

# SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

England & Wales · Charity number 1190304

## Details

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**Other names** SHAC

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2020-07-08

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

## Contact

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**Address** 45 The Drive  
Isleworth  
TW7 4AA

**Phone** 07394070924

**Email** [treasurer@ambix.org](mailto:treasurer@ambix.org)

**Website** <https://www.ambix.org/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, AS A LEARNED SOCIETY, TO ADVANCE EDUCATION, THE ARTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE, AND SCIENCE THROUGH SCHOLARLY AND/OR CURATORIAL ACTIVITY RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OF OTHER SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGIES IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD. THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY:(1) PUBLISHING A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL AND BY MAINTAINING MEMBERSHIP(2) PUBLISHING OCCASIONAL SCHOLARLY WORKS;(3) PROVIDING STUDY GRANTS TO STUDENTS AND EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS;(4) FUNDING AND / OR ORGANISING SCHOLARLY MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS.(5) DISSEMINATING INFORMATION NOT ONLY ON THE SOCIETY'S EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BUT THOSE OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN THE SAME AND RELATED FIELDS;(6) AWARDING PRIZES FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN SCHOLARSHIP.

**Activities:** THE SOCIETY PROMOTES THE SCHOLARLY STUDY OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF THE CHEMICAL SCIENCES (INCLUDING ALCHEMY). IT HOLDS MEETINGS FOR THE READING AND DISCUSSION OF SCHOLARLY PAPERS, PROVIDES SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS, IN PARTICULAR TO POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS, AND PUBLISHES ARTICLES AND ESSAYS, ESPECIALLY IN AMBIX, THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Northern Ireland
- Norway
- Portugal
- Scotland
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£32,676	£23,763	-	-
2024-12-31	£32,252	£16,029	-	-
2023-12-31	£27,023	£18,713	-	-
2022-12-31	£26,926	£13,743	-	-
2021-12-31	£28,221	£6,384	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Professor FRANK ARTHUR JOHN LORD JAMES</b>	Chair	2020-07-08
Dr ANNA ELIZABETH WOODMAN		2020-07-08
Dr Annette Lykknes		2022-06-29
Dr CAROLYN ANN COBBOLD		2020-07-08
Dr Christopher John Campbell		2020-07-08
Dr DELIA GEORGIANA HEDESAN		2020-07-08
Dr JENNIFER MARGARET RAMPLING		2020-07-08
Dr Peter Ramberg		2022-06-29
Dr ROBERT ALEXANDER JOHNSTONE		2020-07-08
Dr Robert Franklin Bud		2026-05-13
Dr Sarah Lang		2025-05-12
Dr TILLMANN TAAPE		2020-07-08
PROFESSOR HASOK CHANG		2020-07-08
PROFESSOR LAWRENCE MICHAEL PRINCIPE		2020-07-08
Professor Bruce Thomas Moran		2020-07-08

**SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190304

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# Accounts

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
Period start date			Period end date			
<b>From</b>	1	JAN	2025	<b>To</b>	31	DEC 2025

**Section A Reference and administration details**

**Charity name** SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

**Other names charity is known by** SHAC

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1190304

**Charity's principal address** 45 THE DRIVE

ISLEWORTH

**Postcode** TW7 4AA

**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	F A J L JAMES	CHAIR (Officer)		
2	R A JOHNSTONE	TREASURER (Officer)		
3	A E WOODMAN	AMBIX SECRETARY DEPUTY CHAIR from the AGM on 12 May 2025 (Officer)		
4	B T MORAN	JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)		
5	C A COBBOLD	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)		
6	C J CAMPBELL	SOCIETY SECRETARY (Officer)		
7	A LYKKNES	SOCIETY AWARDS (Officer)		
8	J M RAMPLING			
9	P J FORSHAW			
10	J WILSON			
11	H CHANG			
12	V M QUIRKE			

13	D G HEDESAN		
14	T TAAPE		
15	L M PRINCIPE		
16	P J RAMBERG		
17	S LANG		

**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)<sup>1</sup>**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (CIO registered 08.07.20 and operational from 01.01.21).
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association of 302 members (number at year end 2025).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>With 42 days' clear notice before each AGM of the Society, the Trustees will advise members of the Society of the identities of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Trustees who wish to continue as such and under the Constitution are permitted to do so without reappointment at the AGM;</li> <li>(b) Trustees who wish to continue as such and are seeking reappointment at the AGM as required by the Constitution; and</li> <li>(c) nominees of the existing Trustees for new appointments as Trustees at the AGM –</li> </ul>

and members of the Society will be invited to make further nominations. Such further nominations must be made with the written consent of the nominee and with no less than 28 days' clear notice before the AGM.

Trustees serve for 3 years after which they retire or are re-elected subject to competitive nomination. The trustees may fill casual vacancies but their choice must be ratified at the next 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.

A Risk Register, including measures put in place to minimise risk, was approved by the Trustees at the Council meeting, March 2024

No fraudulent activity has been detected during the year.

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

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the *Journal of the Society*, currently called *Ambix*.

The trustees in 2025 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity's scholarly journal *Ambix* has for over 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members (annual membership fee is £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years' standing and to £25 for students)

**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 net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:–

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students, early career researchers and independent scholars (membership being open to anyone).

(ii) The Society organises and funds scholarly meetings, workshops, seminars and webinars, attendance at which is not confined to members.

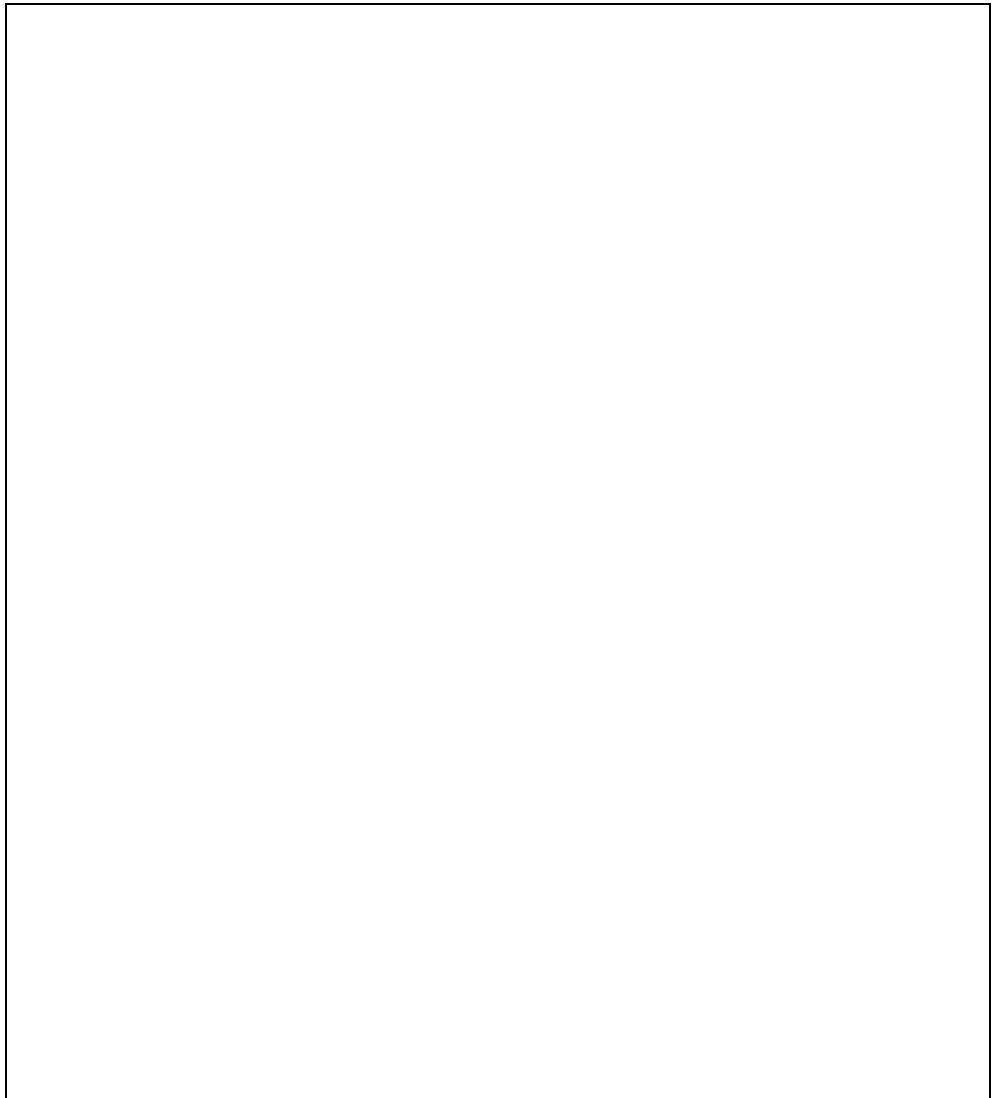
(iii) The Society's substantial newsletter *Chemical Intelligence* is available free to the general public online; it advertises and reports not only the Society's events and activities but those of other organisations involved in the history of alchemy and chemistry. The Society also maintains a website with similar objectives.

(iv) *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*, an occasional supplement to *Ambix*, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of *Ambix* and to members subscribing for the relevant year.

(v) The Society's Morris Award, Partington Prize.

(vi) Brock Award

The Brock Award honours Professor William 'Bill' Hodson Brock, one of the leading historians of chemistry of the last fifty years. The Award is for outstanding contributions in the fields of the history of alchemy and chemistry. The individual's impact on the community of historians of alchemy and/or chemistry, through historical research, publication, support and encouragement of students and fellow researchers and contributions to the wider promulgation of the subject are the criteria for selection.



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

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

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

The charity continues to rely heavily on the contributions of volunteers, without whose efforts the Charity would be unable to operate.

We welcomed Yiran Tao as the new Administrative Assistant.

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

On Monday 12 May 2025, the Society held its AGM on Zoom.

#### Meetings

All SHAC meetings are open to both members and non-members of the Society. In some cases, a small charge may be made to contribute towards costs.

