on their findings. The purpose of the inspection was to establish the credibility of the finances of the Cardiff Astronomical Society for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022.

Statement by the inspector of the accounts

Period of examination:	01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022
Examination Date:	22/03/2023
Inspector:	Philip Smith
Treasurer (01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022)	Roy Blunt

Observations/Suggested Improvements/Comments from the inspection

My inspection included routine random testing of transactions and consideration of any unusual looking items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the Treasurer concerning any such matters. A small number of relatively low value items of expenditure were not fully supported by invoices or other supporting documentation. These occurred during a period when the treasurer was on an extended holiday and other trustees covered the treasurer role. The items are of low value and consistent with other similar items.

Findings

No matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting records maintained by the Society were deficient. I have also raised queries that I had with the Treasurer and am satisfied with the responses I received. The results of the inspection were satisfactory and in my opinion the Accounts are a true and credible reflection of the Society's financial results and position as at 31 December 2022.

Signed: ..PHILIP SMITH(Inspector – Philip Smith)

Date ..22nd March 2023....

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2021 TO 31st DECEMBER 2021

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1169953
LEGAL FORM	Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed under the Charities Act 2011
TRUSTEES AT 31/12/21	Roy Blunt (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Greg Titley (Secretary), Nick Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman);
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16
OBJECTS	To advance education in the science of astronomy and related subjects for the public benefit by furthering the knowledge of its members, promoting and conducting observations, and by providing facilities for active participation in astronomical observation
CONVERSION TO CIO	The members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society agreed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical Society.
INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS	Philip Smith
SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	The Society had 233 paid-up members as at 31 December 2021, comprising 155 adult and junior memberships and 39 family memberships

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met twice and the Committee on 4 occasions during 2021. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

COVID-19 Issues – The on-going pandemic once again caused numerous issues, however the methods developed during 2020 continued to be successful in allowing the Society to operate our regular talks program. We do not yet have a firm date for when we may resume in-person lectures at Cardiff University but the Trustees are in communication with University staff on this issue. The present best estimate is that in-person talks should resume in September 2022.

Fortnightly Talks – The talks program for this period comprised 22 talks plus the 2021 AGM. All talks proceeded via Zoom and we are grateful to our speakers for their cooperation with this format. A beneficial feature of doing talks via Zoom is that we can have speakers from more distant locations as travel time is not a consideration. An illustrative example of this is the talk held on 16th September 2021, which was delivered by Mr Steven Flanders of CalTech. The Trustees wish to thank our Zoom Administrator, Edward Cooper, for his excellent work in this role.

Public Events – Public Events remain severely curtailed due to the pandemic but the Society has contributed to several online events. The 2021 Cardiff Science Festival and the Science of Vision events were held in February and March with input and involvement from CAS. The Society also joined forces with the Bath and Bristol Astronomical Societies for a joint Zoom webinar in November on Extreme Stellar Environments, which was hosted by CAS Trustee Jane Clark. This event was successful and the principal organisers hope to repeat it in future. Plans are also underway for the 2022 NMW annual stargazing event, which will feature two CAS Trustees as speakers (Jane Clark and Philip Wallace)

Observatory – The Observatory has not been actively used for public events this year due to the pandemic but it has been visited by Committee members and Trustees on a regular basis. CAS Trustee Jane Clark has assumed the role of Observatory Manager and is developing plans for more active use, including training courses and solar system/deep sky astrophotography courses.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. Unfortunately this will not be available for use until we can return to physical meetings at the University.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON from two Cardiff-based cameras. UKMON Co-Ordinator Edward Cooper has planned a substantial upgrade of the hardware and this is hoped to be in place and operational by early 2022.

Website - The Society's website is at <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021
(in £)

Available Funds at 1 January 2021	Available Funds at 31 December 2021
Current Account Opening 1,315.92	Current Account Closing 1,202.74
Reserve Bank Opening 7,599.00	Reserve Bank Closing 9,099.80
Petty Cash Opening 34.45	Petty Cash Closing 34.45
PayPal 219.02	PayPal 172.31
TOTAL 9,168.39	TOTAL 10,509.30
Income exceeds Expenditure by	1,340.91

Income and Expenditure

Category	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Subscriptions	2,772.50	116.70	2655.80
Raffle			
Merchandise			
Donations			
Amazon/EasyFundRaising	63.10		63.10
Gift Aid	321.77		321.77
Miscellaneous Income			
Interest	0.80		0.80
Special Events			
Travel			
Insurance		1,143.86	-1,143.86
Observatory		8.35	-8.35
Equipment/Maintenance			
Speaker expenses		164.20	-164.20
Hospitality			
Website		304.32	-304.32
Newsletter etc			
Library			
Telephone		10.00	-10.00
Printing/copying			
Stationery			
Postage		15.84	-15.84
Other Expenditure		53.99	-53.99
TOTAL	3,158.17	1,817.26	1340.91

