



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date		
From	1	1	To	31	12
		2024			2024

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				
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17				
18				
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20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Other names charity is known by

Other names charity is known by

ce and management

Trustee selection methods
(eq. appointed by, elected by)

SECRETARY

ivities

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covering all aspects of industrial railways and
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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

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Society has published five new books during the year:

The latest in the 'EL – Existing Locomotives' series, listing all known industrial and former industrial locomotives and preserved former main line locomotives and railcars, **19EL**. Regarded by many enthusiasts both within and outside the Society as an essential guide, this edition has been expanded by popular request to include miniature railways down to 12" gauge.

The final paper edition of what has been a long running series, **British Railways Diesels in Industry – 'BRD'**; **9BRD** has been published. As most new information which now arises is associated with the movement of locomotives now in preservation, it has been decided to publish future updates in this series as E-books.

Planet Locomotives – A History of F. C. Hibberd & Co. Ltd. And its Predecessors is a comprehensive history of this company which produced not only railway locomotives and railcars, but carriages, road tractors and trucks, as well as other engineered products is the result of some 50 + years of research by the author; edited and published some years after his death. Of specific interest to railway historians, the book includes a full works list of the company's products.

The Society has again partnered with the authors to produce two volumes; one, **The Oxford Portland Cement Co. Ltd. Situated at Kirtlington & Shipton-on-Cherwell Cement Works, Oxfordshire, Company History, Railway and Locomotives**; is a traditional industrial railway historical record covering the entire period of operation of the company and its successors up to the final closure of the Shipton-on-Cherwell works; the other, **Ruston Way**, is written from the perspective of the owner and restorer of one particular locomotive which has a familial connection through the employment of one of the author's relatives at the manufacturers. Both the working life and life in preservation of the locomotive and the working life of the family member are covered, giving an unique perspective into, particularly, the non-railway aspects of the work of one of Britain's major locomotive manufacturers.

Four issues of the Society magazine, the **Industrial Railway Record**, numbers 256 to 259, 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.

Sixteen 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.

The Society Archive has been relocated to a different building in the same complex, allowing additional space and a better planned layout which has enabled providing more space for researchers to work within the Archive. This task was accomplished by the Archive team and a number of other members; with a total of over 400 manhours of volunteer labour used.

Section D

Achievements and performance

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.

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.

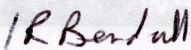
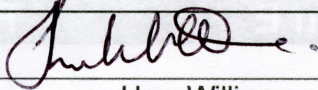
The Annual General Meeting was held at the Middleton Railway, an organisation with which the Society has close links and whose Junior Club hold a joint Junior Membership in the Society. The Middleton Railway is the oldest continuously working standard gauge railway in the world and maintains a selection of mostly Leeds built industrial locomotives.

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	29/7/2025	

INDUSTRIAL RAILWAY SOCIETY ACCOUNTS for 2023 & 2024

	2023	2023	2024	2024
RECEIPTS				
Sales of Books etc	52956.34		62971.84	
Membership Fees	27035.87		26410.81	
Donations Received - Gift Aid	2500.44		4671.50	
Donations Received - Non Gift Aid	64.00		25034.00	
Gift Aid reclaimed for 2022			155.08	
Investment Income	756.31		1980.21	
Other Income - Visits etc.	2268.70		3765.00	
RECEIPTS		85581.66		124988.44
PAYMENTS				
IRS Books Production & Printing	32952.00		23866.00	
Other Publishers Books purchased	7128.64		4369.96	
Postage & Packing - Sales	7103.82		7673.26	
COST OF BOOK SALES		47184.46		35909.22
IRS Bulletin Production & Printing	6875.21		10649.89	
IRS RECORD Production & Printing	7039.40		6374.90	
Posting - Membership Items	8524.21		12162.66	
COST OF SERVICING MEMERSHIP		22438.82		29187.45
Management & Admin - Bank Charges & Eshop	3086.19		2053.98	
Computers & Software Charges	2299.75		2074.38	
Advertising & Publicity	125.00			
Premises costs (rental,insurance, electicity) (includes £4,000 for cost of insulation and electrics)	6534.83		16809.18	
Archive purchases (refit expenses; one off)			6479.30	
AGM & Other Visits Expenses	1865.00		3415.00	
Telephone Calls	8.70			
Committee Expenses	145.32		142.12	
Mileage Claims	836.00		533.88	
Insurance	1076.44		1187.59	
Donations Made- Chasewater	4.50			
OTHER COSTS		15981.73		32695.43
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		-23.35		27196.34

Andrew Smith, Hon. Treasurer
Malvern, 31/1/2025

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 31st December 2024.

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: *D. A. Kitching*

Name: David Kitching

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

Date: 7th March 2025