During the year SHAC held three meetings and five on-line seminars. SHAC is enormously grateful to all the institutions that hosted and supported the meetings throughout the year.

On 14 January the SHAC Postgraduate and Early Career Workshop: 'Alchemy and Chemistry as Vessels for Cultural Discourse' was held at St John's College, Oxford. The speakers were Josh Werrett, Paulina Gennerman, Lea Elisabeth Hinterholzer, Brian Li, Ellen Hausner, Elena Morgana, Sergei Zotov, Johannes Chan, Sajdeep Soomal, Silvia Pérez-Criado, Christopher Halm, Robert Slinn, Sofiya Kamalova Rogova, and Justin Sledge.

On 29 March, the SHAC Spring meeting was held at the Warburg Institute on the theme of 'Biographies of Alchemists and Chemists'. The speakers were: Laurence Chen, Sergei Zotov, Charlotte Abney Salamon, Anna Simmons, Annette Lykknes, Carsten Reinhardt and Judith Kaplan. At the end there was a roundtable discussion to mark the 90th anniversary of the founding at SHAC. The participants were Robert Anderson, John Brooke, Peter Morris, Gerrylynn Roberts and Michael Sutton.

On 16 and 17 October, the SHAC Autumn/Fall meeting was held at the Science History Institute, Philadelphia. The speakers were Meagan Allen, Matteo Soranzo, Claire Litt, Brian Li, Sarah Lang, Farzad Mahootian, Alan Rocke, Sarah Lowengard, John Powers, George Borg, Stephen Weininger, Patrick Charbonneau, Christopher Halm and Jeffrey I. Seeman. SHAC is grateful to Taylor and Francis for supporting a wine reception at the meeting.

The Society continued its series of free online seminars open to all covering a wide range of topics in the history of alchemy and chemistry. These are then placed on the SHAC YouTube channel, freely accessible to all. The speakers were Sarah Hijmans, Christopher Halm, Ellen Hausner, Francesca Antonelli and Stefania Buosi-Moncunill.

#### Publications

*Ambix*: The Society published four issues of its scholarly journal *Ambix* in 2025.

February 2025: Volume 72, Issue 1

*Constructing Naturalness in Industrial Settings: A Transdisciplinary Exploration*

Paulina S. Gennermann, Gina Maria Klein & Sophia Wagemann

*A Game of Terms: Constructing Naturalness in German Flavour Regulation, 1959–2008*

Paulina S. Gennermann

*Ivory Emulation: The Naturalness of Early Bioinspired Plastics*  
Artur Neves

*“Cycles of Clockwork Precision”: Hormonal Contraception and Natural Menstruation*

Sophia Wagemann

*The Nature of Skincare: Categorising Cosmetics with Bioactive Ingredients in the Case of Qenty-Cosmetic*

Gina Maria Klein

*Can Chemical Substances be Natural?*

Marabel Riesmeier

May 2025: Volume 72, Issue 2

*Sperm Whales, Wax Sculptures, and Historical Analysis: The Role of Fat Chemistry in Authenticating Artworks in Early Twentieth-Century Germany*

Josephine Musil-Gutsch

*The Byzantine Alchemist Christianos and His Procedures on Indian Lac*

Marco Bellini

*New Sources for Reconstructing the Discovery of Potassium and Sodium: Manuscripts and Letters relating to their Electrical Detection, Isolation, Naming, Announcement, and Publication by Humphry Davy*

Frank A. J. L. James

*A Consideration of John Davy’s “Analysis of the Snake-Stone”*

Rachael Pymm

August—November 2025: (Volume 72, Issues 3 &4) was a Special Edition, *Fine Arts: Heat Technologies, Matter Theory, and Agency in the Premodern World*, guest edited by Hannah Elmer and Tillmann Taape and included papers by both guest editors as well as Carmen Schmechel, Tianna Helena Uchacz, Andrés Vélez Posada and Ana María Jiménez, Hannah Elmer and Thijs Hagendijk, Peter Oakley, Katharina Vones and Peter Oakley, Marcia Vilarigues, Thijs Hagendijk, Andreia Ruivo, Alexandra Rodrigues and Carla Machado, Yijun Wang.

In 2025 Bruce T. Moran was editor of *Ambix* with Viviane Quirke and Peter J. Ramberg as Associate Editors, Tillmann Taape and Sarah Hijmans as Book Reviews Co-Editors.

There were 69,755 downloads of articles published in *Ambix* and its back catalogue (dating from 1937) from 1 January 2025 through to 31 December 2025.

### **Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry**

During 2025 work has been completed on the third volume of *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry - Book of the Light of the Great Magistery*. Lawrence M. Principe’s critical edition, English translation, and detailed study of the *Book of the Light of the Great Magistery* by the Franciscan friar, alchemist, and prophet of the antichrist John of Rupescissa (ca. 1310-1366) will be published in 2026 by Routledge.

**Chemical Intelligence**

Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published in 2025, in February and August. Both were edited by Karoliina Pulkkinen. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society's events, but those of other organisations involved in the history of chemistry. It was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

**The Partington Prize**

The Partington Prize was established in memory of Professor James Riddick Partington, the Society's first Chairman. It is awarded every three years for an original and unpublished essay on any aspect of the history of alchemy or chemistry. The prize consists of five hundred pounds (£500). Entries for the 2026 Prize were invited during 2025 and the next winner will be announced in spring 2026

**SHAC Award Scheme**

The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2025. Following consideration by a committee, Research Awards (for which both early career scholars and independent scholars are eligible) were approved as follows:

***Research Awards*****Caroline Douglas**

Elizabeth Fulhame and the proto-photographic networks of 1780s Edinburgh

**Awarded: £946**

**Ellen Hausner**

The Rise of the Character: a visually abstract method of transmitting meaning in alchemical texts, c. 1300-1700

**Awarded: £1000**

**Sarah Hijmans**

Participation in the Symposium "Engaging with Improbable Experiments" at the History of Science Society Conference in New Orleans, November 2025

**Awarded: £829**

**Karoliina Pulkkinen**

Science and legitimization

**Awarded: £1000**

**Yuuka Sawai**

Chicago World's Congress of Chemists (1893): Focusing on the state of chemistry in the United States

**Awarded: £980**

**Sofiya Kamalova**

Archival research at Corporate Archives of Bayer

Awarded: **£717**

**Eduardo Godoy Yáñez**

Analyse the Material Evidence to Construct the Truth: An Approach to the Sensorial Understanding of Chemistry in the Chilean Courts of Justice, 1850-1900

Awarded: **£984**

**Cecilia Seilern und Aspang**

The Changing Nature of Lab-Grown Gems: A history of the changing perception of lab-grown gems from the early modern period to today.

Awarded: **£1000**

***Subject Development Awards*****Sergei Zotov**

Conference "Visita Interiora: ReImagining Allegory in Alchemical Tradition"

16-17 June 2025 at Venice, Palazzo Giustinian Lolin (University of Warwick Venice Centre)

Awarded **£1000**

**Julian Silverman**

Alchemy and Information Literacy: Exploring Science and Symbols by Connecting Chemistry and Art History

Awarded: **£951.85**

**Sean Coughlin**

Invisible Alchemy: The Paradox of Past Scents

Awarded **£879.31**

**Joaquín Pérez Pariente**

Summer School on the History of Chemistry

Awarded **£1000**

**The Turba** seminars on alchemy included presentations from: Dagmar Wujastyk (Indian alchemy), Peter Oakley (experimental furnaces), Georgiana Hedesan, Petr Pavlas and Vojtech Kase (EMLAP history of alchemy collection) and Vojtech Kase and Petr Pavlas (iWeems app as applied to history of alchemy) .

**AD HOC**

During 2025 AD HOC held a number of meetings, continuing with the hybrid format with in-person attendees at the University of Cambridge and others joining online from anywhere in the world. The meetings were generally held during Cambridge terms, on a fortnightly basis. At some meetings we had presentations followed by Q&A, and at others discussions of pre-circulated texts.

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

As reported in the Annual Report of 2024, Council agreed in March 2023 that the level of reserves would be set at £140,000 owing to the continuing uncertainty regarding future income from the journal publication created by open access "Plan S" and the position of hybrid journals such as Ambix. This uncertainty remains and the quoted value of the reserves is currently unchanged. Although the Charity made record payouts to award winners in the year, this reserve level was exceeded at the end of 2025, standing at £144,937.00. The situation is under review by the Officers of the Charity who intend to recommend to the Trustees that the reserve level should be increased by the annual inflation rate each year. This was 2.25% in 2024 and 3.4% in the calendar year 2025, so the revised reserve limit at the end of 2025 would be £148,000 if this recommendation is acted upon.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

No fund is in deficit.

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

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

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

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Frank James	Anna Woodman
Full name(s)	FRANK JAMES	ANNA WOODMAN
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Deputy Chair
Date	9 April 2026	



Charity Name  
**Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry** 1190304 incorporating 313777  
 No (if any)

**CC16a  
 modified to  
 list 2  
 restricted  
 funds**

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Jan-25	To	Period end date 31_Dec 2025
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted fund: General  to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources  to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize  to the nearest £	Total funds  to the nearest £	Prior Year
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions for 2026+	5380			5380	5072
Membership subscriptions for 2025	5207			5207	5355
Ordinary Society meetings	662			662	0
One-off special projects	0			0	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Journal Ambix: Fixed payment and royalty on sales	17685			17685	19474
Sources supplement to Ambix: royalties				0	0
Donations	0			0	0
Gift aid	0			0	0
Interest	3743	467	40	4250	2705
Miscellaneous	0		0	0	0
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>32676</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33183</b>	<b>32607</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>32676</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33183</b>	<b>32607</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	4310			4310	3412
Ordinary Society meetings	2335			2335	537
One-off special projects	0			0	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Ambix editorial expenses	3080			3080	3614
Sources supplement to Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution				0	0
Awards, prizes, and grants	13461		353	13814	7863
Archiving	0			0	0
Bank and Paypal charges	577		25	602	602
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>23763</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>24141</b>	<b>16029</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>23763</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>24141</b>	<b>16029</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>8914</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>-338</b>	<b>9043</b>	<b>16578</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>136023</b>	<b>16974</b>	<b>1448</b>	<b>154446</b>	<b>154446</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>144937</b>	<b>17441</b>	<b>1110</b>	<b>163488</b>	

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted fund: General to nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Santander current account	316	38	2
	Paypal account	9709	1168	74
	CAF Account	14443	1738	111
	NS&I investment account	0	0	0
	Cash	0	0	0
	Shawbrook	66777	8036	511
	MCA	53692	6461	411
	<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>144937</b>	<b>17441</b>

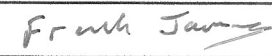

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted fund Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Uncashed incoming cheques	0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		0	0

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		0	0
		0	0

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
Membership subscriptions for > 2025 paid in advance during 2025	Unrestricted: general	5,207	hypothetical wind-up of Society
Awards, prizes, and grants outstanding	Unrestricted: general	9,788	
Estimate of expenses known to have been incurred during or resulting from 2025 activity but not yet invoiced to	Unrestricted: general	1,000	
Total		15,995	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	FRANK JAMES	25.03.26
	ANNA WOODMAN	25.03.26

The Charity -  
a) has given no guarantee where any potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement, and  
b) has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

**On accounts for the  
period ended**

31/12/2025 **Charity no  
(if any)** 1190304

**Set out on pages**

1 to 2  
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31/12/2025.

