



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date			
From	1	1	2023	To	31	12	2023

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

INDUSTRIAL RAILWAY SOCIETY

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1177413

Charity's principal address

25, Byron Way,

Melton Mowbray,

Leicestershire

Postcode

LE13 1NY

### 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 Ian R Bendall	Chairman		
2 Andrew C Smith	Treasurer		
3 Huw Williams	Secretary		
4 Colin Billingham			
5 Robert Turner			
6 Cliff Shepherd			
7 Christopher G Down			
8 John N Middleton			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

### 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)**

no paid staff

## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	society / association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	elected annually at Society AGM

**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.

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

The publication of books, magazines and newsletters on all aspects of industrial railways and locomotives.  
 The provision of a comprehensive Archive consisting of books, drawings, photographs and maps etc. covering all aspects of industrial railways and locomotives.  
 Visits to industrial railway sites.  
 The dissemination of historical information about industrial railways and locomotives.



**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)**

The Trustees, with due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, make available to the public information on all aspects of industrial railways and locomotives via:

- general sale of its publications, including, where appropriate, donation to local or county library services
- arranging and publicising open days at its Archive and also allowing access by personal arrangement with the Archivist
- the sale of surplus copies of its magazines and newsletters at sales stands, via its E-shop and by post
- the sale of surplus copies of copyright photographs at sales stands
- cooperating with like minded bodies, for example, within the Heritage Railway industry by, inter alia; distributing flyers notifying events or appeals appertaining to industrial railway locomotives etc.; advertising within its newsletters events of industrial railway interest organised by other bodies
- making available copies of technical documents from its Technical Library to interested parties; for example those restoring former industrial locomotives
- the donation of material acquired by the Society which is not core to its aims and objectives to appropriate bodies which may be charitable institutions or public bodies such as libraries or archives

#### **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.

As well as the Officers and Trustees of the Society, a massive contribution is made by members who volunteer to assist in many areas to help the Society run smoothly. This work includes:

- administration associated with the annual membership subscription renewal
- assisting on the Society sales stand at galas and open days
- cataloguing maps, drawings and material in our Archive
- providing labour and transport to collected materials bequeathed to the Society [usually several van loads per bequest]
- scanning photographs
- identifying the subject matter of photographs
- arranging visits to industrial railways
- authorship and/or editorship of publications
- producing maps for publications
- formatting and setting page layouts for publications
- research to assist the authors and editors of publications

Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise, the Society could not have achieved the reputation and standing which it has and continues to hold.

A conservative estimate is that some 75 members (8%) actively contribute in this way.

## **Section D**

## **Achievements and performance**



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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

The Society has published four new books during the year:

The latest in the 'County' Handbook series, Teesside, covering not only the heavily industrialised areas around Middlesbrough and Hartlepool, but also the mines and other industries in the surrounding countryside was published and has been very well received.

Volume One of a two part book covering the Industrial Railways and Locomotives of South Africa was published. The country was a major market for British locomotive manufacturers, but also developed a significant local locomotive manufacturing base. Much original research has gone into the production of this book and Volume Two is expected to be published in 2024.

In a departure to normal practice and seeking to broaden its base a little, the Society partnered with the author to produce two small volumes dedicated respectively to the history of the Oxford City Gas Works and the railway which served it; and to the construction, development and operation of His Majesty's Explosives Factory Stratton, Swindon, covering the years 1916 to 1919. Both books go beyond the areas of specific industrial railway interest and cover the history of the works themselves in some detail right up to closure.

Four issues of the Society magazine, the **Industrial Railway Record**, numbers 252 to 255, were published during the year and distributed to members as part of their annual subscription.

Additional copies of each issue are printed for sale to the general public and there is a continuous demand for back issues which the Society sales team endeavour to meet.

Six 36 page Bulletins with UK and Society domestic news and four Bulletins of Overseas News were distributed to members. Spare copies of these are offered for sale to the general public at the various Society sales stands throughout the year.

Fourteen visits to industrial and private railway sites took place during the year and were well patronised. The category of Day Membership, introduced during 2022 to allow non-members to participate in these visits, subject to availability of places, has proved popular and a number of Day Member participants have subsequently joined the Society.

Many enquiries for information from the general public come in to our volunteers whilst staffing our sales stand at galas and open days. These are followed up and passed to the appropriate officer to respond to. When postal and e-mail queries are added in, some 35 historical enquiries were received and dealt with during the year from members of the public in the UK, Germany, Australia and the USA. Many of these are on-going and, after the initial response, if further information becomes available, it is sent on.

The Society gave assistance to volunteers at the National Trust, Dolaucothi Gold Mine; providing identification and histories of the railway exhibits at that site and explaining how the underground railway operation would have been run.

In planning our activities for the year we are mindful of reaching a greater audience than just our membership and bringing information into the public domain regarding industrial railway topics, both historic and current.

## Section E

## Financial review



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

Surplus funds from the sale of publications go to funding the production of the next publication.

**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.

**Section F****Other optional information**

In planning our activities we are mindful of encouraging the younger generation (teenage and upwards) and making them aware of our industrial history, the part played by the industrial railway and locomotive, mechanical engineering, the industrial processes that required these railways to move raw materials, semi-finished and finished goods and of what is still available to see and visit today.

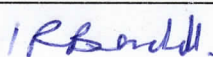
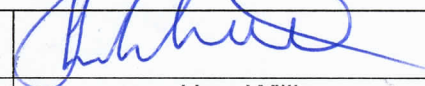
We also wish to educate the wider public on the part played by industrial railways, especially in their local community. It can be very rewarding when a community refers to "their" old engine that worked in the local mine, quarry or power station.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Chasewater Railway, an organisation with which the Society has long had links through both their origins in the Birmingham Locomotive Club. All members were circulated, as usual, with Officers' reports via the normal bi-monthly distribution, both postal and electronic. Members were encouraged to vote by proxy, both via post and electronically and the total number of proxy votes cast was 47 whilst 43 members attended in person.

**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 Robert Bendall	Huw Williams
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Secretary

Date

7/6/2024

	<b><u>Period</u></b>
<b>Sales</b>	
Donations Received	2564.44
Sales of Books etc	52956.34
Investment Income	756.31
Other Income	2269.00
Membership Fees	25228.22
Bad Debts written off	-0.30
Sales Stande Fees	-50.00
<b>Purchases</b>	
<b>Direct Expenses</b>	
IRS Books Production & Printing	32952.00
IRS Bulletin Productiion & Printing	6875.21
IRS RECORD Production & Printing	7039.40
Other Publishers Books	7128.64
Advertising & Publicity	125.00
<b>Gross Profit/(Loss):</b>	
<b>Overheads</b>	
AGM & Visits Expenses	1865.00
Posting - Membership Items	8524.21
Postage & Packig - Sales	7103.82
Telephone Calls	8.70
Computer & Software	2299.75
Premises Expenses	5700.00
Archve Purchases	834.83
Committee Expenses	145.32
Mileage Claims	836.00
Insurance	1076.44
Donations Made	4.50
Management & Admin - Bank Charges and Interest	3036.19
Suspense & Mispostings	-1807.65
<b>Net Profit/(Loss):</b>	

83724.01

0.00

54120.25

29603.76

29627.11

-23.35



## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Industrial Railway Society Charity**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Industrial Railway Society Charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

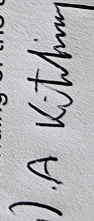
### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: David Kitching

Address: 30 Carleton Road, Poynton, Cheshire, SK12 1TL

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024