



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 19th April 2024 To 30th June 2025

Charity name: St Albans and District Model Engineering Society

Charity registration number: 1208654

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	St Albans and District Model Engineering Society
Other name the charity uses	STAMES
Registered charity number	1208654
Charity's principal address	24 Sawyers Way Hemel Hempstead HP2 4ED

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	Mike Collins	Chairman		
2	Guy Keen	Secretary		
3	Mike Grossmith	Treasurer		
4	Roger Stephen			
5	Robert Briancourt			
6	Mick Watts			
7	Roy Verden			
8	Clive Reynolds		10/04/24 – 28/08/24	
9	Baz Butcher		10/04/24 – 09/04/25	

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	For the benefit of the public, the advancement of the education of the public in miniature engineering and modelling by: A. The operation and maintenance of a miniature railway in St. Albans or the surrounding area; B. Encouraging people to practice model engineering in steam and electrical traction by the provision of tuition in workshop practice and safety, and the theory and practice of engineering; C. The mounting of talks, lectures and

		exhibitions in miniature engineering and modelling for the benefit of the public at large.
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	Throughout the year we held a full programme of club night meetings <u>for our members and the public</u>, providing expertise and knowledge on the theory and practice of engineering. These included as follows: • our annual film night, • our annual auction, • a talk about a member's experience working for Network Rail and Eurostar, • a talk about the Americas Cup, • a talk on how a steam locomotive works, • a talk on improving a 1/6th scale Tiger Tank, • how to make a Lantern clock and • a talk on the progress on making a Stirling Single 5" gauge locomotive. In September we held our annual exhibition "<u>The Big</u> St Albans <u>Big</u>-Model Show". This is mainly aimed at families and the general public. The show attracted nearly 2,500 visitors over two days from the local community. Throughout the Summer we had a full programme of running model steam trains at the Puffing Field facility. We took our portable track and 5" gauge locomotive out to two local parks in 2024 offering free train rides to the public. We published a monthly Newsletter available to all members containing articles of interest to Model Engineers covering steam locomotives, boating, workshop practice and general engineering topics. We had a day out to the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre at Quainton taking full size train rides and a tour of the workshop facility.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	All trustees have been issued with the guidance from the Charities Commission on public benefit <u>and the responsibility is regularly discussed.-</u> A monthly trustees meeting is held, with minutes taken to further the aims of the <u>societycharity</u>. We have written 1 year and 5 year goals that focus upon delivering our public benefits.

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	We successfully held our annual exhibition the Big St Albans Big-Model Show. We had 2,500 members of the public attend our show which was very well received. It is now the largest show <u>of it'sits type</u> in the South of England and provides a full day out of entertainment for families. Included in the show is the opportunity to make a plane, take train rides, have a go at driving a boat, making a model aeroplane, driving radio-controlled trucks as well as looking at models. <u>We keep the entrance prices as low as we can to ensure the cost of visiting our show isn't a prohibiting factor.</u> We successfully obtained planning permission for the storage containers, the new tunnel over the track and the Gauge 1 / 45mm track we have constructed. We continued to maintain the Puffing Field despite the uncertainty caused by the change of ownership, allowing a full programme of running of model steam and electric trains. We had a full year's programme of club night talks, many of an educational basis, all delivered by members. We produced a monthly newsletter for all members covering various aspects model engineering. Our membership has remained fairly steady at 60 members.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the year, we had approximately £42,000 in the bank.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	These reserves have been built up over several years. It is our intention to use some of these funds to modify the facilities at the Puffing Field once the new ownership has been confirmed.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£42,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

		Our main source of funds this year has been
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The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	our exhibition "The Big <u>St Albans</u> Model Show" held on 28 th and 29 th September 2024 at Townsend School. Additional funds come from membership subscriptions and monthly meeting fees. Our major expenditures are running the exhibition, maintaining the Puffing Field facility, insurance and accountancy costs.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Most of our funds are kept in a Building Society saving account. No other investments are undertaken or planned.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The biggest risk to the charity is maintaining the Puffing Field facility following its sale to the new owners. We intend to adopt a "good neighbour" approach to build up a positive relationship with them so that we can continue to use the facility. Attracting members continues to be a challenge, whilst we lose members each year due to old age or moving away. We intend to focus upon membership growth in the future to maintain the viability of the society. We realise that there is considerable new technology out there such as 3D printing, laser cutting, computers etc. so we intend to make a focus on these topics in the future with an <u>the</u> aim of educating our members in their use.

Structure, Governance and Management

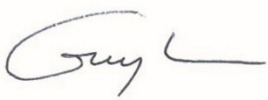
Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (<u>trust deed, royal charter</u>)	Para 1.25	Constitution adopted 10 th April 2024
How is the charity constituted? (<u>e.g unincorporated association, CIO</u>)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods 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	Trustees are elected at the AGM held in November of each year. All trustees serve for two years.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Other		All trustees give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.
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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)	Mike Collins	Guy Keen
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Secretary
Date		

ST ALBANS AND DISTRICT MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 19 April 2024 - 30 June 2025

INCOME

Brought forward
Balance as at 30th June 2024 £34,276.07

2024 Club Donations	£82.52
2025 Club Donations	£1,820.52
Monthly meeting	£650.50
Auction	£370.00
Sales	£707.76
Day Out	£202.00
Donation	£435.00
Gift Aid	£297.76
Christmas Raffle	£205.00
2024 Exhibition	£18,027.04
Track Days	£471.00

Interest on deposit
Skipton Building Society £1,376.86

Total Income £24,645.96

Income	£24,645.96
Expenditure	£21,658.22
Profit/Loss	£2,987.74

EXPENDITURE

Newsletter Printing/Postage	£123.00
Insurance	£1,451.70
Postage/Stationery/Computer	£437.23
Puffing Field Expenses	£1,407.85
Website	£283.64
Exhibition 2023	£1,799.00
Exhibition 2024	£7,397.58
Day Out	£210.00
Christmas Function 2024	£168.33
Hall Hire 2024	£810.00
Zettle Fees	£21.44
Go Cardless Fees	£21.79
Other	£184.51
Track Days	£356.98
Card Collection Tin	£425.00
Steam Heritage	£370.00
Northern Federation	£13.00
Tax Assist - Accountant	£3,528.00
HMRC	£2,649.17

Total Expenditure £21,658.22

Balance at 30.06.24
Current Account £4,334.64
Skipton Building Society £32,533.55
Cash in hand £395.62

Carried Forward £37,263.81