



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 6 April 2024 to 5 April 2025

Charity name: Reading Ancient Schoolroom

Charity registration number: 1204349

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	As set out in its constitution, the object of the CIO is to advance education for the public benefit by offering re-enactments, workshops, and other communications about ancient schools and ancient education more generally to children, teachers, parents and other interested parties.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Over the year we provided the following fully costumed events to schools who paid for them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A school in Oxfordshire on 22<sup>nd</sup> November: c. 80 pupils in year 8.</li><li>• A school in Hampshire on 16<sup>th</sup> January: c. 45 pupils in year 7.</li><li>• A school in Berkshire on 11<sup>th</sup> February: c. 60 pupils in year 6.</li></ul> <p>We spent a week (16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August) at Butser Ancient Farm in Hampshire, during which we put on two all-day workshops for which families paid, plus five days of activities free with site admission. 30 children came to the workshops and about 300 people (all ages) to the rest of the activities.</p> <p>We had stands offering activities at three free events, with the aim of raising our visibility. Owing to the drop-in nature of these events visitor numbers can only be ballpark estimates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The OALS conference at Jesus College Oxford on 5<sup>th</sup> May: c. 25 participants, costumed.</li><li>• The University of Reading's Community Festival on 18<sup>th</sup> May: c. 30 participants, uncostumed.</li><li>• The West Oxford Fun Day on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024: c. 50 participants, uncostumed.</li></ul> <p>We held free, uncostumed events at three schools:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A school in Reading on 7<sup>th</sup> October: c. 60 pupils in year 4.</li> <li>• A school in London on 21<sup>st</sup> January: c. 30 pupils in year 3.</li> <li>• A school in Caversham on 27<sup>th</sup> January: 30 pupils in year 4 and 11 in year 3.</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

### Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Over this reporting period the schoolroom has given c. 540 people the opportunity to immerse themselves in antiquity, as well as offering c. 270 others a less immersive experience. The participants and their teachers/parents/guardians have responded with great enthusiasm, both about how much they learned and about how much fun that learning was. People who worked for the schoolroom also learned a lot and enjoyed the experience. We already have several bookings for next year.

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	There was a net cash inflow for the year of £1,473. Cash and bank funds at the year end were ££4,289. The trustees consider that the schoolroom's financial position fully supports its continuation as a going concern.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We hold reserves in case of emergencies such as loss, damage or theft of equipment needed to operate the schoolroom.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	No fund is in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The trustees have identified no such uncertainties.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	'Foundation' model constitution dated 14 August 2023.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The current trustees are all 'first trustees', appointed on registration of the CIO. New trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Reading Ancient Schoolroom
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1204349
Charity's principal address	27 Bridge Street Oxford OX2 0BA

### 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	Eleanor Dickey	Chair		Appointed as a first trustee on registration of CIO.
2	Emma Aston			Appointed as a first trustee on registration of CIO.
3	Christa Gray			Appointed as a first trustee on registration of CIO.
4	Marigold Norbye			Appointed as a first trustee on registration of CIO.
5	John Charles Stewart			Appointed as a first trustee on registration of CIO.
6				

### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None.
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### 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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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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### Other optional information

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### Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Eleanor Dickey	Charles Stewart
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee

Date 10 September 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Reading Ancient Schoolroom

1203439

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

06-Apr-24

To

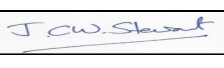
05-Apr-25

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Transfer in from Schoolroom association	-	-	-	-	2,084
Fees for charitable activities	1,820	-	-	1,820	2,159
Donations and Gift Aid	1,507	-	-	1,507	137
Sale of schoolroom-related materials (primary purpose trading)	547	-	-	547	105
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>4,484</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>4,484</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of charitable activities	1,480	-	-	1,480	601
Consumables and repairs	80	-	-	80	-
Purchase of schoolroom-related materials for sale (primary purpose trading)	-	-	-	-	216
Administration and other payments	127	-	-	127	130
Transport cost for equipment loan (reimbursed after financial year end)	511	-	-	511	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>947</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Schoolroom equipment	202	-	-	202	721
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>721</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,401</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,401</b>	<b>1,668</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>2,816</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>4,289</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,289</b>	<b>2,816</b>



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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Bank balance	4,200	-	-
	Cash	89	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>4,289</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Reimbursable cost of transport for equipment loan	511	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Schoolroom equipment	Unrestricted	-	25,000
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		John C W Stewart	17-Sep-25	