These accounts were approved by the Trustees of the Society on ..6th April 2022. and signed

Signed ..PHILIP WALLACE.. (Philip Wallace) Signed ...ROY BLUNT.. (Roy Blunt)

Notes to the Accounts:

Reserves Policy - The Trustees have kept under consideration the level of reserves they wish to retain appropriate to the Society's needs. In normal times this is based on the Society's size and the level of financial commitments held. However, as a result of the Covid pandemic the level of reserves has risen whilst our financial commitments have fallen. Once normal operations recommence we expect to increase our expenditure and restore the normal balance between reserves and financial commitments. The Trustees aim to ensure the Society will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure arises. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

Public Benefit - The Society acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'objects' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved these are provided in the Trustees' report. The ongoing pandemic has severely curtailed our operations in this area but we aim to resume such activities as soon as we are able to.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees/members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society on the accounts from 1 January to 31 December 2021 and to provide a basis for the Society's return for 2021 to be made to the Charity Commission.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the inspector

The Society's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and have noted that an audit of the Society's accounts is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and an independent examination is not required under section 145 of the Act. However, the Trustees consider that an informal inspection of the accounts by an independent person should, for the sake of good order, be carried out.

It is the inspector's responsibility to examine the accounts, state whether particular matters have come to their attention, and then report on their findings. The purpose of the inspection was to establish the credibility of the finances of the Cardiff Astronomical Society for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021.

Statement by the inspector of the accounts

Period of examination:	01/01/2021 to 31/12/2021
Examination Date:	14/03/2022
Inspector:	Philip Smith
Treasurer (01/01/21 to 31/12/21)	Roy Blunt

Observations/Suggested Improvements/Comments from the inspection

My inspection included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the Treasurer concerning any such matters. All items of expenditure were supported by invoices or other supporting documentation.

Findings

No matter has come to my attention (other than those mentioned above) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting records maintained by the Society were deficient. I have also raised queries that I had with the Treasurer and am satisfied with the responses I received. The results of the inspection were satisfactory and in my opinion the accounts are a true and credible reflection of the Society's financial results and position at 31 December 2021.

Signed: ..*PHILIP SMITH*..(**Inspector – Philip Smith**) **Date** ..16th March 2022..

Accounts

FINAL DRAFT



**TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st
JANUARY 2020 TO 31st DECEMBER 2020**

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1169953

LEGAL FORM Charitable Incorporated Organisation
formed under the Charities Act 2011

TRUSTEES AT 31/12/20 Roy Blunt (Treasurer), Jane Clark, Greg Titley (Secretary), Nick
Pollock and Philip Wallace (Chairman);

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT Constitution as incorporated on 31/10/16

OBJECTS To advance education in the science of
astronomy and related subjects for the public
benefit by furthering the knowledge of its
members, promoting and conducting
observations, and by providing facilities for
active participation in astronomical observation

CONVERSION TO CIO The members of the Cardiff Astronomical
Society agreed at an Extraordinary General
Meeting on 21 July 2016 that the Society
should become a Charitable Incorporated
Organisation (CIO). The Cardiff Astronomical
Society (CIO) was formed and registered as a
charity on 31 October 2016 when it took over all
the activities of the former Cardiff Astronomical
Society.

INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS Philip Smith

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP The Society had 214 paid-up members as at 31 December 2020,
comprising 146 adult and junior memberships and 34 family
memberships

FINAL DRAFT

THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2020 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

Trustees/Committee - The Trustees met twice and the Committee on 3 occasions during 2020. The Trustees have delegated most of their duties and powers to the Committee which, thus, takes care of the main operational issues.

COVID-19 Issues – As with virtually all other societies and charities, 2020 presented numerous challenges and difficulties arising from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. This has severely curtailed our usual activities although we have been able to continue operations in a reduced form. Starting from July all talks were conducted via the Zoom platform and this has met with considerable success which will be elaborated on below. The Trustees would particularly like to thank our former Webmaster, Peter Crabb, for his efforts in contacting speakers and making the alternative arrangements needed and also Edward Cooper for taking the role of Zoom administrator.

Fortnightly Talks – The initial series of talks proceeded as usual up until the beginning of the first national lockdown. There was a several month break until mid-July when talks resumed via Zoom, continuing in that fashion until the end of the year. By using the Zoom platform rather than physical meetings we were able to hold several additional meetings during what would normally be the summer break, including several talks from speakers who had been scheduled for April/May/June that had originally been cancelled. We are grateful to all our speakers who have adapted to the Zoom platform and continued supporting us.