**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").

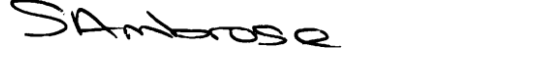
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:** 

**Date:** 14 April 2026

**Name:** Susan Elizabeth Ambrose

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

FCCA FCA

**Address:** Butt Miller Limited  
1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey  
GU15 3YY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No items to disclose.

**SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190304

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# Accounts

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### Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date			
1	JAN	2024	31	DEC	2024
<b>From</b>		<b>To</b>			

#### Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

**Other names charity is known by** SHAC

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1190304

**Charity's principal address** 45 THE DRIVE

ISLEWORTH

**Postcode**

TW7 4AA

#### 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	F A J L JAMES	CHAIR (Officer)		
2	R A JOHNSTONE	TREASURER (Officer)		
3	A E WOODMAN	AMBIX SECRETARY (Officer)		
4	B T MORAN	JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)		
5	C A COBBOLD	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)		
6	C J CAMPBELL	SOCIETY SECRETARY (Officer)		
7	A LYKKNES	SOCIETY AWARDS (Officer)		
8	J M RAMPLING			
9	T E NUMMEDAL			
10	P J FORSHAW			
11	J WILSON			
12	H CHANG			
13	V M QUIRKE			
14	D G HEDESAN			

15	T TAAPE		
16	L M PRINCIPE		
17	P J RAMBERG		

**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)<sup>1</sup>**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Constitution (CIO registered 08.07.20 and operational from 01.01.21).
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	Association of 295 members (number at year end 2024).
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	<p>With 42 days' clear notice before each AGM of the Society, the Trustees will advise members of the Society of the identities of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Trustees who wish to continue as such and under the Constitution are permitted to do so without reappointment at the AGM;</li> <li>(b) Trustees who wish to continue as such and are seeking reappointment at the AGM as required by the Constitution; and</li> <li>(c) nominees of the existing Trustees for new appointments as Trustees at the AGM –</li> </ul> <p>and members of the Society will be invited to make further nominations. Such further nominations must be made with the written consent of the nominee and with no less than 28 days' clear notice before the AGM.</p>

Trustees serve for 3 years after which they retire or are re-elected subject to competitive nomination. The trustees may fill casual vacancies but their choice must be ratified at the next 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.

A Risk Register, including measures put in place to minimise risk, was reviewed and updated by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 19.03.24

Revised guidelines for the Award Scheme, including guidance for arranging meetings in partnership with external organisations were approved by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 23.09.24.

No fraudulent activity has been detected during the year.

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

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the *Journal of the Society*, currently called *Ambix*.

The trustees in 2024 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity's scholarly journal *Ambix* has for over 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members (annual membership fee is £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years' standing and to £25 for students).

There were 44,805 downloads of articles published in *Ambix* and its back catalogue (dating from 1937) from 1 January 2024 through to 31 December 2024.

**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 net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:—

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students, early career researchers and independent scholars (membership being open to anyone).

(ii) The Society organises and funds scholarly meetings, workshops, seminars and webinars, attendance at which is not confined to members.

(iii) The Society's substantial newsletter *Chemical Intelligence* is available free to the general public online; it advertises and reports not only the Society's events and activities but those of other organisations involved in the history of alchemy and chemistry. The Society also maintains a website with similar objectives.

(iv) *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*, an occasional supplement to *Ambix*, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of *Ambix* and to members subscribing for the relevant year.

(v) The Society's Morris Award, Partington Prize, and Oxford Part II Prize are awarded to scholars from time to time regardless of whether they are members of the Society.

(vi) Brock Award (newly established) honours Professor William 'Bill' Hodson Brock, one of the leading historians of chemistry of the last fifty years. The Award will be for outstanding contributions in the fields of the history of alchemy and chemistry. The individual's impact on the community of historians of alchemy and/or chemistry, through historical research, publication, support and encouragement of students and

fellow researchers and contributions to the wider promulgation of the subject will be significant criteria for selection.

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

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

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

The charity continues to rely heavily on the contributions of volunteers, without whose efforts the Charity would be unable to operate.

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

On Tuesday 14 May 2024, the Society held its AGM on Zoom.

#### Meetings

All SHAC meetings are open to both members and non-members of the Society. In some cases, a small charge may be made to contribute towards costs.

During the year SHAC held three meetings and six on-line seminars. SHAC is enormously grateful to all three institutions that have hosted and supported the meetings throughout the year.

On 13 January the SHAC PG meeting was held at St John's College, Oxford, on the theme of 'Uncovering the secrets of the universe'. The speakers were: Josh Werrett, Yusuf Tayara, Diego Gorini, Sergei Zotov, Ellen Hausner, Maddie Reynolds, Elena Morgana, Leonardo Anatrini and Georgiana Hedesan, with Frank Jamed delivering the keynote lecture.

On 28 and 29 May, the SHAC Spring meeting was held at the Maison Française d'Oxford on the theme 'From Antique to Early Modern Alchemy: New Approaches, New Horizons'. The speakers were: Thijs Hagendijk, Hannah Elmer, Peter Oakley, Gary Patterson, Petr Pavlas, Vojtěch Kaše, Jo Hedesan, Sean Coughlin, Victor Golubev, Eduardo Escobar, Giacomo Montanari, Joshua Werrett, Carmen Schmechel, Athanasios Rinotas, Stefania Buosi Moncunill, Elisabeth Moreau, Eugenio Villa, Farzad Mahootian, Zoe Screti, Tom Fischer and Sergei Zotov with Jennifer M. Rampling delivering the keynote lecture.

On 11 October, the SHAC Autumn meeting was held at the Allard Pierson, University of Amsterdam on the theme 'Alchemy, Freemasonry, Hermeticism and Rosicrucianism'. SHAC The Speakers were: Sergei Zotov, Tjalling Janssen, Corey Andrews, Noah Riggenbach, Kyra Gerber, Amber Rozenrichter, Peter Forshaw and Jennifer Rampling. Stephen Clucas delivered the keynote lecture following which there was a presentation to him marking the end of twenty years service on SHAC Council.

As usual the six SHAC on-line seminars covered a wide range of topics in the history of alchemy and chemistry. The speakers were Sharon Ruston, Robert Fox, Annette Lykknes and Brigitte van Tiggelen, Peter Morris, Joshua Werrett and Matthew Eddy.

#### Publications

*Ambix*: The Society published four issues of its scholarly journal *Ambix* in 2024

#### February 2024 (volume 71, number 1)

A Special Edition *Changing Colour – Yellow Dyes from Antiquity to Early Modernity*, guest edited by Marjolijn Bol, Matteo Martelli, Lucia Raggetti and Jennifer M. Rampling.

*Is Gold Yellow? Plant Dyes and Gold-Making in the Ancient Chemical Arts*. Caterina Manco and Matteo Martelli

*Stolen Horses and Scented Garments: Vegetal and Mineral Yellow in Arabic Technical Literature*. Lucia Raggetti

*Citrination and its Discontents: Yellow as a Sign of Alchemical Change.*

Jennifer M. Rampling

*Making Yellows Last with Nitric Acid: Exploring Colour Permanence in Art and Knowledge, 1600–1850.* Marjolijn Bol and Giacomo Montanari

*The Historical Chemist.* Giacomo Montanari, Marianna Marchini and Lucia Maini

#### **May 2024 (volume 71, number 2)**

*Fragments of Alchemy from a Cairene Synagogue: Context, Codicology, and Contents of the Alchemical Corpus of the Cairo Genizah.* Gabriele Ferrario.

*Translating Forbidden Authors: New Evidence on the Alchemical Library of Don Antonio de' Medici.* Stefano Mulas.

*A Very "Distilled" Emblem in Baroque Rome: Natural Philosophy, Alchemy, and Atomism in the Academy of the Umoristi.* Maria Fiammenta Lovine

*Lavoisier and the History of Chemistry.* Marco Beretta.

#### **August 2024 (volume 71, number 3)**

Special Issue: *The Chemistry of Life*, guest edited by Carmen Schmechel  
*Leaven of Dough, Ferment of Gold: The Breadmaking Analogy in Medieval Metallic Transmutation.* Carmen Schmechel.

*Fire, Vulcanus, Archeus, and Alchemy: A Hybrid Close-Distant Reading of Paracelsus's Thought on Active Agents.* Georgina D. Hedesan

*The Emergence of Chemical Medicine in Early Modern Naples (1600–1660).* Antonio Clericuzio

Distilling the Art of Distillation in an Unstudied Manuscript of "Chymicall Notions". Justin Begley.