Public Events – As with the fortnightly talks, public events have been severely curtailed. The planned annual Star Attractions event at the National Museum of Wales had to be cancelled at short notice and we do not know when it will resume, but we do intend to be involved as usual. We have been able to be involved in one public event via Zoom with plans for more in early 2021. Our Chairman participated in an online event run by Shelter Cymru, a homelessness charity, in September that collectively raised more than £14,000 for the charity. Plans are also in place for the 2021 Cardiff Science Festival and the Science of Vision event, both of which will feature CAS involvement and are scheduled for February and March 2021.

Observatory - For regular stargazing events and occasional solar viewing the Society continues to run its own excellent Observatory, situated in the grounds of the Dyffryn Gardens, just outside Cardiff. Amongst other astronomical equipment, the Observatory houses a state-of-the-art 11" HD computer-driven telescope for use at star parties and observing sessions. Stargazing evenings and Star Parties have been restricted by COVID-19 and have not been run since February 2020, but both the Trustees and the Committee intend to resume these activities once it is practicable to do so.

Library - The Society continued to maintain a comprehensive Library of astronomical books. Unfortunately this will not be available for use until we can return to physical meetings at the University.

UKMON (UK Meteor Observation Network) - CAS continued to provide observational data to UKMON from two Cardiff-based cameras.

Website - The Society's website is at <http://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2020 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020 (in £)

Available Funds at 1 January 2020		Available Funds at 31 December 2020	
Current Account Opening	1,473.12	Current Account Closing	1,315.92
Reserve Bank Opening	5,596.83	Reserve Bank Closing	7,599.00
Petty Cash Opening	392.26	Petty Cash Closing	34.45
PayPal	270.66	PayPal	219.02
TOTAL	7,732.87	TOTAL	9,168.39
Income exceeds Expenditure by		1,435.52	

Income and Expenditure

Category	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Subscriptions	2,847.50	111.37	2,736.13
Raffle	139.50	112.43	27.07
Merchandise	3.15	69.28	-66.13
Donations	16.00	46.70	-30.70
Amazon/EasyFundRaising	25.87		25.87
Gift Aid	797.12		797.12
Miscellaneous Income	0.00		0.00
Interest	2.17		2.17
Special Events	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance		1,254.38	-1,254.38
Observatory		57.00	-57.00
Equipment/Maintenance		55.20	-55.20
Speaker expenses		87.40	-87.40
Hospitality		43.90	-43.90
Website		287.76	-287.76
Newsletter etc.		0.00	0.00
Travel		0.00	0.00
Library		16.50	-16.50
Telephone		10.00	-10.00
Printing/copying		0.00	0.00
Stationery		0.00	0.00
Postage		24.45	-24.45
Other Expenditure		219.42	-219.42
TOTAL	3,831.31	2,395.79	1435.52

These accounts were approved by the Trustees of the Society on ..15/03/2021.. and signed

Signed .. *PHILIP WALLACE*.. (Philip Wallace) Signed ..*ROY BLUNT*.. (Roy Blunt)

Notes to the Accounts:

Reserves Policy - The Trustees have kept under consideration the level of reserves they wish to retain appropriate to the Society's needs. This is based on the Society's size and the level of financial

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commitments held. The Trustees aim to ensure the Society will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure arises. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

Public Benefit - The Society acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'objects' that are for the public benefit. However in 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that the Society could only carry out a few charitable activities. The full programme of such activities will resume as soon as it is safe and legal to do so.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees/members of the Cardiff Astronomical Society on the accounts from 1 January to 31 December 2020 and to provide a basis for the Society's return for 2020 to be made to the Charity Commission.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the inspector

The Society's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and have noted that an audit of the Society's accounts is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and an independent examination is not required under section 145 of the Act. However, the Trustees consider that an informal inspection of the accounts by an independent person should, for the sake of good order, be carried out.

It is the inspector's responsibility to examine the accounts, state whether particular matters have come to their attention, and then report on their findings. The purpose of the inspection was to establish the credibility of the finances of the Cardiff Astronomical Society for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020.

Statement by the inspector of the accounts

Period of examination:	01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020
Examination Date:	01/03/2021
Inspector:	Philip Smith
Treasurer (01/01/20 to 31/12/20)	Roy Blunt

Observations/Suggested Improvements/Comments from the inspection

My inspection included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the Treasurer concerning any such matters. A small number of relatively low value items of expenditure were not supported by invoices or other supporting documentation.

Findings

No matter has come to my attention (other than those mentioned above) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting records maintained by the Society were deficient. I have also raised queries that I had with the Treasurer and am satisfied with the responses I received. The results of the inspection were satisfactory and in my opinion the accounts are a true and credible reflection of the Society's financial results and position at 31 December 2020.

Signed: ..PHILIP SMITH..(Inspector – Philip Smith) Date ..10/03/2021..