*Diderot's Vital Materialism.* Charles Wolfe

#### **November 2024 (volume 71, number 4)**

*Renaissance Goo: Senses and Materials in Early Modern Apothecary Taxonomies and Soft Matter Science.* Jill Burke and Wilson Poon

*New Research on the Origin of Mosaic Gold.* Rafael Marqués García

*Why Do Things Burn? Elizabeth Fulhame's Challenge to the Antiphlogistic Theory of Combustion.* Amy Fisher

*Stirring the Pot: Antoine Baumé, Josiah Wedgwood, Pierre-Louis Guinand, and the Development of Optical Glass.* Mark I. Grossman

In 2024 Bruce T. Moran was editor of *Ambix* with Viviane Quirke and Peter J. Ramberg as Associate Editors and Tillmann Taape as Book Reviews Editor.

#### **Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry**

Work on the next issue is actively underway.

#### **Chemical Intelligence**

Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published in 2024, in February and August. Both were edited by Karoliina Pulkkinen. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society's events, but those of other

organisations involved in the history of chemistry. It was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

#### **SHAC Graduate Network**

The SHAC graduate network fosters interdisciplinary exchange among graduate students and early career scholars from any field whose work engages with the history of alchemy and chemistry.

The SHAC Graduate Network continued held its 14<sup>th</sup> annual postgraduate conference, titled “Uncovering The Secrets of the Universe” at St. John’s College in January 2024, with Joshua Werrett as conference organiser.

#### **The Partington Prize**

The Partington Prize was established in memory of Professor James Riddick Partington, the Society's first Chairman. It is awarded every three years for an original and unpublished essay on any aspect of the history of alchemy or chemistry. The prize consists of five hundred pounds (£500). There was no award for 2024.

#### **SHAC Award Scheme**

The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2024. Following consideration by a committee, Research Awards (for which both early career scholars and independent scholars are eligible) were approved as follows:

##### **Dafydd Roberts**

Aberyswyth University

*In a Strange Garden - Alchemy in Sound and Nature*

Award: £ 912 U.K.

##### **Pieter D.L. Beck**

Ghent University

*Replicating the Ingenhousz-Fontana Eudiometer*

Award: £1000 U.K.

##### **Sergej Zotov**

University of Warwick, U.K.

*Alchemical iconography as mediator of knowledge on the example of European manuscripts of 15th and 16th centuries*

Award: £1000 U.K.

##### **Robert Nigel Slinn**

University of York, U.K.

*Vocational education and training in the British chemical industry (1945-95)*

Award: £1000 U.K.

##### **Silvia Pérez-Criado**

University of Valencia, Spain

*Exploring the Archives: History of Organochlorine Pesticide Production in Spain (1945-1976)*

Award: £1000 U.K.

**Elena Morgana**

University of Oxford, U.K.

*The 'liquor Alkahest' and the pursuit of purification in early eighteenth century chymistry.*

Award: £774.12

**David Labastida Rodriguez**

University of Toronto, Canada

*Encountering and Living with Plant Life: Quinine's Role in the Making of German Global Biomedicine in Imperial Contexts, 1800-1943.*

Award: £1000 U.K.

**Laurence Chen**

University College London, U.K.

*The Hermeneutics of Early Modern English Alchemical Metaphors*

Award: £1000 U.K.

**George Borg**

University of Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

*Discovery, innovation and technology in science: geochronology and the ontology of scientific methods.*

Award: £1000 U.K.

The Society continued its series of free online seminars open to all, with recordings placed on SHAC's YouTube Channel. The following speakers presented papers: Matthew Daniel Eddy, Joshua Werrett, Peter Morris, Annette Lykknes and Brigitte Van Tiggelen, Robert Fox, Sharon Ruston.

In addition, the Turba seminars on alchemy included presentations from: Sergei Zotov, Carmen Schmechel, Umberto Veronesi, Matteo Soranzo and Cristoforo da Parigi, Antonio Clericuzio,

**AD HOC**

During 2024, AD HOC held several sessions. At some meetings we had presentations followed by Q&A, and at others, discussions of pre-circulated text. These meetings were hosted hybrid. We also held a hands-on workshop focused on questions around re-enacting past experiments.

**Section E Financial review**

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

As agreed at Council in March 2023 the maximum level of reserves is unchanged from that agreed at council 18/3/22 (£140,000) owing to the continuing uncertainty regarding future journal subscription income created by open access "plan S" and the position of hybrid journals such as AMBIX. The knock-on effects for the Covid pandemic continued to suppress claims made against agreed awards in 2024 and will do so in 2025. The achieved reserves in 2024 were £122,958.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

No fund is in deficit.

**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**

**Section G Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	<i>Frank James</i>	<i>A Woodman</i>
<b>Full name(s)</b>	FRANK A. J. L. JAMES	ANNA ELIZABETH WOODMAN
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	AMBIX SECRETARY

**Date** 29. 03. 2025

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	CC16a modified to list 2 restricted funds	
					Charity Name
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry		1190304 incorporating 313777			
<b>Receipts and payments accounts</b>					
	01-Jan-24		31-Dec-24		
<b>Section A Receipts and payments</b>					
	Unrestricted fund: General	Restricted fund: Sources	Restricted fund: Morris Prize	Total funds	Prior Year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions for 2025+	5072			5072	4523
Membership subscriptions for 2024+	5355			5355	5530
Ordinary Society meetings	0			0	180
One-off special projects	0			0	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Journal Ambix: Fixed payment and royalty on sales	19474			19474	16520
Sources supplement to Ambix: royalties				0	0
Donations	0			0	39
Gift aid	0			0	0
Interest	2351	327	28	2705	268
Miscellaneous	0		0	0	0
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>32252</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32607</b>	<b>27060</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>32252</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32607</b>	<b>27060</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	3412			3412	3477
Ordinary Society meetings	537			537	912
One-off special projects	0			0	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Ambix editorial expenses	3614			3614	2530
Sources supplement to Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution				0	0
Awards, prizes, and grants	7863		0	7863	11287
Archiving	0			0	0
Bank and Paypal charges	602		0	602	507
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16029</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16029</b>	<b>18713</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>16029</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16029</b>	<b>18713</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>16224</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16578</b>	<b>8348</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>119799</b>	<b>16647</b>	<b>1420</b>	<b>137867</b>	<b>137867</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>136023</b>	<b>16974</b>	<b>1448</b>	<b>154446</b>	

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted fund: General to nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Santander current account	339	42	4
	Paypal account	19451	2427	207
	CAF Account	24346	3038	259
	NS&I investment account	28275	3528	301
	Cash	0	0	0
	Shawbrook	63612	7938	677
	<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>136023</b>	<b>16974</b>



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted fund Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Uncashed incoming cheques	0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			0	0
			0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Membership subscriptions for > 2024 paid in advance during 2024	Unrestricted: general	5,355	hypothetical wind-up of Society
	Awards, prizes, and grants outstanding	Unrestricted: general	6,999	
	Expenses known to have been incurred during or resulting from 2024 activity but not yet invoiced to SHAC	Unrestricted: general	792	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>13,146</b>	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	FRANK JAMES	29.03.25
	ANNA WOODMAN	29.03.25

The Charity -

- a) has given no guarantee where any potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement, and
- b) has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

**On accounts for the  
period ended**

31/12/2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1190304

**Set out on pages**

1 to 2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31/12/2024.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:**

*S Ambrose*

**Date:**

4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Name:**

Susan Elizabeth Ambrose

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

FCCA FCA

**Address:**

Butt Miller Limited

1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey

GU15 3YY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No items to disclose.

**SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190304

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# Accounts

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
		Period start date			Period end date	
<b>From</b>	1	JAN	2023	<b>To</b>	31	DEC 2023

### Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

**Other names charity is known by** SHAC

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1190304

**Charity's principal address** 45 THE DRIVE

ISLEWORTH

**Postcode**

TW7 4AA

### 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	F A J L JAMES	CHAIR (Officer)		
2	R A JOHNSTONE	TREASURER (Officer)		
3	A E WOODMAN	AMBIX SECRETARY (Officer)		
4	B T MORAN	JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)		
5	C A COBBOLD	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)		
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13	V M QUIRKE			
14	D G HEDESAN			

15	T TAAPE		
16	L M PRINCIPE		
17	P J RAMBERG		

**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)**

--

**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (CIO registered 08.07.20 and operational from 01.01.21).
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association of 293 members (number at year end 2023).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>With 42 days' clear notice before each AGM of the Society, the Trustees will advise members of the Society of the identities of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Trustees who wish to continue as such and under the Constitution are permitted to do so without reappointment at the AGM;</li> <li>(b) Trustees who wish to continue as such and are seeking reappointment at the AGM as required by the Constitution; and</li> <li>(c) nominees of the existing Trustees for new appointments as Trustees at the AGM –</li> </ul> <p>and members of the Society will be invited to make further nominations. Such further nominations must be made with the written consent of the nominee and with no less than 28 days' clear notice before the AGM.</p>

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

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- 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.

A Risk Register, including measures put in place to minimise risk, was approved by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 18.03.22.

No fraudulent activity has been detected during the year.

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

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the *Journal of the Society*, currently called *Ambix*.

**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 in 2023 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity's scholarly journal *Ambix* has for over 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members (annual membership fee is £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years' standing and to £25 for students). There were 44, 805 downloads of articles published in *Ambix* and its back catalogue (dating from 1937) from 1 January 2023 through to 31 December 2023. The net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:–

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students, early career researchers and independent scholars (membership being open to anyone).

(ii) The Society organises and funds scholarly meetings, workshops, seminars and webinars, attendance at which is not confined to members.

(iii) The Society's substantial newsletter *Chemical Intelligence* is available free to the general public online; it advertises and reports not only the Society's events and activities but those of other organisations involved in the history of alchemy and chemistry. The Society also maintains a website with similar objectives.

(iv) *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*, an occasional supplement to *Ambix*, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of *Ambix* and to members subscribing for the relevant year.

(v) The Society's Morris Award, Partington Prize, and Oxford Part II Prize are awarded to scholars from time to time regardless of whether they are members of the Society.

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

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

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

The charity continues to rely heavily on the contributions of volunteers, without whose efforts the Charity would be unable to operate.

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

On Wednesday 3 May 2023, the Society held its AGM on Zoom.

**Meetings**

All SHAC meetings are open to both members and non-members of the Society. In some cases a small charge may be made to contribute towards costs.

It was decided that SHAC's spring meeting would be a specific session of the 13th International Conference on the History of Chemistry held at the University of Vilnius between 23 and 27 May. The session, held on the 24th, 'New Approaches to the History of Chemistry', was designed to show the broad range of topics covered by SHAC. The speakers were Meagan Allen, Sarah Lang, Adrian Wilson, Frank James and Anna Simmons. As SHAC had provided significant support for the conference and attendees, the Society was frequently acknowledged in many other sessions.

SHAC's autumn one day meeting was held on 25 November at University College London on the theme of 'Alchemy and Chemistry in the Long Eighteenth Century.' This illustrated the continuity in practice and content between alchemy and chemistry during that century. The speakers were: Malika Basu, Hjalmar Fors (remote), Armel Cornu (who was also presented with the Partington Prize), Mieke Adriaens and Pieter Beck, Anna Simmons, Nicholas Zumbulyadis (remote), John Christie and Hasok Chang.

The Society arranged five on-line seminars covering a wide range of topics in the history of alchemy and chemistry. Speakers were: Eric Scerri, Alison McManus, Gabriele Ferrario, Adrian Wilson, Kelley Wilder.

**Publications**

*Ambix*: The Society published four issues of its scholarly journal *Ambix* in 2023.

February 2023 (Vol.70, No.1) was a Special Edition *Gold and Mercury, Amalgamated Histories in Chemistry, Chemistry, Culture, And Environment*, guest edited by Donna Milak, and included papers by Vincenzo Carlotta and Matteo Martelli, Donna Bilak and George Vrtis, Sebastian Rubiano-Galvis, Jimena Diaz Levia and Ruth Goldstein and also Peter Oakley.

May 2023 (Vol.70, No.2)

*Amateur Science and Innovation in Nineteenth-Century Europe*. Barry Sturman and David Garrioch.

*George E Davis: Editing the Chemical Trade Journal, 1887-1906*. Peter Reed

*Deciphering the Hermeticae Philosophiae Medulla: Textural Cultures of Alchemical Secrecy*. Megan Piorko, Sarah Lang and Richard Bean

August 2023 (Vol.70, No.3)

*When Ben met Mary: The Letters of Benjamin Thompson, Reichsgraaf von Rumford, to Mary Temple, Viscountess Palmerston, 1793-1804.*

Frank A.J.L. James

November 2023 (Vol.70, No.4)

*The Articles of Alchemy and Chemistry: Past, Present, and Ideas for the Future.* Umberto Veronesi

*Gershom Bulkeley, "Saltbox Science", and the Colonial New England Laboratory.* George D. Elliott

*Sense and Utility in the New Chemistry.* Armel Cornu. (Partington Prize)

During 2023 Bruce T. Moran was editor of *Ambix* with Viviane Quirke and Peter J. Ramberg as Associate Editors and Tillmann Taape as Book Reviews Editor.

*Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry:* Work on the next issue is actively underway. The next issue of *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry* (Gabriele Ferrario's edition of *On Alums and Salts* by Pseudo-Rāzī) went into production in 2023.

*Chemical Intelligence:* Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published in 2023, in February and August. Both were edited by Karoliina Pulkkinen. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society's events, but those of other organisations involved in the history of chemistry. It was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

### **SHAC Graduate Network**

The SHAC graduate network fosters interdisciplinary exchange among graduate students and early career scholars from any field whose work engages with the history of alchemy and chemistry.

To this end, in 2023, the SHAC Graduate Network continued to foster interdisciplinary exchange among early career scholars and planned its 14<sup>th</sup> annual postgraduate conference, titled "Uncovering The Secrets of the Universe" for St. John's College in January 2024, with Joshua Werrett as conference organiser.

### **The Partington Prize**

The winner of the 2023 Partington Prize was Dr Armel Cornu of Uppsala University for her entry "Senses and utility in the New Chemistry". The prize-winning article was published in the November 2023 *Ambix*. The Prize is awarded every three years for an original and unpublished essay on any aspect of the history of alchemy or chemistry.

### **SHAC Award Scheme**

The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2023. Following consideration by a committee, Research Awards (for which both early career scholars and independent scholars are eligible) were approved as follows:

**Anatrini, Leonardo**

Università degli Studi di Firenze

*From Ether to God*

Award: £1000

**Basu (Ghosh), Malika,**

Kalna College, University of Burdwan, India

*History of Pharmaceuticals in India*

Award: £1000

**Coughlin, Sean**

Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague

*Practices of Perfume Production in the Ancient World*

Award: £950

**Elmer, Hannah**

Columbia University, USA

*Fire, Arts, Past and Futures*

Award: £1000

**Gennermann, Paulina**

Bielefeld University, Germany

*Connecting and Demarcating scientific environments: the development of pharmacology in the second half of the Twentieth Century.*

Award: £1000

**Kamalova, Sofiya**

University of Valencia, Spain

*Oral History: Collecting Voices from Ardystil Case*

Award: £289

**Moenius, Thomas**

*Re-enacting Alchemical Recipies*

Award: £800

**Silva Baptista, Vanessa**

University College, London, UK

*Playful experimentation in Medieval chemistry: The case of 88 natural experiments of Rasis*

Award: £760

**Villa, Eugenio**

University of Bologna, Italy

*An alchemist at work in 17C France: retracing the origin and sources of the Fondo Caprara.*

Award: £920

**Zotov, Sergei**

University of Warwick, UK

*Alchemical iconography as mediator of knowledge on the example of European manuscripts of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries.*

Award: £970

The Society continued its series of free online seminars open to all, with recordings placed on SHAC's YouTube Channel.

#### **AD HOC**

In 2023 AD HOC held a mix of in-person and online meetings (total of 9). Sometimes we had presentations followed by Q&A, and sometimes we had discussions of pre-circulated texts, often with the authors joining us to discuss their works, including the following scholars: Catherine Jackson, Jennifer Rampling, Gary Patterson, Carmen Schmechel, Donna Bilak, Hasok Chang, and Sofiya Kamalov. All meetings were organised in or from Cambridge, with the exception of a special meeting at UCL with artist Kat Austen at the UCL Art Museum on 17 July. On 17 May we held an online round-table hosted jointly with the Commission on the History of Chemistry and the Molecular Sciences (IUHPST), through the initiative of Sarah Hijmans.

#### **The Oxford Seminar in the History of Alchemy and Chemistry**

The seminars took place between 3 May and 14 June, and comprised five sessions organised thematically and chronologically. The organisers were Jo Hedesan (Oxford) and John Christie (Oxford).

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

As agreed at Council in March 2023 the maximum level of reserves is unchanged from that agreed at council 18/3/22 (£140,000) owing to the continuing uncertainty regarding future journal subscription income created by open access "plan S" and the position of hybrid journals such as AMBIX. The knock-on effects for the Covid pandemic continued to suppress claims made against agreed awards and will do so in 2024. The achieved reserves in 2023 were £105.668, which is within the limit.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**


No fund is in deficit

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

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

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

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.  
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	<i>Frank James</i>	
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Frank A.J.L James	ROBERT ALEXANDER JOHNSTONE
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	TREASURER
<b>Date</b>	19 March 2024	



Charity Name  
**Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry** 1190304 incorporating 313777  
 No (if any)

**CC16a  
 modified to  
 list 2  
 restricted  
 funds**

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Jan-23	To	Period end date 31-Dec-23
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted fund: General	Restricted fund: Sources	Restricted fund: Morris Prize	Total funds	Prior Year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions for 2023	4523			4523	5085
Membership subscriptions for 2024+	5530			5530	6030
Ordinary Society meetings	180			180	544
One-off special projects	0			0	643
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Journal Ambix: Fixed payment and royalty on sales	16520			16520	14604
Sources supplement to Ambix: royalties				0	0
Donations	39			39	0
Gift aid	0			0	0
Interest	231	34	3	268	24
Miscellaneous	0		0	0	0
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>27023</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27060</b>	<b>26930</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales</b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>27023</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27060</b>	<b>26930</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	3477			3477	4136
Ordinary Society meetings	912			912	1384
One-off special projects	0			0	500
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Ambix editorial expenses	2530			2530	863
Sources supplement to Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution				0	0
Awards, prizes, and grants	11287		0	11287	6695
Archiving	0			0	0
Bank and Paypal charges	507		0	507	527
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>18713</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18713</b>	<b>14105</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>18713</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18713</b>	<b>14105</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>8310</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8348</b>	<b>12825</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>111489.06</b>	<b>16613.00</b>	<b>1417.00</b>	<b>129520</b>	<b>129520</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>119800</b>	<b>16647</b>	<b>1420</b>	<b>137867</b>	

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Details	Unrestricted fund: General	Restricted fund: Sources	Restricted fund: Morris Prize
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>			
Santander current account	582	81	7
Paypal account	13913	1933	165
NS&I investment account	27412	3809	325
Cash	0	0	0
CAF Account	16941	2354	201
Shawbrook	60952	8470	722
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>119800</b>	<b>16647</b>	<b>1420</b>

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund Sources	Restricted fund Morris Prize
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			
Uncashed incoming cheques	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		0	0

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		0	0
		0	0

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
Membership subscriptions for > 2023 paid in advance during 2023	Unrestricted: general	5,530	hypothetical wind-up of Society
Awards, prizes, and grants outstanding	Unrestricted: general	7,850	
Expenses known to have been incurred during or resulting from 2023 activity not yet invoiced to SHAC	Unrestricted: general	732	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>AE Woodman</i>	ANNA WOODMAN	19-03-24
<i>Frank James</i>	FRANK JAMES	19-03-24

The Charity -

- a) has given no guarantee where any potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement, and
- b) has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

**On accounts for the  
period ended**

31/12/2023

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1190304

**Set out on pages**

1 to 2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31/12/2023.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:**

*S Ambrose*

**Date:**

20 March 2024

**Name:**

Susan Elizabeth Ambrose

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

FCCA FCA

**Address:**

Butt Miller Limited

1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey

GU15 3YY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No items to disclose.

**SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190304

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# Accounts

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
		Period start date			Period end date	
<b>From</b>	1	JAN	2022	<b>To</b>	31	DEC 2022

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

**Other names charity is known by** SHAC

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1190304

**Charity's principal address** 45 THE DRIVE

ISLEWORTH

**Postcode**

TW7 4AA

### 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	F A J L JAMES	CHAIR (Officer)		
2	R A JOHNSTONE	TREASURER (Officer)		
3	A E WOODMAN	AMBIX SECRETARY (Officer)		
4	B T MORAN	JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)		
5	C A COBBOLD	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)		
6	C J CAMPBELL	SOCIETY SECRETARY (Officer)		
7	A LYKKNES			
8	J M RAMPLING			
9	T E NUMMEDAL			
10	P J FORSHAW			
11	S CLUCAS			
12	H CHANG			
13	V M QUIRKE			
14	D G HEDESAN			

15	T TAAPE		
16	L M PRINCIPE		
17	P J RAMBERG		

**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)**

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (CIO registered 08.07.20 and operational from 01.01.21).
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association of 279 members (number at year end 2022).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>With 42 days' clear notice before each AGM of the Society, the Trustees will advise members of the Society of the identities of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Trustees who wish to continue as such and under the Constitution are permitted to do so without reappointment at the AGM;</li> <li>(b) Trustees who wish to continue as such and are seeking reappointment at the AGM as required by the Constitution; and</li> <li>(c) nominees of the existing Trustees for new appointments as Trustees at the AGM –</li> </ul> <p>and members of the Society will be invited to make further nominations. Such further nominations must be made with the written consent of the nominee and with no less than 28 days' clear notice before the AGM.</p>

Trustees serve for 3 years after which they retire or are re-elected subject to competitive nomination. The trustees may fill casual vacancies but their choice must be ratified at the next 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.

A Risk Register, including measures put in place to minimise risk, was approved by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 18.03.22.

No fraudulent activity has been detected during the year.

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

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the *Journal of the Society*, currently called *Ambix*.

**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 in 2022 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity's scholarly journal *Ambix* has for over 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members (annual membership fee is £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years' standing and to £25 for students). There were 42,702 downloads of articles published in *Ambix* and its back catalogue (dating from 1937) from 1 January 2022 through to 31 December 2022. The net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:–

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students, early career researchers and independent scholars (membership being open to anyone).

(ii) The Society organises and funds scholarly meetings, workshops, seminars and webinars, attendance at which is not confined to members.

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(iv) *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*, an occasional supplement to *Ambix*, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of *Ambix* and to members subscribing for the relevant year.

(v) The Society's Morris Award, Partington Prize, and Oxford Part II Prize are awarded to scholars from time to time regardless of whether they are members of the Society.

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

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

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

The charity continues to rely heavily on the contributions of volunteers, without whose efforts the Charity would be unable to operate.

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

On Friday 6 May 2022 “ ‘The Largest and Best’: A Symposium to mark the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Society of Apothecaries’ Laboratories” was held jointly by SHAC and the Faculty of the History and Philosophy of Medicine of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries. 2022 saw the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of a laboratory at Apothecaries’ Hall for manufacturing chemical medicines and one hundred years since its closure. Over sixty participants came together at Apothecaries’ Hall, London, to commemorate these dates, with talks by Anna Simmons, Patrick Wallis, Peter Elmer, Anna Marie Roos, Rosemary Baird Andreae, Pierre Lack, Frank James and John Ford. The symposium also included tours of Apothecaries’ Hall, archive displays and drinks in the courtyard.

On Friday 17 June 2022 the Society held the SHAC *Summer Event* in the Chelsea Physic Garden, London. This was an opportunity for SHAC members to come together, visit a major scientific site and enjoy talks and networking in the convivial surroundings of the Chelsea Physic Garden. There were talks by Elaine Leong and Ernst Homburg, Morris Award, Partington Prize and Oxford Part II Prize Presentations, and the Launch of Bloomsbury *Cultural History of Chemistry*, followed by a drinks reception.

On Wednesday 29 June 2022, the Society held its AGM on Zoom.

On Saturday 22 October 2022, the Society held a meeting on Archaeology, Conservation Science and the History of Chemistry at UCL. Umberto Veronesi, Marabel Riesmeier, Sarah Scott, Tom Addyman, Aviva Burnstock and Zofia Wyszomirska-Noga gave talks. This interdisciplinary meeting brought together speakers from galleries, archives, heritage organisations, consultancy and academia to explore materials, techniques and case studies in conservation science.

**Publications**

*Ambix*: The Society published four issues of its scholarly journal *Ambix* in 2022. February 2022 (volume 69, number 1) was a Special Edition, *Alchemical Practice and the Chemical Humanities*, guest edited by Megan Piorko, Marieke Hendriksen, and Simon Werrett, and included papers by Umberto Veronesi and Marcos Martín-Torres, Lyke de Vries, Fabiana Lopes da Silveira and Sarah Lang. May 2022 (volume 69, number 2) included papers by Bruce T. Moran, Aurélien Ruellet, Leticia Dos Santos Pereira, Olival Freire Junior, and Gisela Boeck, as well as John Considine. August 2022 (volume 69, number 3) was a special issue, “*I am not a lady, I am a scientist*”. *Chemistry, Women, and Gender in the Enlightenment and the Era of Professional Science*, guest edited by Elena Serrano, Joris Mercelis and Annette Lykknes. Papers were authored by Francesca Antonelli, Elena Serrano, Annette Lykknes and Joris Mercelis. November 2022 (volume 69, number 4) included essays by Ute Frietsch, Anna Simmons and William H. Brock as well as Sarah N. Hijmans.

In 2022 Bruce T. Moran was editor of *Ambix* with Viviane Quirke and Peter J. Ramberg as Associate Editors and Tillmann Taape as Book Reviews Editor.

*Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*: Work on the next issue is actively underway.

*Chemical Intelligence*: Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published in 2022, in February and August. Both were edited by Karoliina Pulkkinen. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society's events, but those of other organisations involved in the history of chemistry. It was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

### **SHAC Graduate Network**

The SHAC graduate network fosters interdisciplinary exchange among graduate students and early career scholars from any field whose work engages with the history of alchemy and chemistry.

To this end, in 2022, the SHAC Graduate Network continued to foster interdisciplinary exchange among early career scholars. In May, it hosted its 13th annual postgraduate workshop, titled "Chemistry Outside the Laboratory," an event that brought together scholars from several time zones. Over two days, participants presented and critiqued works in progress. In addition, the SHAC Graduate Network managed and grew social media accounts on Twitter (@SHACorg) and Instagram (shacorg).

The following personnel changes have occurred: Alison McManus has stepped down from her role as Student Representative, while Sarah Hijmans and Sarah Lang have also stepped down from their roles as Student Ambassador. However, the Graduate Network remains in good hands. Student Ambassador Silvia Pérez Criado will remain in her current position. In addition, we are pleased to announce that Joshua Werrett has taken up the role of Student Representative. We look forward to seeing what Joshua and Silvia bring in 2023.

### **SHAC Award Scheme**

The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2022. Following consideration by a committee, Research Awards (for which both early career scholars and independent scholars are eligible) were approved as follows:

**Benzonelli, Agnese** UCL, Institute of Archaeology, London, UK  
**(Research Award)**

Solving the mystery of Corinthian bronze: legends, texts, and experiments. Award £750

**Buosi Moncunill, Stefania** Science History Institute, Philadelphia, USA  
**(Research Award)**

A research on ancient Occitan-Catalan alchemical manuscripts (c. XIV-XVI) in French lands: Angers, Nantes (Pays de la Loire) and Paris (Île-de-France).

Award £750

**Halm, Christopher** Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany  
**(Research Award)**

Moon Rocks in Museums: The public history of a materialised sacral heroization of science without substantive reference to science.

Award: £500

**Veronesi, Umberto** NOVA School of Science and Technology, Lisbon, Portugal

**(Research Award)**

Glass for chemistry and the chemistry of glass: A kaleidoscopic story.

Award: £332

In addition, two Subject Development Awards were approved as follows:

**Hendriksen, Marieke** NL Lab, Humanities Cluster KNAW, Netherlands  
**(Subject Development Award)**

Large-scale food preservation, safety and chemistry in the Early Modern period.

Award: £750

**Pulkkinen, Karoliina** University of Helsinki, Finland.  
**(Subject Development Award)**

Jargonium—website for history and philosophy of chemistry. Award: £526

Awardees will produce updates in due course.

### **Seminar Series**

#### **SHAC You-tube channel**

The Society continued its series of free online seminars open to all, with recordings placed on SHAC's YouTube Channel (currently 343 subscribers). The following speakers presented papers: John Christie, Julia Sánchez-Dorado, Viviane Quirke, Lyke de Vries, Michelle DiMeo, Hasok Chang, Frank James and Peter Forshaw

#### **AD HOC**

During 2022 AD HOC held a mix of in-person and online meetings, 16 in total. At some meetings we had presentations followed by Q&A, and at others discussions of pre-circulated texts, often with the authors joining us to discuss their works. In addition, we held a special one-day workshop in Cambridge on 6 December 2022, thanks to the initiative taken by Sarah Hijmans. The following scholars joined our meetings to present or discuss their works: Carmen Schmechel, Elli Papanikolaou, Georgiana Hedesan, Chris Campbell, Chiara Ambrosio, Hasok Chang, Marabel Riesmeier, Odile Lehnen, Keith Taber, Elisabeth Moreau, Sarah Hijmans, Hjalmar Fors, Peter Oakley, Ursula Klein, Lissa Roberts, Patricia Fara, and Simon Werrett.

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

The maximum level of reserves is unchanged from that agreed at council 18/3/22 (£140,000) owing to the continuing uncertainty regarding future journal subscription income created by open access "plan S" and the position of hybrid journals such as AMBIX. The knock-on effects for the Covid pandemic continued to suppress claims made against agreed awards. The achieved reserves in 2022 are £99,281, within the limit. The situation will be reviewed at the first Council meeting of 2023.

During the previous year the NS&I had reduced the interest rate on non-personal accounts to zero. Therefore, with the agreement of Council in March the Treasurer was instructed to open an account with a secure Bank to provide the Charity with an interest-bearing deposit facility. This took place in May 2022. Financial Controls Policy of the Charity was revised to accommodate this change and to introduce improved oversight of expenses. This revised policy was presented to and agreed by the Trustees at the September meeting.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

No fund is in deficit.

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

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

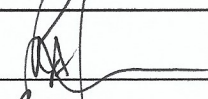
- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

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Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Frank James	
Full name(s)	FRANK JAMES	ROBERT JOHNSTON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Hon TREASURER
Date	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	



Charity Name  
**Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry** 1190304 incorporating 313777

No (if any)

**CC16a  
 modified to  
 list 2  
 restricted  
 funds**

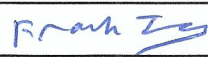
## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Jan-22	To	Period end date 31-Dec-22
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted fund: General to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Prior Year
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions for 2022	5085			5085	6345
Membership subscriptions for 2023+	6030			6030	4390
Ordinary Society meetings	544			544	0
One-off special projects	643			643	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Journal Ambix: Fixed payment and royalty on sales	14604			14604	16883
Sources supplement to Ambix: royalties				0	0
Donations	0			0	32
Gift aid	0			0	0
Interest	20	3	0	24	571
Miscellaneous	0		0	0	0
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>26926</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26930</b>	<b>28221</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>26926</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26930</b>	<b>28221</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	4136			4136	3681
Ordinary Society meetings	1384			1384	400
One-off special projects	500			500	0
<i>spare line</i>				0	0
Ambix editorial expenses	863			863	0
Sources supplement to Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution				0	0
Awards, prizes, and grants	6333		362	6695	1847
Archiving	0			0	0
Bank and Paypal charges	527		0	527	456
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13743</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>14105</b>	<b>6384</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13743</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>14105</b>	<b>6384</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>13183</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-362</b>	<b>12825</b>	<b>21837</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>98305.88</b>	<b>16610.41</b>	<b>1778.64</b>	<b>116695</b>	<b>116695</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>111489</b>	<b>16613</b>	<b>1417</b>	<b>129520</b>	

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted fund: General to nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Santander current account	416	62	5
	Paypal account	11610	1730	148
	NS&I investment account	70129	10450	891
	Cash	0	0	0
	CAF Account	12119	1806	154
	Shawbrook	17216	2565	219
		<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>111490</b>	<b>16613</b>
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted fund Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	<b>Details</b>			
	Uncashed incoming cheques	0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			0	0
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			0	0
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Membership subscriptions for > 2022 paid in advance during 2022	Unrestricted: general	5,809	hypothetical wind- up of Society
	Awards, prizes, and grants outstanding	Unrestricted: general	5,000	
	Expenses known to have been incurred during or resulting from 2022 activity but not yet invoiced to SHAC	Unrestricted: general	1,400	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	 A E Woodman	FRANK JAMES ANNA WOODMAN	22.3.23 22.3.23	

The Charity -

- a) has given no guarantee where any potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement, and  
 b) has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

**On accounts for the  
period ended**

31/12/2022

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1190304

**Set out on pages**

1 to 2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31/12/2022.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:**

*SAmbrose*

**Date:**

22 March 2023

**Name:**

Susan Elizabeth Ambrose

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

FCCA FCA

**Address:**

Butt Miller Limited

1 Minster Court, Tuscom Way, Camberley, Surrey

GU15 3YY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No items to disclose.

**SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190304

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period



Period start date		Period end date			
8	JULY	2020	31	DEC	2021
<b>From</b>			<b>To</b>		

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND  
CHEMISTRY

Other names charity is known by

SHAC

Registered charity number (if any)

1190304

Charity's principal address

45 THE DRIVE

ISLEWORTH

Postcode

TW7 4AA

## 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	F A J L JAMES	CHAIR (Officer)		
2	R A JOHNSTONE	TREASURER (Officer)		
3	A E WOODMAN	SECRETARY (Officer)	08.07.20 to 27.11.20	
		AMBIX SECRETARY (Officer)	27.11.20 to 31.12.21	
4	B T MORAN	JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)		
5	C A COBBOLD	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)		
6	C J CAMPBELL	SECRETARY (Officer)	27.11.20 to 31.12.21	
7	R G W ANDERSON			
8	J M RAMPLING			
9	S WERRETT			
10	P J FORSHAW			
11	S CLUCAS			
12	H CHANG			
13	V M QUIRKE			
14	D G HEDESAN			
15	T TAAPE			
16	L M PRINCIPE			

17	S J E ROBERTS		

**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)**

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Operated from 01.01.2021 under constitution adopted at creation of CIO on 08.07.2020.
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	Association of 292 members (number at year end 2021).
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	<p>With 42 days' clear notice before each AGM of the Society, the Trustees will advise members of the Society of the identities of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Trustees who wish to continue as such and under the Constitution are permitted to do so without reappointment at the AGM;</li> <li>(b) Trustees who wish to continue as such and are seeking reappointment at the AGM as required by the Constitution; and</li> <li>(c) nominees of the existing Trustees for new appointments as Trustees at the AGM –</li> </ul> <p>and members of the Society will be invited to make further nominations. Such further nominations must be made with the written consent of the nominee and with no less than 28 days' clear notice before the AGM.</p> <p>Trustees serve for 3 years after which they retire or are re-elected subject to competitive nomination. The trustees may fill casual vacancies but their choice must be ratified at the next AGM.</p>

**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.

A Risk Register, including measures put in place to minimise risk, was approved by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 18.03.22.

No fraudulent activity has been detected during the year.

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

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the *Journal of the Society*, currently called *Ambix*.

**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 in 2020-21 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity's scholarly journal *Ambix* has for over 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members (annual membership fee in 2020 and 2021 was £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years' standing and to £25 for students). There were 55,178 downloads of articles published in *Ambix* and its back catalogue (dating from 1937) from 1 July 2020 through to 31 December 2021. The net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:–

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students, early career researchers and independent scholars (membership being open to anyone).

(ii) The Society organises and funds scholarly meetings, workshops, seminars and webinars, attendance at which is not confined to members.

(iii) The Society's substantial newsletter *Chemical Intelligence* is available free to the general public online; it advertises and reports not only the Society's events and activities but those of other organisations involved in the history of alchemy and chemistry. The Society also maintains a website with similar objectives.

(iv) *Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*, an occasional supplement to *Ambix*, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of *Ambix* and to members subscribing for the relevant year. The first supplement was also available at a subsidised price to the general public.

(v) The Society's Morris Award, Partington Prize, and Oxford Part II Prize are awarded to scholars from time to time regardless of whether they are members of the Society.

NB: In 2020 and 2021 the trustees have adapted the Society's operations and activities in response to the restrictions on face-to-face meetings and travel during the covid-19 pandemic.

**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.

The charity relies heavily on the contributions of volunteers, without whose efforts the Charity would be unable to operate. Without the extensive efforts of officers over several years the transition of operations (etc) from 313777 to 1190304 would not have been possible.

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

In 2020 there was no activity for the CIO beyond its registration on 08.07.20 and a Trustees Meeting held on 25 September 2020 at which the following resolutions were agreed.

1. The Council of Society of Alchemy and Chemistry (Charity Reg. No. 1190304) agree that this Charity will accept the transfer of the operations, assets, liabilities of Charity Number 313777 and the admission of the members of Charity Number 313777 with effect from 01 January 2021 subject to the prior agreement of the members of Charity Number 313777 at their next AGM to be held in November 2020.

2. The Council of Society of Alchemy and Chemistry (Charity Reg. No. 1190304) acknowledges that this charity should become the sole member and sole trustee of Charity Number 313777 with effect from 1 January 2021 provided that membership of Charity 313777 has agreed to the changes the constitution of the said Charity 313777 as proposed by the Council of Charity Number 313777 in resolution 3 of their meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Agreement of the members of Charity 313777 and the ratification of the officers and trustees of SHAC 313777 as officers and trustees of SHAC 1190304 was given at the AGM of 313777 held on 27 November 2020.

The main achievements of the Charity 313777 have already been covered in the TAR for 2020. The Annual Return for Charity 313777 for 2021 has been submitted. With zero income and zero expenditure for Charity 313777 in 2021 no TAR or Accounts are required for Charity 313777.

The AGM for 2020 for Charity 1190304 was held on 7 January 2022 on Zoom.

Below are the main achievements of the new charity 1190304 for the year 2021.

**Meetings**

The Society continued its series of free online seminars open to all, with recordings placed on SHAC's YouTube Channel. The following speakers presented papers: Jo Hedesan, Megan Piorko, Simon Werrett, Alan Rocke, Robert Bud, Mariana Sanchez-Daza and John Christie and Viviane Quirke.

On 14 and 15 May 2021 SHAC and the Royal Photographic Society organised *Wedgwood 250*, an online meeting to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Tom Wedgwood on 14 May 1771, now best remembered for his 1802 paper in which he outlined a chemical method of preserving an image. Papers were presented by Tom Wedgwood, Geoff Batchen, Lucy Lead, Michael Gray, Brian Dolan, Tim Fulford, Catrin Jones, Michael Pritchard and Rose Teanby.

**Publications**

*Ambix*: The Society published four issues of its scholarly journal *Ambix* in 2021. February 2021 (volume 68, number 1) included papers by Alan Rocke, Mike A. Zuber, Mark I. Grossman, José Ramón Bertomeu Sánchez and Theresa Levitt. May-August 2021 (volume 68, numbers 2 and 3) was a special issue entitled *Alchemy and the Early Modern University*, guest edited by Ute Freitsch. It contained papers by Bruce Moran, Elisabeth Moreau, Lawrence M. Principe, Hiro Hirai, Ku-Ming (Kevin) Chang,

Georgiana Hedesan, Didier Kahn and Ute Frietsch and the Morris Award Paper "Exploring Chemical History in Japan" by Yasu Furukawa. The November 2020 issue (volume 67 number 4) included papers by Sean O'Neil, Arnaud Page and Maxime Guesnon, Marcin Krasnodębski and Michael Jewess and William H. Brock. Guillaume Delmeulle published a piece in the Text and Commentary section and Frank A.J.L. James in the Notes and Communications section.

In 2021 Bruce Moran was editor of *Ambix* with Viviane Quirke and Peter J. Ramberg as Associate Editors and Tillmann Taape as Book Reviews Editor.

*Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry*: Work on the next issue is actively underway.

*Chemical Intelligence*: Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published in 2021, in February and August. Both were edited by Karoliina Pulkkinen. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society's events, but those of other organisations involved in the history of chemistry. It was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

#### **Morris Prize**

Ernst Homburg was awarded the 2021 John and Martha Morris Award for Outstanding Achievement in the History of Modern Chemistry or the History of the Chemical Industry. His contributions include major studies on the history of the madder industry; his seminal paper on the early history of industrial R&D laboratories; his comprehensive history of twentieth-century modern chemistry and the chemical industry embedded within a broader history of the Netherlands in *Techniek In Nederland in the Twintigste Eeuw*. And, particularly (in the context of the Morris award), his "The Era of Diversification and Globalization (1950-2012)" in *Solvay: History of a Multinational Family Firm* (CUP, 2013), a book he co-edited with Kenneth Bertrams and Nicolas Coupain.

#### **Oxford Part II Prize**

Naman Kochar was awarded the Oxford History of Chemistry Part II Prize for his thesis "Making a Nobel Laureate: Reappraising the Life and Career of Cyril Norman Hinshelwood".

#### **SHAC Graduate Network**

The SHAC graduate network fosters interdisciplinary exchange among graduate students and early career scholars from any field whose work engages with the history of alchemy and chemistry. To this end, the graduate network hosted its 12th annual postgraduate workshop, "Secrets of Matter, Matters of Secrecy," on 3-4 June 2021. The workshop brought together scholars of alchemy, modern chemistry, architecture, law, and the environment, all of whom discussed the concealment and disclosure of (al)chemical knowledge in a series of virtual presentations. The workshop also featured two keynote addresses by Nancy Langston and Michelle Murphy. The virtual format allowed SHAC to welcome many new scholars to its graduate network; approximately 80% of workshop attendees had never attended a SHAC event before. At present, the graduate network is planning its 13th postgraduate workshop, to take place virtually from 13-14 May 2022. The present theme is "Chemistry Outside the Laboratory." In the past year, the graduate network has also worked to increase SHAC's social media presence, especially on Twitter (@SHACorg) and Instagram (shacorg).

**Award Scheme**

The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2021. Following consideration by a committee, Research Awards (for which both early career scholars and independent scholars are eligible) were approved as follows:

Kate Allan (University of Oxford), towards travel and accommodation costs to visit the Kendal Archive Centre and the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research, York, related to research on the Clifford Library and uncovering evidence of its wider circulation.

Jennifer Datiles (UCL), investigation of lignum nephriticum and the Goa cordial stone within the context of Philippine science, with funds for additional digital archival research.

Reut Ullmann (Columbia University), contribution to research expenses involved in study of Mikhail Lomonosov's labours in commercial and academic chemistry, specifically papers presently housed in the RAN archives in St. Petersburg, Russia, and RGADA archive in Moscow, Russia,

Sergei Zotov (Warwick University), research project on the analysis and conceptualization of alchemical scientific schemes and allegorical images from European, mainly German, and English treatises.

In addition, two Subject Development Awards were approved as follows:

Donna Bilak (Independent Scholar), funding towards a Lorentz Center Workshop in support of a guest edited issue of *Ambix* "Gold & Mercury: Amalgamated Histories of Chemistry, Culture and Environment".

Sharon Ruston (University of Lancaster), A short film to act as a tutorial and field guide on Zooniverse to train new transcribers in the basics of working with Davy's manuscripts, for the Davy Notebooks Project.

These awards total £3,642. Due to the covid-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions on travel, archive and library usage and face to face meetings, the usual timescale for use has been extended and awards will be settled when the project is undertaken. Awardees will provide progress updates.

**Seminar Series**

SHAC continues to support "AD HOC" (Association for the Discussion History Of Chemistry), a group dedicated to the history of chemistry, under the direction of Hasok Chang. While the group's main focus is historical, it also considers the philosophical, sociological, public and educational dimensions of chemistry. When the Covid pandemic began, ADHOC shifted its meetings online, with discussions attracting participants from around the world. Eleven meetings were held in 2021, each time reading important recent work in the field and in most cases discussing it with the author. The following authors participated in discussion of their work: Jennifer Rampling, Marina Banchetti, Michael Bycroft, Joaquín Pérez Pariente, Karoliina Pulkkinen, Sarah Hijmans, Zoe Screti and Klaus Ruthenberg. There was also discussion of *Ambix* papers by Christoph Meinel, Peter Ramberg and Andrew Sparling.

SHAC is supporting Turba, a new online discussion group on the history of alchemy, which meets online roughly every two weeks during the academic term and is organised by Jo Hedesan. In the autumn term 2021 presentations were given by Carmen Schmechel, Dagmar Wujastyk and Matteo Martelli, and there was a roundtable on the "Female Presence in Alchemy".

## Section E

## Financial review

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

The level of reserves has been raised to £140,000 (agreed by the Trustees at the Council meeting on 18 March 2022). This is due to continued uncertainty regarding future journal subscription income created by open-access Plan S and the position of hybrid journals. Furthermore the ongoing disruption to in-person events, international conferences, travel and archive/library access as a result of the covid-19 pandemic has led to delays in claims to the Award Scheme and a temporary reduction in the Society's expenditure in these areas. Council will revisit this figure at its first meeting in 2023. At the end of 2021 this reserves policy was achieved with a reserve of £90,839. Memorandums of Understanding with the donors for the Morris and Sources Funds were agreed when the CIO transfer took place.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

No fund is in deficit.

### 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

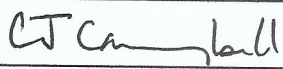
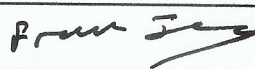
The CIO was established on 08.07.2020 with the purposes of taking over the operations, assets, liabilities and membership of SHAC 313777. The constitution of Charity (313777) was amended to allow the CIO (charity number 1190304) to be the sole trustee of this Charity. The Charity Commission registered this change to the constitution of 313777 in early December 2020 and on 1 January 2021 the transfer to the CIO took place.

## 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)	CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL	FRANK A.J.L. JAMES
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	SECRETARY	Chair
Date	31/3/22	



Charity Name  
**Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry** 1190304 incorporating 313777 from 01-01-2021

No (if any)

**CC16a  
 modified to  
 list 2  
 restricted  
 funds**

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 08-Jul-20	To	Period end date 31-Dec-21
------------------------	--------------------------------	----	------------------------------

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted fund: General  to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources  to the nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize  to the nearest £	Total funds  to the nearest £	See the Accounts for Charity 313777 for 2020 (see note D below)
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions for 2021	6345			6345	
Membership subscriptions for 2022+	4390			4390	
Ordinary Society meetings	0		0	0	
One-off special projects	0			0	
<i>spare line</i>				0	
Journal Ambix: Fixed payment and royalty on sales	16883			16883	
Sources supplement to Ambix: royalties		0		0	
Donations	32	0	0	32	
Gift aid	0	0		0	
Interest	461	99	11	571	
Miscellaneous	0			0	
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>28111</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28221</b>	
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
None	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>28111</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28221</b>	
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	3681			3681	
Ordinary Society meetings	400		0	400	
One-off special projects	0			0	
<i>spare line</i>				0	
Journal Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution	0			0	
Sources supplement to Ambix: printing, publication, and distribution		0		0	
Awards, prizes, and grants	1847		0	1847	
Archiving	0			0	
Bank and Paypal charges	456		0	456	
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6384</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6384</b>	
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>6384</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6384</b>	
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>21727</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21837</b>	
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>76579.00</b>	<b>16511.00</b>	<b>1768.00</b>	<b>94858</b>	Note C
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>98306</b>	<b>16610</b>	<b>1779</b>	<b>116695</b>	

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted fund: General to nearest £	Restricted fund: Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund: Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Santander current account	261	43	5
	Paypal account	14783	2498	268
	NS&I investment account	77049	13019	1394
	Cash	0	0	0
	CAF Account	6213	1050	112
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>98307</b>	<b>16609</b>	<b>1779</b>

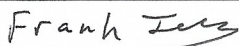

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted fund Sources to nearest £	Restricted fund Morris Prize to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Uncashed incoming cheques	0	0	0
	Balance of royalties due from publisher T&F for Ambix institutional subs in 2021 (est)	5,000	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0
		0	0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			0	0
			0	0

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Membership subscriptions for > 2021 paid in advance during 2021	Unrestricted: general	4,390	hypothetical wind-up of Society
	Awards, prizes, and grants outstanding	Unrestricted: general	7,278	
	Expenses known to have been incurred during or resulting from 2021 activity but not yet invoiced to SHAC	Unrestricted: general	800	
	Morris Award (awarded but not paid)	Morris	300	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	FRANK JAMES	18.03.22
	ANNA WOODMAN	18.03.22

The Charity -

- a) has given no guarantee where any potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement, and
- b) has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.

Other notes:

- c) Items A6 are the cash funds of Charity 303777 which were transferred to this charity on 01-01-21 in accordance with the agreement of the members of 313777 at the AGM of the Charity held 27-11-2020
- d) the charity was registered on 08-07-2020 at which point it had no assets. During the period 08-07-2020 to 31-12-20 the charity had neither income nor expenditure.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

**On accounts for the  
period ended**

31/12/2021

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1190304

**Set out on pages**

1 to 2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31/12/2021.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:**

*S Ambrose*

**Date:**

22/03/2022

**Name:**

Susan Elizabeth Ambrose

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

FCCA FCA

**Address:**

Butt Miller Ltd

92 Park Street, Camberley, Surrey

GU15 3NY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No items to disclose.